

**Emmanuel Episcopal Church, West Roxbury**  
**Online Liturgy for January 17, 2021**  
**The Second Sunday of Epiphany**

**The Word of God**

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.  
Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**The Collect**

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The Old Testament**

***Lector.*** A reading from 1 Samuel 3:1-10

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. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; 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. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" 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. 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." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 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. 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.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

*Lector.* The Word of the Lord.

*People.* Thanks be to God.

*The Psalm is to be led by the Lector, responsively, the people reading the alternate verses*

**Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17**

- 1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; \*  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, \*  
while I was being made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 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.
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! \*  
how great is the sum of them!
- 17 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.

**The New Testament**

Lector A Reading from Paul's letter to the 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

"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. "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. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. 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! 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." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. 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? For you were bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body.

*Lector.* The Word of the Lord.

*People.* Thanks be to God.

### **The Gospel**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John 1:43-51

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 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." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." 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."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Dialogue Sermon: Everyone is to join the conversation.**  
**The Priest will offer some thoughts and listeners may respond**  
**with comments or questions.**

### **The Creed or Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in the God of life, who creates and loves people, who acts in history and who promises to never leave us alone. We believe in Jesus of Nazareth, who is our brother, who wants not to be idolized but to be followed. We believe that we dwell in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Without her we are nothing, filled with her we are able to become creative, loving and free. We believe in the

Church of Jesus Christ, a community where we find companions and courage for the struggles of life, where we grow in our understanding of faith, through worship, prayer, nurture and service. We believe that God has a use for us in this time and place, that though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we are called to be instruments of God's peace. We believe in living, hoping, laughing, and enjoying the good of the earth; We believe that people can change and that God keeps pulling us to life and to a new world of joy and peace. Amen.

### **The Prayers of the People**

*Called together as a family of faith from every time and place, we are bidden by God to pray. That we might share our mutual concerns and offer the secrets of our hearts, let us pray, saying: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the nations of the world; for the leaders of nations, that wisdom and integrity might prevail; for regions torn by conflict, especially our own, that peace and harmony might be restored: Lord, in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for the church; for the unity of the body of Christ, that needless division might cease; for Alan and Gayle our bishops, for Joyce our clergy, and for all who nurture our life together, that the body may be strengthened and our common life enriched: Lord in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for this parish; for our presence in this community and on the internet, that persons may find here the means to a deeper relationship with God; and for our ministry of reconciliation, that all may find here the forgiveness of God and the acceptance of each other: lord, in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

Let us pray for those in need; for the hungry and homeless, the unemployed and the lost, that food and shelter might be theirs; for the oppressed and downtrodden, that freedom and dignity might be theirs; for the sick, especially Merilee, David, and Paul, and the infirm, that health and wholeness might be theirs: Lord in your mercy,

*Hear our prayer.*

*[Here other intercessions may be offered, either silently or aloud.]*

*By your power, dear God, you raised Christ Jesus and in him we too will be raised. Receive our prayers and those of all your saints, that trusting in you all the days of our lives, we may know the fullness of your love and the power of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant.* And now as let us pray as our Lord has taught us:

*People*

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,  
for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **Communion Prayer in this time of Pandemic**

*Celebrant*

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, bring hope to the disheartened and wisdom to our leaders. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **Closing Prayer**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Blessing**

*Celebrant*

May the peace of the Lord which passes all understanding, keeps your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God and of his son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And may the Blessing of God Almighty, The Father and the son be with us all and ever more. Amen

### **Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Thank you for joining us in prayer and witness today.***