

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

www.WinterHavenLutheran.org

Rob Sauers, Pastor (920) 602-3242

Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145

Katie Naumann, Teacher (253) 230-4184

Organist: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Darrin Ream

Acolyte: Seth Bernthal

As We Gather

Since the beginning of creation, God has spoken. He spoke into being our universe and our very selves as the crown of His creation; He spoke when seeking out Adam and Eve in a fallen world; He spoke many times and many ways through the prophets; and He spoke by the very words that came from the mouth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. From Him came words of instructing, healing, forgiving, and of invitation to follow Him as we hear today with Philip and Nathanael. The Lord still speaks to us today in His Word, as His Spirit spoke instruction and encouragement of the use of bodies through Paul in his letter to the church of Corinth. Through all He speaks, we are called to listen to that Word to guide and direct, and to hear His continued words of forgiveness, peace, hope, and joy as “in these last days [He] has spoken to us by His Son” (Hebrews 1:2).

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

421 – Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered.

C Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity.

P Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended You and sinned against Your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to Your promises in Christ Jesus.

P God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by His death on the cross and freed us from death by His resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 40:1-5

- P** I waited patiently for the LORD;
C **And He inclined to me, And heard my cry.**
P He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay,
C **And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps.**
P He has put a new song in my mouth— Praise to our God;
C **Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD.**
P Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust,
C **And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.**
P Many, O LORD my God, are Your wonderful works Which You have done; And Your thoughts toward us Cannot be recounted to You in order;
C **If I would declare and speak of them, They are more than can be numbered.**

Glory be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
 and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be-gin-ning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be for - ev-er more. A - men.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis



1 Glory be to God in heav-en, Peace to those He
2 On-ly Son of God the Fa-ther, Lamb who takes our
loves so well. On the earth let in all His peo-ple
sin a-way, Now with Him in tri-umph seat-ed
Speak His grace, His won-ders tell:
For Your mer-cy, Lord, we pray:
Lord, we praise You for high Your glo-ry,
Je-sus Christ, most high and ho-ly,
Might-y Fa-ther, heav-en's King; Hear our joy-ful
Sav-ior You are God a-lone In the glo-ry
ad-o-ra-tion And ac-cept the thanks we bring.
of the Fa-ther with the Spir-it, Three in One!

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10

¹ Now the boy Samuel ministered to the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation. ² And it came to pass at that time, while Eli was lying down in his place, and when his eyes had begun to grow so dim that he could not see, ³ and before the lamp of God went out in the tabernacle of the LORD where the ark of God was, and while Samuel was lying down, ⁴ that the LORD called Samuel. And he answered, "Here I am!" ⁵ So he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." And he said, "I did not call; lie down again." And he went and lay down. ⁶ Then the LORD called yet again, "Samuel!" So Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ (Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, nor was the word of the LORD yet revealed to him.) ⁸ And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD had called the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.' " So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 139:1-10

- P** O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up;
- C** **You understand my thought afar off.**
- P** You comprehend my path and my lying down,
- C** **And are acquainted with all my ways.**
- P** For there is not a word on my tongue,
- C** **But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.**
- P** You have hedged me behind and before,
- C** **And laid Your hand upon me.**
- P** Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
- C** **It is high, I cannot attain it.**
- P** Where can I go from Your Spirit?
- C** **Or where can I flee from Your presence?**
- P** If I ascend into heaven, You are there;
- C** **If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.**
- P** If I take the wings of the morning,
- C** **And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**
- P** Even there Your hand shall lead me,
- C** **And Your right hand shall hold me.**

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

¹² All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. ¹³ Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. ¹⁵ 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 harlot? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. ¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Hymn

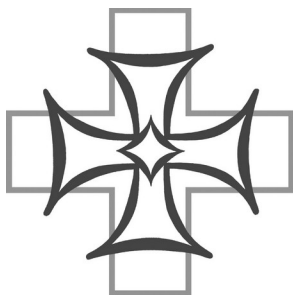
270 (1, 3-5) – Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult

⁴³ The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ 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.” ⁴⁶ And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!” ⁴⁸ Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?” Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” ⁴⁹ Nathanael answered and said to Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰ Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹ And He said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”



Sermon

God at the Top and Bottom



Offertory



Create in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your
pres-ence, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un-to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion; and up -
hold me with Your free spir-it. A - men.

Hymn

383 – Seek Where Ye May to Find a Way

Offering

Offering Hymn

443 (1, 8)



1 O Lord of heav'n and earth and sea, To
2 To Thee, from whom we all de - rive Our
Thee all praise and our glo - ry be. How
life, our gifts, our pow'r to give. Oh,
shall we show our love to Thee, Who giv-est all?
may we ev - er with Thee live, Who giv-est all!

General Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C Amen.

Hymn

132 – O God of God, O Light of Light

“Glory Be to God in Heaven” – Text: Michael Perry © 1982 The Jubilate Group (Admin Hope Publishing Company). Used by permission. Hymns and liturgical settings under copyright are reprinted with permission under One License #A-741527. All Rights Reserved. Scripture taken from the New King James Version®, Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Bulletin cover art is courtesy of Communication Resources Inc., © 1983-2024. Used by Permission. All Rights Reserved.

✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule		
January 14	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
January 21	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Installation of Officers)
January 27	9:00 am	Church Work Day
January 28	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)

Daily Devotion: A new daily devotion will be available on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/www.winterhavenlutheran.org/>. These devotions are a great way to start your day. They’re also great to share with others as a way to introduce them to our congregation.

Installation of Officers: The installation of church officers will take place next Sunday during the worship service.

Church Workday: A church workday is scheduled for Saturday, January 27th beginning at 9:00 am. We will be painting the church. We will have all of the supplies you need, and lunch will be provided. Please join us as we beautify our church and enjoy fellowship together.

National Women's Retreat: You're Invited! Join your Christian sisters near and far at the next virtual retreat held via Zoom on Saturday, January 20th @ noon Eastern. This year's theme is "Press Pause: God Made Me..." and will highlight the differing gifts that God gave each of us to use to His glory. Register at: <http://tinyurl.com/NatRetreat24> Questions? Contact teichstadt@gmail.com or 651-398-2386.

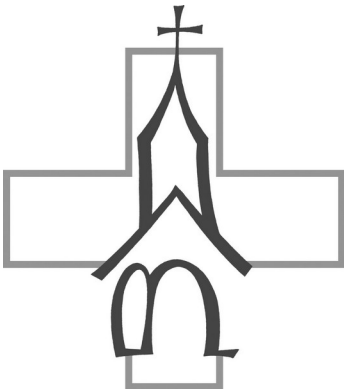
BELC Cyclone Aid: In early December, Cyclone Michaung struck the eastern coast of India and damaged and flooded churches of the BELC as well as the Martin Luther Bible School (MLBS) pastor training center. Eleven of the fourteen districts of the BELC were affected. A total of 55 churches, as well as the MLBS, were damaged by the cyclone and are in need of repair. The Board of Missions has approved \$12,000 of disaster relief to be sent from Kinship to assist with building repair and reconstruction. Please remember our brethren of the BELC in your prayers, and consider supporting this effort through offerings to Kinship.

ILC Tour Choir: For many years the ILC Tour Choir has been granted a special rate for using a charter bus during their yearly tour in holding concerts at various CLC congregations. This year that rate is being discontinued. After comparing the cost of using various bus companies, the common rate would be approximately \$11,000 higher than expected for budgetary reasons. Normally an offering is collected during the tour which will still happen. But this year CLC President Michael Wilke is authorizing this synod-wide announcement to allow others to share in their support of the Tour Choir. This offering would help offset the extra expense needed for the bus. Therefore, if members of CLC congregations wish to support this, please designate your offering to & "ILC Tour Choir."

2024 CLC Mission Helper Trip: Applications are being accepted for the 2024 Mission Helper Trip to Africa. Find more information and apply online: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org

CLC News: Mr. Dan Roehl has been called to be the new professor at Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI, to replace retiring Professor Mark Kranz. <> Pastor Thomas Schuetze of St. Paul Lutheran of Lakewood, CO is still considering the calls from Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD has returned the call from Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN. <> Ann Sprengeler, teacher at Faith Lutheran School in Markesan, WI, will be retiring from the teaching ministry as of the end of the current school year.

Fruits of Faith		January 7, 2024		Attendance: 45	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>		<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>			
<i>General Budget</i>		<i>General Budget</i>			
\$2,056.25	General Budget	\$0.00	CLC General Budget		
\$1,423.00	Weekly Need	-\$57.69	Weekly Need		
+\$633.25	-Under / +Over	-\$57.69	-Under / +Over		
\$2,056.25	Year to Date Offerings	\$0.00	Year to Date Offerings		
\$1,423.00	Year to Date Need	-\$57.69	Year to Date Need		
+\$633.25	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$57.69	Year to Date (+/-)		
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		<i>Non-Budgetary</i>			
	Building Fund		ILC Student Aid Fund		
\$300.00	Property Improvement	\$15.00	ILC Building Fund		
\$30.00	ILC Scholarship Fund		ILC Improvement Fund		
	Tuition Grant		Mission Development (MDF)		
	Benevolence Fund		Project Kinship		
	Sign Fund				





