

WORSHIP SERVICE
August 25, 2024

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

*Call to Worship - 2 Corinthians 5-7,18

"What we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us....

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

*Opening Song: "Lord Most High" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #593

From the ends of the earth, *From the ends of the earth,*

From the depths of the sea, *From the depths of the sea,*

From the heights of the heavens, *From the heights of the heavens,*

Your name be praised.

From the hearts of the weak, *From the hearts of the weak,*

From the shouts of the strong, *From the shouts of the strong,*

From the lips of all people, *From the lips of all people,*

This song we raise Lord

Throughout the endless ages you will be crowned with praises,

Lord Most High. Exalted in every nation, sovereign of all creation

Lord Most High, be magnified be magnified.

From the ends of the earth, *From the ends of the earth,*

From the depths of the sea, *From the depths of the sea,*

From the heights of the heavens, *From the heights of the heavens,*

Your name be praised.

From the hearts of the weak, *From the hearts of the weak,*
From the shouts of the strong, *From the shouts of the strong,*
From the lips of all people, *From the lips of all people,*
This song we raise Lord
Throughout the endless ages you will be crowned with praises,
Lord Most High. Exalted in every nation, sovereign of all creation
Lord Most High, be magnified be magnified.

*Opening Prayer

*Song: "How Firm A Foundation" vs 1, 2, 5 LUYH #427

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
"Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand."
"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

*Our Father, your plans are so much bigger than us; and bigger than we
can comprehend.*

**Forgive us when we try to limit your plan to a worldview, or
philosophy, or moral code.**

*Forgive us, too, when we try to contain you within a religion that we can
control.*

**Lord, we come back to you, to your example, and to what you
taught us.**

*You are infinitely deep and rich in understanding, help us to live by faith
in you. Amen.*

Words of Assurance - Hebrews 4:14-16

“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

Song of Entrusting: “In Christ Alone” *Lift Up Your Hearts* #770

In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song; This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease! My comforter, my all in all— Here in the love of Christ I stand. In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!

This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save. Till on the cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied; For ev’ry sin on Him was laid— Here in the death of Christ I live. There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain; Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!

And as He stands in victory, Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me; For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ. No guilt in life, no fear in death— This is the pow’r of Christ in me; From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No pow’r of hell, no human plan, Can ever pluck me from His hand; Till He returns or calls me home— Here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand.

Children’s Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

⁸Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is

knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. ¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Message: Doubt, Faith, and Certainty: Too Small a Faith?

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Lift Up Your Hearts #351

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n to earth come down:
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.
Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest:
take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its Beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee with thy hosts
above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be:
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, 'til in heav'n we take our place,
'til we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and
praise.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

*Closing Song: “We Receive Your Blessing” *LUYH #947*

We receive your blessing; we receive your grace,
as we walk in the light shining from your face.
May the peace that you give change the way that we live.
We receive your blessing as we leave this place.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, you heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost.
We receive your blessing; we receive your grace,
as we walk in the light shining from your face.
May the peace that you give change the way that we live.
We receive your blessing as we leave this place.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, you heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and praise the Holy Ghost.
We receive your blessing as we leave this place.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children’s Message: Deb Niehof

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend, Naomi Friend, Elijah Hufford, Laura Hufford, Derek TenPas

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

This week’s special offering is for Church Beyond Borders church

This is a cutting edge “hybrid” church with a combination of on-line worship in Korean and English, small groups, and 1-to-1 discipleship and pastoral care. The church ministers to 2nd-generation Korean Americans who have disconnected from their parents’ Korean-speaking churches.

Communion: Next week we will gather at the Lord’s Table. Come, all who are sorry for their sins, who believe in the Lord Jesus as their

Savior, have confessed his name, and desire to live in obedience to him. Come, for Christ our risen Lord invites you to fellowship with him at his table.

Sunday school for Preschool - High School grades will start September 8th. We will also offer an adult Sunday school class this fall; details and a start date will be announced soon.

Reminder that the **Ames Christian School** started their lease agreement on August 1st. Please be understanding if you come to the church, as they will be using parts of it for the next 10 months. We welcome this opportunity to serve those wishing to have a Christian education for their children.

Baby Laura is growing well and coming home soon! Please join our church for a baby shower for Rachel Iyare and baby Laura Saturday, September 7 at 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The registry link is included below. (Please note that although Laura was just a tiny, little one when she was born, she will be nearly 8 pounds when she comes home so please no newborn or preemie clothing.) Here is the link to baby registry <https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift-giver?registryId=308dfbf0-5fdc-11ef-9cbf-d3573a0fcdb7&type=BABY>

Rachel Iyare and her family can still use our help with food and snacks throughout August. The kids will be starting school soon, so that will help with breakfast and lunch meals. Please consider preparing a dinner meal, or if prefer provide the groceries for Rachel. Here is the link to if you would like to sign up <https://mealtrain.com/0mqe09>. Meals can be delivered Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays between 4:30 and 5:30 PM at address: 1207 Delaware Avenue, unit 6. Ames. 50014. Contact Christopher 't Hoen with any questions or help with getting meals or groceries delivered.

