

January 14, 2018

A reading from 1 Samuel

All Services

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the 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.

⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and 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. ⁶The 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." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The 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. ⁹Therefore 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.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [¹¹Then 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. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told 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. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷Eli 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." ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

The word of the Lord.

January 14, 2018

READING: Psalm 139

Early Service Only

“We will read the Psalm responsively.”

L: ¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

C: ²You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

**L: ³You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

C: ⁴Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.

**L: ⁵You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.**

C: ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

**L: ¹³For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

C: ¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.

**L: ¹⁵My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**

C: ¹⁶Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.

**L: ¹⁷How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!**

C: ¹⁸I try to count them — they are more than the sand;
I come to the end — I am still with you.