...pray for us, that the word of
the Lord may run swiftly
and be glorified...
2 Thessalonians 3:1



Missionary Travels – Our missionaries are traveling to several different countries during January and February to visit our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. On January 7th, Missionary Bruce Naumann returned to Tanzania. On January 12th, Missionary Todd Ohlmann and Board of Missions Chairman Joel Krafft departed for a visit to Togo and Liberia. Part-Time Missionary Pastor Paul Nolting will be heading to Tanzania later in January to teach at Wittenburg Lutheran Theological Seminary while Missionary Naumann visits Kenya and Uganda. Joel Krafft will travel from Liberia to Kenya and join Missionary Naumann, Pastor Jeremiah Issangya, and Kinship Chairman and Christian School Instructor Supervisor Ted Quade in Nairobi on Friday, January 26. These men will be visiting Moi's Bridge, Kenya; Iganga, Uganda; and Etogo, Kenya, during a 10-day trip. At the end of January, Missionary Ohlmann and CLC Board of Doctrine member Pastor Andrew Schaller will travel to the Philippines to conduct an in-person colloquy with Pastor Jordan Palangyos of the Lutheran Autonomous Mission of the Philippines. Please pray for safe and uneventful travels for our missionaries and that the Lord will bless their preaching and teaching of His Word to accomplish His will.

India (Southeast Asia) – In early December, Cyclone Michaung hit the eastern coast of India, causing damage and flooding to the churches of the BELC as well as the Martin Luther Bible School (MLBS) pastor training center. The storm affected eleven out of the fourteen districts of the BELC, resulting in 55 churches and the MLBS being damaged and in need of repair. The Board of Missions has approved a Kinship disaster relief grant to assist with building repairs and reconstruction. Pray for the Lord's continued protection and provision as our brothers and sisters in Christ begin the clean-up and recovery from this disaster. Ask our Heavenly Father to send His Holy Spirit to give comfort, courage, strength, and hope in His perfect love and plans as they struggle during these trying times. And thank the Lord for the compassionate and generous hearts that provide support through offerings to Kinship.

Myanmar (South Asia) – Pastor Kham recently reported that the Myanmar military had dropped bombs on portions of the city of Kalaymyo. Fortunately, the bombing did not affect the CLC-Myanmar (CLCM) church or orphanage, and there were no injuries to CLCM. However, several private homes, businesses, and church buildings were destroyed or damaged. There were more than twenty people killed and many more injured. February 1 will mark the third anniversary of the military takeover and, thus, three years of civil war. The people of Myanmar and our brothers and sisters in Christ continue to suffer. Please pray for the innocent bystanders caught in this conflict, especially our brothers and sisters in Christ of the CLC-Myanmar. Ask that God's will be done as this conflict continues and that peace may prevail.

Tanzania (East Africa) – Missionary Naumann has returned to Tanzania for the beginning of the new semester of classes at the seminary. Pastor Nolting will be arriving in mid-January to serve as a guest/substitute instructor at the seminary. Pray for God's continued blessings on these efforts to train and send out faithful preachers and teachers of God's saving word in East Africa.

Pakistan – Pastor Tim Daub continues electronic correspondence and instruction to the members of the recently established Lutheran congregation in Pakistan. The Board of Missions has authorized Missionary Ohlmann to join Pastor Daub on a visit to Pakistan. They are tentatively planning a visit for mid-to-late April. Pray for the Lord's continued blessings on the teaching and learning of His word. Give thanks to our Savior for granting us this opportunity and the technology to spread the truth of His word in such a manner.

Nepal (South Asia) – Pastor Raju has experienced partial voice loss for the past few months due to the presence of lesions or nodes on his vocal cords. He has been resting his voice for the past several weeks. A recent examination shows signs of healing. In the upcoming weeks, he will begin voice therapy to aid the recovery and strengthening of his vocal cords. Consequently, the start of Himalayan Bible Institute classes will be postponed until March or April. Applications for the next HBI session are currently being received and reviewed. Please pray for the Lord's healing of Raju's vocal cords, enabling him to continue the work of proclaiming God's word and training faithful workers for His kingdom in Nepal.

The Philippines (Southeast Asia) – Pastor Andrew Schaller, the Board of Doctrine Secretary for the CLC, has finished the correspondence part of the doctrinal colloquy with Pastor Jordan Palangyos and the Lutheran Autonomous Mission in the Philippines (LAMP). In early February, Pastor Schaller, accompanied by Missionary Ohlmann, is scheduled to be in the Philippines to conduct the in-person portion of the colloquy. Please ask for the Lord's blessings on the colloquy, that it may result in and reveal a unity of faith and teaching that pleases God. Pray that the Lord will provide Pastor Jordan with opportunities and everything he needs to continue proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ.

