

Worship Service - *“The Work of Christ”*

Guest Preacher - Jonny Finlayson

14th January, 2024 - 2nd Sunday in Epiphany, Year B

1 Samuel 3:1-10 NRSV / John 11:1-16 NRSV

Prelude

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Opening Music (video) [Rise Up](#)

written by Ethan Hulse, Logan Cain, Madison Cain, Nick Schwarz, Taylor Cain CCLI SONG # 7146618, All Essential Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), Be Essential Songs (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), EGH Music Publishing (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), Keep the Pulse on the Hulse (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), Logan Cain Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), Madison Cain Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), Schwarz INC Publishing (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), Taylor Cain Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC), used and reported under CCLI Streaming License 20261246

Welcome / Announcements

I'm glad to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church. Are there any announcements? We seek to welcome all of God's children to join us in bearing witness to the radically transforming power of God's love. As we gather today, let's share the joy and peace of Christ with each other by greeting each other as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Opening Hymn *God Is Here Among Us* 16

Call to Worship

One: Gentle and patient
All: God, you are calling.
One: Careful and persistent
All: God, you are calling.
One: In grieving and in praise
All: God, you are calling.
One: Through dawn and midday
All: God, you are calling.
One: Unexpected and planned
All: God, you are calling.
One: In a still small voice and in power
All: God, you are calling.

One: Spontaneous and prepared

All: God, you are calling.

One: Willing or protected

All: God, you are calling.

One: Our God is eager to share with us, wherever we are in our journey.
May we be diligent to listen.

All: God, you are calling.

Invocation

Insistent God, by night and day you summon your slumbering people,
So stir us with your voice and enlighten our lives with your grace
that we give ourselves fully to Christ's call to mission and ministry. Amen.

Epistle Reading 1 Samuel 3:1-10 NRSV

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."

A Time of Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Today we come together as a community to share together our joys and concerns, and lift them to God in prayer. *<start by sharing a prayer concern, and invite others to share>*

Pastoral Prayer Prayer by pastor

Hymn *Here I Am, Lord* 395

Gospel Reading **John 11:1-16 NRSV**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill.

So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?"

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world.

But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them."

After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him."

The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right."

Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.

Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead.

For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

Message - “*The Work of Christ*”

Call to Serve

As we continue to seek to become a place of compassion and support to our community, we ask that you give prayerful consideration as to how you may support our efforts. If you would like to make a donation, there are envelopes by the collection plate at the entrance. Online donations can be made through our website. Prayers and suggestions are also welcome! Thanks again for all your support, and may we continue to work together to keep being a place of ministry that seeks to promote the growth of God's shalom around us. Today, as we listen to Annie play, let's reflect on how we celebrate our faith, and how we might use our gifts and talents to inspire others to do the same.

A Time for Reflection

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A Time of Communion (see insert)

One: All who are in love and fellowship with your brothers and sisters, who do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and who humbly put your trust in Christ and desire his help that you might lead a more godly life, draw nigh to God and receive these emblems to your comfort and wholeness.

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26: "For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Once the bread is distributed, the congregation in unison affirms:

All: *The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.*

Once the cups are passed, the congregation in unison affirms:

All: *The cup which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Glorious God, you are utterly beyond us in every way, yet you involve your holy self with our very human existence and commitments, and we give thanks and praise to you for your unending love for each one of us. You have nurtured and blessed each of us as we grew in the womb of your love and compassion over many years; and we give thanks for the trust in you that has grown in us as we have developed and reached maturity.

We praise you for the way you have placed your hand on us in blessing, and that you have communicated to us in wordless ways, the depths of your love for us, so that we can understand and know that we are your beloved child.

We give thanks and praise to you that you trust us enough to share some of your thoughts with our limited minds and hearts; and that deep within us, there is that spark of your holy life to enrich and bless us; so that we always have an inner yearning to be near you and to be blessed by you.

Bearer of all creation, in your power, majesty and infinite love, you have ordained that your eternal presence is with each of us at all times, so that in the morning, you are there with us; and during the evening and night you are still with us. Trustworthy God, you honour us always with your presence. Amen.

Hymn ***Bless'd Be the Tie That Binds*** **421**

Benediction

Go now. Listen for the voice of the Lord and follow wherever it leads.

Do not be dominated by anything. Allow no room within yourselves for deceit, but offer yourselves as a temple for the Holy Spirit.

And may God be with you and speak through you; May Christ Jesus be one with you and raise you to life; And may the Holy Spirit dwell within you and make you holy. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,*In the name of Christ. Amen.*

Postlude

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