

## Speak Out

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

### **Look**

Once in a while, we look around and we notice that something is awry. Maybe a well-defined project plan is starting to fall apart. Or, maybe someone you care about has started to make bad life choices.

1. How do you feel when you notice that something is out of sorts?
2. Is it your instinct to draw attention to the issue – to tell people about it? Or, are you more likely to wait for someone else to mention it? Why?

### **Book 1 Samuel 3:1-20**

God reveals to Samuel that things are not going so well in Eli's family and that God wants him to expose the problems. Naturally, Samuel was a little reluctant to tell Eli, who had raised him since he was a child. But, Eli, being a prophet, knew that he needed to hear God's word, even if it wasn't going to be comfortable for him.

1. How does Samuel know that what he is hearing is from God?
2. Did knowing that he was hearing God's voice make it any easier for Samuel to speak the truth?
3. How do we know that the voice we are hearing is from God? How might we discern God's voice from the other noise in our life?

### **Took**

During Samuel's life, the word of the Lord was rare – God had not been speaking much. In the chaos of our world, in the conflict that we are experiencing in our country, sometimes it can feel like the word of the Lord is rare. But, God is always speaking.

1. Who do you hear speaking the truth of God into your life or into the world today?
2. Is there a place where you feel called to speak God's truth into the world, or into the life of someone you love? Have you done so? Are you waiting?