Mary of Magdala, ECC –- April 5, 2026

Celebrating Easter Sunday—Together Wherever We Are

Mother Rosean Amaral Presider

No Announcements No Social Justice Reflection

Entrance Song Alleluia Alleluia Let the Holy Anthem Rise (V1; V2; V3)

Mother Rosean, cross bearer and carrier of the Gospel book process and bow before the altar. Cross bearer puts the cross into the stand and then goes to their seat. Gospel is taken to the stand in front of lectern. Gospel carrier (Jennifer Geraci) then joins M. Rosean at the paschal candle. Then the greeting and welcome will be done followed by inserting the spikes, lighting and blessing of the candle. Rosean will be at lectern until after the table is set.

Greeting

Let us continue as one expression of God's people, in the name of Mother/Father 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.

Welcome to our worship service on this Easter Sunday afternoon. Our liturgy continues with the blessing and lighting of the paschal candle. The paschal candle will shine as our symbol of the Resurrection throughout the Easter season and at all baptisms and celebrations of life throughout the year. After the blessing and lighting of the candle, we will lift our voices in praise to God as we sing the Gloria. Again, thank you for joining us for this Easter celebration. We are blessed by your presence here among us, and we hope that the blessings of the Risen Christ are yours this day and always.

Mother/Father God, source of all light, + bless this candle and make it holy. (Insert spikes) By His Holy and glorious wounds, may Christ our brother guard us and keep us. **All: Amen**

May the glow of this candle throughout the Easter season be the face of God shining upon us. May this light of Christ shine on every dark corner of our lives.

(Jennifer lights the candle and then returns to her seat.)

All: Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

No Penitential Rite

And now let our voices sing praises to God…

Gloria *Mass of ST MM*

Opening Prayer (M. Rosean is at lectern)

Let us pray…

O Easter God, on this morning of hope, embolden us to practice resurrection—renewing our dedication to justice, kindness, and all living beings, so that we may be true Alleluias from head to toe, and with joy embrace your ever-changing, ever-challenging future.

(Patheos, Beliefnet, ProgressiveChristianity.org)

In Jesus' name we pray,

All: Amen.

Let us listen to God's Word and inspiration in our midst…

First Reading *The Magdalene's Blessing For Easter Day* by Jan Richardson

from Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons

Lector Pedro Engel

You hardly imagined

standing here,

everything you ever loved

suddenly returned to you,

looking you in the eye

and calling your name.

And now

you do not know

how to abide this hole

in the center

of your chest,

where a door

slams shut

and swings open

at the same time,

turning on the hinge

of your aching

and hopeful heart.

I tell you,

this is not a banishment

from the garden.

This is an invitation,

a choice,



a threshold,

a gate.

This is your life

calling to you

from a place

you could never

have dreamed,

but now that you

have glimpsed its edge,

you cannot imagine

choosing any other way.

So let the tears come

as anointing,

as consecration,

and then

let them go.

Let this blessing

gather itself around you.

Let it give you

what you will need

for this journey.

You will not remember

the words—

they do not matter.

All you need to remember

is how it sounded

when you stood

in the place of death

and heard the living

call your name.

Words inspired by God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm This Is the Day (R; R; V2 cantored; R; V3 cantored; R)

Second Reading: Colossians 3: 1-2, 9b-11. *Lector Vicki Johnson*

Christ is risen! And you have been raised with Christ! Since resurrection is already yours, let cosmic mysteries fill your hearts with ecstasy. Wonder at earth's precious and finite place in the cosmos. Set your mind on virtues that endure… put aside your old self with its past deeds and put on a new self, one that grows in knowledge as it is formed anew in the image of its Creator. And in that image, there is no Greek or Hebrew; no Jew or Gentile; no barbarian or Scythian; no slave or citizen. There is only Christ, who is all in all.

Listen to the Spirit speaking to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation **Alleluia (***Mass of St MM. V2)*

Gospel: John 20: 1, 11-18 **Mother Rosean**

May the Love of the Risen Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel attributed to John.

All: Glory to You, O God.



Early in the morning, on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary of Magdala went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. Mary stood, crying, outside the tomb.

While weeping, she stooped down and saw two angels inside. They were dressed in white and were sitting, one at the head and one at the feet of where Jesus' body had lain.

The angels asked Mary, "Why are you weeping?" She answered, "They have taken away my Teacher, and I don't know where they have put him." As soon as Mary said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there. She did not recognize him. Jesus asked her, "Why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?"

Thinking Jesus was the gardener, Mary said, "Sir, if you have taken his body away, please tell me, so I can go and get him."

Then Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned. She said to him, "Rabbouni"—which means "Teacher."

Jesus then told her, "Don't hold on to me! I have not yet gone to my Beloved God. But tell my other disciples that I am going to my Beloved and your Beloved, my God and your God."

Mary Magdala then went to the disciples with the message, "I have seen the Teacher!" And she told them what he had said to her.



The Good News of the Resurrection.

All: Praise to You, Jesus, Our Christ.

Homily – Mother Rosean Amaral

No Creed

Renewal of Baptismal Vows *(instrumental played during sprinkling)*

Dear friends in Christ, now that we have completed our Lenten observance, let us renew our baptismal promises and celebrate our freedom in the glory of Christ through the waters of baptism.

Your response will be, "I do!"

Do you embrace the God of unconditional love who created life to be enjoyed and celebrated as a gift and blessing, and do you promise to be co-creator's of God's dominion of love?

