

Key Scripture - John 2: 3, 4

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."



Theme - Whose Job is This?

Welcome and Announcements

At this time Trinity will not be gathering in person for worship. Services will be recorded and posted on our [Facebook page](#), which you can access through our website and will be aired on Cogeco YouTV. Our building will also be closed during this lockdown time. If you require access and do not have a key, please phone the Office in advance or from the front door. The office number is - 613 283 4444

† Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.

– Trinity is an Affirming Congregation

† Services are pre-recorded during the week prior to the Sunday they represent, then posted to [Facebook](#). You will find a window to the Facebook Page on our [Website](#). You will also find a link to our [Bulletin Page](#). Services are rebroadcast on COGECO (Your TV) the following Sunday 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.

† We continue to pray for those who were impacted by the legacy of Indian Residential Schools.

† A Lovely Musical Note from Wendy -

- Hi everyone: Now that you are again, sitting with your feet in front of the fire, a coffee in one hand, and the remote in the other, watching the Service on TV, I thought it would be a good time to ask you to do something.
- When we are recording, I take that opportunity to bring in a bunch of new hymns; ones that you have never heard before, in the hope that you will remember them when we are together again. That has not happened in the past.
- Perhaps you would prefer to pick some of your own favourite hymns and voluntary pieces that you would like to hear over the next few weeks. This is your chance to have your music heard. Please let me know if I can play something you would really like. You can contact me at - wendy.earl75@yahoo.com
- I am interested to see what you request. Please stay safe and stay well.

Looking Ahead

17 January, 1:00pm - Sensible Shoes: A Story about the Spiritual Journey. [Video call link](#)

19 January, 9:30am - Bible Study. We may meet [remotely](#)

Smiths Falls Community Food Bank appreciates donations, please fill our wagon at the back of the Sanctuary, it will be delivered monthly.

[Ottawa School of Theology & Spirituality](#) offers numerous courses that may be of interest as you seek ways to explore and deepen your faith and spiritual experience.

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

Interlude "Noel Etranger" (D'Aquin)

Call to Worship

How precious is God's steadfast love!

We will find refuge in the shelter of God's wings.

Come and feast on God's abundance.

We will drink from the river of God's delights.

For with God is the fountain of life;

And in God's light we will see light.

Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!

We will bring God our prayers and our praise with hearts full of love.

Opening Prayer

God of light and life,

As the new year unfolds before us,

we begin to feel the sunlight returning to brighten the winter.

Our spirits grow stronger in the light.

You shine your light into our lives.

Your Spirit strengthens us to face whatever this year will hold.

And so we come to praise you

for your light which transforms our days and our lives,

and for your wisdom which enlightens truth for our times.
Shine through us, we pray,
so that we may bear the light of Jesus in this world you love.

Hymn 79 "Arise, Your Light Is Come"

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.

Time With Children

COVID has had quite an impact on the way we go to school or even if we go to school.

No matter what else changes, schools are still a place of education. They are a place of Teaching and of Learning.

What is the difference between education, teaching and learning, teachers and students?

I used to think that Teachers did everything. I forgot how important the Student was in Education.

Children's Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of all life and our lives,

**We gather in worship week by week,
seeking your refreshing presence.**

**But we confess sometimes we are discouraged
by things happening around us.**

We do not expect any better.

Forgive us when we give up on you and end up feeling unfulfilled.

**By your grace, refresh us when we are weary or worried,
and renew our trust in you.**

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and Christ died for us,

Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

No power in heaven or on earth can separate us from God's great
love.

Take heart, and know that you are forgiven.

Scripture

Psalm 36:5-10 (VU762)

1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

John 2:1-11

Psalm 36:5-10 (VU762)

Refrain -

***Your steadfast love, O God,
extends to the heavens***

Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mountains, O God,
your judgements are like the great deep;
all living things you save.**

Refrain -

***Your steadfast love, O God,
extends to the heavens***

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
**They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river
of your delights.**

Refrain -

***Your steadfast love, O God,
extends to the heavens***

For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.
Continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright in heart.

Refrain -

***Your steadfast love, O God,
extends to the heavens***

1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them 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 discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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.

