



# ~AT HOME WORSHIP~

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Theme: All in God's time

The first miracle that Jesus performed

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## Call to worship

Creator God, abundant giver, at a wedding in Cana  
you turned the ordinary into the extraordinary.  
We come to you, ready for you to turn our ordinariness  
into something extraordinary for you today.  
**Amen.**

**Let us praise the Lord our God who can turn ordinary into extraordinary.**

## Hymn/Song: PRAISE MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN (SofF 466)

[Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven \(Choir\) - Classic Christian Hymns / Lyrics - YouTube](#)

### **PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN;**

To His feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who like thee His praise should sing?  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise Him, still the same for ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels in the height, adore Him;  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise Him! Praise Him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!

## A Prayer of Thanks

When a daffodil or the first snowdrop comes into bloom:

**We catch a glimpse of God in the ordinary.**

When the sun is rising, or the sun is setting:

**We catch a glimpse of God in the ordinary.**

When a baby is born, or a chick is hatched:

**We catch a glimpse of God in the ordinary.**

When we feel the warm embrace of a family hug:

**We catch a glimpse of God in the ordinary.**

When we eat the bread and drink the wine:

**We catch a glimpse of God in the ordinary.**

Transforming God, wherever we are, whatever we do,  
whether we are at home, work or school,

**help us to see the miracle in the ordinary,**

and to catch a glimpse of your glory in our midst.

**Amen.**

## Saying Sorry

*Take a moment to think about things that have got in the way of our relationship with God*

Lord God, we confess that the daily grind consumes us.

We struggle to see beyond the needs of day-to-day life.

We don't lift our eyes to heaven for inspiration, let alone miracle.

We are chained to earthly demands.

Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of faith and imagination;

we look to you for transformation.

Forgive us for failing to open our minds to the miracles of living;

open our eyes, change our thinking and understanding.

Come, Lord, transform our way of being;

make us vessels wherein the ordinary becomes extraordinary,

for Jesus' sake.

Lord God, we thank you for forgiving us when we forget;

when, in the midst of cares and woes, we forget what you can do.

Thank you for surprising us at such times, Lord,

by forgiving us when we've forgotten what it is to go astray

in thought and attitude as well as deeds.

Our minds mired in the murk of anxiety about our needs and wants,

you surprise us with a reminder of your presence, generous in your bounty

– just like Jesus at the wedding in Cana. Lord,

who transforms water into wine,

thank you for your transforming power in our lives.

**Amen.**



A modern painting by James B Janknegt

Wedding at Cana  
Paola Veronese  
1528-1588



## BIBLE READINGS

### John 2 1-11 Wedding at Cana

Two days later there was a wedding in the town of CANA in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine had been given out, Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no wine left'

"You must not tell me what to do" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." Jesus' mother then told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." The Jews have rules about ritual washing, and for this purpose six stone water jars were there, each one large enough to hold about 100 litres. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill these jars with water." They filled them to the brim, and then he told them, "Now draw some water out and take it to the man in charge of the feast." They took him the water, which now had turned into wine, and he tasted it. He did not know where the wine had come from (but, of course, the servants who had drawn the water knew); so he called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone else serves the best wine first, and after the guests have had plenty to drink, he serves the ordinary wine. But you have kept the best wine until now!"

## REFLECTION TIME

*Children may choose to use the Activity Sheet*

Two days later. Let's look back and see what has been happening. Last week we had the bible reading about Jesus' baptism in the Jordan, the start of the time of ministry. The day after the baptism, according to John, Jesus met Andrew and his brother Peter, they became the first disciples. The next day according to John they went to Galilee and Jesus called Philip and Nathaniel. Two days later. the wedding. Now if we were reading from the gospel of Luke we would find that Jesus, after his baptism went into the desert for 40 days. If we were reading the gospel of Mark, we would find out that it was when John had been put in prison that Jesus went back to Galilee and called his disciples, this time James and John were called along with Andrew and Peter. John was the last Gospel written and no doubt had messages from Peter and others to include the wedding that had been forgotten in earlier times. The important bit is verse 11, "Jesus performed this first miracle in Cana in Galilee: there he revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him."



It is interesting to note that it is Mary, Jesus' mother who points out the need- and gives him a nudge towards this first miracle. Jesus' response seems quite abrupt "Woman, what concern is that to you or me? My hour has not yet come." It seems that Mary has received a prompt. There are references to Mary in Lukes' gospel which describe her as thoughtful and 'pondering' on what she is learning – from the shepherds' visit to the stable and when Jesus gets lost in the Temple as a boy. Mary tells Jesus off for worrying them, but also treasures the event in her heart. Perhaps Jesus the man needed her sensitive encouragement, her openness to God's guidance, as he began his ministry.

We also know, from reading the whole passage that there is powerful symbolism: The water came from jars used in Jewish purification – a sign that Jesus had come to bring purification to the whole world in a new way, through his death. His first miracle occurred at a

wedding, this points to the heavenly banquet prepared for all Gods people. I am encouraged that Jesus, encouraged by his mother, met human need in a very practical yet awesome way

### Questions. Let us spend a moment thinking

- How do you feel when you are waiting for something to change?
- .....
- What ordinary things, in your life, would you like God to transform?
- .....
- And in your community, what ordinary things would you like God to transform? .....

**Let us praise the Lord our God who can turn ordinary into extraordinary**

### Let us pray

We pray for leaders everywhere:  
for the leaders of the world's most powerful nations...  
for the leaders of the poorest nations...  
for the leaders of our own nation...  
for the leaders of our churches...

**May they be blessed with wisdom, humility and compassion.**

We pray for those entrusted with great responsibilities:  
in hospitals...in schools...in care homes...

**May they be blessed with wisdom, humility and compassion.**

We pray for those who influence and inspire others:  
pop stars...actors...sports men and women...writers...artists...storytellers...

**May they be blessed with wisdom, humility and compassion.**

And we pray for one another and for ourselves,  
that as we live out our lives,  
**we too may be blessed with wisdom, humility and compassion. Amen.**

### 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.**

[Rejoice The Lord Is King - YouTube](#)

**Hymn/Song: Rejoice the Lord is King (SOF 482)**

Rejoice , the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore:  
Mortals, give thanks and sing,  
And triumph ever more:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
Rejoice! Again I say: Rejoice!*

Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
The God of truth and love;  
When He had purged our stains,  
He took His seat above.

His kingdom cannot fail,  
He rules o're earth and heaven;  
The keys of death and hell  
Are to our Jesus given.

He sits at God's right hand  
Till all his foes submit  
And bow to His command  
And fall beneath His feet

Rejoice in glorious hope,  
Jesus the judge shall come  
And take his servants up  
To their eternal home.

**Sending Out Prayer**

May Jesus Christ,  
changer of water into wine,  
taker of the ordinary in our lives,  
transform us for his glory,  
and make us extraordinary for his sake.

Let us go out from here  
with God's miraculous grace brimming up inside us,  
taking with us that abundance of love and power,  
and sharing it with everyone we meet.

**Amen.**

**Dismissal**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all, evermore. **Amen**

*God bless you now and always*



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