



## Welcome to this Family Communion Service

### The Gathering

#### Welcome & Notices

#### Opening Prayer

All-loving God, who knows the longings of our hearts, transform the ordinariness of our lives through the generosity of your love.

Inspired by your Spirit, may we celebrate your goodness.

Invited by your Son may we be ready for your table,  
through the same Jesus Christ, a guest at a wedding,  
and our host at the heavenly banquet prepared for all people.

**Amen.**

#### Song    Our God

Water You turned into wine  
Opened the eyes of the blind  
There's no one like you  
None like you  
Into the darkness You shine  
Out of the ashes we rise  
There's No one like you  
None like you

Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other

Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

Water You turned into wine  
Opened the eyes of the blind  
There's no one like you  
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God You are higher than any other  
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Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
Then what can stand against?

Our God is greater, our God is stronger  
God You are higher than any other  
Our God is Healer, awesome in power  
Our God, Our God

And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us?  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
And if Our God is for us, then who can ever stop us?  
And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?  
Then what can stand against?  
Then what can stand against?

Songwriters Chris Tomlin / Jesse Reeves / Jonas Myrin / Matt Redman; Performed by Chris Tomlin; from iSingWorship vol.3, Lyrics provided by LyricFind.

### Summary of the law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: the first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandments greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

### Confession

*After a period of reflection*

**Today, days before we celebrate your self-giving in life, in conversation, in generosity and in courage, we turn to you knowing how often we fall short in life, in conversation, in generosity and in courage.**

**Forgive us, and make us more like you, not because it will make you love us more, but because it is for our sake, and for the sake of the people you love so much, that you came among us.**

**Amen.**

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### Collect

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving 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 for ever.

**Amen**

### Reading John 2.1-11 read by Pam Blewit

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, **2** and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. **3** When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no more wine.'

**4** 'Woman, why do you involve me?' Jesus replied. 'My hour has not yet come.'

**5** His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

**6** Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from eighty to a hundred and twenty litres. **7** Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water'; so they filled them to the brim. **8** Then he told them, 'Now draw some

out and take it to the master of the banquet.' They did so, **9** and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside **10** and said, 'Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.'

**11** 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.

*Let's pray,*

God of light, open to us your holy word this day.

Transform the familiar texts we hear,  
so they may bring out the good news  
of your abundant generosity.

And surprise us with new joy, to your greater glory.

Amen.

Sermon Natasha is opening God's Word for us today

Creed Song

We believe in one God (unshakeable)

CCL# 7088221 © Chris Juby / Resound Worship, Administered by Jubilate Hymns Ltd

Intercessions

written and shared by Pat Hegarty

In you O Lord

**Do we put our trust.**

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*We know that Christians have shared a sign of peace since the very earliest days of the Church. In these times, it may seem strange to 'share the Peace.' But peace is from the heart and from God. God's peace in the Spirit moves among us and unites us, physically distanced yet one in the Body of Christ.*

Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, 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.*

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever  
**Amen.**

#### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

#### Breaking of the bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in the one bread.**

#### Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

We are invited to make spiritual Communion with God, who comes to meet us wherever we are. And as we do so please listen to ... 'We exalt you.'

*Performed by Martin Smith & Nicky Brown; © Smith United Limited 2020; Gloworks.*

#### Prayer after communion

And we say together ...

**We thank you, Jesus, our teacher and friend,  
for giving us the good wine of God's kingdom.  
As we recognise your glory,  
help us to believe in you as did those first disciples.  
Give us the courage to trust you, and the wisdom to wait for your help,  
so that we may rejoice in your abundant generosity,  
this day and throughout our lives.  
Amen.**

## The Dismissal

Song I've Got Peace like a river

*Performed by Listener Kids.*

### Final Prayer & Blessing

Amid the mundane and the commonplace, may the God of life grant us rich blessing. From the cold stone jars of our ordinary lives, may Jesus draw out the fruit of God's kingdom. Beyond the expectations of the daily round, may the Holy Spirit surprise us with new joys.

And the blessing of God the all-loving, who creates and transforms and inspires us, be with us this day and for ever.

**Amen.**

# Thank you for joining us today.

# Going Deeper

24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

This week's reading: **John 2.1-11**

## Bible Notes

This passage introduces us to the 'signs' of John's Gospel: seven are particularly highlighted throughout the Gospel. They are revelations of God's kingdom. In a sense they are acted parables that teach about God, and this is particularly true of this first sign.

There were in fact very few people who would have been aware of what had happened, but in this Gospel, it stands as the first action in Jesus' ministry, and so, for our benefit, is given much significance. Matthew and Luke both contain an actual parable based on a wedding, and the setting at this actual wedding also points to the banquet at the end of the age. This is a sign about the coming of God's kingdom both here and now, and in the future. This is further emphasised by Jesus' reply to his mother's intervention, that 'my hour has not yet come'. 'Hour' is a key word used through the Gospel to represent the coming of God's kingdom, often with specific reference to Jesus' coming death and resurrection.

At this point, the nature of the miracle becomes significant. It is the water used by the Jews for ceremonial washing that is turned into wine. This water was kept in large stone jars because these would be the cleanest vessels. This provides a clear contrast between the old order and the new order that Jesus ushers in. God is doing something new in Jesus. The amount of wine now available seems much more than can be drunk and this wine is the best; both factors that point to the generosity of the miracle and so to the generosity of God. The reasons for the lack of wine are not discussed, although it is likely that all those who came shared in the responsibility of providing for the wedding. We normally read the text from a position of plenty, but if read from a situation of scarcity, perhaps a reason for running out of wine, then the generosity of the provision is further emphasised.

## A reflective prayer

It's so easy for us, O God, to think wearily that the wine has run out,  
that the good things have gone, and that nothing more is to be done.  
We forget even to turn to you with the problems that face us,  
but resign ourselves to what seems inevitable.  
Like Mary at Cana, help us in quiet trust to bring our concerns,  
unsure though we may be how you will address them.  
Convinced of your longing to celebrate with us  
the life you offer, in all its fullness.  
May we be ready to receive your rich blessings and to rejoice.  
We ask it in the name of Jesus, our teacher and friend.  
Amen.



# 20 January 2013

## ROOTS Children's Sheet

### Today's Bible reading

**John 2.1-11**

In today's reading, Jesus turns water into wine. Everyone is very excited.

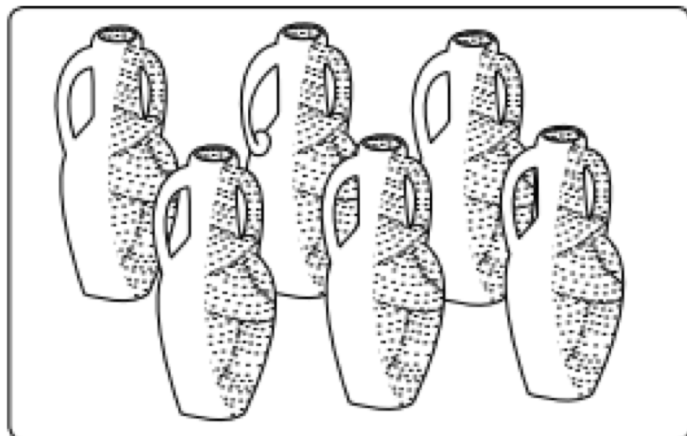
Where is the  
biggest building  
you have ever  
seen?



**God provides more than we need.**

### Activity 1

One of these jugs is the odd one out. Colour it in a different colour from the others.



### Activity 2

God provides more than we need. On the water jug below, write or draw something you are pleased to have.

