

# Sixth Sunday after The Epiphany

February 12, 2023 + 4pm



*Beale Street Blues, 1943, Palmer Hayden  
from the collection of the Museum of African American Art.*



*Beloved companions in the Spirit -  
Come as you are offering our lives  
in the beautiful struggle of faith...*

# **We Gather**

## **Opening Loop / Tolling of the Bells**

**Announcements & Land Acknowledgement & Land Welcome in lək'wəŋən from elder Butch Dick**

**Opening Words: Oh, Living Flame of Love!**

Oh, living flame of love that tenderly wounds my soul in its deepest centre, since thou art no longer oppressive, perfect me now if it be thy will, break the web of this sweet encounter.

**Oh, sweet cautery! Oh, delectable wound! Oh, soft hand! Oh, delicate touch that savours of eternal life and pays every debt! In slaying, thou hast changed death into life.**

O lamps of fire! In whose splendours the deep caverns of feeling, Once obscure and blind, Now give forth, so rarely, so exquisitely, Both warmth and light to their Beloved.

**How gently and lovingly you wake in my heart, here in secret you dwell alone & in your sweet breathing, filled with good and glory, how tenderly You swell my heart with love.**

St. John of the Cross / 1542-1591

**Opening Song: Jesus, Come! For We Invite You**

Jesus, come for we invite you guest and master friend and Lord  
Now as once at Cana's wedding speak and let us hear your word  
Lead us through our need or doubting  
hope be born and joy restored

Jesus, come transform our pleasures  
guide us into paths unknown  
Bring your gifts, command your servants  
Let us trust in you alone  
Though your hand may work in secret  
All shall see what you have done

Jesus, come! in new creation  
Heav'n brought near by pow'r divine  
Give your unexpected glory changing water into wine  
Rouse the faith of your disciples come our first & greatest Sign

Jesus, come! surprise our dullness make us willing to receive  
More than we can yet imagine all the best you have to give  
Let us find your hidden riches taste your love, believe, and live.

*Christopher Idle/ Hope Publishing/ OneLicense tune: Christ Is Made (Westminster Abbey)*

## We Proclaim

### The Hebrew Scripture

#### A reading from the prophet Isaiah (62:1-5)

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. 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. You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. 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. For as a young person marries a young person, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you...The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 36 *Dixit injustus* (vs 5-10)

*We chant together, pausing briefly at the \**

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, \*  
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,  
your justice like the great deep; \*  
you save both mortals and beasts, O Lord.

How priceless is your love, O God! \*  
Your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

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

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

Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you,\*  
and your favour to those who are true of heart.

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we prepare our hearts to hear the Gospel.*

## **Gospel Acclamation:**

fiddle

[A] Lord, to whom shall we go? [C] Lord, to whom shall we go? —

[A] You are gra-cious and merc - i - ful. [C] Lord, to whom shall we go? —

[A] Slow to an - ger and a-bound-ing in love. [C] Lord, to whom shall we go? —

[A] Lord, to whom shall we go? [C] Let us trust in your word. —

## **The Gospel**

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

### **With our words and with our lives!**

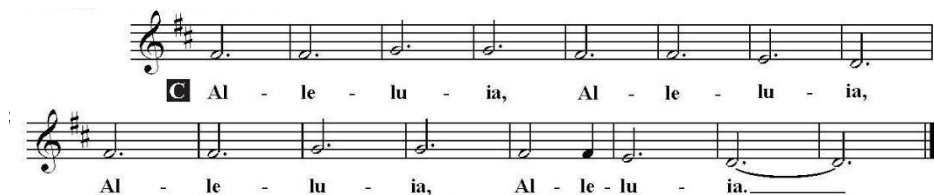
A reading from the gospel according to John (2:1-11)

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, "women 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. 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.

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

### **With our words and with our lives!**

## Gospel Acclamation:



## The Sermon

**Lynn Mills**

*Silence for meditation. Bell / Silence / Bell*

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we proclaim the ancient story of our faith.*

## Credo

**I believe in God, the Maker Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heav'n,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Maker.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
+The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.** Ryan Flanigan/ Liturgical folk, alt./ CCLI

## Prayer Stations:

*During these next songs we invite you to taste and see the delight God has for you by dipping something into the chocolate fountain (vegan & gluten free).*

*Light candles of hope and prayer for those who are struggling here and around the world.*

*Receive anointing for healing.*

## **Let All Who Are Thirsty Come** (*pre-recorded*)

Let all who are thirsty come.

