

Hello  
my name is

Jesus

*Worship Folder for January 17, 2021*

Christ Lutheran Church

32962 Vickers St, NE

Cambridge, MN

[www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)

Find us on Facebook @ Christ Lutheran Church – Cambridge, MN

# Christ Ev. Lutheran Church

**Information to help you stay connected and get involved!**

## CHURCH INFORMATION

<b>Pastor</b>	Sam Biebert	<b>Church Office</b>	763.689.5333
<b>Contact Information</b>	ChristCambridgePastor@gmail.com 701.471.0341 (cell)	<b>Webpage</b>	www.christcambridge.com

## THIS WEEK AT CHRIST | JANUARY 18 — JANUARY 24

<b>TODAY</b>	9:00am	Worship
	10:00am	Voter's Meeting
<b>MONDAY</b>	6:00pm	Women's Bible Study ( <i>Wherever Love May Lead</i> )
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	6:30pm	ZOOM Bible Class ( <i>Judges</i> )
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:00am	Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Brunch can wait!** Stick around for the Voter's meeting **TODAY** after church!

**New Church Directory!** Look for an email this week with directions to sign up for your photo session online. You will also be able to sign up on Sundays at church. Everyone who is photographed will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory. We hope all of you will participate so we can have a complete church directory. Photos will be taken **Tuesday, March 9** and **Wednesday, March 10**.

**ZOOM!** Don't miss out on a chance to dig into the book of Judges! Join Pastor via ZOOM on Wednesday!

**Can you serve?** Youth Discipleship is looking for individuals willing to serve on its committee. Please contact Paul Sorgert or Pastor if you are interested. Thank you!

**Sunday School** Packets are available to pick up for your children. Please make sure to grab one.

**Grab your Copy!** Copies of the January Newsletter and the new Forward in Christ are on the entryway table.

*"Here am I. Send me!"*  
Isaiah 6:8

**Ushers:** David, Deacon, Steve O.

**Counters:** Brian K., Paul

**Cleaners:** Brown, Lawrence

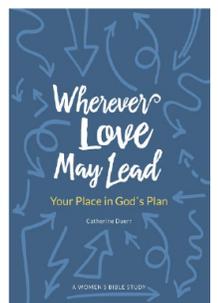
## New Council Members

President - Sean Brown	Youth Discipleship - Paul Sorgert
Secretary - Brian Lawrence	Outreach and Fellowship - Doug Grey
Treasurer - Shawn Motl	Property and Finance - Brian Klawiter
Adult Discipleship - Tom Panning	Education - Barry Springborn

Thank you, Dan Heinks, for 3 years of faithful service as our Congregational President!

## Women's Bible Study

Women of Christ! Are you looking to get in the Word and fuel your faith? Don't let your oil run low! Join our new Women's Bible Study! Our study will begin on **Monday, January 18** and will be held on **Monday evenings** (via Zoom) at **6pm**. Contact Cliss Loescher with questions!



## MEDITATION ON THE MINISTRY OF THE KEYS

**Opening Hymn: “The Only Son from Heaven”** (Christian Worship #86)

*(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.**

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:

**God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.**

If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness,

**We lie and do not live by the truth.**

If we claim to be without sin,

**We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.**

### Confession of Sin

**Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake O God, be merciful to me a sinner, and in the joy of your Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.**

*Silence for personal examination and confession.*

### Absolution

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **First Lesson: 1 Samuel 3:1-10**

The boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days. Prophetic vision was not common.<sup>2</sup> Now it happened that Eli's eyes had begun to grow dim, so that he could not see. Once when Eli was lying down in his place<sup>3</sup> and God's lamp had not yet gone out, Samuel was lying down in the LORD's temple, where God's ark was.<sup>4</sup> The LORD called Samuel, and Samuel said, "I am here."<sup>5</sup> He ran to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." Eli said, "I did not call. Lie down again." So he went and lay down.<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD called once more, "Samuel!" So Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son. Lie down again."<sup>7</sup> Now Samuel had not yet experienced the LORD's presence, that is, the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.<sup>8</sup> The LORD called Samuel for the third time. So he got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the young man.<sup>9</sup> So Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and once again lay down in his place.<sup>10</sup> The LORD came and stood there and called as he had the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

