

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 17, 2021
Worship at 9:15 am



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called “the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven” (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

BELLS AND LIGHTING THE CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Holy God,
 C **you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy.**
- P How vast is God’s grace! Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God’s own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God’s forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ’s justice and the Spirit’s reconciling peace.
- C **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” ELW 310 vs. 1 & 4

- 1 **Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
 manifested by the star to the sages from afar,
 branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:
 anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.**
- 4 **Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word;
 grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;
 that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany,
 and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.**

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885, alt.

GREETING

- P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray together.
- C **Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond.

This marks the beginning of Samuel’s prophetic ministry.

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD,

and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

¹LORD, you have searched me out;

O LORD, you have known me.

²You know my sitting down and my rising up;

you discern my thoughts from afar.

³You trace my journeys and my resting-places

and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,

but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

⁵You encompass me, behind and before,

and lay your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

¹³For you yourself created my inmost parts;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴I will thank you because I am marvelously made;

your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

¹⁵My body was not hidden from you,

while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book;

my days were fashioned before they came to be.

¹⁷How deep I find your thoughts, O God!

How great is the sum of them!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Paul helps the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” ¹⁷But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? ²⁰For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 1st chapter

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 1:43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “Here I Am, Lord” vs. 1 & 2

1 **"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"**

Refrain

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

2 **"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" Refrain**

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition, the congregation responds:

P Let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

The prayers conclude:

P Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During these extraordinary times, you are welcome to mail your offering to the church or access our on-line giving option: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1390744

OFFERING PRAYER

P O God,

C receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right ... and we remember that...

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

As you take the wafer, hear these words.

“The body of Christ given for you.” *All partake of the bread.*

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

As you take the cup of wine or juice, hear these words.

“The blood of Christ shed for you.” *All partake of the wine or juice.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Christ Jesus, at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey.
Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news and serve
others in your name.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you
in peace.

C Amen. (sung)

SENDING HYMN

“This Little Light of Mine”

**1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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Special thanks to today's Faithful Servants

Presiding: Rev. Amy Zietlow

Organist: Jeff Kashefska

Live Stream & Sara Corrigan, Jerry and Elaine Decker, Bella Karunas
Video Team Alan Duesterhaus, and Richard Wade

Readings and Psalm for next Sunday

- **Jonah 3:1-5, 10** *Repentance at Nineveh*
- **Psalm 62:5-12** *God alone is my rock and my salvation.*
- **1 Corinthians 7:29-31** *Living in the end times*
- **Mark 1:14-20** *The calling of the disciples at the sea*

A note of generosity

D. L. Moody, the famous Christian leader once said, "If you don't have much, but give – you will have more. But if you don't give, whatever you have will never be enough."

This Week at Holy Cross:

Sun., Jan. 17 9:15 am Live Stream Worship on Facebook with Pastor Amy Zietlow
10:30 am Parking Lot Service (94.1 FM)

Wed., Jan. 20 5-6 pm Confirmation
6:30 pm Council Meeting by Zoom

Sun., Jan. 24 9:15 am Live Stream Worship on Facebook with Pastor Amy Zietlow
10:30 am Annual Meeting on Zoom

Announcements

Holy Cross Annual Meeting: Sunday, January 24, 2021

Please join us for our first digital Annual meeting. We will be meeting through Zoom in order to maintain safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Information about logging in or calling in is included in the January newsletter. If you would like to set up a time to practice using Zoom, Pastor Amy is available.

Please keep these people and their families in your prayers.

Marti B	Joni M	Glenna P	Elaine J-D
Jerry D	Lauralee H	Britt W	Steve T

Shirley (cousin of Jerry Decker)
Kathy (cousin of Jerry Decker)
Mandy (niece of Pam Musser)
Dorothy & Kenneth (parents of Kathy Carter)
Peggy (second parent to Lee Williams)
Milton (in-law of Lee Williams)
Mindy (cousin of Lee Williams)
Tina (cousin of Jerry Decker)
Travis (cousin of Jerry Decker)
Penny (sister of Greg Anderson)
Maribeth (Godmother of Kay Wolken)
Jerry (son of Mae Grace)
Kim, Lydia, Gunnar (friends of Bella Karunas)
Keisha (friend of Kendra Berry)
Klay (friend of Jim, Pam & Ryan Musser)
Sally, Christopher, Tracy & Tina (Elaine Decker's sister & family)
Judy & Wayne (sister and brother-in-law of Jerry Decker)
Trisha (friend of Kristie Smith who is waiting for a heart transplant)
Lila (aunt of Kristie Smith)
Family of Gary Bean (cousin of Phil Barry)
Rick & Marsha Cordts (friends of Wayne & Kathy Carter)

Please call the church office to have your prayer requests listed or when prayers have been answered and name(s) can be removed.



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