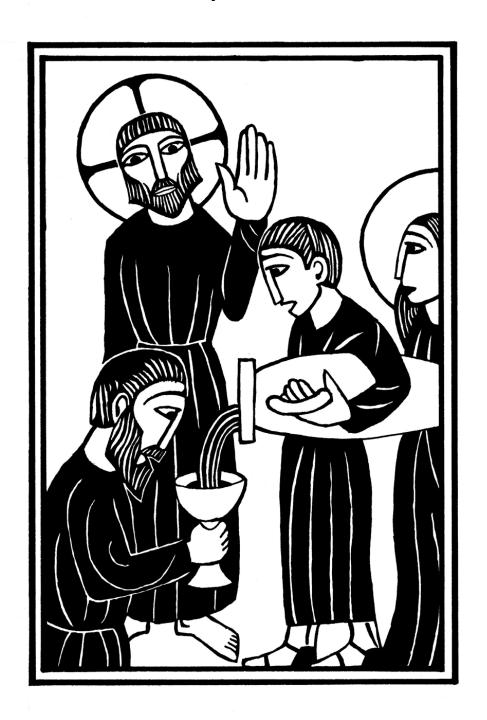
THE 2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY January 16th, 2022



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1 Church: 905-685-8294 Fax 905-685-7661

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon

Bulletin Announcements: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca.

Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor:Pastor Todd Hoeffs(289-362-0113)pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.comParish Assistant:Louise Gondosch(905-329-8579)parish.assistant@christlutheransc.caBusiness Manager:Karen McCumberbusiness.manager@christlutheransc.ca

Secretary: Pat Kimpel secretary@christlutheransc.ca

<u>Prayer</u>: Almighty and eternal God, Governor of all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people, and grant us your peace in our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

<u>Children's Message</u>: Psalms 35: https://youtu.be/n88m75iH4iU

Organist: Mayumi Munoz

Readers: 9 a.m. — Daniel Figuroa; 11 a.m. – Fran Porteous

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Mark 2: 18-22 Wed.: Matt. 19: 3-9 Friday: John 1: 15-18 Tuesday: Mark 3: 1-6 Saturday: Acts 7: 35-40; 51-53

WORSHIP NOTE:

- A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube "Gathering the Scattered" at: (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3a4p6prdJGEyP5S-q-cNSg).
- A PDF version of the order of service for each Sunday will also be posted on our church website: christlutheransc.ca.
- Archived videos of Sunday's service will be uploaded to christlutheransc.ca "Worship" page. Any questions or concerns, please check out our church website (http://christlutheransc.ca/, contact Judy Slingerland (chairman.worship@christlutheransc.ca) or Pastor Todd (pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com). or phone the church office. May the peace of the risen Lord be with you all.

BAPTISM - 9 A.M. SERVICE: We are pleased to welcome into God's family by Holy Baptism **Lily Hope Radunsky**, infant daughter of James and Ashley Radunsky. Lily's sponsors are: Grace Radunsky and Noah Radunsky. May God bless Lily with a lifetime of rich blessings and protection.

SUNDAY SCHOOL resumes this morning, January 16th at 10 a.m. COVID protocols will be observed.

BIBLE STUDY: For all ages resumes today, January 16th, 10 AM - 10:45 AM will be looking at our faith and how we witness, share, care and live as God's beloved in our communities in our challenging times which also bring many opportunities. Please join us in the church basement. Materials are provided. COVID protocols will be observed.

CONFIRMATION will resume closer to March 2022.

<u>WOMEN'S ZOOM BIBLE STUDY</u>: Friday, January 21st at 7:00 p.m. Please connect with Louise if you would like to receive a ZOOM invite.

YOUTH BREAK: Friday, January 28th at 6:30 pm at the Gondosch's

"Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest". We all need times of rest and refreshment. Youth & Confirmand's are invited to join us for "Freezing with Friends." Put on your parka, hot paws, toque and thermals for a night of Chilly Charades, Chips, Hot Cocoa and hopefully even roasting your own S'mores. Be sure to dress warmly! RSVP Louise 905-329-8579

<u>INTRODUCING RIGHT-NOW MEDIA'S</u> first live-action kids' show: "*The Creators*!" This light-hearted series tells the story of a group of friends on a mission to create movies with meaning. This original, six-episode kids' show encourages viewers to work together, dream big, and honour God. A new episode releases every Tuesday so add this series to your My Saved list and check back each week!

May Jesus' light shine on you and renew your spirit in 2022!

