

January 14, 2024

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Setting Three

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.

ops & Concerns

Prelude

A medley of "The Power of Your Love" by Geoff Bullock and "Breathe" by Marie Barnett

Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, ⁺ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.
- C. Amen
- P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P. God, our rock and refuge,
- C. we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.
- P. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of
 [⊥] Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.
- C. Amen.

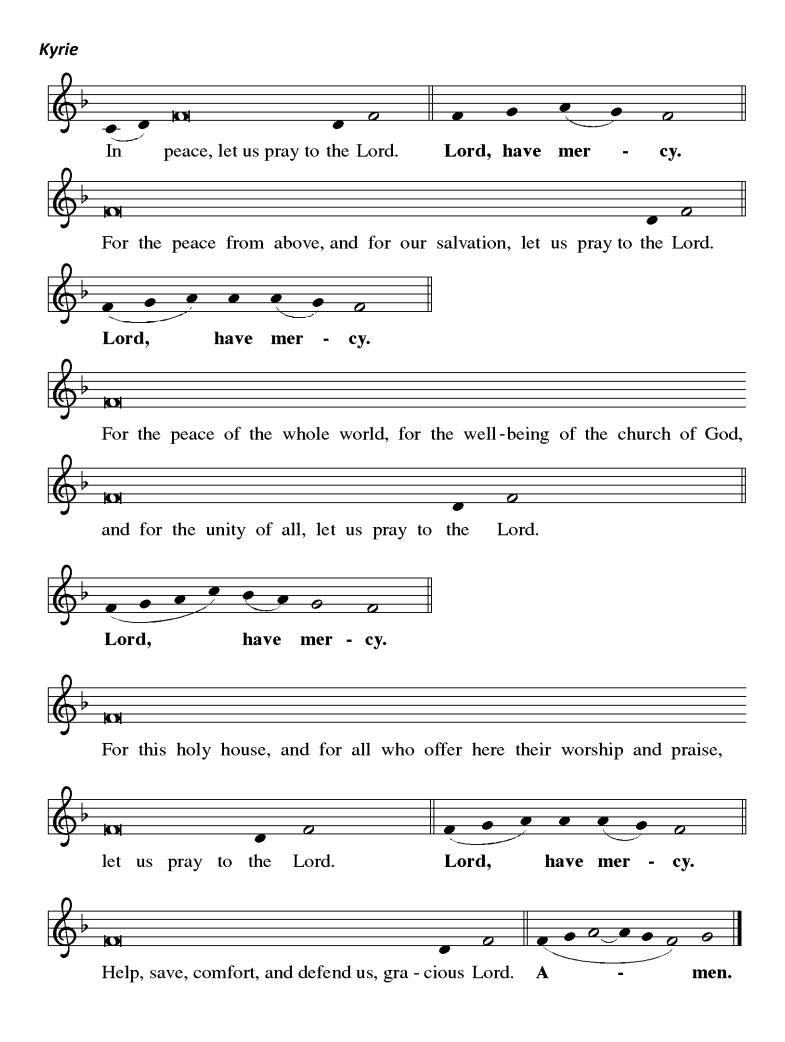
Gathering Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

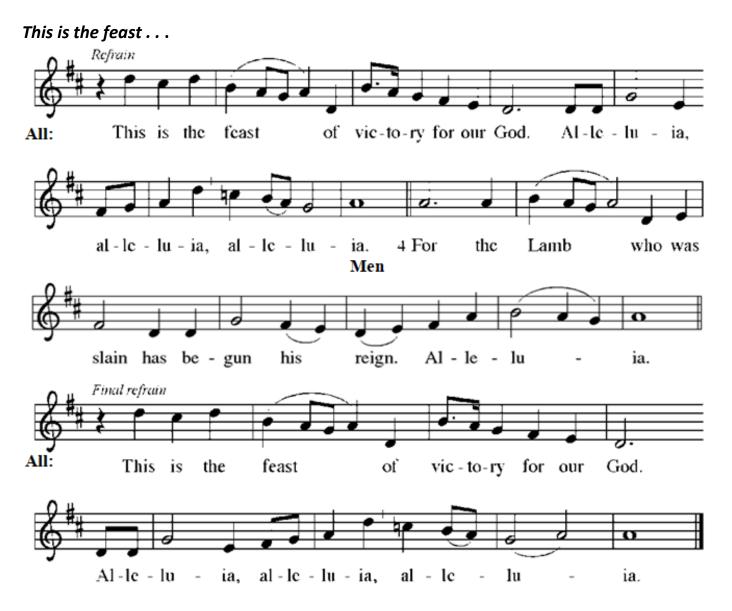
ELW 836

Greeting

- **P.** Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. And also with you.







