

WORSHIP SERVICE
December 8, 2024
Second Week Of Advent

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 85:4-9)

Revive us again, God our Savior, that your people may rejoice in you.

Show us your unfailing love, Lord, and grant us your salvation.

He promises peace to his people, his faithful servants.

Surely his salvation is near those who fear him.

Dear Lord, may your glory dwell among us here this morning!

*Opening Song: "Make Way" *Sing! A New Creation #98*

Make way, make way, for Christ the King in splendor arrives.

Fling wide the gates and welcome him into your lives.

Women (Men)

Make way (make way)

Make way (make way)

For the King of kings. (For the King of kings.)

Make way (make way)

Make way! (make way!)

And let his kingdom in.

He comes the broken hearts to heal, the prisoners to free.

The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.

Women (Men)

Make way (make way)

Make way (make way)

For the King of kings. (For the King of kings.)

Make way (make way)

Make way! (make way!)

And let his kingdom in.

"God Reigns! Earth Rejoices"

Lift Up Your Hearts #91

God reigns Earth rejoices

Oceans shout God's might

Clad in truth and joy
God's throne is our delight
Clouds roll aside and night becomes as day
God will dwell among us
God will show the way
Fires will blaze the pathway
Stars will mark the place
When God comes in glory meets us face to face
Mountains will shake and worthless idols fall
Zion will rejoice for God is Lord of all
Evil walks beside us crushes with its grief
Yet in God the faithful find their sure relief
Shackles will break and chains of bondage cease
Former lamentations now are songs of peace
Light dawns for the righteous
Joy for God's own heirs—
Love all loves excelling grace beyond compare
Daughters and sons God's majesty proclaim
Let your hearts declare the Lord's most holy name

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Advent candle lighting - our confession and assurance (Based on Matthew 24)

Reader 1: Jesus told his disciples: "At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved."

Reader 2: The Son of Man is coming, but about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Reader 1: Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Therefore be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

(The first two candles are lit.)

Reader 2: Light two candles; see them glow Brightly, so that all may know How two candles show the way Turning our darkness into brightest day.

All: “Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky” (Psalm 85:10-11).

Reader 1: Dear Father, in Advent’s light, let your love and faithfulness, righteousness and peace shine from us. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Song of Entrusting: “Lo, How A Rose E’re Blooming” *Lift Up Your Hearts* #79

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright, Amid the cold of winter
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright She bore to men a Savior
When half spent was the night.

This Flower, so small and tender With fragrance fills the air,
his brightness ends the darkness that kept the earth in fear.
True God and yet true man, he came to save his people
from earth’s dark night of sin.

O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;
O savior, King of glory, who does our weakness know:
bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven
and into endless day.

Children’s Message
Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God

will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵ According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Message: Bright Hope for Tomorrow: The Big Day

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: "One Day" ("Glorious Day") vs 1,2,4,5

One day when heaven was filled with His praises
One day when sin was as black as could be

Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin
Dwelt among men my example is He

The Word became flesh
And the light shined among us His glory revealed

Living, He loved me, dying He saved me
Buried, He carried my sins far away

Rising, He justified freely forever
One day He's coming

O glorious day
Glorious day

One day they led Him up Calv'ry's mountain
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree

Suffering anguish, despised and rejected
Bearing our sins my Redeemer is He

The hand that healed nations
Stretched out on a tree

And took the nails for me

Living, He loved me, dying He saved me
Buried, He carried my sins far away

Rising, He justified freely forever
One day He's coming

O glorious day
Glorious day

One day the grave could conceal Him no longer One day the
stone rolled away from the door
Then He arose over death He had conquered Now is ascended
my Lord evermore
Death could not hold Him The grave could not keep Him From
rising again
Living, He loved me, dying He saved me Buried, He carried my
sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever One day He's coming
O glorious day Glorious day Glorious day
One day the trumpet will sound for His coming One day the skies
with His glories will shine
Wonderful day my beloved one bringing My Savior Jesus is mine
Living, He loved me, dying He saved me Buried, He carried my
sins far away
Rising, He justified freely forever One day He's coming
O glorious day Glorious day

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Blessing

*Closing Song: "My Soul Cries Out With A Joyful Shout" vs 1-3
Lift Up Your Hearts #69

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is
great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to
the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall
my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your
justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and
the world is about to turn!

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in
me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the
end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is
about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no more for the food they can never earn; There are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Rex De Bruin

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Rex DeBruin, Rickiel DeSilva, Laura Hufford, Maggie VanDyk

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The special offering next week is for Ames Ecumenical Housing. Through Keystone Apartments and Stonehaven Apartments here in Ames, Ames Ecumenical Housing provides housing for lower income older adults and those with mobility impairment.

Committee Chairs – endowment request forms have been sent out, please have them completed by the end of the year if possible.

Thanks

It's that time of year, if you would like to give a gift to those who work for our church family, please place that in the collection with note/memo "For Church Staff".

There will be a **Christmas Eve Candle Light** service on December 24th at 6:30 pm.

Children's Christmas Program will be December 15th more information to come.

After the Christmas Program there will be a Soup Potluck in the fellowship hall. We will also be honoring those who will be graduating in December. Please see the sign-up sheet on the table by the office if you would like to bring a soup, bread, or a side. Dessert will be provided.

