

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Work of One through the Many

January 15, 2022

AS WE GATHER

On the second Sunday of each Epiphany season, the manifestation of Jesus as the Christ sent by God is grounded in the Gospel of John, who gives us the deepest insight into the goal of our Lord's entire earthly ministry. We hear of water and wine and the Holy Spirit. Through Baptism we are made the Church, the Bride of Christ. In Holy Communion, wine bears the blood of Christ's cross to us, the price of our forgiveness and deliverance. Now the same Spirit who empowered Jesus all along the way of the cross empowers us. The one Spirit enables each of us to love God and one another in a united worship of God and a variety of service and care for one another. "The faith and love that are in Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 1:14) overflow in us who already now celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb and His kingdom, which has no end.



ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE III *LSB 184*

PRAYER

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

OPENING HYMN *LSB 399* "THE STAR PROCLAIMS THE KING IS HERE"

- 1 The star proclaims the King is here;
But, Herod, why this senseless fear?
For He who offers heav'nly birth
Seeks not the kingdoms of this earth.
- 2 The eastern sages saw from far
And followed on His guiding star;
And, led by light, to light they trod
And by their gifts confessed their God.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.

D 5 For this Thy glad epiphany
All glory, Jesus, be to Thee,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit evermore.

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(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 36:5–9; antiphon: Song of Solomon 2:4*

P [The Lord] brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.

C **Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.**

P Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.

**C How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

P They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

**C For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.**

P [The Lord] brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE *LSB 186*

**C Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *LSB 187*

P Glory be to God on high:

C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 62:1-5*

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,

and her salvation as a burning torch.
²The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
⁴You 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.
⁵For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your sons marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

A This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 128; antiphon: v. 5*

P ¹Blessèd is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways!
C ²**You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.**
P ³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.
C ⁴**Behold, thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the LORD.**
P ⁵The LORD bless you from Zion!
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life!
C ⁶**May you see your children's children!
Peace be upon Israel!**

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 12:1–11*

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by

the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

A This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *John 2:11*

P This, the first of His signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested His glory. And His disciples believed in Him.

ALLELUIA *LSB 190*

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 2:1-11*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. ³When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

⁶Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. ⁹When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now."

¹¹This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

C **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 T everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 394 “SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE”

- 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 man 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 man made manifest.

- 3 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 man made manifest.

- 4 Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the heav’ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed,
God in man made manifest.

5 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 man made manifest.

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PRAYER

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

SERMON *“This Makes Us All the Same and Different”* *1 Corinthians 12:1-12*

Introduction:

In the Church there is there is something that make us all the same. And there is something that makes us different.

I. The Same Faith

What makes us all the same, that is, all believers in Christ Jesus, is our faith in Christ. It was the same Holy Spirit that created our trust in Christ. It was the same Holy Spirit that led us to believe the promises of God. It was the same Holy Spirit who empowered us to trust that Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross paid for our sins. It was the same Holy Spirit that who revealed to us through the Word that Jesus rose from the dead and won for us our eternal life. It was this same Holy Spirit that teaches us to know and trust that He works through the Word and Sacraments to create and sustain us in the one true faith on earth.

This is the invisible Church that dwells in the hearts of all believers making the Church one. This is what we have in common with all believers now, before and after us. It is the visible church that is no longer one. The twisting and rejection of certain truths divides the church on earth. It will remain divided until Christ returns and transform all believers into perfect children of God. Then and only then will we see the one holy Christian Church on earth. Until then we will remain divided because of those who have wondered from the truths of God’s Word.

For, it is the truth of God’s Word that the Holy Spirit works through to create and sustain the faith in the believer. False teachings come from the mind of men and not the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who gives us the strength and power to confess Jesus is Lord. He can work against false beliefs to keep one in saving faith.

II. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit

It is the same Holy Spirit who works in all believers. It is the same Jesus Christ who redeemed us from the coming wrath of God. It is the same Father in heaven who calls us His children. It is the same God who makes us different when giving us His Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit equips us to do the work of the Church, that is, the invisible Church. He gives us gifts that we can use so that the Holy Spirit can further the kingdom of God. He apportions these gifts as He deems fit and right.

Now Satan tempts our sinful flesh to determine which gifts are greater. He tickles our pride to think that those who have been given more gifts are more important in the Church, both the invisible and visible Church.

God the Holy Spirit empowers some to use their gifts and produce fruit in the 100's of bushels. Others He limits to 60, 30 or 10. We are tempted to say that the 100 bushel people are the most important ones. They have the greater gifts.

Some have gifts that are on display. Others are more mild and quiet in demonstrating their gifts. Neither is greater nor does it make their gifts greater. For it is the same Spirit, the same Lord and the same God the Father who moves one to use their gifts in serving God and others.

All believers are led to repent when they considered themselves more important or less important in the body of Christ. No one can boast of their accomplishments in the Church for it has always been the Holy Spirit working through them. No one can say they have done more than others because even the 100 bushel workers still comes up short in serving God and the others.

