

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church
North Tonawanda NY
January 19th, 2025**



AS WE GATHER

The miracle of water turned into wine is a surprising one. It is marked by the fact that this is the choicest of wines, that the sheer amount of wine was embarrassingly extravagant, and that the full benefit of this miracle was limited to the servants who did what Jesus said, Mary, and the disciples who were with Jesus. It is the mark of what is to come. Jesus' whole ministry is one of goodness beyond compare, of extravagant mercy beyond what we deserve or even dare ask, and of grace hidden in ordinary things like words, water, bread, and wine. This is then a precursor of what is to come, the first of many manifestations of His mercy and the rich and overflowing provision of His grace to supply salvation to a world that otherwise knows no joy.

****The Lord's Supper will be celebrated at this service, Communion is offered to Lutheran members in Altar & Pulpit Fellowship only, we believe based on Scripture and the "Book of Concord", (The Lutheran Confessions) that only those who share the same faith and teaching of Doctrine should Commune together. **Acts 2:42, 1 Cor. 10:17, 1 Cor. 11:26 and Rom. 16:17** is where we find this written, if this is your first time at St. Matthew, and would like to take Communion, please talk to the Pastor before the service. If you are taking Communion, please fill out the Communion Registration form. ****

Welcome to all our Members, Guests and Visitors today, if you're a visitor, please introduce yourself to the pastor after service in the Narthex. We here at St. Matthew pray that you enjoy your time worshiping with us today.

**TLH 669 How Great Thou Art
INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Great is His steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!
The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.
Bidden by His steadfast love, let us take refuge in the mercy of God,
confessing our sins and rejoicing in His gift of forgiveness through Jesus
Christ, our Lord.

Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we
have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You
with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We
justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of
Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and
lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to
the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His
sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ,
and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the
Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the
day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Introit

[The Lord] brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.
Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.
Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.
How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.

*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

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

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high,
*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.*

SALUTATION & Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

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.

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE

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

Gospel St. John 2:1-11

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

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. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

TLH 136 Angels from the Realms of Glory

Sermon

*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

Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people
according to their needs.

Silence for prayer and meditation.

Merciful Father, You have richly restored Your people, stained by sin and
marked by death. Fill us with Your grace that we may rejoice in the mercy
You have shown to us and be kept holy and blameless in Christ all our days.
Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Blessed Lord Jesus, in Your compassion, You visited a wedding in Cana of
Galilee and placed Your blessing upon every Christian home and family.
Uplift us by Your Spirit that our homes may be places of blessing and peace
where forgiveness is asked and granted without limit. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy Lord, You have established Your church as Christ's Bride and clothed
her in His own righteousness. Give to us faithful pastors and church workers
who will proclaim Your goodness and lead us to sing Your praises within
Your church and to give faithful witness before the world. Lord, in Your
mercy,

hear our prayer.

Mighty Father, You have ordered all things by Your grace. Continue to bless us and our land with an abundance of resources, generous hearts, and faithful leaders, that Your name may be preserved and we may be governed according to Your Word and will. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, You make glad the hearts of men with the choicest of wine. Keep us always from turning Your gifts into burdens or using them in ways that would harm us and our life together. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Compassionate Father, You bear our burdens and have saved us by Your grace. Help the afflicted to bear in faith the burdens of their illnesses, and grant them healing and comfort according to Your will. [*Especially do we name before You . . .*] Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of love, You daily and richly supply us with more than we deserve or dare ask. Grant to us a grateful heart and a generous spirit, that we may sacrificially support the work of the Kingdom here and throughout the world, and give assistance to the poor and needy. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We praise You, O Lord, for giving us Your Son, Jesus Christ, and for His own gift of this bread of His body and this cup of His blood. Bless our communion at this altar, and bring us at last into the fullness of the wedding feast of the Lamb in His kingdom without end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Having in remembrance the holy incarnation and life of Your Son, Jesus Christ, acknowledging His all-sufficient suffering and death upon the cross for our sin, praising His victorious resurrection from the dead, confessing His ascension on high where He evermore intercedes for us, and looking for

His coming again in glory, we pray You, Father, to sustain the people Your Son has redeemed and bring us to the marriage supper of the Lamb in His kingdom without end; for in You, with You, and to You all glory, honor, and praise belong, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Hear us as we pray in His name as He has taught us:

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 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.**

PAX DOMINI

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Distribution / TLH 422 Savior, I Follow On Nunc Dimittis

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.*

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

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

Let us pray.

O Lord, as once Your Son brought gladness to Cana of Galilee by His presence and the first of His miracles, continue to grant us the gladness of Your presence that we may rejoice in the manifold gifts of Your mercy by which we have been saved and be brought to the marriage feast on high without end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Benedicamus

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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 give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen.

LSB TLH 309 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee