



Mary of Magdala, ECC Sunday Service – Nov 22, 2020

Celebrating the Feast of Christ the Servant King

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

Announcements – Lector Art Bavoso

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

Entrance Song

I will Choose Christ

Refrain

I will choose Christ,
I will choose love,
I choose to serve.
I give my heart, I give my life,
I give my all to you.

1. How many times
must he call my name

and show to me that he is God?
And as a servant he calls to me,
“You must serve too.”

2. Christ, my teacher and healer,
teach my heart and heal my soul.
And as I walk this road with you,
teach me to love.

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Greeting

Deacon Rosean

Let us begin as one expression of God's people, in
the name of the Father/Mother, Son, and the Holy
Spirit.

ALL: Amen

May the Holy Kiss of God, the tender care of the
One who washes feet, and the passion of the Holy
Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you

Penitential Rite – Deacon Rosean

Let us remember our God...

Holy One,
Forgive us the times when we miss an
opportunity to show your compassion in the
world. God, have mercy. **ALL: God, have mercy.**

Compassionate One,

Open my heart to my neighbors and to all of your
creation. Christ, have mercy. **ALL: Christ, have
mercy.**

Loving One,
Help me to love others as you have loved us.
God, have mercy. **ALL: God, have mercy.**



May our loving God shower us with grace, be forever present to us, forgive our sins, and bring

us to everlasting joy and light. **All: Amen**

Opening Prayer

Deacon Rosean

Amma/Abba God, Your son Jesus was born among us poor, humble and dependent. Open our eyes, our hearts, and our hands to honor Him by welcoming Him in those who are hungry and thirsty, in all who are abandoned and lonely, in refugees, the poor, and the sick.

Let our love become free and spontaneous, like the tenderness You have shown us in your Son. Help us to welcome all into the everlasting kin-dom prepared for us through Jesus, the Christ. **ALL: Amen**

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel 34:11- 12, 15-17 – Lector Art Bavoso

Thus says God:
“I myself will search for my sheep, and tend them. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among the scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when the clouds were low and the darkness thick. I myself will shepherd my sheep, and pasture them. I myself will give them rest,” says God.

“The lost, I will seek. The stray, I will bring back. The injured, I will bind up. The weak, I will

strengthen. But the shepherds who have fattened and fed themselves while depriving my sheep, I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.”

“As for you, my sheep,” says God, “I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats.”

The Word of the prophet.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Scriptural Response - Lector Jim Berry

The response is: Our response is: *We stretch out our hands.*

ALL: We stretch out our hands.

Keep the greatest commandment, and you will find life; those who are heedless of their ways will die.

Whoever gives to those who are poor gives to God, Who sees the kindness done and pays back the giver in full.

Whoever pursues justice and kindness, finds life and honor.

ALL: We stretch out our hands.

All deeds are right in the sight of the doer; but it is God who weighs the heart. To do what is right and just is more acceptable to God than sacrifice.

You who are generous are blessed, for you share your food with those who hunger.

“Rich” and “poor” are of the same cloth; God has made them both.

ALL: We stretch out our hands.



Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of the destitute.

Speak out! Judge justly! Defend the rights of those in need and the poor!

Stretch out your hand to those who are poor, that your blessing may be complete.

R: We stretch out our hands.

Give your gift to all the living. Do not withhold your kindness from the dead. Do not avoid those who weep, but mourn with those who mourn.

Do not hesitate to visit those who are sick. For such things, you will be loved. In all you do, remember the end of your life, and you will never go wrong.

R: We stretch out our hands.

‘Alleluia’ - Mass of Mary Magdalene- *(please join in with Bill while muted)*

Refrain

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the words of everlasting life..

Sarah Hart

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

Pastor Jane

Our God is with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

ALL: And also with you.

ALL: Glory to you, O God

When the Chosen One comes in honor, with all the angels alongside, and takes up the seat of judgment, all nations and peoples will gather around. Then, the Chosen One will sit as judge and separate people, one from another, as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. The sheep will be placed to the right, the goats to the left.

“In truth, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these kin of mine, you did for me.”

Then the Chosen One will say to those on the right, “Come, you whom my loving God has blessed, inherit the kingdom prepared for you since the beginning of creation. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger, and you made me welcome; I was naked and you clothed me; I was ill and you came to my assistance; I was in prison, and you visited me.”

Then the Chosen One will say to those on the left, “Depart from me, with your own curse upon you, into the eternal fire prepared for evil and those who wreak evil. For I was hungry, but you did not feed me. I was thirsty, but you did not give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you never made me welcome. I was naked and you gave me no clothing. I was sick and you refused to help me. I was in prison and you never visited me.”

Then those on the right will ask, “But Your Honor, when did we see you hungry and give you food, or see you thirsty and give you drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger, or see you naked and give you clothing? When was it that you were sick and we helped you? When did we visit you in prison?” And the Chosen One will reply to them,

Then those on the left will ask, “But Your Honor, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not come to your help?” Then the Chosen One will reply to them, “In truth I tell you, what you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.” And these will go away suffering eternal consequences. But the righteous will enter into eternal life. The Good News of Salvation.