*The call is to be God's temple and dwelling place on earth. Jesus was God's temple and dwelling place on earth during his earthly ministry. And now, because he dwells in us by faith, through his presence in the Word and sacraments, that's what we have become. Such an intimacy is intimidating and a horror to the flesh. But it is an intimacy that is real. An evidence of its reality is our struggle to be the temples that we are by maintaining sexual purity. How difficult that call is in our day! How desperately we need his presence and the reminder of his presence in us, in his temples, to heed that call! Only the recalling of the price can make it so.*

## **Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

<sup>12</sup> "All things are permitted for me"—but not all things are beneficial. "All things are permitted for me"—but I will not allow anything to control me.<sup>13</sup> "Foods are for the belly, and the belly is for foods, but God will do away with both of them." However, the body is not for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body.<sup>14</sup> God raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.<sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then remove the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Certainly not!<sup>16</sup> Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute is one body with her? For it says, "The two will become one flesh."<sup>17</sup> But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.<sup>18</sup> Flee from sexual immorality! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,<sup>20</sup> for you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God with your body.

**VERSE OF THE DAY** Alleluia. He said to me, "You are my servant in whom I will display my splendor." Alleluia. (Isaiah 49:3)

*There is always a miraculous element in the call of Jesus. For anyone looking at him on the basis of appearance or reason will say what Nathanael said and turn away. In Nathanael's case Jesus read from a distance the thoughts of Nathanael and then promised even more wondrous things; he promised that Nathanael with the eyes of faith would see heaven opened and Jesus as the ladder to heaven in fulfillment of Jacob's dream in Genesis 28. But it is all invisible to reason and to the naked eye. Nathanael was astonished by what he saw in Jesus' demonstration of omniscience, but he believed on the basis of a promise whose fulfillment was shrouded in the future and would never be visible to the human eye. Anyone who thinks that God is far and distant should consider that if he believes the gospel, it is because God is near at hand. He worked and still sustains that faith each moment by his glorious Word.*

## **Gospel Reading: John 1:43-51**

<sup>43</sup> The next day, Jesus wanted to leave for Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> 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." <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" "Come and see!" Philip told him. <sup>47</sup> Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, "Truly, here is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit." <sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered, "Before Philip called you, while you were under the fig tree, I saw you." <sup>49</sup> Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup> Jesus replied, "You believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that!" <sup>51</sup> Then he added, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

## **["My Lighthouse"](#)**

### **Sermon on 1 Samuel 3:1-10**

#### **Theme: Get to Know Jesus "In How He Calls Us"**

**[Click Here For Message](#)**

**[Click Here For Children's Message](#)**

Theme: Get to Know Jesus "In How He Calls Us"

January 17, 2021

There are many ways a person can get to know someone else. One way is to simply be a keen observer of different mannerisms or different tactics they use on a regular basis. Those things that consistently pop up in your observations can help to give you great understanding on someone, how they tick and what makes them special. As a case in point, just this past week I went through the strength finder's test. It is sorta remarkable to answer a bunch of questions and receive a printout of your personality that is pretty spot on. One of the aspects of the test and the subsequent results, is to see how to take advantage of your strengths but also, to watch out for how those strengths can also prove to be your greatest weaknesses. For example, one of the things I am supposed to be careful about is clearly expressing thoughts and ideas to others that I have come to understand, at least in my own head. Honestly, it makes me wonder how much I say makes any sense to you as I try to bring you through my sometimes-jumbled thought processes.

But this is not about me, it is about getting to know Jesus. We have many examples of Jesus calling individuals to various tasks and forms of ministry throughout God's Word. As we observe Jesus' calls to discipleship, we see they often seem to be unclear. For example, when Jesus called the disciples, he simply said "follow me." He did not say where they would go, where they would stay, what life would look like, what they might expect or what he could and could not guarantee them. Very few details are given. Today, as we use God calling Samuel as our main topic of study, we see there is again, a lack of understanding concerning the road and the cost of the journey, but Samuel is eager to listen.

