



Mary of Magdala ECC – June 23, 2024
Celebrating – 12th Sunday, OT
Overwhelm and Freedom, Recognizing Juneteenth 2024
Pastor Jane Reina, Presider

Welcome and Announcements - Lector Lynne Barnes

Social Justice Reflection - Tom Moos, Social Justice Chair

Introductory Rites

Opening Song – Jesus I Trust in You (R; V1; R; V2; R)

Together, as one in Christ we continue, In the name of the Creating Mystery,
Jesus our Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Sophia. **All: Amen**

Greeting

Please sit as you desire.

Penitential Rite

In humble gratitude, we pray:

All: We turn back to you, O Christ, knowing you welcome us even in the midst of our turning, just by our intention to turn. Bless us with an experience of your acceptance of us as we are: an acceptance of love and warmth so deeply penetrating that it can move us to forgive ourselves and others.

Christ, all diversity comes from you and remains united in you. Help us to give and accept forgiveness as we unite across all illusions of differences.

All: Christ, fill us with Truth.

Christ, you are the unifying Divine Spark and Light. Help us to follow the Light, unifying all people in this time of anxiety.

All: Christ, fill us with Truth.



Christ, you show us the Way to life for all, free of fear. When we recognize injustice around us, help us to freely respond with your Light. **All: Christ, fill us with Truth.**

May the Light of God lead us along The Way.
All: Amen

Gloria - Mass of St Mary Magdalene

Opening Prayer

God, the blessed Holy Three, is with you.

All: And also with you.

O Holy Mystery, we celebrate Juneteenth as another step toward freedom for people who had been enslaved. Continuing in another step, hear our prayer to recognize and reconcile our national sin of enslaving people systemically. We have so far to go in bringing you, God, back into our culture and into our consciousness.

We sit in confusion and chaos until we let you in; until we experience the unexplainable; until we connect viscerally with that which we long for and that which was instilled in us from earliest times and remains in us. If people must be enslaved to something, let that something be You. Amen.

Now let us listen to the living Word of God in our midst. Please be seated.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading - Lector Lynne Barnes

A reading from *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman. 1976

Edits for inclusive language

Epilogue

Howard Thurman references what he calls The Life Working Paper. "The working paper of the individual is made up of a creative synthesis of what the [individual] is in all [their] parts and how [the individual] reacts to the living process ...



"Wherever there appears in human history a personality whose story is available and whose reach extends far, in all directions, the question of [their] working paper is as crucial as is the significance of [their] life. We want to know what were the lines along which [the individual] decided to live [their] life. How did [the individual] relate...to the central issues of [the] time? What were the questions which [they] had to answer? Was [the individual] under some necessity to give a universal character to [their] most private experience?

"Our attention is called to such a figure because of the impact which [their] life makes upon human history. For what is human history but [an individual's] working paper as [they] ride[] high to life caught often in the swirling eddies of tremendous impersonal forces set in motion by vast impulses out of the womb of the Eternal. When a solitary individual is able to mingle [their] strength with forces of history and emerge with a name, a character, a personality, it is no ordinary achievement... It means that against the background of anonymity [they] emerge articulate and particular.

"Such a figure was Jesus of Nazareth. To some he is the grand prototype of all the distilled longing of mankind for fulfillment, for wholeness, for perfection. To some he is the Eternal Presence hovering over all the myriad needs of humanity, yielding healing for the sick of body and soul, giving a lift to those whom weariness has overtaken in the long march, and calling out hidden purposes of destiny which are the common heritage. To some he is more than a presence, he is the God fact, the Divine Moment in human sin and human misery. To still others he is a man who found the answer to life's riddle, and out of profound gratitude he becomes the Man most worthy of honor and praise. For such his answer becomes humanity's answer and his life the common claim. In him the miracle of the working paper is writ large, for what he did all [] may do. Thus interpreted, he belongs to no age, no race, no creed. When [individuals] look into his face, they see etched the glory of their own possibilities, and their hearts whisper, "Thank you and thank God!"

Words of a 20th C African American mystic. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm - Lector Linda Joyce
Psalm 107:23-31

Our response is: **It is well, it is well with my soul.**

Some went out on the sea in ships,



plied their trade as merchants on the mighty waters.

There, they saw the fearsome works of God,

and the wonders of God in the deep.

For God commanded and raised a stormy wind,

a tempest which roused the waves of the sea.

Response: It is well, it is well with my soul.

They mounted up to the heavens, sank down to the depths.

Their courage melted away in their calamity.

They reeled and staggered as if drunk.

At their wits' end, they cried to God in their trouble,

who brought them out from their distress.

Response: It is well, it is well with my soul.

God hushed the storm to silence; the waves of the sea were stilled.

They rejoiced at calmness of the sea,

that God brought them to their desired haven.

They praised God for marvelous love,

for miracles of mercy to humankind.

Response: It is well, it is well with my soul.

Second Reading – Lector Linda Joyce

A Reading from

Job 18: 12 in *Black Boy* by Richard Wright, 1945, text restored 1999

“His strength shall be hunger-bitten,
And destruction shall be ready by his side.”

Words inspired by God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation – (Mass of St MM)



Gospel reading: Mark 4:35-41

The Love of God be with you. **All: And also with you.**

A Proclamation of the Gospel attributed to Mark 4:35-41

All: Glory to You, O God.

My siblings in Christ,

Jesus had been teaching the crowd, using many parables. As evening drew on, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let's cross over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took Jesus with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him too. A violent squall came up. Waves were breaking over the boat, swamping it, threatening to sink it.

Jesus was in the stern, head on a pillow.

They woke him, saying "Teacher, don't you care that we are dying?" Jesus woke up. He rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. Then Jesus asked them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" They were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who, then, is this, whom even wind and sea obey?"

