

WORSHIP SERVICE
January 16, 2022
Second Sunday of Epiphany

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

- * God's Greeting
- * We Greet One Another
- * Call to Worship

We are called to bring a new understanding of God: that God so loves the world.

We are the salt of the earth.

We are called to bring a new hope in God: that God gives us new life.

We are the light of the world.

We are called to follow the commandments and the law.

The Law of God is to love God and to love one another.

Let us join together in our love of God to worship and follow Jesus.

- * Opening Song: "Bring Forth the Kingdom" *Sing! A New Creation #123*

You are salt for the earth, O people: salt for the kingdom of God!

Share the flavor of life O people: life in the kingdom of God!

Bring forth the kingdom of mercy; pray for the kingdom of peace;
work for the kingdom of justice; hope for the city of God!

You are a light on a hill, O people: light for the city of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the kingdom of God!

Bring forth the kingdom of mercy; pray for the kingdom of peace;
work for the kingdom of justice; hope for the city of God!

You are a seed of the Word, O people: live for the kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the kingdom of God!

Opening Prayer

WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD

God's Purpose For Us

Westminster Catechism Q&A #1

What is the chief and highest end of humanity?

Our chief and highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever.

And how did Jesus tell us to express this?

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'-All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments. (Matthew 22:37-40)

The Apostle John further explained: "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him." (1 John 4:7-9)

Prayer of Confession

Everlasting Lord, we confess that often we have failed to be an obedient church. We have loved as the world teaches us- with selfish desires and needs. We struggle to love others more than we love ourselves. Lord, help us to love as you have taught us- completely and unconditionally. Move us to

**love others compassionately, to love ourselves genuinely, and to love you as fully as you love us.
Forgive us. Free us for joyful obedience. Amen.**

God's Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned. In Jesus Christ, therefore, we are forgiven. (John 3:17)

Thanks be to God!

Congregational Prayer

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Scripture Reading: Job 1:6-22

⁶ One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them. ⁷ The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan answered the Lord, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it."

⁸ Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

⁹ "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. ¹⁰ "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. ¹¹ But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

¹² The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

¹³ One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁴ a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, ¹⁵ and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁷ While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁸ While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁹ when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

²⁰ At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹ and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,
and naked I will depart.

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;
may the name of the Lord be praised."

²² In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

Message: "The Challenge"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Song of Response: "Lord Reign in Me"

Over all the earth You reign on high Every mountain stream every sunset sky
But my one request Lord my only aim Is that You'd reign in me again

Lord reign in me reign in Your pow'r Over all my dreams in my darkest hour
You are the Lord of all I am So won't You reign in me again

Over every thought over every word May my life reflect the beauty of my Lord
'Cause You mean more to me Than any earthly thing So won't You reign in me again

Lord reign in me reign in Your pow'r Over all my dreams in my darkest hour
You are the Lord of all I am So won't You reign in me again

Lord reign in me reign in Your pow'r Over all my dreams in my darkest hour
You are the Lord of all I am So won't You reign in me again
won't You reign in me again won't You reign in me again

Prayer of Application

WE DEPART TO SERVE

- * Blessing
- * Closing Song: "My Friends, May You Grow in Grace" *Lift Up Your Hearts* #938
My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.
My friends, may you grow in grace, and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.
To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.
To God be the glory, now and forever, now and forever, amen.
- * Postlude

- * Please stand if you are able

Children's Message: Pastor Randy Raak

Message: Pastor Randy Raak

Musicians: Andrew Friend and Laura Hufford

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open Job Positions - The Church is looking to fill the following 3 positions- Office Coordinator and Finance Clerk and a new position of a Worship Coordinator. Depending on the applicant's skill set, we are looking for 1-3 people. Job descriptions are attached to this email. If you are interested, please send a cover letter and resume to Christina or Pastor Randy. You may also share this information with others who may be interested.

Annual Congregational Meeting - Everyone is encouraged to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting on **January 27, 2022 at 7:00 PM**. Committees are asked to submit a written report and present it at the meeting. Reports are to be emailed to Christina Helfers at office@amestrinity.org by **January 20th**.

Endowment Requests - Please submit requests to Christina by **January 31, 2022**.

SMALL GROUPS & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Breakfast Club meets on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays** at the Lincoln Center HyVee at **8:30 AM**.

Sunday Evening Bible Study - The Sunday Evening Bible Study has entered its winter break. We will meet again on **January 30** to choose a topic for the spring season. Thanks to all who participated this fall.

UFOs meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

DENOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calvin Theological Seminary

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation - (May 23 – June 4, 2022) Visit ancient sites connected with Paul's First, Second, and Third Missionary Journeys as well as the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational Biblical tour. Contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu

ReFrame Ministries

Word Power: MLK Day - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Did you know words have power? Your words. Your neighbor's words. Everybody's! Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. knew that. He used his word power to help people see each other as equals, no matter their skin color. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork: You Belong. Be Rooted in Christ's Love - Keeping up faith can be hard when life's circumstances are difficult. Join Groundwork as we study Ephesians 3 to hear the Apostle Paul's assurance that we belong in God's family, that his promises are, indeed, for us, and be blessed by his prayer for the Holy Spirit to root us in Christ's love. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Faith Formation Ministries

Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Engaging Scripture: Read Isaiah 55:10-11 and ponder or discuss the following questions. The verses right before this passage are about forgiveness of sins, and the verses right after are about the joy of having the curse of sin lifted. How does this passage give you hope, both for your own life and for the world? In what ways have you felt God's Word helping you and those around you "bud and flourish"?

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

Elders: A-G = Tom Kuyper, H-K = Melody Franje, L-S = Mark Voss, T-Z = Paul Kleinwolterink

Deacons: A-G = Tina VanDyk, H - K = Andrew Friend, L-S = Judy Oltman, T-Z = Donna Bergman