



The Shepherd's Voice

January 15, 2013

By Fr. Joe Rees

'New Wine'

“When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, ‘They have no wine.’ And Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, what does this have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.’ His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever He tells you.’...And Jesus said, ‘Fill the jars with water.’” John 2: 4-7

Are you looking for the new wine of life? Yes, it's a new year and paychecks just took a hit with increased social security tax, and, the prospect of insecurity in the job market, and, etc., etc. So, the old wine just doesn't seem to be making it, not nearly satisfying enough, left you with a bad taste in your mouth, kept you from being all you can be. Well, take a look again at Jesus!

Here is Jesus' first miracle at a wedding in Cana in Galilee. I think it's marvelous that His mom, Mary, knows that He's capable of giving them all 'new wine'. The old wine ran out. In fact, they probably used up the poor quality stock. This probably was a poor family that may not have had enough to go around. But, Jesus responds with a curious statement, 'what does this have to do with Me?' In fact, it has everything to do with Him! Mary knows that her Son has the spiritual Power. She has every confidence that her Son, God's Son, will supply more and wonderfully blessed wine for the celebration, somehow, (wedding feasts were religious and honored God, so no hint of over-doing it). The family simply didn't have enough refreshments. Wedding celebrations could go on for a week! There is the note of compassion from Mary that Jesus responds to. By the way, the name of 'Mary' His mother is not mentioned at all in the Gospel, just her relationship. Mary says, 'do what He tells you' emphatically, as she knows there will be a blessing of joy. Jesus' time had begun but not been consummated. His journey to the cross was

only beginning with a sample of His compassionate love for God's people.

'The hour' is the hour of His crucifixion and resurrection when the old wine laced with sin is consumed in death and the new wine of raised-up life begins. Jesus looks ahead to this new life in the abundance of the joy of His Kingdom when He turns that much water into wine! Some estimate that it could be 30-60 gallons! It became the wine of abundant joy through the living Word of God. He spoke and the waters were changed, re-created into the tastiest wine anyone had ever had. His Word coming forth from His Life made ceremonial cleansing water in old beat up clay urns into Spirit-filled renewal to all who taste of His Life. We shall be changed when we come to the joy of communing with Him. The chalice of new wine poured out from His sacrifice gives us new Life in Him. Every time we receive Holy Communion and are fed with His Body and Blood, we are given new life by that new wine that cleanses us and empowers us for service unto Him. The water is His Word activated by His Spirit. All of us are old pots that need new wine. Drink of His 'new wine' and we will be made new creatures, risen with Him, with new taste buds for life in all its fullness and the joy of His blessings.

It's my hope and prayer that all of us in this new year will drink of the never ending new wine of Jesus Christ and His Word that propels us across the darkening landscapes of this world to the gates of heaven that are radiant with His love and peace and blessings of joy. Let Jesus turn your water into new wine!

In Christ's love and blessings,
Fr. Joe

Sunday Servers this week...

January 20, 2013	2 Epiphany	8:00 a.m. Service	10:15 a.m. Service
First Reader	Isaiah 62:1-5	Robbin Gates	Stephen Painter
Psalm Reader	Psalm 96	Choir	Pat Seelig
Second Reader	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	Judy Gillease	Pat Richardson
Intercessor		Acolyte	Acolyte
Lay Euch. Ministers		Kay Focke, Doug Hall	Frances Slaughter, Carolyn Blumberg
Acolytes		Thor Strom	Rob A (C); Kalani C (T1); Kai C (T2)
Welcomers		Myrna Lipnicke, Paula Sholly	Margaret Olsen, Paula Sholly
Ushers		Dick Sholly, Chris Corey	Dink Nash, Ted Vallas, JR Fox, April Knowles
Vestry Person of Day	William Culbreth		
Healing Ministers		Jane Rost, Robbin Gates	Joy Rosendale, Petey Seibold
Announcer		Myrna Lipnicke	Joe Manville

The Bishop is coming!

Bishop Bill Thompson will be at Grace on February 17th. If you want to be baptized, confirmed, or received while the Bishop is here, please contact the church office.

Tuesdays in January and Beyond

Jan 8th-Feb 5th and Feb. 26-Mar. 19th
Donna Brayton's life-changing course on the Sermon on the Mount will begin this Tuesday, January 8 with a potluck @ 6:30PM. This is Jesus' powerful teaching on how to live as a truly committed follower of Christ in community with others. Be sure to sign up at the book table in the Narthex. Come at 6:30 p.m. with food to share and stay for this wonderful series.

Praise – Worship – Prayer

Join with your Grace Family on Sunday, January 20th at 4:00 P.M. for a service of praise, worship and prayer at Grace. There will be music and lots of prayer for our country, our church, our friends (and those not so friendly).

Cursillo Grand Ultreya

Grace Anglican Church

1:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend this joyous event

Sunday at Grace

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
with choir
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Adult Forum
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with'
Worship Team
10:15 a.m. Children's Church

Happy New Year!

Readings for Sunday

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 96

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

We are using the English Standard
Version of the Bible and the Lectionary
from the Book of Common Prayer
(Year C)

This Week at Grace –Jan. 15-Jan. 22, 2013

Tues. January 15

- 11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Healing Prayer & Eucharist at CHC
6:30 p.m. Potluck Fellowship Dinner
7:00 p.m. Donna's Sermon on the Mount Teaching

Wed January 16

- 6:25 a.m. Brother Benno's Team
8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer & Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

Thurs. January 17

- 7:00 a.m. Bible Study
11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at the Oasis
3:30 p.m. Alpha Club
7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Fri. January 18

- Fr. Joe's day off
6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Eucharist at Grace

Sat. January 19

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship

Sun. January 20

- Sanctity of Life Sunday
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with choir
9:30 a.m. Coffee and Adult Ed.
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Worship Team
4:00 p.m. Praise, Worship & Prayer service

Mon. January 21

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer

Tues. January 22

- 11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Healing prayer & Eucharist at CHC
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Potluck Supper
7:00 p.m. Donna Brayton's class on
The Sermon on the Mount.

Rector's Bible Study

Tuesdays

11:30 a.m.

Fr. Joe is leading the group through a study of
the Book of Isaiah. Everyone is welcome.
B.Y.O.L. (Bring your own lunch)

**Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer At Grace Anglican
All are welcome to attend.**

Weekly – There are over 25 small groups meeting
during the week. Check our newsletter for a list of
all the groups or you can find the list on our website:
www.graceanglicanchurch.com.

Save the date!

- Jan. 15 Sermon on the Mount Teaching
Jan. 16 Vestry Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
Jan. 20 Praise Service at Grace – 4:00 p.m.
Jan. 22 Sermon on the Mount Teaching
Jan. 27 **All Parish Annual Meeting**
Jan. 25 Contemplative prayer – 6:00 p.m.
Feb. 2 Grand Ultreya at Grace-1:30 p.m.
Feb. 3 Youth Catachesis – Noon to 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 6 Soaking Prayer – 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 9 Prayers & Squares – 9:30 a.m.
Feb. 10 – One service at 9:00 a.m. with Baptism of
Talon Dannenberger – brunch to follow.
Feb. 12 Shrove Tuesday fun and frivolity
Feb. 13 Ash Wed. Services at noon and 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 15 Contemplative Prayer – 6 p.m.
Feb. 16&17 Bishop Bill at Grace
Feb. 20 Vestry Meeting
Feb. 23 Combined Vestry Retreat at Grace
Mar. 9 Daylight Savings Time –set clocks forward.
Mar. 24 Palm Sunday
Mar. 31 Easter Sunday
May 3 Anglican Men's Retreat at Forest Home