Prayer of the Day

- A. Let us pray
- 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.

THE LORD CAME AND STOOD THERE, CALLING AS AT THE OTHER TIMES, "SAMUEL! SAMUEL!"THEN SAMUEL SAID, "SPEAK, FOR YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING." 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10

First Reading

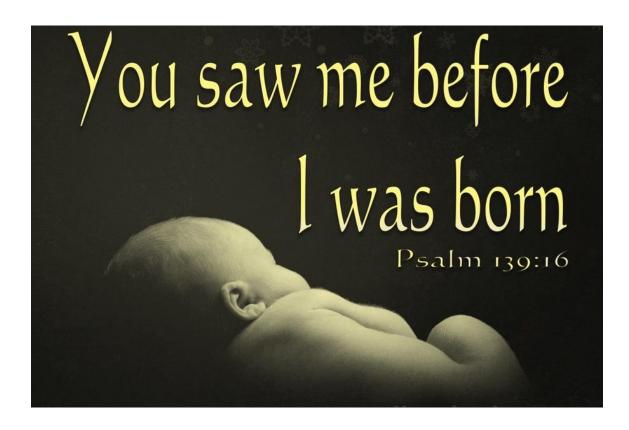
At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.

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."

- L. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

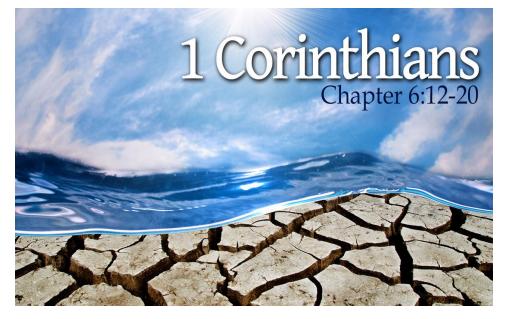


spoken responsively

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 ¹ on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it [|] altogether. ⁵You encompass me, behind ¹ and before, and lay your [|] hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonder-¹ ful for me; it is so high that I cannot at-¹ tain to it. ¹³For you yourself created my ¹ inmost parts; you knit me together in my [|] mother's womb. ¹⁴I will thank you because I am mar-¹ velously made; your works are wonderful, and I [|] know it well. ¹⁵Mv bodv was not hid-¹ den from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths¹ 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 ¹ came to be. ¹⁷How deep I find your [|] thoughts, O God! How great is the [|] sum of them! ¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number ¹ than the sand; to count them all, my life span would need to ¹ be like yours.

Second Reading

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. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.

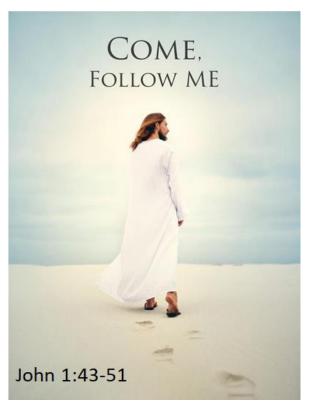


Gospel Acclamation

P. The holy gospel according to John, the first chapter.C. Glory to you, O God.

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."

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.

John Petry, Interim Pastor

Hymn of the Day

Sermon

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

The Apostles' Creed

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

A. As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the leaders of your church (*especially*) be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace,

- C. receive our prayer.
- **A.** Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace,
- C. receive our prayer.

Other Prayers

- **P.** Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- C. Amen.

