



Mary of Magdala, ECC Sunday Service – October 4, 2020 Feast of St. Francis

Black Lives Matter

Announcements – Lector Lynne Barnes

Opening Song *(please join in with Bill while muted)*

Prayer of St. Francis

1. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.
2. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring
hope.
Where there is darkness only light,
And where there's sadness ever joy.
3. O Master, grant that I may never seek

So much to be consoled, as to console,
To be understood, as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

4. Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Text: Based on the prayer traditionally ascr. to St. Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226. Text and music © 1967, 2003, OCP. All rights reserved. Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy

Greeting – Father Teri

And Let us begin as one expression of God's people.
+ Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Amen

May the Hand of God, the companionship of Jesus, and the whisper of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you

Penitential Rite

(None. We will do an expanded Penitential Rite as the Homily. A reconciliation service.)

Blessing of Pets and Animals – Father Teri

Blessed be God, the Spirit blowing through
Creation.

Your sacred Breath breathes in birds and
beasts, fish and fowl, pets and animals
throughout Creation.

Through our pets we are blessed with comfort
and companionship. Our pets and farm

animals, all animals know the rhythm of your
world God. May they be blessed by your
gentle hand, God who created them all. We
ask especially for your blessing of protection
and care. We pray for pets who have been
abandoned that a good home may be found
for them.



We remember the animals who provide food and other goods for our survival. We thank them, knowing we have been blessed by their presence in the circle of life.

We remember the animals who have been affected by fires and hurricanes and other natural disasters. May they come to find safety and new habitats for their thriving.

May we take seriously your commissioning to us to be good stewards of this earth and all its creatures. We remember this especially as we care for our pets, but know that you ask us to take that same passion of care to all the creatures of the world.

We ask for this blessing, in the name of the Spirit blowing through Creation. **ALL: Amen**

Opening Prayer – Father Teri

Let us pray...

God, blessed are you who made the earth and all the people in it. Blessed are you who lavishes us with blessing and grace. Blessed are you who sees beyond, yet is always present. Blessed are you who dwells in each of

us and throughout the life of this world, and loves us forever. In the name of the Incarnation we pray.

All: Amen

Let us listen to God speaking in our world today through Scripture, poetry, and prayer.

Liturgy of the Word – Lector Lynne Barnes

1st Reading:

A reading adapted from *The Way of the Mystics: Ancient Wisdom for Experiencing God Today* by John Michael Talbot with Steve Rabey

Francis Bernardone (1882-1226) had an infectious, passionate, no-holds-barred love for God which ignited a small band of followers that grew into a fellowship of thousands by the time of his death. He is most frequently memorialized in birdfeeders that show him caring for God's feathered creatures. But Francis was also known for giving wonderful sermons, many of them to God's creatures.

Francis loved God so completely that he wanted all of creation to join him in his celebration. That's why he once spoke to a brightly-colored field of flowers. "He preached to them and invited them to praise the Lord as

if they were endowed with reason," wrote a biographer.

In every created thing, Francis saw the handiwork of the Creator. Therefore, to disrespect creation was to disrespect God. This simple man would later be named the patron saint of the environmental movement. He was truly a man who allowed God to touch his heart through the beauty of the created world.

Words inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God



Responsorial Psalm – 148: 7-14 - *lector Lynne Barnes*

(Laudate Domini)

Our response today is: Praise the Name of God. **All: Praise the Name of God**

Give praise to the Beloved, all the earth, all that swim in the deep, And all the winged ones of the air!

All: Praise the Name of God

Give praise all mountains and hills, all fruit trees and all cedars! Give praise all four-legged creatures and all that creep on the ground!

All: Praise the Name of God

Leaders of the nations and all peoples, young and old, give praise! Unite together in all your diversity, that peace and harmony might flourish on earth!

All: Praise the Name of God

Let all people praise the Beloved, who is exalted in heaven and on earth; whose glory is above heaven and earth.

All: Praise the Name of God

For all are called to be friends, companions to the true Friend, giving their lives joyfully as co-creators and people of peace!

All: Praise the Name of God

Praises be to the Blessed One, the very Breath of our breath, the very Heart of our heart! Alleluia!

All: Praise the Name of God

2nd Reading: Canticle of the Sun – *Lector Pedro Engel*

A Reading from the Writings of St Francis

Most high, all-powerful, all good Lord!
All praise is yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessings.

To you, alone, Most High, do they belong.
No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce your name.

Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures, especially through my lord Brother Sun, Who brings the day; and you give light through him. And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor! Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars; In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and beautiful.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brothers Wind

and Air, And clouds and storms, and all the weather, Through which you give your creatures sustenance.

Be praised, My Lord, through Sister Water; She is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brother Fire, Through whom you brighten the night. He is beautiful and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister Mother Earth, Who feeds us and rules us, And produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Be praised, my Lord, through those who forgive for love of you; Through those who endure sickness and trial.



Happy those who endure in peace, For by you,
Most High, they will be crowned.

Be praised, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily
Death, From whose embrace no living person
can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal
sin! Happy those she finds doing your most
holy will. The second death can do no harm to
them.

Praise and bless my Lord, and give thanks,
And serve him with great humility.

Words inspired by God
ALL: Thanks be to God

‘Alleluia’ - Mass of Mary Magdalene

(please join in with Bill while muted)

Refrain

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life;
You have the words of everlasting life.

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Gospel: Matthew 11: 25-30 – Deacon Rosean

The Risen Christ be with you all.
A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

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

Then Jesus prayed, “Abba, Creator of heaven
and earth, to you I offer praise; for what you
have hidden from the learned and clever, you
have revealed to the youngest children. Yes,
Abba, everything is as you would want it to be.”
Jesus continued, “Everything has been handed
over to me by Abba God. No one knows the
Only Begotten except Abba God, and no one
knows Abba God except the Only Begotten—
and those to whom the Only Begotten wants to
give that revelation.

