



Mary of Magdala, ECC – October 8, 2023
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Together Wherever We Are
Mother Rosean Amaral, presiding

Welcome and Announcements – Lector Gray La Fond

Social Justice Reflection – Tom Moos, Chair Social Justice Ministry

You may sit during all or any part of the liturgy.

Entrance Song – Give Thanks to our God

Refrain Give thanks to Our God for he is good,
God's love is everlasting. Give thanks to Our God
for she is good, he is good, she is good.

1. Let the house of Israel say, *"God's mercy
endures forever." Let those who fear our God
say, "God's mercy is forever." My strength, my

courage is Blessed, God, my savior. I shout to
God with joy. Refrain.

2. The stone rejected now becomes the
cornerstone. By God has this been done, so let
his wonder now be known. This is the day Our
God has made; let us rejoice, rejoice now and be
glad. Refrain.

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Greetings and Welcome

Let us continue as one expression of God's people. In
the name of Amma/Abba God, our brother Jesus, and
the Holy Spirit Sophia.

All: Amen.

Mother Rosean welcomes

The grace and peace of Jesus our Christ, the Love of
God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with
you.

All: And also with you.

Penitential Rite

Let us remember our God of all creation...
God of forbearance, grant us patience, that we might
trust in your timing. God have mercy.
All: God have mercy.

Christ of infinite possibilities, Let us place our trust in
You when we are anxious or in fear of the unknown.
Christ have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

Spirit of growth, Help us to grow, without undue
haste, into what you will make of us tomorrow. Spirit
have mercy
All: Spirit have mercy.

We ask that God have mercy on us, ✕ forgive
us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

(adapted from "Patient Trust" by Teilhard de Chardin)

Let us sing our praises to God...

Glory to God *Mass of Mary Magdalene*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people here on earth.

1. We praise you; we bless you, we adore you,



we glorify you; we give you thanks for your great glory,

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Opening Prayer

Let us pray...
Creator God,

We gather together in Your presence eager to hear Your Word. Open our eyes and ears to the presence of Your Holy Spirit.

May the seeds of Your Word scattered among us this morning fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our

hearts and lives and produce an abundant harvest of good words and deeds.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, our Christ.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

And now let us listen to the inspired Word of God in prayer and Scripture.

First Reading—*Rooted in Love and Faith* by Kerrie Anderson Lector Gray La Fond

The First reading is **Rooted in Love and Faith**, by Kerrie Anderson

Some people from different spiritual paths gathered to plant seeds in a field, not knowing what might grow. Like the mustard seed, smallest of seeds—the seeds planted in fertile earth rooted—and glorious shoots of green burst forth from the earth. As the plants grew next to each other their branches sometimes touched, sometimes crossed, sometimes twined together.

The Light shone upon and from the plants, and blossoms of many colors emerged. The people were amazed and joyful. They asked each other,

How can we do more and be better together? As the people believed in the seen and unseen, they found their unseen roots were strong enough to allow each other to walk alone in the field, or to gather together for praise, worship, and service. So the people became of one heart, one spirit, one body of Christ Jesus, gathered to shine the Light of Love for all people rooted in their common faith in the Beloved, God.

Words Inspired by God.
All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm—*Psalm 80*

Lector Gray La Fond

Our Response is: Restore us. Shine your face upon us, teach us to Love!

All: Restore us. Shine your face upon us, teach us to Love!

Gentle Teacher, help us to turn to You in prayer,



fasting from our negative thoughts.
In your steadfast Love, You weep with our tears,
tears that rise from fear, doubt and illusion.
**Response: Restore us. Shine your face upon us,
teach us to love!**

You companion us through the wilderness,
Through the shadows created by fear.
You plant your seed into each heart.
You uproot the weeds of our sin,
You cultivate the soil our goodness.
**Response: Restore us. Shine your face upon us,
teach us to love!**

Truly, in You, we become like a tiny acorn,

Holding the secret of a mighty oak.
You nourish us with the food of Love,
With streams of Living Water.
**Response: Restore us. Shine your face upon us,
teach us to Love!**

Be glad where your Seed has found fertile soil.
May those who have borne the fruit of love
Radiate your Spirit into the world!
May we always walk and co-create with You;
Receive the gratitude of our hearts,
As we share in the Great Plan!
**Response: Restore us. Shine your face upon us,
teach us to Love!**

Second Reading Lector Jim Berry

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:6-9

Beloved, do not be anxious about anything. In everything, pray.

Let petitions and thanksgiving shape your worry into prayer.

Let the Beloved know all our concerns. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will come, and calm your hearts and minds, which is the yield from life in Jesus the Christ.

