

Worship for All – Epiphany 3

Welcome in the name of Christ! God's grace, mercy and peace be with you. **And also with you**

As the guests came together to celebrate a wedding so do we come together to celebrate our saviour and his abundant love for us. Lord, as you changed water into wine, change us into the people you want us to be. **Amen.**

Opening prayer God of unimaginable love, whose generosity can never be measured, we praise you with joy and thanksgiving for all that you have done for us. **Amen.**

Hymn: Praise my soul the king of heaven

Confession: Lord, so often we are cast into despair when there seems no obvious answer to our problems. Forgive us for the times when we do not see the wonders of life with you. Forgive us for the times when we do not receive because we do not ask in faith, or ask for the wrong things. Forgive us for the times we think we have not enough when actually we have far more than we can ever need and so much more than many others. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to take hold of the abundant life that you promise us. **Amen**

Collect: Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your presence; renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Hymn: Amazing Grace

Gospel: John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. 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 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." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.



Reflection: The miracle at the wedding feast embodies an outpouring of God's generosity. Jesus is compassionately concerned for the people he is with. He is fully present in that moment, providing plenty for all. This miracle is an epiphany, revealing the glory of Jesus. At this first sign in Cana, we are told that having seen, 'his disciples believed in him'. ***Faith may begin with looking back to what has happened, but it must become strong enough to look forward to the transformations that are not yet visible.***

Hymn: Lord of all hopefulness

Intercessions

Lord of all creation, God of plenty, giver of all that is good, thank you for the abundant life you offer. Make us ready to accept and share your abundant life with all. **Amen.**

At the end of the prayers, we pray Lord, come to bless us, **And fill us with your Spirit**

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 them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Peace Jesus said, 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you are to love one another.' The peace of the Lord be always with you **And also with you**

Sending out prayer and Blessing

Generous God, as your Son changed water into wine, send us out now in the power of your Spirit to share your love and blessings abundantly in our community. **Amen**

Now we go forth on the journey before us, knowing that, wherever Christ calls us, He will always be with us. Therefore, we travel in faith, in hope, and in love, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the blessing of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon us, now and evermore. **Amen.**

Hymn: Love divine, all love's excelling

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Amen.**

