

**Lakeside Lutheran Church Traditional Service  
Second Sunday after Epiphany  
Sunday, January 17, 2021  
9:30 a.m. Lakeside Lutheran Church  
2427 Eaton Ferry Road  
Littleton, NC 27850**



Website: [www.lakesidelutheran.com](http://www.lakesidelutheran.com) Email:  
[admin@lakesidelutheran.com](mailto:admin@lakesidelutheran.com)

**Welcome** to all who have come to worship today! Let us praise the Lord together by singing joyously, praying fervently, listening attentively to God's Word, and reaching out a friendly hand to one another. We share an open communion, all who come are welcome to share the Communion Table of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Blessings to all!

**Prayer for Worshipers:** With thanksgiving we come to worship you this day, O Lord. You have blessed us with gifts of grace and goodness beyond our need and our deserving. Cause us always to recognize the source of our blessings and support, and to be ever grateful to the Giver. Hear our praises and prayers this day and speak to us through your Word that is interpreted by your Spirit. Send us from this time together with new joy and with the strength needed to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

**Our worship:** God is in this place through the Holy Spirit. Our setting is a community gathered around Word and Sacrament; communion with God and with each other. In our scripture reading, our musical offerings and at the table, God is in this place. We invite you to experience and give praise to our Creator God as you join in worship.

**Participating in Today's Worship: Director of Music:** Janice Thompson; **Assistant Director of Music:** Diane Colin; **Sound/slides:** Jim Noland/ Gus Best, **Video:** John Krysa/Joel Everhart/Jim Fritz; **Lector:** Bev Nolan

## **THEME OF THE DAY:**

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:**

## **PRELUDE:**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

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

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word,**

and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.



P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our

sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

# GATHERING SONG: Verses 1, 2, & 5

ELW p.458

## Will You Come and Follow Me *The Summons*

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't  
your name? Will you care for the cruel and  
your name? Will you set the pris - ners in -  
your name? Will you quell the fear fol - low  
my name. Let me turn and

know and nev - er be the same?  
kind and nev - er be the same?  
free and nev - er be the same?  
side and nev - er be the same?  
you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be  
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"  
pray'r in you and you in me?"  
mean in you and you in me?"  
sound in you and you in me?"  
grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949  
Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional  
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## GREETING:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

## KYRIE: Kyrie

WOV p.28



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:    ☩ Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE:

WOV p.29



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



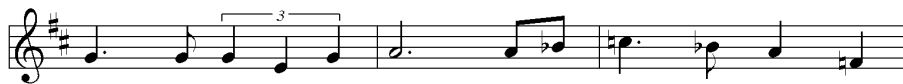
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
II



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Let us pray.

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.**

## **WORD:**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## **FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10 (11-20)**

<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.]

**L: The Word of the Lord**

**C: Thanks be to God**

## **PSALM: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**

L: <sup>1</sup>LORD, you have searched me out; O LORD, you have known me.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

L: <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.

**C: <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.**

**L:** <sup>17</sup>How deep I find your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them!

**C:** <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.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<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.

L: The word of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: God Is Love**      **ACS p.1041**

**God is love. God is love;  
let us love one another as God First loved us.  
God is love. God is love. God is love.**

**God is love. God is love;  
let us love one another as God First loved us.  
God is love. God is love. God is love.**

**GOSPEL: John 1:43-51**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.  
C: **Glory to you O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: John 1:43-51**

P: The holy gospel according to John.  
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON: Pastor Sherrie Hofmann**



## 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?"



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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## **APOSTLES CREED:**

**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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

**P:** 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.*

**P:** For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**



P: For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound (*especially*), that God console all who suffer, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us for the first time or returning, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces especially those related to our church family. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence. Let us pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us  
(*especially Antony and Pachomius, renewers of the church*),  
that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action, let us  
pray.

**C: Have mercy, O God.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

### **PEACE:**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **MEAL:**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

### **OFFERING:** Options for submitting your offering or building fund donation:

- Mail your check to Lakeside Lutheran Church, 2427 Eaton  
Ferry Road, Littleton NC 27850.
- Use your bank's web bill pay to send a check directly and with  
no fees to Lakeside Lutheran at the above address.
- Drop your offering envelope in the no-contact collection  
basket in the Narthex as you exit Worship.

# Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp, F#) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff continues the melody. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff continues the melody. The fifth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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## **OFFERING PRAYER:**

P: Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE:**

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:

ELW P.190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE :

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.  
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.  
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**C: Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.  
**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**  
P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

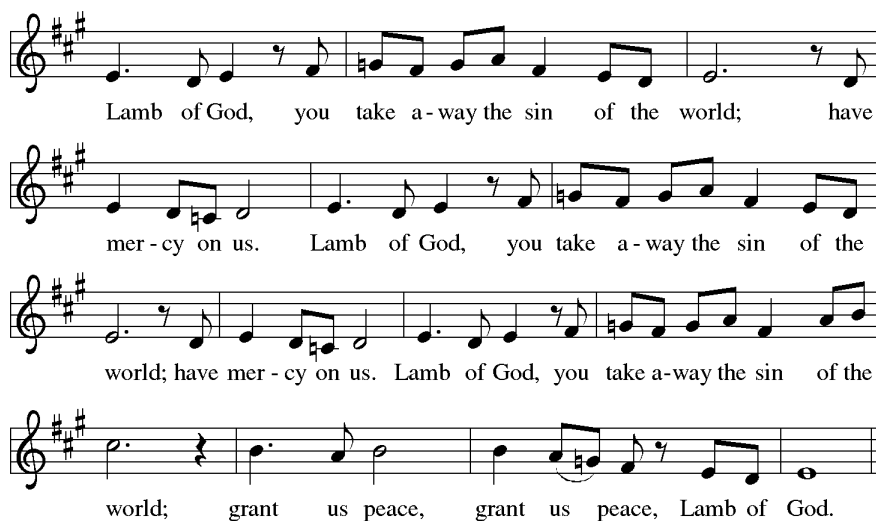
## **THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## COMMUNION SONG: Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

### COMMUNION:

P: The body of Christ, given for you.

C: Amen.

P: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

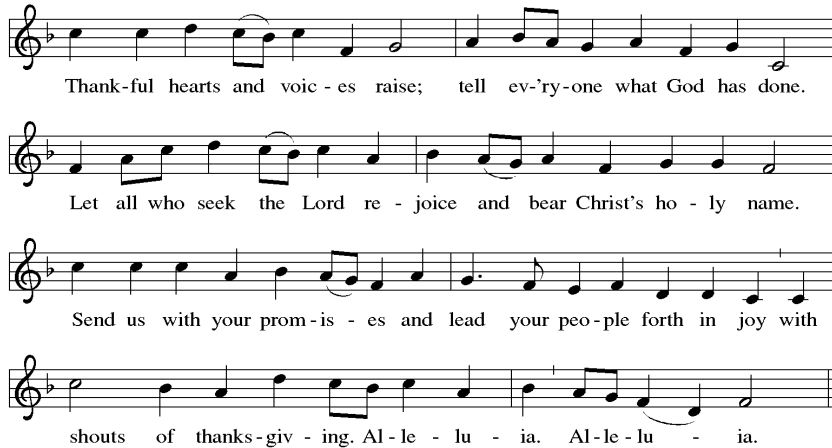
C: Amen.



## POST COMMUNION SONG:

ELW P.204

### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
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## POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

**P:** Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## BLESSING:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: Amen.

## SENDING SONG:

ELW p.673

### This Little Light of Mine



1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;



this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,  
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,



let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual

## **SENDING:**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

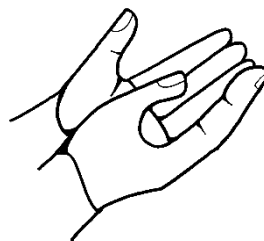
## **DISMISSAL:**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **Where Nothing Is Expected**

At one of his life's worst intersections, when legs trembled and steps were mired in bogs of doubt, his companion looked into the man's hollowing eyes and said, "I believe in you. I know you." Have you ever needed such a word?



