

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR C

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord God,
when Jesus changed water
into wine at a wedding,
he showed for the first time
the power he had from you.
With Mary, our mother,
praying for us,
change our lives
that we may love you
with all our heart.
We ask this of you
through Christ our Lord.

FOCUS OF THE READINGS:

The first reading focuses on the restoration of Jerusalem after many years of exile. The people have returned and now await the rebuilding of their city. This day of joy, when all will see her glory, is described in beautiful imagery of a marriage.

In the first of his miracles, Jesus reveals that *the glory of God has indeed come*. This glory is imaged also in a marriage scene. What is revealed, in concrete terms, is that the glory of God, in Jesus, makes all things new. Water is changed into wine. Jesus can and does change things. *That revelation is realized because Mary, a symbol of the faithful, asked in faith. Jesus makes all things new.*

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 62:1-5*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

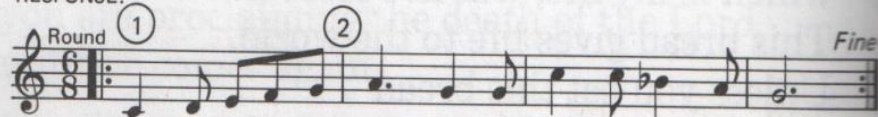
The prophet Isaiah said,

“Because I love you Jerusalem,
I will not be silent.
I will not rest
until you shine like a burning torch
and everyone sees your salvation.
All nations will know
that you have been saved,
and all the kings of the world
will see your glory.
God will give you a new name, a special name
and will hold you like a precious crown.
Just as a bridegroom is happy
and rejoices with his bride,
so God will be happy and rejoice because of you.”

The Word of the Lord.

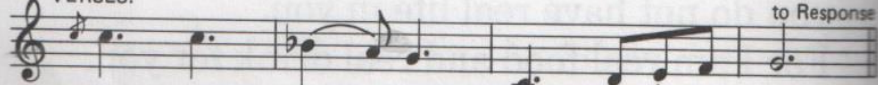
RESPONSE: *Psalms 96*

RESPONSE:



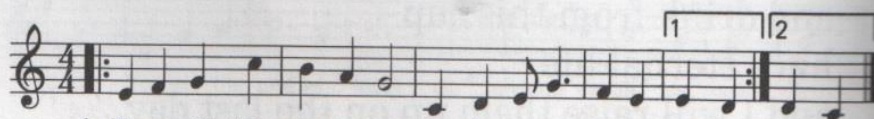
All the nations will praise you, and know that you are God.

VERSES:



1. Give God glo - ry. Give hon - or and praise.
2. Pro-claim sal - va - tion day af - ter day.
3. Tell the na - tions God's won - der - ful deeds.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



1. Ma-ry said: "Do what he says. Do what-ev-er Je-sus tells you."
2. Al-le-lu - ia! Ma-ry said: "Do what-ev-er Je-sus tells you."

GOSPEL: *John 2:1-11*

A reading from the Gospel of John.

One day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee,
and Mary the mother of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples
were also invited to the wedding.

Now when Jesus' mother
saw that there wasn't any wine left,
she said to him,

"They don't have any more wine."

Jesus said,

"Why are you telling me about this?

It is not time for people to know who I am."

Then Jesus' mother said
to those who were serving at the celebration,

"Do whatever Jesus tells you."

Now there were six large water jugs there,
and each of them held about twenty or thirty
gallons. Jesus said to the servers,

"Fill those jugs with water."

After the servers filled the jugs, Jesus said,

"Now take some of it to the waiter
in charge of the celebration."

The waiter did not see what happened,
so when he tasted the water
which Jesus had turned into wine,
he called the bridegroom over and said to him,

"People usually serve the very best wine first.

Then after the guests
have been drinking for a long time,
they serve the cheaper wine.

But you have saved the best wine until now!"

And so, the first miracle that Jesus did
was at Cana in Galilee.

With this sign, Jesus revealed his glory,
and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

REFLECTING ON THE READINGS WITH CHILDREN:

Ask the children to retell the story and help them visualize the scene. Perhaps some of them have attended a wedding and can share their remembrance of the ceremony and the reception. It is important that the children see Jesus, his mother, the newly married couple and the guests as real people at a real event. Ask the children how they think the couple might have felt when they didn't have enough wine for their guests. Help the children see that Mary believed that Jesus could do something about this problem. How do we see that Mary believed in Jesus? Because she asked in faith, Jesus acted, and in doing so, revealed God's glory and power. *It is important that the children see in this event, not the power of Mary, but the faith of Mary, and the power and glory of God in Jesus.* Jesus wants to make all things new and does when we ask in faith.