

Sunday, January 17, 2021  
Second Sunday after Epiphany

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*"Greensleeves"*

Jim Bunge, viola  
Sharon Gray, organ

APOSTLES' CREED – Jeff Langdon

☒ I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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!

WELCOMING SONG

*"This Little Light of Mine"*

ELW 677

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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 be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
 Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:  
 we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
 Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
 Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;  
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
 Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
 Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
 Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
 For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ *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!**

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

#### "Thy Holy Wings"

Grindal, Sandell-Berg, Knatterud

David Newman, tenor

#### FIRST READING – Marilyn Hunt, reading

#### 1 Samuel 3:1-20

*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.*

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

<sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." <sup>17</sup>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." <sup>18</sup>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."

<sup>19</sup>As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

### **Reflection**

*Where was Samuel at the beginning of this story? (verse 3) Who did the boy Samuel hear calling to him? (verses 4, 7) Who did Samuel think was calling him? (verse 5) Why didn't Samuel know that it was the Lord who called him? (verse 1) How many times did the Lord call to Samuel? (verses 6-8) How did Samuel finally know it was the Lord calling him? (verses 8-9) What did Samuel answer when he knew it was the Lord? (verse 10) What did the Lord tell Samuel? (verses 11-14) Was it good news to Samuel? (verse 15) Why didn't he want to share the Lord's news with Eli? Who persuaded Samuel to tell Eli? (verses 16-17) How did Eli react? (verse 18) This was the first time Samuel spoke the word of the Lord. What does the author say about Samuel's prophecy? (verse 19) Do you ever speak words that "fall to the ground"? Most of us do, at one time or another. What did the people of Israel come to know about Samuel? (verse 20) Even though Eli was a failure as a father, how does he provide an example for those of us who hear the word of the Lord, even if it's not what we want to hear? (verse 18) The comment in the Lutheran Bible notes is that Eli is a model of faith and obedience, and that Mary later showed the same kind of faith and obedience. (See Luke 1:38) It's not easy to tell what you know to be the Lord's will when the people who hear you don't want to hear it. How is Samuel an example of faith and obedience?*

### **Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**— read together with Phil Lewis

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you have searched me out;

O LORD, you have known me.

<sup>2</sup>You know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.

<sup>3</sup>You trace my journeys and my resting-places  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

<sup>5</sup>You encompass me, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

<sup>13</sup>For you yourself created my inmost parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>I will thank you because I am marvelously made;  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

<sup>15</sup>My body was not hidden from you,  
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>Your 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.

<sup>17</sup>How deep I find your thoughts, O God!

How great is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>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.

### **Reflection**

*What does the psalmist say about God's knowledge of her/his person? (verse 1) What does the Lord know about the psalmist? (verses 2-3) About what s/he says? (verse 4) About what has happened and will happen? How does the psalmist feel about this knowledge that the Lord has? (verse 6) How does God know the psalmist so intimately? (verses 13-16) Is such knowledge by God comforting? (verses 17-18) Is there any way we can hide from God—where we are, what we are doing, what we are feeling and thinking? There are lots of people I don't want to know what I'm doing/thinking/saying/feeling, for lots of different reasons. I think that's true of most of us. Why is God's knowledge of us different from those who might use that knowledge against us? Sometimes people say, "I've lost my faith," or "I've lost my relationship with God." How would you respond to that, on the basis of this psalm?*

**SECOND READING** – Ann Newman, 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.*

<sup>12</sup>“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. <sup>13</sup>“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. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. <sup>15</sup>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! <sup>16</sup>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.” <sup>17</sup>But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>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? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

### **Reflection**

*In this text, Paul is confronting the belief by some in Corinth (mostly elite married men) that everything they do is lawful—it's just fine to sleep with someone you're not married to; it's just fine to eat whatever you want, because your body will die and count for nothing. What does Paul say about that? (verses 12-13) One belief (which some people still have) is that the only thing important about us is our spirit—our body means nothing. What does Paul say unites us with Christ? (verses 15-17) What is Paul's view of our bodies? (verse 19) Why are our bodies important? (verse 20) Sometimes I could wish that I didn't have to deal with the limits my body places on me. Why is my body (and your body) a gift from God?*

**GOSEPL ACCLAMATION**

**“Alleluia”**

pg. 205

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior:  
open now your saving word.**

**Let it burn like fire within us;  
speak until our hearts are stirred.  
Alleluia! Lord, we sing  
for the good news that you bring.**

**GOSPEL**

**John 1:43-51**

*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."*

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."  
<sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>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."  
<sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."  
<sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"  
<sup>48</sup>Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."  
<sup>49</sup>Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"  
<sup>50</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these."  
<sup>51</sup>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."

