

WORSHIP SERVICE

March 2, 2025

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

* God's Greeting

* We Greet One Another

* Call to Worship - from Psalm 40

I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

None can compare with you.... Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord.

* Opening Song: "Fill Thou My Life, O Lord, My God"

Lift Up Your Hearts #356

Fill thou my life, O Lord my God, In every part with praise,
That my whole being may proclaim Thy being and thy ways
Not for the lip of praise alone, Nor e'en the praising heart I ask,
but for a life made up of praise in every part.

Praise in the common words I speak, life's common looks and tones,
in fellowship enjoyed at home with my beloved ones,
enduring wrong, reproach or loss with sweet and steadfast will,
forgiving freely those who hate, returning good for ill.

So shall each fear, each fret, each care

Be turned into a song, And every winding of the way

The echo shall prolong. So shall no part of day or night

From sacredness be free, But all my life, in every step, Be fellowship with
Thee.

* Opening Prayer

* Song: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" Lift Up Your Hearts #747

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love, and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life for all eternity.

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

Prayer of Confession

Our Father, we know that you love us and want what is best for us.

But in dark times we often react to what we see in the moment, from our own perspective.

And we rush to conclusions based on our limited awareness and understanding - but this can often lead us to discouragement.

Help us to draw closer to you, to seek your will, and to grasp the hope we have because of your sovereignty. In our Savior's name we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance Isaiah 55:10-12

"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace."

Song of Entrusting: "Our God Will Go Before Us"

Our God will go before us, And guide us by His presence
What confidence this promise is We will never walk alone
Through unknown paths, through shadows, Our hearts fear not tomorrow
For every step, His faithfulness, Is truth that lights our way
Our God will go before us; The Lord of hosts is with us
Praise the One who leads us on For His grace will bring us home
Though evil forms against us All heaven will defend us
The gates of hell shall not prevail For the battle is the Lord's
Our God will go before us The Lord of hosts is with us
Praise the One who leads us on For His grace will bring us home
Now send us with your presence And lead us on to heaven
Where songs of sorrow strain no more And our every breath is praise
Oh let our ev'ry breath be praise! Our God will go before us
The Lord of hosts is with us Praise the One who leads us on
For His grace will bring us home Our God will go before us
The Lord of hosts is with us Praise the One who leads us on
For His grace will bring us home For His grace will bring us home

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 1:1-5, 29:11-13

Jeremiah 1:1-5

¹ The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, one of the priests at Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. ² The word of the Lord came to him in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah, ³ and through the reign of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, down to the

fifth month of the eleventh year of Zedekiah son of Josiah king of Judah, when the people of Jerusalem went into exile. ⁴The word of the Lord came to me, saying, ⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew^[a] you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

Jeremiah 29:11-13

¹¹For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹²Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Message: What’s Your Story, Jeremiah?

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayer of Application

* Song of Response: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” Lift Up Your Hearts #348

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow – blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

WE CELEBRATE GOD’S COVENANT WITH US

The Lord’s Supper

Communion song: “There Is A Redeemer” *Lift Up Your Hearts* #833

There is a Redeemer Jesus God's own Son Precious Lamb of God Messiah Holy One

Thank You O my Father For giving us Your Son

And leaving Your Spirit Till the work on earth is done

Jesus my Redeemer name above all names Precious Lamb of God Messiah

Hope for sinners slain Thank You O my Father

For giving us Your Son And leaving Your Spirit Till

the work on earth is done When I stand in glory I will see His face
There I'll serve my King forever In that holy place
Thank You O my Father For giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit Till the work on earth is done

WE DEPART TO SERVE

* Blessing

* Closing Song: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" Lift Up Your
Hearts #933

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace.

Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.

O direct us and protect us traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound.

May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.

Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Rex DeBruin

Message: Rev. Randy Raak

Musicians: Alisabeth Copley, Laura Hufford, Nate VanDyk, Char Verkade

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Communion: Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for believers. If you are sorry for your sins and follow Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, you are invited to come to his table. Through this celebration, we remember that:

- a. The Lord's Supper is a thanksgiving to God.
- b. The Lord's Supper is a memorial of Christ.
- c. The Lord's Supper is a participation in the body and the blood of Christ.
- d. The Lord's Supper signifies the work of the Spirit.

The Lord's Supper seals the present and coming kingdom of God

This week's special offering will be for The Bridge home. Nearly 3000 individuals in our community received a helping hand in 2024 from the bridge home, addressing homelessness here in Ames by providing emergency shelter and sustainable solutions.

There will be no Hymn sing this Sunday, the next one will be April 6th.

Adult Sunday School (Room 7): Melody Franje and Rex De Bruin will continue to lead a discussion on different faith practices and how to incorporate these spiritual disciplines into our personal and communal

lives. Last fall we discussed disciplines such as the sabbath, hospitality, gratitude, and generosity. We'd love to have you join us this spring!

