

LIGHT  
HAS COME INTO THE WORLD



St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Saturday, January 13, 2018  
5:30 pm

Interims: The Reverend Larry Hoover and Bishop Emeritus Gregory Pile  
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[www.stdavidslutheran.org](http://www.stdavidslutheran.org)

# ***Welcome to St. David's Lutheran Church!***

We are blessed by your presence and honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign the friendship sheet that is located in the booklet at the end of each pew, near the center aisle. These sheets will be collected with the offering.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is offered to all who are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and who recognize the Sacrament as the true body and blood of our Lord. Baptized children are also welcome to the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians.

**Prayer Requests** may be made by placing the request in the small wooden box at the rear, near the doors through which you entered. The acolyte will collect the requests and they will be included during the prayers of the congregation.

**For your comfort** there is a restroom, equipped with a changing table and supplies and a water fountain located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock, and the water fountain is to the right at the beginning of the hallway.

**Devotional** – The worship folder you are holding is also a weekly devotional booklet. The prayers and Scripture readings are appropriate for use at any time during the week. The liturgy itself is a Scripturally based order for daily prayer and devotion with Scriptural references noted where they apply. Even the hymns are appropriate tools for prayer and praise. Finally, there is a daily lectionary of Scripture readings for the rest of the week on the last printed page.

## INTRODUCTION

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just the clergy 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 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 says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The assembly stands.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

*The minister stands and addresses the congregation.*

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. **Amen.**

### **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.**

### **KYRIE**

Lord, have mercy:

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy:

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy:

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Lord God, you showed your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son. As he brought gladness and healing to his people, grant us these same gifts and lead us also to perfect faith in him, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-10**

A reading from 1 Samuel the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

*{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.}*

<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."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18 (spoken responsively)**

You have searched me out and known me. (*Ps. 139:1*)

<sup>1</sup> LORD, you have searched me | out and known me;\*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts | from afar.

<sup>2</sup> **You trace my journeys and my | resting-places\***  
**and are acquainted with | all my ways.**

<sup>3</sup> Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips,\*  
but you, O LORD, know it | altogether.

<sup>4</sup> **You press upon me behind | and before\***  
**and lay your | hand upon me.**

<sup>5</sup> Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;\*  
it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.

<sup>6</sup> **Where can I go then | from your Spirit?\***  
**Where can I flee | from your presence?**

<sup>7</sup> If I climb up to heaven, | you are there;\*  
if I make the grave my bed, you | are there also.

<sup>8</sup> **If I take the wings | of the morning\***  
**and dwell in the uttermost parts | of the sea,**

<sup>9</sup> even there your | hand will lead me\*  
and your right hand | hold me fast.

<sup>10</sup> **If I say, "Surely the darkness will | cover me,\*"**  
**and the light around me | turn to night,"**

<sup>11</sup> darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright | as the day;\*  
darkness and light to you are | both alike.

<sup>12</sup> **For you yourself created my | inmost parts;\***  
**you knit me together in my | mother's womb.**

<sup>13</sup> I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;\*  
your works are wonderful, and I | know it well.

<sup>14</sup> **My body was not hid- | den from you,\***  
**while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the**  
**earth.**

<sup>15</sup> Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written | in your book;\*  
they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was | none of them.

<sup>16</sup> **How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!\***

**How great is the | sum of them!**

<sup>17</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.

<sup>18</sup> **Oh, that you would slay the wick- | ed, O God!\***

**You that thirst for blood, de- | part from me.**

*You have searched me out and known me. (Ps. 139:1)*

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

A reading from 1 Corinthians the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*{Paul is helping the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.}*

<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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*{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."}*

<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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **SERMON**

*Silence for reflection may follow.*

*The assembly stands.*

Together we confess our faith:

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the church throughout the world and for all called to its various ministries, that the Holy Spirit invite us and others to "come and see," let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the well-being of creation, for plants that provide nourishment, for animals that tend their young, that your goodness will be revealed through all creation, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the nations and all in authority, for advocates, for those who work for racial justice, and for our community, that all people may thrive together in harmony and order, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For all who are oppressed; for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*); for caregivers and families; for those who grieve and cannot sleep, that comfort will come to those in any distress, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For travelers and those unable to attend worship today, for members of our community celebrating special events, and for those who request prayers, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In thanksgiving for those who followed Christ and now rest from their labors (*especially Martin Luther King Jr., commemorated this week*), that their witness provide a model of prophetic leadership and tireless justice-making, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you.

**Peace be with you.**

*Please be seated after the Peace is shared.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*The assembly stands.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

He was born to dwell among us, full of grace and truth;

in him we have seen your glory.

Baptized by John in the Jordan, he lived for you,

spoke your truth, showed your love, and gave himself for others.

In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church,

delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

We give you thanks that on the night before he died,

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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
Illumine our hearts, O God, with the radiance of Christ's presence,  
that our lives may show forth his love in this weary world.  
Teach us to befriend the lost, to serve the poor,  
to reconcile our enemies, and to love our neighbors.  
Give us courage to speak Jesus' truth, to seek his justice, and love with his love;  
until Christ comes in final victory and we shall feast with all your saints  
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## **LAMB OF GOD**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*The Holy Communion is distributed with these or similar words:*

The body of Christ, given for you  
The blood of Christ, shed for you

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

*Following the Holy Communion the congregation stands:*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **QUIET MEDITATION**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**January 14, 2018**

#### **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

##### **One Degree of Connection**

A modern theory proposes that every person is separated from every other person by at most six degrees (six connecting relationships). Pick any person in the world and they will know someone who knows someone who knows someone who knows you. When we meet strangers, we often don't realize how closely connected we are until we share our stories.

In today's gospel story, Philip is first connected to Jesus by being from the same town as Andrew and Peter. But then Jesus calls him to follow, and Philip is in a direct relationship with Jesus. He went from two degrees of separation to one degree of connection. Philip tells Nathanael that Jesus is the one spoken of in Moses and the prophets. At first Nathanael doubts Jesus can measure up, since Jesus is from a small town of no importance. Nathanael is still two degrees away from Jesus.

Then Nathanael meets Jesus in person, and it changes everything. Instead of Nathanael getting to know Jesus, he discovers that Jesus already knows him. Nathanael's doubt about Jesus turns into astounding trust. Nathanael learns that even when he was two or more degrees separated from Jesus, Jesus was already directly connected to him.

Like Philip, the church shares the good news of Jesus with those who are near to us, friends, neighbors, and strangers. We say to others, "Come and see." When we invite people to learn about Jesus, we are inviting them to a great surprise: No matter how separated they may feel from Jesus because of time, relationship, or doubt, Jesus already knows them and loves them. God already knows them and accepts them. The good news of Christ is that we are all only one degree, one relationship away from God, and that relationship is Jesus himself, who has already befriended us on God's behalf.

## *Daily Readings for the Week January 14-20*

<b><i>Sunday</i></b>	<i>Second Sunday after Epiphany</i> 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20] Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51
<b><i>Monday</i></b>	Psalm 86 1 Samuel 9:27—10:8 2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1
<b><i>Tuesday</i></b>	Psalm 86 1 Samuel 15:10-31 Acts 5:1-11
<b><i>Wednesday</i></b>	Psalm 86 Genesis 16:1-14 Luke 18:15-17
<b><i>Thursday</i></b>	Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 19:1-15 Revelation 18:11-20
<b><i>Friday</i></b>	Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 20:7-13 2 Peter 3:1-7
<b><i>Saturday</i></b>	Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 20:14-18 Luke 10:13-16

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