## Lord's Day Worship

January 16, 2022

\*(Asterisk) indicates Please stand as you are able.

## **PRAISE**

- \* Call to Worship
- \* Opening Hymn "Jesus, Come! for We Invite You"\*\*

## **RENEWAL**

\* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy God, each day we turn away from you many times. We can be impatient, unkind, selfish, conceited, and deliberately defiant against your will. We often live comfortably in our sin rather than compelled by your grace. The cross is often a decoration in our lives rather than a reminder of your great sacrifice. May the work of the cross convict us and turn us toward you. Plant deep in us the truth that it is only by the death of your Son that we live. Change our hearts so that we may be a grateful people redeemed by the shed blood of Jesus. (silent prayer)

\* Song "His Mercy is More"

Pastoral Prayer & 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 62:1-5

\* Hymn "Speak, O Lord"

New Testament Reading John 2:1-11

Sermon "Invitation to a Wedding"

Prayer

\* Affirmation of Faith – Philippians 2:5-11 (ESV)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- \* Closing Song "Beautiful Savior"
- \* Benediction
- \* Dismissal

Church, where are you going?

We go forth to serve God's world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Glory to God!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of John's Gospel tells us, "there was a wedding at Cana, in Galilee," and that "Jesus also was invited to the wedding" (John 2:1-2). One of the consistent themes of the Gospels is that Jesus was always welcome among those who were having a good time. Have you ever considered how wonderful it is that Jesus was at home in such company? Jesus was, quite literally, the *life* of the party everywhere he went.

H.L. Mencken once described "Puritanism" as "the haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy." That wasn't fair to the real Puritans, but we get his point. Some Christians go around with grim looks and long faces. If they find themselves in the company of someone who is having a good time, they immediately suspect that the fun is illegal, immoral, or fattening. Jesus was not like that. He did not condemn those who were enjoying themselves, and he did not resent them. He knew how to have a good time with others. That's why he was welcome at their gatherings. And guess what? That's why they listened to him.

Jesus was invited to the wedding at Cana, and when they ran out of wine, he miraculously made more. A lot more. Are you like that? You and I can't make wine from water, but do we know how to have fun? Do we spread joy instead of judgment? Do we show that we enjoy the company of others? If you do, you may also find that people are willing to listen when you tell what Jesus has done for you.

Pastor Phil Moran

<sup>\*\*</sup>The opening hymn, "Jesus, Come! for We Invite You," was written by Christopher Idle, a British cleric and prolific hymn writer. His words help us enter into the miracle at Cana while reminding us that God in Christ is still at work in our daily lives, and present among us as we worship him together.



"...so that Jesus Christ might come to have first place in everything." Colossians 1:18 (b) NRSV

January 16, 2022 | Pastor Phil Moran "Invitation to a Wedding" John 2:1-11

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