

Second Sunday after  
*Epiphany*



***Welcome to  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Child Development Center and Pre-School***  
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

January 19, 2025

# *The Gospel of John*

The New Wine of Grace

John 2:1-11



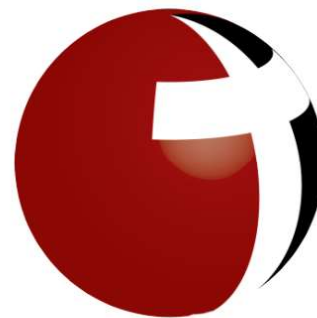
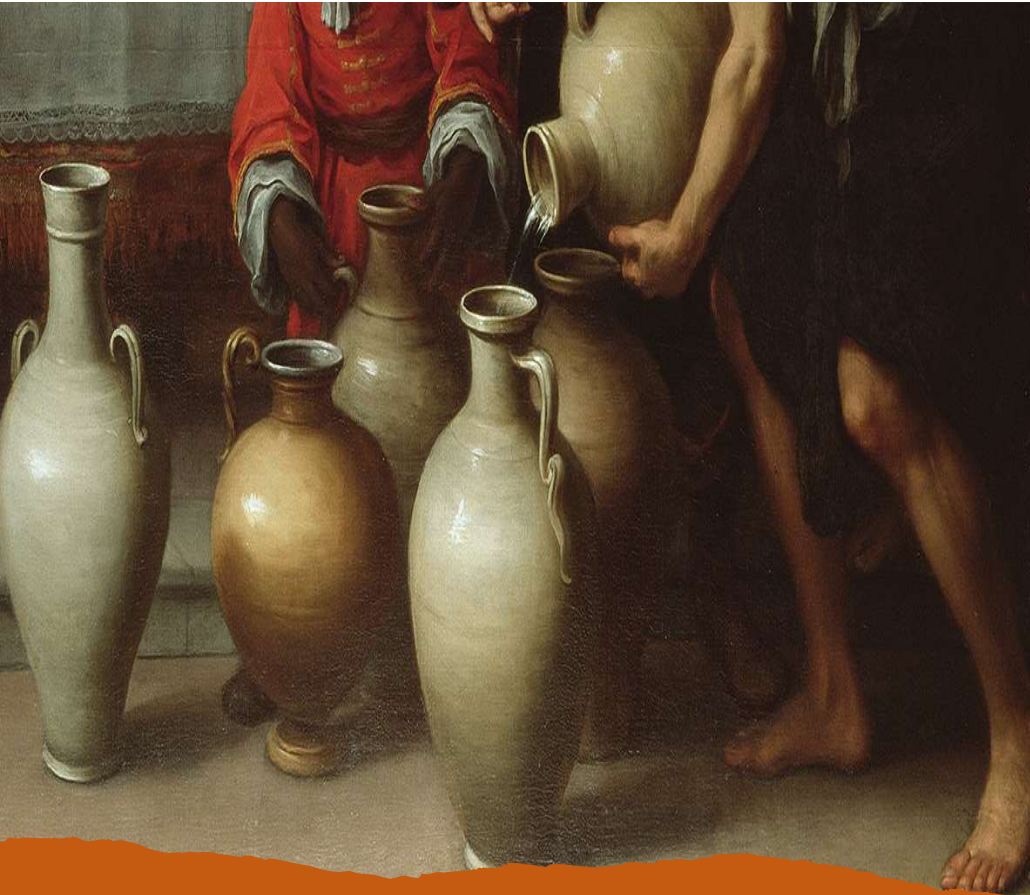
St. Paul  
Lutheran



Taylor, TX  
LCMC

***Welcome to  
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**lcmcm**  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

WELCOME  
WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US





No  
BRUNCH  
Today

Brunch will resume  
in February



**lcmc**  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

**EMERGENCY ALERT**

# **CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES**

**RUSH AID**

**[lwr.org/fires](http://lwr.org/fires)**

Give online at  
[lwr.org/fires](http://lwr.org/fires),

or Mail a  
check to

Lutheran  
World Relief,  
PO Box  
17061,  
Baltimore, MD  
21297-1061.

Write fires in  
the memo.



**UNTIL YOUR LOVE REACHES  
EVERY NEIGHBOR:**

*An introduction to LWR*

## **INTRODUCTION**

*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.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
our creator,  
our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the  
meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.