LWMLC/MARY MARTHA SOCIETY is pleased to invite all the women of the congregation to any or all of the following evenings. We look forward to the time when health and safety protocols will not be necessary, however, until that time, any public health Covid protocols will be in place for all of our meetings. The following is our program (subject to changes) until June:

Jan. 18th: 7 pm: - While we would rather meet in person, we will meet virtually on Zoom.

-Devotion, Distribution of funds from our bazaar.

-We will send an invitation to attend by email.

Feb. 15th: 7 pm: - Bible Study with Pastor Hoeffs

March 15th: 7 pm: - Speaker

April 19th: 7 pm: - Quilt Tying/Stamp Trimming

May 17th: 7 pm: - Bible Study

June 22nd: 5:30 pm - End of season Social and Dinner

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Is. 40:31

To confirm your interest to attend, please call or email Lorraine or Carole

<u>LWML-Canada, Ontario District, Niagara Zone</u>, is hosting our District Convention in St. Catharines at Grace Lutheran Church (accommodation at Niagara College) on **June 9 to 11th, 2022**. More details will follow. If at all possible, please plan to attend. It is a wonderful time to get to know and renew friendships with our sisters in Christ from around the province! It is a time to focus on "**Joy, Patience, Prayer**" which is the theme of the Convention. (Romans 12:12)

Our Seminary Student Eduardo Farias and his wife Daniella will be our wonderful entertainment for Friday evening!

LUTHERAN CHURCH - CANADA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:

Lutheran Young people from across Canada will be gathering together this **July 15-19**, **2022 in Winnipeg**, **Manitoba**. The theme for the gathering is **"IN NOT OF"** from Philippians 3:20 "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ." Information packages are available from Louise. Save the date, check out the website at http://www.lccnyg.ca, start following the Facebook and Instagram pages and check out this fun announcement from Pastor Glenn

Worcester https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68gXVYofMYY

Last Sunday Attendance: Jan. 9th, 2021 Attn: 9 A.M 35 ; 11 A.M 40 Total: 75					
<u>Budge</u>	t Weekly Need	Last Sunday	Year To Date	<u>+ or – ()</u>	
Current:		2,306.00	8,904.84		
LCC Missions		174.00	610.50		
Property Improvement:		44.00	134.50-		

2022 DONATION ENVELOPES are available for pick up in your mailbox. If you don't have a mailbox, please check the table at the entrance to the sanctuary. If you have not been issued envelopes and would like some, or, you would like to be assigned a mailbox, please contact Karen at: business.manager@christlutheransc.ca or the office at 905-685-8294.

EXTRA HANDS & BODIES NEEDED: With COVID-19 still a concern, and now the Omicron virus, we will continually need extra people assisting in our services. With offering both 9 am and 11 am services, we are finding ourselves short staffed for volunteers. Particularly for the late service, we need your help in the following areas:

- 1) Greeting of worshippers at entrance and Covid Protocol [highlighting names on attendance sheet and sanitizing]
- 2) Preparation of our PowerPoint worship services [editing the Google Doc Slides, can be done at home]
- 3) Operation of the PowerPoint during church services [training with written instruction will be provided]
- 4) Taking a turn preparing the Altar for Communion and seasonal colour cloth changes [Altar Guild]
- 5) Ushering people to pew seats and directing people to line up for communion
- 6) Lighting and extinguishing of altar candles
- 7) Recording services using newly installed equipment [training with written instructions will be provided]

We pray that you consider helping. We need participation from all ages. Should you wish more information about what is involved, please speak to Judy Slingerland, Tom Kuhl or Pastor Todd.

<u>SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH DURING THE PANDEMIC</u>: It's important for members to keep in mind that expenses for payroll, utilities, maintenance, etc. continue to accumulate even when you are not comfortable attending service.

1. THROUGH EFT DONATIONS: Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation continues to facilitate this service for us. To assist you in continuing your financial support to your church, we encourage you to fill out the form that is available for printing at: http://christlutheransc.ca/?page_id=96 and then mail the form along with a voided cheque to: Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation,

275 Lawrence Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 1Y3, Attn: Darryl Holland

2. BY MAIL: cheques can still be mailed to:

Christ Lutheran Church, 140 Russell Ave. St. Catharines, ON L2R 1W1 or dropped in the Church mailbox at the East entrance.

