

# WORSHIP SERVICE

March 9, 2025

First Sunday of Lent

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

\*Call to Worship Isaiah 42:5-7

*This is what God the Lord says—the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it:*

**“I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand.**

*I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles,*

**to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.”**

\*Opening Song: “O Worship The King” vs 1-4

*Lift Up Your Hearts #2*

O worship the King all-glorious above, O gratefully sing his power and his love:

our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might and sing of his grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.

His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;

it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.

Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker,  
Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

\*Opening Prayer

\*Song: "Before The Throne Of God Above"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #682*

Before the throne of God above I have a strong, a perfect plea;  
a great High Priest, whose name is Love, who ever lives and  
pleads for me.

My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his  
heart;

I know that while in heaven he stands no tongue can bid me  
thence depart,

no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look, and see him there who made an end of all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
for God the Just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,  
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless  
righteousness;

the great unchangeable "I AM," the King of glory and of grace!

One with himself, I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his  
blood;

my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my  
God,

with Christ my Savior and my God.

## **WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Prayer of Confession

*Dear Father, your plan of redemption is beyond anything we would ever  
dream on our own.*

**Our fallen nature seeks to justify ourselves, or cover up our  
sins, or deny responsibility.**

*But in your mercy and grace, you confronted our sin in all its fullness,  
and you paid its price.*

**The capacity of your love is overwhelming to us; help us to respond with the full gratitude of our hearts. In Christ we pray, amen.**

Assurance of Pardon *Isaiah 42:1-4*

*“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”*

Song of Entrusting: “Is He Worthy”

Do you feel the world is broken? We do

Do you feel the shadows deepen? We do

But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? We do

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? We do

Is all creation groaning? It is

Is a new creation coming? It is

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? It is

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? It is

(Sing together:)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah Who conquered the grave, He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to

ransom the slave. Is He worthy, is He worthy, Of all blessing and honor and glory?

Is He worthy of this? He is.

Does the Father truly love us? He does

Does the Spirit move among us? He does

And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves? He does

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? He does

(Sing together:)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He is David's Root  
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave From ev'ry people  
and tribe every nation and tongue

He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the  
Son

Is He worthy, is He worthy, Of all blessing and honor and glory?

Is He worthy, Is He worthy, Is He worthy of this?

He is Is He worthy, Is He worthy? He is

Children's Message

Congregational Prayer

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:9-15

### **The Baptism and Testing of Jesus**

<sup>9</sup> At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup> At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, <sup>13</sup> and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted<sup>[a]</sup> by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. <sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Message: THROUGH THE WILDERNESS

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Prayer of Application

\* Song of Response: "How Firm A Foundation" vs 1, 2, 4, 5

*Lift Up Your Hearts #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."

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine."

"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 DEPART TO SERVE**

\* Blessing

\* Closing Song: "Go My Children, With My Blessing"

*Lift Up Your Hearts #946*

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing; you are my own.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw  
his glory.  
Go my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here his tender comfort stilled  
you.  
Go my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able.

Children's Message: Laura Hufford

Message: Rev. Kevin Boss

Musicians: Rex DeBruin, Andrew Friend, Naomi Friend, Elizabeth Hobson

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**We welcome Kevin Boss** from Britt today to deliver the message. Randy is in Britt for this Pastor exchange, and we are thankful for wonderful opportunity we have to share pastors with our fellow CRC churches. Be sure to keep them in your prayers as they travel.

**The special offering next week** is to support participation by youth from Trinity CRC in the **Midwest B.A.S.I.C (Brothers And Sisters In Christ) Youth Bible Camp**. The camp is open for students graduating from 6th to 12th grade and is held at Pine Lake Christian Camp in Eldora, Iowa. Typically, we ask the families to pay the pre-registration fee (\$50 per student), and then Trinity covers the remainder of the registration fee. For pictures and videos from past camps, search for “Midwest B.A.S.I.C. Youth Bible Camp” on Facebook. For questions, please ask Pam or Rob, both who plan to be at camp again this year.

**The church will be in use on March 15<sup>th</sup> 1 5 pm.** for the home school cast party. Please be mindful if you come to the church during this time.

**Sunday School:** There will be no Sunday School on March 16<sup>th</sup> due to spring break, classes will resume on March 23<sup>rd</sup>

**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 9<sup>th</sup>**

**The Family 2 Family** sale will happen again this spring, Saturday, April 5th, 2025, 9:00am - 1:00pm.

Please share with you family and friends, visit the webpage below for more details.

<https://www.amestrinity.org/church-events/family2family-spring-sale/>

Pam Whitney will be gone through the 10<sup>th</sup>

**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.

### **Small Groups, Committees, & Sunday School Updates**

**Sunday School Classes** Happening at 10.50, after fellowship

**Children and Worship** – Happening after the children's message

**Young Adult Ministry** – Meets Sunday after Sunday School

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

**UFO** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 7 pm Mucky Duck.

**Hymn Sing** will be held the first Sunday of the Month at 5 pm at the Church. March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the nest one.

**Next Council meeting** is March 12<sup>th</sup>

### **DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **ReFrame Ministries**

Kids Corner: Living in God's Kingdom - Check out this week's kids' devotion "Living in God's Kingdom" at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Have you noticed that the Bible is full of stories about the kingdom of God? That theme appears more than 80 times in the New Testament. What does it mean to be a part of God's kingdom?

Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

**Groundwork: Paul's Second Journey:** Jesus the Messiah and the Resurrection of the Dead - As he traveled, Paul convinced new believers of the gospel message, but his message also stirred up opposition. Join Groundwork as we explore his second missionary journey in Acts 15:39-18:22 to gain theological clarity and encouragement for our own efforts to share our faith and remain faithful to Jesus Christ in all circumstances. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

### **Calvin University**

**Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece** - (October 13 - 24, 2025)  
Travel by motor coach (6 days) and cruise ship (4 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or [weimje@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:weimje@calvinseminary.edu).

### **Thrive**

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - The Bible talks about many different ways to engage our bodies while we pray. As you observe the CRC's Annual Day of Prayer this week, try a different prayer posture: you could kneel, lie flat, pray with your hands or eyes open, dance to a worship song, or journal your prayer. Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Congregational Prayer:	Lora Copley
Sound:	Brian Sterenberg
Nursery	Elaine and Sue F
Children's message:	Laura Hufford
Greeters:	Oftedal

### **Greeters**

March 9 Oftedal  
March 16 Saldana

March 23 Sanders/Bassham  
March 30 Schweingruber/Berns



April 6 Sterenberg  
April 13 t' Hoen  
April 20 VanDyk  
April 27 Verkade  
May 4 Kopaska  
May 11 Bakker  
May 18 Bergman

May 25 De Bruin  
June 1 Franje  
June 8 Copley  
June 15 Hobson  
June 22 Voss  
June 29 Hubert

### **Nursery**

March 9 Elaine and Sue F  
March 16 Mindy and  
Elizabeth  
March 23 Megan and  
Caraline/Stacy  
March 30 Judy and Brianna  
April 6 Lyndee and  
Alisabeth

April 13 Mary and Kathlyn  
April 20 Rachel and Sue F  
April 27 Melody and Kristy  
May 4 Jessica and Cassie  
May 11 Donna and Pam  
May 18 Elaine and Kenzie  
May 25 Mindy and Sue F

### **Children's Message**

March 9 Laura Hufford  
March 16 Randy Raak  
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

### **Congregational Prayer**

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

**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