

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2021 + Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: The Second Sunday after Epiphany, Lect. 2 B

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 himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God. And this is true for us as well, and, like both Samuel and Nathanael, having met and heard God-with-us, we listen for what God is saying, and calling us to be.

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don't have to return to the email. You can also print these pages and use the links in the email.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle. [Start the video by clicking here](#); it will continue through the Postlude.

PRELUDE: Sonata in F Major – Vivace – Largo – Allegro Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)
Linda Chatterton, flute; recorded on the Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 32 B, November 11, 2018.

HYMN: ELW 584, “The Son of God, Our Christ”

Sung at Mount Olive on the Third Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 13 C, June 30, 2019.

Word

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: “Glory to God in the highest” (ELW setting 4)

Sung at Mount Olive on the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, Lect. 5 A, February 9, 2020.

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

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10; reader – Marian Cherwien, lector

¹ 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.

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

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

PSALMODY: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

¹ LORD, you have ¹ searched me out; * O LORD, you ¹ have known me.

² You know my sitting down and my ¹ rising up; * you discern my thoughts ¹ from afar.

³ You trace my journeys and my ¹ resting-places * and are acquainted with ¹ all my ways.

⁴ Indeed, there is not a word ¹ on my lips, * but you, O LORD, know it ¹ altogether.

⁵ You encompass me, behind ¹ and before, * and lay your ¹ hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonder- ¹ ful for me; * it is so high that I cannot at- ¹ tain to it.

¹³ For you yourself created my ¹ inmost parts; * you knit me together in my ¹ mother's womb.

¹⁴ I will thank you because I am mar- ¹ velously made; * your works are wonderful, and I ¹ know it well.

¹⁵ My body was not hid- ¹ den from you, * while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths ¹ of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written ¹ in your book; * my days were fashioned before they ¹ came to be.

¹⁷ How deep I find your ¹ thoughts, O God! * How great is the ¹ sum of them!

¹⁸ If 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.

Sung at Mount Olive on the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 23, year C, September 8, 2019.

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 6:12-20; reader – Tricia Van Ee, assisting minister

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW page 142, "Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?"

Sung at Mount Olive on the Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 30 C, October 23, 2016.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:43-51

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 about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶ Nath-

anael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹ 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."

SERMON

Known, Loved

Pastor Joseph Crippen

Silence for reflection.

HYMN: ELW 735 "Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

Sung at Mount Olive on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, year B, March 22, 2015.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

*Our Assisting Minister for today, Tricia Van Ee, has prepared intercessory prayers for us to pray this morning. As our prayers rise up from all over the metro area and beyond, once more we are joined together in Christ. (Our weekly prayer list is on the last page.) Response: **Hear our prayer.***

PEACE *Please greet one another with Christ's peace.*

OFFERING

There are ways to continue to give of your gifts to our shared work at Mount Olive during this time apart. The Olive Branch has suggested ways both electronic and by mail. See: <https://www.mountolivechurch.org/resources/olive-branch-newsletter/>

Sending

LORD'S PRAYER *Pray the Lord's Prayer together.*

BLESSING *Response: **Amen***

HYMN: ELW 580, "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

Sung at Mount Olive on the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 16 C, July 17, 2016.

DISMISSAL *The assisting minister leads the dismissal.*

☞ Go in peace to love and serve as Christ.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

Fugue in g minor, BWV 578

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Recorded on the Fifth Sunday in Lent, year C, March 17, 2013.



In Our Prayers

- Please pray throughout the week for the following persons: Julia Adams; James Wilkes; Charlotte Erlandson; Mary Lee; Elizabeth Beissel, Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Leanna Kloempken; Kandi Jo Nelson; Jerry Ostlund; Pariann Schenk; Christine Walberg; Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Jodi Royce, daughter

of Julia Adams and daughter-in-law of Evelyn Royce; Kjell Thompson, relative of Nancy Anderson; Tommie and Susie Hunter, Danna Nelson, Jacques, friends of Jim Bargmann; Tom McCarr, friend of Keith Bartz; Arthur Kaemmer, friend of David Bryce; Randy Caverly and Nancy Stelling, nephew and friend of Marcia & Dan Burow; Lela Frazier, sister of Irene Campbell; Klarrisa Ramirez, friend of Gretchen Campbell-Johnson; Greg Eklund, son of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; Susan Bary, friend of Judy Graves; Dolores & David G. Gutierrez, Sr., Chris and David Gutierrez, Jr., parents and brothers of Consuelo Gutierrez-Crosby; Carol Halter (missionary in Hong Kong), friend of Eunice Hafemeister; Lynn Kernkamp, friend of Peggy Hoeft; Tami Huisinga, relative of Wes Huisinga; Craig Cunningham, brother-in-law of Brian Jacobs; Donald Johnson, father of Nicholas Johnson; Bob Adamson, relative of Jerry Jones & Robbie Ross; Nicole Sanders, Ann Clark, James Alexander, and Susan Douglass, daughter, friends, and relative of Mary Rose Kaliher; Danielle Pitzen, friend of Ellen Kormanik; Barbara Dahl, sister of Carla Manuel; Dani Olson, Harper Linqvist, Steve Camper, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; Jan McCuen, mother of Matt McCuen; Martha Johnson, sister of Rhoda Nelson and aunt of Sherry Nelson; Janet Freeburg, friend of Lisa Nordeen; Michael Waechter, friend of Rod & Connie Olson; Kathleen Austad, sister of Jerry Ostlund; Jay Heffern, friend of Gary Pagel; Jerry Baack and Todd Erickson, friends of Jean & Doug Parish; Steve Swanson, friend of Dwight Penas & Kathy Thurston; Rudd Rayfield, Jolie Meshbeshier Hassler, Katelyn Bowden, Cindy Williams, father and friends of Robin Rayfield; Leila Jeffers, mother of Lynn and Lisa Ruff; Miranda Alvis, niece of Tim Sneer; Carrie, friend of Paul & Melissa Stone; Jennifer Kobylinski, cousin of Kathy Thurston; David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez; Andrew Wiechman, son of Grace Wiechman; BJ Wilkes, Joshua Wilkes, LaTrell Wilke, Julius Underwood, and Lonnell Wilkes, son, nephews, grandson and brother of James Wilkes; Sandra Dycus, Becky Groska, Diane Ristrom, Cathy Reid, Karen Swanson, Patrick Clark, Annie Hose-Ryan, Marcia Van Gorden, friends of Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Anne-Marie Lundberg, cousin of Eric Zander; Judy Bonnes and family, Tommie & Susie Hunter; Barbara C. Johnson, friends of Mount Olive. **At the death of:** Norlene Bateman, aunt of Ted Thompson.

- **For those celebrating their baptism anniversaries this week:** Joseph Kane, Anna Crosby, and Isabella Peterson.
- **Prayers for all in the health care system here and around the world** who put their lives at risk to care for those infected with COVID 19 and caring for all others who are ill as well.
- **Our continual prayers are offered for peace:** We pray for all of the world's governments, leaders and peoples, especially for those who work overseas toward peace: Solveig & Philip, daughter and son-in-law of Karen Johnson; and Tyson Crosby, relative of the Crosby family.
- **We remember the saints who have gone before us:**

January 17: *St. Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356* – One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

January 17: *St. Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346* – Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

January 18: *Confession of St. 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.

January 19: *St. Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156* – When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

January 21: *St. Agnes, martyr, died around 304* – Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.