3. ONLINE VIA LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA: Lutheran Church-Canada has opened a web portal that allows parishioners to donate directly to their home church: https://lutheranchurch-canada.tng-secure.com/?pageld=donation-edit&categoryId=10972

select "St. Catharines-Christ Lutheran-30950" from the drop down menu, enter the amount of your donations and LCC will transfer your donation to Christ. Donation is via VISA or Mastercard. Tax receipts will be issued by LCC (not Christ). This opportunity will be in effect until the COVID-19 emergency is over.

SCRIPTURE & SONGS

THE 2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 16, 2022 + 9 AM Contemporary Worship

GATHERING

BEGINNING SONG:

"Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so Little ones to Him belong, they are weak, but He is strong; Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, see His grace, on the cross He took my place;
There He suffered and He died, that I may be glorified:
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, He is here: He is with His church so dear.
And the Spirit He has sent, by His Word and Sacrament.
Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Anna Warner, 1859 alt Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary, 1996 @ Mankato, MN public domain

WE BEGIN IN GOD'S NAME

In the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

I was glad when they said to me,

Let us go to the House of the Lord!

Unless the Lord builds the House,

In vain do the builders labour.

Surely the Lord is in this place.

This is the House of God, this is the Gate of Heaven!

You are gracious and merciful, O God,

Slow to anger, rich in love.

Receive our prayers and worship as You have promised

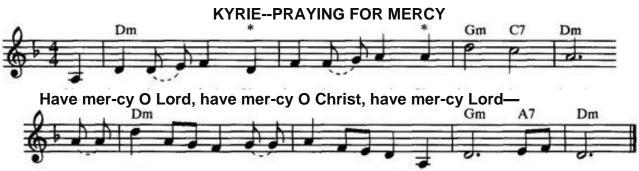
And uphold us by Your Spirit,

Until all things, mended by Your mercy,

Are made whole and well in You,

Through Jesus Christ

Our healer and our hope. Amen.



Give peace, we pray, give peace, to-day, my Lord--; my Lord--.

[tune: Israeli - SHALOM]

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS:

To You, O Lord God,

All hearts are open, to You all desires are fully known. We come to You, moved by Your Word and Spirit, as sinners, confessing our sins. Forgive us in Your mercy. Remember us in Your love. Show us Your way, teach us Your path, lead us in truth and faithfulness, for the sake of our neighbour and for Your sake, O Lord God, in the hope of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

By water, Word and Spirit, our God gives you new birth and through the death and resurrection of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in His name and in His stead, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

When the Son sets you free, you are free indeed!

Praise be to God!

GLORY TO GOD

"Shout To The Lord"

My Jesus, my Saviour Lord there is none like You All of my days I want to praise The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort, my shelter Tower of refuge and strength Let every breath all that I am Never cease to worship You

Chorus:

Shout to the Lord All the earth let us sing Power and majesty
Praise to the King
Mountains bow down
And the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy
At the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You
Forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise
I have in You.

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GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Hear my prayer O Lord,

Listen to my call for help.

We pray: Gracious and Generous Father, we thank You for all the good gifts You lavishly pour out on us through the work of Your dear Son. Teach us to enjoy all that You have given us to the full, and bring us at last to feast with you in eternal joy at the Wedding Supper of Jesus Christ, in Whose name we pray, Who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE:

The Old Testament: Exodus 33: 12-23

Moses said to the Lord, 'See, you have said to me, "Bring up this people"; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, "I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight." Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.' He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' And he said to him, 'If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.'

The Lord said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The Lord"; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But', he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.' And the Lord continued, 'See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.' This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

[St. Paul writes:] Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SUNG GOSPEL VERSE: "Halle, Halle, Halle"

[Caribbean melody]

Halle, halle, halle--lujah. Halle, halle, halle--lujah. Halle, halle, halle--lujah. Hallelu-jah, hal-lelu-jah.

The Holy Gospel: St. John 2: 1-11

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 2nd chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our king: Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now His praises we sing

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our king: One with His rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now His praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our king: Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now His praises we sing.

Words: Michael Saward (1932-); © by Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission. http://www.oremus.org/hymnal/b/b001.html

+ Baptism of Lily Hope Radunsky +

Parents: James and Ashley Radunsky Sponsors: Grace Radunsky and Noah Radunsky

ORDER OF HOLY BAPTISM

The Lutheran Church of Australia Worship Resources

SCRIPTURAL COMMAND:

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to keep everything I have entrusted to you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Through baptism God graciously forgives us our sins and unites us with our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we share in His death and resurrection.