Meditation "Noel Sur Les Flutes" (D'Aquin)

Reflection Whose Job is This?

In 1998 I sailed on HMCS MONTREAL as part of NATO Standing Naval Force Atlantic. We were alongside in Faslane Scotland leading up to and during Remembrance Day. There were of course preparations for some type of Service. These preparations saw me meeting briefly with the Coxswain and the Captain to determine the Captain's will and availability of resources. This was really, rather straightforward. Her Majesty's Canadian Ships at sea or in foreign ports always acknowledge Remembrance Day. This was no surprise. We knew how long we would be gone and we knew what special days and events lay between our departure and return home. We would have been pretty much prepared before we left Halifax. The meetings were really, kind of a catch up and confirmation. However, at the first of these meetings the Captain said that he wanted a Bugler. Neither the Coxswain nor Padre brought a Bugle or Bugler with them. None were on board.

“I want a Bugler for the Last Post and I expect I should be able to find one in this port.” Since we were in Scotland, Bagpipes were a given ... but a Bugler?

To clarify, I asked the Captain, “You are going to find a Bugler in Faslane, Sir?”

"Yes" was his confident reply.

The meeting concluded and I went on my way taking care of those things that Padres do, the Coxswain went off and did those things the Coxswain does and the Captain took care of those things that Captains do.

A few days later, we met again. The Coxswain had the parade sorted, including the wet weather plan, "If it rains... Sailors get wet." I had the service sorted, prayers were lined up, readers were assigned and there was a brief devotional ready. The Captain was pleased. He then turned to me and asked, "Padre, did I find a bugler?"

I thought, "Sir, you should know if you found a bugler." However, I did not think it wise to express it just like that. I cautiously answered, "Sir, I thought *you* were going to find a Bugler."

"Yes, I was. Did I find one?"

Slowly, the light dawned. “Ahhh...” I said in thought only, “”When you say, “*I* will find a Bugler" you actually mean, ``*I* will find a Bugler!’”” Using my outside voice, I replied, “No sir you have not found a Bugler, but I am confident you will find one by day's end."

"Good" was his reply.

At the close of the meeting, I went ashore, made some enquiries though the Local Chaplains. The Captain found a Bugler in short order.

One of the first lessons I learned in the Military is whose hands Commanders use to accomplish their desired ends and fulfill tasks. I learned how Captains find Buglers. I also learned that when you are in a meeting with your Commander be prepared to bring what the Commander

requires to fulfill his or her will. Such meetings are not where the commander comes to be tasked by his or her subordinates. If you come empty handed or with work undone or something to be achieved ... You will be asked how that gap will be filled... a plan, a solution, options, and costs, availability of resources, timelines and likelihood of success... If you have none of this, you will have come empty handed, and it is not the Commander's job to do your work.

The Commanding Officer *will find a Bugler*, but it is not his or her role to go and seek one out. He or she will search using your eyes.

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."

Jesus does not dispute the problem. However, what is this to him? Chasing this kind of thing down is not what Jesus does. Mary simply presents a problem. What does Jesus do about it? What should Jesus do about it? Are there volunteers? Is there a plan? What is the availability of resources? Has anybody done what they do in order for Jesus to do what Jesus does?

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.

If Mary wants to see wine at the wedding feast, she has to set up the conditions for Jesus to do what Jesus does. Jesus exercises Authority. Mary manages the situation. Servants fill jars. The Chief Steward exercises quality control. Everybody has a role to play. If any person in

this chain does not exercise their appropriate responsibility or gift there will be no wine.

If our only responsibility was to notice when things were wrong and bring it up, we could each have rather long lists at the end of every day. We could identify problems in people's lives, we could identify systemic failures in almost any organization, we could note ignorance, apathy, selfishness, injustice, we could spend long days throwing stones, either casually or with zeal. However, nothing would change, except that people would dread our appearing. There would certainly be no wine at the wedding feast. But this is not what or who we are.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Like Mary who noticed that the wine had run out, like the Servants who filled the jars with water, like the Chief Steward who tasted the wine and confirmed that it was good; we combine our gifts together and are participants and partners in a work that when met with the power of Jesus, yields great blessings in our community and in our world.

