



Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church

Mooreville, North Carolina
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MEDITATION AND PRAYER

*The Lord gives both death and life;
he brings some down to the grave
but raises others up.*

*The Lord makes some poor and others rich
he brings some down and lifts others up.*

*He lifts the poor from the dust
and the needy from the garbage dump.*

*He sets them among princes,
placing them in seats of honor.*

*For all the earth is the Lord's,
and he has set the world in order.*

—1 Samuel 2:6-8

How easy it would have been for Hannah to use the birth of her son Samuel as an occasion for pride. She could have easily felt vengeful and triumphant over her rival, Peninnah. Hannah had not only a son, but also the love of the husband they shared. Plagued for years by Peninnah, Hannah could have spewed back sharp words. Instead of doing this, she offered her praise and thanks to God for answering her prayer for a son, for lifting her up out of her despair. When faced with a troubling or difficult situation do you find yourself embittered? Or are you inclined to prayer? Are you tempted to lash out in biting words? Remember Hannah's prayer and example before you do. Speak to God instead.

Prayer for the week: *Dear Lord, I praise you for honoring and lifting me up*

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