GOSPEL ADDRESS:

As people brought children to Jesus that He might touch them, the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this He was extremely angry. He said: Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth; unless you receive the Kingdom of God like a little child you shall never enter it.

PRESENTATION:

Who brings this child for holy baptism? **I/we do** How is this child named? (Name is spoken)

ADMONITION:

Since you as parents and sponsors have brought (Name) to be baptized, you are responsible for his/her upbringing in the Lutheran Church. Remember him/her in your prayers. Bring him/her to the services in God's House and teach him/her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments. Remind him/her of her baptism, set him/her a good example, and provide for his/her instruction in the faith that he/she may join you and all believers around the Lord's Table to feast on Jesus' Body and Blood. Do you intend to joyfully do this?

Yes, I/we do.

MARKING OF THE CROSS

(Name), receive the sign of the holy cross †, upon your forehead and upon your heart, to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

THE LORD'SPRAYER:

Let us ask the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ on (Name) and pray together the prayer He has taught us:

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.

PUBLIC CONFESSION OF THE FAITH:

I ask you now to publicly speak your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

Yes, I do renounce them.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord?

Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the + life everlasting. Amen.

BAPTISM:

(Name), I baptize you in the name of the Father † and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit †. Amen. May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has given you the new birth by water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His Spirit, so that you receive eternal life. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF CANDLE:

Receive this burning light. Live always by the Light of Christ and be ever watchful for His coming that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which has no end. Let your light so shine before others, that they see your good works and glorify Your Father Who is in Heaven.

PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, we join with (Name's) parents in thanking you for giving them this child and for adopting him/her as Your own child in holy baptism. Strengthen him/her faith by Your Holy Spirit, so that his/her sinful self may die each day and he/she may rise to new life with Christ forever. As You have written his/her name in the book of life and have made him/her a member of the body of Your Son, guide him/her, so that, with all Your saints, he/she may one day abide in Your Heavenly Home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF BAPTIZED:

Through Baptism, God has added this new brother/sister a member of the Priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and show forth His creative and redeeming Word to all the world:

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same Heavenly Father, and workers with us in His Kingdom.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

 Water You turned into wine Opened the eyes of the blind There's no one like you None like you

2. Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's No one like you
None like you

Chorus: Our God is greater, our God is stronger

God You are higher than any other Our God is Healer, awesome in power

Our God, Our God

Bridge: And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?

And if our God is with us, then what can stand against? And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us? And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?

What can stand against?

Chorus: Our God is greater, our God is stronger

God You are higher than any other Our God is Healer, awesome in power

Our God, Our God

And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us? And if our God is with us, then what can stand against? And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us? And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?

What can stand against?

MESSAGE

PRAYERS

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the Holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who labour, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

We pray especially for all who are hurting [specific petitions offered now...]: let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Blessed Lord God, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Help us so that we may hear, read, mark, learn and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, Who lives and reigns with You, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE BLESSING:

Jesus is the great Shepherd of the sheep. May you hear His voice and keep His Word.

Amen, thanks be to God.

Jesus is the Pathway that leads to life. May You follow in His narrow way.

Amen, praise be to God.

Jesus is the Vine and we are the branches. May you be rooted and grounded in His Word and love.

Amen. Glory to our God.

May the Almighty God, the Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, bless and keep you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

"Jesus, Name Above All Names"

Jesus, name above all names. Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord---, E-mman-uel, God is with us, Bless-ed Re-deemer, Liv-ing Word.

Jesus, Lord God almighty, Wonderful Counselor, Light of the world---, the Prince of Peace, Vine of the Branches, bright morning Star, and --Bread of the world.

Jesus, name above all names, loving Shepherd, Healer of ev-ry ill— The Lamb of God, Liv-ing water, merciful Saviour, my Rock and my Hope.

© 1974, 1978 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing. CCLI # 21291Naida Hearn https://digitalsongsandhymns.com/son

LSB DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE

The 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany January 16, 2022 + *11 AM Traditional Worship*

OPENING HYMN:

"Songs Of Thankfulness"

LSB # 394 VS. 1, 2 & 4

- 1. Songs of thankfulness and praise Jesus, Lord, to you we raise, Manifested by the star to the sages from afar, branch of royal David's stem, in your birth at Bethlehem: anthems be to you addressed, God in Flesh made manifest.
- 2. Manifest at Jordan's stream
 Prophet, Priest and King supreme,
 and at Cana, wedding guest,
 in your Godhead manifest,
 Manifest in pow'r divine,
 changing water into wine:
 anthems be to you addressed,
 God in Flesh made manifest.
- 4. Grant us grace to see You, Lord, mirrored in Your holy Word; may we imitate You now, and be pure, as pure You are; that like You, we all may be at Your great Epiphany; and may praise You, ever blest, God in Flesh made manifest.

