

Mary of Magdala, ECC January 10, 2021

Celebrating the Epiphany – Baptism by water and the Holy Spirit - New Life in Christ

Preparations include participants preparing their home altars with a lit candle, and the food and drink to be remotely shared. If you have bells, please bring to ring! Also, bring a small container of water for the blessing

Announcements – *Lector Pedro Engel*

Black Lives Matter – *Tom Moos, co-chair Social Justice Ministry*

Entrance Opening Song *(please join in with Bill while muted)*

Come to the River

Refrain

Come, O come, come to the river
flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water,
but in the Lord we shall arise.

1. Washed in the waters of rebirth,
we have put on Christ Jesus.

2. Priestly people are we,
sealed and sent by the Spirit.

3. Blest are those who thirst

for the reign of God's justice.

4. Let us walk in the light
of God's holy promise.

5. Those who sow in tears
reap the harvest rejoicing.

Final Refrain

Come, O come, come to the river
flowing from the body of Christ.
We'll go down, deep in the water,
but in the Lord we shall arise.

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Greeting – *Pastor Rosean*

May the grace and peace of Jesus the Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **ALL: And also with you.**

Sisters and brothers, on this day when we remember the Baptism of Jesus, it is fitting that we also remember our own baptism. The promise we made on that day--or that was made for us by those who loved us--was to follow Jesus wherever

he leads us. As we renew our promises, let us pray that we, too, will hear the voice of God proclaim about us, "You are my Own, my beloved. In you I delight."

Renewal of Baptismal Covenant and Blessing of the Water – *Pastor Rosean*

The creator God was busy giving birth over Her creation, groaning in the labor pains of love to bring forth the gifts of our universe into existence.

And the Spirit of God, the Breath of life, hovered over the crystal green and blue waters of the Earth.

She hovered over creation, bringing forth the Word, the creative energy of God.

And from the waters of creation came forth the gracious blessings of all life.
And all that lived drew its strength and nourishment.

The Word was spoken.

All living things came into being. She brought forth humanity as well, fashioned in Her own image, female and male She created them.



And she blessed them with the gifts of diversity, creativity and compassion. For the Breath of life, God's Spirit, breathed life into humanity and all

living things and through the waters of the womb and the wonders of creation, life sprang forth in abundance and diversity.

Pastor Jane

When the time was ripe, God's Spirit gathered together the children of Israel as a spiritual community and called them out of their oppression and bondage into the blessings of freedom. God's Spirit led them through the waters of the Jordan River into a promised land.

Baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan, the Judean peasant Jesus went forth, proclaiming God's present and imminent dominion of love. This teacher called forth children, women, and men to share and celebrate a new spirituality of love, a spiritual discipleship and embraced the praxis of equality for all people.

And when the time was ripe, God's Spirit brought forth Jesus of Nazareth, protected and nurtured in the compassion waters of His mother's womb.

And they baptized one another with the waters of life as a sign of a new and everlasting covenant of love with their God.

Blessing over the water

Pastor Rosean

We join them today, celebrating that same covenant of love with our God.

We ask You, loving and compassionate God, to bless these sacred gifts of water. May these holy waters remind us of the grace of our own baptism when we too were claimed as Your Beloved and anointed to serve you. May water's life nurturing gifts connect us with Your creation, Your loving grace, and Your reign of peace.

All: Amen

And now let us renew our baptismal covenant:

Pastor Jane:

Do you embrace the God of unconditional love, who created life to be enjoyed and celebrated as a gift and blessing, and do you promise to be co-creators of God's Kin-dom of love?

ALL: I do!

Pastor Rosean:

Do you accept the responsibility as God's minister in the world to proclaim love, work for justice, and live a life of compassion for all peoples of the world and God's creation?

All: I do!

Pastor Jane:

Do you renounce all in the world that opposes the ethics of compassion, justice and love as taught by Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ?

ALL: I do!

Pastor Rosean:

This is the faith we celebrate, our faith in Christ Jesus!

