



**Mary of Magdala, ECC— July 27, 2025**

**Celebrating the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**The Kin-dom of God – All Together Everywhere**

**Reverend Jane Reina Presiding**

**Welcome and Announcements**      *Cindy Cloyd*

**Social Justice Reflection**      *Rosanna Bateman*

**Entrance Song**      **Come to Our God (V1; R; V2; R)**

**Greeting**

Welcome to our Mass on the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. Today's Gospel reading is the story of Martha and Mary and Jesus. Jesus stopping on the way to Jerusalem, to the cross.

Some women have had reservations about this story for years because of the stress it puts on the relationship between the sisters, and shows that those of us in 'service' are less than, setting up a duality, when really we know we are all equally loved by God. Today I'm hoping that you hear this story a little differently. I hope you hear that Jesus has both gratitude for the varieties of religious experience and he brings the sisters together.

Let us continue in yearning and in wonderment as one expression of God's presence:



+In the name of the Creating Mystery, our Cosmic Christ, and the Holy Spirit of Wisdom, Sophia.     **All: Amen.**

## **Penitential Rite**

Recognizing God's unconditional love for us, we humbly 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. We come in fragility and vulnerability to know you and love you.**

Christ, you, yourself are the Sacrament of the Incarnate God, teaching us see the yesterday as proof of your faithful presence, and to tomorrow with hope of a full life.

You are our true security in the present. Grant us the blessings of ethical resolve for our world full of error, pain and grief.

When we recognize that we are captured by the illusion of safety, and still need to stand up for the stranger, widow and the orphan, we humbly return to you and are forgiven.

**All: Jesus, grant us Holy Wisdom.**

Christ, you are the life force in all creation. Help us turn again to you, together, when we live under the prideful illusion that we are self-sustaining.

**All: Christ, grant us Holy Grace.**



Source of Abundant Love, we are a community of pilgrims stumbling along your Way.  
Help us to see ourselves through your eyes. By your grace may we grow more deeply in  
love with you, then we might know that the kin-dom of God is within.  
For Holy Wisdom, we give you thanks.

**All: Amen.**

In thanksgiving for Abundant Love, let us lift our voices in praise and glory of God!

**Glory to God** (MOD)

**Opening Prayer** Let us pray:

God of Love, we hunger for your Word. We hunger for your Grace. Give us the Grace to  
hear your Word that frees us to do what is right action. Give us the Holy Wisdom to find  
our true selves in you so we may radiate your Love. Speak to us for we are among those  
journeying with Jesus to Jerusalem.

**All: Amen**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Please be seated as the Word of God speaks to us.

**First Reading** *The Practice of Relationship*, by Mark Nepo, from **Things That Join**

**The Sea And Sky.** *Lector Cindy Cloyd*

The beginning of love is to let those we love be perfectly themselves,



and not to twist them to fit our own image. Otherwise we love  
only the reflection of ourselves that we find in them.

—Thomas Merton

It's so tempting at times to withdraw and watch life go by, but it's through relationship that we come alive and heal. There's no other way but to open the door to our mind, to our heart and venture out, knowing we will be changed by everything and everyone we meet. Yet try as we do, we seldom come close to what we aim for. I go to love you and miss, hurting your feelings. You aim to protect yourself and push me away, a little too hard. The friend we encourage to be herself finally stands up knocking down everyone near. Still, our heartfelt attempts, clumsy as they are, are the seeds that restore the world. All the spiritual traditions speak about renewal through relationship, and all agree that God—or the Spirit of the Universe, or the Ultimate Bareness of Being, or whatever name you want to give to Essence—remains an indwelling presence until revealed in the world through relationship. In time, meaning is revealed through relationship. Of course, we need to be alone and then together. Of course, we need to retreat and then run into each other's arms. But the beauty is that the cycle of relationship is never done. And with each turn of relationship, we are transformed.



**Responsorial Psalm 138:1-8** (*Merrill, rendered in the plural.*)

*Lector Cindy Cloyd*

**Our Response is: Your Love endures forever.**

We give You thanks, O Blessed One, with hearts that are full.

Together all the people sing Your praise.

We were humbled when we came to see that You dwell in us,

in the Holy Temple of all souls.

Our gratitude knows no bounds.

For You are the Holy One, the breath of our breath.

When we call upon You, You answer us,

increasing the strength of our souls.

**Response: Your Love endures forever.**

All the leaders of the earth shall one day praise You,

when Your Word awakens in every heart.

And they shall proclaim the new dawn of Life and love.

Beautiful will be the radiance of Your Glory!

For even as You are the Most High,



You are Friend to the lowly.

The arrogant close their hearts to Your love and guidance.

**Response: Your Love endures forever.**

Though we walk in the mist of troubles, You preserve our life.

You are a ready Presence as we face our fears and doubts.

Your strength upholds us.

You guide us as we pray to fulfill our purpose on Earth.

You do not forsake those who call upon You.

Your steadfast love and truth endure forever.

**Response: Your Love endures forever.**

## **Second Reading**

*Lector David Cloyd*

### **A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians 3:12-17**

As God's chosen people, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another. Forgive one another. If any of you has a grievance against another; forgive as God forgave you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and challenge one another in wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs of the spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Jesus the Christ, giving thanks to the Holy One, the Beloved.

Listen to the spirit speaking to God's people.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation    Alleluia    (MOD)**

**Gospel**

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

A proclamation of the Holy Gospel attributed to Luke. 10:1-12

**All: Glory to you, O God.**



While travelling with his many disciples, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary who seated herself at Jesus' feet and listened to his words.