NAMI will have a open house and silent auction on August 27th, from 5 to 7 pm. You can attend at 424 5th Street, Ames.

Midwest Basic Bible Camper would like to thank you for all your support. A great time was had by all who attended. From the free car wash to the amazing race. The week was spent learning “HIS”tory, from the prophets to the resurrection. Thirty plus kids learned, laught, and came closer to God in a busy yet friendly setting. May already wishing it could be camp again already. And plans for next year have started....so if you are going to be graduated from the 6th grade to graduated from 12th grade, keep the first week of August open.

The Student Welcome back will be on August 25th Tom Whitney will be cooking dogs and hamburgers for all to enjoy. Salads will also be provided, if you would like to bring a desert, please let the fellowship committee know by signing up on the sheet by the office. Hope to see you all there.

There is printout of Birthdays, Greeters, Congregational Prayer, Nursery, and Children’s message on the table outside the office. I will print this out at the beginning of each month.

The directory with the newest updates. Is on the table outside the office. Please review your changes if you made any. If you have changes or need to add info, please do it on this sheet. Thanks Pam

Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes will resume September 8th

Children and Worship – will resume this fall.

Breakfast Club meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the Lincoln Center Hy-Vee at 8:30 AM.

UFO will meet on the third Monday of the month.

Women’s Bible Study meets on Monday once a month.

Pub Theology meets the last Sunday August 25th at Mucky Duck at 7 pm.

Next Council meeting is September 11th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resonate Global Mission

Moving to campus this fall? - We'd love to help you get connected to a campus ministry community! There are 32 CRC ministries on 40 university and college campuses across North America, gathering students, faculty, and staff to grow together in faith as they engage God's world. To find out if there's a CRC ministry at your campus, please check <https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/campus-ministry/partner-campus-ministries>. If there isn't a Christian Reformed ministry at your school, you can locate a nearby CRC here: crcna.org/church-finder. For more information about our ministries, or other info about how to grow in faith while you're on campus, please contact us at campusministry@crcna.org

ReFrame Ministries

Groundwork: Called To Be God's Prophet - It can be hard, even shocking to follow God's call on our lives and share his message. Join Groundwork as we study Ezekiel 1-3 to learn from Ezekiel's experience and discuss what it means to be called, to be a prophet, and to speak truth. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Kids Corner: Why Did God Give Me Gifts? - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Take a moment to think about some of the gifts that God has given you. What are you especially good at? What are some of your favorite things that you own? What are some more things that you are thankful for? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Parable of the Talents.

Family Fire - Family Fire is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Loan Fund

August is National Make-A-Will Month - You don't have to be wealthy to establish an estate plan. If you own a house, have any investments or special collections, you should have a plan. August is

National "Make A Will" Month and a great annual reminder to set up a trust or gift a charity in your will. The CRC has resources to help. Learn more by visiting the CRC Heritage website at crcna.org/foundation

CRC Communications

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Tom Niehof
Sound: Bryan Van Belle
Nursery Megan and Kathlyn
Children's message: Deb Niehof
Greeters: t' Hoen

Greeters

August 25	t' Hoen	November 3	Copley
September 1	VanDyk	November 10	Hobson
September 8	Verkade	November 17	Voss
September 15	Voss	November 24	Huber
September 22	Whitney	December 1	Hufford
September 29	Yoder	December 8	Friend
October 6	Bakker	December 15	Hallihan
October 13	Bergman	December 22	Hertz
October 20	De Bruin	December 29	Irvin
October 27	Franje		

Nursery

August 25	Megan and Kathlyn	September 15	Mary K and Cassie
September 1	Judy and Brianna	September 22	Rachel and Pam N
September 8	Lyndee and Kristy	September 29	Melody and Kenzie

Children's Message

August 25	Deb Niehof	September 15	Laura Hufford
September 1	Stacey Hertz	September 22	Lora Copley
September 8	Rex DeBruin	September 29	Jeff Kopaska

October 6 Deb Niehof
October 13 Stacy Hertz

October 20 Rex De Bruin
October 27 Randy Raak

Congregational Prayer

August 25 Tom Niehof
September 1 Randy Raak
September 8 Tom Kuyper
September 15 Randy Raak
September 22 Mark Voss

September 29 Rex DeBruin
October 6 Paul Kleinwolterink
October 13 Randy Raak
October 20 Jeff Kopaska
October 27 Tom Kuyper

Pastor Randy Raak: pastor@amestrinity.org or 928-699-9329

Lora Copley: director@isu-areopagus.org or 505-387-6861

(Areopagus Campus Ministry)

Elders: A-G = Tom Kuyper; H-K = Rex De Bruin; L-S = Joel Copley; T-Z = Naomi Friend

Deacons: A-G = Joseph Yoder; H-K = Christopher 't Hoen; L-S = Tom Whitney; T-Z = Donna Bergman