



Mary of Magdala, ECC – March 27, 2022
Celebrating the 4th Sunday in Lent - Together Wherever We Are
Co-Pastor Rev. Jane Reina Presiding

Welcome and Announcements: *Lector Ruth Alexander*
Social Justice Reflection *Tom Moos, Social Justice Ministry*

Entrance Song
Come to Jesus

1. People of the God of ages,
welcome to your brand new day.
Leave the world and all its trappings,
come into amazing grace.
Let go your ev'ry fear.
There is only mercy here.

Refrain
Come to Jesus,
hope that frees us,
life that breathes in us.
Come to Jesus,
and believe that he is love.
Oh, come.

2. All who walk alone in shadow,
all who stand with faith assured,
those who follow with abandon,
those who long for something more,
these are the gifts we bring,
our lives, the offering.

Bridge
Welcome pauper, rich man, leper,
hungry exiled, joyful, poor,
come you pris'ner, free man, sinner,
come to the Christ.
come to the Christ.

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Centering and Greeting

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

Our Christ is with you..
ALL: And also with you.

Penitential Rite

Together, we ask our Beloved Amma God to
forgive our turning away and grant us a deeper
understanding of the Beloveds forgiveness and
acceptance of us as we are.

Jesus, Incarnate God, you show us that God
holds us in the Divine's own center of Love.
When we become self-centered with stony
hearts, stuck in pride and self-righteousness,
have mercy on us.

All: Amma God, have mercy on us all.

May we turn back to our waiting Divine Mother
who loves all regardless of mindset or belief. May
we have the humility to forgive ourselves and
those we have hurt, liberating us toward that
wholeness that is you, O Divine Mother.

All: Amen



Opening Prayer

Let us pray...

O Holy Mystery, your eternal Word became human just as we are human with Mary's YES. Fill our bodies, minds, and souls with your Spirit to see all people and situations with your eyes.

Guide us to surrender to your Holy Will, beyond our understanding.

We ask this through Jesus, our Christ.

All: Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please listen for Her power and grace in our scripture readings and words inspired by Sophia.

First Reading:

Lector Ruth Alexander

Wisdom 7. 22-25, 27-30

Our first reading is from **Wisdom, Chapter 7**

Wisdom was my teacher, and it was She who designed all these things. Inside Wisdom, there is a spirit of intelligence and holiness that is unique and unmistakable: subtle, dynamic, perceptive, pristine, unclouded, unconquerable, compassionate, shrewd, compelling, generous, and loving toward mortals, faithful, faultless, serene, directing all, knowing all, and pervading every intelligent, pure, and most subtle spirit.

For Wisdom moves more swiftly than motion itself; She is so pure that She pervades and permeates all living things. She is a breath of the power of God, a pure light of the glory of the Most High, and nothing that is base can come into Her presence in secret.

Though alone of Her kin, she can do all things; though unchanging, she renews all things; generation after generation She enters into holy souls and makes them friends of God and prophets, for God loves the one who finds a home in Wisdom. She is more beautiful than the sun and more magnificent than all the stars in the sky.

When compared with daylight, She excels in every way, for the day always gives way to night, but Wisdom never gives way to evil.

The Word of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm by Bill Smith and Lynne Barnes

Second Reading: *Lector Matt Chavez*

One Who Loves Enemies, by Joyce Rupp, from **Jesus, Friend of My Soul**

Familiar persons or strangers may criticize unfairly, deliberately try to antagonize, shut me out of their life, or even wish me dead due to my beliefs, social position, nationality, or religion. When they do this, they act as an enemy. I have a

choice when this happens. Even if someone considers me their foe, I do not have to return a similar response. People will only become my enemy if I deliberately wish to injure or hassle



them. This benefits no one and tosses away the possibility of moving beyond antipathies.

How do we pray for those who oppose us? How can our battered hearts muster up a peace-generating posture? When Jesus taught, “Love our enemies,” he could have said—as author James Martin, S.J., does—“See that person as God sees him or her.” This frees us to stand apart from our emotional and mental entanglements. We can give people who oppose us over to the Holy One without demanding they accept our viewpoints.

This is what Jesus would expect of us. We may not experience a feeling of affection for people who combat us, but we can intentionally place them in care of the Divine with no strings attached. We do so not with smugness or superiority. Rather, we freely let go of treating them like they are an enemy.

Words Inspired by God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation – *Mass of the Desert*

Refrain:

Glory to you, Word of God, Jesus the Christ.

11. Even now, says God, return to me with your whole heart; for I am gracious and merciful.

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Gospel Reading: Luke 7:36-50 *Rev. Jane Reina*

Our God be with you.

A proclamation of the Good News according to Luke.

ALL: And also with you.

ALL: Glory to you, O God.