The Good News of salvation in Jesus our Christ.

All: Praise to You, Jesus, our Christ.

Homily – Pastor Jane Reina

Prayers of the People

In the spirit of infinite connectedness in the heart of the Divine, let us openly voice our needs to God:

Lector Linda Joyce



Our response is: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

All: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

For the successful planning, work of the volunteers, and participation and attendance at our ECC Synod in Estes, we pray.

All: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

Help us see the worth and dignity in each other as persons-as all made in the image and likeness of God, we pray.

All: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

For courage and strength to take the time and make the effort to seek and support the truth in what we believe and in how we govern, we pray.

All: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

Read prayers from those in the Sanctuarywe pray.

All: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

Prayers from those on zoom . . . we pray.

All: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

For those on our Prayer List and those held in our hearts, we pray.

All: Oh Compassionate God, you listen to our prayers.

Oh Holy Mystery, from yourself and for yourself you created all by Love. Hear our distress over the immense suffering of all creation. As we suffer, you suffer. Help our wounds to heal as we grow in holiness. **All: Amen.**

THE PEACE

Jesus our Christ, you said to your disciples: "I leave you my peace, my peace I give you." May the Peace of Christ be with you always. **All: And also with you.**

Please turn toward the camera to offer a sign of Christ's Peace and then toward each other here as we celebrate Divine Love as Peace.



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

As we prepare our table with food and drink at home and here, 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 able.

Please sit as we sing together:

Procession with Gifts and Basket

Offertory Song - The Lord is My Shepherd (R; V1; R; V2; R; V3: R)

Prayer over the Gifts

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. **All: 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. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

By the mystery of this water and wine +, may we share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

Creating God, we ask you to receive us and to be pleased with the sacrifice we offer you with humble and contrite hearts.

O God, wash away my iniquity and ambivalence. Cleanse me from my sin.



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 this table with you. Calling us, you fill us to overflowing again and again. By your grace, we are your people of the Light, Bringers of the Good News.

Grant us, O Christ, what these gifts of bread and wine signify: that shedding our illusions, we fill up with you until finally we are filled only with you. **All: Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer

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

Open your hearts. **All: We open them up to God.**

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

It is indeed right, for you are our Creator, and Creator of all worlds, continuing to creat. We and all creation live and evolve with you.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain, have their origin in you;

all that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment.

And grateful for the world we know and the universe beyond our understanding, we particularly praise you for coming to earth and entering human time through Jesus.

For the life of Jesus informs our living --

his compassion which contradicts our prejudices and generalities,

his disturbing presence,

his innocent suffering,



his fearless dying,
his rising to life-breathing compassion and forgiveness --
We praise you, eternal God and worship the Christ.
Joyfully now we join our voices praising you with the entire Cosmos:

Holy - (Mass of St MM)

Flowing from the Love visible to and invisible in all creation, send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine. Bless them + and make them holy as You blessed them at the hands of Jesus, your Beloved. May they become living signs of Christ's enduring Love.

Before Jesus was given up to death, a death he freely accepted Jesus took the bread and gave You thanks. He 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 supper was ended, he took the cup, again he gave you thanks and praise, handing the cup to his disciples, 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 our faith.

Memorial Acclamation - (Mass of St MM)



O Holy Mystery, Light of Love, we celebrate the life, death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus our Christ, and all that Christ continues to do. Together with all your servants, people of every faith and no faith, may we become what you long for us to be: reflections of You and co-healers of our world.

Remember, O Loving God, all those who have died, particularly Betty Lou Smith. Welcome them into your all-embracing presence in union with Mary, mother of the world, Mary of Magdala, Francis of Assisi, and Oscar Romero.

May we praise You in unison with them, giving glory to God.

Setting our wisdom, our own wills, our words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn to be one with the Light and to do the work Christ asks. May your Holy Spirit enliven us, converting us from the pattern of this passing world and conforming us to the pattern of Christ. Let Love be our salvation not our possession.

Together now we say,

All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all blessings and thanksgiving are yours, O Loving God, forever and ever.

The Great Amen - (Mass of St MM)

Prayer of Jesus

Please turn to the camera so that we can join together in praying the words that Jesus gave us:



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

Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God – (Mass of St MM)

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

Invitation to Communion

All: Jesus, I am ready to receive You, and by Your invitation I am here.

Jesus our Christ, with faith in Your love and compassion, we are nourished by Your sacred Body and Blood. May it bring us health in mind and body.

As we share in this nourishment set before us, 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 the world.

This sacred food is here for all of us, without exception. You belong at this Feast of Life because you are of God. Come, everyone, to the table of life!

Communion Song – On Eagle's Wings (V1; R; V2; R)

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray

Loving and generous God, you have gathered us here. Thank you for nourishing your pilgrim community with the Bread of Peace and the Cup of



Blessing. May this sacred food help us find creative ways to respond to the challenges of each day. Empower us as your shining Light to everyone. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Christ.

All: Amen

Prayer for Jim Berry

All: In the name of God, we bless you, Jim. May you receive the gifts of wisdom and insight, compassion and understanding, growth and discernment throughout this ordination process. We bless you, Jim, as you bless us. Under the loving eyes of the Sacred Three in One we pray. Amen.

Concluding Rite and Dismissal Blessings

Let us open our hearts to God's blessing: Christ is with you.

All: And also with you.

Bless us, O creating God, that we may live each day for the good of all, revealing the goodness hidden within us. May our God of endless warmth bless you all in the name of Amma/Abba God, Jesus our Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Sophia.

All: Amen

Go, sharing the divine Love within you.

All: *Thanks be to God*

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