Luther daily repented of his laziness even though few have done more for the Church than him. Yet, he saw how far short he had fallen in serving God and others.

Conclusion:

The Holy Spirit is pointing us to understand this. Look not at what we can do for the Church as the means to build unity. Look to the One who does build unity.

This was the error of the "Church Growth Movement" back in the 80's. It was believed that if every Christian could discover their gifts and use them in service to the Lord and others, the churches would grow. It failed to remember the sinfulness of man, the obstruction of the world and the attacks by the Devil upon the Church. It put man's action over the working of the Holy Spirit as to build a strong defense against these enemies. It undermined the importance of God's Word and its truth by having people look inside their selves rather than calling on God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to do the work through them, His servants. It failed because it concentrated on the gifts and not on Who makes us all the same in the kingdom of God.

As we prepare to receive a new man in the office of the pastor, do not get caught up in what his strengths and weaknesses are. Rather, see him as a fellow believer whom the same Holy Spirit

has work in him as He has in us. And yes, see that he has a different role in the church than anyone else in the congregation. He is the one who holds the office and has the responsibility to administer the Word and Sacrament by which the same Holy Spirit leads us all to say, “Jesus is Lord.”

+AMEN+

PRAYER

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

OFFERTORY *LSB 192*

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

OFFERING HYMN **LSB 394** “*SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE*” *st. 1*

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 man made manifest.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord God, merciful Father, we praise and thank You for Your gift of life, especially the new life You give us in the water of Holy Baptism and for teaching us to be Your new creation by Your Holy Word. Having given us this new life by Your Holy Spirit, cause us to live in Your love actively, faithfully caring for and serving our neighbor. Give us confidence in Your never-failing love and help. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As Your Son brought blessing and joy to the wedding at Cana, so You have made us to be His Bride, Your Holy Church. Help us to be faithful to You as You are to us, that we may demonstrate the beauty of Your love, which You bestow on the whole world. Bless all pastors and leaders in the Church to proclaim faithfully Your glorious salvation to all and bind us in one mission of love and service to one another and to the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, bless our nation and all who serve in the offices of government. Preserve and protect all who serve in the armed forces of our country. Grant that justice and honor prevail in society that we may dwell in peace all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We here remember before You all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [*especially . . .*]. By Your Spirit, calm their fears, grant healing and especially steadfastness and confidence of faith in Your never-ending kindness and power to help. Be with all to whom death draws near. Grant Your compassion and skill to all who care for those who suffer. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P With reverence and affection we remember before You, O Lord, all our friends and relatives who have departed in faith. Keep us in the true faith that we may ever hold the sure hope of eternal life in the marriage feast that has no end. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *LSB 196*

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.

HYMN LSB 398 "*HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED*"

1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.

2 He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy
And bid the weak be strong;

To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in His sight.

3 He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall fall down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—
That name to us is Love.

Text: Public domain

HYMN LSB 500 “CREATOR SPIRIT, BY WHOSE AID”

1 Creator Spirit, by whose aid
The world's foundations first were laid,
Come, visit ev'ry humble mind;
Come, pour Your joys on humankind;
From sin and sorrow set us free;
May we Your living temples be.

2 O Source of uncreated light,
The bearer of God's gracious might,
Thrice-holy fount, thrice-holy fire,
Our hearts with heav'nly love inspire;
Your sacred, healing message bring
To sanctify us as we sing.

3 Giver of grace, descend from high;
Your sev'nfold gifts to us supply;
Help us eternal truths receive
And practice all that we believe;
Give us Yourself that we may see
The glory of the Trinity.

D 4 Immortal honor, endless fame
Attend the_almighty Father's name;
The Savior-Son be glorified,
Who for all humankind has died;
To You, O Paraclete, we raise
Unending songs of thanks and praise.

Text: Public domain

HYMN LSB 693 “O HOLY SPIRIT, GRANT US GRACE”

1 O Holy Spirit, grant us grace
That we our Lord and Savior
In faith and fervent love embrace
And truly serve Him ever.
The hour of death cannot bring loss
When we are sheltered by the cross
That canceled our transgressions.

2 Help us that we Thy saving Word
In faithful hearts may treasure;
Let e'er that Bread of Life afford
New grace in richest measure.
O make us die to ev'ry sin,
Each day create new life within,
That fruits of faith may flourish.

3 And when our earthly race is run,
Death's bitter hour impending,
Then may Thy work in us begun
Continue till life's ending,
Until we gladly may commend
Our souls into our Savior's hand,
The crown of life obtaining.

Text: Public domain

NUNC DIMITTIS*LSB 199*

**C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all
people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING *LSB 200*

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

BENEDICTION *LSB 202*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.
C **Amen, amen, amen.**

HYMN OF DEPARTURE LSB 412 "THE PEOPLE THAT IN DARKNESS SAT"

- 1 The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.
- 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness,
The gath'ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home,
Their harvest treasures home.
- 3 To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
- 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.
- 5 His righteous government and pow'r
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.
- D 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
And make us Thine alone,

Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: Public domain

PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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