Mary of Magdala, ECC November 30, 2025

1st Sunday in Advent – A Light-Bearing Community

The Kin-dom of God – All Together Everywhere

Presider: Rev. Jane Reina

Welcome and Announcements

Leadership Council Report *Lisa Jones*

Opening Hymn: Come and Set Us Free (R; V1; R; V6; R; V7; R)

Lighting the Advent Candle after the Opening Hymn

Prayer as the 1st candle is lit:

Rev. Jane: Let us pray together as the 1st candle on the Advent wreath, signifying hope, is lit:

All: Christ, Light of the World, flame of Holy Light, burn within us as this candle of hope is lit.

Let us continue as one expression of God's people gathered together.

+In the name of the Creating God, Jesus our Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Sophia. **All: Amen**

Greeting – Ad Lib

The God of Universal Compassion and Love is within you.

All: And also within you.

Penitential Rite

May God lead us to a personal experience of the Divine so we recognize our mistakes, setbacks and sufferings, becoming more fully the Light in our world.

As we prepare to receive the Word of God and the miracle of the Eucharist, let us humbly accept God's unconditional love as 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. Bless us with an *experience* of you as we turn with deep longing and open hearts for the oneness you offer. We come in fragility and vulnerability to know you and love you.

Christ, we ask for the grace to BE your Light in our world of cruelty and grief and also beauty and mystery.

All: Christ, fill us with your Light.

Jesus, when we are seduced by the illusion of safety, help us re-center ourselves in you, our true safety.

All: Jesus, fill us with your Light.

Christ, help us as a community to relinquish our self-righteousness and live more spaciously within and from your heart's Light.

All: Christ, fill us with your Light.

Spirit of Wisdom, bearer of Light throughout the cosmos, dispel our illusions of material abundance and instill in us the truth of spiritual abundance.

All: Spirit of Wisdom, fill us with your Light.

O Holy Fire of Universal Compassion and Love, we are a community seeking an ever-more intimate relationship with you and all creation. Help us to live more fully the love that is alive within Mary of Magdala. For your Flaming Light, we give you thanks.

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

God, the Blessed Holy Three, is within you.

All: And also within you.

Let us pray

All: O Holy Light of Compassion and Love, you are the One Who IS, always the I AM. All creation flourishes within an eternally entangled relationship with you.

We thank you for your open arms, calling us into yourself for the world to see as eternal Light. Lead us to shine more brightly as we hear your Word.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Revelation 12:1-6 *Lector Cindy Cloyd*

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and in labor with the pangs of childbirth.
Then a second sign appeared in the sky: a great, red dragon. With his tail, he swept down a third of the stars of the cosmos, hurling them to Earth. The dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, waiting to devour the child as soon as it was born. But when she gave birth, the child was swept up to God. The woman fled to the desert, to a place prepared for her by God, where she would receive care for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

The Word of a Visionary known as John.
All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial psalm (sung) We Are The Light (R; V1; R; V2; R; V3; R)

Second Reading, Romans 13:8-12a *Lector David Cloyd*

Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor. Love is the fulfillment of the law.

Love, also, because the time has come. It is time for you to awaken from sleep. Our completion is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is late. Daybreak is near.

Listen to the Spirit speaking to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: *Mass of St. Mary Magdalene* (V3)

Gospel **Pastor Jane Reina**

Our Loving God is continuing to unfold within you…

All: And also within you.

A Proclamation of the gospel attributed to Matthew

All: Glory to You, O God.

When the Chosen One comes, the Reign of Heaven will be like this:

There were ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. The foolish took no extra oil with them for their lamps, but the wise brought extra oil for their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. Their lamps continued to burn oil. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all the virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! There will not be enough for you and for us. Quick, go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.”

While they went to buy it, the bridegroom came. Those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was closed. Later the other virgins arrived, saying,

“Please! Please open to us.” But the bridegroom replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.”

Keep awake. You do not know the day nor the hour.

The Good News of Jesus our Christ.

All: Praise to you, Jesus our Christ.

Homily Rev. Jane Reina

Prayers of the People

Rev. Jane: As part of the natural world, we lift up our own needs, the needs of the spiritual communities in our world, trusting in the Holy One.

Lector David Cloyd

Our response is: Creator God, receive our prayers and bless us with Your Light.

