



Mary of Magdala, ECC Sunday Service – Dec 20, 2020

Celebrating the Fourth Sunday of Advent –

How do we say yes to God’s call to us, to other people in need?

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

Announcements – Lector Art Bavoso

Black Lives Matter – Tom Moos, Social Justice Co-Chair

Entrance Song (please join in with Bill while muted)

Immaculate Mary

1. Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing.
You reign now in heaven with Jesus our King.

Refrain
Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!

Ave, Ave, Maria!

2. In heaven the blessed your glory proclaim;
On earth we your children invoke your fair name..

Text: 11 11 with refrain; anon. in *Parochial Hymn Book*, Boston, 1897; rev. of *Hail Virgin of virgins* by Jeremiah Cummings, 1814–1866, alt. Music: Trad. Pyrenean melody, pub. Grenoble, 1882; alt. by Augustus Edmonds Tozer, 1857–1910; arr. © 2013, Spirit & Song, a division of OCP. All rights reserved..

Greeting – Father Michael

In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

God is with you.. **All: And also with you.**

... So again we gather, placing ourselves in the folds of God’s unconditional love:

Penitential Rite – Father Michael

Word of God, the mystery of our salvation is continually unfolding. Jesus, come and save us.
ALL: Jesus, come and save us.

Son of God, You remember us and forget us not.
Christ, come and save us. **ALL: Christ, come and save us.**

Anointed of God, You extend mercy and

compassion from age to age. Jesus, come and save us. **ALL: Jesus, come and save us.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **All: Amen.**

Gloria –

Pastor Rosean
Renewed by God’s grace, we sing our song of praise.
Please join in on mute to sing along with Bill Smith.

Refrain
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will. (Amen.)

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

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Opening Prayer – *Father Michael*

Let us pray...

Let us pray. . . . Father/Mother God of all,
as the Virgin Mary trusted that
your word to her would be fulfilled,
your eternal Word took flesh on our earth.

Lift our minds in watchful hope

to hear the voices which announce his glory
and open our minds to receive the Spirit
who prepares for his coming.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

ALL: Amen

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading is from the First Book of Samuel - *Lector Art Bavoso*

1:1-3a, 7, 9-11, 13-17, 20; 2:1, 4-7, 8a-d; edited -

There was a man named Elkanah who had two
wives, one named Hannah, the other Peninnah.
Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no
children...

Each year Elkanah went up from their city to...
offer sacrifice to God...at Shiloh...
Year after year, when Hannah went up to the
Tabernacle, the Tent where God dwelled,
Peninnah would provoke her, and Hannah would
weep and refuse to eat...

One year, Hannah ...presented herself before
God. At that time, Eli the priest was sitting on a
chair near the doorpost of God's Tabernacle.
In her bitterness, Hannah prayed to God,
weeping freely, and made this vow:

"O Holy One, if You look with pity on the hardship
of Your servant, if You remember me and do not
forget me, if You give Your handmaid a... child, I
will give the child to You for all the days of their

life," ...Hannah prayed silently.
Though her lips were moving, her voice could not
be heard.

Eli, thinking she was drunk, said to her,
"How long will you make a drunken spectacle of
yourself? Sober up from your wine!"

"No! Sir!", Hannah answered.
"I am an unhappy woman. I've had neither wine
nor liquor. I am only pouring out my heart to God.
Don't think your servant worthless.
My prayer has been prompted by my deep sorrow
and misery."

Then, Eli said, "Go in peace, and may the God of
Israel grant you what you have requested."

Hannah conceived and... bore a son whom she
named Samuel: "Because I asked God for him."

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



Psalm - (please join in with Bill while muted)

Holy Is His Name

Refrain

Holy, holy, holy is God's name.

Holy, holy, holy is God's name.

Holy, holy, holy is God's name.

Holy, holy, holy is God's name

By John Michael Talbot The: Magnificat; based on Luke 1:46–55. Text and music © 1980, Birdwing Music/BMG Songs, Inc. All rights reserved. Administered at CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used with permission.

