

2 Epiphany
January 14, 2024



Collect of the Day: Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

A Reading from 1 Samuel 3: 1-20

(Dramatic Reading: Carolyn Brown, on Worshipping with Children)

Narrator: 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 Samuel said,

Samuel: “Here I am!”

Narrator: and ran to Eli,

Samuel: “Here I am, for you called me.”

Eli: “I did not call; lie down again.”

Narrator: So, he went and lay down. The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli,

Samuel: “Here I am, for you called me.”

Eli: “I did not call, my son; lie down again.”

Narrator: 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,

Samuel: “Here I am, for you called me.”

Narrator: Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore, Eli said to Samuel,

Eli: “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’ ”

Narrator: So, Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said,

Samuel: “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Narrator: 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,

Eli: “Samuel, my son.”

Samuel: “Here I am.”

Eli: “What was it that God 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.”

Narrator: So, Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then Eli said,

Eli: “It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.”

Narrator: 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.

Narrator: The Word of the Lord. *People: Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

Refrain (Before/After)

Lord, you have searched me out and known me.

1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, **but you, O Lord, know it altogether.*

4 You press upon me behind and before **and lay your hand upon me.*

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; **it is so high that I cannot attain to it.*

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

14 My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; **they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.*

16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! **how great is the sum of them!*

17 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.*

The Gospel: John 1:43-51

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."