All: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Rosean

As Bill proclaims the Gloria, sprinkle yourself or your partner with the waters of baptism and as the water touches you, please bless yourself in the name of Amma/Abba God, our brother Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, Sophia.

(Baptismal Ritual shared with Mary of Magdala by Mother Kae and ECC Bishop Steve Roszczewski)



Glory to God

Gloria, Gloria, in Excelsis Deo (*Sung as we sprinkle ourselves or our family members with blessed water*)

Opening Prayer – *Pastor Rosean*

Let us pray...

God of great and everlasting glory by the power of the Holy Spirit You have consecrated Your Word made flesh, and have established this Christ, our Savior, as the Light of the world, Your covenant of peace for all peoples.

As we celebrate today the Mystery of Jesus's baptism in the river Jordan, renew in us our own baptism. Pattern our life on this Christ, the One you have especially chosen, the One on whom

your favor rests, the Beloved with whom You are well pleased.

We ask this through Jesus, the Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever

All: Amen

Pastor Rosean

And now let us open the ear of our hearts to the Word of God in our midst.

Liturgy of the Word

First reading – **Isaiah 42: 1-4, 67** – *Lector Pedro Engel*

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant, my chosen one, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. A bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the Lord, have called you for the victory of justice. I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm - *Lector Pedro Engle*

Psalm 29: 1-2, 3-4, 9-10

Our response is: May God bless all people with peace. : **All: May God bless all people with peace.**

Give to our God, you sons and daughters of God, Give to our God glory and praise. Give to our God the glory due God's name; adore our God in holy attire.

All: May God bless all people with peace.

The voice of our God is over the waters, our God, over vast waters. The voice of our God is mighty and majestic.



All: May God bless all people with peace.

The God of glory thunders and in God's temple all say: "Glory!"

God is enthroned above the flood; our God is enthroned as the Mighty One forever.

All: May God bless all people with peace.

Second Reading Galatians 3: 27-28— *Lector Art Bavoso*

All of you who were baptized into the Christ have clothed yourselves with the Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Apostle Paul..

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia – Mass of Mary Magdalene (*please join in with Bill while muted*)

Refrain:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 1:

Speak O Lord, your servant is listening;

You have the words of everlasting life..

Lyrics and music: Sarah Hart

Gospel: Mark 1: 7-11 *Pastor Jane*

May the Lord be with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

In the course of John's preaching, he proclaimed, "After me is coming one who is more powerful than I. I am not fit to stoop and untie the strap of his sandal. I have baptized you with water, but the one to come will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as he was coming up out of the water, the heavens tore

ALL: And also with you.

ALL: Glory to you, O God

apart and the Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove. A voice came from the heavens, "You are my Own, my Beloved. In you I delight."

The Gospel of God.

All: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Homily – *Pastor Rosean*



Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop

Pastor Jane

So we pray together:

(All to Join in on mute)

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

Prayers of the People

Pastor Rosean

In baptism, we were each anointed priest, prophet, and king. Let us, together, lift our voices to our God, entrusting to God our needs and the needs of our world.

Lector: Art Bavoso

Our response is: Loving God, hear us. **ALL: Loving God, hear us.**

For the strength we need to carry out our Baptismal commitment and to do God’s work within our families, our neighborhoods, and the world, we pray... **ALL: Loving God, hear us.**

For the love we need to see all God’s people as brothers and sisters and to give generously of our time, talents, and means in the service of others, we pray... **ALL: Loving God, hear us.**

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.

(Art to read each prayer on “chat”)we pray **ALL: Loving God, hear us.**

And for all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray: **ALL: Loving God, hear us.**

Pastor Rosean

Creator God, You called us in baptism and you continue to call us each day. Help us to listen for your voice and answer your call. We pray in Jesus’ name. **ALL: AMEN**

Sign of Peace – *Pastor Jane*

Christ Jesus, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our failings and doubts, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us peace and unity with your kin-dom for ever and ever.

May the peace of Christ be with you always.
All: And also with you.