A Pharisee invited Jesus to a meal. Jesus entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. Later, a woman from the city, a woman known as a sinner, having learned that Jesus was a guest in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar filled with oil of myrrh. She stood behind Jesus and knelt at his feet, weeping. She wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the myrrh. When the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw this, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him - that she is a sinner.”

Jesus spoke up. “Simon, I have something to say to you.” “What is it, Teacher?” he replied. “There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One debtor owed five hundred denarii. The other owed fifty. When neither could not pay, the

creditor canceled both debts. Which of them do you think will love the creditor more?” Simon replied, “I suppose the one for whom the greater debt was canceled.” Jesus said to him, “You have judged rightly.” Then Jesus turned toward the woman, and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house. You gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time she came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with myrrh.

“Therefore, I tell you, her wrongdoings, which were many, have been forgiven, for she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.”

Jesus said to the woman, “Your sins are forgiven.” The others at table wondered to



themselves, “Who is this, that he can forgive sins?”

Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has restored you. Go in peace.”

The Good News of Jesus the Christ.
All: Praise to You, Jesus our Christ

Homily: *Reverend Jane Reina*

Creed

We believe in God who is creator and nurturer of all. We believe in Jesus, the Christ, who is our love, our hope, and our light. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of Wisdom Sophia, who energizes and guides us to build caring communities and to challenge oppression, exploitation, and injustices.

We believe that God loves us passionately and forgives us everything. We believe that we are radiant images of God who calls us to live fully, love tenderly, and serve generously. We believe in the communion of saints, our heavenly friends, who support us on life’s

journey. We believe in the partnership and equality of women and men in our church and world.

We believe that all are one in the Heart of God. We believe that women’s liberation is human liberation. Here we dwell in loving relationships. Here we live our prophetic call of Gospel equality. Amen.

Creed of Equality)
by Bridget Mary Meehan and Mary Theresa Streck, ARCWP

Prayers of the People

Rev. Jane Reina

Grateful to our Divine Mother who hears our cries, we raise our arms, our hope, and our needs to You.

Lector Matt Chavez

The response is: Loving God, hear our prayers.
ALL: Loving God, hear our prayers.

Creator God, Source of all Life,
We are people of many ages,
but of one heart.

We hear the cries of children, women, and men
as they endure the ravages of war—and we cry,
too.

Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.

We hear the cries of our children and husbands
as they are asked to kill, or be killed—and we cry,
too.

Oh, it happens in too many places.

War destroys lives, families, towns, countries—
and we cry.

War destroys earth, air, and water—and we cry.
War destroys the fabric of peace—and we cry.

Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.

We are people of many ages.

We are people of prayer.

Hear our voices join together

as we pray for understanding to end war, (pause)

as we pray for strength to end war, (pause)

as we pray for grace to end war, (pause)

as we pray for courage to raise life from ashes.

(pause)

Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.



Hear our voices and teach us
the words to speak through our tears,
to open the minds and hearts
of those calling for war, engaging in war.

Hear our voices and grace us as we pray today.
Let it be so. Amen.

Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.

Prayer by Kerrie Anderson

For the prayers requested by those attending in the Sanctuary and those placed in the chat feature
.....we pray

Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.

For those on Zoom, if you would like to share your prayer aloud, please unmute now for all to hear,
.....we pray,

Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.

And for those on our Prayer List and all the prayers held in our hearts, we pray,

Response: Loving God, hear our prayers.

Reverend Jane Reina

O Divine Mother, we thank you for hearing us. Be with us and guide us to live the way of Love. **All: Amen**

The Peace

Jesus, you said to your apostles, "I leave you my
peace, my peace I give you." Celebrating Divine
Love as church, here and now, let us share with
one another a sign of Christ's peace.
May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Rev. Jane asks us to be seated)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of our Tables

Please take a moment to look around your seat and around your table at who is sitting with you, and breath in
the miracle of life before us. (Pause)

As we prepare our tables, offering bread and wine here and at home, 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 are
able.

Let us sing together

Offertory Song

Fill Me, Oh God

1, 5. Fill me, O God.
Fill me, O God.
Pour out your holy love
and fill me, O God.

2. Reach me, O God.
Reach me, O God.
Pour out your holy love
and reach me, O God.



Refrain
Let my heart be yours.
Let my heart be yours.

3. Change me, O God.
Change me, O God.
Pour out your holy love
and change me, O God.
(to Verse 4)

4. Lift me, O God.
Lift me, O God.
Pour out your holy love
and lift me, O God.

Refrain
Let my life be yours.
Let my life be yours. **(to Verse 5)**

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Preparation of the Gifts *(During Offertory Song)*

Blessed are you, God of all creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God forever.**

Blessed are you, God of all creation, through your goodness we have this wine to offer.

Fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink. **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.

Prayer over the Gifts

Pray, dear sisters and brothers, that the same Spirit that heals our bodies, minds, and souls, sanctify these gifts we offer.

