

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 15, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church
4101 Washington Street NE
Columbia Heights, MN 55421**

+ CONNECT +

OPENING MEDLEY:

“God Will Make a Way”

**God will make a way where there seems to be no way,
He works in ways we cannot see, He will make a way for me;
He will be my guide, hold me closely to His side,
With love and strength for each new day, He will make a way, He will make a way.**

**By a roadway in the wilderness He'll lead me,
And rivers in the desert will I see;
Heaven and earth will fade but his Word will still remain,
He will do something new today. *(Repeat first verse)***

**“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” – Blue Hymnal #88
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.**

**Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest In thy God-head manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh 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 flesh made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, Present in the 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.**

INVOCATION:

**L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the +
Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: Let's spend some time in confession to our loving God. Lord, we need a miracle today.

**C: Like Jesus changing water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana, we need a miracle today. We
are tired, Lord, of the hurts of this world. We are discouraged in the face of COVID-19, injustice,
war, poverty, and indifference.**

L: We need a miracle today, Lord.

**C: Your steadfast love, like a mighty mountain, will not be moved. Your gifts, as many as the
mighty winds, cannot be counted. Your glory, like a mighty torch, will not be put out. Lord**

forgive us and show us your mercy. Lord, crown us with your love, that in you we may be moved to acts of kindness, love, justice, and mercy. Lord, we need a miracle today. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

SONG OF PRAISE: "I'm Forever Grateful"

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "You did not wait for me to draw near to You, But You clothed Yourself with frail humanity. You did not wait for me to cry out to You, But You let me hear Your voice calling me. And I'm forever grateful to You, I'm forever grateful for the cross. I'm forever grateful to You that You came to seek and save the lost." The score ends with a double bar line.

You did not wait for me to draw near to You, But You
clothed Yourself with frail hu - man - i - ty. You
did not wait for me to cry out to You, But You
let me hear Your voice call - ing . me. And I'm for - ev - er
grate - ful to You, I'm for - ev - er grate - ful for the
cross. I'm for - ev - er grate - ful to You that You
came to seek and save the lost.

("I'm Forever Grateful" by Mark Altrogge, copyright 1986 People of Destiny International/Pleasant Hills Music, CCLI License #921494.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

C: Yes, we are forever grateful people, Lord. So God of all good gifts, we thank you and praise you. Your Spirit has touched our lives, bringing wisdom, ability, strength, courage, and passion. Enable us to use our gifts in service to you and to others. In all that we do, and in all that we are,

may your name be glorified, that your kingdom will be with us and reside here on this earth. We pray this in the name of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the LORD will take delight in you, and your land will be married. As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE LESSON: I Corinthians 12:1-11

Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter two.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

SONG OF THE DAY: "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.

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

(“Come, Join in Cana’s Feast”, text by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., copyright 1993 The Hymn Society; admin. Hope Publishing, OneLicense.Net #A-704112.)

MESSAGE: “Off to an Unusual Start” – Pastor Bill Hugo

CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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. 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.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: “When Christ’s Appearing Was Made Known” – Blue Hymnal #81
When Christ’s appearing was made known, King Herod trembled for his throne;
But he who offers heav’nly birth Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.

The eastern sages saw from far And followed on his guiding star;
By light their way to light they trod, And by their gifts confessed their God.

Within the Jordan’s sacred flood The heav’nly Lamb in meekness stood
That he, of whom no sin was known, Might cleanse his people from their own.

And oh, what miracle divine, When water reddened into wine!
He spoke the word, and forth it flowed. In streams that nature ne’er bestowed.

For this his glad epiphany All glory unto Jesus be,
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Ghost forevermore.

(“When Christ’s Appearing Was Made Known”, setting from the Cowley Carol Book, by permission of A.R. Mowbray & Co, Oxford, England, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book License, #100014518.)

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Lay Minister: Bob Nehring