Let us all unmute and go to 'gallery view' on our screens and share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.
All: Amen



Offertory Meditation

Love Has Captured the Night *(please join in with Bill while muted)*



1. Love laid in a low-ly man-ger: Love has come to save.
2. Word made flesh and gent-ly sleep-ing: Peace for all on earth.
3. Lov-ing Fa-ther, faith-ful Mak-er, At cre-a-tion's light
4. An-gels, shep-herds, earth-ly fa-ther, Wisemen from the East, A



1. Love a child and a re-deem-er: Je-sus born this day.
2. Faith-ful-filled and vic-t'ry prom-ised: Hope for a hum-ble birth.
3. Chose the child and Vir-gin Moth-er: Hope for all this night.
4. ho-ly Moth-er sweet-ly sing-ing To the Prince of Peace.



- 2, 3. Come, O come, a-dore Je-sus Christ, the Lord.
4. Come, O come and see Je-sus Christ, the King.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Glo-ry to God on high.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Love has cap-tured the night.

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Preparation of our Tables

Pastor Jane

As we prepare our tables, offering food and drink from our cupboards, we are reminded that our offerings of time, talent, and treasure sustain the

mission of God's church. Continue to give as you are called and able

Our Celebration at the Table – for all Tables are God's Table

Pastor Rosean

The love of God be with you all.
Lift up your hearts
Let us give thanks to our loving God

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

It is indeed right and good that we give you thanks and praise at all times and in all places Eternal and All-powerful God. We do this through Christ, our Brother, whom you have brought us

through the waters of baptism and made us one Body--the communion of saints.

O Ocean of Grace, you energize us with Spirit and Truth, connecting us with all creatures in the



depth of your unending love. We ask you to make us new as you did in the waters of our baptism. Immerse us in the love that dances for joy in Your presence.

May we experience Your life-giving waters welling up within us as we serve others with glad hearts. Make us a life-giving river spilling over and splashing justice, truth and love over all.

May our hearts, our homes and our world be a dwelling place for You in Your Incarnation.

And by Your Spirit God, bless us and this meal, that it be for us the gift of faith, nourishing and strengthening us to plunge into service in Your kin-dom.

In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen

*Some phrases from Fr. Teri Harroun, as well as [Inclusive Worship Aids](#),
Roman Catholic Women Priests Association*

The Prayer of Jesus

Pastor Rosean

Let us join our hearts together as we pray in the words of Jesus:

(All to Join in on mute)

Our Amma/Abba God in heaven, holy be your name, your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

All Amen.

Edited, modern 'Our Father' provided by Trinity Lutheran Church

Reception for Spiritual Communion

Before we share in eating the food on our tables, I'd like to remind you that God invited you here today. Wherever you are on your journey, God is with you. Let us share together these words of celebration of God with the food God has provided:

**All: Jesus, our hearts are Your Tabernacle.
You live in us. You love in us. Your Light**

shines through 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.

Please spend a moment now, receiving God's grace as you eat and drink what is on your table.

Sacred Music - Instrumental by Rosanna Bateman

Prayer after Communion

Pastor Rosean

Let us pray...

Steadfast God,
You have enriched and enlightened us by the revelation of Your eternal Christ.

Through this sacred banquet, comfort and strengthen us to walk the path of Your desire, so



that by word and deed we may manifest the gracious news of your faithfulness and love. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.

All: Amen

Blessing

Pastor Rosean

The Love of God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Please open your hearts as we ask for God's blessing.

May you be blessed and renewed in your baptismal promises to God, yourself, and all God's people.

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

ALL: Amen

Dismissal – *Pastor Jane*

Enlightened by Christ and anointed by the Spirit, go now in peace to love and serve our God.

All: Thanks be to God

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

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy! Let there be joy!
Let there be joy!
Let there be joy to the world!

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;

Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: CM with repeats; based on Psalm 98:4–9; Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: T. Hawkes' *Collection of Tunes*, 1833; George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759;
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