



**Mary of Magdala, ECC Sunday Service – Sept 27, 2020**  
**4th Sunday in the Season of Creation/26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Black Lives Matter**

**Announcements** – *Lector Ruth Alexander*

**Opening Song** (*please join with Bill on mute*)

**Colors of the Wind** - *by Judi Kuhn*

**Verse 1**

You think you own whatever land you land on  
The Earth is just a dead thing you can claim  
But I know every rock and tree and creature  
Has a life, has a spirit, has a name

**Verse 2**

You think the only people who are people  
Are the people who look and think like you  
But if you walk the footsteps of a stranger  
You'll learn things you never knew, you never knew

**Chorus**

Have you ever heard the wolf cry to the blue  
corn moon - Or asked the grinning bobcat  
why he grinned. Can you sing with all the  
voices of the mountains. Can you paint with  
all the colors of the wind. Can you paint with  
all the colors of the wind

**Verse 3**

Come run the hidden pine trails of the forest

Come taste the sun sweet berries of the Earth  
Come roll in all the riches all around you  
And for once, never wonder what they're  
worth

**Verse 4**

The rainstorm and the river are my brothers  
The heron and the otter are my friends  
And we are all connected to each other  
In a circle, in a hoop that never ends

**Chorus**

**Bridge**

How high will the sycamore grow  
If you cut it down, then you'll never know

**Final Refrain**

And you'll never hear the wolf cry to the  
blue corn moon. For whether we are white  
or copper skinned. We need to sing with all  
the voices of the mountains. We need to  
paint with all the colors of the wind.

**Greeting** – *Pastor Jane*

In the name of God, the Creator and fountain  
of All, Christ the Word Incarnate, and of the  
Holy Spirit, the breath of life.

**All: The Earth is filled with God's presence.**  
**AMEN**

May God, the blessed Holy Three, be with you  
**ALL: And also with you**

**Penitential Rite**

*Pastor Jane:*

May the Word Incarnate, the All-Pervasive Pulse of Life, Christ, keep our eyes fixed on rebirth, restoration, and renewal.



Jesus, Living Water, may we open our hearts to you each day with a renewed commitment to courage, wisdom, and action for all creation. Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: LORD, have mercy.**

Christ, may we, men and women, recognize the lure of consumption and consumerism, and release your power into our world.

Christ have mercy.

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

Jesus, heal our personal, communal and cultural wounds of separation and bring all creation together in your Love.

Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: Lord have mercy.**

May Jesus the Christ, revealed as the timeless answer, ✠ bring us to wholeness and peace this day. **ALL: Amen**

## Gloria

*Deacon Rosean*

Renewed by the mystery of an incarnated divinity we proclaim together

**ALL: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**

**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 God the Father.**

## Opening Prayer – *Pastor Jane*

Let us pray to God, who relentlessly offers us Love. O compassionate and caring Creator, Your Spirit embraces us with sight and sound and aroma everywhere on the planet, our home.

Spirit speaks to us of hope by rebirth, restoration and renewal. Spirit sends us out, as disciples, with your own Word and Being to

continue the work of Christ in renewing the face of the Earth. In this, we are humbled by our littleness on a little planet in a seemingly limitless expanse of galaxies and universes. Help us live as Christ leads us, one with all in You in Love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen**

## Liturgy of the Word

**1st Reading:** – *Lector Ruth Alexander*

Exodus 17: 1-17

The Israelites left the desert of Syn to travel by stages, as YHWH had directed them. They

camped at Rephidim but found no drinking water. Again they turned on Moses, saying,



“Give us drinking water.” Moses replied, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test YHWH?”

But the people were thirsty and complained even more to Moses. “Why did you bring us out of Egypt only to make us and our children and our livestock die of thirst?”

Moses appealed to YHWH. “What am I to do with these people? They are ready to stone me!”

YHWH answered Moses, “Take some of the elders and move to the front of the people.

Take with you the staff with which you struck the Nile. Go! I will wait for you there by the rock of Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.”

And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders. Moses named the place Massah, “testing,” and Meribah, “Quarreling,” for the Israelites tested YHWH when they said, “Is YHWH with us or not?”