Second Reading – Lynne Barnes

The “Magnificat of Friendship” by Ann Johnson, from *Miryam of Nazereth*, as she reflects on her encounter with her cousin, Elizabeth.

My soul flowers in the light of your love, my God,
and my spirit sings Alleluia in the reality of
your joyful presence,
because you have chosen my kinswoman and
me with
the summons of your eyes.

Yes, we are known now and for all time.
We are known as women, blessed.

Holy is your name.

The tenderness of your hand rests on us as we
journey in your way.
Your power in my life has led me into the embrace
of loving arms.

You have exposed my lonely pride that I might
turn my head to your nurturing breast.
You have revealed the hollowness of

achievements and have
opened in my heart a space filled with simple,
loving moments.
My hunger you have satisfied,
my excess you have ignored.

You are my help as I remember your tender love
for me,
. . . for we have touched each other you and I
and we have made promises.

I remember your tenderness for all that you have
begun in me
and in those with whom I walk
and I respond with all that I am becoming
in this hour and in all times to come.

Words Inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God

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

Refrain

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

1. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his
paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

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Gospel: Luke 1:39-45 - Pastor Rosean

May the Eternal Word be with you.
A reading from the holy Gospel attributed to Luke

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



During those days, Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ...And Mary sang:

My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God.
My spirit rejoices in You who make me whole.
For You have looked with favor upon me despite my insignificance. Amazingly, from now on, all generations will call me blessed. You, O God, have done great things for me and holy is Your name.

You extend mercy and compassion from age to age to all those who hold You in awe. You have shown Your sacred strength, dispersing the arrogant of mind and heart, casting rulers from their thrones and lifting up the lowly; filling the hungry with good things and sending the rich away empty.

You have come to the aid of Your servant Israel, mindful of Your mercy and the promise You made to our ancestors, to Abraham and Sarah and their descendants forever."

And Mary remained with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned to her home.

The Gospel of God. **ALL: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ**

Homily *Fr. Michael*
The Alive and Active Promise

Prayers of the People

Father Michael-

Making the needs of the Church and the world a part of our collective story, we pray

Lector Lynne Barnes

The response is: Beloved, comfort and lead your people. **All Beloved, comfort and lead your people.**

Creator God, as we wait, watch and prepare for the celebration of Emmanuel's birth, guide our Advent journey so that we may fully embrace your

love and be the Light and Hope in our world, we pray
All Beloved, comfort and lead your people.

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.

(Lynne to read each prayer on "chat")we pray **All: Beloved, comfort and lead your people.**

And for all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray: **All: Beloved, comfort and lead your people.**

Father Michael

God of Promise, we know you hear the prayers of your people for your faithfulness is affirmed in the stories we retell. We add to them our Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop which describes not only our need for your guidance, but re-affirms the journey shared



Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop - *Father Michael*

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**

Sign of Peace – *Father Michael*

The Peace of the Christ be with you always. **All: and also with you**

Deacon Rosean

Let us all go to “gallery view” and please unmute yourself by holding down your space bar so that we might share an offering of Christ’s peace with one another.

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

Hail Mary: Gentle Woman

Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women
And blest is the fruit of your womb,
Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Oh, pray for us sinners now
And at the hour of death. Amen.

Refrain
Gentle woman, quiet light,

Morning star, so strong and bright,
Gentle Mother, peaceful dove,
Teach us wisdom; teach us love.

You were chosen by the Father;
You were chosen for the Son.
You were chosen from all women,
And for woman, shining one.

Refrain

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Preparation of our Tables- *Pastor Rosean*

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.

Offertory – *Father Michael*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
We set before you this humble food
which earth has given and human hands have made.

May our sharing them be but a token of our love
and our cooperation with your grace.
All: Blessed be God forever

Prayer Over the Gifts - *Father Michael*

Loving God, in this sacred meal
your promises are both revealed and fulfilled.



Sanctify these gifts as you sanctified Mary's song and those of all the valiant women and men who have inspired our hope and mission.

