



Mary of Magdala, ECC— September 27, 2026

Celebrating 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, The Season of Creation —

All Together Everywhere

Presider and Homilist: Reverend Jane Reina, in collaboration with

Linda Joyce, member of Mary of Magdala and Senior Scientist,

Emeritus, US Forest Service

Deacon Dori Healy Assisting

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Lou Devlin and Jim Berry

Welcome and Announcements: Lector Pedro Engel

Entrance: Come O Jesus Come (R; R; V1; R; V2; R)

Greeting

Rev. Jane Reina: Welcome to the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time. This Sunday we will step out of OT to acknowledge the extraordinary moment we are living. A time of monumental shifts in illusion vs reality, and raised consciousness, a Christ consciousness and our responsibility within this consciousness. The message is we are beautiful, gifted, loved, and held together in Christ through each other. All we have to do is *look*.



Again, I invite everyone here and at home to sit, let go of the news of the day, let go of whatever is heavy on your heart, take a deep breath or two, try to relax into this sacred space, drop your shoulders and release some of the stress we hold in our bodies. Relax into the warmth of God, a God who holds us in the mystery of infinite and unconditional love. Surrender your heart and mind to God in this hour.

Let us open ourselves to this Season of Creation, and to today's scripture and its possibilities.

+ In the name of the All-Compassionate Creative Mystery, Jesus—our Christ, and the Holy Spirit—Sophia. **All: Amen**

Penitential Rite

In humble gratitude for God's never-ending, cherishing love we pray:

All: Together, we turn back to you, O Christ, knowing you welcome us even in the midst of our turning, just by our yearning to return. We know you will accept us no matter our failings because your divinity is within us and you will not reject yourself. Bless us with both *knowledge* and *experience* of you as we turn back to you with deep longing and open hearts. We come in fragility and vulnerability recognizing the violence within our own hearts.



Rev. Jane: We turn back to You, O God, when we recall that we confine You within our human mindset and diminish You as Magnificent Mystery within all creation.

All: We thank you, O Ancient One, for calling us back to Mystery.

We turn back to you, O Christ, when we recall that You are our consciousness speaking to all creation.

All: We thank you, O Christ, for calling us to remember that we are called to reflect You.

We turn back to you, Holy Spirit, when we recall that You make all things new.

All: We thank you, Holy Spirit, for calling us to turn back to you.

Gloria: Glory Praise (Mass of Welcoming)

Opening Prayer

God, the blessed Holy Three, is within you. **All: And also within you.**

Deacon Dori: Let us pray

Rev. Jane: O Holy Mystery of All Creation, your breath swept over the water: water, the mother of creation and our first mother. We were conceived by you within the waters of our fathers and mothers, and birthed from the waters of our mothers. All creation is united through star dust and Creator's waters.

May we be submerged in Your water, diving into a more intentional seeking. Water holds the message of Jesus in its simplicity and radical transformation to our own brighter lights. May we know this water as light and may it lighten us this day. Amen.



Deacon Dori:

Holy Spirit, come, agitate this water with the power of your love and light.

May we experience ourselves *Loved* and *as Love*, entangled with you O God, as this water brightens our souls.

+ Bless this water, our first mother. May it soak us with your love. In the name of the Creating God, Jesus our Christ, and the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated as we are presented with the inspired Word of God.

First Reading Lector Pedro Engel

Genesis 1:1-3,6-8a, 20a, 11-12. Translation from The Jewish Study Bible.

When God began to create heaven and earth – the earth being unformed and void, with darkness over the surface of the deep and a wind from God sweeping over the water – God said, “Let there be light; and there was light.

God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the water, that it may separate water from water. God made the expanse, and it separated the water which was below the expanse from the water that was above the expanse. And it was so. God called the expanse Sky.

God said: ‘Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures. And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation: seed bearing plants of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that [all] this was good.”

The Words of an Ancient Inspired Writer.

