Mary of Magdala, ECC –- May 17, 2026

Celebrating Ascension Sunday- Together Wherever We Are

Mother Rosean Amaral Presider and Homilist

Deacon Dori Healy Assisting

Announcements *Lector Matt Chavez*

Social Justice Reflection *Tom Moos*

Entrance Shouts of Joy (R; R; V1; R; V2; R; V3; R)

Greeting

Let us continue as one expression of God's people, in the name of Amma/Abba God, our brother Jesus, and the Holy Spirit Sophia.

All: Amen

May the grace of Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Mother Rosean welcomes…AD Lib

Let us remember our connectedness to God…

Penitential Rite



Gracious God, your ascended Son promised the gift of the Holy Spirit.

All: Thank you for your Spirit of wisdom and revelation.

Christ Jesus, you conquered death and revealed to us your divine glory.

All: Through us, may the dead continue to be awakened to new life.

Brother Jesus, you commission us to continue the work of the Gospel.

All: Let us go out and share the Good News!

God of ascending love, grant us your forgiveness and let your Spirit guide us to everlasting life.

All: Amen

Let us sing our praises to God…

Gloria (MoMM)

Opening Prayer

Let us pray…

Creator God,

Open our minds to believe what we cannot explain;

Open our hearts to hope for what we cannot see;

Open our lives to live and to love in all circumstances;

And let resurrection happen again in us today. (Adapted from Sacredise.com)

In Jesus' name we pray,

All: Amen.

And now let us listen to the inspired Word of God in our midst…

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-14 *Lector Matt Chavez*

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught, from the beginning up until the day he gave the apostles instruction through the Holy Spirit and was taken up into the heavens. After he suffered and died, Jesus showed himself alive to them by ample proof. For forty days, Jesus appeared to them, speaking about the Kin-dom of God. While at table with them, he told them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for what their Loving God had promised. "The

promise is what you have heard me speak about," Jesus said, "that John baptized with water; but, in not many days from now, you will be baptized by the Holy Spirit."

When he said this, and as they were watching, Jesus was lifted up and disappeared out of their sight into a cloud. While he was going and they were gazing up toward the sky, suddenly two people in white robes stood by them. They said, "You of Galilee, why do you stand looking up at the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into the heavens, will come again in the same way as you have seen him go."

Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city. When the eleven arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. They all joined together constantly in prayer, including the women and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Jesus' brothers and sisters.

The Word of an Early Church Chronicler.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM My Soul Is Thirsting (R; V1; R; V2; R; V3; R)

SECOND READING

In The Leaving, by Jan Richardson, from **Circle of Grace.**

Lector David Cloyd

In the leaving,

In the letting go,

let there be this

to hold onto

at the last:

the enduring of love,

the persisting of hope,

the remembering of joy,

the offering of gratitude,

the receiving of grace,



the blessing of peace.

Words Inspired by God

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (MOMM V3)

Alleluia, Christ is risen! **All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel attributed to Matthew 28:16-20

All: Glory to You, O God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Deacon Dori Healy

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain
where Jesus had arranged with the women to meet them.
When they saw him, they fell down before him, but they
doubted.
Then Jesus approached them and said, “God
authorized me and told me to commission you. Go, therefore,



and make disciples of everyone you meet, far and near. Baptize them in the name of the Creator, and of Jesus the Christ, and of the Holy Spirit, instructing them in the practice of the way of life I have lived. And remember, I am with you always, even to the end of time."

The Good News of the Resurrection. Alleluia!

All: Praise to You, Jesus our Christ. Alleluia!

HOMILY – Mother Rosean

Let us bring forth our prayers for all of creation…

Prayers of the People *Lector David Cloyd*

Our response is: Creator God, receive our prayers.

For all the graduates of high schools, colleges, universities, and trade schools that they may begin their new lives with hope and imagination using the tools they have learned through schooling. And for the parents and teachers who companioned them to this



point in their lives that they may know their work was fruitful, we pray, **Response: Creator God, receive our prayers.**

For those immigrants fleeing their countries and homes in search of simply living in peace, that our welcome to them be grounded in justice and helping hearts and hands, we pray, **Response: Creator God, receive our prayers.**

For more rain to fall on Mother Earth as the growing season gets under way in full force, that aquifers, creeks, rivers, and lakes may be refilled, and water for crops be enough, we pray, **Response: Creator God, receive our prayers.**

The prayers from the sanctuary are...we pray,

Response: Creator God, receive our prayers.

