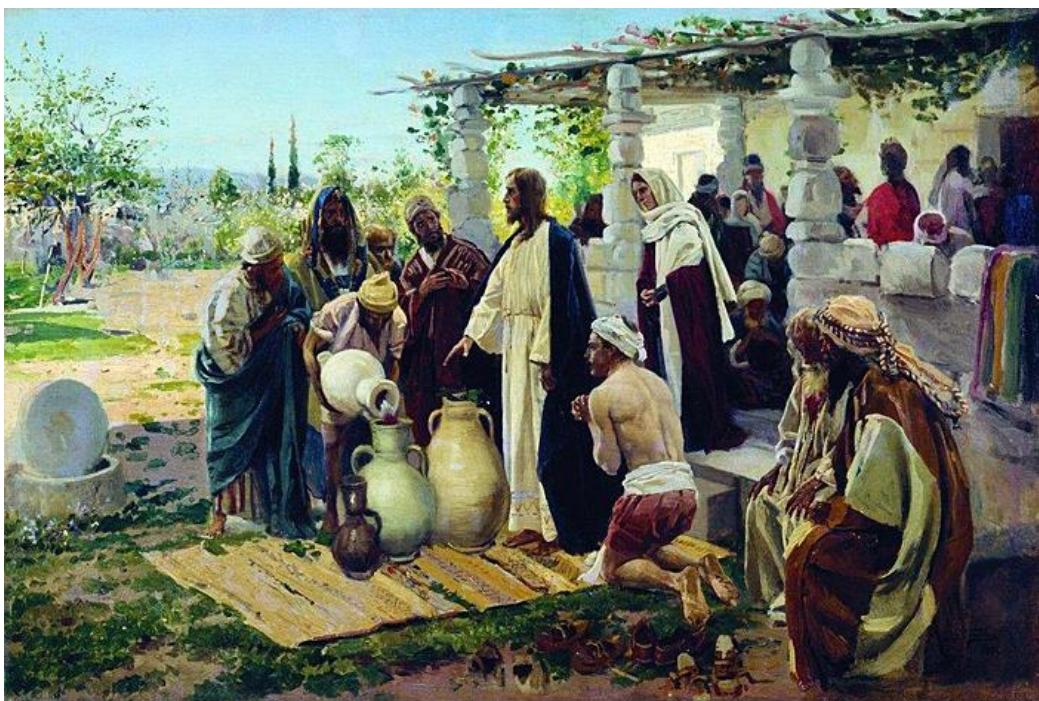


THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 2021

ALL SAINTS WITLEY: LITURGY OF THE WORD



Miracle at Cana by Vladimir Makovsky

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

HYMN

Father, Lord of all creation,
ground of being, life and love;
height and depth beyond description
only life in you can prove:
you are mortal life's dependence:
thought, speech, sight are ours by grace;
yours is very hour's existence,
sovereign Lord of time and space.

Jesus Christ, the Man for others,
we, your people, make our prayer:
help us love – as sisters, brothers –
all whose burdens we can share.
Where your name binds us together
you, Lord Christ, will surely be;
where no selfishness can sever
there your love the world may see.

Holy Spirit, rushing, burning
wind and flame of Pentecost,
free our hearts afresh with yearning
to regain what we have lost.
May your love unite our action,
never more to speak alone:
God, in us abolish faction,
God, through us your love make known.

COLLECT

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESION

Let us confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, unstopp our ears to hear your living word:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS

New Testament: Revelation 19. 6 – 10

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out,

'Hallelujah!
For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.
Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready;
to her it has been granted to be clothed

with fine linen, bright and pure'—
for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

Gospel: John 2. 1 – 11

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

SERMON Elizabeth Gibbs

HYMN

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar;
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addrest,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana wedding-guest
in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in power divine,
changing water into wine:
anthems be to thee addrest,
God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee addrest,
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,
mirrored in thy holy word;
may we imitate thee now,
and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we like to thee may be
at thy great Epiphany;
and may praise thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

PRAYERS

Let us pray to God, the giver of all good things to the Church and to the world.

Grant that the Church may so obey the commands of God that she may be strengthened by the good wine of his love. May we find the mystery of grace in the life of every day.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for the needs of the world, for fellowship and mutual care in sorrow and in joy. Have compassion on those who have not enough for their needs, and guide those who are able to bring relief.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We ask for your blessing on our families. Bless all who are recently married, soon to be married or have had to postpone their marriage due to the pandemic. Give them joy at their weddings and constancy in their love.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for the broken marriages and the families where bitterness has driven out love. Revive in them the first vision of their joy and restore their love in the unbounded love of Christ.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Receive the souls of those who have passed through the pleasures and troubles of this world and found the good wine at last. May they rejoice in the great wedding feast of heaven.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We offer our prayers in the name of Christ, who gives abundantly to all who bring their need to him. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

HYMN

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice;
brothers and sisters with one voice
tell all the world he is your choice.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O magnify the Lord, and raise
anthems of joy and holy praise
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

They with a faith for ever new
followed the King, and round him drew
thousands of faithful hearts and true.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Let love's unconquerable might
your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of light.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

So shall God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun,
and the whole church at last be one.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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.**

NOTICES

BLESSING

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Piano Voluntary

