

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday 17 January 2021, 09.30

Advent Lutheran Church

Morgan Hill, California



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

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

What a Friend we have in Jesus

by Charles Converse and Joseph Scriven

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.

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Anita

READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

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.

¹Now 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.]

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

604 You Are Near

Refrain

Yah-weh, I know you are near, stand-ing al - ways
 at my side. You guard me from the foe, and you
 lead me in ways ev - er - last - ing.

Verses

1. Lord, you have searched my heart, and you
 2. Where can I run from your love? If I
 3. You know my heart and its ways, you who
 4. Mar - vel - ous to me are your works; how pro -

know when I sit and when I stand. Your
 climb to the heav - ens you are there; if I
 formed me be - fore I was born in the
 found are your thoughts, my Lord. E - ven

hand is up - on me pro - tect - ing me from death,
 fly to the sun - rise or sail be - yond the sea,
 se - cret of dark - ness be - fore I saw the sun
 if I could count them, they num - ber as the stars,

D.C.

keep - ing me from harm.
 still I'd find you there.
 in my moth - er's womb.
 you would still be there.

Text: Psalm 139; Dan Schutte, b.1947

Tune: Dan Schutte, b.1947; acc. by Sr. Theophane Hytrek, OSF, 1915-1992

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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."

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.

SERMON

Telling the Truth

Rev. Anita R. Warner

HYMN OF THE DAY

The People Walk/Un Pueblo Que Camino

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

... O God.... hear our cries;
In mercy, receive our prayers.

The People Walk

Un pueblo que camina



Un pue - blo que ca - mi - na por el mun - do gri -
The peo - ple walk through-out the world to - geth - er and



tan - do: "¡Ven, Se - ñor!" Un pue - blo que bus - ca en es - ta
cry out, "Come, O Lord"; the peo - ple who long to claim the



vi - da la gran li - be - ra - ción.
prom - ise, God's lib - er - at - ing Word.



1 Los po - bres siem - pre es - pe - ran el a - ma - ne - cer de un
1 The poor ones of the world a - wait the dawn of hope, when
2 You broke the bonds of sin, un - tied the cap - tive's hands, re -
3 The life - blood of the world is shed in mind - less war; and



dí - a más jus - to y sin o - pre - sión. Los
jus - tice will shine and make op - pres - sion flee. The
leased us from fear and slav - 'ry to the law. We
fam - 'lies de - sire a home where con - flicts cease. With



po - bres he - mos pues - to la es - pe - ran - za en ti: ¡Li - ber - ta - dor!
emp - ty hands of all are raised to you, Lord God: oh, set us free!
lift our hands in hope, we put our trust in you, O God of love.
all the world we lift our hands in hope to you, O God of peace.

- 2 *Salvaste nuestra vida de la esclavitud, esclavos de la ley, sirviendo en el temor. Nosotros hemos puesto la esperanza en ti: ¡Dios del amor! Estribillo*
- 3 *El mundo, por la guerra, sangra sin razón; familias destrozadas buscan un hogar. El mundo tiene puesta su esperanza en ti: ¡Dios de la paz! Estribillo*

Text: Juan A. Espinosa, b. 1940; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: UN PUEBLO QUE CAMINA, Juan A. Espinosa

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THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

**We thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word,
for calling creation into being,
declaring forgiveness from the cross,
and delivering the spirit of rebirth.
We praise you, O God, for your Word.
Your word is a lamp lighting our path,
a mirror reflecting our selves,
a shield providing us refuge,
a fire burning for justice and truth.
Your word is sweeter than honey:
it nourishes our bodies like milk,
it sustains your people like bread.
We receive your promises, more treasured than gold.
We bless you, O God, for your Word.**

**Open our ears to your prophets, apostles, and saints,
and to all the cries of the needy.
Breathe into your church the mighty Spirit of Christ,
that heeding your voice of beauty and power
we are strengthened to serve wherever we are called.
To you, Father, Son, and Spirit – the Source, Word, and Breath —
we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word.
Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven
 hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come,
 your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and 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,
 and the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may give an offering

Online at www.advent-lutheran.org or

Mailed to Advent Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 607, Morgan Hill, CA 95038

BENEDICTION

You are fearfully and wonderfully made.

May God, Creator, Savior, and Spirit,

who is acquainted with all your ways,

bless you and keep you in peace,

now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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