ALL: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ



Homily – Deacon Rosean

Creed/Affirmation of Faith

Deacon Rosean:

In love and in light, we profess our faith together:

All together on mute:

We believe in God who is creator and nurturer of all. We believe in Jesus, the Christ, who is our love, our hope, and our light.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of Wisdom Sophia, who energizes and guides us to build caring communities and to challenge oppression, exploitation, and injustices.

We believe that God loves us passionately and forgives us everything. We believe that we are radiant images of God who calls us to live fully, love tenderly, and serve generously.

We believe in the communion of saints, our heavenly friends, who support us on life's journey.

We believe in the partnership and equality of women and men in our church and world. We believe that all are one in the Heart of God. Here on this earth we are meant to dwell in loving relationships. Here we live our prophetic call of Gospel equality. Amen.

*CREED by Bridget Mary Meehan and Mary Theresa Streck,
ARCWP*

Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop

Pastor Jane

**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 –

Deacon Rosean

As we prepare to celebrate a day of Thanksgiving in our community and our homes, let our prayers offer thanks to our God

Lector Jim Berry

Our response is: God of generosity and love, receive our prayers.

ALL: God of generosity and love, receive our prayers

In gratitude for the spiritual nourishment and inspiration we receive from our copastors and one another in this community of faith, we pray...

ALL: God of generosity and love, receive our prayers.

In gratitude for our lives, our health, and opportunities to know You in the service of others, we pray...

ALL: God of generosity and love, receive our prayers.

In gratitude for your loving and sustaining Presence in our lives, we pray.

ALL: God of generosity and love, receive our prayers

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.



(Jim to read each prayer on “chat”)we pray **ALL: God of generosity and love, receive our prayers**

And for all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray: **ALL: God of generosity and love, receive our prayers**

Deacon Rosean

God of Generosity and Love, as your unique creations we thank you for all that we are and all that we do in service to You. Through Christ our brother, Amen

Sign of Peace

Deacon Rosean

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

All: And also with you

Pastor Jane

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)*

The Lord is my Shepherd

Refrain

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. He lets me rest in open fields so green.

He leads me to the quiet streams.

He gives me strength

and guides me in his ways.

He renews his promises each day.

2. He is my guide, my shepherd and my king,

and in my fear he offers peace.

Though I walk through the valley,
I will not be afraid.

You will protect me; I’ll be saved.

3. He goes before me;

my enemies will fall.

He is my shepherd and my shield.

His anointing is upon me,

and I will overcome.

His blessing cannot be undone.

Text: Based on Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4. Refrain text © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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 of Food

Deacon Rosean

May the Servant-king be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to our God.

Gracious God of our hearts, we offer our food and drink and prepare our greatest gift, the inclusive table of your Son. All tables are Christ's table.

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.

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 this world.

Today you challenge us to feed those who are hungry and to quench the thirst of those who are parched. You ask us to bring clothing to those who have none or for whom the clothing is inadequate for the weather. You ask us to visit people who are sick, alone, alienated, who are imprisoned either in cells with bars or in conditions of hopelessness and poverty that they see no way out of.

ALL: And also with you.

ALL: We lift them up to our God.

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

You ask us to welcome the stranger and reach out to those who are marginalized. To always bring to others your words of healing and redeeming love.

You lavish your gifts upon us that we might use them for the coming of your kin-dom on earth. We bring these gifts to celebrate the ministries of justice and hope in which our church is involved. We ask that you continue to abide in us and cause us to grow in our faith and our service.

May your grace pierce the veils that separate us, may the inspiration of your Spirit make us one, and may the brilliant light of Christ lead us to discover your love in every human heart.

God of Service, You have made this food which feeds us. May you open our eyes and hearts to your presence in all your children, that we may nourish others as you have nourished us.

In Jesus' name we pray.

ALL: Amen

The Our Mother/Father Prayer

Pastor Jane

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

ALL: Our Mother/Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Modern "Our Father" provided by 301 Faith Partners



Reception of Spiritual Communion

Deacon Rosean

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.

Deacon Rosean

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.

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.

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

Please spend a moment now while listening to sacred music to receive God's grace as you eat and drink what is on your table.

Communion - Sacred Music by Rosanna Bateman

Prayer after Communion

Deacon Rosean

Let us pray...

God of all Goodness, may this meal we share feed us and bring us as One into the Body of Christ one family, one kin-dom.

faith be proved, not in dogma and piety, but in serving You in the last and the least, through Jesus Christ, the stranger's hope. **All: Amen**

May we know You as the destitute king, one with the hungry, the naked and the scorned. May our

Adapted from Prayers for an Inclusive Church by Steven Shakespeare

Blessing

Deacon Rosean

The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

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

deeds. Let us live as our brother Jesus did: for others, in love and service.

And may God bless us for this task in the name of Amma/Abba God, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

As disciples of Christ, our mission is to make God's kin-dom a reality among us by our words and our

All: Amen



Dismissal – *Pastor Jane*

Go in peace to love and serve God and God's people and to shape God's kin-dom here on earth.

All: Thanks be to God

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

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.

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.

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.

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