

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The First of Many
January 18 & 19, 2025

AS WE GATHER

The miracle of water turned into wine is a surprising one. It is marked by the fact that this is the choicest of wines, that the sheer amount of wine was embarrassingly extravagant, and that the full benefit of seeing this miracle was limited to the servants who did what Jesus said, Mary, and the disciples who were with Jesus. It is the mark of what is to come. Jesus' whole ministry is one of goodness beyond compare, of extravagant mercy beyond what we deserve or even dare ask, and of grace hidden in ordinary things like words, water, bread, and wine. This is then a precursor of what is to come, the first of many manifestations of His mercy and the rich and overflowing provision of His grace to supply salvation to a world that otherwise knows no joy.

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

For all the promises of God find their Yes in him (Christ Jesus).
That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen
to God for his glory. 2 Corinthians 1:20

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN #691 "Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing"

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing, May we ripen and increase,
Fruit to life eternal growing, Rich in love and joy and peace.

Laden branches freely bearing Gifts the Giver loves to bless;
Here is fruit that grows by sharing, Patience, kindness, gentleness.

1 continued

Rooted deep in Christ our Master, Christ our pattern and our goal,
Teach us, as the years fly faster, Goodness, faith, and self control.

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's tending, May we grow till harvests cease;
Till we taste, in life unending, Heaven's love and joy and peace.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Great is His steadfast love toward us,

People: and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Pastor: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

People: The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Pastor: Bidden by His steadfast love, let us take refuge in the mercy of God,
confessing our sins and rejoicing in His gift of forgiveness through Jesus
Christ, our Lord.

Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

2

HYMN OF PRAISE

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of your people and grant us your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen

(Be seated)

5:00 BAPTISM SONG #593 "See This Wonder in the Making"

See this wonder in the making: God Himself this child is taking
As a lamb safe in His keeping, His to be, awake or sleeping.

Miracle each time it happens As the door to heaven opens
And the Father beams, "Beloved, Heir of gifts a king would covet!"

3 continued

Far more tender than a mother, Far more caring than a father,
God, into Your arms we place them, With Your love and peace embrace them.

Here we bring a child of nature; Home we take a newborn creature,
Now God's precious son or daughter, Born again by Word and water.

5:00 BAPTISM of Lydia Lee Thorgaard

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10:30 CONSECRATION OF NEW SPONSORS for Micah Renae Baars

WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 62:1–5* ("As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.") For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 12:1–11* (The Spirit bestows many gifts but for one purpose—that God may be glorified and His church edified.) Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

4 continued

⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

5:00 ANTHEM

“The Day Thou Gavest”

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 2:1–11* (The first miracle of Jesus at Cana of Galilee, where He turned water into wine.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. ³ When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. ⁹ When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“Jesus Loves the Little Children”

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in His sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus cares for all the children, all the children of the world,
Ev’ry child in ev’ry land, Jesus holds them in His hand.
Jesus cares for all the children of the world.

SERMON HYMN #408 “Come, Join in Cana’s Feast”

Come, join in Cana’s feast Where Christ is honored guest.
He welcomes all who come to taste The wine His hands have blessed.

The old wine now is gone From jars that stand apart.
No longer can it satisfy The yearning, thirsting heart.

But Christ, The Word made flesh, Bids water turn to wine.
He fills our empty cups again With grace and truth divine.

Come, friends, and share the feast; Here drink the wine supplied
By Him who is both guest and host – For us, the crucified.

(Rise) For now He lives and reigns Through all eternity
With Father, Spirit, Three in One, The glorious Trinity.

SERMON

(Rise)

OFFERTORY

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Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

8:00 & 10:30 NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come.

Amen.