The Word of God  
**ALL: Thanks be to God**

## Responsorial Psalm – Cry of the Poor

*(Sing together with Bill on mute)*

Refrain  
The Lord hears the cry of the poor.  
Blessed be the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,  
with praise ever in my mouth.  
Let my soul glory in the Lord,  
who will hear the cry of the poor.

2. Let the lowly hear and be glad:  
the Lord listens to their pleas;

and to hearts broken, God is near,  
who will hear the cry of the poor.

3. Ev’ry spirit crushed, God will save;  
will be ransom for their lives;  
will be safe shelter for their fears,  
and will hear the cry of the poor.

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: From the Letter of Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11 – Lector David Cloyd

If our life in Christ means anything to you – if love, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy can persuade you at all—then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing that would make me completely happy.

There must be no competition among you, no conceit, but everybody is to be humble: value others over yourselves, each of you thinking of the interests of others before your own. Your attitude must be the same as that of Jesus Christ.

Christ, though in the image of God, did not deem equality with God, something to be clung to—but instead became completely empty and took on the image of oppressed humankind. Born into the human condition, found in the likeness of a human being.

Jesus was thus humbled—obediently accepting death, even death on a cross! Because of this, God highly exalted Christ and gave to Jesus the name above every other name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth and



under the earth, and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God:

Jesus Christ reigns supreme!  
The Word of God

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

### **‘Alleluia’ - Mass of Joyful Heart** - *(Sing together with Bill on mute)*

#### **Refrain**

**Alleluia. 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: Matthew 21: 28-32** – *Deacon Rosean*

The Lord be with you  
A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus put this parable to the chief priests and elders of the people, “What do you think? There was a landowner who had two children. The landowner approached the elder and said, ‘My child, go out and work in the vineyard today.’

This first child replied, ‘No, I will not,’ but afterwards regretted it and went. The landowner then came to the second child and said the same thing. The second child said in reply, ‘I am on my way,’ but never went. Which of the two did what was wanted?” They said, “The first.”

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

Jesus said to them, “The truth is, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came walking on the road of justice, you didn’t believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you didn’t repent and believe.”

The Good News of Salvation of Jesus our Christ

**ALL: Glory and Praise to our Savior Jesus Christ!**

### **Homily** – *Pastor Jane and Ruth Alexander*

#### **Profession of Faith**

*Pastor Jane*

In truth, we profess our faith together

**ALL: We believe that God creates all things,  
renews all things, and celebrates all things.**

**We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred  
planet filled with God’s presence, a home for  
us to share with all creatures.**



**We believe every creature joins us in praising God. We see many suffer with Earth because of human crimes against creation.**

**We believe that God became incarnate as a part of Earth, Jesus Christ, that he lived and breathed and spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus Christ fills the whole creation, reconciling all things to God, renewing all things.**

**We believe the Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with every suffering creature, and waits with us for the rebirth of the whole creation.**

**We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation, reconciled, restored, and renewed.**

*(from River Sunday, United States version, Season of Creation)*

## Prayers of the People –

*Pastor Jane*

Let us be still and feel the Sacred presence pulsing through the Earth, feel the pulse of God and pray:

*Lector David Cloyd*

The response for the “Prayers of the People” is: Creator God, move us to right action e

**All: Creator God, move us to right action**

Rain down your Spirit upon the waters of the earth, guide our decisions on its use, so that the waters remain life-giving and all creatures have access to clean and nourishing water, we pray,

**All: Creator God, move us to right action**

Rain down your Spirit upon the people of the earth, teach us compassion so that we may care for the needs of those who seek refuge, that we may work to end the violence that spurs such migration, and that all peoples may have peace and justice wherever they live, we pray... **All: Creator God, move us to right action**

Rain down your Spirit upon each of us so that we may walk humbly and work to be your hands and feet bringing peace and justice into the world, we pray

**All: Creator God, move us to right action**

That all in our parish community and our neighborhoods who are suffering from isolation, loneliness, and sadness during these difficult times be comforted by our outreach and witness of love for them, we pray...

