

All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA
Second Sunday after Epiphany
Sunday, January 14, 2024



“Meeting people where they’re at and connecting them to the full life of Christ.”

Centering Hymn — *God Is Here Today* ACS 993

God Is Here Today
Dios está aquí

Dios es - tá a - quí, tan
God is here to - day; as

cier-to co-mo el ai - re que res - pi - ro, tan
cer - tain as the air I breathe, as

cier-to co-mo la ma - ña - na se le - van - ta, tan
cer - tain as the morn - ing sun that ris - es, as

cier-to co-mo que le can - to y me pue - de o - ír.
cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Text: Javier Gacias Mateo, b. 1956; tr. C. Michael Hawn, b. 1948
Music: DIOS ESTÁ AQUÍ, Javier Gacias Mateo
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Introduction and Announcements

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.

Statement of Welcome

At All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA, we value all people regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic level. As a Reconciling In Christ congregation we are committed to being a place where you know that you are loved, valued, and welcome - just as you are. Join us as we Show Up, Do Good, and Be Kind, walking the walk of faith together. Saints and Siblings in Christ - here you are truly welcome!

Gathering Hymn: Dearest Jesus, at Your Word ELW 520

- 1 Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.

- 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks the night,
filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving.

- 3 Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you.

- 4 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
praise to you and adoration!
Grant us what we need the most:
all your gospel's consolation
while we here on earth await you,
till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant.
Renew your creation.
Restore us,
that we might proclaim your good news to all.
Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.
God has spoken:
The time of grace is now.
In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
By the authority of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
You are God's beloved.
Amen.

Gathering

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**

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.

Kyrie eleison, every day.

1 For peace in the world,
for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house,
for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.

2 That we may live out
your impassioned response
to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out
truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.

4 For your Spirit to guide;
that you center our lives
in the water and the word;
that you nourish our souls
with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.

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

Traveling Song

Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him
Open our ears Lord
And Help us to listen
Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus

Second time add:

Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-20 from the Message by Eugene H. Peterson

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.

“Speak, God. I’m Ready to Listen”

3 1-3 The boy Samuel was serving God under Eli’s direction. This was at a time when the revelation of God was rarely heard or seen. One night Eli was sound asleep (his eyesight was very bad—he could hardly see). It was well before dawn; the sanctuary lamp was still burning. Samuel was still in bed in the Temple of God, where the Chest of God rested.

4-5 Then God called out, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel answered, “Yes? I’m here.” Then he ran to Eli saying, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” And so he did.

6-7 God called again, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel got up and went to Eli, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Again Eli said, “Son, I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” (This all happened before Samuel knew God for himself. It was before the revelation of God had been given to him personally.)

8-9 God called again, “Samuel!”—the third time! Yet again Samuel got up and went to Eli, “Yes? I heard you call me. Here I am.”

That’s when it dawned on Eli that God was calling the boy. So Eli directed Samuel, “Go back and lie down. If the voice calls again, say, ‘Speak, God. I’m your servant, ready to listen.’” Samuel returned to his bed.

10 Then God came and stood before him exactly as before, calling out, “Samuel! Samuel!”

Samuel answered, “Speak. I’m your servant, ready to listen.”

11-14 God said to Samuel, “Listen carefully. I’m getting ready to do something in Israel that is going to shake everyone up and get their attention. The time has come for me to bring down on Eli’s family everything I warned him of, every last word of it. I’m letting him know that the time’s up. I’m bringing judgment on his family for good. He knew what was going on, that his sons were desecrating God’s name and God’s place, and he did nothing to stop them. This is my sentence on the family of Eli: The evil of Eli’s family can never be wiped out by sacrifice or offering.”

15 Samuel stayed in bed until morning, then rose early and went about his duties, opening the doors of the sanctuary, but he dreaded having to tell the vision to Eli.

16 But then Eli summoned Samuel: “Samuel, my son!”

Samuel came running: “Yes? What can I do for you?”