The list is painfully long that names all of the circumstances and places from which it is assumed nothing good can come. Perhaps you have compiled your own catalog of those who fall short, the irredeemable neighborhoods, or the situations beyond hope in the life of others. Perhaps you find yourself on someone else's list, among those whose life and plight has been dismissed as "nothing good." So it was thought of Jesus, whose life was rooted in the hillside soil of a sidetracked town—Nazareth—where nothing remarkable, not much at all, was

expected to grow up. That town and its people were on the “unfavorable” list.

It is a riddle of scripture that the likes of Philip (or Peter, John, James, and Andrew—those gospel familiars) would, seemingly without discernment or a second thought, leave everything when Jesus interrupted his settled life and bid him, “Follow me.” For Nathanael, it was different. He took an honest and reasonable step back. He knew all the talk about nothing good coming from Nazareth.

So many of our stories wither and so much of who we are dies when we are confronted with the “I know about you” list of painful failures instead of a loving, hopeful invitation to “come and see” (John 1:46).

There is a mighty mercy, an opening of heaven itself before our very eyes, a retelling of each “Nazareth” in our lives if we dare to “come and see” Jesus. Then that painful, long, imposed or self-inflicted list is no longer our truth because we, in seeing Jesus, begin to see ourselves and others as Jesus does. An epiphany happens: “I believe in you.”

#### **Credits:**

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## **Announcements:**

- **Sunday Mornings at 11:00 am – Christian Education:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738865427>  
Password for entry: 238527
- Zoom Bible Study at 9 a.m. each Wednesday, focusing on next weeks Second Reading. **Join Zoom Meeting # 84581372630; Passcode: 089118**
- **Women's Bible Study** will hold a six week, no homework, 40 minute, Bible study entitled, *The Power of Knowing God*, starting at 10 a.m. at the Lake Gaston Lion's Den, 139 Stanly Road Across from Wildwood Nursery. No books are required. Scripture verses for study are sent out by email each week. For more information contact: Kathy Casey [kloesser@umw.edu](mailto:kloesser@umw.edu) or Barbie Armstrong [barmstrong199@yahoo.com](mailto:barmstrong199@yahoo.com)
- **Men's Bible Study** at 8 a.m. at the Lake Gaston Lion's Den on Stanley Road, Lake Gaston every Wednesday. Breakfast on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30 a.m.
- The **Lenten Devotional booklet** is now in production. Members are encouraged to choose a date and corresponding scripture to create a devotional to be included. Devotionals should be sent to the church at [admin@lakesidelutheran.com](mailto:admin@lakesidelutheran.com) in Times Roman, 14 font by February 7(no more than one page, please). Call the church office at 252-586-6778 for more information and to reserve your passage.

- Any information that is to be posted in the **Bulletin** must be received in the Church Office no later than 4:00 pm on the Tuesday before.
- Please send your articles and information for the **February newsletter** by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2021.
- Learn more about our church by visiting us at [www.lakesidelutheran.com](http://www.lakesidelutheran.com), and don't forget to like us on Facebook.

## **Prayer List:**

**Please remember the following in your prayers this week:**

Jennifer, Dale, Nancy, Claire, Ilissa, Bruce, Adele, Haley, Georgie Lee, Pam and family, Justin, Eugene (Sam), Joyce, Charles, Geneva, Elizabeth, Karl, Douglass, Connie, Mercy, Carolyn, Dale, Elizabeth, Jane, Valorie, Andrew, Sybil, Donna, Claire, Amy, Mary, Aimee, Tyrell, Ilce, Bruce, Betsy, Ann and Mary.

## **Those who are in the Military:**

Terry, Andy, Captain Amanda, Mollie, KC, Remington, Austin, Parker, Heather, Major Mark, and Nicholas.

## **Upcoming Commemorations:**

### **Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356 Sunday, January 17, 2021**

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.

### **Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346 Sunday, January 17, 2021**

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.

### **Confession of Peter Monday, January 18, 2021**

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.

### **Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156 Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

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.

### **Agnes, martyr, died around 304 Thursday, January 21, 2021**

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.