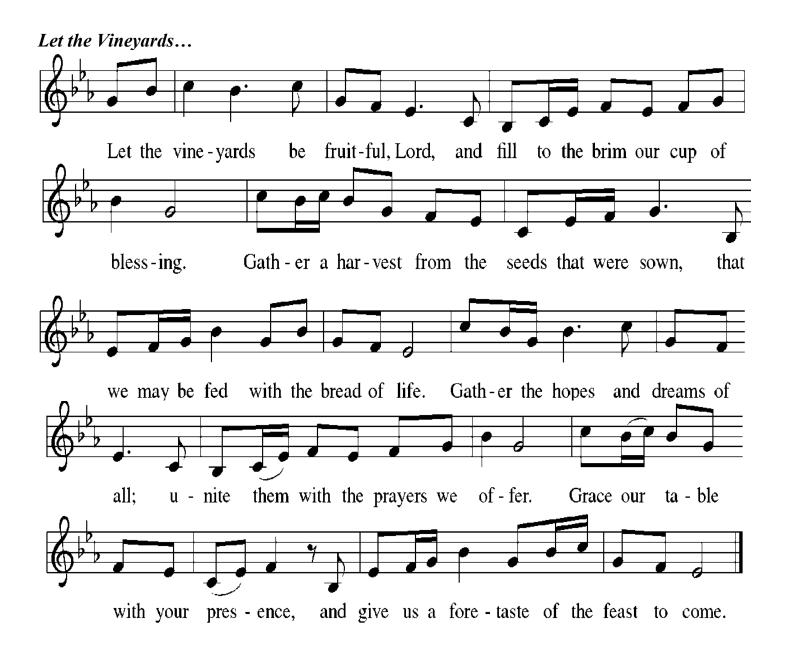
The Peace

- **P.** Jesus said, Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled. May His peace be with you always.
- C. And also with you.

The Offering

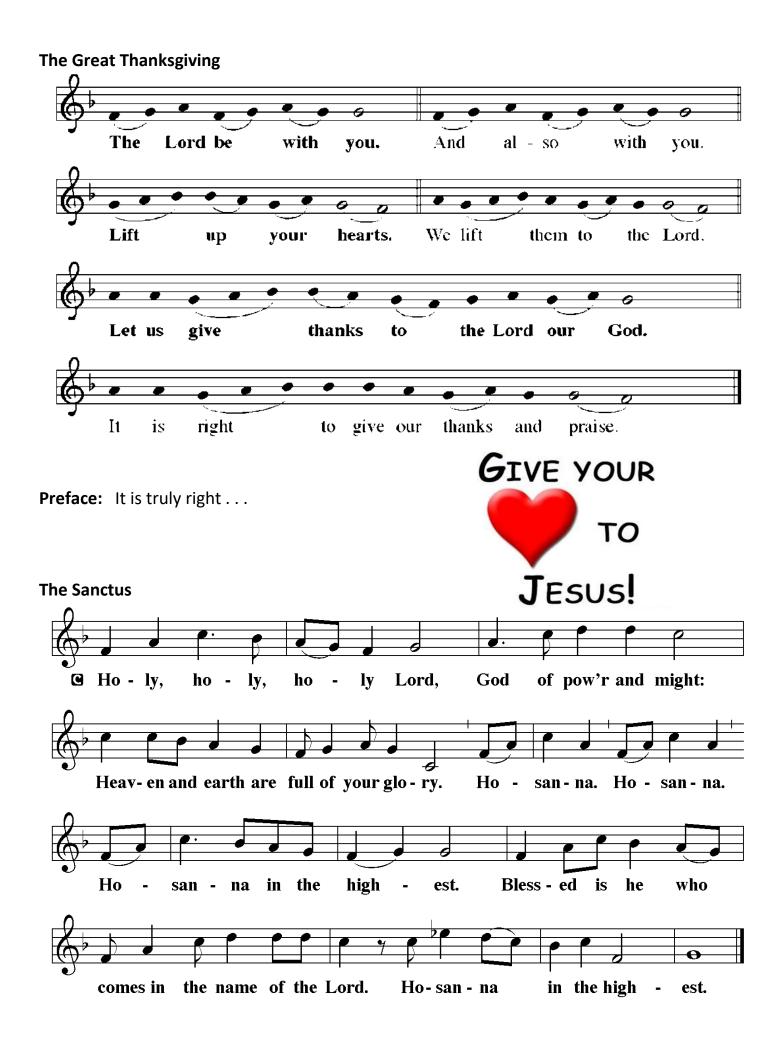
Anthem

Do Justice – Love Kindness by Dr. Abe Cáceres Micah 6:8 and Amos 5:24 Choir



Offertory Prayer

- A. Blessed are you, Holy One,
- C. for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.



