

God Calls Samuel

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10/12/2025

Greg Fetzner, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P 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.

C **Amen**

P 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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **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**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for our sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN: [ELW#676 "Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"](#)

P Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

Please be seated.

PSALM 134

L ¹Behold now! Bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
you that stand by night in the house of the Lord.

C ²**Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the Lord.**

L ³The Lord who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

1 SAMUEL 3:1-20

L A reading from 1 Samuel: ¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the 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. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and 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. ⁶The 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." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not

yet been revealed to him. ⁸The 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. ⁹Therefore 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.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ¹¹Then 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. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For 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. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli 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." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD. ²¹The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY [ELW#574 "Here I Am, Lord"](#)

SERMON: [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#) – Mrs. Monica Fetzer

Pastor Greg’s Old Testament “Context-O-Meter”

WE ARE HERE	Epoch	Books
	Creation and Early Humanity	Genesis (1–11)
	The Patriarchs and the Covenant	Genesis (12–50)
	Egypt, Exodus, and the Wilderness	Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
	Conquest and Settlement	Joshua, Judges (early parts), and Ruth
	Judges	Judges, 1 Samuel (early chapters)
	United Kingdom	1 and 2 Samuel, 1 Kings (1–11), 1 and 2 Chronicles (1–9)
	Divided Kingdom of Israel and Judah	1 Kings (12–22), 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles (10–36), various prophets (Isaiah, Hosea, Amos, Micah, etc.)
	Exile of Israel, Exile of Judah	2 Kings (end), 2 Chronicles (end), Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Lamentations, Obadiah
	Return from Exile and Restoration	Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Please stand, as you are able.

- P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
C 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

OFFERING*: ([On-Line giving Link](#))

The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

- L** Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

- L** Gracious God, you lead your people to faith. Remind the church that your word flows into the world. By your Spirit, teach the church to share the word of God for the sake of the world. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- L** Creating God, you provide cleansing and healing waters. Water the earth's lands in parched places. Restore clean water to all communities, and guide the work of all who advocate for safe and abundant water supplies. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- L** Righteous One, you bring justice and wholeness throughout the world, and your righteousness endures forever. By your spirit, guide leaders of all nations and lands to right relationship with you and with one another. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- L** Merciful God, you know the needs of your people. Show mercy to those suffering in the world. Comfort those in need of your healing. We pray for Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Mark Hughes, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Claudia Schober, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- L** Life-giving God, you free us by your word. Help us, by your Spirit, to be transformed to live your word of freedom honestly and uprightly in our teaching, preaching, and serving. God of grace,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- L** For whom or what else shall we pray?
- *For an end to war and conflict, especially in Gaza, South Sudan, Myanmar, and Ukraine.*
 - *For lasting peace forged by shared commitment to the common good.*
 - *For an end to psychological warfare, torture, and genocide.*
 - *For safety and rescue for hikers stranded by severe snowstorms in western China and Nepal.*

- *For victims of the Yom Kippur attack in Manchester, UK.*
- *For federal workers facing uncertainty.*
- *For safety and protection for all immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.*
- *For access to affordable and reliable health care.*
- *For ongoing advances in scientific and medical research.*
- *For the health and wholeness of LGBTQIA+ individuals and communities.*
- *For the flourishing of indigenous nations and communities.*

L Holy God, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith. Guide us to trust in the baptismal promise of resurrection in Christ. God of grace,

C **receive our prayer.**

L We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C **Amen**

SENDING HYMN: [ELW#779 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”](#)

P Go in peace. Love and serve God and neighbor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Offering to be sent to
Robert Brackbill
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church
9122 Sybert Drive
Columbia Hills
Ellicott City, MD 21043
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/2627291

Upcoming Worship

Date	Theme	Text	Leader(s)
Oct 12	God Calls Samuel	1 Samuel 3.1-20	Julie and Dave
Oct 19	God Calls David	1 Samuel 16.1-13	Ron
Oct 26	Solomon's Temple	1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13	Monica
Nov 2	God Speaks to Elijah	1 Kings 19:1-18	Heidi and Bob
Nov 9	Amos: Justice Rolls Down	Amos 5:18-24	Julie and Dave
Nov 16	Isaiah: A Child Is Born	Isaiah 9.2-7	Ron

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