Come to me, all you who labor and carry heavy
burdens, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon your shoulders and learn
from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.
Here you will find rest for your souls, for my
yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

The Good News of Salvation of Jesus our Christ
ALL: Glory and Praise to our Savior Jesus Christ!

Homily – Father Teri *(including Reconciliation Service)*

Creation Creed

Led by Deacon Rosean - together on mute

We gather in this assembly as a community of faith. A community made up of all sorts of creatures.



ALL: We believe and trust in God, all powerful Creator and Sustainer

- who fashions the heavens and the earth and all that is in them
- who crafts men and women, calling us to partnership with God in caring for God’s world
- who grieves at the way we neglect and spoil his masterpiece, and calls us to account

We believe and trust in Jesus Christ

- who lived an earthly life, affirming and celebrating the goodness of the physical world
- who used the natural world to teach us more of God’s nature
- who died and came back to life to show us that in sacrifice lies the seeds of freedom and hope

We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit

- who danced in the darkness at the dawn of time to bring light and life
- who breathes life and light and purpose into all living things
- who calls us to join in the work of sustaining and renewing the earth



We commit ourselves to live day by day in the light of these beliefs, cherishing the earth and laboring for its healing and renewal, in loving obedience to God, following the example of Jesus Christ, and seeking the help of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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Prayers of the People –

Lector Pedro Engel

Let us join in prayer for the needs of all of creation.

The response for the “Prayers of the People” is: Loving Creator, hear us. **ALL: Loving Creator, hear us**

God of all life, we give thanks for the gift of the earth, our common home. At this time, many people, the oceans, and the eco-systems of the earth are struggling to survive. Help us to change our ways to better create healthy conditions for all peoples who inhabit our planet, we pray...

Response: Loving Creator, hear us.

At this time in human history we are mindful that the survival of our planet and the well-being of humanity is threatened. Let us pray for world leaders, that they have the courage that is necessary to take urgent action so that UN Agreements will be honored by governments throughout the world, we pray...

Response: Loving Creator, hear us.

Let us pray for each other at this time that we may live the vision and values of Pope Francis’

encyclical *on care for our Common Home*. In particular we pray for greater attention to social justice, climate justice, and intergenerational justice, we pray...

Response: Loving Creator, hear us.

Creator God, let us remember those who have given their lives to protect our common home. We think especially of indigenous people who live to protect our vast ecosystems. They and many others are sent as messengers to the vineyard. May we listen to them. May our ears and hearts be open to their call, we pray...

Response: Loving Creator, hear us.

Lord, we know that it is the poorest who suffer the most because of environmental destruction. We pray that we all might be open to listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the Poor, especially all people who are



facing the harsh reality of climate change as manifested in fires, floods, and extreme temperatures, we pray...

Response: Loving Creator, hear us.

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.

(Pedro to read each prayer on “chat”)we pray **Response: Loving Creator, hear us**

And for all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray. **Response: Loving Creator, hear us**

Father Teri
(Closing of the Prayers of the People)

Sign of Peace

Deacon Rosean

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Accept our failings and doubts, as you accept the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity

of your kin-dom where you live for ever and ever. **ALL: AMEN**

The Peace of the Lord 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.

Regional Prayer for Calling a Bishop – *Father Teri*

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 Food

The Lord be with you
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to our God.

**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 Christ-child, 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

The Lord's Prayer *(all together on mute)*

Deacon Rosean

Let us turn to God 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 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.

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Reception for Spiritual Communion

Father Teri

Before we share and 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:

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

Taste and See

Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord, the
 good - ness of the Lord. Taste and see the good -
 - ness of the Lord, the good - ness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times.
Praise will be on my lips.
My soul will glory in the Lord.
The poor will hear and be glad.

2. I sought the Lord who answered me,
delivered me from my fear. Look to God that
you might shine

with the radiance of God's joy.

3. The Lord has eyes for justice,
ears to hear your cry.
God knows your broken heart.
The Lord redeems a loyal servant.
Take refuge in your God.

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Prayer After the Meal – Deacon Rosean

Let us pray

St. Francis said, "In this world, I cannot see the Son of God except in this Body and Blood."

May we see and know God in the meal we have shared.

May we become the Body of Christ visible in the world, that all may know God's love and



presence God in the world our God has created through love. In Jesus name let us pray, Amen.

Blessing – *Father Teri*

The Lord is with you. **ALL: And also with you.**
Let us open our hearts as we ask for God’s blessing.

God with us today, bless us. Bless us with the Peace of Christ.

May we share that blessing throughout creation.

And God, bless us all in the Father, the Son, and the Sacred Spirit.

ALL: Amen

Dismissal – *Deacon Rosean*

We are the Body of Christ, the flesh and blood of our God; let us go forth as such to

love and serve God as we love and serve in God’s beautiful world.

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

May Your Kingdom Come

1. Spirit of God, fill us with fire,
to shine your light for all those in need.
Give us the strength to love in your name,
so all the world will come to believe.

Refrain

May your kingdom come, that justice may reign. May your kingdom come, that justice may reign. May our lives bear witness to the pow’r of your name. May your kingdom come, that justice may reign.

2. Giver of life, send out your Spirit;
anoint your people that we might be healed.
Send us with joy to the weak and the lowly,
and let our love be your love revealed.

3. We will go out proclaiming the kingdom;
we will go out with mercy for all.
We will go out and serve with abandon,
with courage now to answer the call.

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Zoom will remain open for community chat.