Merciful God,  
**you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice;  
we give in to scarcity and fear;  
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults  
and release us from their grasp.  
Show us your lovingkindness.  
Restore our hearts and repair your world,  
that we may live in Christ's ways.  
Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance:  
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name. You are mine."  
In + Christ, you are forgiven.  
In the Spirit, you are made free.  
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
live anew as beloved children of God.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Song**

**“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”**

**Hymn # 519**

**<sup>1</sup> Open your ears,  
O faithful people,  
open your ears and hear God's  
word.**

Hymn # 519



**Open your hearts,  
O royal priesthood,  
God has come to you.**

**[Refrain]**

**Hymn # 519**

**[Refrain]**  
***[Sung twice]***

**God has spoken to the people,  
hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of  
wisdom, hallelujah!**

Hymn # 519

**Final** They who have ears to  
hear the message,  
they who have ears, then let  
them hear.

Hymn # 519

**they who would learn the way  
of wisdom,  
let them hear God's word.  
[Refrain]**

Hymn # 519

**[Refrain]**  
***[Sung twice]***

**God has spoken to the people,  
hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of  
wisdom, hallelujah!**

Hymn # 519



The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **Kyrie**

*In peace, let us pray to the Lord*

***Lord, have mercy.***

*For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord*

***Lord, have mercy.***

*For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being  
of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us  
pray to the lord*

***Lord, have mercy.***

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their  
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy***

*Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord*  
***A-men.***

**THIS IS THE FEAST**

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.***

***Alleluia, alleluia***

*(sung twice)*



***Worthy is Christ,  
the Lamb who was slain  
whose blood set us free  
to be people of God***

***Power, riches, wisdom, and  
strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory  
are his***

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia***

*(sung twice)*

***Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all  
creation:***

***Blessing, honor, glory, and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever.  
Amen.***

***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia***

*(sung twice)*

***For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun his reign. Alleluia.***



***This is the feast of victory  
for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia***

*(sung twice)*

## **Prayer of the Day**

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**

### **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.*

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,

and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 36:5-10

*We feast upon the abundance of your house, O LORD. (Ps. 36:8)*

<sup>5</sup> Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,  
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

<sup>6</sup> **Your righteousness is like the strong  
mountains,  
your justice like the great deep;  
you save humankind and animals, O  
LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> How priceless is your love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

<sup>8</sup> **They feast upon the abundance of your house;  
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**



<sup>9</sup> For with you is the well of life,  
and in your light we see light.

<sup>10</sup> **Continue your lovingkindness to those  
who know you,  
and your favor to those who are true  
of heart.**

## **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.*

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

<sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

<sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

***Alleluia.***

***Lord, to who shall we go?***

***You have the words  
of eternal Life.***

***Alleluia.***

# GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John 2:1-11

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **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.*

<sup>1</sup>On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup>When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." <sup>6</sup>Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.



<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. <sup>9</sup> 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 <sup>10</sup> 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."

<sup>11</sup>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.**



CHILDREN'S  
SERMON

# **Sermon**

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley



**Hymn of the Day**

**“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”**

**Hymn # 310**

**1 Songs of thankfulness and  
praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar,**

Hymn # 310

**branch of royal David's stem  
in thy birth at Bethlehem:  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.**

Hymn # 310



**2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
prophet, priest, and king  
supreme;  
and at Cana wedding guest  
in your God-head manifest;**

Hymn # 310

**manifest in pow'r divine,  
changing water into wine;  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.**

Hymn # 310

**3 Manifest in making whole  
weakened body, fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;**

Hymn # 310

**manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill:  
anthems be to thee addressed,  
God in flesh made manifest.**

Hymn # 310

**Final Grant us grace to see thee,  
Lord,  
present in thy holy word;  
grace to imitate thee now  
and be pure, as pure art thou;**

Hymn # 310

**that we might become like thee  
at thy great epiphany,  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in flesh made manifest.**

Hymn # 310

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

## **CREED**

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the  
Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and  
the dead.**

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

# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

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. 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 grieving or those who are ill (especially). 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.**

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries; for Cheryl Kruckemeyer our missionary in Tanzania, for Derrick and La Dauna in the Home Office serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregations at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Brenham, Texas and Faith Community Lutheran Church in Longmont, Colorado. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of Truth, we thank you for your ongoing reformation activity in the church. Continue to lead your people to return to faithfulness. We pray for Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ and ask that you guide the missional leadership of our association staff ministers: Mike Bradley, Christian Huntley, and Julie Smith. We also celebrate and lift before you the ministry of First Lutheran in El Campo, Texas and their pastor, Clyde Grier. Bless their work for your Kingdom's sake.

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). 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**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

*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***

It is indeed right, our duty and our  
joy...

...we praise your name and join their  
unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are  
full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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.

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

# **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.**

# **COMMUNION**

*Holy Communion is offered both in the center aisle line and at the altar rail.*

## ***Lamb of God***

***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.***

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

## **SENDING**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you  
peace.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song**

**“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

**Hymn # 547**

**<sup>1</sup> Sent forth by God's blessing,  
our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling  
take leave.**

Hymn # 547

**The supper is ended. Oh, now be  
extended the fruits of this service in  
all who believe.**

Hymn # 547

**The seed of Christ's teaching,  
receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God  
and for all.**

Hymn # 547



**Your grace shall invite us, your  
love shall unite us  
to work for your kingdom and  
answer your call.**

Hymn # 547

**Final With praise and thanksgiving  
to God everliving,  
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will  
face -**

Hymn # 547

**our faith ever sharing,  
in love ever caring, embracing God's  
children, the whole human race.**

Hymn # 547

**With your feast you feed us,  
with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one in this life that we  
share.**

Hymn # 547

**Then may all the living  
with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ and his name  
that we bear.**

Hymn # 547

# DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

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