Grant this through your Word living and active in our midst who is Christ our brother **All: Amen**

Advent Preface: Bearer of the Joyous Word – *Father Michael*

God is with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to our God.

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

Creator God, ever faithful and true,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks, as your Word becomes alive and active in the world through our cooperation with your saving promise.

For inspiration we look to the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother, whose faith was formed by stories of women valiant, and who was herself an instrument of your faithfulness toward your people.

Her “yes” literally put flesh on your Word eternal and her story became part of your plan’s unfolding.

Walking with her toward the story of your Son’s birth and through all the mysteries of Christ’s life, we, too, become increasingly aware of your presence and your saving activity within us and beyond ourselves.

A part of the sacred story, we share the joy of Mary, Elizabeth, Hanna and the children they carried, as we join with all the angels and saints in their unending hymn of praise:

Holy Holy Holy (*Please join in with Bill while on mute*)

**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.**

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Music: Mass of St. Mary Magdalene; Sarah Hart, b. 1968; vocal arr. by Rick Modlin, b. 1966,
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*Advent Preface: Bearer of the Joyous Word
by Michael J. Nicosia © 2020*

Eucharistic Prayer – *Father Michael*

Lord, you are holy, indeed the fountain of all holiness. Let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy, so that they may become for us the body ✠ and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Before he was given up to death, a death he freely accepted, he took bread and gave you thanks, He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

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

When the supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said:

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:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Loving God, we celebrate the memory of Christ, your Son, all that he did and continues to do to bring your blessings to the whole of your Creation. And so we commit ourselves to the community of faith in which this wonder unfolds.

Lord, while we ask you to remember all our sisters and brothers of many faiths and spiritual paths, who each bring their own insights and blessings to our world, remember, too, your Church, united across the miles.
Make us grow in love, together with all who hold and spread the hope handed down to us from the

Apostles. Continue to empower us as laypersons, deacons and priests for the special ministry given to the Body of Christ, praying especially for its local incarnation in our Region, in union with our bishops, Francis and Denise.

Remember, Lord, all those who have died. Welcome them into your glorious presence with Mary, your Mother, our patron Mary of Magdala, your apostles and martyrs, and all the saints as they enjoy the fullness of the communion that is our destiny.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father/Mother, forever and ever. **All: Amen.**

The Prayer of Jesus— *Pastor.Rosean*

Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

(All to Join in on mute)

Creator God, 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 be led into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

The Shared Table — *Father Michael*

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. Amen.

Sacred Music During Spiritual Communion - *instrumental prayer by Rosanna Bateman*



Prayer after the Meal – *Father Michael*

God of the Continually-spoken Promise,
your Word is alive and active in our midst.
As Christmas approaches,
may this communion with your Son in Word
and Sacrament unite us,
that our “yes” to being instruments of your

saving grace may cause our weary world to
leap for joy!
This we ask and can do in Christ’s name. **All:**
Amen.

Concluding Rite /Blessing– *Father Michael*

God is with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

I thank my God every time I recall your stories,
always offering prayer with joy as I lift you up,
in view of your participation in the gospel from the first
day until now.

For I am confident of this very thing,
that the One who began a good work in you
will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus

May almighty God bless you:
the Father, ✠ the Son and the Holy Spirit

All: Amen

(Phil 1:3-6, paraphrased)

Dismissal – *Pastor Rosean*

Our celebration is ended, let us go in peace to love and serve God and one another

All: Thanks be to God

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

Christ the Lord

1. Darkness hangs, the world is aching,
Yearning for the coming light.
In his rising, hope awaking,
Love has come to steal the night.
In our hearts true east we’re facing,
Toward the coming of our Lord.
Morning rising, gloom now fleeing;
Christ returned! His word is true!

2. As we wait with hope for rescue
Love descends and all is well.
Prophets tell, “Your God is with us.
Heaven’s gift, Emmanuel.”
He is here, but hid as lowly
In the poor and mystery.
Where the bread and wine are offered
He is here: our God and King..