The Second Sunday after Epiphany

Anniversary Sunday

January 17 2021, 9:00 am



Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School 9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

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.



Gathering

Prelude

Galilee Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \(\mathbb{\Pi}\) one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

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.

How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of \(\mathbb{P} \) 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.

Amen.

Opening Hymn ELW 810



Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1693

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

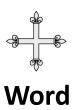


Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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.

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.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; 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. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" 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. 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." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 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. 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.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [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. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 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. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

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. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." 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." 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."

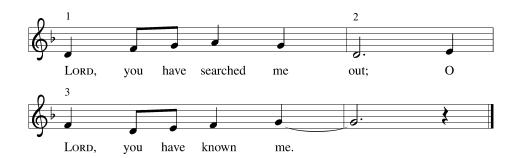
As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.]

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18

The choir introduces the refrain. The congregation sings the second time. Verses are sung by the choir. Please sing refrain indicated by an R



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. **R**

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. **R**

For you yourself created my inmost parts;
 you knit me together in my mother's womb.
 Will thank you because I am marvelously made;
 your works are wonderful, and I know it well. R

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. ${\bf R}$

How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
 How great is the sum of them!
 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours. R

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.

"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. "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. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. 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! 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." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. 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? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir We have found | the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us grace and truth. (John 1:41, 17)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel John 1:43-51

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the firstchapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

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

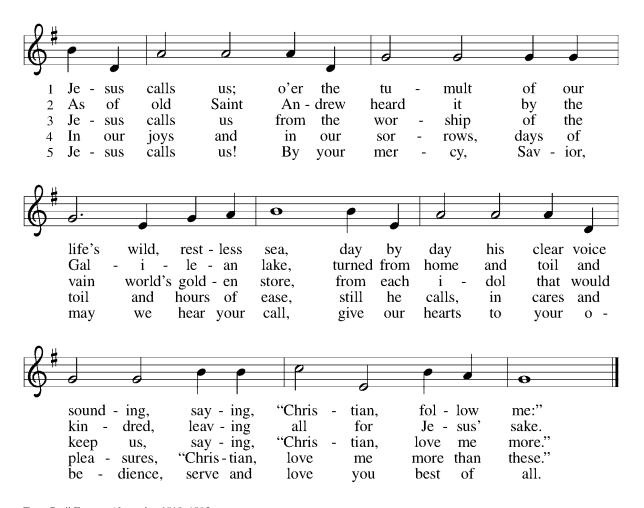
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Miller

Hymn of the Day

ELW 696



Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895 Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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

After each portion of the prayers:

Let us pray,

Have mercy, O God.

The prayers conclude:

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.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



Offering

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> or on the Give Plus app. You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

Music at the offering

The only Son from heaven,
Foretold by ancient seers,
By God the Father given,
In human form appears.
No sphere His light confining,
No star so brightly shining

As He, our Morning Star.

The Only Son From Heaven Music: from Jesus nahm zu dich die Zwölfe, BWV 22, J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Text: Elizabeth Cruciger (ca. 1500-1535)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of hope and generosity, you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We open our hands and return to you what you have first given us. Empower us to share our time, talent and possessions. Use them to bring peace, justice and comfort to the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please pray in your own preferred language. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Padre Nuestro Que estas en los cielos Santificado sea tu Nombre Venga a nosostros tu Reino Hagase tu voluntad asi en la tierra como en el cielo Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia Perdona nuestras ofensas Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden Y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion mas libranos del mal Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la Gloria Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen

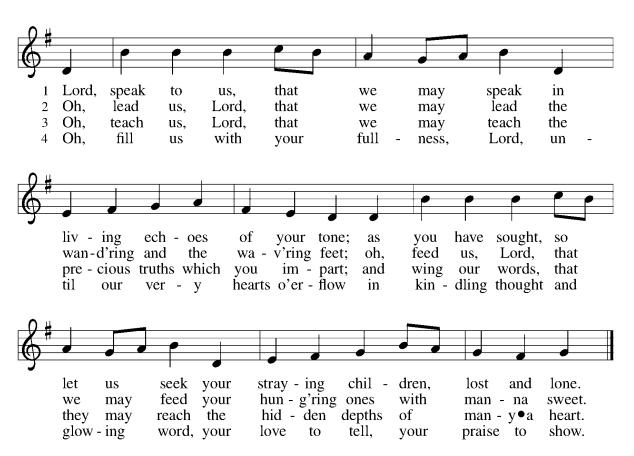


Sending

Blessing

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

Sending Hymn ELW 676



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810-1856

Dismissal

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

Go in peace.

Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Fugue in Bb (on B-A-C-H)

Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1780)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, Senior Pastor

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*Members from Schola Cantorum
Sarah Pfanz, *soprano*Tacy Downing, *alto*Ralph Watkins, *tenor*Jeff Jox, *baritone*

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TODAY IS ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY at Saint Luke. We give thanks for 81 years of Christ's mission and ministry, and now this amazing virtual outreach around the globe. On a cold January 14, 1940, a group of saints gathered at the Masonic Lodge in downtown Silver Spring and officially organized Saint Luke Lutheran Church. What dedication and vision. We give thanks for the faithful who dedicated themselves to spreading the Gospel in Metro DC and now such a greater community!

SAINT LUKE has a special tradition each year of giving an ANNIVERSARY OFFERING, in addition to regular giving. This year the offering has been designated by the Saint Luke Council to go to Progress Place. Saint Luke has had a homeless ministry for many years but due to covid-19 could not host the ministry this year. Progress Place in downtown Silver Spring, assists our homeless, and many of our Saint Luke clients, with food, shelter, medical care and so much more. This year we help our homeless community by giving of our resources to Progress Place. This outreach touches the lives of many who need mentoring and assistance in stability and employment. You may give to the Anniversary Offering by going to www.saintlukegive.us Thank you and Happy Anniversary!