17 “What did he say? Tell it to me, all of it. Don’t suppress or soften one word, as God is your judge! I want it all, word for word as he said it to you.”

18 So Samuel told him, word for word. He held back nothing.

Eli said, “He is God. Let him do whatever he thinks best.”

19-21 Samuel grew up. God was with him, and Samuel's prophetic record was flawless. Everyone in Israel, from Dan in the north to Beersheba in the south, recognized that Samuel was the real thing—a true prophet of God. God continued to show up at Shiloh, revealed through his word to Samuel at Shiloh.

Word of God, Word of Life: **Thanks be to God.**

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

1 Lord, you have | searched me out;

O Lord, you | have known me.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**16 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.

17 How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!

How great is the | sum of them!

**18 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. R**

Word of God, Word of Life: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Halle

ELW 172

**Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.**

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."

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day 10,000 Reasons

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before, o my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord, o my soul, o my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, o my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Chorus

Yes, I will worship Your holy name
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

Prayers of Intercession

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the leaders of your church especially Pastor Wes and Pastor Jules be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration (especially). God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel, so inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints (especially the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. whose faithful advocacy for peace and justice continues to embolden the church). God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Peace

Offering

MLK

written and sung by Michael LaVold

Offertory

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks!

Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion Music

Lamb of God

ELW 175

Here I Am, Lord ELW 574

1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?" *Refrain*

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 583

Refrain

**Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

1 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*

2 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee. *Refrain*

4 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne. *Refrain*

Blessing of the Meal

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Prayer after Communion

Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.
Amen.

Benediction

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing

ELW 841

- 1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.
- 2 Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Invitation to Service

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

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D G A
Open our eyes, Lord
G D Bm
We want to see Jesus
G A
To reach out and touch Him
G D
And say that we love Him

D G A
Open our ears, Lord
G D Bm
And teach us to listen
G A
Open our eyes, Lord
G D
We want to see Jesus

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray, ask for help, be kind, fulfill a need, forgive, and give thanks.



In Celebration! PASTOR Wes Kimball was ordained January 6.

Hospice Care Sally McCartin, Noosa Mikhail, Pauline Miller

Continued healing Les Beaudoin, Audrey Bredeson, David Bower, Shawn Krech, Sharon Marcotte, Cindy Mager, Catherine Powers, Deb Schnack, Mark Stagg, Vera Sampson

Cancer Treatments: David Bower, Marlys Flesland, Daisy Kunde, Polly Rhode, Sharon Roen, Sue Stagg, Ron Tipcke

Good care for people in care centers: Dick Coleman, Dean Houdek, Julie Stapf

Support all pastors, ministers, and clerics that their mental health is protected and they know that they are not alone.

All Saints joins with our sister church in Kipaduka, Tanzania and their evangelist Asifiwe Chengula. We pray for the safety and well-being of all the students and their families: Blaston Mgaya, Dorikas Longo, Elvin Mdeka, Ezra Medeka, Jakobo Ndolela, Lidia Nosa, Naomi Mtewa, Saraphina Msola, Tulinave Mtewa.

Immigrant children who have been separated from their parents.

Circle of Compassion: Immigrants held in ICE Detention have asked that you pray for them. Thankfully, these people were no longer held by ICE. Adis, Ayan, Antonio, Chouane, Carlos, Edwin, Ermin, Francisco, Gerardo, Heder, Jal, Jose, Khamsay, Omar, Rafael, Ruben, Salomon, Xairo

Zion Lutheran Church is in a year of transition and discernment. Support their Pastor Steve Biedermann and Council.

Closing Prayer. Almighty God who created the world, help us to know that no matter what we face, You can help us get through it. Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

When you have prayer requests use the Prayer Request form on the church's website allsaintscg.org/care-ceremonies

or leave a message with Prayer Chain coordinator Joan Axdal at 651-270-5111.