



Mary of Magdala, ECC Sunday Service – Nov 8, 2020

Celebrating the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Preparations include participants preparing their home tables with a lit candle,
and the food and drink to be remotely shared.*

Announcements – Lector Pedro Engle

Black Lives Matter – Anne Beavan

Entrance Song

My Soul Is Thirsting/As Morning Breaks

Refrain

My soul is thirsting for you, O God,
thirsting for you, my God.

My soul is thirsting for you, O God,
thirsting for you, my God,
thirsting for you, my God.

1. O God, you are my God,
and I will always praise you.
In the shadow of your wings
I cling to you and you hold me high.

2. Through the day you walk with me;
all the night your love
surrounds me.

To the glory of your name
I lift my hands, I sing your praise.

3. I will never be afraid,
for I will not be abandoned.
Even when the road grows long
and weary your love will rescue me.

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Greeting – Pastor Jane

In the name of Abba/Amma God, of Jesus our
Brother, and of the Holy Spirit, Sophia.

ALL: AMEN

May God, the blessed Holy Three, be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Good morning. This Sunday we build on the
consciousness of our individual preparedness and

need to recognize the Light within the Lamp. This
is an individual responsibility. Jesus asks each one
of us to stay alert to recognize and grow our Light
of God that permeates all.

O Christ, Alpha and Omega, origin of True Light,
bless us gathered as one people in worship that
we may increase our Lamp Light in ourselves and
in the world.

Penitential Rite

May the True Light Eternal be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Servant Lord, you are our Light, turn our hearts to
you each day. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Christ, may your Light illumine in us that which is
dull and renew us with that which is Life.

Christ have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.



Jesus, heal our personal, communal and cultural wounds of separation and bring us together in your Light of Love. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

May the Christ who we see in our own Light be more deeply discovered as the timeless answer ✠ and bring us to wholeness and peace this day.

ALL: Amen

Opening Prayer –

Let us pray to God, who relentlessly offers us Light and Love.

O compassionate and caring God, your Spirit embraces and enlightens us in our darkness, speaks to us the message of Light and hope, and sends us out as disciples filled with your Light.

May you deepen in us your Divine Reality in all of creation.

Help us to be filled with your Light, prepared to be one with you in Love.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

ALL: Amen

Liturgy of the Word

Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16 – *Lector Pedro Engel*

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, easily discerned by those who love Her, and is found by those who seek Her.

She reveals herself to all who desire to know Her. Those who rise early to search for Her will not grow weary of the journey, for they will find Her seated at the doors of their own homes.

To ponder Her is the fullness of Wisdom and to be loyal to Her pursuit is the shortcut to freedom from care.

She searches the far ends of the earth for those who are worthy of Her, and She appears to them on their daily paths with kindness, meeting them halfway in all their journeys.

The Word of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm 63:1-8 – *Lector Ruth Alexander*

The response is: I thirst for you, Beloved. **All: I thirst for you, Beloved.**

Oh, Love, you are my Beloved, and I long for you. My soul thirsts for you. All that is within me thirsts, as in a dry and barren land with no water.

ALL: I thirst for you, Beloved.

So I have called out to you in my heart, sensing your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is life to me, my lips will praise you. I will radiate your love as long as I live, becoming a blessing to others in gratitude to you.

ALL: I thirst for you, Beloved.

My soul feasts as with a magnificent banquet, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips, when I ponder on your kindness, and meditate on you throughout the night. For you have been my salvation, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

ALL: I thirst for you, Beloved.



‘Alleluia’ - Mass of Renewal - (please join in with Bill while muted)

Refrain

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

Stay awake! be watchful at all times,
for you do not know when the Son of Man will come.

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Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 - Liturgical Planner Anne Beavan

Our God is with you.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told this parable to the disciples, “The kingdom of God would be likened to 10 wedding attendants who took their lamps and went to meet the bridal party. Five of them were wise, but the other five were foolish. When the foolish ones took their lamps, they didn't take any oil with them, but the wise ones took enough oil to keep their lamps burning. The bridal party was delayed so they all fell asleep. At midnight there was a cry: ‘Here comes the bridal party! Let us go out to meet them!’ Then all the attendants rose and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘Perhaps there will not be enough for

ALL: And also with you.
ALL: Glory to you, O God

us; run to the dealers, and get some for yourselves.’ While the foolish ones went to buy more oil, the bridal party arrived; those who were ready went to the marriage feast with them, and the door was shut. When the foolish attendants returned, they pleaded to be let in. The doorkeeper replied, ‘The truth is, I do not know you.’”

