

GIVING (TAKING) THE HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER Unison

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Proclamation of God's Word

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 2:1-11 (See insert)

SERMON *The People Involved in Jesus' Ministry* Pastor Jenny Lee

We Respond to God's Word

RESPONDING PRAYER Unison

Gracious God, whose miracles surround us day by day and whose revelation in Jesus Christ awakens our wonder, let this be an hour of powerful encounter with you in which our gifts are called forth for the sake of your church and for the transformation of your world. Work within us, among us, and through us, we pray that believing minds may blossom into trusting hearts and helping hands, fully committed to your service. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION/PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND

OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Unison

God who called us, we rejoice to commit ourselves anew with our gifts. May what we share strengthen your children spiritually, inspiring each person to invest fully in the work you set before us. The varieties of gifts you entrust to us can be realized only if they are used. Thank you for granting us this joy. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen!

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

*CLOSING HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593 (vs. 1 & 2)

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Jenny Lee

*POSTLUDE

Worship Resources "Gathered by Love" by Lavon Bayler.

Upper St. Croix Parish

ONE Parish THREE Churches:

Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls

January 16th, 2022

"2nd Sunday After Epiphany/New Covenant Sunday"



The United Methodist Church

8:30 AM at Central-Grantsburg with Online Zoom Service

9:45 AM at Atlas

11:15 AM at St. Croix Falls

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Upper St. Croix Parish
Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls
January 16th, 2022

“2nd Sunday After Epiphany/New Covenant Sunday”

*Please stand if you are able.

***PRELUDE**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE GREETINGS

“Peace be with you”

We Celebrate New Life in Christ

RECOGNITION OF LEADERS IN THE CHURCH

(All Church Leaders, Please stand if you are able.)

Dear Leaders in the church, you have been called by God and chosen by the people of God for leadership in the church. This ministry is a blessing and a serious responsibility. It recognizes your special gifts and calls you to work among us and for us. In love we thank you for accepting your obligation, and challenge you to offer your best to the Lord, to our people, and to our ministry in the world. Live a life in Christ and make him known in your witness and your work.

Today we recognize our church leaders. (see insert).

Do you this day acknowledge yourselves a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Will you devote yourselves to the service of God in the world?

We will.

Will you so live that you enable this church to be a people of love and peace?

We will.

Will you do all in your power to be responsible to the task for which you have been chosen?

We will.

BLESSINGS TO THE LEADERS

(To Congregation)

Dear my family in Christ, rejoice that God provides laborers for God’s ministry. Will you do all you can to assist and encourage them in the responsibilities to which they have been called, giving them your cooperation, your counsel, and your prayers?

Yes, we will.

***OPENING HYMN** *We Are the Church* **UMH 558 (vs. 1 & 2)**

OPENING PRAYER Unison

(John Wesley’s Covenant Prayer-in contemporary language)

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,

praised for you or criticized for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and fully surrender all things to your hope and service.

And now, O glorious and blessed God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours.

So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth,

let it be made also in heaven. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME

UMH 191 (vs. 1)

Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION FOR COMMUNION

Pastor Jenny Lee

CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

Merciful God,

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will,

we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(All pray in silence)

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 13-14 (See insert)

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 13-14

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his
disciples,

and said: "take, eat; this is my body which given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it
to his disciples, and said: "drink from this, all of you; this is my blood
of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the
forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of
faith.

(Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.)

(You may hold the communion elements with your two hands.)

**(Together) Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on
these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and
blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.**

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,

and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly
banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy
Church,

all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 2:1-11

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the
mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been
invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus
said to him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman,
what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." 5
His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Now
standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of
purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to
them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8
He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief
steward." So they took it. 9 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 10 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." 11 Jesus did this, the first of his
signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples
believed in him.

This is the word of God for the people of God.



Thanks be to God.

CHURCH MISSIONS



ATLAS...January

<p>INK JET RECYCLING PROGRAM:</p> <p>Atlas collects and recycles ink jet cartridges and cell phones year round.</p> 	 <p>We will be collecting soup and monetary donations to support Super Bowl of Caring.</p>	<p>Help Support the Food Shelf in Luck</p> 
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GRANTSBURG...January

<p>BE A "BACK-PACK BACKER"!</p> <p>REMEMBER ... Every Sunday Is MAC 'N CHEESE SUNDAY! Supporting the Salvation Army's "Happy Kids Back-Pack Program"</p> 		<p>Collecting soup and coins to support Souper Bowl of Caring</p>
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ST. CROIX FALLS...January

 <p>Food Shelf</p> <p>(Communion Sunday)</p>	<p>Sailor Hat Offering:</p>  <p>Funds will go to the Salvation Army.</p>
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Thank you for your support!

