

God's Service Sunday, January 19, 2025

Second Sunday after Epiphany

ELW Holy Communion Setting Eight



WELCOME

Welcome to the Second Sunday after Epiphany., The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God’s glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan’s banks at Jesus’ baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God’s people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see. Let us prepare our hearts and minds for God's Service as we listen to our prelude.

PRELUDE “Prelude in F” by J. S. Bach

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water—
the Popo Agie, Wind and Sweetwater rivers,
the rain that nourishes animals and plants,
the water for drinking and bathing.
We praise you, O God, for water.
We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for our water stories—
a flood that cleansed the earth,
the sea that drowned the enemy,
a river that healed leprosy.
We praise you, O God, for water.
We praise you, O God, for water.

We remember the waters of Jesus—
baptized in the Jordan River,
calming the Sea of Galilee,
drinking from Jacob’s Well,
healing at the pool of Bethesda,
washing the disciples’ feet.
We praise you, O God, for water.
We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for this font,
for through this water
you have birthed us into the family of Christ,
bathed us in forgiveness,
and enlivened us in the Spirit.
We praise you, O God, for baptism.
We praise you, O God, for baptism.

O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.
O God, you are the River, saving us from death.
O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.
We praise you, O God, today, tomorrow, forever.
Amen, and amen. **Amen, and amen.**

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GATHERING SONG “All Are Welcome” (ELW 641)

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *Refrain*

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;

as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *Refrain*

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *Refrain*

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *Refrain*

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GREETING

Arise, shine, for your light has come. The Grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 185)

**Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,**

we worship you,

we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

**Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

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.

**Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**For 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. Amen. Amen.

**Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 188)

Let us pray.

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴ You 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.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 36:5-10

⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches ^l to the heavens,
and your faithfulness ^l to the clouds.

⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like ^l the great deep;
you save humankind and ani- ^l mals, O LORD. R**

⁷ How priceless is your ^l love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow ^l of your wings.

⁸ **They feast upon the abundance ^l of your house;
you give them drink from the river of ^l your delights.**

⁹ For with you is the ^l well of life,
and in your light ^l we see light.

¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to ^l those who know you,
and your favor to those who are ^l true of heart. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak.

³ 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.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ 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 discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Jesus revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. *Alleluia.* (John 2:11)

GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹ 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 ¹⁰ 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." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" (ELW 470)

- 1 Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Touch we now your garment's hem.

- 2 As disciples used to gather
in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver
break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
so now bind our friendship up.

3 All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will serve with faith anew.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. rouse us to recognition and action regarding our missing and murdered indigenous brothers and sisters and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need. We pray especially for Shirley, Anna, Kay, Carolyn, Cheryl, Gene, Darla, Jim, and these we name now in our hearts and with our voices...(pause for names to be spoken). Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for neighboring congregations and ministry sites. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints *especially Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, who we commemorate today*. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

PEACE (ELW p. 189)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE

Stepping into the light of Christ's epiphany the abundant gifts of our God are revealed. Responding in faith towards God and fervent love toward one another let us share this abundance through the church that as we participate and further God's mission in this often dark and hurting world Christ's light through us may shine.

If you have abundance to share, please raise your hand and an usher will be by to collect it.

OFFERING MUSIC "Draw Us In" arr. by Culli

SETTING OF THE TABLE "This Little Light of Mine" (ELW 677)

1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 190)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 190)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 190)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty and merciful,
your people praise you, saying:
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,
granting them life and calling them to flourish,
setting the sign of your bow in the clouds,
the colors of your love and faithfulness.

Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you bound yourself to your people of old,
blessing them with family outnumbering the stars
and calling them to be a blessing to others,
showing them steadfast love in every generation
and calling them to be a light to the nations.
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved,
grafting us into your living Vine,
and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember his life laid down and lifted up
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless us to be a blessing.
Make us a sign of your faithfulness.
Send us to tend and cherish the earth
and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With *loved ones past*, all the saints in light,
with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus,
in your Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All the baptized together are the body of Christ. Receive who you are; Become what you receive. Come to this table, you who are strong in faith and you who seek building up. You who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for some time. You who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come. The Lord bids you come and joyfully sets a place for you at the table. The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 191)

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 191)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC “King of Love” arr. by Barr

SONG AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 135)

Amen.

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared
in the sight of ev’ry people:
a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

O God, whose grace and truth are revealed in the Word-made-flesh, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick/homebound/imprisoned*. Nourish and strengthen those who receive this holy communion, that through the body and blood of your Son all may rejoice at his birth and in his presence among us now and forever.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

Amen.

SENDING SONG “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” (ELW 310)

- 1 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 flesh made manifest.

- 2 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 flesh made manifest.

- 3 Manifest in making whole
weakened body, 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 flesh made manifest.

- 4 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 flesh made manifest.

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Sunday, January 19, 2025

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

Conversion of Paul

Saturday, January 25, 2025

The week of prayer begun by the remembrance of Peter's confession now comes to an end as we recall the pivotal moment in the life of the other pillar of the early church, the apostle Paul. His encounter with the risen Christ turned him from persecutor of the followers of Christ to one of their leaders.

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