

Pastor Amy was born and raised in the Western suburbs of Chicago. She earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Psychology with a minor in Theology from Loyola University Chicago. She has a Master of Divinity degree from The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and a Masters in Social Work from the School of Social Service Administration at University of Chicago. She also holds a License in Social Work in the state of Illinois. Pastor Amy was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA in April of 2016.

Pastor Amy finds the intersection of social work and ministry a valuable lens through which to view the world and God's calling for her life of service. After college and before seminary, Pastor Amy worked for a non-profit organization for older adults called *Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly*. She saw how Jesus' good news often provided a source of hope, strength and accompaniment for people who had little family or friend support. Their faith was an antidote to loneliness and functioned as a source of resilience in the face of challenges.

Pastor Amy appreciates how the church offers opportunities to bring people together of all generations and backgrounds. She brings with her a passion for intergenerational ministry, deepening faith formation for all ages, and a drive for community engagement. Pastor Amy is excited for the opportunity to get to know the people of St. James; to learn about your passions, your faith journeys and where God is calling the church.

She was drawn to St. James first when she learned of your deep service to and with the community, along with your generosity to the wider church. She has since been impressed and thoroughly enjoyed her interactions with everyone she's met from St. James.