Let all who wish receive - the water or life, freely.

Amen, come Lord Jesus. Amen come Lord Jesus.

*Ateliers et Presses de Taizé / OneLicense*

## **The Steadfast Love of the Lord**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

God's mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning;

great is your faithfulness, O Lord,

great is your faithfulness.

*Edith McNeill / Community of Celebration / CCLI*

## **Confession**

Today in our worship, we recognize people of African Descent and lament anti-Black racism and violence. We pray that the Spirit will reorient us: **challenging us to live by grace rather than entitlement; expecting us to be a blessing to the earth.**

We pray that by acknowledging our brokenness, we will be closer to becoming a church where the good news is lived out: **faith nurtured and hearts comforted, gifts shared for the good of all, resistance to the forces that exploit and marginalize, fierce love in the face of violence, human dignity defended, members of a community held and inspired by God.** Through our tears and silent confessions, may we witness to your love and grace. UCC/Rev. Dr. Alydia Smith, Alt.

*Bell. Pause in silent prayer. Bell.*

## **Absolution / Assurance of Grace**

God is our refuge and home. God is our strength and centre.

**God is a very present help. God has always been and always will be, our very present help.**

## **The Peace**

Beloved in Christ, The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you!**

*We acknowledge the peace of Christ in each other.*

*During this next 'offertory' song, the table is set. We welcome you to place financial contributions to our common life in the record player in the back of the space. Cheques made out to 'The Emmaus Community'.*

*Charitable receipts will be issued if you provide your address.*

## **Offertory Song: The Winemaker**

Just like You, lord, to make that wine  
Bring it out at the perfect time  
Like You to give, when nothin's left  
Wine that is the very best

*Refrain: I hear Your voice, whisperin'  
Higher up, further in  
And the work You bid me do  
This one thing, believe in You*

Got this longing deep inside  
For the vintage that You provide  
The wine You give sweet mystery  
You gently say, "Remain in Me". *Refrain.*

When I have come to the end  
Of myself, that is when  
I lose my life, but find it too  
Grafted on the vine in You. *Refrain.*

This one branch, You clean and trim  
What it bears could not have been  
From that fruit, You make Your wine  
Pass it 'round at the perfect time. *Refrain.*

Originally released 2004 Wind Dance Records. Written by Dan Robins

## **We Celebrate**

### **Prayer Over The Gifts**

This is the table of our Lord, a fellowship that endures history and the trials of our past, present and future with an invitation that rings out through communities and creation, calling you to come as you are. Come because you are beloved and invited, whether you know it or not, feel it or not. Come and be fed; come and find healing; come and be renewed for the journey ahead. Come and know that the Lord invites sinner and saint, oppressor and oppressed, colonizer and colonized, Indigenous and displaced, the corporate CEO and the migrant farmer, the bold and courageous and, the fearful and complacent, for we are one humanity, all children of our Creator, all in need of forgiveness and bread. **Amen.**

## **The Communion / The Holy Eucharist**

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks for Lord our God!

**It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you praise God, for your beauty, goodness, creating power and providential care: in making the world; establishing the covenant; teaching us how to care for one another and creation, speaking truth through the prophets; showing mercy in spite of our violence, selfishness and systems of oppression; and giving us the love of God in the gift of Jesus Christ.

We give you thanks and praise because at the Wedding of Cana your Son shows us the shape of salvation. In the good wine we see the joy of your creation and the intimacy of your covenant with your people. In the wine running short we behold the ways we fall short of your hopes for us and your bewilderment at our faithlessness. In the wine running out we witness the agony of your Son's death and our deep need for your grace. And in the overflowing abundance of your new wine, we delight in the wonder of your Son's resurrection and the gifts of your Holy Spirit bringing forth the boundless mystery of your kingdom in our time and place.

And so, with angels and archangels, and all of Creation, we sing the hymn of your everlasting praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth of your glory are full**

**Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest.**

**+Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. X2**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth of your glory are full**

**Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest. X2**

Steve Bell / Signpost Music / CCLI

With thanksgiving and faith, we remember the Lord Jesus, born into our world, breathing our air, celebrating our humanity, building community with all people of all ages, the despised, the popular, the powerful and meek, mourning our losses, dying in our state sanctioned violence, faithful to everything God laid before him, and steadfast in his redeeming love for us.



