

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

God Speaks, We Listen
January 13 & 14, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Since the beginning of creation, God has spoken. He spoke into being our universe and our very selves as the crown of His creation; He spoke when seeking out Adam and Eve in a fallen world; He spoke many times and many ways through the prophets; and He spoke by the very words that came from the mouth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. From Him came words of instructing, healing, forgiving, and of invitation to follow Him as we hear today with Philip and Nathanael. The Lord still speaks to us today in His Word, as His Spirit spoke instruction and encouragement of the use of bodies through Paul in his letter to the church of Corinth. Through all He speaks, we are called to listen to that Word to guide and direct, and to hear His continued words of forgiveness, peace, hope, and joy as “in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son” (Hebrews 1:2).

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said,
“I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding
and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.”
Luke 10:21

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #589 “Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens” St 1 & 2

Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens, Let Your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me, Let each promise still my fear.
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife, Wars against Your Word of life;
Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor That I cling to You forever!

Oh, what blessing to be near You And to listen to Your voice;
Let me ever love and hear You, Let Your Word be now my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord, Flee in terror at Your Word;
But to all who feel sin's burden You give words of peace and pardon.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

People: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

Pastor: You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

People: Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

Pastor: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

People: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

Pastor: Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

People: If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

Pastor: Speak, LORD,

People: for your servant hears.

CONFESSION

Pastor: As the psalmist declares, the Lord searches us, knows us, is ever-present with us, and leads us. He listens to us as we speak to Him. We come before Him in confession.

Silence for meditation.

Pastor: “The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.”

People: We confess, heavenly Father, that we often choose not to call on you in times of need, nor in times of thanksgiving. We fail to be near you in our opportunities to pray, praise, and give thanks. Forgive us.

Pastor: "Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

People: We confess, heavenly Father, that in our days of trouble, too often we rely on ourselves and not you. We seek deliverance through our own devices and peace through the temporary offerings of this world. Forgive us.

Pastor: "Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near."

People: We confess, heavenly Father, we are the ones who are lost even though you are near and present in your Word and means of grace. Our sins of thought, word, and deed separate us from you. Forgive us.

Pastor: Speak, LORD,

People: for your servant hears.

HYMN #589 "Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens" St. 3

Lord, Your words are waters living When my thirsting spirit pleads.

Lord, Your words are bread life-giving; On Your words my spirit feeds.

Lord, Your words will be my light Through death's cold and dreary night;

Yes, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unailing!

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As we speak and call out to the Lord in prayer and confession, He calls to us, His people, through His Word of truth, mercy, and grace; for He has "saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began." As a called and ordained servant of the Word and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: But now thus says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine. Speak, LORD,

People: for your servant hears. Amen.

HYMN #589 "Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens" St. 4

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let Your words in me take root.

May Your Spirit e'er be near me That I bear abundant fruit.

May I daily sing Your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise,

Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven.

Pastor: Let us praise our gracious God for redeeming us to be his blessed children:

HYMN OF PRAISE Page 155

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. *Amen. Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord of all mercy and grace, you sent your Son into our flesh to call us to yourself.

People: Open our ears to hear your voice and to heed your call, even as we know you hear our prayers;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

5:00 & 10:30 BAPTISM SONG #740 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

I am Jesus' little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me. Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev'ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.

Day by day, at home, away. Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me:
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.

Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended, By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.

5:00 BAPTISM of Paden Bryan Raatz

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✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *1 Samuel 3:1–20* (The Lord calls Samuel.)

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 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, 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. ⁶And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose 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. ⁸And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose 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 hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears." ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.

¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³And I declare to 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 atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." ¹⁷And 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." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him." ¹⁹And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 6:12–20* (God's call to flee from immorality)

¹²"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "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 not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.

¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:43–51* (Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸ Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” ⁴⁹ Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰ Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹ And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“This Little Gospel Light of Mine”

This little Gospel light of mine, I’m going to let it shine; (x3)
Let it shine all the time, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? NO! I’m going to let it shine (x3)
Let it shine all the time, let it shine.

It will point the way to heaven, I’m going to let it shine (x3)
Let it shine all the time, let it shine.

SERMON HYMN #587 “I Know My Faith Is Founded”

I know my faith is founded On Jesus Christ my God and Lord
And this my faith confessing, Unmoved I stand on His sure Word
Our reason cannot fathom The truth of God profound;
Who trusts in human wisdom Relies on shifting ground.
God’s Word is all sufficient, It makes divinely sure;
And trusting in its wisdom, My faith shall rest secure.

Increase my faith, dear Savior, For Satan seeks by night and day
To rob me of this treasure And take my hope of bliss away.
But, Lord, with You beside me, I shall be undismayed;
And led by Your good Spirit, I shall be unafraid.
Abide with me, O Savior, A firmer faith bestow;
Then I shall bid defiance To every evil foe.

