



Mary of Magdala, ECC — August 16, 2026

Celebrating the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time -- Together

Wherever We Are

Presider: Mother Rosean Amaral

Homilist: Jim Berry

Welcome and Announcements: *Lector Pedro Engel*

Entrance Song: Immaculate Mary (V1; R; V2; 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 ask God to heal our hearts...



Penitential Rite --Bill and choir sing Kyrie Eleison. (MoMM)

May our loving God have mercy on us,
forgive us our mis-steps,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

And now let us sing our praises to God...

Gloria. (MoMM)

Opening Prayer

Let us pray...

God beyond all names,
May we, like Mary, Mother of Jesus,
live as prophetic witnesses to the Gospel
as we work for justice, peace and equality
in our world.

We ask this through Mary's child,
Our brother Jesus.

All: Amen



And now let us Joyfully listen to the Word of God, the good news in our midst.
Some stories today will be from the Scriptures and some will acknowledge that
God speaks into the world through other voices as well.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: *The Dormition of the Mother of God*, by Mirabai Starr from

Mother of God Similar To Fire -- *Lector Pedro Engel*

Blessed Mother,

God-Bearer,

who stayed awake scanning the night

for signs of danger to your children

while we rested,

it is your turn to sleep for a while.

I release you into the arms of your own

divine child.

You swaddled and soothed the light of the

World and then accompanied him all the way to



the threshold of death.

Your time has come to be held by God.

Let me be brave, Holy Mother, and stand
up while you rest.

Help me to be steady and whole
and ready to carry my share of suffering
and beauty,
of radical mystery and unexpected grace.

Words Inspired by God.

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm (sung). **Here Am I God** (R Cantor; R All; V1C; V2C; RA; V3C; RA)

Second Reading: *Assumption* by Fr. Dwight Longenecker -- *Lector David*

Cloyd

A long time she'd been fading. He noticed
how upright and still she'd sit in her chair,



gazing for silent hours through the latticed
window into the late afternoon air.

She ate almost nothing, spoke even less.

He feared her mind and soul were wandering,
but she seemed alert, listening to voices
he could not hear, and always pondering
the visitations and the strange events.

Why was she chosen to participate
in the confusion, fear and violence?

How did providence and her will relate
to conceive a joy that would pierce her heart?

He saw the pale, fragile skin of her hands—
the faint pulse of the delicate veins
and her clear eyes, watching, waiting to depart.

Then she rose, nodded and put out the light.

She pulled her shawl around her, crossed the room
and lay down — arms crossed, to sleep for the night-
ready at last to be carried home.



Words inspired by God.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation. Alleluia. (MOMM)

Gospel: Luke: 1:39-56

Lector Jim Berry

The Love of God is within you. **All: And also within you.**

A Proclamation of the holy gospel attributed to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O God.

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said,

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my God should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by God would be fulfilled."



And Mary prayed: “My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior. For you have looked with favor upon your lowly servant, and from this day forward all generations will call me blessed.

For you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and Holy is your Name.

Your mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear you. You have shown strength with your arm, you have scattered the proud in their conceit, you have deposed the mighty from their thrones and raised the lowly to high places. You have filled the hungry with good things, while you have sent the rich away empty. You have come to the aid of Israel your servant, mindful of your mercy—the promise you made to our ancestors to Sarah and Abraham and their descendants forever.”

Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months and then returned to her home.

The Good News of Jesus, our Christ.

All: : Praise to You, Jesus our Christ.

Homily – Jim Berry

No Creed



Prayers of the People

Lector David Cloyd

Our response is: Mary, woman of freedom, be with us—as we struggle with whatever it is that is holding us down.

For all of humanity that they may remember to turn to Mary, Mother of God, in their times of need and in their times of joy, we pray,

Response: Mary, woman of freedom, be with us—as we struggle with whatever it is that is holding us down.

For an end to wars, gun violence, verbal violence, and violence to the earth, that all of us may simply live open to the gifts of one another, we pray,

Response: Mary, woman of freedom, be with us—as we struggle with whatever it is that is holding us down.

For all people recovering from illness and medical procedures, physical or mental, that they may be healed into wholeness, we pray,

Response: Mary, woman of freedom, be with us—as we struggle with whatever it is that is holding us down.



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

Response: Mary, woman of freedom, be with us—as we struggle with whatever it is that is holding us down.

Are there prayers from our members on zoom? We pray,

Response: Mary, woman of freedom, be with us—as we struggle with whatever it is that is holding us down.

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

Response: Mary, woman of freedom, be with us—as we struggle with whatever it is that is holding us down.

Mother Rosean:

Loving God, hear the prayers we have spoken, the hopes we carry quietly within our hearts, and grant them according to your wisdom, through Jesus the Christ,

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 Song: I Will Choose Christ (R; V1; R; V2; R)

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 of my sin.

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 Love of God be 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.

God of Love,

All Creation rightly gives you praise,

For all life and all holiness come from You.



In the plan of your wisdom

She who bore Christ in her womb, Miriam of Nazareth,

Was raised body and soul in glory to be with him in heaven.

May we follow her example in reflecting your holiness

And join in the hymn of endless love and praise

Holy, Holy, Holy (MoMM)

We ask that your Holy Spirit will come upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may become the + Holy Body and Blood of our brother, Jesus, the Christ.

On the night of his arrest, as he shared a meal with his friends,

Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to all, saying:

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

When supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it to all, 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)

God of love, spirit of compassion, bless us and this bread and wine. May this meal be food and drink for our journey—renewing, strengthening, and sustaining us.

Open our eyes to the needs of all and keep our service of others faithful to the example and command of Christ.

When we eat this bread and drink from this cup we remember the life of Jesus and dedicate our lives to his vision of a world where all are fed with dignity and hope.

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.

Great Amen – (MOMM)

The Prayer of Jesus



Let us turn toward the camera and pray with our siblings at home in the words that 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 -- (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 Song: Above All (V1; V2; R; V2; Rx2)

Prayer after Communion:

Let us pray...

Through the gift of this Eucharist may we receive the strength we need to live lives of faith. Immaculate Mary, assumed into heaven, teach us to trust in God's plan the way you did. Do not let us fear obstacles or uncertainties. Inspire us and pray for us today, as we celebrate your Assumption.

All: Amen.

Blessing

May the love of the Risen Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.



Let us open our hearts to receive God's blessing...

In the womb of our hearts, empower our spirits to be stirred by Your marvelous and mysterious presence.

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

All: Amen

Dismissal

Go and announce the Gospel, inspired by the heavenly glory of the Mother of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song: Jesus, I Trust In You. (R; V1; R; V2; R)