



Team Parish of Christ the King St Aidan's, Brunton Park

Sunday 14th January 2024
Epiphany 2

Our passage from the Old Testament this week takes us to the beginning of Samuel's ministry as one of Israel's great prophets. It's a passage that perhaps asks us to wonder how we hear God speak. Samuel hears the voice of the Lord, but he doesn't recognise it. How many times has God tried to speak to us, and yet we've not recognised his voice? Perhaps he was speaking through the words or actions of others, perhaps through the leading of our hearts or our conscience, perhaps through a moment of insight or guidance in our prayers.

But Samuel needs help from Eli to understand and respond. Perhaps we too, at times, need the help of others to hear what God is saying to us. The church community offers support and prayer, and together we can help each other hear what God might be saying to us. Others might see something in us, that we ourselves have missed. Others might speak the words of comfort or hope that we need to hear, and if we're listening, we might recognise them as God's word to us.

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.'

John 1.43-51

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 toward 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.'

TODAY

9.30am: **Epiphany 2:** Rev'd Gerard leads and preaches.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Wed 10.00am, Church: **BCP Midweek Eucharist**

7.30pm: **DCC Meeting**, via Zoom

Sat 10am, Community Room: **Saturday Café**

Sun 9.30am: **Epiphany 3** Rev'd Hannah Malcolm leads and Rev Gerard Rundell preaches with readings from Genesis 14.17-20 Revelation 19.6-10 and John 2.1-11

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wed 24th 1.30pm: **Funeral Service for Shirley Pentland**, Church

Thurs 25th 2.00pm: **Chat and Craft**, Community Room

Wed 7th Feb 12.00pm: **Lunch Group**, Rugby Club

NOTICES

SUNDAY SERVICE – the link for today's service is

<https://bit.ly/StAidan2024Epiphany2>

SHIRLEY PENTLAND FUNERAL – We're very sad to say that Shirley Pentland died on Christmas morning. Her funeral will be at 1.30pm on Wednesday 24th Jan, in church. Please pray for her family and friends as they grieve.

DDC MEETING – will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 17th January at 7:30pm

LUNCH GROUP - will meet on Wednesday 7th February at 12.00pm for a 12.30pm meal at the Rugby Club. Please see Pat or Pauline if you would like to join us.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS – thank you to everyone who donated towards the flowers at Christmas. Church looked beautiful.

SATURDAY CAFÉ - donations at the Saturday café in 2023 totalled £1,600. We have sent £400 to each of the four nominated charities - Myaware (Myosthenia Gravis Association), Parkinsons UK, Retina UK and the Swiss/Kenya Development Association. Thank you to all who have supported these charities through the Saturday Café over the past year.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS - collections at our special Christmas services amounted to £850, which has been split between the two charities chosen by the DCC - Children North East as the local charity and Christian Aid's Middle East appeal as the international charity. Thank you to all who contributed to these collections.

PAULINE PEARSON – has a significant birthday this year, and so has given notice that she will be retiring from St Columba's at the beginning of March.

ZOOM CODES – all our Zoom sessions will use only the following details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7573778713?pwd=NGVjcTRLQjBEaStqYjFDSm1KOURtQT09>

Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan

BOOKING ZOOM MEETINGS: if you would like to use the St Aidan's Zoom account for a church meeting, please contact Janice

FOOD BANK – any items placed in the box at the back of church will be donated to Kenton Foodbank.

PLANNED GIVING - If you would like to set up a regular financial gift to support St Aidan's please click on the following link

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/brunton-park-st-aidan-newcastle-upon-tyne>

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Churches in our Deanery: Gosforth Parishes. DCC members and officers

For the community – Snakes & Ladders Playgroup, Brunton Babies, Nursery & Toddler Groups

For the world – all countries facing hardship and conflict. For our own national and political life

For those in need - Gladys Johnston, Esther Wooler, Alan Gregg, Martin Seaton, Bruce Smith

For those who have died – Shirely Pentland, Kim Harrington, Robert Hedley and on their anniversaries: Lena Fenning, Crosby Humphrey, Mary Atwell, John Jeffery, Florence Kirkby, Margaret Staniland, Rosemary Edwards, Audrey Jordison, Alma Thompson, Joan Routledge, Winifred Heal, Jeff Robinson, Eric Quenet, Joy Crute, John Edwards, Kenneth Thompson



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