All: May God accept the work of our hands for the praise and glory of God's Name, for our good and the good of all God's creation.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Love of Amma/Abba God be with you all
Lift up and open your hearts
Let us give thanks to our God of Love

All: And also with you
All: We lift them up to God
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Amma/Abba God, we do well always and everywhere to offer you thanks through Jesus, our Christ.

Here and in our sacred spaces at home, it is indeed right and good to thank you and praise you, O Loving Divine One.

Jesus our Christ healed those besieged by trauma, anxiety, guilt, and blame with the force

of the Divine Mother's love. They clung to Love as we cling to Love. Your Presence, O Christ, continues as an ever-expanding, evolutionary love for us, and for all, leading us into the fullness of life.

Experiencing Awe, Wonder and Love, we joyfully join our voices in unison with the song of Creation throughout the living Kin-dom:

Holy – (Sung)
Mass of the Desert



Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God,
Lord God, Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

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Flowing from Creation's embodiment of Love,
and the same Love revealed in the message of
Jesus — send Sophia, your Holy Spirit, upon us
and upon these gifts.

Bless + these gifts and make them holy that they
may become the living sign of Christ's enduring
Love, the Body and Blood of Jesus our Christ.
Together, we, the Body of Christ gathered in all
locations, remember what Jesus did at table and
in life.

+Who on the night before he was betrayed and
Among friends, gathered round a table,

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 you**

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

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Memorial Acclamation *(Sung)*
Save Us Savior - Mass of the Desert

**Save us, Savior of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

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Loving Divinity, Compassionate Mystery, we
celebrate this mystery, of Jesus our Christ, and all
that Christ did and continues to do. We ask that
you remember all people of every faith and
tradition who journey to you, along with us, your
church, united across these networks.
Help us grow in love, our salvation. Continue to
guide us as a community for the particular
ministry given to us as one gathering in the Body
of Christ, praying especially for its local
incarnation in the 301 Faith Community.
Remember, O Loving God, all those who have
died from war, disease, and famine. Welcome
them into your all-embracing presence through
the promise of the Divine Feminine, the Mother
of the World, with all embodiments of her,
especially: Mary of Magdala, Teresa of Avila,
John of the Cross, Hildegard of Bingen, Edith
Stein, Dorothy Day, and all who strive to give
their lives to You. May we praise them in union
with them, and give glory to Jesus our Christ..

**ALL: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
for all glory and honor is yours,
Self-emptying/Life-giving God,
forever and ever.
Together let us sing:**

AMEN *(Sung) Mass of The Desert*

Amen, amen, amen.

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The Prayer of Jesus



Let us pray with confidence 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*)
Mass of the Desert

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

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This is the Living God, the Body and Blood of Christ. This is the one who transforms the world. Happy are we who are called to this supper.

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

Invitation to Communion

As we share our soul's nourishment, 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 our world.

This food from and of God is offered to all, without exception. All are welcome at our tables of Infinite Love. Come and take.

Communion Song Renew

1. Our Amma, Abba of the heavens and the earth,
Author of the universe who imagined us,
God All-Seeing: into our humanity come;
let your kin-dom be with us,
oh, let your will be done.

2. Christ Jesus, Son of God who sits at his right hand,
Perfect Love that became man sacrificed for us,
Pure Redeemer: into our iniquity come;
let forgiveness sweetly fall,
have mercy on us all.

Refrain

Renew your people, renew your promise,
renew our hearts for you.

Renew your people, renew your promise,
renew our hearts for you, God, renew.

3. Holy Spirit, Gift of risen hope, abiding peace,
Comforter who intercedes, carries ev'ry prayer,
Moving Presence, Living Breath of living God:
come, stir the passion in our hearts;
breathe new life into us.

Refrain



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Prayer after Communion

Let us pray...

O Divine Mother, draw us together through the Love pour out in this sacrament. May we become

the Body of Christ in the world. This we ask, in Jesus' name.

ALL: Amen.

Concluding Rite

God is with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Let us join our open hearts together and ask for God's blessing: Holy Mystery, Amma/Abba God, bless us and fill us with the Grace to know we are healed and the strength to spread that healing.

In the name of Amma/Abba God, the Word Made Flesh, and Sophia, the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Dismissal:

Let us go forth into the world, healed and healing with the with the power of Divine Love.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song Gracious God

1. Lead us God, into the desert;
lead us through the wilderness.
Through this journey we will follow,
for we long to see your face.

2. In this time of sacred struggle,
in this time of sacrifice,
we rejoice, for we remember
that you lead us into life.

Refrain

Gracious God, mercy is your name.
Redeeming Love, you give your life away.
Gracious God, we bless your holy name.
Receiving love, we give our lives away.

3. Teach us, God: who is our neighbor?
Is it friend, or enemy?
When we welcome or condemn them,
it is you, O let us see.

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