Offertory Prayer

Generous God, you have already given us all that we need. Help us trust your continued care, that we may share with others the abundance of your blessings. Strengthen us for service and remind us of the great joy that awaits those who answer your call. Accept our gifts and give us new songs of praise as we celebrate the opportunity to be in ministry in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Recognition and Blessing of Church Leaders

Chair of Council: Jodi Boudreau Lay Leader: Dawn Moyer Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference: Larry Evans Chair of Trustees: Tim Tunnell Chair of Finance: Doug Hammer Chair of SPRC: Larry Evans Chair of Education and Chair of Worship: Dan Frizane Chair of Hospitality: Joyce Will Chair of Mission: Tony Ratka President of UMW: Jane Craig Memorial Committee: Jane Craig, Joyce Bender, and Jodi Boudreau Members at Large: Jack Hultquist, Joyce Bender, and Melissa Klabunde Church Treasurer, Membership Secretary, and Inter-Church Ministries Delegate: Kay Lyn McBride UMC Prayer Chair: Jeanette Wilkinson Delegate to Bethany Home Annual Meeting: Sandy Johnson

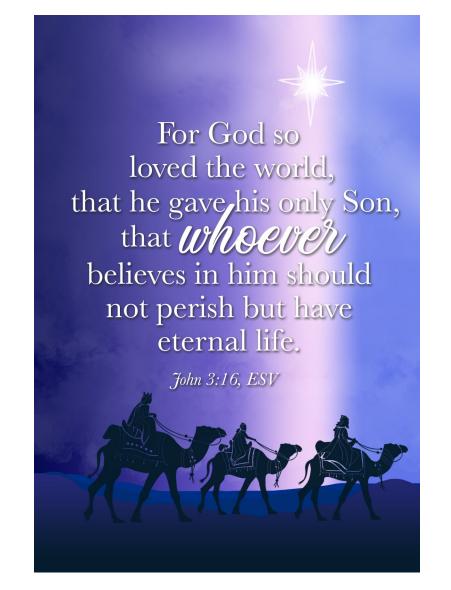
Closing Song "Forever" #8

Benediction

Look around you, dear people. God's joy is poured out for you so that you might be a blessing to others. God will continually walk and work with you, relieving your burdens and giving you strength. Go into God's world, rejoicing! AMEN.

Sending Forth

Vision for 2023: "Have Life, and Have It Abundantly."



United Methodist Church Minden, Nebraska 10:00 a.m. January 15, 2023 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

1. Our church leaders for 2023 will be recognized and blessed today. Following the service, Pastor Peter will share the vision and directions for this year.

2. The Bible study, *Threading the Bible: New Testament*, will begin at 10:00 am and 5:00 pm on January 26, 2023. If you want to take the class, get in touch with the church office.
3. On January 29, our youth group will host a lunch to raise funds for a mission trip. We invite everyone to this special event.

4. We are going to start a 12 week confirmation class in February 2023. If your kids are interested in the class, please get in touch with the church office.

- 5. There will be a refreshment following worship.
- 6. Contribution Statement for 2022 are in the back.
- 7. Offering Plates are in the back of the sanctuary.

8. Last week we received offerings of \$2,665. Thank you for the offerings and prayers.

Call to Worship

L: Brothers and sisters, we are gathered here to proclaim a vision; "Have Life and Have It Abundantly!"

P: A vision of a world formed by God and transformed by Jesus' love.

L: We are disciples who are called to embody lives of grace, **P: sharing the good news of the gospel in our words and our actions.**

L: May the Holy Spirit open our hearts and open our eyes P: that we may live into God's vision for our lives, our denomination, and our world.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, Word, and Wisdom, we pray for the gift of your vision. Help us to want the things that you want, to love the people whom you love, and to follow where you lead us. Grant us the courage to embody your Word in our actions, to surrender ourselves to your Holy Spirit, to embrace one another, and to express your love for the world. Empower us to another way of living as disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Opening Songs "Still" #39 "Believe" #29

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Time

Scriptures John 10:1-10 (NIV)

Julie Ratka

"Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God.

"Have Life and Have it Abundantly!" Pastor Peter Choi

Joys and Concerns

Happy Birthday to Pastor Peter Choi, Kim Snavely,

Jack Hultquist, Alison Lovin, Jim Madsen and Zach Klabunde. <u>Prayer List:</u> Merlin Beahm and Marge Madsen.

Pastoral Prayer—Lord's Prayer

Offertory Music

"Doxology "We Give Thee But Thine Own"