Finally, my loved ones, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is authentic and pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think on such things. Keep doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Listen to the Spirit speaking to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Mass of Mary Magdalene

Refrain:

**Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Your words are Spirit and life; You have the words of everlasting life.

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Gospel Matthew 21:33-46.

The Word of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

A Proclamation of the Gospel attributed to Matthew 21:33-46

All: Glory to You, O God.



My siblings in Christ,

Jesus continued to teach in the Temple: "Listen to another parable. "There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a wall around it, dug a wine press in it, built a tower, rented it out to vine-growers, and went on a journey.

When harvest time approached, the owner sent servants to the vine-growers to collect the fruit. The vine-growers beat one servant, killed another, and stoned a third.

Again, the owner sent another group of servants, larger than the first. They did the same thing to them.

Afterwards the owner thought, 'They will respect my progeny,' and sent the family's own child to them; but when the vine-growers saw the heir coming, they said among themselves, 'This is the one who stands in our way of everything. Come, let's kill the heir and seize the inheritance.' With that they took and threw the heir out of the vineyard, where they killed the owner's own child.

Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will be done to those vine-growers?"

They replied, "The landowner will bring those wretches to a wretched end and rent out the vineyard to other vine-growers who will pay the fair share of the crop at the proper seasons."

Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures,

'The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. God has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'

Therefore, understand this: The reign of God will be taken away from you and given to people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces and anyone on whom it falls will be crushed."

When some of the chief priests and Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they understood that he was speaking about them. They sought a way to seize him; but they feared the people because they held him to be a prophet.

The Good News of Jesus, our Christ.
All: Praise to You, Jesus, our Christ.

Homily – Mother Rosean Amaral

Prayers of the People

Let us bring forth our prayers for all of Creation...

Lector Jim Berry

Our response is: Loving God, hear our prayers.

For ourselves and all people, when life makes us hard and resistant, where old habits, old systems, and old patterns of thinking keep Your message from growing that we may be open to change... we pray, **Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.**

For all people who live with gun violence or war daily, that their leaders may listen to what they need and begin a pathway to a peaceful existence, we pray, **Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.**

For people who are working on finding ways to heal the wounds of Mother Earth, that they may be supported and successful, we pray, **Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.**

For all people with mental or physical illness that they may receive the help they need to recover and live fully, we pray, **Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.**

I will now read the prayers from the sanctuary....we pray, **Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.**

Are there prayers from those on zoom?



And for those on our prayer list and all the prayers we hold in our hearts, we pray, **Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.**

God of Love, as we raise up these needs and concerns, you open doors to new possibilities of how we can be the instruments of your compassion and care. Therefore, with joyful expectancy, we ask all this in Jesus' name.

All: Amen

The Peace

Celebrating God's endless faithfulness, may the peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Please turn toward the camera and offer a sign of Christ's peace, and then extend that peace to those here in the sanctuary.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

As we prepare our tables, offering food and drink here and across our network, we are reminded that

our offerings of time, talent, and treasure sustain the mission of God's church. Please continue to give as you are called and able.

Procession of the Bread and Wine

Offertory Song – Awake O Sleeper

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

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

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.

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)

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Preparation of the Gifts (During Offertory Song)

Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread and his wine to place on your table. Work of earth and human hands. May it become our spiritual food and drink.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Wash away my iniquity, cleanse me.



Prayer over the Gifts

Pray my siblings in Christ, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, our Almighty Mother and Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at our hands, for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's creation.

Eucharistic Prayer

The peace of our God be with you all.

Let us open up our hearts.

Let us give thanks to our Loving God.

All: And also with you.

All: We open them up to God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God, Our Parent, loving Source and Destiny of all life, we praise you and thank you through Jesus, the Christ.

He is your faithful servant, our brother, who brings peace to our broken world through his new commandment of love and his confrontation with the powers of evil and injustice. Through his self-emptying love, he transforms our swords into plowshares, our hostility into reconciliation, our alienation into community, and our hatred into forgiveness of our enemies.

The Spirit of the Nonviolent Christ is at work when understanding puts an end to strife, when hatred is overcome by compassion, and when vengeance gives way to forgiveness. For the gift of this transforming love, we never cease to thank and praise you. We join with all the choirs of heaven and earth to proclaim your glory:

Holy Holy Holy

**Ho -- ly, Ho -- ly, Holy Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Mass of Mary Magdalene Sarah Hart

Blessed are you compassionate and faithful God.

We do well always and everywhere to give you thanks. You have no need of our praise, yet our desire to thank you is itself your gift.

With loving tenderness, you have gathered your people and filled us with a longing for peace that would last and for justice that would never fail.

Through countless generations, your people hungered for the bread of freedom. From them you raised up Jesus, the Living Bread, in whom ancient hungers were satisfied. Jesus is the Word that brings liberation from injustice and violence.