TODAY'S SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Ministers All God's People
Pastor Jenny Lee

Today's Service

Central:
 Pianist Toni Koons
 Liturgist LuAnne Martell
 Snow Removal Stan Chute
 Acolyte(s) Willow Erickson
 Fellowship **Volunteer Needed**
 Counter **Volunteer Needed**
 Sunday School Younger/Older
 LuAnne Martell/Barb Loomis



Atlas:
 Pianist Sharon Asp
 Liturgist Sue Olson
 Usher(s) Sue Olson
 Cleaning **Volunteer Needed**
 Sunday school Younger/Older
 Cheryl Olson/Colleen Adam-Schween

St. Croix Falls:
 Pianist Sharon Asp
 Liturgist Karen Sciacca
 Usher(s) Jim Andrews
 Money Counter Peter Gionis
 Flowers Kathy Gionis
 Fellowship Ad Council members

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK:
 "This kind can come out only by prayer" (Mark 9:29)
 Please pray every morning at 8:30, if it is possible!

- 1) For those who lost their loved ones recently.
- 2) For those who stay in a nursing home, or homebound.

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) An Online Zoom Service is scheduled for this Sunday at 8:30 am. The link will be posted on our parish website and Facebook page. Click the LINK to Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84147808460?pwd=SDZleFNubmEvaDBlcytTRzVxMFIIZz09>
Phone: +1 312 626 6799,
Meeting ID: 841 4780 8460, Passcode: 568271
- 2) Our Sunday Sermons are on the website at upperstcroixparish.org under Sermons!
- 3) You can hear “the service by Phone,” whenever you are able by calling 1-715-298-0854.
- 4) You may watch a recorded video of the service on our parish Facebook page.
<https://www.facebook.com/UpperStCroixParishUMC>

This Week’s Calendar:

Today: 2nd Sunday After Epiphany and New Covenant Sunday! As God gave us a new year, let us remind ourselves of our covenant with God.

We have new 2022 signup sheets for volunteers. Please find a spot where you can be a part of the church. We are the church, which is growing in faith together.

Sunday Worship Service:

8:30 am Grantsburg
9:45 am Atlas “Christmas Program”
11:15 am St. Croix Falls

1/18, 6:30pm, Administrative Council Meeting (G)

1/19, 4pm, Go Fish for Kids (G)

6:30pm, Youth Gathering (G)

1/20, 9am, North District Clergy Meeting via Zoom

4pm, Administrative Council meeting(SCF)

1/22, 9am to 3pm, North District Leadership Training via zoom.

This Week’s Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Peter & Kathy Gionis 1/16

Vanessa Harmon 1/16

Briella Reid 1/21



Next Sunday (January 23th) Volunteers:

Ministers	All God’s People <i>Pastor Jenny Lee</i>
Central:	
Pianist	Toni Koons
Liturgist	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Snow Removal	Stan Chute
Acolyte(s)	Willow Erickson
Fellowship	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Counter	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Sunday School	Younger/Older LuAnne Martell/ Barb Loomis

Atlas:

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Usher(s)	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Cleaning	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Sunday School	Younger/Older

St. Croix Falls:

Pianist	Sharon Asp
Liturgist	Karen Sciacca
Usher(s)	Jim Andrews
Money Counter	Peter Gionis
Flowers	Kathy Gionis
Fellowship	Ad Council Member (3rd Sunday)



1/26 CONFIRMATION CLASS

1/27 SPRC MEETING



January 16th, 2022
John 2:1-11

Pastor Jenny Lee, Ph.D.
Upper St. Croix Parish UMC

“The People Involved in Jesus’ Ministry”

I want to start with something funny. A couple has two boys: a fourth-grader and sixth-grader. The fourth-grader celebrated his birthday on crutches so he couldn’t carry the cupcakes into school without help. His mom asked her sixth-grade boy, Noah, to help his brother carry them in. He said, “I could, but I’d prefer not to.” Spotting a teaching moment, his dad asked Noah, “What would Jesus do?” Noah answered, “Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes.”