All of this gives us a lot of information we can use to get to know Jesus better, to deepen our relationship with him and see how he impacts our lives through his speaking to us by his word. So today, let us observe how Jesus called Samuel and similarly, how he calls us. As we observe this, may we see the type of following Jesus encourages in the way he calls us, the attitude it is meant to create in us and the blessings that pour in as a result. We listen as God speaks to us through his Word:

The boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days. Prophetic vision was not common. <sup>2</sup> Now it happened that Eli's eyes had begun to grow dim, so that he could not see. Once when Eli was lying down in his place <sup>3</sup> and God's lamp had not yet gone out, Samuel was lying down in the LORD's temple, where God's ark was. <sup>4</sup> The LORD called Samuel, and Samuel said, "I am here." <sup>5</sup> He ran to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." Eli said, "I did not call. Lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup> Then the LORD called once more, "Samuel!" So Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son. Lie down again." <sup>7</sup> Now Samuel had not yet experienced the LORD's presence, that is, the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup> The LORD called Samuel for the third time. So he got up and went to Eli and said, "I am here, since you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the young man. <sup>9</sup> So Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and once again lay down in his place. <sup>10</sup> The LORD came and stood there and called as he had the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Eli was getting old. Samuel, as you might remember, was given back to God out of thankfulness that God answered Hannah, his mother's prayer to know the blessing of being a mother. He served God in the temple and part of that was being a helper for Eli, especially since he was not able to see very well anymore. In other words, it was probably not uncommon for Eli to call for Samuel's assistance and even more than that it was definitely even more uncommon and more than that, even unheard of at that time, for God to talk in this way.

This misunderstanding concerning who it was that was calling Samuel took place a few times before Eli realized what was happening and directed Samuel to listen to the one who was actually calling for Samuel's ear. And the response Eli directs Samuel to give which is also the response Samuel actually does give are though provoking and faith filled words to study. It is a response which gives you and me a response to model and also directs us to the focus of the season of Epiphany, much like Mary's response to the news of miraculous motherhood does during the season of Advent.

"Speak, for your servant is listening!" Do you see how wonderful those words are as a response to God's calling? It is such an important part of following. What we don't see or hear in these verses is the difficult message God asked this young Samuel to hear and bring to Eli. What God was asking Samuel to do could easily be seen as overwhelming or even disrespectful to his elder, Eli. It was a message of judgement that would make the ears of everyone who heard it in Israel tingle. It was a message that caused Samuel to be afraid of telling Eli what God had said. It was a message of judgement against the house of Eli because of the wickedness of his son's and the fact that Eli knew about it and failed to do anything or restrain them in any way.

Can you imagine that? A twelve-year-old who is told to proclaim judgement to Eli who was in his 90's for how he had parented his children, something you as a twelve-year-old have no experience in. Tall task is an understatement. "Pick someone else for this job", might be our response as it easily could have been Samuel's. I am not equipped for this task. There are others who can speak this message better. There are others who can speak this message with a better understanding of the situation. Maybe instead of "Speak, for your servant is listening", Samuel could easily have said, "Listen Lord, for your servant is speaking." What you are asking me to do is too hard or it just doesn't seem right. But this the amazing thing Jesus call to us creates, it creates a willingness to say: "I do not know what is coming and what you will require of me; but whatever it is, I want to listen to you and follow you!"

So how does this message fill our souls, help us to get to know Jesus better and specifically, understand him better in how he calls us? Maybe we think, well, it doesn't. We have not had God call to us like Samuel did, we have not been dedicated to God like Samuel was. It doesn't have a whole lot to say to us. But God has called us to be his disciples through his Word as well. God has also asked us to difficult tasks. He asks us to respect those called to office even when we don't agree with the way they govern. He asks us to trust him even when we don't understand or see the reason we are going through a difficulty or we see no earthly blessings doing what God asks us to do. He asks us to proclaim the truth of his word, without reservation to a world that wants to hear less and less of it or wants only to hear it selectively. He asks us to share it even when we are afraid of what proclaiming his word will do to our relationships or how it will make others think about us. Often, it is just as difficult to listen to God. Often, the temptation is there for us not to come to God's Word asking God to speak to us but rather to come to God's Word asking God to listen to us, to make God tell us what we want to hear.