For the members of Mary of Magdala, all churches and faith traditions, and people who cannot believe, that we journey this Advent knowing we are the Light Jesus our Christ asks us to be and we work to keep it lit, **Response: Creator God, receive our prayers and fill us with your Light.**

For our elected leaders and officials to do their work with compassion for the people they serve, that they may make decisions affecting the least of us that will make every day life better, we pray, **Response: Creator God, receive our prayers and fill us with your Light.**

For all the unhoused people and those who don't have enough food, that our contributions to the Little Pantry, the gift card program, and the Food Bank will ease their hunger, we pray, **Response: Creator God, receive our prayers and fill us with your Light.**

Our prayers from the sanctuary are....we pray, **Response: Creator God receive our prayers and fill us with your Light.**

Are there prayers from our members on zoom? (Tom will speak them), we pray, **Response: Creator God receive our prayers and fill us with your Light..**

And for all those on our prayer lists and the prayers we hold sacred in our hearts, we pray, **Response: Creator God, receive our prayers and fill us with your Light.**

You hear our prayers, O God of Universal Compassion and Love, more deeply than we can speak them. You hear the prayers we cannot formulate. In your compassion, fill us with your Light o Hope.

Sign of Peace

Jesus, you said to your disciples: "I leave you peace, my peace I give you."

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Please turn toward the camera and offer a sign of Peace to our family on Zoom, then extend 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 personal offerings of time, talent, and treasure sustain the mission of God's church. Please continue to give as you are called and able.

You may be seated if you wish. Let us sing together:

Offertory Song: Christ the Lord (V1; V2; V4)

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 our sacred earth has given and our open human hands have made. It will become for us our life.

All: Blessed be God forever.

By the mystery of this water and wine, we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself in humanity.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Oh God, wash away my fear and ambivalence…(washing of hands)

Rev. Jane: Pray, my beloved siblings, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God.

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

Jesus, you invite us to share this meal with you. As you invite us, you accept our little love, our deep love, our superficial love, our failings and longings. By the grace at this table and the Eucharistic grace in the

world, we are here absorbing the Light of the Good News and BE-ing that Light in our world.

Grant us, O Christ, what these gifts of bread and wine signify: that shedding our illusions, we open ourselves to You. **All: Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

We offer you thanks and praise, Blessed One, the God of universal compassion and love. To you we offer thanks and praise everywhere and always, as our ancestors have done throughout time have. You, O God, are our primal desire, continually calling us to yourself across. You call us through our Baptism to be a priestly people, a people living the intrinsic humility of Jesus through his ministry, death and resurrection. You, O God, are our fulfillment.

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

HOLY ***Mass of St Mary Magdalene***

Divine mystery, our hearts naturally sing your praise. With loving tenderness, you have gathered us and filled us with a longing for justice that will never fail and a peace that will last. Through countless generations, your people hungered for the bread of freedom. From them, you raised up Jesus, the living Bread, in whom our ancient hungers are satisfied. Jesus the Christ is the Word that liberates us from injustice and violence. Jesus the Christ is the hand you, Compassionate Mystery, stretch out to the sick, the poor, and the oppressed. Jesus the Christ is the Way of hope and peace.
Flowing from the Exquisite Love visible and invisible throughout the entire cosmos, send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of our planetary home. I invite you to stretch out your hands over these gifts with me, and Cindy and David. O Holiness Itself, make these gifts of bread and wine ++holy, that they may become the Body and Blood of Jesus our Christ.

On the night before he was betrayed and among friends, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks and praise, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples saying:

All: 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 of wine.

Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and 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 you and for all. Do this, in memory of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Memorial Acclamation When We Eat This Bread *Mass of St. Mary Magdalene*

God of Universal Compassion and Love, through Jesus our Christ, you have entrusted us with this Passover meal, your covenant of 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 the Holy Spirit convert us from the pattern of this passing world and conform us to the pattern of Christ.

We remember, all those who have died … and welcome them into your all-embracing love.

Setting our wisdom, our wills, our words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn to unite with the Love Christ offers us and 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 is yours,

Self-emptying/Life-giving God, forever and ever.

All: Amen *Mass of St. Mary Magdalene*

The Prayer of Jesus

Praying with our zoom family, let us turn to the camera and pray the prayer of Jesus:

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.

Invitation to Communion

The Shared Table – Meditation song while bread is broken

This is the living God. This is the One who transforms us and our world. Blessed are we who are called to this table of Fire and Light

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

As we share in this unending sign of love, let us proclaim together:

All: In this we are a Eucharistic people, the Body and Blood of Christ incarnate, given for the life of the world.

All of us are invited to stand up and step up to the table. Step into the Light that calls you. Come!

Communion Song: Find Us Ready (R; V1; R; V2; R; V3)

Prayer after Communion Let us pray… Christ of all life, we thank you for your gifts of the Bread of Peace and the Cup of Blessing.

We look forward to the day when hope and peace becomes reality: when our swords are melted into plowshares and "…no harm is done along the Holy Mountain." **All: Amen**

Final Blessing

May the Spirit of Christ, alive in all matter and spirit, fill us with the Fire of Life, fill us with the flame of hope, and energize us with that Light which enlivens all creation.

In the name of Abba/Amma God, Jesus our Christ and the Holy Spirit Sophia.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Let us go into the world praising God with the Light that explodes throughout the cosmos. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song To You O God (R Cantored; R; V1; R; V2; R; V3; R)