We know Jesus. We believe in him and follow him. So, we call ourselves Christians. But, as much as we are all different, we have diverse interpretations of Jesus’ teaching. Even though it was a funny story, I wonder what you think about the dad and his older son in the story. We may guess the dad’s intention. Perhaps, he intended to teach his older son to help his younger son, as Jesus taught us to help the weak. However, the older son was also not wrong, technically, because it is true that Jesus would heal the sick. Therefore, it is essential to understand the background and meaning of the scriptures.

Today’s scripture is very important for those of us involved in Jesus’ ministry. Its meaning implies who we are and who we would be. We may find out these meanings. Furthermore, we may get a New Year’s resolution in Jesus Christ our Lord as the people involved in his ministry.

The Gospel of John describes Jesus’ seven miracles (John 2:1-11; 4:46-54; 5:1-8; 6:1-13; 6:16-21; 9:1-41; 11:1-44). Today’s scripture is about the first miracle (John 2:11). His first miracle was to make wine from water at a wedding party. Have you ever wondered why Jesus made his first miracle turning water into wine? It is because it implies his ministry’s purpose. His ministry’s goal was to save his people from sins and invite eternal life. God’s purpose to send Jesus to us and the purpose of Jesus’ ministry is the same as it says, “for God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life” (John 3:16). The disciple John explains eternal life as an “invitation to Jesus’ wedding party” in the Book of Revelation (Revelation 19:7-10). As we are Christians, we have already accepted his invitation. So, we have somehow lived in eternal life “partly” in the world. As a wedding party’s purpose is “joy,” Jesus invites us into joyous life. Therefore, the Apostle Paul says, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). According to God’s will, our lives should be full of joy and gratitude with prayers as if we are at a wedding party.

In today's scripture, we see a wedding party. We don't know whose wedding it was, but we know who was there. The people at the wedding party are involved in Jesus' ministry in a particular character. There were Jesus, his disciples (2:2), Jesus' mother (2:1), the servants (2:5), the steward (2:9), and there might be guests. We may notice who we are and how we are involved in Jesus' ministry through these people. This wedding party is a parable story of our Christian life. Wine is a parable of the blood of Jesus, which means the love of Jesus. It is as if we join the sacrament of communion service drinking wine and taking bread as the symbol of Jesus' blood and body. The sacrament of communion service reminds us that we are involved in Jesus' ministry; that we accept Jesus' invitation to his wedding party and to eternal life. Whether we notice or not, we are involved in Jesus' ministry. As a wedding party may continue if food/wine is continually provided, our life never ends if we are united by the blood (love) of Jesus.

However, it happened that they finished the wine at the wedding party. The party could not continue without wine, and the joy would also disappear. Before the steward noticed it, Jesus' mother noticed it and said to Jesus, "They have no wine." Please pay attention. Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." It sounds like an illogical answer. However, think that Jesus was on a quest. As a guest, what could Jesus do at the wedding party? That's why Jesus said, "What concern is that to you and to me? It is not my time yet." But, Jesus' mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Jesus' mother knew that he must be the master of the party and invited him to be the master. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And the servants did it without any questions. Jesus said to them, "Take it to the chief steward." The servants took it to the chief steward without any questions. The chief steward tested it and noticed that it was the finest wine. He didn't know where it was from, but the servants knew it. The servants who obeyed without any questions saw the miracles. And the disciples who were there didn't do anything but believe in him.

Think of the people who were involved in Jesus' ministry. Among them, which role do we practice in our life? I wonder if we live with Jesus, who is a guest. I wonder if we live like the disciples in this parable, who didn't do anything but just believe in. I wonder if we live without noticing finishing the wine like the steward. Sometimes we know the feeling of burnout in our church work. That's because we are just working hard without noticing where Jesus is. Jesus should be at the center of our work. If you don't feel joyful in your life, please invite Jesus as your master. Jesus can make things happen for you. If you believe in Jesus and wish to see his miracle, please obey God's Word like the servants. You may experience God's miracle in your life. God is the Living God. Jesus is with us by the Holy Spirit. Our life without Jesus is like living in the wilderness without water. Only when we invite Jesus Christ as our Lord, can our life be full of joy, hope, peace, and love. You are already involved in Jesus' ministry. But, it still remains your choice which character you would practice being in your life. Please choose one as your New Year's resolution. Thanks be to God. Amen.