

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Sunday, January 17, 2021  
Second Sunday after Epiphany



**Reflection:** Do you remember “God Spell?” Musical a long time ago, but a special piece of music entitled: “Day By Day.” The lyrics remind us that as we are called to follow by Jesus, the only way that works is by staying close and continue to stay connected, day by day. When Philip was called by Jesus, he also gave the invitation to Nathanael. Nathanael said, “can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip then offered the invitation– “come and see.” To follow more nearly is to offer the invitation “come and see.”

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.

**Prelude**

*(as disciples of Jesus, we continue to pray and move for peace in our world)*

**Let There Be Peace on Earth (Voices of Hope Children’s Choir)**

<https://youtu.be/lrhoPI5qgVo>

**Call to Worship**

L: We are individuals, and we are a community, called of God.

**C: We gather to worship at God’s bidding.**

L: We are individuals, and we are a community, called of God.

**C: We gather to listen for God’s fresh speaking of the Word.**

L: We are individuals, and we are community, called by God.

**C: We gather in preparation of being sent to do God’s bidding.**

**Music – Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult (Advocate Virtual Choir)**

<https://youtu.be/yByYDzThrSI>

**Invocation**

In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: O god, you call and call our names.  
*A time of silence and reflection*

**There are times that we, like Moses, make excuses and ask not to serve you. There are times that we, like Jonah, say we will serve but then turn and go the other way. There are times that we, like Samuel, hear your voice but lack the knowledge to follow your call. Help us recognize your voice in our lives. Give us the eagerness of Samuel to jump up, even in the middle of the night, to respond to your call. Forgive us when we ignore you or make excuses. Work in us a willing spirit.**

P: We pray in the name of the one who calls us, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Kyrie**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen and Amen.**

**Music of Praise – I Love To Tell The Story**

(First Plymouth Church, Lincoln Nebraska)

<https://youtu.be/onJLwQS8dR0>

## Prayer of the Day

**We come to you, God, praying for unity among Christ's disciples and among all people of the world. Help us to answer the call of Jesus Christ, even as the original disciples were forged into effective witnesses of the gospel. Strengthen our resolve to move past our differences to the great message of hope and salvation that we share in Christ. Bless us this day as we are encouraged to examine our call to discipleship. May we join with all other Christians lifting up your name in praise and honor. Amen.**

## The Word

### Old Testament reading - 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

#### *The calling of Samuel*

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

<sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the 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. <sup>4</sup>Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and 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.

<sup>6</sup>The 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." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

<sup>8</sup>The 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.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore 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.

<sup>10</sup>Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

<sup>11</sup>Then 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. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>For 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. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

<sup>15</sup>Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." <sup>17</sup>Eli 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.” <sup>18</sup> So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.”

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

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**

*You have searched me out and known me*

<sup>1</sup> O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

<sup>2</sup> **You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

<sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup> **Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.**

<sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup> **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

<sup>14</sup> **I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being  
made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> **Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.**

**In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.**

<sup>17</sup> How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup> **I try to count them—they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end—I am still with you.**

**Epistle reading – 1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

*Glorify God in your body*

<sup>12</sup> “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. <sup>13</sup> “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. <sup>14</sup> And God raised the Lord

and will also raise us by his power. <sup>15</sup> Do 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! <sup>16</sup> Do 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.” <sup>17</sup> But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup> Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup> Or 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? <sup>20</sup> For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Holy Gospel – John 1:43-51**

*The calling of the first disciples*

<https://youtu.be/QVxKQ3DiNY>

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Time**

<https://youtu.be/pl0hICVro6E>

**Homily – Pastor Barnes: “RSVP”**

[https://youtu.be/m4e\\_snD4IBA](https://youtu.be/m4e_snD4IBA)

**Music of the Day – Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak**

(Altar of Praise Chorale)

<https://youtu.be/jvYSoGP7pwM>

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead,  
on the third day, he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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

P: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

A: For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

A: For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

A: For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound, that God console all who suffer, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

A: For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us for the first time or returning, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

A: In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us, that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

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.**

### **Offering our Thoughts, Prayers and Gifts to God**

Creator and Sovereign of all things and all people, you bestow your generous gifts upon us. All about us we see evidence of our riches in comfort, in good, and in money. Help us to be generous with those riches, even as Samuel was willing to give what he had for the good of others. Through our generosity, may we grow in wisdom, in stature, and more in accord with your will. Amen.

### ***Thoughts about Holy Communion***

*As you sit at home, take a bit of bread and say these words:*

***“Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us all forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. Amen.***

***Peace we need. Peace we can share. Peace on earth shall be our prayer.***

**O Day of Peace – Tune: Jerusalem (First Plymouth Church, Lincoln Nebraska)**

[https://youtu.be/w3gc\\_YTLB0s](https://youtu.be/w3gc_YTLB0s)

### **The Lord’s Prayer**

**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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Closing Prayer**

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give to you His peace.  
**Amen.**

## **The Summons (Will You Come and Follow Me)**

Jereme Asunto

<https://youtu.be/GiXnbOORTAU>