Are there prayers from our members on zoom? ...we pray,

Response: Creator God, receive our prayers.



And for all the prayers we hold sacred in our hearts, we pray,

Response: Creator God, receive our prayers.

Mother Rosean: Loving God, you know our needs before we speak them. May our prayers be in harmony with Your will and may our service to others be generous.

For Jesus' sake,

All: Amen

The Peace

Jesus, you said to your apostles: "I leave you my peace, my peace I give you." May the Peace of Christ be within you all.

All: And also within you.

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

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

As we prepare our tables, offering food and drink here and in our homes, 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 able.



Let us sing together…

Offertory Benediction (V1: V2; V3; V4)

Preparation of the Gifts (During Offertory Song)

Blessed are You, Loving God of all Creation, through Your goodness we have this bread to place on Your table. Work of earth and human hands. May it become our spiritual food.

All: Blessed be God forever

Blessed are You, Loving God of all Creation, through Your goodness we have this wine to place on Your table. Work of earth and human hands. May it become our spiritual drink.

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. Wash away my iniquity, cleanse me.

Prayer over the Gifts

Pray my siblings in Christ, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, our Mother and Father.



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

Eucharistic Prayer

May the Risen Christ live within you. **All: And also within you.**

Let us open up our hearts. **All: We open them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our loving God.

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

Creator of the cosmos, Source of all life,

We praise you, O God, for you bring forth beauty out of chaos,

and resurrection out of despair. You sent Jesus to be one of us,

to heal the broken, challenge the powerful, and show us your love.

In his ascension, we do not witness a departure,

but a transformation. He is no longer limited to one place,

but fills all things, in all places, becoming the heart of humanity,

the current of the Spirit, closer to us than we are to ourselves.

Therefore, with all of creation, with the stars and the saints,

we sing our joyful praise:

Holy (MOMM)

Creator God,

We bring you these gifts of bread and wine,

symbols of our labor and the earth's bounty.

We pray for your Holy Spirit—the same spirit of truth and comfort—to rest upon this food that it may become for us the + Body and Blood of Jesus, the Christ.

May this meal nourish us into the living Body of Christ, to bring healing to our world.

On the night before he was killed, Jesus sat with his friends.

He took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and shared it, saying:

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

After supper, he took the cup,

And after giving thanks, he shared it, saying:

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 you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith. (sung)



Memorial Acclamation (MOMM)

And so, Creator most holy, As we eat and drink,

bind us closer together as a community of love, courageous in seeking justice and humble in our service. When our pilgrimage on earth is complete, welcome us into your heavenly home,

where we shall dwell with you forever.

There, with Mary, the Mother of God,

with the apostles, the martyrs, and all the saints,

we shall praise you and give you glory

through Jesus Christ your Son.

Together now we say…

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

Amen (MOMM)

The Prayer of Jesus

Let us pray in the words Jesus taught us…

All: Amma/Abba God, who are 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 and the power and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen

THE SHARED TABLE

Lamb of God (sung) (MOMM)

This is the Living God, the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the One whose LOVE transforms the world. Happy 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

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.

An open invitation awaits all of you at this table where Jesus Christ is the host. An invitation to be fed and to be loved without measure.



Each one of you is a precious child of God. All are welcome, no exceptions.

(gluten free in center, red wine and white grape juice in the metal cups)

Communion Remain In Me—I Am the Vine (R; V1; R; V2; R; V3; R)

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray…

Loving God, we thank you for allowing us on earth to celebrate your divine mysteries. We ask you to grant that hope and faith may draw us to that place where our nature is united with you, through Christ our brother.

All: Amen

Blessing

May the love of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us open our hearts to receive this blessing…

On this Ascension Sunday, may you be blessed with a deeper awareness of Christ's enduring presence, and may your heart

ascend with him, empowered by the Spirit to carry his love, peace, and hope to all the world.

We ask for this blessing now, in the name of Amma//Abba God, Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit Sophia.

All: Amen

Dismissal

We are the Body of Christ,

so let us go from here with joy

to love and serve God and God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song Go Out Go Out (R; R; V1; R; R; V2; R; R)