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Cry Out With Joy (Alt Refrain; Alt Refrain; V1; Alt Refrain; V2; Alt Refrain)

Second Reading Lector Vicki Johnson
The Fish in *The Song of the Bird* by Anthony de Mello



*“Excuse me,” said an ocean fish,
“You are older than I, so
Can you tell me where to find
this thing they call the ocean?”*

*“The ocean” said the older fish, “is the thing
you are in now.”*

*“Oh, this? But this is water. What I’m seeking
is the ocean,” said the disappointed fish
as he swam away to search elsewhere.*

He came to the Master in *sanyasi* (saint) robes. And he spoke *sannyasi* language: “For years I have been seeking God. I have sought him everywhere that he is said to be: on the mountain peaks, the vastness of the desert, the silence of the cloister, and the dwellings of the poor.

“Have you found him?” the master asked.

“No. I have not. Have you?”

What could the master say? The evening sun was sending shafts of golden light into the room. Hundreds of sparrows were twittering on a nearby banyan tree. In the distance one could hear the sound of highway traffic. A mosquito droned a warning that it was going to strike.... And yet this man could sit there and say he had not found Him.

After a while he left, disappointed, to search elsewhere.

*

Stop searching, little fish. There isn’t anything to look *for*. All you have to do is **look**.

Words inspired by God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation MOW



Gospel

Our Loving God is within you. **All: And also within you.**

A proclamation of the Gospel according to Matthew (5:14-16) The Inclusive Bible

All: Glory to you O God.

“You are the light of the world. You don’t build a city on a hill, then try to hide it, do you? You don’t light a lamp, then put it under a bushel basket do you? No, you set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the whole house. In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good acts and give praise to your Abba God in heaven. “

The Good News of Jesus, our Christ. **All: Praise to you, Jesus our Christ.**

Homily: Rev. Jane

Please be seated.

Creed

All: We believe in one God, one human family, one planetary community, one body, one love, uniting all in beauty, for God’s infinite love is infinite, fecund and beautiful.

We believe we are entangled with all earth life and all living creatures,

We believe this future is the relational unity of all living things in God.

We believe this earth has a future entangled with God.

We believe the heart of God is love. Amen. *A Profession of Faith, from Christogenesis*

Prayers of the People

Lector Vicki Johnson

Lector Vicki: May our plea to God transform us into the Love and Peace that heals what is open to healing.



Our response is: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

All: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

For gratitude and wisdom for the capture and usage of Mother Earth's water, her atmosphere, and heavenly light, we pray.

All: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

For Mary of Magdala community's strength, enlightenment, and spiritual growth as we participate in the ECC-wide Synod Oct 9-12 through our voting delegates Mother Rosean, Rev Jane, Tom Moos, David Cloyd, and Mike and Carol Persons, we pray.

All: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

May we live Godly lives as fully human, unafraid to be original: to discover, create, invent, push boundaries, face criticism, suffer rejection without defeat, and dream of the future,* we pray.

All: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

Our prayers from the Sanctuary are: ...we pray.

All: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

Are there prayers from participants on zoom ...we pray.

All: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

We pray for those on our Prayer List and for others held in our hearts, we pray.

All: Your Presence enlightens our flowing in the stream of life.

*Ilio Delio, Not Yet God p 255, "Essential Points"



Deacon Dori: O Holy Mystery, hear our prayers joined with all the prayers world-wide for peace. Help us awaken to your call to care for all creation through Christ in all matter. **All: Amen**

The Peace

Deacon Dori: Jesus, you said to your apostles: “I leave you my peace, my peace I give you.” May the Peace of Christ be expressed within and through you.

All: And also within and through you.

Please turn toward the camera to offer a sign of peace to our siblings online, and then toward each other.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Deacon Dori: As we prepare our tables with what food we have, we are reminded that our offerings of time, talent, and treasure sustain the mission of God’s church. Please continue to give as you are called and able.

Let us sing together. . .

Offertory: Healing Waters (R; V1; R; V2; R)

Preparation of the Gifts *(during Offertory song)*



Blessed are You, God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Foundation of our life. {**All: Blessed be God forever.**}

By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. {**All: Blessed be God forever.**}

O God, wash away my iniquity and ambivalence, cleanse my heart and soul.

