



*As the bridegroom rejoices over
the bride, so shall your God
rejoice over you.*

Isaiah 62:5b

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A Member of
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2025 THEME FOR BERE A & ZION

COME AND SEE!

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Come and experience the faith that ties us together and keeps us at Berea and Zion. In a world of increasing uncertainty, you and I are encouraged to live and share the basics of our faith that keeps us here. It is vital, life and eternal life changing, to know Jesus, our Saviour who lived, suffered, died, and rose, for us, to set us free from the control of evil.

Our faith is grounded in the Good News that Jesus lives... the victory is won. Living the victorious life means that Jesus is an ever-present source of peace, comfort and hope in our lives. This year let's open doors for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts and minds of our families, friends and community by warmly inviting them to... "COME AND SEE"!

BEREA & ZION GUESTS

At the end of worship we would like to invite you to please take a moment to sign our guest book in the foyer.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome! It's great to have you with us today! If you're here because you're looking for a church family, we're always excited to unite brothers and sisters in Christ.

Talk to Pastor John for more info.

Epiphany 2 ~ January 19, 2025

As We Gather

The miracle of water turned into wine is a surprising one. It is marked by the fact that this is the choicest of wines, that the sheer amount of wine was embarrassingly extravagant, and that the full benefit of this miracle was limited to the servants who did what Jesus said, Mary, and the disciples who were with Jesus.

The miracle is the mark of what is to come. Jesus' whole ministry is one of goodness beyond compare, of extravagant mercy beyond what we deserve or even dare ask, and of grace hidden in ordinary things like words, water, bread, and wine.

+ WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE +

Opening Hymn 395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

*1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
Aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's race, King David's son,
Our Lord and master, You have won
Our hearts to serve You only!*

*Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious, Rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing!*

*2 Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine,
And deep within our hearts now shine;
There light a flame undying!
In Your one body let us be
As living branches of a tree,
Your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily Earth's deep sadness
May perplex us And distress us,
Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.*

*3 Lord, when You look on us in love,
At once there falls from God above
A ray of purest pleasure.
Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.
You are our dearest treasure!
Let Your mercy Warm and cheer us!
O draw near us! For You teach us
God's own love through You has reached us.*

*4 Almighty Father, in Your Son
You loved us when not yet begun
Was this old earth's foundation!
Your Son has ransomed us in love
To live in Him here and above:
This is Your great salvation.
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving Life forever,
Keeps us Yours and fails us never!*

*5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending! For Christ goes with us all the way-
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!*

*6 What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness! We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!*

Invocation

P: We come together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

Confession and Absolution *Psalm 117:2; 36:7*

P: Great is His steadfast love toward us,

C: **and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

P: How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!

C: **The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.**

P: In His steadfast love, we take refuge in the mercy of God, confessing our sins and rejoicing in His gift of forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.)

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. AMEN**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 128

P: Blessèd is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways!

C: **You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you.**

P: Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

C: **Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.**

P: The Lord bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life!

C: **May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!**

All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. AMEN**

Prayer of the Day

P: *We pray.* Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

+ **WORD** +

Old Testament

Isaiah 62:1-5

("As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.")

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a

crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

(The Spirit bestows many gifts but for one purpose-that God may be glorified and His church edified.)

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

Holy Gospel

John 2:1-11

(The first miracle of Jesus at Cana of Galilee, where He turned water into wine.)

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. 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." Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

P: These are the Word of the Lord. C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Profession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN

Children's Talk (Zion)

1 *Lord, when You came as welcome guest*

*To Cana's wedding feast,
The bridal pair, divinely blest,
Found all their joy increased.*

2 *Now give Your presence from above*

*That these, by vowing true,
May show their pledge is like the love
Between the Church and You.*

3 *Preserve the vow these two shall make,*

*This circle round their life,
This golden ring that none may break
Which makes them husband, wife.*

4 *Your daily mercies let them share,*

*All threats of harm destroy;
By this their vow divide their care
And double all their joy.*

5 *On all who thus before You kneel*

*Your joyous Spirit pour
That each may wake the other's zeal
To love You more and more.*

6 *O grant them here in peace to live,*

*In purity and love,
And after this life to receive
The crown of life above.*

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Sermon

The Offerings Are Gathered

(The Offertory Prayer is sung as the offerings are brought forward)

*We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

*May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!*

Prayers of the Church

P: Merciful Father, You have richly restored Your people, stained by sin and marked by death. Fill us with Your grace that we may rejoice in the mercy You have shown to us and keep us holy and blameless in Christ all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Jesus, You visited a wedding in Cana of Galilee and placed Your blessing on the family. Uplift us by Your Spirit that our homes may be places of blessing and peace where forgiveness is asked and given without limit. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Holy Lord, You have established Your church as Christ's Bride and clothed her in His righteousness. Give to us faithful pastors and church workers who will proclaim Your goodness and lead us to sing Your praises and give faithful witness before the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Mighty Father, Continue to bless our land with an abundance of resources, generous hearts, and faithful leaders, that Your name may be preserved and we may be governed according to Your Word and will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Compassionate Father, You bear our burdens and have saved us by Your grace. Help the afflicted to bear in faith the burdens of their struggles. Grant healing and comfort according to Your will. We especially lift up... and all in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, be with those celebrating birthdays, baptismal birthdays, and anniversaries this week.

C: Thank you for the past, and we look forward to the future.

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: AMEN

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN

Benediction

P: The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn 917 Saviour, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

*1 Saviour, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.*

*2 Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.*

*3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.*

*4 Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.*

Announcements and Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

BEREA

Organist: Bill Irwin
Elders: Kevin Ball, Chuck Becker
For Prayer: Lilo 226 421-2436, Elizabeth 237-3622
Altar Guild: Kevin & Heather Ball

ZION

Organist: Joanne Maguire
Elders: Ken Rader, Lorne Koch, Tom Hayter,
Randy Bowers, Jeff Miller
For Prayer: Nancy 237-3653, Brenda 237-3789
Altar Guild: C. Freiter / N. Rader
Children's Talk: Doris Osgood

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