



## St John the Evangelist

Scottish Episcopal Church, Jedburgh  
A community of welcome in the Borders

9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany



10.00

### COMMUNION FROM THE RESERVED SACRAMENT

Led by: *Paul Beck*

Hymn 345

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice

### PREPARATION

*(page 1, blue service book)*

Collect

O Lord, watch over your household with constant love: that, supported by you alone, we may always stand firm in your protection; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

*(page 4, blue service book)*

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1 – 11 *(p.188, pew Bible)*

Psalms 138 **Before the gods I will sing your praise, O Lord**

**Hymn 390** Jesus, where'er thy people meet

Gospel: Luke 5:1 – 11

Sermon, Creed, Intercessions, Peace *(pages 4 – 6)*

**Hymn 353** Dear Lord and Father of mankind

## THANKSGIVING PRAYER AND COMMUNION

*(turn to the blue RS leaflet, page 2)*

**At Communion:** *there is hand gel on the way to the altar rail for those who wish to handle the chalice themselves. Please do not intinct (dip your wafer in the wine).*

Prayer after *We use prayer (c):*

Communion **“Loving God ...”**

**Hymn 235** Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go

Dismissal

***We pray especially today for***

Grace Lancaster, Linda Grant, Elizabeth Bentley

***Dear Friends and People of God,***

The Bible is a book of beginnings. And some of the beginnings in the Bible are known as calling stories – stories about how somebody was called, was invited by God to do something new and different and unexpected and life-changing.

Like God's call of Isaiah which is our first reading today:

God asking, 'Whom shall I send, who will go for us?' and Isaiah's 'Here I am, send me.' leading to change, challenge and a new beginning as a prophet of the Lord.

So, too, today's Gospel story: Amid familiar waters and nets and fresh fish, rough planks and the lapping of the waves, in the midst of this familiarity, a beginning takes place.

First, Jesus borrows Simon and his boat to teach the crowds from his pulpit on the waters. Then, he tells them to put out their nets again though they had caught nothing in the night. Then, they need help from fellow fishermen to bring in a ginormous catch. 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.' Simon cries. 'Do not be afraid,' Jesus says, 'from now on you will be catching people.'

Like every other calling story in the Bible, this one is an adventure. According to G. K. Chesterton, 'An adventure is, by its nature, a thing that comes **to** us. It is a thing that *chooses us*, not a thing that **we** choose.' Other rabbis wait for disciples to come to them. This Rabbi Jesus goes out and finds his own.

And on the way, they have to leave behind old securities: the waterside, the boat, the nets, those days-in-days-out of fishing, and even old Zebedee, James and John's father. The new beginning requires this. Disciples must walk away into the future. They may be afraid, but not so afraid that their faith does not lead them forward. For Simon, James and John, this is their beginning.

In the same way, our discipleship means a new beginning, one that appears before us again and again. We are called, again and again, to experience the end of the familiar and comfortable, so that we may participate in a

new world. However strangely, however unjustifiably, Christ comes to us and chooses us, and sends us out to be the next new beginning in the world.

***With my love and prayers: Andi***

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Priest-in-Charge

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**Toilets** are available next door in St. John's Old School  
at the end of the downstairs corridor.  
Our welcomers have the key to the front door.