Christopher Wordsworth (1862) Public domain

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Brief silence for reflection]

Let us then confess our sin to God our Father:

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 neighbours 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.

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

Amen.

SPOKEN KYRIE:

O Lord.

have mercy on us;

O Christ,

have mercy on us;

O Lord, have mercy on us and grant us peace. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the holy one,
you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the holy one,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY: [Spoken]

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Let us pray: Gracious and Generous Father, we thank You for all the good gifts You lavishly pour out on us through the work of Your dear Son. Teach us to enjoy all that You have given us to the full, and bring us at last to feast with you in eternal joy at the Wedding Supper of Jesus Christ, in Whose name we pray, Who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Old Testament: Exodus 33: 12-23

Moses said to the Lord, 'See, you have said to me, "Bring up this people"; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, "I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight." Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.' He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' And he said to him, 'If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.' The Lord said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The Lord"; and I will be gracious

to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But', he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.' And the Lord continued, 'See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.' This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

[St. Paul writes:] Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. This is the Word of the Lord.

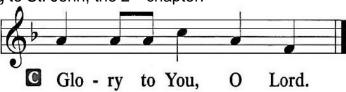
Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA [Sung]

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel: St. John 2: 1-11

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 2nd chapter:



On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Come, Join In Cana's Feast"

LSB #408

- 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.
- 3. But Christ, the Word made flesh,
 Bids water turn to wine.
 He fills our empty cups again
 With grace and truth divine.
- 5. For now He lives and reigns
 Through all eternity
 With Father, Spirit, Three in One,
 The glorious Trinity.

Herman Stumpfle Jr, (c) 1993 Hope publishers

MESSAGE

THE PRAYERS:

RESPONSIVE PETITIONS:

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy.

For the Holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who labour, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

We pray especially for all who are hurting ...[specific petitions offered now...]: let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord. Have mercy.

Blessed Lord God, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Help us so that we may hear, read, mark, learn and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, Who lives and reigns with You, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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 is not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord upon you with favour, + and give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

"Jesus Come! As You Have Promised" LSB Tune 793 "Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven"

- 1. Jesus, come! As You have promised, Guest and Master, Friend and Lord; now, as once at Cana's wedding, speak, and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or doubting, hope be born and joy restored.
- 3. Jesus, come in new creation, heaven brought near in power divine; give your unexpected glory changing water into wine: rouse the faith of your disciples come, our first and greatest sign!
- 4. Jesus, come! Surprise our dullness, make us willing to receive more than we can yet imagine, all the best you have to give: let us find your hidden riches, taste your love, believe, and live!

Christopher Idle from John 2 © Christopher Idle/Jubilate Hymns Ltd 8 7 8 7 8 7 Trochaic https://www.jubilate.co.uk/songs/jesus_come_for_we_invite_you

REV. TODD HOEFFS EPIPHANY 2

Scripture: John 2:1-11

"Cheers to the best winemaker Jesus"

January 16, 2022

The message today for Epiphany 2 is from John's Gospel chapter 2:

'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

When we enjoy a good drink, sometimes with alcohol, we raise our glass, Say a few nice words, clink the glass -- cheers! Wishing for a good time and good health. Like at weddings. What a time to celebrate! A pastor was on his way home from a wedding reception. A police officer stops him and asks, "been drinking, pastor?" "Just water, officer." "Then why do I smell wine?" "Good Lord, HE'S done it again!" Usually, we find Jesus at sickbeds healing or on hillsides teaching. John records Jesus, His mother and some disciples invited to a community wedding. In Cana. In Galilee. A northern region of Israel. We know it's the Jewish part of Galilee Because of the 6 stone water pots for ritual washing. Supposedly, at least 4 other places exist in that region sharing the same Cana name. [Like looking at a map and referring to the 'Niagara Region'. Is it in the US, the Falls, NOTL – oh, the one with wine – ah, we know that one!' Same reasoning here...]

