

# Sunday, January 14, 2018

Second Sunday after Epiphany



## BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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## Pastor James Muske

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Church Secretary: Mary Braun & Jenny Schuett

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

### ***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH*

*we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS*

*we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.*

**Hearing Assistance is available during the service.**

**Please notify usher if you would like assistance**

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## 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.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

"Sanctuary"

**CCLI# 24140**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN:**

**“We Are Called”**

*Please stand*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Loving God,

**we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.**

**Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children.**

**Amen.**

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ✠ Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **APOSTOLIC 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**

*Please be seated*

**PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM:                    “You Are My All in All”                    CCLI# 825356**

**SCRIPTURE ACCLAMATION:            “Thy Word”**

## **First 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.*

<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.]

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<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.

<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.**

<sup>17</sup>How deep I find your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them! <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 1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

*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**

*Please stand if you are able*

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

**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**

*Please be seated*

**SERMON**

*Please stand if you are able*

**APOSTLE'S 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 into hell. 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 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 Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated*

## **OFFERING**

*Ushers will begin passing the offering plate. Please rise as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

## **OFFERING HYMN**

**“I Believe ”**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Merciful God,

**receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **THE LORD’S PRAYER – LED BY THE PRAISE TEAM**

## **BLESSING**

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN:**

**"Trading My Sorrows"**

**CCLI# 2574653**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship! Please come again.**

## **THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: Praise Team

Greeters: Pat Becker

Ushers: Ron & Joanie Mehlhop

Lector: Jeannine Bruesewitz

Hospitality Hosts: Dennis & Audrey Bistodeau, Pat Becker

***Thank you for your service!***

Response to God’s Word Last Week: Attendance: Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018: 9:00am 77

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda****January 15 thru January 21, 2018**

Monday	1/15	1:00 pm	Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	1/16	Noon	Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday	1/17	8:00-Noon	WIC
		8:00 am	Women's Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		9:30 am	WELCA
		6:00 pm	Confirmation
		6:00 pm	Praise Team
Thursday	1/18	8:00 am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	1/19	9:30 am	Council Meeting
		10:00 am	Bone Builders
Sunday	1/21	9:00 am	Worship, Communion, Pastor Installation

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ATTENDANCE REGISTRY** Please sign and pass the attendance registry which you will find in the pew. This information is gathered for annual reports to the Synod.

**COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED** Signup sheets are to the left of the serving window by the kitchen. Please check it out and take your turn. There will always be someone to help you with making coffee and running the dishwasher.

**BLESSING BOX** donations from last week's Blessing Box was \$124.32 which will be directed to Local Benevolence.

**DRIVERS NEEDED** We have a parishioner that needs rides into Aitkin, about once a week starting in February, for doctor appointments. All appointments are on a Thursday at either 10:45am or 11:45am. If you can help, the signup sheet is in the office on the secretary's desk. Thank you!

**WELCA & MALMO AREA LIONS** would like to invite you to a "Sweet Heart Dinner" on Sat., Feb. 10. Doors open at 4:30pm with dinner served at 5:30pm (we are bringing back the Dinner that the Church Youth use to do). Cost: \$15. Reservations can be called into the Church Office M-F 11:00-3:00 (320 684-2123). Last day of reservations will be Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**MARCH FOR LIFE** You are invited to participate in a local Aitkin March for Life on Sunday, January 21, 2018 from 1:00-3:30 pm to help us demonstrate our greater community's respect for human life. See bulletin board for more info.

**DVD LENDING LIBRARY** There is a collection of DVDs available to borrow and view at home at your pleasure. Check the bookshelf next to the janitor closet in the Fellowship Hall.

**TIME & TALENT SMALL GROUP MEETINGS** Today's meeting during fellowship is Nursing Home Outreach & Recycling. If you signed up for either of these categories, or are interested in finding out more about this service opportunity, you are encouraged to attend the small group discussion today and be part of the planning.

**FUTURE TIME & TALENT MEETING SCHEDULE:** Sunday, January 21 – Veggie Stand. Sunday, January 28 – Coffee Fellowship

**YEAR END OFFERING STATEMENTS** are in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick up your statement.