But just as the case with Samuel, so also with us. God desires to teach us from the very beginning of our life of faith, teaching us even in the way he calls us. It teaches us how important it is to remove ourself and our understanding from the equation of faith and God's Word. If someone else asked that of you, to follow without knowing the road or the cost of the journey, you would call them a fool. But God desires faith, faith that does not blindly follow, fumbling around in the darkness but faith that sees we follow our God, the light of truth. God asks us to listen to word and trust he will not lead us astray, in fact, he promises to be the very light which will navigate us through the darkness and the storms of this life.

Brothers and sisters, this is why we can get to know Jesus by looking at how he calls us to follow him. He teaches us how important it is to carefully listen to his Word because overcoming this world and the difficulties within it are not possible without him. May we learn to gladly say with Samuel, Speak, Lord for your servant is listening and know God will direct us and others, through us to his side through that message. Amen.

**Offering:** (Though we are not meeting together at this time please do not forget the opportunity to give back what is rightfully God's with respect to what he has given us. Offerings can be mailed or dropped off at church. You can also make use of online giving through the giveplus app or by going to the church's website ([www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)) and selecting the "Donate" tab under "About" in the site menu.)

**Prayer:**

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. Blessed are those whose strength is in you. Blessed are those who trust in you. (Psalm 84) May we ever praise you for causing the light of your glory to shine in our lives.

You have called us, O Lord, to be your light in the world, to proclaim your Word that people might know the truth and no longer live in darkness. You have called us to live your truth so that you might be praised and so that we and those with whom we live might be blessed. As

you have done this, so also, give us strength to carry out this work. Our sinful nature rebels at the idea and wants to live as the world does so that it might be accepted by the world. But you have made us temples of your Holy Spirit. Empower us to defeat the evil that dwells within us and to live in the holiness to which you have called us.

Good Shepherd, there will always be the need for those who will be your under-shepherds in the kingdom. Continue to send your Holy Spirit to move the hearts of young people today to prepare for this important work so that your Word may now and in the generations to come go out into all the world. We thank you for the many students who are enrolled in our synod's prep schools, college and seminary, men and women who have given themselves that they might be pastors, teachers and evangelists in your church. We thank you for the parents and others who have provided the necessary support for them to pursue their goals. Give us hearts that encourage those who might serve and those who are already working in your church.

Lord of the nations, this week our country inaugurates a new president to lead us. Be with him and with the vice president as they begin their duties. Give them wisdom and faithfulness to carry out their responsibilities. Because you are Lord of all, we know that you will use their decisions and actions to carry out your purposes. Enable us to trust that you will cause all things to serve our good.

Additionally, be with the other branches of government that are also beginning another year of service: our national and state legislatures and local bodies of government, the individuals serving in non-elected offices as civil servants, law enforcement professionals on the streets and in the courthouses, and those who are in the military. Enable them to serve in a way that makes them worthy of respect, and enable us who are served by them to give them the respect that they are to have as your representatives.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

#### *Private Petitions*

O Lord, you live forever to make intercession for us. We bring all our prayers before our Father's throne of grace through you, for you have taught us to pray:

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**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.**

## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

1Corinthians 11:23-25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

(spoken) **AMEN**

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*God tells us in the Bible that his Supper is for sinners who are accurately instructed in his word, who examine themselves by living in repentance, and who recognize the miraculous real presence of Jesus' body and blood. It is our joy and honor to use God's Holy Word. Therefore, we invite only current members of Christ, (and those from sister WELS and ELS congregations) come forward to receive the Sacrament at the direction of the ushers. If you have questions, please speak with Pastor before taking part in the sacrament. He welcomes the chance to study what God says with you. And thanks so much for honoring God's Word in this manner.*

⇒ One option for preparation is available in the red hymnal on page 156.

In order to maintain proper social distancing, we will be observing "continuous flow" for communion. You will be ushered up one row/family unit at a time. You will receive the bread and the wine and then return to your seats. The communion blessing will be spoken to all following the distribution.

### Children's Message

#### **BLESSING:**

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.

**Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: "Speak, O Lord" (Christian Worship Supplement #735)**