In faith, Lord, let me serve You; Though persecution, grief and pain
Should seek to overwhelm me, Let me a steadfast trust retain;
And then at my departure, Lord, take me home to You,
Your riches to inherit As all you said holds true.
In life and death, Lord, keep me Until your heav’n I gain,
Where I by Your great mercy The end of faith attain.

SERMON

“Called to Greater Things”

John 1:43-51

(Rise)

8:00 APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Silence for time of personal prayer

O Lord, put a new song in our mouths. Lead us to be like Nathaniel, a true believer in whom there is no deceit. Bless us to be honest, to honestly share our faith with others, and have complete confidence in your truth.

People: Let us proclaim your wondrous deeds of faithfulness and salvation in Christ without fear or hesitancy.

Pastor: King of Israel, as you once called Samuel, Philip and Nathanael into your service, be pleased now to call men into your holy ministry. Give them a delight in your Holy Scriptures, that their witness would lead many to follow Jesus, the Son of God.

People: Bless especially our own pastors along with our Together in Ministry partner, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family.

Pastor: O Lord, you call fathers, mothers and children to serve in their households. Let them serve eagerly, also loving and forgiving one another, trusting that such love honors you.

People: Bless all our families to live in harmony and peace according to your will.

Pastor: Lord of the Church, we rejoice in the extension of Christ's kingdom through the blessings of Holy Baptism. We especially rejoice with the Raatz and Hegman families, as Paden, Wyatt, and Jameson are baptized into Christ this weekend.

People: Bless mothers and fathers to be diligent in nurturing their children and raising them in the Christian faith.

Pastor: Lord of love, at the beginning of time you said that it was not good for the man to be alone, and so created woman and instituted Holy Marriage. We rejoice with Jim and Ciosie Dittman who have committed to love and cherish each other as husband and wife.

People: Bless them in their life together with happiness, love, and joy.

Pastor: Almighty God, let all the nations and peoples of the earth ascribe to you the glory due your name. Hear our prayers for all rulers and leaders, especially for Joseph, our president, and Tony, our governor, together with all legislators and judges. Direct them by your Word and Spirit, and establish them in saving faith.

People: Lead them and all leaders to govern wisely for the good of their people.

Pastor: O God, behold in mercy all for whom we pray. Comfort the grieving, especially the family and friends of Norma Strand as well as the loved ones of Lois Sinclair. We also pray for those in need of healing, especially Roger, Anna, Jim, Eugene, Charlene, Danielle, Marlene, RoseMarie, Dorothy, Janice, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Don, Pat, Janet, Vern, Amy, Cathy, Cindy, Helga, June, Shirley and Sarah. Bring healing, comfort, strength, patience and certainty to all in need.

People: Receive our thanks for your constant watch and merciful kindness. In every sorrow and every joy, help us to remember your kindness in the love and grace of Christ Jesus.

Pastor: Holy Lord, renew the gift of your Holy Spirit to all who commune this day. Work in us true contrition to both lament and abandon our sins.

People: Give us confident faith in your Son's body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins.

Pastor: Holy Lord, mighty God, you have shown us the face of your mercy in your Son, through whom all nations may find life and salvation. Hear the prayers of your people and grant what is needful to us and those for whom we pray, that trusting in your mercy, our hearts may find perfect peace and rest; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

8:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #644 "The Church's One Foundation"

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;

She is His new creation By water and the Word.

From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;

With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;

Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.

One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,

And to one hope she presses With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,

By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,

Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"

And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

HYMN #827 "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling"

Hark, the voice of Jesus calling, "Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvest waiting Who will bear the sheaves away?"
Loud and long the Master calleth Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I, send me, send me?"

Some take up His task in morning, To their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday, Others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting, Some are sent into the fields,
There to gather in the bounty That God's Word so richly yields.

For as rain and snow from heaven Water seeds in dusty soil,
Causing them to bud and flower, Giving bread to those who toil;
So the Lord sends forth His promise, Words of life and joy and peace
Never void to Him returning, Bearing fruit with great increase.

Hearken to the Lord whose coming Marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest; Soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

HYMN #729 "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy By thy blood.

I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.

I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.

I am trusting Thee. Lord Jesus' Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever and for all.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: We give thanks to you, gracious Father, for what you have revealed to us through your Son. As your Spirit continues to call us through your Word, grant us ears to hear, wills to obey, hands to serve, and hearts filled with the grace that you have bestowed in this Holy Supper. Strengthen and preserve us all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord, who calls your name, bless you and keep you. The Lord, who has bought you at a price, make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord, who has called you to follow Him, look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Speak, LORD,

People: for your servant hears.

CLOSING HYMN #398 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Hail to the Lord's anointed, Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,
To take away transgression And rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before Him And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever – That name to us is Love.

Preacher
Liturgists
Lectors
Organist

Seminary Student Garrett Anklam
Pastor Harold Bender & Pastor Josh Grotelueschen
Dalen Heinzen, Grant Gundersen
JoLynn Bender