(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, you manifested your glory in the sign at Cana. As you restored creation through the shedding of Christ's blood, pour out your grace in abundance. Give us joy and gladness in the revelation of your truth in the person of your Son. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O God, you gather your Church and bring her to your banquet, both now in your Word and Sacraments and in the eternal wedding feast to come. Spread the banner of Christ's steadfast love over the doors of every congregation, that the preaching of His righteousness may be constant and that patient love may mark our lives also. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord of glory, you blessed the wedding at Cana with your presence and honored it with your first miracle. Strengthen and give your gladness to all married couples and their families. Be present in our homes and lives with your free and abundant forgiveness, and preserve us in the true faith from each generation to the next. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Forgiving Lord, you have taken the sins of the world away. Thank you for baptizing Lydia Lee Thorgaard; washing away all of her sins and making her your child. Be with Matt and Amy as they lead and guide her to know and serve you better every day. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, uphold our nation. Bless every effort to maintain peace and promote justice. Watch over and guide all military personnel. Thwart every effort to destroy life unnecessarily, and permit righteousness and goodness to flourish in our land. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, your Son showed divine compassion even for a groom who ran out of wine. By your Spirit, give us compassionate hearts to notice the needs of others. Be with Tanner Johnson as he mourns the passing of his father Dean. Support especially Sharon, John, Debbie, Bob, Judy, Jerry, Carole, Wendy, June, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Dick, Michael, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Marlene, Dorothy, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Cathy, Shirley and Sarah. Comfort also the lonely, the depressed, the mentally ill and any who feel abandoned. Let them know you and your Son, who rejoices over them as a bridegroom over his bride. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord of glory, as you manifested yourself by the sign at Cana, changing water into wine, so manifest yourself to us here, making bread and wine your very body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, and making us fit partakers in repentance and faith. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you that of your grace you have instituted holy matrimony, in which you keep us from unchastity and other offenses. We implore you, send your blessing on every husband and wife. Do not let them provoke one another to anger and strife, but let them live peaceably together in love and godliness. Strengthen them with your gracious help in all temptations, and help them to rear their children in accordance with your will. Grant us all to walk before you in purity and holiness, putting our trust in You and leading such lives on earth that, in the world to come, we may have everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world you have made known to the nations in your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, you have manifested the fullness of your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS

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Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

8:00 & 10:30 THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #394 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to Thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine, All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear, All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed, God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Present in Thy holy Word
Grace to imitate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest, God in man made manifest.

HYMN #395 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
Aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's race, King David's son, Our Lord and master, You have won
Our hearts to serve You only!
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious,
Rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!
Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine,
And deep within our hearts now shine;
There light a flame undying!
In Your one body let us be As living branches of a tree,
Your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily Earth's deep sadness May perplex us
And distress us, Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.

Lord, when You look on us in love,
At once there falls from God above
A ray of purest pleasure. Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.
You are our dearest treasure!
Let Your mercy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!
For you teach us God's own love through You has reached us.

Almighty Father, in Your Son You loved us when not yet begun
Was this old earth's foundation!
Your Son has ransomed us in love To live in Him here and above:
This is Your great salvation.
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving Life forever,
Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way –Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation!
Tell the story! Great is He, the King of Glory!

What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace, Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness!
We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

HYMN #409 "Hail, O Source of Every Blessing"

Hail, O Source of ev'ry blessing, Father of our human race!
Gentiles now, Your grace possessing, In Your courts obtain a place.
Grateful now, we fall before You, In Your Church rejoice to live,
See Your glory and adore You, Thankful for the grace You give.

Once far off but now invited, We approach Your sacred throne,
In Your covenant united, Reconciled, redeemed, made one.
Now revealed to eastern sages, See the Star of Mercy shine,
Myst'ry hid in former ages, Myst'ry great of love divine.

Hail, O all inviting Savior! Gentiles now their off'rings bring,
In Your temples seek Your favor, Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.
May we, body, soul, and spirit, Live devoted to Your praise,
Glorious realms of bliss inherit, Grateful anthems ever raise.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

People: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN #862 "Oh, Blest the House"

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall, Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly His--How sad and poor and dark it is!

Oh, blest that house where faith is found And all in hope and love abound;
They trust their God and serve Him still And do in all His holy will!

Oh, blest the parents who give heed Unto their children's foremost need
And weary not of care or cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!

Oh, blest that house; it prospers well. In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lives is shown How richly God can bless His own.

Then here will I and mine today A solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake His Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Organist

Pastor Josh Grotelueschen
Pastor Harold Bender
Elisabeth Matusewic, Grant Gundersen, Debbie Nier
Deaconess Carole Kling