

January 20-21, 2024

Second Sunday after Epiphany



The Kindness in His Calling



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

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Second Sunday After Epiphany

*From Jordan's Shores to Mountain's Glory—
The Kindness in His Calling*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Savior Jesus, we come to your house today to hear the comfort of your forgiveness and to be renewed to live and serve you faithfully. Bless us through your Spirit. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: It is human nature to hide our faults and failures from others, but there is no hiding anything from God. Today we see that even though Jesus knows our every shortcoming, he wants to be with us. He calls us to follow him. He wants us to be secure in his love and forgiveness. Here is this week's epiphany: Jesus shows kindness when he calls us to discipleship. Even more, he shows kindness by giving us the ability to answer that call, so that we might always be near him and his blessing.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: "Epiphany" comes from a Greek word that means "reveal." For most of his adult life, Jesus was known simply the son of Mary and Joseph. Around the age of thirty, the fuller truth about Jesus began to be revealed: his person, his power, and his purpose. It started with Jesus standing in the Jordan River with John the Baptist. The biggest epiphany took place at a mountain, where select followers saw Jesus shining brighter than the sun. All these epiphanies—these revelations about Jesus—changed the lives of everyone around him. In this season of Epiphany, as we follow Jesus from Jordan's shores to mountain's glory, may they change us too.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Pianist: Madison Boerner

14940 62nd St N, Stillwater + www.salemlutheran.org + 651-439-7831

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Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: Speak, O Lord

CW 633

On Sunday the congregation and choir sing verse 1. Choir sings verses 2 & 3.



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds, help us grasp the heights



of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it
true hu - mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our
of your plans for us, truths un - changed from the



deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pu - ri - ty.
dawn of time, that will ech - o down thro' e - ter - ni - ty.



that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your ma - jes - tic
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your



fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.
nev - er fail, let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

(1 John 1:8-9)

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10

At a time in history when the word of the LORD was rare, the LORD shows kindness to the boy Samuel by calling to him.

¹The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days the word of the LORD was rare; there were not many visions.

²One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." ⁵And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

⁶Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸A third time the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

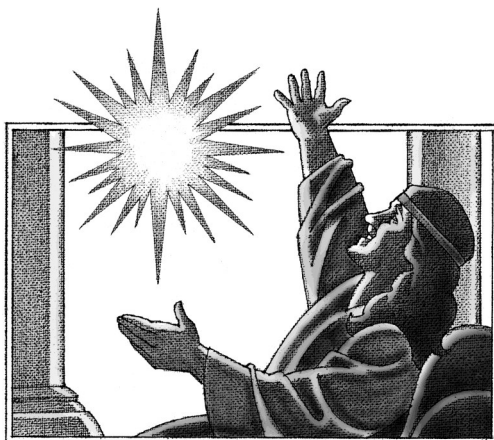
Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm: You Search, O God, the Reaches of My Heart Psalm 139E

Choir/soloist sing verse 1. Choir sings verses 2 & 3.



1 You search, O God, the reach - es of my heart;
2 You knit me cell by cell from spark of life;
3 And if I dare to set - tle 'cross the sea,



you see what all my dreams and se - crets are.
you bid my heart to beat, my voice to cry.
you'll find me there, your love en - fold - ing me.



You know be - fore I leave what road I'll take;
You shaped and sculp - ted me, your work of art;
And if I stray in - to the clutch of night,



you know be - fore I speak what I will say.
you made me won - der - ful in ev - 'ry part.
you'll find me there, for you turn dark to light.



I can - not hide be - hind a proud fa - cade;
And then with - in your book of days and years,
One day my eyes will close to skies of blue,



you see the me be - hind the mask, O God.
you wrote the num - ber of my sum - mers here.
but when I wake, I'll find I'm still with you.

Second Reading

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 (NIV84)

God called us to faith through the gospel, not because of any merit or worthiness in us, but entirely because of his grace and kindness.

¹³ But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

¹⁶ May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, ¹⁷ encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

John 1:43-51

Jesus proves to Nathanael that he knows absolutely everything about us. In kindness, Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael to follow him.

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."

⁴⁴ Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶ "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.

"Come and see," said Philip.

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

⁴⁸ "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

⁴⁹ Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel."

⁵⁰ Jesus said, "You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that." ⁵¹ He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on' the Son of Man."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Arise and Shine in Splendor

CW 375



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; let night to
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, the hea - then
3 Lift up your eyes in won - der— see, na - tions
4 Your heart will leap for glad - ness when from the



day sur - ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near.
na - tions dy - ing in hope - less gloom and night.
gath - er yon - der from sin to be set free.
realms of sad - ness they come from near and far.



A - bove, the day is beam - ing, in match - less beau - ty
To you the Lord of heav - en— your life, your hope— has
The world has heard your sto - ry; her sons come to your
Your eyes will wake from slum - ber as peo - ple with - out



gleam - ing; the glo - ry of the Lord is here.
giv - en great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.
glo - ry, her daugh - ters haste your light to see.
num - ber re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

Sermon

Based on 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

“Stand firm in God’s Call”

- 1) We hold to God’s teachings
- 2) God holds us with his Word

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn: Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult

CW 711



1 Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As the first dis - ci - ples heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! In your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his voice in -
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
help us hear your call; give our hearts to your o -



vites us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me!"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all!

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

M: Father in heaven, you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus, to bring peace and hope to our fallen world. Already in eternity you planned to overturn the tyranny of Satan and the ravages of sin and you kept your promises to restore the perfection of paradise.

C: **Lead us to cherish your great mercy and hold to it as our priceless treasure.**

M: Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise and adore you for offering your perfect life and innocent death to redeem the world from death and hell. You proclaimed the good news that sins are forgiven and life with God is restored and you called your followers to share the gospel with all people.

C: **Make us bold and confident to be witnesses to family and friends we know and love.**

M: Holy Spirit, Lord, and giver of life, through Word and sacrament you create and strengthen faith that trusts the promise of the Father and the work of his Son. You break down the barriers of resistance and rejection and bring the lost into the family of God.

C: **Empower and encourage us to speak about Jesus to neighbors and acquaintances.**

M: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, move us by your great love to enter the mission fields near our homes and neighborhoods. Help us always to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have.

C: **Guide us, strengthen us, and bless us as we share the love of Jesus. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn: O Christ, Who Called the Twelve

CW 716 sts. 1, 4



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve to rise and fol - low you, for -
4 O Christ, th' a - pos - tles' Lord, the mar - tyrs' strength and song, the



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways for ven - tures bold and new:
cru - ci - fied and ris - en King to whom the saints be - long:



grant us to hear your call to risk se - cur - i - ty and,
though gen - er - a - tions pass, our trib - ute still we bring, our



bound in heart and will to you, find per - fect lib - er - ty.
hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, our lives an of - fer - ing.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

WELS Connection

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:10am in the sanctuary.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Committed to a Lofty Charge

Bible Readings: Jonah 3:1-5,10; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21; Mark 1:14-20

Hymns: 901, 743, 695, 746

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

For our guests

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to donate you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

For those with young children

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If you or your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live on a TV in the room.
- ✦ On Sunday mornings, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