Eucharistic Prayer

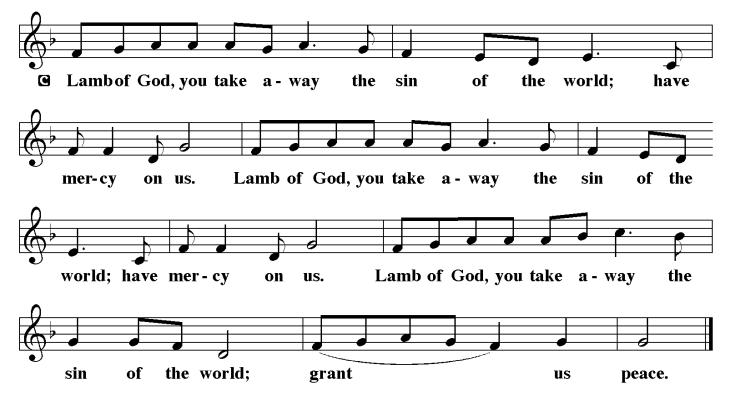


Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

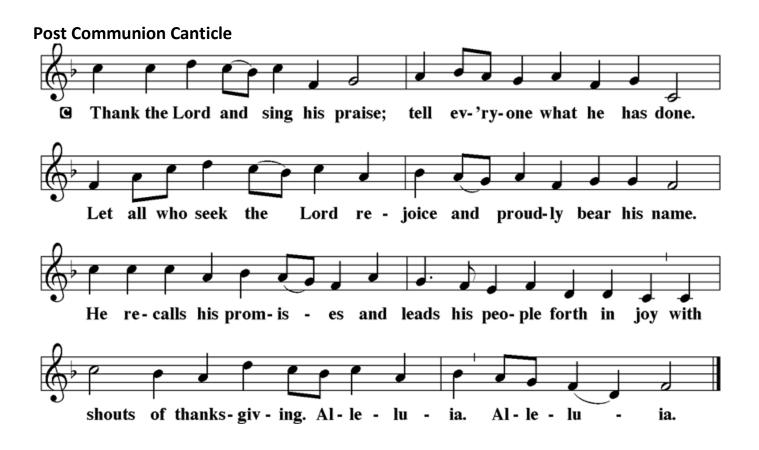
- **P.** At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see. Everyone is invited, no exceptions.
- C. Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God



Communion Hymns

Day by Day	ELW 790
Lord of All Hopefulness	ELW 765



Post Communion Prayer

- **A.** Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.
- C. Amen

Blessing

- **P.** God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, + bless you and remain with you always.
- C. Amen.

Sending Hymn	Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult	ELW 696
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Dismissal

- **A.** Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Arioso" by J.S. Bach

Many THANKS to Conrad Lentz and Lori Bosco for supplying for us today!!!

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Servers for Sunday, January 14th:

Shannon Thomsen
Shannon Thomsen
Sylvia Lambert
Steve Brantley/Linda Hash
Conrad Lentz, piano
Lori Bosco, violin



Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider spending time giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.



Flowers & Candles are given by Julia Lochra in celebration of many family Birthdays.

Honor a loved one by making a donation for the candles in the sanctuary for the month or the flowers that beautify the church each Sunday. Sign-up sheet is on the board in the hallway.

Please stay for Fellowship to meet & get to know Pastor Wolfgang and his family!!!



January 14th Meet Greet with Pastor Wolfgang Herz-Lane



Congregational Meeting

To Vote on the Call & the Terms of the Call for our New Pastor

January 21st

January 28th

