

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

*We feast upon the abundance of your house,
O Lord. (v8)*

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory & led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness & salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- John 2:1-11

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, & the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus & his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you & to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." & they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, & take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, & did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, & then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, & revealed his glory; & his disciples believed in him.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. St. John expects his readers to connect with other well-known Scriptures. What deeper insight do the following add? *See Genesis 27:28; Exodus 7:14-19; Ecclesiastes 9:7; Isaiah 25:6; Joel 2:19, 24, 3:18; Amos 9:13-15 (cf. v6); Zechariah 10:6-7; John 6:53-56; Revelation 19:6-9; see also John 1:19, 29, 35, 43, 2:1*
2. The servants have no status among the wedding guests. What importance do you find in Jesus' interaction/revelation with them? *See Luke 1:52, 6:46-49, 12:7-11 (12-24); John 13:1-17, 15:15; Romans 12:16, Galatians 5:13; James 1:9, 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5*

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. To drink wine is, however subtly, to experience pleasure by altering our perceptions. How is following Jesus also potentially dangerous? Is there a sense in which we might say that following Jesus is like imbibing a few glasses of fine wine?
 4. Jesus' is pressed into his first act of public ministry by his mother! She knows what he is capable of & believes that others should see who he really is. Who in your life pushes you to share your God-given gifts?
- Thanks to Rev. Nathan Hilkert, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Athens, GA for #3, 4, & part of 6!

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Name at least 5 brave, adventuresome, courageous, exciting things that took guts that you did *because your faith put you in the situation*. If you can't name 5, what has caused you to have such a sheltered, safe, secure (immature? timid? effete?) life in the Gospel? Of course, different folks will answer this question in different ways; don't assume you're expected to be "James Bond for Jesus."
6. How does #5 help you to talk with someone who has doubts & questions about the Christian faith, especially men or someone who thinks Christianity is trifling, uninspiring, & deadening. How do those answers help you frame things you believe but don't quite understand?

Second Sunday after Epiphany

01.16.22

Series: Anointed; Now What?

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Risk & Reward

*As evangelists, we testify to the danger & the joy of Christian life,
drawing people to Jesus*

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: “Everyone serves the good wine first, & then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” (*v10*)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Jesus revealed his glory, & his disciples believed in him. (*John 2:11*)

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