Worship with us at our **Blue Christmas Service on Saturday, December 21st at 7PM**, the longest night of the year. The holiday season is not always easy. Find a place to worship and pray over whatever you are experiencing with scripture, traditional carols, candle lighting, and words of hope.

The outreach committee is participating in the Angel Tree toy drive for The Salvation Army. For the toy drive you just need to bring an unwrapped toy from birth up to 12 years of age. The toy drive is thru Monday December 16. Gifts can be dropped in the box in the entryway of church. If you have any questions, contact Mark Voss

Please think about our church family that can't get out and about, especially as the weather gets colder. If you or your family would like to create homemade cards or buy some to send. Let them know as the weather gets colder that our hearts are warm with thoughts of them. Send an email to office@amestrinity.org if you need addresses or check out the address list on the table outside the office.

Randy will be on vacation December 26 -31

Pam will be on vacation November 29 – December 13

Reminder as we come upon the winter season, please be sure to wipe your shoes before you come into the church to help with keeping our church home clean.

There is printout of Birthdays, Greeters, Congregational Prayer, Nursery, and Children's message on the table outside the office. This has been updated into early 2025. 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.

Children and Worship - During our morning worship service, immediately following the children's message, ages three through third grade are invited to attend, meeting in room 3, located to the south of the sanctuary. Children experience worship in the same order as in the sanctuary: we approach God in reverence, hear His Word proclaimed, respond in praise, and go forth in peace and love to serve in God's name. Visitors are welcome to attend. Please pick up your child(ren) at the end of the service



Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates

Sunday School Classes 10:50 am, after church and fellowship time

Children and Worship – Happening after the children's message

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

UFO meets the 3rd Monday of the month

Women's Bible Study Will meet the first Monday of the month

Pub Theology meets the last Sunday of the month, Dec 29th 7 pm
Mucky Duck.

Next Council meeting is December 11th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Resonate Global Mission

A Unique Mission Trip for Teenagers - Join a group of teenagers from multiple countries on a trip across three Central American countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala) to learn more about these countries' histories and learn how local ministry leaders are working to meet the needs of communities in difficult realities. This is a great opportunity to grow in your faith and understanding of mission! Learn more and apply online at www.resonateglobalmission.org/encounter

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: Advent Week 2: The Servant - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. This week, read the story of Mary in Luke 1:26-45. God had an important role for Mary. She responded, "I am the Lord's servant! Let it happen as you have said." Whatever God has for us to do, let our reply be the same as Mary's. No matter how young or old we are, God will give us

everything we need to be a faithful servant. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Birth of Jesus.

Groundwork: Jesus: Our Mighty God - The prophet Isaiah next calls the coming Messiah “Mighty God.” Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 10:21, Acts 1:6-8, and Revelation 5:6,11-14 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus.

Together, we’ll discuss how his presence as a helpless baby displays the awesomeness of God’s power and gives us hope as we anticipate his return. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - “Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.” This refrain from the beloved Advent hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” calls us to rejoice—not because of our immediate circumstances but because of the promises we have in Jesus Christ. Ponder a few things that cause you to rejoice. Offer them up to God in gratitude. Brought to you by Thrive:

crcna.org/Thrive

Calvin University

The January Series - The January Series of Calvin University returns January 20 through January 31. From Paralympians to historians, adventurers, and innovators, we have a topic for you to deepen your curiosity. Join us in the Covenant Fine Arts Center on the campus of Calvin University or online. More information can be found at www.calvin.edu/january-series

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer:	Tom Kuyper
Sound:	Bryan Van Belle
Nursery	Sue F and Pam N
Children's message:	Rex De Bruin
Greeters:	Friend

Greeters

December 8 Friend
December 15Hallihan
December 22Hertz

December 29 Irvin
January 5 N Klemme
January 12 Kleinwolterink
January 19 Kopaska
January 26 Kuyper
February 2 Niehof
February 9 Niemeyer
February 16 Nikkel
February 23 Oftedal

Nursery

December 8 Sue F and Pam N
December 15 Jessica and Kenzie
December 22 Donna and Melody
December 29 Elaine and Elizabeth H
January 5 Mindy and Caraline
January 12 Megan and Stacy
January 19 Judy and Alisabeth
January 26 Mary K and Kathlyn
February 2 Lyndee and Brianna
February 9 Rachel and Kristy
February 16 Melody and Cassie
February 23 Jessica and Pam

Children's Message

December 8 Rex De Bruin
December 15 Randy Raak
December 22 Donna and Sue F
December 29 Lora Copley
January 5 Laura Hufford
January 12 Jeff Kopaska
January 19 Deb Niehof
January 26 Rex De Bruin
February 2 Laura Hufford
February 9 Lora Copley
February 16 Jeff Kopaska
February 23 Stacy Hertz

Congregational Prayer

December 8 Tom Kuyper

December 15 Randy Raak

December 22 Mark Voss

December 29 Rex De Bruin

January 5 Randy Raak

January 12 Jeff Kopaska

January 19 Tom Kuyper

January 26 Lora Copley

January 5 Randy Raak

January 12 Jeff Kopaska

January 19 Tom Kuyper

January 26 Lora Copley

February 2 Paul Kleinwolterink

February 9 Randy Raak

February 16 Jeff Kopaska

February 23 Tom Niehof

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

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

(Areopagus Campus Ministry)

Laura Hufford Worship Coordinator: worship@amestrinity.org

Pam Whitney Office Administrator: office@amestrinity.org

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