**All: Creator God, move us to right action**

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. *(David reads the prayers written in CHAT)* .....We pray. **Response: Creator God, move us to right action**

And for all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray. . **Response: Creator God, move us to right action**



*Pastor Jane*

Christ, you show us our God through and in our material world. Hear our prayers for healing of our planet and all life housed and fed and watered by this Earth. Help us to seek you in the care we take as we live and move here. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**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 faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kin-dom where you live for ever and ever

*Deacon Rosean*

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.

**ALL: AMEN**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All: And also with you**

## **Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop**

*Pastor Jane*

Let us all pray our Regional Prayer for calling a Bishop

**ALL: Holy One,  
Enlivening Spirit,  
In the wilderness of new,**

**root the Body of Christ  
fully into our "Yes,"  
blooming in Your Holy Season. Amen**

## **Our Celebration of Christ as Food for the Journey**

The Love of God be with you all  
Lift 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, Christ, the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, whose creative spirit, Sophia, enliven and sustain all of creation. God gathers us around our tables this evening, knowing that all tables are God’s table. Gathered virtually, we share our oneness and unity with all through Christ. In recognizing you, God, as Love, we know your presence within us and among us. So, let our homes and our hearts be a dwelling place for God.

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 Living Flow 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 a new heaven joined



with a new earth, and like the early followers of Jesus, we gather together as family and kin. Holy Flowing Spirit of God, the One who blesses us and calls us Beloved, send your Holy Spirit upon us gathered around tables 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. In Jesus Name we pray. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer

*Pastor Jane*

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

*Deacon Rosean leads all in prayer*

**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**

*Pastor Jane*

Deliver us Lord, from sin and all fear. Help us to prepare with joy and hope for the coming among us of our Savior Jesus the Christ.

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

**our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and let us not enter into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

## Spiritual Communion

*Pastor Jane*

Before we share in eating the food on our tables, I'd like to remind you that God invited you here today. Where-ever 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 and in all creation. You love in us and**

**your Love in all its beauty flows through our planet, our universe and all the galaxies. 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.**

**Communion Song** --(please join in 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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**Prayer After Communion** – *Pastor Jane*

Let us pray

Through this spiritual communion, let us  
come together with all humanity and all that  
sustains us. May your sustenance, O Holy  
One, help our lives unfold individually and  
together within the Flow of you who are  
Love alone.

Remain with us in this communal way  
beyond this moment. Help your  
nourishment, the Sacrament of Evolution,  
bring us to a greater awakening so we are

free to join in the evolution of now. God,  
you flow freely like the river. You are in our  
midst. Help us become humble visible signs  
of your Love in our world.

We ask this through Christ, the Alpha and  
the Omega.

**ALL: Amen**

**Blessing** – *Pastor Jane*

The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

In this celebration of Word and Spiritual  
Unity, Christ, Christ, our hope, speaks to us  
in Truth and in Love. Bowing our heads, let  
us humbly ask for God's blessing that we  
may answer and live our call. This is a 3-part  
blessing.

May almighty the God who is above all and  
through all and in all fill you with the  
knowledge of God's presence on Earth.

**All: Amen**

May all be reconciled, renewed, and  
restored through the pulsing of Christ  
through Earth . **All: Amen**

May the flow of the Spirit, open the way for  
each of us to be healed and to heal our  
Earth.

**All: Amen**





**Dismissal** – *Deacon Rosean*

Go in peace to love and heal as Christ calls you.

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**Closing Song** – *(Sing together with Bill on mute)*

**Let All the Earth**

Refrain

Let all the earth cry out,  
cry out to God with joy!  
Let all the earth cry out,  
cry out to God with joy!

1. Sing out your joy;  
praise the glory of God's holy name  
Say to the Lord:  
"Oh, how awesome are your mighty ways."

2. Come now and hear all the things

our God has done for me.  
Blessed be the Lord who holds me close,  
whose love is surrounding me.

3. All the earth shall bow before you,  
singing to your holy name.  
See the work of God,  
the wonders of his deeds from age to age.

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**Zoom will remain open for community chat.**