In resurrection he showed us that death and all that leads to death can be overcome by this life and love. But in radical self-giving love, abundance is found.

And so Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

God of power and wisdom, you have dismantled the wisdom of the wise and thwarted the discernment of the discerning. Your Son's cross is a stumbling block to your children and foolishness to your world. As you chose what is foolish to shame the wise, uphold those humiliated and ridiculed today.

As you chose what is weak to shame the strong, inspire any who find themselves powerless and oppressed and cast down and impoverished. As you chose what is low and despised to reduce the proud, walk with any who are excluded, isolated or abhorred, that they may find their true identity in you. Hasten the day when your wisdom and power fill the hearts of all your searching people, and your justice rolls like a never-failing stream, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Rev. Tracy Howe Wispelwey "The International Decade for People of African Descent: A Service of Word and Sacrament," United Church of Canada; Joining the Angels Song, Alt.

## **The Prayer of Jesus**

As beloved children of a loving parent let us pray:

**Eternal Spirit, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker, Source of all that is and shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven. The Hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your Justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your Commonwealth of Peace and Freedom sustain our hope and come on earth!**

**With the bread that we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever. Amen.**

Paraphrase by Rev. Jim Cotter, 1991.

*Silence is kept.*

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God, given for the life of the world. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*All are welcome to receive at Jesus' table!*

*This week, the bread does not contain: gluten, oats, dairy, soy or nuts. You can choose between sparkling grape juice and wine in your chalice.*

## **Lamb of God / Agnus Dei**

Pre-recorded - Poor Clare / Lacey Brown / Church of the Apostles, Seattle

## **Communion Song: We Will Feast**

*Refrain:* We will feast in the house of Zion

We will sing with our hearts restored

You have done great things, we will say together

We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire

You are the Lord, our God

We are not consumed by the flood

Upheld, protected, gathered up. *refrain.*

In the dark of night, before the dawn

My soul, be not afraid

For the promised morning, oh how long

Oh God of Jacob, be my strength. *refrain.*

Every vow we've broken and betrayed

You are the faithful One

And from the garden to the grave

Bind us together, bring shalom. *refrain.*

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## **Communion Song: Felix Culpa**

God who watches over you will never slumber nor sleep  
God who watches over you will never slumber nor sleep  
O my child, lay your burdens down, lay them at my feet  
God who watches over you will never slumber nor sleep

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## **We Are Sent**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray: **We have been fed, Holy One, by your presence.**

**We have been led, Eternal One, by your light.**

**May we bask in this glow now and forevermore. Amen.**

Rev. Kaji Douša

### **Blessing (*sung together*)**

**The Lord bless you and keep you**

**The Lord make Their shine upon you**

**And be gracious unto you**

**The Lord lift up Their countenance upon you**

**And give you peace....**

*And the blessing of God...*

### **Closing Song: In Cana at a Wedding Feast**

In Cana at a wedding feast,  
Christ worked his first great sign.  
There Jesus' mother told her son,  
"They don't have any wine!"  
He called for six stone water jars;  
they filled them to the brim;  
When water changed to wine that day,  
his friends believed in him.

Far from the town,  
the crowds pressed in on Jesus' prayer retreat.  
He healed their sick,  
then told his own,  
"You give them food to eat!"  
Five loaves of bread and two small fish  
were all they found to share,  
Yet thousands ate the meal he blessed,  
with baskets left to spare.

Out on the sea, the winds were strong;  
the stormy waves were high;  
There Jesus' friends were filled with fear  
when he came walking by.  
"Take heart, for it is I!" he said,  
and helping Peter stand,  
He calmed the storm and stirred their hearts;  
God's world was in his hand.

The blind, the poor, the outcast too,  
found Christ to be their friend.  
"Have mercy!" Bartimaeus said.  
"I want to see again."  
With great compassion and with grace,  
Christ gave him back his sight.  
Through deeds of power, deeds of love,  
he filled our world with light.

O Lord, we see your wondrous signs  
and know through faith-filled eyes:  
You are new wine that brings us joy,  
true bread that satisfies.  
You give clear vision to your church,  
you make the wounded whole.  
You give us hope, when seas are rough;  
for you are in control!

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## **Sending**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God! Amen. Alleluia!**

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We would love to connect! Call, Text, Email.

