

Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke

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.

John 2:11 NIV

SeekGrowLove.com

Second Sunday after Epiphany

4120 Wright Avenue, Racine, WI 53405 (262)632-7267

Order of Worship
for
Sunday, January 19, 2024

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.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

GATHERING

(Please rise)

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Jesus surprised the people at the wedding.

C: They were sure they would be disappointed.

P: They thought that their host wasn't prepared for their needs.

C: We aren't much different. We aren't sure God is prepared for our needs.

P: Lord, change our whining in to praising!

C: Change our moaning and complaining into celebrations of joy! AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

C: Lord, open our hearts to the surprising ways in which you offer to us your love and your presence. Help us to truly believe in the wondrous ways that you work in our lives. Give us hearts and spirits for service to you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

PROCESSIONAL & GATHERING HYMN

" Now The Feast And Celebration " #789
With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

SALUTATION

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

C: Amen

(Please be seated)

WORD

OUR FIRST LESSON is from the book of Isaiah, chapter 62, verses 1 through 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

OUR SECOND LESSON is from the book of First Corinthians; chapter 12, verses 1 through 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.

L: This is the Spirit speaking to the church.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please rise)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(WOV #783)

We do not live by bread alone
But by every word,
That proceeds from the mouth of god
Al-le-lu, Al-le-lu-ia

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 2nd chapter.

C: 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.

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY -

“Jesus Come! For We Invite You” #648

(Sub tune: PRAISE, MY SOUL)

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

PRAYER SONG

(WOV #772.)

O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
come and listen to me.

PRAYERS

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

A brief silence.

P: 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,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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 *especially* Jeff & Sue O., Bonnie, Anita, Grete L., Bettie, Sherry, Jean D., Brad L., Tom N., Cathi, Jim & Sharon L., Kim D, Melanie W., Ingaborg, and all those we name in our hearts. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints *especially James Thornton and Mary Leaf*. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER SONG (repeated)

(WOV #772)

O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
come and listen to me.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: "And also with you."

(Shaking of hands and sharing the peace with others around you.)

OFFERTORY

(TFF#286)

English I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing
Je - sus from my heart. I am thank - ing Je - sus,
I am thank-ing Je - sus, I am thank-ing Je - sus from my heart.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: 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.

C: Amen

INTRODUCTION TO THE MEAL

P: Christ be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to God.

P: Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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 in remembrance of me.

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

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Reaching out to one another let us join our hands and hearts together in the prayer that our Lord taught 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.
All are welcome

(Please be seated)

SHARING THE MEAL

For in person, come up the center aisle, receive your communion wafer, carefully dip your wafer into the wine. If grape juice/ covid safe is preferred let the assistant know.

For at home using plain bread/crackers and wine/grape juice.

COMMUNION HYMN -

“ What Feast of Love ” # 701

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

(Please rise)

COMMUNION BLESSING

L: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: 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,

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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

C: AMEN!

SENDING HYMN -

"As Man and Woman We Were Made" # 751

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

RECESSIONAL

A: We follow the cross of Christ into the world.

(Congregation turns as the cross passes them—so they are facing the back of the church)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Jeff & Sue O., Bonnie, Anita, Grete L., Bettie, Sherry,
Jean D., Brad L. , Tom N., Cathi, Jim & Sharon L.,
Kim D, Melanie W., Ingaborg,, the family and friends of
Mary Leaf

TODAYS WORSHIP LEADERS:

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

Lector: Julie Hansen

Communion Assistants: Julie Hansen & Vicki Thiery

Building Host, Offering Presenter: Ed Young

Coffee Hour: Open Altar Flowers: Open

Live Stream Tech: A Volunteer

Musician: William Mueller

WORSHIP LEADERS NEXT WEEK (Sunday 1/26):

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

Lector: Robin Barnes

Communion Assistants: Robin & John Barnes

Building Host, Offering Presenter: John Barnes

Coffee Hour: Open Altar Flowers: Open

Live Stream Tech: A Volunteer

Musician: William Mueller



ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

SUNDAY JANUARY 26, 2024

Following Worship in the Hearth Room

EMPTIES FOR CASH

"one persons junk is another persons treasure"

- ★ Bring in your empty **inkjet** cartridges—black or color.
- ★ Do not put any tape on the cartridge.
- ★ Place your empty cartridge in a zip type plastic bag. (ex: ziplock)

Bethania will receive \$2 per cartridge.

NO Toners please.



If you have anyone you would like to have added to the prayer chain **please contact Kelly Imhoff at 262-554-1558, the church office 262-632-7267 or by email: bethaniaprayer-chain@wi.twcbc.com**

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Please consider hosting coffee hour. The coffee will be started by the building opener. Treats may be store bought or homemade.

Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Pastors office.

Cans FOR K-9's



We are still collecting aluminum cans to help support the Racine County K-9 program.

EMPTYES FOR CASH

"one persons junk is another persons treasure"

- ★Bring in your empty inkjet cartridges—black or color.
- ★Do not put any tape on the cartridge.
- ★Place your empty cartridge in a zip type plastic bag. (ex: ziplock)

Bethania will receive \$2 per cartridge.

NO Toners please.

The Calendar....

Sunday, January 19, 2025—Second Sunday After Epiphany

9:30a.m. . -Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30a.m. – Coffee Hour

Friday, January 24, 2025

8:00am to 3:00p.m. —RUSD Fell. Hall

Sunday, January 26, 2025—Second Sunday After Epiphany

9:30a.m. . -Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30a.m. – Coffee Hour /Congregational meeting

Note: The church office is closed for health reasons unless otherwise noted.