

Announcements for January 14, 2018

For: Rev. Escandell

Please join us for our **BIRTHDAY / ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** in the Parlor today immediately following the Worship Service as we honor all birthdays and wedding anniversaries for January.

The **PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY** will gather here at the church this coming Tuesday, January 16. The Quilt Ministry meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on the second floor. For more information, contact Shirley Pippin at 956-358-0591.

STAR WORDS FOR 2018 ... If you did not receive a "Star Word" last Sunday, please pick one up from the basket in the Narthex. Make your "Star Word" a part of your devotional life in 2018. Sit with it; pray with it; ponder where Jesus may be calling you into new life through this word. If your "Star Word" leads you to insights you'd like to share with the congregation, please write a brief reflection and e-mail it to fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com.

Additional Liturgy for January 14, 2018

For: Dana Friedman

Call to Confession

Let us call upon the name of our God, who loves us with an everlasting love.

Prayer for Illumination

It's time to hear God's Word read and proclaimed. Let us pray:

By your Holy Spirit, O God, open our ears, our eyes, our hearts, and our minds to the Holy Word so that it comes to rule within us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

First Reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (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."

Invitation to the Offering

All that we have comes from God. God creates us, knows us, and loves us. We belong to God. In thanksgiving and praise, let us honor God with our gifts.

Offertory Prayer

Holy God, you create us and love us still. You call us by name and give us all that we need. May we honor you with the gifts that we bring. Use them to share your love with a broken world, and use us as agents of your grace. Amen.