

## Worship Service on September 3, 2023

**Welcome and Announcements** ~ Lois Squires

**Tuesday** ~ Deacon Meeting at 4:30 pm in the church fellowship room.

**Thursday** ~ There is an Interfaith Council Clergy meeting at 11:45 am at the Federated Church of East Arlington.

~ Choir practice will be at the church fellowship room at 7 pm, and all are welcome to join.

**Opportunities** ~ If you are interested in getting baptized or joining the church as a member, please let Pastor Rebecca know.

~ The Community Food Cupboard is collecting items for quick meals for September. Thank you for contributing what you can.

**Looking Ahead** ~ Next Sunday, the time of our worship service will change to 10:30 am. This will allow time for the Ladies' and Martha Fellowship breakfast and meeting at 8:30 am and Sunday School Classes at 9:30 am. Sept. 10th will also be the first meeting of Alpha for Teens that evening from 5-7 pm.

Happy Birthday to Bruce Fielding yesterday & Khloe Russell tomorrow!  
Happy Anniversary to Linell & Jerry Pike on Thursday!



Thank you to Jim and Barb West  
in loving memory of Jim's mother, Cora West.

**Word of Preparation** ~ Lois Squires

**Prelude** ~ You are invited to listen to ***"Here for You"***  
as we prepare our hearts for worship.

CCLI Song # 5925649 Jesse Reeves | Matt Maher | Matt Redman | Tim Wanstall  
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**Call to Worship** ~ selected verses from **Isaiah 26 (NIV)**

read by Lois Squires with everyone joining in reading the bold lines.

<sup>2</sup> Open the gates

that the righteous nation may enter,

**the nation that keeps faith.**

<sup>3</sup> You will keep in perfect peace

those whose minds are steadfast,

**because they trust in you.**

<sup>4</sup> Trust in the Lord forever,

**for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.**

<sup>5</sup> He humbles those who dwell on high...

<sup>7</sup> **The path of the righteous is level;**

you, the Upright One, make the way of the righteous smooth.

<sup>8</sup> **Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws,**

**we wait for you;**

your name and renown

are the desire of our hearts.

<sup>9</sup> **My soul yearns for you in the night;**

**in the morning my spirit longs for you.**

When your judgments come upon the earth,

the people of the world learn righteousness...

<sup>12</sup> **Lord, you establish peace for us**

**Song ~** Please join the worship team in singing

**“Awake My Soul”**

*Breathe on me, breath of God, breathe on me  
Breathe on me, breath of God, breathe on me  
I come alive, I'm alive when you breathe on me  
I come alive, I'm alive when you breathe on me*

**Chorus**

***Awake, awake, awake my soul  
God resurrect these bones  
From death to life for you alone***

***Awake my soul  
Speak to me, word of God, speak to me  
Speak to me, word of God, speak to me  
I come alive, I'm alive when you speak to me  
I come alive, I'm alive when you speak to me***

***Chorus two times***

CCLI Song # 7004937      Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson  
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**Praying Together ~**

**Space for prayer requests**

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil  
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever,  
Amen.**

**Song ~                                      “Here I Am, Lord” (#452 in the blue hymnal)**

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

**Chorus**

***Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me  
I will hold your people in my heart***

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain  
I have wept for love of them, they turn away  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?*

**Chorus**

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame  
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts are satisfied  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?*

**Chorus**

Words and music ~ Daniel L. Schutte, 1981 | New Dawn Music

## Introducing the Sermon ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

**Scripture Passage ~ 1 Samuel 3:1-21 (NIV)** read by Lois Squires.

The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli.  
In those days the word of the Lord was rare;  
there were not many visions.

<sup>2</sup> One night, Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak  
that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place.

<sup>3</sup> The lamp of God had not yet gone out,  
and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord,  
where the ark of God was.

<sup>4</sup> Then the Lord called Samuel.  
Samuel answered, “Here I am.”

<sup>5</sup> And he ran to Eli and said, “Here I am; you called me.”  
But Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.”

So he went and lay down.

<sup>6</sup> Again the Lord called, “Samuel!”

And Samuel got up and went to Eli  
and said, “Here I am; you called me.”

“My son,” Eli said, “I did not call; go back and lie down.”

<sup>7</sup> Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord:  
The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

<sup>8</sup> A third time the Lord called, “Samuel!”

And Samuel got up and went to Eli  
and said, “Here I am; you called me.”

Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy.

<sup>9</sup> So Eli told Samuel, “Go and lie down, and if he calls you,  
say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’”

So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup> The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times,  
“Samuel! Samuel!”

Then Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

*(Continued on the next page)*

<sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to Samuel:

“See, I am about to do something in Israel  
that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle.

<sup>12</sup> At that time I will carry out against Eli  
everything I spoke against his family—from beginning to end.

<sup>13</sup> For I told him that I would judge his family forever  
because of the sin he knew about; his sons blasphemed God,  
and he failed to restrain them.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore I swore to the house of Eli,

‘The guilt of Eli’s house  
will never be atoned for by sacrifice or offering.’”

<sup>15</sup> Samuel lay down until morning  
and then opened the doors of the house of the Lord.

He was afraid to tell Eli the vision,

<sup>16</sup> but Eli called him and said, “Samuel, my son.”

Samuel answered, “Here I am.”

<sup>17</sup> “What was it he said to you?” Eli asked.

“Do not hide it from me.

May God deal with you, be it ever so severely,  
if you hide from me anything he told you.”

<sup>18</sup> So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him.

Then Eli said, “He is the Lord; let him do what is good in his eyes.”

<sup>19</sup> The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up,  
and he let none of Samuel’s words fall to the ground.

<sup>20</sup> And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba  
recognized that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh,  
and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word.

**Sermon ~ “Listening to God” ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons**

**Choir Song ~ “*And When It Was Evening*”** by Ken Litton

**Communion ~**

Everyone is welcome to draw close to the Lord  
as we take the bread and grape juice  
in remembrance of all that God has done  
to forgive our sins and make us His own.

**Communion Songs ~** Barb West will play these songs  
as we take the bread and cup with a prayerful heart.

***“Come, You Disconsolate”*** (#502, blue)

Words ~ Romas Moore, 1816

Music ~ Samuel Webbe, Sr. 1792

Public Domain



***“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”*** (#101, blue)

Words ~ Latin 12<sup>th</sup> Century; translated by Ray Palmer

Music ~ Henry Baker, 1854

Public Domain

**Benediction ~ 1 Peter 1:22-23 (NET)**

“You have purified your souls  
by obeying the truth  
in order to show sincere mutual love.  
So love one another earnestly  
from a pure heart.  
<sup>23</sup> You have been born anew,  
not from perishable  
but from imperishable seed,  
through the living and enduring  
word of God.”