

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Samuel 3:1-20 (NRSV)

¹ 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.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ 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. ⁴ Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ 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. ⁹ 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.

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said,

"Speak, for your servant is listening." ¹¹ 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. ¹² On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ For 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. ¹⁴ Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷ 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." ¹⁸ 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."

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

John 1:43-51 (MSG)

⁴³⁻⁴⁴ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. When he got there, he ran across Philip and said, "Come, follow me." (Philip's hometown was Bethsaida, the same as Andrew and Peter.)

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ Philip went and found Nathanael and told him, "We've found the One Moses wrote of in the Law, the One preached by the prophets. It's *Jesus*, Joseph's son, the one from Nazareth!" Nathanael said, "Nazareth? You've got to be kidding."

But Philip said, "Come, see for yourself."

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw him coming he said, "There's a real Israelite, not a false bone in his body."

⁴⁸ Nathanael said, "Where did you get that idea? You don't know me."

Jesus answered, "One day, long before Philip called you here, I saw you under the fig tree."

⁴⁹ Nathanael exclaimed, "Rabbi! You are the Son of God, the King of Israel!"

⁵⁰⁻⁵¹ Jesus said, "You've become a believer simply because I say I saw you one day sitting under the fig tree? You haven't seen anything yet! Before this is over you're going to see heaven open and God's angels descending to the Son of Man and ascending again."

Jesus said to him, "Follow me."

— John 1:43b



Cover Text: John 1:43b

Cover Image: Thinkstock

Scripture quotation is taken from the Common English Bible, copyright 2011. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Readings for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany, January 14, 2018: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

Readings for the Baptism of the Lord: Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

L 1182

Word Alive!
Life in USA

Wells Memorial United Methodist Church

LOVING • CARING • SHARING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018 Human Relations Sunday / Second Sunday after Epiphany

“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” —1 Samuel 3:9 (NRSV)

“You haven’t seen anything yet!” —John 1:50 (MSG)

This Week at Wells

Life of the Church

Today

Worship Services 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.

Tuesday

Neighborhood Ministries 8 – 10 a.m.

Wednesday

Choir Rehearsal 5:15 p.m.
Fellowship Supper 6:30 p.m.
The Bible and John Wesley 7 p.m.
Children’s Power House 7 p.m.
Youth Group 7 p.m.

Welcome to Wells Church! We are glad that you found your way here this morning. On this weekend that we celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., let us consider what it means to live in peace and be a true community of shalom. Let us rejoice and be glad this day!

We need your Lenten reflections. Ash Wednesday is Feb. 14, when we will begin a time of reflection leading up to Easter. Wells will be publishing our annual *Lenten Reflections*, written by WellsFolk to provide devotionals during the 47 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter (40 days not counting Sundays). We follow the format of the *Upper Room*. Writers should provide a Bible verse or suggested Bible reading, a short devotional comment of 200 words or less and a short prayer. The deadline is Jan. 29. Please email your devotionals to admin@wellschurch.org.

Thanks to all who marched and helped with Wells’ participation in the Dr. Martin Luther King Parade yesterday. This is always a meaningful experience and a witness as we affirm the message of peace and justice Dr. King preached.

The church offices will be closed Monday for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Next Sunday is an important moment in the life of Wells Church when we will dedicate and rename the recently renovated fellowship hall in honor of Keith and Pat Tonkel. The dedication will begin at 9:45 a.m. Brunch will be served by Aunt Bettye Quinn and the Seekers Class.

Mississippi Methodists provide disaster assistance following major disasters. B.J. Curtis is now serving as Wells’ disaster coordinator and will help us organize our participation in such efforts. Anyone interested in being part of an Early Response Team is invited to participate in Disaster Response Training from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. on Jan. 27 at Madison UMC. Please see B.J. or contact the church office if you are interested or have questions.

Altar flowers are provided today by Linda Pilgrim in honor of January birthdays including her mother’s and aunt’s on Jan. 9. Entrance flowers are placed by Kevin Newman in celebration of Steve Greenough’s birthday.

Prelude.....Church Musicians
Greeting from the Lay MinisterElaine Talbott (8:30 a.m.)
Christina Bach (11 a.m.)

Call to Worship: “Arise, Shine”Wells Church Choir with Congregation
Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Opening Sentences:

Leader: Speak, Lord, for your children are listening for a word of encouragement, for a word of instruction about how we ought to live in these troubled lands.

People: **Speak, Lord, for your children are listening.**

Prayer: **Eternal God, we come to you this morning hungering for something from you that will change the rest of our lives. We come hoping to participate in your great work of re-creation. Speak, Lord, for your children are listening! Amen.**

Hymn of Praise.....“Lift Every Voice and Sing”
All Verses, Hymnal 519

Shared Affirmation of Faith.....Hymnal 883

The Life of Our Church and a Time of Prayer

Hymn of Consecration.....“Here I Am, Lord”
Verses 1, 2, Hymnal 593

Shared Scripture.....Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Hymnal 854

Gloria Patri.....Hymnal 70

Giving God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Doxology.....Hymnal 95

Anthem.....“Be Thou My Vision”
Wells Church Choir

Scripture.....1 Samuel 3:1-20 (8:30 a.m.)
John 1:43-51 (11 a.m.)

Sermon.....“Inheriting the Hard Things,” Heather Hensarling (8:30 a.m.)
“The I Became a We,” John Brashier (11 a.m.)

Service of Holy Communion (8:30 a.m.)

Hymn of Invitation.....“I Sought the Lord”
Verse 1, Hymnal 341

Shared Benediction.....“May the Lord Bless You”

Holy Communion is available in the alcove immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service.

WELLS CHURCH STAFF

Heather Hensarling
Senior Pastor
John Brashier
Associate Pastor
Dr. Jeff Parker
Minister of Counseling
Nancy Moore
Interim Choir Director
Jamie Ward
Accompanist
Ashley Hewitt Rogers
Children’s Ministry Director
Jane Everly
Pastoral Assistant
David Hampton
Pastoral Assistant
Kay Olliver
Treasurer
Loy Moncrief
Gardens Ministry Coordinator
Elaine Collins
Nursery Coordinator