



Scripture Theme 2020-2021

*“Let justice surge like waters, and righteousness like an unfailing stream”
Amos 5:24*



Background

This year's scripture theme can be seen as the culmination of the themes from the previous two years. In 2018-2019 we focused on “letting our light shine” (Matthew 5) and understanding the universal call to holiness. Last year we immersed ourselves in being peacemakers (Romans 14) and the duty we have to build up one another.

As we read scripture, it is important to remember that not only is it divinely inspired but it also should be inspiring. Our faith should lead us to action! Which brings us to this verse from the prophet Amos. “Let justice surge like waters, and righteousness like an unfailing stream.” If you know justice, you will know peace. Amos was a prophet who used poetry and images from his own land to challenge hypocrisy and injustice. He saw the need for justice during his time and likened it to the surging waters with which he was familiar. Think of the pastoral view of Minnesota and the connection we have with water - its beauty and its force, still and calm, yet also surging and powerful. Our faith can be like that too. At times, it is what helps still our minds and hearts, and at other times, our faith inspires us to be bold. This is one of those times.

The joy we feel as people of faith must translate to our daily lives, who we are, and how we live. Many times throughout the synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) Jesus says “let those with ears hear...” Jesus is speaking to us today, urging us to listen to people who have different experiences and perspectives. Listening to understand so that we may be bold in our faith as we work for peace and justice.

Questions for Reflection

What parts of your faith bring comfort to you? Which parts inspire you?

Reflect on examples of justice leading to peace. How can you be an agent of change?

How can BSM lead the way in converting hearts and minds towards a more just society?