All: I do!

Do you renounce everything in the world that opposes the ethics of compassion, justice, and love, as taught by Jesus of Nazareth, The Christ?

All: I do!



Do you accept the responsibility to proclaim by word and example – love, justice, and compassion, for all peoples of the world and all of God's creation?

All: I do!

This is the faith we celebrate, our faith in Christ Jesus!

All: Amen.

Blessing of the water: (need two bowls of water and 2 sprigs)

Loving God, in the waters of baptism you name us and claim us and make us your own. Thank you for the gift of new life and for the invitation to experience that life in the community of your church.

(invite all to raise their hands in blessing)

We ask You, loving and compassionate God, to + bless this sacred gift of water. May water's life-nurturing gifts connect us with Your creation, Your loving grace, and Your reign of peace.

All: Amen

Those of you at home please bless yourselves with water.

(M. Rosean will sprinkle Jennifer and Dori. Jennifer and Dori will sprinkle the congregation and M. Rosean.)

And now, let us bring forth our prayers for all of creation.

Prayers of the People *Lector Vicki Johnson*

Our response is: Living and loving God, receive the prayers of our hearts.

For the Resurrection promise of new life to bless all people with a renewed sense of mercy and love toward all other people—each and every neighbor, we pray,

Response: Living and Loving God, receive the prayers of our heart.

For healing and restoration of lives torn apart by wars throughout the world, that peace may engender revitalization in their lives, cities, and countries, we pray,

Response: Living and Loving God, receive the prayers of our hearts.

For all people who live with chronic illness or pain, that they may heal into a wholeness allowing them to live each day embraced with God's love, we pray,

Response: Living and Loving God, receive the prayers of our hearts.

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

Response: Living and Loving God, receive the prayers of our hearts.

Are there prayers from our members on Zoom? we pray...

Response: Living and Loving God, receive the prayers of our hearts.



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

Response: Living and Loving God receive the prayers of our hearts.

Loving God, you know the deepest needs of our hearts. We ask you to renew us and transform us in the new light of Easter. This we pray in the name of 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 and offer a sign of peace to our siblings at home and then toward each other here in the sanctuary.

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 Worthy Is The Lamb (R; V1; R1; V2; R; V3; R)

Table is set during the offertory song –butterfly altar cloth, corporal, 2 patens, bread, wine, chalice, etc Carol Persons, Joan, Jennifer, plus? Carol Y, and?

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 *(Iona Community)*

May the Risen Christ be with you**. All: And also with 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.

All powerful and ever living God,

we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks

through Jesus Christ our brother.

We praise you with greater joy than ever in this Easter season,

when Christ became our paschal sacrifice.

In Christ a new age has dawned, and the

joy of the resurrection renews the whole world,

while the choirs of heaven and earth sing forever to Your glory:

HOLY… *Mass of St MM*

How wonderful the work of Your hands, O God!

As a mother tenderly gathers her children,



You embraced a people as Your own.

You delivered them from slavery

and brought them to the promised land.

Through countless generations

Your people hungered for the bread of freedom.

From them, you raised up Jesus, the living bread,

in whom ancient hungers were satisfied.

By His victory over the grave

the gates of death are burst forever.

Pour out Your Spirit upon us and these gifts

that they may become the Body + and Blood of our brother, Jesus, the Christ.

Breathe Your Spirit over the whole earth

and make us Your new creation,

the Body of Christ given for the world You have made.

In the upper room with His friends



on the night before He died

Jesus took the 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 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 so that sins may be forgiven.

Do this in memory of Me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION *Mass of St MM When We Eat*



Loving God,

we commemorate Jesus, as we offer You this sacrifice.

Shine through the darkness of our doubt and sorrow

that the light of His risen presence

may brighten the path before us.

Rejoicing in the Holy Spirit,

Your whole church offers thanks and praise

with all who bring hope to the world.

We pray for Pablo and Kae, our bishops,

and for all who shepherd Your holy people

in apostolic ministry. We pray also for the manifestation of your love in our 301 Faith Partnership with our Lutheran and Episcopal siblings.

God of the living and the dead,

awaken to the undying light of pardon and peace,

those fallen asleep in faith. (pause)

Gather them all into communion



with Holy Mary, the Mother of God, our patron Saint Mary of Magdala, and all Your saints.

Then at last, will all creation be one

and all divisions healed,

and we shall join in singing Your praise

through Jesus, the Christ.

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 *(sung)* *Mass of St MM*

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.

All: Amen

THE SHARED TABLE

Lamb of God *Mass of St MM*

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.

Communion Hymn Ye Sons and Daughters (V1; V2; V3)

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray…

Loving God, we thank You for feeding us with the Body and Blood of Your Son, Jesus. Christ is risen! Love is stronger than hatred. Hope is stronger than despair. Life is stronger than death. And nothing is impossible with God. May your Easter be filled with the joy of the risen Christ! We pray in all the holy names of God.

All: Amen

Blessing

May the Love of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.



Let us open our hearts and ask for God's blessing…

God has called you in all your generations to be a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people known for Love.

May this blessing be your companion throughout the Easter season, in the name of Mother/Father God, Jesus our brother, and the Holy Spirit Sophia.

All: Amen

Dismissal

This Mass continues in each one of us. We are the Body of Christ. Through us, with us, and in us, let the glory of the Resurrection be realized as we serve God and God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song Jesus Christ Is Risen Today. (V1; V2; V3; V4)