Jesus concluded: “Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know the day or the hour.”

The Good News of Salvation of Jesus, our Christ!
ALL: Glory and Praise to our Savior, Jesus the Christ!

Homily: Pastor Jane and Jim Berry

Creed/Affirmation of Faith

Pastor Jane
In Love and in Light, we profess our faith together.

Pastor Jane:
Gathered together as people of faith, we profess our belief in a God who is larger than we can name, unable to be contained, yet present in each one of us. We have come to know this God in the living of our lives and in the holiness of the earth we share. We believe in a God revealed in all peoples—all genders, religions, and orientations.

Lector Pedro:
We embrace a compassionate God, who champions justice and mercy and is always faithful

when we call. Our God gives and forgives, patiently loving without conditions. We gratefully believe in a God who feels our deepest struggles and celebrates our greatest joys, our God who both dances with us in celebration and holds us when we cry.

Lector Ruth:
This God is not “other” to us, but shares our breath in every moment and promises we are never alone. We believe in a God who believes in us-- believes that we are precious and incredible



gifts, worthy to claim image and likeness to the divine. We hold fast to our God who journeys with us, who continually calls us to choose the shape of our days through the choices we make.

Co-Homilist Jim:

Our God accepts us as we are and shares each hope we have for our becoming. This is the God in whom we believe, our Creator, our Amma/Abba

who became human in Jesus, our brother. Our God is the Spirit of Life, the voice that continues to speak love and asks us to answer. In this God we choose to believe. **All: AMEN**

Taken from “The Friends in Faith”
and shared by Joan Meehan

Prayers of the People –

Pastor Jane –

Let us continue as the embodiment of the message of Love and Light for all and pray

Lector Ruth Alexander

The response for the Prayers of the People is:

Beloved, hear our prayers.

All: Beloved, hear our prayers.

For peace and unity in our country following the elections, we pray...

Response: Beloved, hear our prayers.

For our elected officials that they will pursue and enact policies promoting justice for minorities and the poor, we pray...

Response: Beloved, hear our prayers.

For all citizens, that we will wake up to the climate crisis affecting the health of our planet and its peoples and we will all do our part to reverse this damage, we pray...

Response: Beloved, hear our prayers.

I now invite you to share your prayers so that we may pray in community with you. If you feel comfortable, you could press the space bar and say your prayer, OR you could type the prayer into the chat box. (Ruth to read each prayer on “chat”)we pray **Response: Beloved, hear our prayers.**

And for all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray: **Response: Beloved, hear our prayers.**

Pastor Jane:

Beloved, you show us yourself through your Light shining within the eternal core of our being. Hear our prayers that we may grow into more committed disciples, living lives of justice and service. We ask this through Christ Incarnate.

ALL: Amen.

Sign of Peace

Pastor Jane

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our failings and doubts, but on the Light of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kin-dom which already lies within us.

All: Amen

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you



Anne Beavan

Let us all go to “gallery view” and please unmute yourself by holding down your space bar so all can hear you offering a sign of Christ’s peace.

Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop

– Pastor Jane

**ALL: Holy One, Enlivening Spirit,
In the wilderness of new,
root the Body of Christ fully into our “Yes,”
blooming in Your Holy Season.
Together. Amen**

Offertory/Meditation Song - (please join in with Bill while muted)

Awake, O Sleeper

1. In the darkest times of life,
when our lights refuse to shine:
you are there, you are there.

2. When our hearts become like stone,
when we live without hope:
you are there, you are there.
Don’t let your hearts be troubled;
don’t let your hearts be troubled.

Refrain
Awake, O sleeper!
Arise from slumber!
Christ is calling your name!

3. In the midst of life’s decay,
when our lives become like graves:
rescue us, rescue us.
Don’t let your hearts be troubled;
don’t let your hearts be troubled. **(to Refrain)**

Bridge
Awake! Arise! and follow the light!
Awake! Arise! and follow the light!
Awake! Arise! and follow the light!
Awake! Arise! Christ is calling your name!

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Offertory

Pastor Jane

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts of our
community, of time, talent and treasure to offer,
gratefully given, and the work of human hands.
May our offerings increase our Light as

instruments of your peace. May we continue to
give as we are called and able.

