

A photograph of ancient stone ruins, likely the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, captured at sunset. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a vibrant orange and red near the horizon. The ruins are made of weathered stone blocks, with several arched openings visible. On the left, a large, dark dome is partially visible. The overall scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of the setting sun.

*Good News  
Good Ways*

**YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE AT  
PEACE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**January 23, 2022**

**\*Please stand in body and/or spirit as you are able.**

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*GATHERING MUSIC**

**#282 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit***

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: *We gather today as people in need of God's steadfast love:*

Many: **We gather this day as people looking for signs:**

One: *We gather today as people who confess the transforming power of our  
Water-changing God,*

Many: **We gather today as people who belong to the infinitely  
generous, water-into-wine, do-whatever-it-takes-to-bring-life-  
to-others God.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER (in unison)**

**O Divine Lover, who constantly stirs the waters of our souls,  
unconcerned with the debris and dirt which has lain hidden in the  
depths for so long; who gently lights the colors and awakens the  
flavors which we had forgotten we held within us, revealing the wine  
that is our true being; With relief and gladness, we praise and thank  
you for your love and healing; And in loving response we offer  
ourselves to be poured out for other thirsty ones who long to taste  
the sweetness of your generous love. Amen.**

*-adapted from a prayer by John van de Laar*

**\*HYMN**

**#391 *In the Midst of New Dimensions***

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**PSALTER READING: Psalm 36,**

**page 645 New Century Hymnal**

**SUNG PSALTER RESPONSE**

**#459 *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing***



## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### SILENT PRAYERS, INTERCESSORY PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### **BIBLICAL TESTIMONY:** John 2:1-11

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

#### **CONTEMPORARY TESTIMONY:** An Excerpt from 180 Gallons of Grace by Edward F. Markquart

*Jesus took 180 gallons of Jewish laws, the rituals of purification, and transformed them. Jesus took 180 gallons of guilt, 180 gallons of laws, laws and more laws, 180 gallons of don't do this and don't do that, 180 gallons of laws that then numbered more than 600 regulations, and he transformed them into a new religion, new meaning, new wine that would burst old wine skins. Jesus transformed the old religion into the new religion. The miracle was a sign. The miracle had a message and you have to get the message. You stop at the intersection outside of church and see red and white paint painted on metal, you better get the message. Stop. It is the message that is important. And there is a grand message to Jesus' first sign. 180 gallons of guilt are transformed into 180 gallons of grace.*

(see insert)

SERMON

A Glass of Grace

**OFFERING AND OFFERTORY & DEDICATION OF GIFTS**

Generous God, may our gifts be given in loving response as we offer our time and talents to be poured out for other thirsty ones who long to taste the sweetness of your generous love. Amen.

\*HYMN

#489 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP TIME BEFORE CHURCH. Beginning at 9:30.**

**CONFIRMATION to follow worship.**

**WOMEN/MOMS OF PEACE UCC ARE INVITED TO JOIN A DISCUSSION AND BOOK READING of the book Risen Motherhood: Gospel Hope for everyday moments. The first together is February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 in the fellowship hall. It will also be available through zoom if unable to attend in person. For more information please contact Maggie at 402-525-1765.**

**PASTOR MELANIE'S OFFICE HOURS are on Sundays, 1:30-3:30. Call or text if you'd like to meet with her. She can be reached at (402) 841-1450 or [revdocmel@gmail.com](mailto:revdocmel@gmail.com)**

**PASTOR MELANIE'S OFFICE HOURS are Sundays 1:30-3:30. Call or text if you'd like to meet with her. She can be reached at (402)841-1450 or (402)500-3412 or [revdocmel@gmail.com](mailto:revdocmel@gmail.com)**



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**NURSING CENTER/HOMEBOUND PRAYER LIST:**

**Deloris Ashburn                      Clara Ritter                      Diann Larson**

**CONCERNS**

**"Hate-full" and Divided America**

**Mass Shootings at schools and public places**

**Members of Tilden Church of Christ**

**Graham Sayers, infant son of Lisa (Henseleit) and Jay Sayers**

**Diann Larson**

**Clara Ritter**

**Dustin Meyer**

**Laura Rutjens**

**Michelle Dittmer**

**Dave Carstens**

**Holli Perez**

**Ciera Nygren**

**Gene Fields**

**Eric Heithoff**

**Fr. Pat Nields**

**Kandi Hart**

**Carter Brown**

**Theresa Sullivan Meyer**

**Bill Rittscher**

**Jesse Johnson**

**McCoy Backer**

**Deloris Mozer**

**Deloris Ashburn**

**John Johnson**

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