

# Mary of Magdala, ECC Sunday Service – Nov 1, 2020 Feast of All Saints and All Souls

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

**Announcements** – Lector Lynne Barnes

Black Lives Matter - Social Justice Co-Chair Tom Moos

## **Entrance Song**

## Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift ev'ry voice and sing
'Til earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has
brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on 'til victory is won

Stony the road we trod
Bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died
Yet with a steady beat
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered Out from the gloomy past 'Til now we stand at last Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast

God of our weary years
God of our silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we
met Thee
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we
forget Thee
Shadowed beneath Thy hand
May we forever stand
True to our God
True to our native land

James Weldon Johnson, J. Rosamond Johnson

## **Greeting** – Father Teri

And let us begin as one expression of God's people. + Father, Son and Holy Spirit All: Amen

May the Holy Kiss of God, the companionship of the Incarnation, and the breath of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **All: And also with you.** 

#### **Penitential Rite**

Divine Light, you shine through the lives and stories of the saints.

Lord, have mercy. All: Lord, have mercy.

Radiant Holy One, you are the light of the world. Christ, have mercy. All: Christ, have mercy.

Light of all lights, You do not withhold kindness. Lord, have mercy. All: Lord, have mercy.

May our Loving God, shower us with grace, heal our brokenness, forgive our sins, and bring us all to eternal life. **All: Amen.** 



#### Gloria – Pastor Jane

Renewed by grace, we are bold to say:

Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's People on earth. Father/Mother God, heavenly Sovereign, Almighty and Self-emptying, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father/Mother, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Majesty, receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of our Father/Mother God. Amen.

## Opening Prayer - Father Teri

Divine Light, Radiant Holy One, We call upon all the saints to be with us. We remember how each one brought a touch of your light into our world. We recall how each one reflected the radiance of your goodness.

And we recount their loving deeds and rejoice in their faithfulness.

We pray now, in Jesus' name. Amen.

# Liturgy of the Word

'Alleluia' - Mass of the Joyful Heart - (please join in with Bill while muted)

#### Refrain

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Let your heart rejoice in the Lord. Let your word proclaim his deeds. Let your voice sing out to the world that our God has come to save.

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# Gospel: Mathew 5:1-12

Father Teri

Our Gospel for this celebration of All Saints and All Souls is a familiar Gospel from Matthew. It is the Beatitudes. For our Readings and Homily today, I'm going to have Lynne Barnes read the Gospel from Matthew, and I am going to intersperse that reading with reflections that I've found. I invite you to bring to mind all those who have been saints for you on your journey. Invite them into your heart and share your love together. We are part of the Communion of Saints, and this Communion reminds us that love has no boundaries

Lector Lynne Barnes

May the incarnation be with you all A proclamation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: And also with you. All: Glory to you, O Christ.

#### **Lector Lynne Barnes**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; And after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Then he began to speak, and taught them saying: "Blesses are the poor in spirit,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Father Teri: "What is a Saint", by Leonard Cohen.
What is a saint? A saint is someone who has achieved a remote human possibility. It is impossible to say what that possibility is. I think it has something to do with the energy of love.



Contact with this energy results in the exercise of a kind of balance in the chaos of existence. A saint does not dissolve the chaos; if he did the world would have changed long ago. I do not think that a saint dissolves the chaos even for himself, for there is something arrogant and warlike in the notion of a man setting the universe in order. It is a kind of balance that is his glory. He rides the drifts like an escaped ski. His course is a caress of the hill. His track is a drawing of the snow in a moment of its particular arrangement with wind and rock. Something in him so loves the world that he gives himself to the laws of gravity and chance. Far from flying with the angels, he traces with the fidelity of a seismograph needle the state of the solid bloody landscape.

#### **Lector Lynne Barnes**

Blessed are those who mourn,
For they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek,
For they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they will be filled.

Father Teri: "More Beatitudes" by Nadia Bolz-Weber

Blessed are the agnostics. Blessed are they who doubt. Those who aren't sure, who can still be surprised.

Blessed are they who are spiritually impoverished and therefore not so certain about everything that they no longer take in new information. Blessed are those who have nothing to offer. Blessed are they for whom nothing seems to be working.

Blessed are the pre-schoolers who cut in line at communion.

Blessed are the poor in spirit. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are they for whom death is not an abstraction. |Blessed are they who have buried their loved ones, for whom tears are as real as an ocean.

Blessed are they who have loved enough to know what loss feels like.

Blessed are the mothers of the miscarried.
Blessed are they who don't have the luxury of taking things for granted any more.
Blessed are they who can't fall apart because they have to keep it together for everyone else.
Blessed are the motherless, the alone, the ones from whom so much has been taken.
Blessed are those who "still aren't over it yet."
Blessed are they who laughed again when for so long they thought they never would. Blessed are those who mourn.

You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you.

#### Lector Lynne Barnes

Blessed are the merciful,
For they will receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
For they will be called children of God.

Eather Teri: "In Blackwater Woods" by Mary Oliver Look, the trees are turning their own bodies into pillars of light, are giving off the rich fragrance of cinnamon and fulfillment, the long tapers of cattails are bursting and floating away over the blue shoulder of the ponds, and every pond, no matter what its name is, is nameless now.

Every year everything
I have ever learned in my lifetime
leads back to this:
the fires and the black river of loss
whose other side is salvation,
whose meaning
none of us will ever know.
To live in this world
you must be able
to do three things:
to love what is mortal;
to hold it against your bones
knowing your own life depends on it;



and, when the time comes to let it go, to let it go.

