

Sunday May 4, 2025

John 2:1-11



The Fullness of Easter Joy

The Lord of Festival Joy

“If we are right in linking the present passage with the later ones Jesus is thinking of his messianic function. At the threshold of his ministry, he looks forward to its consummation.”
-Leon Morris

“Jesus sat amidst all the joy of the wedding feast sipping the coming sorrow so that today you and I who believe in him can sit amidst all this world’s sorrow sipping the coming joy.”
-Edmund Clowney

“Eastertide ought to be a time to balance out Lent by taking something up, some new task or venture, something wholesome and fruitful and outgoing and self-giving.”
-NT Wright

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
-Hebrews 12:1-2

Order of Worship

Welcome

Prelude

Leader: He is risen!
People: **He is risen, indeed!**

Call to Worship: from Psalm 84

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
My soul longs, yes, faints, for the courts of the Lord;
My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

People: **Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
Ever singing your praise!**

Leader: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

All: For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord bestows favour and honour. No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts blessed is the one who trusts in you!

Hymns of Praise

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blessed,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!

Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning over us,
Brother love binds man to man.

Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us
Sunward In the triumph song of life.

O Worship the King
O worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His power and His love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, Whose canopy space,
Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

Prayer for the World, the Church & the City

Confession

Our gracious and merciful Father, You have been faithful to us and blessed us; You have protected us and cared for us. But Lord, forgive us, for when life gets messy, we have often questioned Your love for us. We are so quick to doubt; we worry over answers that we want so desperately from You but have not yet received. We predict future outcomes based on the facts as we see them; our imaginations are prone to fear rather than to trust. Please increase our faith daily to know Your love for us. Help us in our weakness; be our refuge and our strength, our great helper in times of trouble. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from all kinds of evil, we pray in Jesus’ name.

Private Confession

Assurance of Pardon: from Psalm 18:1-3

I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer, my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies.

Hymn of Assurance

Agnus Dei

Alleluia Alleluia
For the Lord God Almighty reigns (x2)
Alleluia

Holy, holy—are you Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the lamb, worthy is the lamb
You are holy, holy—are you Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb
You are holy

Holy, holy—are you Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the lamb, worthy is the lamb
You are holy, holy—are you Lord God Almighty
Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb
A-men

Tithes and Offerings

credit card and other options such as e-transfers are available
via mail@gracevancouver.com

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Scripture - John 2:1-11

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

God's Word Today- Mike Hsu

Sermon Title: The Lord of Festival Joy

Sermon Outline

- 1. The Legal Implications of the Wine Running Out
- 2. Jesus' Response to Mary
- 3. Jesus' First Miracle
- 4. The Take-Home for Us
 - a. The True Master of the Feast
 - b. His Sipping Sorrows for our Joy
 - c. Covering Our Shame and the Legal Expense of Sin

Application Question: How does the love of Christ and the Cross He bore root you in a great and lasting joy? Has it?

The Lord's Supper

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto you, O Lord, our Father Almighty, everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your holy name; evermore praising You and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth of Your glory are full. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution and Declaration of Faith

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
People: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.
Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God, take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on Him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Indescribable
From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea
Creations revealing Your majesty
From the colours of fall to the fragrance of spring
Every creature unique in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Indescribable, uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing, God

All powerful, untameable
Awestruck, we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim
You are amazing, God

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go?
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light?
Yet, conceals it to bring us the coolness of night
None can fathom

Incomparable, unchangeable
You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same
You are amazing, God
You are amazing, God

Benediction: 2 Corinthians 13:14
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Peace

Minister: The Peace of the Lord be with you all
People: And also with you

Announcements

- 1. Zoom Prayer Meeting every Thursday 7-7:45 pm.
- 2. All Church Retreat June 13-15! Registration forms on back table or link in Friday Notes. **Deadline to register is NEXT Sunday!**
- 3. Please send Prayer requests & Tithes to mail@gracevancouver.com
- 4. Operation Baby Bottle- Pregnancy Care Centre fundraiser from Mother's Day to Father's Day.
- 5. Soup and Bread today after the service. Please join us!
- 6. Free Parking available across from Canada Post.
- 7. Children's Church and Nursery are available downstairs.

Tithes

2025 Annual Budget \$250,000
Giving Last Week \$4,931

Ministry Contacts

Lead Pastor:
Mike Hsu – mike@gracevancouver.com

Assoc. Pastor of Worship and Discipleship:
Abel Sisco - abel@gracevancouver.com