

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19, 2025

10:15 am

Prelude

Announcements

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 Hymn: ELW #462 "Now We Join in Celebration"

1. **Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation, dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder; for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence, stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.**
2. **Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture! For this bread and cup of blessing are for us the sure possessing of your loving deed on Calv'ry, of your living self, our vict'ry, pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.**

3. Lord, we share in this communion as one family of God's children, reconciled through you, our brother, one in you with God our Father. Give us grace to live for others, serving all, both friends and strangers, seeing justice, love, and mercy till you come in final glory.

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

Prayer of the Day

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.

Readings and Psalm

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.

- 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.

Psalm: Psalm 36:5-10

- ⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**
- ⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

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

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

**¹⁰ 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.

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.

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.

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.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW #488 *Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness*

- 1. Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, leave the gloomy haunts of sadness, come into the daylight’s splendor, there with joy your praises render. Bless the one whose grace unbounded this amazing banquet founded; Christ, though heav’nly, high, and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.**
- 2. Hasten as a bride to meet him, eagerly and gladly greet him. There he stands already knocking; quickly, now, your gate unlocking, open wide the fast-closed portal, saying to the Lord immortal: “Come, and leave your loved one never; dwell within my heart forever.**
- 3. Now in faith I humbly ponder over this surpassing wonder that the bread of life is boundless through the souls it feeds are countless; with the choicest wine of heaven Christ’s own blood to us is given. Oh, most glorious consolation, pledge and seal of my salvation.**
- 4. Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, truest friend, and dearest treasure, peace beyond all understanding, joy into all life expanding: humbly now, I bow before you, love incarnate, I adore you; worthily let me receive you, and, so favored, never leave you.**

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

The Apostles’ Creed

Peace

Offering

Offering Hymn: ELW #677 *“This Little Light of Mine”*

- 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.**

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

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.

Prayers of Intercession

God of grace, hear our prayer.

The Great Thanksgiving

Preface

Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Distribution Hymn: ELW #798 "Will you Come and Follow Me"

- 1. "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"**
- 2. "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?"**
- 3. "Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"**
- 4. "Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"**
- 5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

Post Communion Blessing

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.

Blessing

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

Sending Hymn: ELW #576 "We All Are One in Mission"

1. **We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.**
2. **We all are called for service, to witness in God's name. Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same; to touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace, so ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.**
3. **Now let us be united, and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word. We all are one in mission; we all are in in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.**

(copyright: Public Domain, One-License #M-402357)

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Announcements

✚ The **Annual Meeting** will be held on January 26, 2025 following worship.

✚ **Thank You** Pastor Paul Meierding for leading worship today.

✚ Calvary is looking for a volunteer (or volunteers) to represent Calvary on the **Welcome Committee**, which is where Calvary and four other Mankato ELCA churches are sponsoring a family of four from Nicaragua. Ariac and Andrea Cruz and their two boys have been in Minnesota almost two years. This committee meets monthly at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Contact Bob Diesch or Jolene Anderson for more information on the committee.

✚ **Prayers:** Please continue to keep our members and loved ones in your prayers, including Arlen, Lan-Shiang, Vivian, Ken, Deb, Ruth, Barry, Monica, Chloe, Jeff, Jenny, Dennis, Caroline, Paul, Jeannie and Gregg Nelson.

Calvary Lutheran Church
19216 Rapidan Avenue
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Pastor
Ministers: All Members

Church Phone: 507-278-3317
E-mail: office@calvaryrapidan.org
Website: calvaryrapidan.org
Facebook: Calvary Lutheran Rapidan

Portions of the liturgy are from sundaysandseasons.com © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB141947