Pray, my beloved siblings, that these, our gifts, may be acceptable to God.

All: May God accept our gifts at your hands for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's creation.

Eucharistic Prayer

Deacon Dori:

Christ is within you. **All: And also within you.**

Let us soften our hearts. **All: We have softened and opened them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God. **All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Rev. Jane: Blessed are you, compassionate and faithful God—to you we offer thanks and praise everywhere and always. All of creation has its origin in You. You are creation's desired fulfillment. We thank you for our planetary home and our living cosmos beyond our understanding, all holy and sacred.



We thank you for emptying Yourself into time through Jesus, thereby calling us to live your Holy Way through both our individual unique gifts and our communal gifts. The Spirit of Jesus calls us to a deeper reality that can overwhelm us with the grief of violence even as it overwhelms us with creation's beauty.

Therefore, we gladly join our voices praising you with the whole of creation:

Holy MOW

Flowing like water from the Exquisite Love visible and invisible throughout the entire cosmos, send your Holy Spirit to heal us and our planet.

Please join us in raising your hands over the gifts:

O Holy Spirit, sanctify these gifts of wheat, grapes, and water from our earth, this bread and wine ++, that they may become the Body and Blood of Jesus our Christ.

Together, we, the Body of Christ, remember what Jesus did at table and in life. Who, on the night before he was betrayed, and among friends, He took bread and gave you thanks.

He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

All: Take this all of you, and eat it: this is my Body, which will be given up for you.

When supper was ended, he took the cup; again he gave you thanks and, handing the cup to his disciples, said:



All: 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 all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Deacon Dori: Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Memorial Acclamation MOW

Rev. Jane: God of Compassion and Peace, through Jesus our Christ you have entrusted us with this Passover meal, your pledge of Faithfulness and Love.

Together then with your servants of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion, and people of every faith and no faith, we remember that your Love is our salvation not our possession. May this love convert us from the grasping pattern of this world, and conform us to the abundant pattern of Christ.

Remember, O Holy Mystery, all those who have been drawn from the waters of this life to the waters of eternal life. *Pause to recollect those who have died.* We believe you welcome them into your Love, where you gather all people who have died.

Setting our wisdom, our own wills, our words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn to unite with the Love Christ offers our world as together now we say...

All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, self-emptying/life-giving God, forever and ever.

The Great Amen MOW

Deacon Dori: As we pray the Prayer of Jesus please turn to those of us at home. Joining together we pray the words that Jesus gave us...

All: Abba/Amma God in heaven Holy is Your name. Your kin-dom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is 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. Amen

The Shared Table

Eucharistic Ministers divide the bread.

Living God (MOW)

Rev. Jane: This is the living God. This is the One who transforms us and our world. Blessed are we who are called to this Meal.

All: Jesus, I am ready to receive you, and by your invitation I am here.

Invitation to Communion

Deacon Dori: As we share in this living sacrament of creation's ultimate joy, let us proclaim 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.



This sacred meal is offered to join us together, all of us without exception. Come to this table, and your table at home, to celebrate the unimaginable love God has for us. It is Christ who calls us.

Communion Taste and See (R; V1; R; V2; R; V3; R)

Prayer after Communion

Deacon Dori: If you are able, please stand. Let us pray,

Rev. Jane: Loving and generous God, we thank you for gathering us at your tables as the Body of Christ bearing your Light. May your Light, Compassion, and Understanding flow like water out of us into our world, embracing all of it. Reveal to us our many gifts, sharing them. Help us to serve this Earth planet and all that evolves from within it, doing our part to heal and reconcile us into a newly realized unity. We humbly accept you as the gift that nourishes. **All: Amen**

Blessing

Rev. Jane: The Peace of God is within you. **All: And also within you.**

May God bless us with the grace of wisdom and courage that flow like water.

In the name of the Sacred Un-nameable, the Eternal Christ, and the Wisdom Spirit, Sophia. **All: Amen**

Dismissal

Deacon Dori: Let us go forward, flowing like water out as beacons of Light.



All: Thanks be to God.

Closing: Send Us Your Spirit (R; V2; R; V3; R; V4;