**Reflection**

*Who did Jesus find in Galilee? (verse 43) How do you suppose Philip heard about Jesus? (verse 44) Who did Philip find? (verse 45) What does Philip say to Nathanael about Jesus? What does Nathanael say? (verse 46) What is Philip's invitation to Nathanael? Does he try to convince Nathanael with theological arguments? What convinces Nathanael? (verses 47-49) What does Nathanael say about Jesus? What promise does Jesus make to Nathanael? (verses 50-51) How did you come to believe in Jesus? What do you believe about the promises Jesus makes to you?*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Joyce Stroud

**SERMON**

Rev. Keith Hohly

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

***"Sent Forth By God's Blessing"***  
Praise Team

Omer Westendorf

**PRAYER SONG**

***"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"***  
Phil & Nancy Lewis

Taize

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** – led by Debbie & Bruce Taylor

*We remember in our prayers*

*David Schmidt, Felicia Rush Blanc, Tina Birkhead (member of the St. Joseph community), Sarah Pierce, Rick & Cyndi Zebulean (friends of Sharmyn Thompson), Sylvia Rush (Grandmother of Felicia Rush Blanc), Myrene Bunge, Pamma Williams, Lynn Ann Flora (friend of Laurel Goforth), Keira Wall (great-niece of Irene Wall), Reed Nelson, Dorothy Masteller, Dee Rasmussen, and members of his family for whom John Lawrence requests prayer*

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

*A brief silence.*

*For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray.*

**Have mercy, O God.**

*For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray.*

**Have mercy, O God.**

*For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, let us pray.*

**Have mercy, O God.**

*For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, that God shower compassion. In the midst of a global crisis, we look to you for strength, hope and help in fighting the coronavirus pandemic. We pray for those stricken with this disease and those who are treating them, for those mourning the loss of life and those facing death, and for those who urgently work to find effective treatments for cure. We lift up to you those in our faith community needing your care: David, Felicia, Tina, Sarah, Rick, Cyndi, Sylvia, Myrene, Pamma, Lynn Ann, Keira, Reed, Dorothy, Dee, members of his family for whom John Lawrence requests prayer, and those we name aloud or silently in our hearts. Let us pray.*

**Have mercy, O God.**

*For the congregation gathered here, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray.*

**Have mercy, O God.**

*In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray.*

**Have mercy, O God.**

*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!**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** *Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose voice is upon the waters,  
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,  
whose goodness cascades over all creation.*

**G** **Amen!**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** *Holy God,*

**G** **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.  
Amen!**

- P** *How vast is God's grace!  
Through the power and promise of ✝ 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.*
- G** **Amen!**

#### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

- P** *The peace of Christ be with you always.*
- G** **And also with you!**

#### **DIALOGUE**

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

#### **PREFACE**

- P** *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 Lord,  
 God of power and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
 Hosanna in the highest.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Hosanna in the highest,  
 hosanna in the highest.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

**P** *Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
 who preached good news to the poor,  
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.*

*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.*

*Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
 we await his coming in glory.*

*Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 be all honor and glory, now and forever.*

**A** Amen!

#### LORD'S PRAYER

**A** Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come,  
 your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen!

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P** *Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus. Come and be fed. All are welcome.*

#### COMMUNION

#### BLESSING

**P** *May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.*

**G** Amen!

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** *Christ Jesus,*

**G** **at this table we have feasted on your very life and are strengthened for our journey.**

**Send us forth from this banquet nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good  
news and serve others in your name. Amen!**

#### BENEDICTION

**P** *God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter  $\mp$  keep you in peace.*

**G** Amen!

#### SENDING SONG

*“Cry Of My Heart”*

##### *Refrain*

**It is the cry of my heart**

**To follow You**

**It is the cry of my heart**

**To be close to You**

**It is the cry of my heart**

**To follow**

**All of the days of my life**

**Teach me Your holy ways oh Lord**

**So I can walk in Your truth**

**Teach me Your holy ways oh Lord**

**And make me wholly devoted to You *Refrain***

**Open my eyes so I can see**

**The wonderful things that You do**

**Open my heart up more and more**

**And make it wholly devoted to You *Refrain***

**DISMISSAL** – Jeff Langdon

☞ *Go in peace and serve our Lord.*

🙏 **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

***“Here I Am, Lord”***

Sharon Gray, piano

arr. Mark Hayes

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Rev. Keith Hohly, Interim Pastor

**Instruments:** Piano and Organ – Sharon Gray | Guitar – Roger Lenander | Guitar/Bass – Jim Pierce

**Song leaders and vocal talents:** Sharmyn Thompson, Keith Hohly, Deb Hohly,  
Dave Newman, Jeff Langdon, Phil Lewis, Nancy Lewis, Jim Pierce, Juel Pierce, Jim Bunge,  
Carol Bunge, Misty Coyle, Roger Lenander, and Barb Aubrey

**Reflections on Today's Readings** written by Rev. Juel Pierce

**Music and Liturgy:**

*"This Little Light of Mine"* | Text: African American spiritual  
CCLI Song # 34680 | Harry Dixon Loes  
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