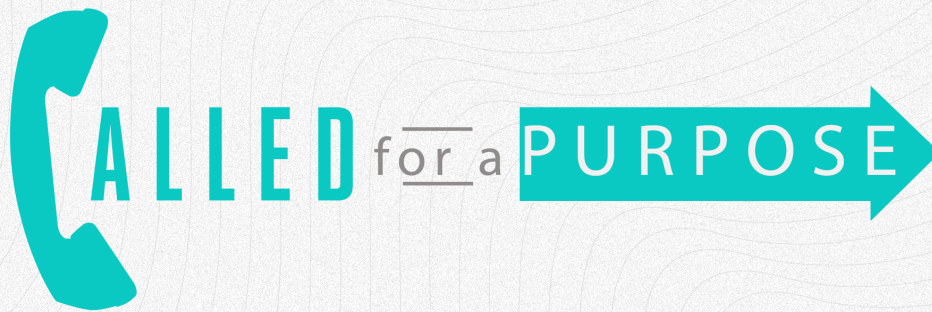


Sunday, January 14, 2024, 9:00am
Second Sunday after the Epiphany



John 1:43-51

Those who have (had) young children are aware of their selective hearing!

When told of something exciting or a treat to be enjoyed, a quick and response from hearing is had.

Yet, when asked or told to do something which may be unfavorable, it seems listening is lost.

Either a claim is made of, I didn't hear you, or the response are questions of what?, or, why?

As children of God, we can learn from Samuel regarding our response to what our heavenly Father speaks. Whether good news or something we'd prefer not to be told or asked, we are wise to not only hear but to listen, and more than that, to respond in faith, "Speak, for Your servant hears".

Prelude

#807, When Morning Gilds The Skies

1 When morning gilds the skies, My heart, awaking, cries, "May Jesus Christ be praised!"

When evening shadows fall, This rings my curfew call: "May Jesus Christ be praised!"

2 When mirth for music longs, This is my song of songs: "May Jesus Christ be praised!"

God's holy house of prayer Hath none that can compare With "Jesus Christ be praised!"

3 No lovelier antiphon In all high heav'n is known Than "Jesus Christ be praised!"

There to the_ eternal Word The_ eternal psalm is heard: "May Jesus Christ be praised!"

4 Ye nations of mankind, In this your concord find: "May Jesus Christ be praised!"

Let all the earth around Ring joyous with the sound: "May Jesus Christ be praised!"

5 Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face, Sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"

God's whole creation o'er, Both now and evermore Shall Jesus Christ be praised!

Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828, Würzburg; tr. Robert S. Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.

Text: Public domain

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness, therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon me, forgive me my sins, and lead me to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: I have not hidden Your deliverance within my heart;

C: I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation;

P: I waited patiently for the Lord;

C: He inclined to me and heard my cry.

P: He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog,

C: and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

P: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

C: Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

P: Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust,

C: who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

P: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!

C: I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

KYRIE

LSB 204

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204

C:

**1 To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth; Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth! We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing— Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**2 To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray; O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away. Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—**

**3 For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord. Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Together, we pray,

C: Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Time

1 Samuel 3:1–20

The young man Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 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, 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. And the Lord called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose 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. And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for You called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the young man. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if He calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for Your servant hears." Then the Lord said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. And I declare to 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. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever." Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." And Eli 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." So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the Lord. Let Him do what seems good to Him." And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of His words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

I Will Follow You

Voice Choir

1 Corinthians 6:12–20

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be enslaved 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 not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C: These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The next day 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 of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” And He said to him,

“Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

P: Together, we profess our faith,

C: 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#688, *Come, Follow Me, The Savior Spake*

- 1 “Come, follow Me,” the Savior spake, “All in My way abiding; Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey My call and guiding. O bear the cross, whate’er betide,
Take My example for your guide.
- 2 “I am the light, I light the way, A godly life displaying; I bid you walk as in the day;
I keep your feet from straying. I am the way, and well I show
How you must sojourn here below.
- 3 “My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing; And gracious words My lips express, With meekness overflowing. My heart, My mind, My strength, My all,
To God I yield, on Him I call.
- 4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your soul’s salvation,
Your heart from ev’ry guile to free, From sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul And lead you to your heav’nly goal.”
- 5 Then let us follow Christ, our Lord, And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to His Word, In suff’ring be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle’s strain The crown of heav’nly life obtain.

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–96; (sts. 1–3, 5): Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; (st. 4): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695

Text: Public domain

The Sermon

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

The Prayers of His Children

P: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

P: ...as we are taught 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.

God's Benediction

#827, *Hark, The Voice Of Jesus Calling*

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus calling, "Who will go and work today? Fields are white and harvests waiting— Who will bear the sheaves away?" Loud and long the Master calleth;
Rich reward He offers thee. Who will answer, gladly saying, "Here am I, send me, send me"?
- 2 Some take up His task in morning, To their Lord responding soon; Some are called in heat of midday, Others late in afternoon; Even as the sun is setting, Some are sent into the fields, There to gather in the bounty That God's Word so richly yields.
- 3 For as rain and snow from heaven Water seeds in dusty soil, Causing them to bud and flower, Giving bread to those who toil; So the Lord sends forth His promise, Words of life and joy and peace— Never void to Him returning, Bearing fruit with great increase.
- 4 Hearken to the Lord whose coming Marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest; Soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

Text (st. 1): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (sts. 2–4): Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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Postlude