DR Congo (Central Africa) – The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) remains in a state of unrest and violence after the recent presidential election on December 20th. Pastor Yumba has suggested that the plans for Missionary Ohlmann's visit to the DRC in 2024 should be delayed until security has been restored. Pray for peace and harmony among the people of the DRC as they struggle through these issues. Ask that the Lord's will be fulfilled in this election, and pray for the safety, hope, and courage for our fellow brothers and sisters in the CCLC.

Bangladesh (South Asia) – Pastor Monotosh continues to seek the Lord's blessings in raising funds for constructing a BLCM headquarters, Bible Institute, dormitory, and worship facility on land purchased last year. Pray for the Lord's provision of resources needed for this important building project. Ask for the Lord's continued blessings on the preaching and teaching of His word.

Mission Development Fund – CLC President Mike Wilke writes: "*When the convention approved the calling of our third foreign missionary, it determined that the funding of that missionary would come fully from the MDF for the first year. The cost of funding that missionary is about \$80,000 and has impacted other planned MDF projects. Currently, the balance of the MDF is enough to cover the cost of our third foreign missionary for the rest of this fiscal year and a few other essential projects, but without additional funds, we will not be able to fund other planned projects. We have already put a hold on all other projects, including funding Bibles and other Christian literature, church-building assistance, and many planned outreach projects. Pray that the members of the CLC will remember this work in their prayers and their offerings so that we might continue to carry out the work the LORD has set before us and which we have decided to do as a church body.*"

Missionary Evensen (Togo, West Africa) – Missionary Evensen continues the work of translating Online Theological Studies courses into French for use in training pastors and church leaders in Togo and other French-speaking African countries. Ask for the Lord's continued blessings on this work and pray that the Lord will continue to provide good health and all that is necessary for the spread of the Gospel in Togo.

Missionary Bruce Naumann (Tanzania-East Africa) – Missionary Bruce Naumann has arrived in Tanzania to begin the new semester at Wittenberg Lutheran Theological Seminary. He is set to participate in the CLC visitation team's trip to Kenya and Uganda in late January. His wife Paula will join him in Tanzania in early February. Pray for their safe travels, as well as for the returning students. Ask for our Savior's blessings on the pastors and people of the TZ-CLC as they spread the Gospel of Christ crucified. Follow their blog at clc-tz.blogspot.com.

Missionary Ohlmann – Missionary Ohlmann has upcoming travel plans to Togo, Liberia, The Philippines, Nigeria, Zambia, and Pakistan in the following months. He is also scheduled to serve as the Pastor for the Southeastern CLC Women's Retreat in Charlotte, NC, in mid-February. Pray for the Lord's guidance and blessings on his travel plans and for wisdom, humility, patience, and boldness as he proclaims God's word. Continue to pray for his wife Beth as she cares for her elderly father as he longs for his heavenly home. You can read reports and see pictures here: missionaryohlmann.blogspot.com

Ongoing Opportunities – **please continue to pray** for all of our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, who, by God's grace, are dedicated to proclaiming the truths of God's saving word for the salvation of souls as they trust the promise of our Savior that His Word will not return to Him void but will accomplish that for which He sent it.

That Your way may be known on earth,
Your salvation among all nations. Psalm 67:2



✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

January 15-20, 2024

Monday: Luke 4:14-22 – Jesus’ divine glory was revealed not only by His gracious words (verse 22) and deeds, but also by the Word of Isaiah and the other prophets of God, who looked forward to the day of the Lord.

Tuesday: Isaiah 8:20-22 – It is God’s Word (the law and the testimony) that will bring the light of dawn into this sin-darkened world. Without God’s Word there is only distress, darkness and gloom (verse 22), but His Word testifies about Jesus (John 5:39).

Wednesday: Romans 10:1-12 – Those who did not receive Jesus’ gracious words (“Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” Luke 4:22), and tried to establish their own righteousness before God were also rejecting the words of Scripture: “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame”(Isaiah 28:16).

Thursday: Romans 10:12-15 – “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (verse 13), and God provided preachers to proclaim the name of the Lord to all people (both Jew and Greek, verse 12). The feet are beautiful because of the news they bring.

Friday: Romans 10:16-21 – Just as in Nazareth (Luke 4:22) some did not accept Jesus’ word, so in general Israel rejected the message God sent, while Gentiles who were not looking found God. Yet all day long He reaches out to Israel (verse 21).

Saturday: John 1:43-51 – Jesus reaches out and gathers His disciples around Himself. He finds Philip and Philip finds Nathanael, who is skeptical (verse 46). But Jesus continues to call and reveals His glory to Nathanael as a foretaste of what is yet to come.