Martha, tasked with the service of hospitality, became quite busy. She came to Jesus and said, "Rabbi, don't you care that my sister has left me all alone to do the household tasks, to do my work as deacon? Tell her to help me!"

Jesus replied, "Martha, Martha! You're anxious and worried about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken away from her."

The Good News of Jesus, our Christ.

**All: Praise to You, Jesus, our Christ.**

**Homily** Pastor Jane

**Prayers of the People**

*Lector David Cloyd*

You, Holy One, who are here, you know our needs even before we know them.

*Lector David Cloyd*

**Our response is: Loving God, receive our prayers.**





For a transformation of the hearts and minds of elected leaders that they may remember the people they really serve and their true needs, we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

For all immigrants, that they may be safe and not lose hope as they seek to better their lives, and that immigration enforcement may be done with more compassion and justice, we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

For safety for all those traveling that they may enjoy their time with families and friends, time exploring, and be refreshed when they return, we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

The prayers from the sanctuary are: ...we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

Are there prayers from those on zoom? ...we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**

And for all the people on our prayer list and the prayers we hold in our hearts, we pray, **Response: Loving God, receive our prayers.**



**Rev. Jane...** O Compassionate God, hear our prayers to heal, to put an end to violence, and to love one another as you love. May our prayers of our hearts praise and glorify you.

**All: Amen.**

*No Creed*

### **The Peace**

Jesus said to his disciples, “Peace be with you. My peace I give you.” May the peace of Christ, not of this world, be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

Please turn and share a sign of peace with our siblings here virtually and then turn to share with one another.

### **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

As we prepare our tables with the food we have, 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 able.

Let us sing together.

**Offertory Song    Many and One (R; V1; R; V2; R)**

Procession of the Bread and Wine by Eucharistic Ministers

**Preparation of the Gifts** (*During Offertory Song*) Blessed are you, God of all

Creation, through your goodness we have this bread and wine. All creation originated as



star dust and now star dust has evolved into wheat and grapes grown from the earth.

From the fruit of the earth, our hands have made bread and wine. May this bread and wine become for us the sacred nourishment we seek. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

By the mystery of this water and wine, we share in the divinity of Christ, who graced us by sharing in our humanity. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Pray, my siblings, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God.

**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.**

Christ is within You.

**All: And also within You.**

Let us open our hearts.

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

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

Amma/Abba God, loving source and destiny of all life, we praise you and thank you through Jesus our Christ. Jesus, you bring us peace not of this world as we act justly through the Kin-dom of God.

Through self-emptying love of Jesus, he transforms our swords into plowshares, our hostility into reconciliation, our alienation into community, and our hatred into forgiveness of our enemies. The Holy Wisdom opens our hearts to this transformation.



For this and many more gifts, we never cease to thank and praise you, and joining with the choirs of the cosmos as we sing to your glory:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**      (*MOD*)

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

Blessed are you, compassionate and faithful God. Our hearts naturally sing your praise. With loving tenderness, you have gathered us and filled us with a longing for justice that would never fail and a peace that would 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, O Mystery of Love, stretch out to the sick, the poor, and the oppressed. Jesus the Christ is the Way that leads to peace.

Flowing from the Exquisite Love visible and invisible throughout the entire cosmos, send your Holy Spirit to heal our lives. I invite you to outstretch your hand over these gifts with me. O Holiness, make these gifts of bread and wine ++holy, that they may become the Body and Blood of Jesus our Christ.

While he was at supper on the night before he died, 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.**

At the end of the meal, he took the cup. Again, he praised you for your goodness, gave 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**      *(MOD)*

Loving God, with gratitude we remember the passion of Jesus, his suffering at the hands of a broken humanity filled with violence and enmity. He endured all this with a love free of retaliation, revenge and retribution. He died loving his enemies and forgiving his persecutors. Together then with people of every faith and no faith, we remember that LOVE is our salvation, not our possession.

Remember, O Christ, those who have died and welcome them into your all-embracing love, where you gather all people into yourself.

Setting our wills and words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we proclaim,



**All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, life-giving God now and forever.**

**Amen**                    *(MOD)*

### **The Prayer of Jesus**

Please turn to the camera and let us join our hearts together as we pray 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**

### **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 out of ourselves and into this Love.

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



## **Invitation to Communion**

As we rejoice in our coming together in this transforming energy, let us affirm:

**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.**

Whether sharing this meal here or at home, all are called to consume what heals us. All are welcome to this feast of unrestricted and unconditional Love.

*(remind about gluten-free hosts)*

**Communion Song      Benedictus. (R; V1; R; V2; R)**

## **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 becomes reality: when our swords are melted into plowshares and "...no harm is done along the Holy Mountain."

**All: Amen**

## **Blessing for Dori Healy and Jim Berry**

**All: Gracious and Loving God, we raise our hands and hearts to bless Dori and Jim as they continue the journey of discernment toward ordained ministry with Mary of Magdala. Enliven them with clarity of vision and insight, and guide them to**



**willingly accept what unfolds for them. May our blessing help sustain their journey in Christ. May it be so.**

### **Concluding Rite and Dismissal**

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

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

May the Mystery of Love bless you to abide in your own agency and by your own conscience as a priestly people.

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

**All: Amen.**

**Dismissal:** Go now out into the world seeing Christ everywhere.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Closing Song      Sweet Redeemer (V1; R; V2; R)**