What a wonderful opportunity. What a privilege it is to be his eyes, and hands and feet; to be partners and participants in the work of the Kingdom. And to know Joy ... Joy because we too draw from that sacred vessel of wine ... Joy because we are not only partners in the work but guests at the feast.

The Captain finds a Bugler the way a Commander does and everybody hears the music and shares the Parade.

Amen.

Hymn MV 10 "Come And Seek The Words Of Wisdom"

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the marketplace.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

Invitation to the Offering

God offers us many gifts through the same Spirit so that, together, we may serve in Jesus' name.

Trust that what you have to give, God will bless in faithfulness and fruitfulness.

Offering Options

2022 Donation envelopes are now available. Folks can phone the office and arrange for them to be delivered (Cynthia and I like a road trip).

Offerings can be made several ways -

- E-transfers through the bank to secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca
- by mail OR by delivery to church office by prearranged time
- through Trinity website DONATE button
- PAR

Offering Prayer

God of grace and mercy, receive all our gifts, offered in thanksgiving.

We share the fruit of our labours with you, asking that you will multiply their effects in and through the Church.

And we share the fruit of our time and talent, seeking to know how you would have us serve in Jesus' name.

Hymn 82 "A Light is Gleaming" vs. 2,3,4

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night, living in the light.

Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright, living in the light.

When night is round us and every shadow grows,

A star is there to light our way.

It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say:

“God's light will ever stay.”

And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk.

He showed us things we hadn't seen.

Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine,

And this will be a sign:

So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n,

And let us rise to see the dawn.

We trust that God is here as a spark and a blaze,
Warming all our days.

Prayers of the People

Jesus brought joy into lives that needed hope and a new beginning.

We pray for all those who need a new beginning this year:

Individuals trying to make a new start,

Families trying to sort through difficulties,

Groups hoping to accomplish good things for others,

Refugees building new homes in a new land,

Students and teachers beginning a new semester,

Businesses and congregations trying to rebuild in uncertain
times.

...

Show each one how much they matter to you,
and renew their courage and resolve to make a fresh start.

God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Jesus changed water into wine

to show us that you can accomplish extraordinary things through
ordinary lives.

We pray for all those volunteering their energy and concern
to make a difference for others in this community.

We pray for our elected leaders and for all government workers
trying to manage their responsibilities in such challenging times.

We pray for those working for justice,

raising awareness to problems in society and for the earth itself.

And we pray for one another

and for each good purpose we undertake with new resolve this year.

Give us a glimpse of how our hands become your hands, blessed by the Spirit.

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Jesus faced the suffering around him with compassion,
reaching out to those in pain and grief with healing and hope.

We remember before you those whose lives are wrapped in sorrow or despair,

and those facing tragic death or critical illness...

...

We remember those rebuilding lives and communities after flooding and storm

and all those burdened by pain or problems that seem to have no end...

...

Embrace each one with your comfort and courage,
and show us what we can offer to make a difference.

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We thank you for giving us the courage and commitment we need to follow Jesus in good times and in hard times.

Thank you for the strength we find together as part of your church and the gifts you give us in each other,

gifts we can rely on as we plan for our ministry and mission
in these ever-changing times.

Help us trust in the promise of your love for us
and energize us with your Spirit
so that we can recognize the opportunities you give us
to live out the grace and mercy we know in Jesus

who taught us to pray together:

The 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

[EOORC Prayer Cycle](#)

Mallorytown United Church

[The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle](#)

**Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar,
Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates,
Yemen**

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn 424 "May The God of Hope Go with Us"

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
Freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love our commitment clear
To a world restored, to human life renewed.
Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Benediction

God sends us to the lonely, the forsaken.
We will gather them up into the heart of love.
Jesus sends us to throw a feast for those
whose tables are bare.

**We will sit with those who have no family,
to fill their lives with hope and grace.**

The Spirit sends us as transformed people,
as those who have been given new names.

**We will go to those stuck in the mire of life,
Who long for new days, for new joy, for new wonder.**

Choral Amen

Postlude "In Dulci Jubilo" (Bach)