



"Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these."

- John 1:50

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Second Sunday after Epiphany—January 18, 2015

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Rev. Robert Newpher, Interim Pastor

Jacob Gordon, Director of Music

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

The Second Sunday after Epiphany– January 18, 2015

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just the clergy 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 the story of the vision of Jacob, who called the place of his vision "the house of God, and ... the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

Confession of Peter

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

PRELUDE: *Here I Am, Lord* – John Carter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**
**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG #798: *Will You Come and Follow Me

***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.

***GLORY TO GOD**

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

***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: 1Samuel 3:1–10 (11-20) (page 247 in Old Testament)

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.

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.

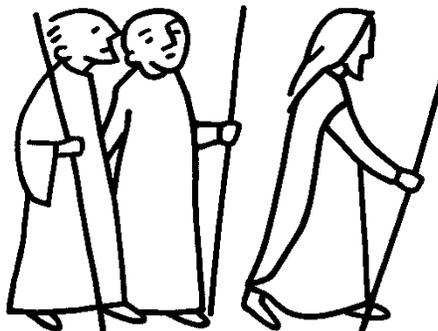
¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM 139: 1-6, 13-18



You, O Lord, have searched and known me, You know when I sit or rise;
For you made my in-most being, Wove me in my moth-er's womb,
Ev'-ry thought and deed lies o - pen To your all - per - ceiv-ing eyes.
God all - wise, who or-dered for me All my days un - til the tomb.
You have laid your hand up - on me, Guard-ed me be - fore, be - hind;
How pro-found, how vast, how pre - cious All the work - ings of your will
Know-ledge so sub - lime, so tow'-ring, Far tran-scends an earth-ly mind.
Count-less mar - vels! End-less mer - cies! When I wake, I'm with you still.

Text: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; vers. by David G. Preston
Music: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © David G. Preston. CCLI # 3219012

BEACH SPRING

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6: 12–20 (page 169 in New Testament)

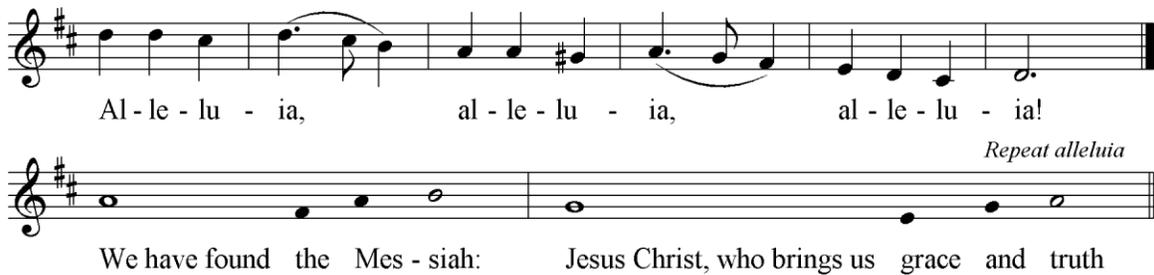
Paul is helping the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

¹²All 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. ¹³Food 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Repeat alleluia
We have found the Mes - siah: Jesus Christ, who brings us grace and truth

***GOSPEL READING: John 1:43 –51** (page 92 in New Testament)

The holy gospel according to John.

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."

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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY #574: Here I Am, Lord**

***NICENE CREED**

**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**

Called to know, love, and follow you, O God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Gracious God, speak to your listening church, and send it to point eagerly to the many ways in which you reveal your life-giving presence. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Renew the face of the earth. Heal the wounds human carelessness inflicts on creation, and rouse us to increase our care of land and waters. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restore and strengthen world leaders. Give them a clear vision of your power to move hearts and minds, and enable them to act with justice and compassion. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Refresh the depressed and despairing. Comfort those who weep and mourn. Give companionship to the lonely and healing to the sick, especially Nan, Jim, John, Robert, Frieda, Joe, Bill & Kathy, Jim, Raymond, George, Wanda Jean, Helen, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the waters of baptism you claim us as beloved sons and daughters. Shower your joy on the newly baptized, those preparing for baptism, and those who will affirm their baptism. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill our congregation with renewed zeal to love our neighbor as you love us. Open our mouths to invite friends and neighbors to come and see you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lead our bishop and call committee as they seek a new pastor for this congregation. Give wisdom to all those whom you call that they might hear and follow. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bless you for revealing yourself in the saints, especially the apostle Peter who confessed you as Lord. Bring us with them into the fullness of your glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting your love and healing, O God, we commend to you all for whom we pray, knowing you will hear and answer, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN #685: *Take My Life*

(All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward)

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

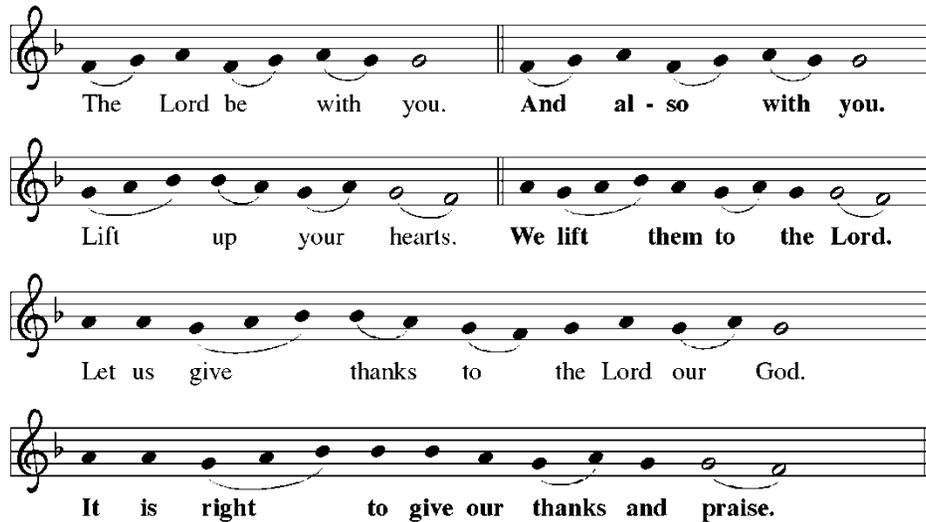
Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth
and nourish your whole creation.

Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way,
that all may know your care;

and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***DIALOGUE**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel,
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's

sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.

COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN #696: *Jesus Calls Us*

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

Lord, now you let your ser - vant go in peace; your word has been ful-
- filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-
- pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-
- veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

God of abundance,
with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ,
making us one with all your people.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life
of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #513: *Listen, God is Calling

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

9:00 am

Assisting Minister: Sally Foster

Communion Assistant: Dave Knauff

Acolyte:

Lector: Dave Knauff

Usher:

Attendance Last Week: 58

Attendance last year: 74

Weekly Budgeted Need: \$

Last Week's Giving: \$ 761.00

YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$ 5,510.88

Year to Date Receipts: \$ 4,958.00

YTD Actual Expense: \$ 5,153.85

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