

Bible Reading from the Old Testament

1 Samuel 3: verses 1 to 10 [11-20]

Samuel's Calling and Prophetic Activity

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.' [Then 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. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, 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 expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.'

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.' 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. Then he said, 'It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.'

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.]

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

First Reading at Service Bible Reading from the New Testament

Revelation 5: verses 1 to 10 The Scroll and the Lamb

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals; and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?' And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.'

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-

four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading at Service Gospel Reading

John 1: verses 43 to 51 Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

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 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 towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come 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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Notices

Refreshments – everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa, biscuit and chat after the service. If you would like to help serving drinks, please do sign up – just need to bring milk and biscuits!

Altar Flowers – a new calendar for 2024 is on the noticeboard at back of church. Please do sign up if you would like to arrange the flowers or if you wish to make a donation, please see Margaret or Mary.

Open Church Wednesdays - the doors of our beautiful church are open to welcome you every Wednesday between 1pm and 4pm for refreshments, a chat or simply as a space for quiet reflection. We will be delighted to see you!

22 Questions - the next open discussion group (at 22 Phildock Wood Road DE22 4PH) will be on Tuesday 16th January from 7.30-9pm. If you haven't joined us before, please contact Chris for directions on 07502291577.



Thanks - members of Kirk Langley WI wish to thank other members, church members and friends in supporting their Dinner Dance and other fund-raising activities to raise funds for MND. A total of £1,170 was forwarded to the Society. Betty Bond sends her sincere thanks to all those who supported this cause.



Don't forget your stamps!

Please continue to save your used stamps and help us find a cure for cancer. There is a box for them at the back of the church. Thank you to all who have contributed so far – I have just sent 1kg of stamps in aid of Cancer Research! - Peter

Dates for the Diary

21st January – 9.30am – Holy Communion –
Third Sunday of Epiphany

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For more information please visit our website:
www.klmm-parishes.org.uk or follow us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/klmmparishes
If you would like to include a notice in the pew sheet,
please contact Emma Jones.

WELCOME TO
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
KIRK LANGLEY

Sunday 14th January 2024

Second Sunday of Epiphany



The service today is Morning Prayer

If you have a prayer request, please
pass to the Church Warden.

Please take this leaflet home with you for reference.