Council is requesting your prayerful consideration and nomination of TCRC members to serve in the offices of elder and deacon. The form, including instructions, for nominations is on the table in the entryway. Please put your completed forms in the box there labeled **“ELDER & DEACON NOMINATIONS”** by **March 9th**

The Family 2 Family sale will happen again this spring, Saturday, April 5th, 2025, 9:00am - 1:00pm. We will release this to the public in a couple weeks, so get signed up if you want a slot. <https://www.amestrinity.org/church-events/family2family-spring-sale/>

Ministry Amplified -March 12th at 6 pm, Resonate leaders and missionaries from all over the world will meet and get updates from Director Kevin DeRaff, Missionaries serving in Japan including Larry Spalink, Ken Lee, Perin Werner and Charles Oh. Registration by using this link <https://resonateglobalmission.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d753413c936a8d8acd14ca756&id=490204e91a&e=ffcd6b2b27>

Synod has designated the second Wednesday in **March (March 12, 2025) as the Annual Day of Prayer**. On this date each year, all CRC congregations are requested to take time to ask for God's blessing upon the world, our nations and communities, crops and industry, and the church worldwide. Will you join us? For those in the United States, it may be important to note that there is also a National Day of Prayer on **Thursday, May 1, 2025**. U.S. Councils, if you feel that participating in an Annual Day of Prayer can be done more meaningfully in conjunction with this National Day of Prayer (U.S.), please do so.

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

If your group or committee has an announcement, please be sure to get me an update by 10:30 am on Thursday so I have time to get it into the announcements for the week. Thanks Pam

Pam Whitney will be gone from March 2nd through the 10th

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 Happening at 10.50, after fellowship

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, March 30th 7 pm Mucky Duck.

Hymn Sing will be held the first Sunday of the Month at 5 pm at the Church. April 6th is the next one.

Next Council meeting is March 12th

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReFrame Ministries

Kids Corner: The Price of Lies - Check out this week's kids' devotion "The Price of Lies" at www.kidscorner.net. Have you ever told a fib? Believe it or not, lies that seem small can hurt others, and we eventually have to pay the cost for them. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

Groundwork: The Jerusalem Council: The Church Resolves Division and Seeks Unity - As the church grew, it experienced confusion and disagreement while welcoming new Gentile believers. Join Groundwork as we explore Acts 15:1-38 to learn from the early church about resolving division and seeking unity by gathering, listening, and relying on the guidance of the Holy Spirit to resolve their division and seek unity. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

World Renew

Thank You for Participating in World Renew DRS Sunday - Your generous gifts and prayers last Sunday for World Renew DRS support the physical and

spiritual needs of disaster survivors. Through your involvement, World Renew DRS offers volunteer services, clean-up, home repair, community organizing, cost estimating, and reconstruction to homeowners who are without resources to recover on their own. Thank you for your generosity! If you missed Sunday's offering, go to worldrenew.net/drs or call 1-800-552-7972 to give today.

Thrive

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - "Dust you are and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:19, NIV). This week marks the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday. While it might seem morbid to focus intentionally on our mortality, we can use this time to remember our humanity. We live with bodies and minds that not only are fearfully and wonderfully made but will also age and begin to fail us. Give thanks to God for the gift of your body, and ask him to help you be mindful of its limits. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

VOLUNTEERS

Congregational Prayer: Randy Raak
 Sound: Bryan Van Belle
 Nursery: Donna and Kenzie
 Children's message: Rex De Bruin
 Greeters: Oltman

Greeters

March 2	Oltman	May 4	Kopaska
March 9	Oftedal	May 11	Bakker
March 16	Saldana	May 18	Bergman
March 23	Sanders/Bassham	May 25	De Bruin
March 30	Schweingruber/Berns	June 1	Franje
April 6	Sterenbergh	June 8	Copley
April 13	t' Hoen	June 15	Hobson
April 20	VanDyk	June 22	Voss
April 27	Verkade	June 29	Hubert

Nursery

March 2	Donna and Kenzie	April 20	Rachel and Sue F
March 9	Elaine and Sue F	April 27	Melody and Kristy
March 16	Mindy and Elizabeth	May 4	Jessica and Cassie
March 23	Megan and Caraline/Stacy	May 11	Donna and Pam
March 30	Judy and Brianna	May 18	Elaine and Kenzie
April 6	Lyndee and Alisabeth	May 25	Mindy and Sue F
April 13	Mary and Kathlyn	June 1	Megan and Elizabeth

June 8 Judy and
Caraline/Stacy
June 15 Mary and Brianna

June 22 Lyndee and Alisabeth
June 29 Rachel and Kathlyn

Children's Message

March 2 Rex De Bruin
March 9 Randy Raak
March 16 Laura Hufford
March 23 Lora Copley
March 30 Jeff Kopaska
April 6 Stacy Hertz
April 13 Rex De Bruin
April 20 Randy Raak
April 27 Laura Hufford

May 4 Lora Copley
May 11 Jeff Kopaska
May 18 Stacy Hertz
May 25 Rex De Bruin
June 1 Randy Raak
June 8 Laura Hufford
June 15 Lora Copley
June 22 Jeff Kopaska
June 29 Stacy Hertz

Congregational Prayer

March 2 Randy Raak
March 9 Lora Copley
March 16 Tom Kuyper
March 23 Randy Raak
March 30 Tom Niehof
April 6 Rex De Bruin
April 13 Randy Raak
April 20 Tom Niehof
April 27 Randy Raak

May 4 Mark Voss
May 11 Paul Kleinwolterink
May 18 Randy Raak
May 25 Jeff Kopaska
June 1 Tom Niehof
June 8 Randy Raak
June 15 Lora Copley
June 22 Tom Kuyper
June 29 Randy Raak

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