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Our Celebration of Food

Pastor Jane

The Love of God be with you all.
Life up your hearts
Let us give thanks

**All: And also with you.
All: We lift them up to God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Let us welcome God and God’s creative spirit. God
has called us to gather around these tables this

evening, knowing that all tables are God’s table. I
remind you of the theology of Ronald Rolheiser,



“The incarnation began with Jesus and it has never stopped . . . God takes on flesh so that every home becomes a church, every child becomes the Christ-child, and all food and drink become a sacrament. God's many faces are now everywhere, in flesh, tempered and turned down, so that our human eyes can see him.”

So... let our homes and our hearts be a dwelling place for God. May we see Christ in one another as kin together in God's family. And may we trust that the food before us is sacrament. God is present to each of us, and God's grace is abundant and in our midst.

ALL: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this food before us. May we offer our gratitude for all the ways you nurture us into wholeness. We bless you God, with our gratitude.

We give you thanks for the mystery of the myriad of ways you show up in our lives as both Creator and Creation. We thank you for all that is, and for the Breath of Life that is You throughout the cosmos. We see You in one another, and throughout creation. We share your Breath with one another, with our ancestors, and with all those yet to be. Even in these new and challenging times, You are

bringing to birth through us a new heaven joined with a new earth, and like the early followers of Jesus, we gather together as family and kin.

O Sacred One, who blesses us and calls us Beloved, breathe your Holy Spirit upon us gathered around tables throughout your world and gathered as one in You that we may become bright Lights of Your love in the world.

Today we remember a story of your Eternal Word, Jesus, who on the night before he died gathered at a table with his family and friends. That night he took bread, he took wine, for they were the food and drink on the table before him. He blessed them and shared them with all those who were present. He told them that his love for them was boundless because your love for creation is boundless. Let us take the food before us, and let us be confident that you have blessed this food as well. May it be a blessing to our bodies, that our bodies may be a blessing to your world.

God of all Kin-ship, You have made this food which feeds us. May we be open to the ways you connect to us in relationship and your holy dance with us. In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen

Lord's Prayer - Modern "Our Father" provided by 301 Faith Partners

Pastor Jane

Knowing that we are in Christ and called to be the Body of Christ in the world, we pray with trust the prayer of Jesus:

ALL: Our Father in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin

against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen



Reception for Spiritual Communion

Pastor Jane

Let us open our hearts and our hands in prayer, knowing that in this prayer we both give to and receive from our God.

All: Jesus, our hearts are Your Tabernacle. You live in us. You love in us. Come now, and visit us with Your grace. Make us to be more like You. May we receive Your fullness in this

food as You desire. May we become Your Body in the world today. Amen.

Our homes and our hearts are a dwelling place for God. The food before us is sacrament, and God's grace is abundant and in our midst. May it be the healing Light of health in mind and body. Please spend a moment now, receiving God's grace as you eat and drink what is on your table.

Communion - *Sacred Music by Bill Smith*

Prayer after Communion

Pastor Jane

Never failing Light of our Compassionate God, today we honor, serve, and glorify you.

You, Jesus the Christ, ask to stay in human form through us, your disciples. May we offer, as the Spirit directs, that which Jesus freely gives us: Light, Wisdom, and Love.

We ask this through Christ, our Savior,
ALL: AMEN

Blessing

Pastor Jane

The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

As Eucharistic People, we recognize Jesus the Christ, our hope as the Light within. Bowing our heads, let us ask for God's blessing:

Sacred and Eternal Light, bless us with ever-increasing Light and Love for all creation, bringing Wisdom and Peace to our world.

May almighty God bless you in the name of Amma/Abba God, Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Sophia,

ALL: Amen

Dismissal

Anne Beavan

Let us go in peace to love and serve as you are called.

All: Thanks be to God



Closing Song - *(please join in with Bill while muted)*

Find Us Ready

Refrain

Find us ready, Lord, not standing still.
Find us working and loving and doing your will.
Find us ready, Lord, faithful in love,
building the kingdom that's here and above,
building the kingdom of mercy and love.

1. We must wait for the Lord
for we know not the time.
So here and today
we gather and pray,
discovering love in our midst.

2. We must make straight the path,
God's love revealed.
With sin cast aside,
God's mercy alive,
fear not for here is your God.

3. Lifting up those bowed down,
we prepare for our God.
Rejoice in the Lord,
for hope has been born
in hearts where our God finds a home.

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