

Date: January 14, 2018
GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Greeting

God is good.
All the time.
 And all the time.
God is good.

Call To Worship

Young and old, slow and fast; tall and small, teachers and learners:

God has called each of us here.

Wrinkled, white-haired, stooped with age; bright-eyed, smooth-skinned, leapers of two steps at a time:

each one made in the image of God.

Parents volunteering at school, children playing tag; workers stocking shelves, retirees planning a trip:

God works through each of us.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn #412 God, Reveal Your Presence**

**1. God, reveal your presence:
 gladly we adore you,
 and with awe appear before you.**

**Holy is your temple:
 all within keep silence,
 humbly bow with deepest reverence.
 You alone now we own
 as our God and Savior:
 praise your name forever!**

**2. In God's holy presence,
 hear the harps resounding;
 see the crowds the throne surrounding:
 "Holy, holy, holy!"
 hear the hymn ascending,**

**angels, saints, their voices blending.
 Turn your ear to us here;
 hear, O Christ, the praises
 that your church now raises.**

**3. Fountain of all blessing,
 purify my spirit;
 all my trust is in your merit.
 Like the holy angels
 on your glory gazing,
 we adore, hosannas raising.
 Let your will ever still
 rule your church terrestrial,
 as the hosts celestial.**

***Call to Confession**

***Confession of Sin**

God, we know you call us into your future. But sometimes, we do not recognize your voice – perhaps because we have not yet learnt, or have forgotten to expect your call. Sometimes, we do not hear you calling – perhaps because we get too busy, or distracted by other voices, like the inner voice of greed or self-satisfaction.

Sometimes we hear your call, but we ignore it – perhaps because to follow means making changes when we are comfortable, or we doubt we can answer the call. We are sorry for the times when we don't acknowledge your voice, don't hear your voice, don't respond to your voice. Amen.

***Words of Grace**

In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

***The Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you. (A sign of peace is exchanged.)

***Response: Hymn #547 Go, My Children, With My Blessing verse 2**

**“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory.
 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”**

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-20

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Pastor: 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,

Choir: “Samuel! Samuel!”

Pastor: and he ran to Eli,

Young person: “Here I am, for you called me.”

Liturgist: “I did not call; lie down again.”

Pastor: So he went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again,

Choir: “Samuel!”

Pastor: Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said,

Young person: “Here I am, for you called me.”

Liturgist “I did not call, my son; lie down again.”

Pastor: 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,

Young person: “Here I am, for you called me.”

Pastor: Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel,

Liturgist: “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’”

Pastor: So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before,

Choir: “Samuel! Samuel!”

Young person: “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

Choir: “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.”

Pastor: 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,

Liturgist: “Samuel, my son.”

Young person: “Here I am.”

Liturgist: “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.”

Pastor: ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said,

Liturgist: “It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.”

Pastor: 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. The word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Children's Chat

Rick Boyer

Second reading: John 1:43-51

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The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

Sermon

My/Your Specific Call

Rev. Dr. Rick Boyer

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn #69 I, The Lord Of Sea And Sky**

**1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?**

**Refrain:
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

***Affirmation of Faith Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Offering

Musical Offering

***Praise God (Hymn #608)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.

***Prayer of Dedication/ 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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SENDING OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Sending the Church into Mission

The Mission of Prospect Church

To be a family in Christ reaching out to all with love, prayer, and service. Through worship, education, mission, and fellowship, we experience God's love, forgiveness, grace, and call.

***Hymn #339 Lift Every Voice**

**1. Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.**

**Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.**

**Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.**

**Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.**

**2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.**

**Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?**

**We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.**

**3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.**

**Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.**

***Benediction and Congregational Response**

Hymn #305, "Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!" v 2

**2. Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!**

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Postlude