Jesus is the hand you stretch out to the sick, the poor and the oppressed. Jesus is the way that leads to peace.

On the night before he went forth to his life-giving death, rejecting violence, loving his enemies, and praying for his persecutors, he gave his disciples a new commandment:

“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” With a love stronger than death, he opened his arms wide and surrendered his Spirit in suffering service.

Loving God, send your Spirit to heal our lives and to make holy these gifts of bread and wine, that they may become the + Body and Blood of Jesus, the Christ.



While he was at supper on the night before he laid down his life for us all, he took bread in his hands and gave you thanks and praise. He broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**All: Take this all of you and eat it.
This is my body which will be given up for you.**

At the end of the meal, He took the cup filled with wine, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying,

**All: Take this all of you and drink from it.
This is the cup of my blood. The blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.**

Let us proclaim the Mystery of Faith. (sung by presider)

All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, We proclaim your death, O God, Until you come again.

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Loving God, with gratitude we call to mind the passion of your Son, Jesus. We remember his suffering at the hands of a broken humanity.

We remember that he endured his torture and crucifixion with a love free of retaliation, revenge, and retribution.

We celebrate that you raised him on the third day as your vindication of his love for his siblings in the human community and for all of creation.

Therefore, we ask you, God, to accept us, together with your Son.
Fill us with his Spirit through our sharing in this meal.

May his Spirit of peace take away all that divides us. May this same Holy Spirit keep us always in communion with Pablo and Kae our bishops, together with all our siblings living and deceased.

Make your church throughout the world a sign of unity and an instrument of your peace. You have gathered us here around the table of your Son, in fellowship with Mary, the Mother of God, with Joseph, her spouse, with our patron saint Mary of Magdala, and all the saints.

In that new creation where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, language, religion, and way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus, the Christ.

Together now, we say.....

All: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for all glory and honor is yours self-emptying/life-giving God, forever and ever.

AMEN

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen.

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The Prayer of Jesus

Please turn to the cameras and let us join hearts together and pray words that have been prayed for centuries...

All: Abba/Amma, God in heaven, Holy is your name. Your kin-dom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen

The Shared Table



Lamb of God (Sung)
of the world, Have mercy, mercy on us.

**Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy, mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,
Grant us, grant us peace.**

Music: *Mass of St. Mary Magdalene*; Sarah Hart, b. 1968; vocal arr.
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Lamb of God you take away the sins

This is the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the one who transforms the world. Blessed are we who are called to this meal.

All: Jesus, I am ready to receive you, because by your invitation, I am here.

Invitation to Communion

As we partake of the sustenance laid before us, let us affirm together:

All: In this we are a Eucharistic people, the Body of Christ incarnate, the Blood of Christ poured out for the life of the world.

May the mystery of our participation in the sacred mystery, enliven our faith, inspire our service, and

incarnate God's compassionate love where-ever we may be.

Whether partaking here, or at our home tables, this food from God is offered to the people of God, without exception. You are each a precious child of God. All are welcome at the banquet of Christ's kingdom. (mention gluten free)

Communion Song – Purify My Heart

1. Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver. Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

Refrain Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy, set apart for you, God. I choose to be holy, set apart for you, my master, ready to do your will.

2. Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy. Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

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Prayer after Communion

Let us pray...

God of all souls,
We thank You for the widely different types of people, and expressions of faith, which constitute the membership of your Church.

Continue to give us the grace to treasure each other, with all our oddness, and to use these differences as we lovingly minister to the diversity of Your people. To Your praise and glory, God.

All: Amen

Dismissal

The Love of God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us open our hearts and ask for God's blessing...



May the abundant love of God surround you,
May the extravagant grace of Jesus Christ sustain
you,
and may the constant presence of the Holy Spirit
inspire and encourage you in every good deed and
word.

We ask for this blessing now in the name of
Mother/Father God, our brother Jesus, and the Holy
Spirit.

All: Amen

Go in peace to serve and co-create with your God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song – Go Make a Difference

Refrain Go make a diff'rence. We can make a
diff'rence. Go make a diff'rence in the world. Go
make a diff'rence. We can make a diff'rence. Go
make a diff'rence in the world.

1. We are the salt of the earth, called to let the people
see the love of God in you and me. We are the
light of the world, not to be hidden but be seen. Go
make a diff'rence in the world. Refrain

2. We are the hands of Christ reaching out to those in
need, the face of God for all to see. We are the spirit
of hope; we are the voice of peace. Go make a
diff'rence in the world. Refrain

3. So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see.
Go make a diff'rence in the world. And the spirit of
Christ will be with us as we go. Go make a diff'rence
in the world. Refrain

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