#### **Lector Lynne Barnes**

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
And utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Father Teri: - "Hello September" by me "Hello September" my mountain morning prayer is a rosary of crochet stitches decades of hail Mary's and glory be-attitudes:

blessed are the stitch keepers, the prayer shawl makers, the bread bakers

blessed are the sunrise watchers, the goat milkers, the bed quilters

blessed are the holy healers, the prayer kneelers, the tenders and menders

blessed are the ones who greet, the ones who listen, and the chipmunks eating the leftover birdseed

blessed are the ones who walk on paths not paved, a wandering few with wildflowers saved

blessed is the yarn that tells the tale of hail Mary's and raspberries and prayers not spoken but this morning crocheted

Lector Lynne Barnes
Rejoice and be glad,

For your reward is great in heaven."

#### Father Teri -

We all have been touched by saints in our lives. Those who have lived and who have loved. These are not the perfect ones, but the ones who bare their soul to the world and live and love fully. They have loved us, and continue to love us today. We remember their living and loving, the ways they continue to love us. In particular we remember those who have died this past year. Let us hear their names again on this day. Let us breathe into their names, speaking them out loud. I invite you to say the names of those who have been saints to you as we celebrate this litany. I am going to pause and in the silence I invite you to say the names of those who have been saints to you as we celebrate this litany of saints. (PAUSE)

#### **Lector Lynne Barnes**

Jim Weitz
Eileen Skaflen
Bob Russell
Frances Burns
Betsy Gammil-Hayes
Karen Nystrom
Steve Dunn
Kevin Lewis
Terri Kent
David Heyman

Rejoice and be glad, For your reward is great in heaven."

This has been a reading from the Gospel of Matthew, a reading from Leonard Cohen, a reading from Nadia Bolz-Weber, a reading from Mary Oliver, a reading from Teri Harroun, and a reading from the Communion of Saints

The Good News of Salvation of Jesus, our Christ! All: Praise to you our Savior Jesus Christ!

Father Teri Amen



# Prayers of the People -

Father Teri – Will open 'Prayers of the people"

Lector Lynne Barnes

The response for the Prayers of the People is:

We lift them up to You, Beloved.

All: We lift them up to You, Beloved.

Creator God, We are blessed to be here today and we offer these prayers up to you so that your grace may flow and heal,

For all Americans as we prepare to elect new government officials that voting may be peaceful for all and that results are clear, we pray, **Response: We lift them up to You, Beloved.** 

For all churches and faith traditions that they may continue to find ways to support their members as the restrictions from the pandemic continue, we pray, **We lift them up to You, Beloved.** 

For all our saints and souls that we honor for their life's work, that their families continue to look to them in times of joy and trial, we pray,

Response: We lift them up to You, Beloved.

I now invite you to add your own prayers by using the chat feature or holding your space bar down and speaking it....we pray, **Response: We lift them up to You, Beloved.** 

And for all the prayers you hold in your hearts, we pray, **Response: We lift them up to You, Beloved.** 

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. (Lynn to read each prayer on "chat") .......................we pray All: We lift them up to You, Beloved.

And for all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray: All We lift them up to You, Beloved.

Father Teri – closing to 'Prayers of the People'

# Sign of Peace

Pastor Jane

Celebrating the power of mercy and love, may the peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

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.

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

Refrain Sacred silence, holy ocean, gentle water, washing over me; help me listen, Holy Spirit. Come and speak to me. Holy Mary, gentle mother, God's pure vessel, praying for me; saints and angels, all in heaven, come and be with me.

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# **Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop**

- Father Teri

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.

## **Our Celebration of Food**

Father Teri

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, a modern Catholic theologian who said, "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 Christchild, 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 the Christ-child in one another, identifying us 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.

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, body, mind and spirit. We bless you God, with our gratitude.

We give you thanks for 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.

Holy Breath of God, the One who blesses us and calls us Beloved,

Send your Holy Spirit upon us gathered around tables throughout your world and gathered as one in You that we may become visible signs of Your love in the world.

Today we remember a story of your Eternal Son, 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 Kinship, 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

Father Teri

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

ALL: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and let us not enter into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kin-dom and the power and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

## **Reception for Spiritual Communion**

Father Teri

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 Christ-child is in each of us. The food before us is sacrament, and God's grace is abundant and in our midst. Please spend a moment now, receiving God's grace as you eat and drink what is on your table

**Communion** - Sacred Music by Bill

# **Prayer after Communion**

Father Teri

Sacred One, Giver of Life, Thank you for the holy ones whom we have known. May our lives model their virtues. May our hearts resonate with their goodness. In Jesus' name we pray, **All: Amen.** 

The Love of God be with you.

All: And also with you

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

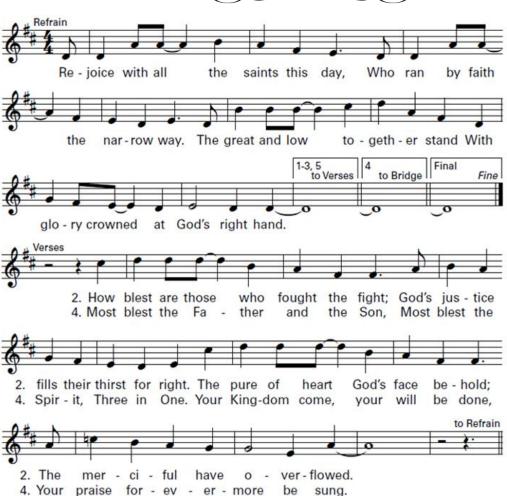
Faithful God, source of every blessing: teach us to be people of the beatitudes....to be people of mercy and peace, to comfort and to be pure of heart, to seek righteousness and to model what you ask of us as people of faith. And bless us all, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.** 

**Dismissal** – Pastor Jane

We are the Body of Christ, let us go forth as such to love and serve God as we love and serve in God's world. **All: Thanks be to God** 

Closing Song - (please join in with Bill while muted)
Rejoice with all the Saints





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