This Cana Wedding shows us how celebrating a wedding is important to Jesus. Jesus had some kind of social life. We often forget that kind of thing. He didn't spend his time constantly in "prayer meetings and preaching sessions." He wasn't some austere religious monk who abstained from human pleasure or fun. In fact, that was one of the things about him which got Him into trouble with the religious legalists of his day. They gossiped about Him: "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of...sinners" (Matt.11:19)! The fact that Jesus was at a party tells us a lot about Him and our Almighty God. He cares about human joy and happy life events. Turning water into wine is a tremendous gift at the somewhat inappropriate request from His mother! It's not a miracle, it's a SIGN. That's an important distinction. Sign here has meaning like the signs we have in our world.

Just as traffic signs and store signs warn us and alert our attention. The sign here tells everyone this Rabbi Jesus is GOD'S ACTIVE PRESENCE at the wedding. [God's unique presence at Hospital ICU or with a dying shut-in.] God used signs for explaining great divine events like the parting of the Red Sea. This sign at a wedding shows how Jesus' glory and power can be seen and welcomed! This isn't a healing miracle to serve an acute need. Jesus turned the water into wine to show us Who He is and what He's here to do. He is the long-awaited Messiah and Saviour giving of Himself for our good. Prophet Isaiah, for instance, wrote that the Messiah's great arrival would involve a wonderful party: ...the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a banquet style feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines...-Isaiah 25:6

New Wine signals Jesus makes all things new. It means He is very gracious. When His mom tells him, "They have no wine," and that He'll do something, He's gracious in fix it, even though its not the best time. His hour is a long way off. Not the hour of starting ministry elsewhere. But the hour when Jesus is REALLY seen for WHO HE IS – at the hour of His suffering. When His own water and blood pour out And creates a new wine for all believers to enjoy. The best vintage to behold! But until then, Until Heaven becomes our home, And we all drink wine at the Heavenly Feast, Jesus fixes the earthly problem. Need signals Necessity. Jesus rescues the failed wedding party.

It would've been a social disaster. As He rescues our failed attempts at what we should or shouldn't do. He forgives all of our disasters, no matter the size or the frequency. Jesus' isn't above helping out, no job is too small, no prayer too insignificant. When the wine runs out, so does the joy of a wedding. Jesus restores joy. Wine gladdens the heart King David once wrote, So Jesus' wine re-ignites joy and life. Gladdening all of our hearts with grace. This wine is blessing and gift. Jesus doesn't just turn a glass of water into a glass of wine. He makes A LOT of wine. From 6 huge stone jars of washing water! A total of 150 gallons of wine (2:6)! And not only a huge amount, but the best wine (2:10). A big truth about Jesus is in those details. This is amazing abundance. Jesus gives good things and keeps on giving good things. That's what this hour and His hour on the cross will bring. Good gifts flow out to us through His priceless Blood. When it comes to Jesus, its over-the-top gracious, cup runneth over kind of giving. It's not "everything in moderation" to Him. The wedding party already drank lots of wine, now here's 150 gallons more! Clearly, there's no moderation in God's grace. He didn't shed His blood for the few, but the many. When it comes to the love of Jesus, We're given more than enough. And without any conditions. He never said, You've got to earn the good wine; He never told His mother, "you're a pest but I'll of course save the day"! he doesn't say, You know, you've been such good people, I'll replenish the wine—He just transforms and gives the best! These people probably didn't deserve more wine! No doubt they were tipsy already. But such is Jesus—freely giving to the undeserving. The Gospel is very radical. Its life-changing, making people forget what life was like before. We try to tame the Gospel because we still think it's up to us to make the change. We are skeptical of anything this good. We forget just how good and forgiving our God is. Seriously, John records a fairly common and rip-roaring wedding party where Jesus supplies more alcohol than necessary in order to show that He is over-the-top loving and giving and life-changing. God is no divine prophet of gloom; He's no rigid overlord. He's flamboyant with His forgiveness and endless in His 2nd chances. And so, Jesus' grace gives us cause for continued celebration despite what real challenges and trials life throws at us. God has wedded Himself to us and all people through Jesus Christ. We are joined, united with members of His Body forever. We need never waste our days working at being acceptable to God; We already ARE acceptable to God because Jesus has made us so. We are enough because Jesus gives enough. Jesus loves enough. Jesus makes us enough and more, marking us with His cross, sealing us with the Holy Spirit in Baptism. We are partnered with Jesus, Even when we're not so reliable, who always messes up, often unfaithful, but nonetheless sticks with us, whose love and mercy, like the wine at the wedding, never runs out. That is the generous, radical Gospel truth. In our lives, In our faces, hands and voices,

Jesus is seen for WHO He is. Caring, generous and welcoming.

True at Cana.

Even more true here.

Cheers.

Amen.