



## Mary of Magdala, ECC June 13, 2021 - 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Participants at home may wish to prepare their home worship space with a lit candle and the food and drink to be remotely shared.

### Announcements *Lector Ruth Alexander*

**BLM/Social Justice reflection** *Tom Moos, Chair Social Justice Ministry.*  
(Pause to hold this message in our hearts.)

### Entrance Song *(please join in with Bill while muted)*

#### Jesus, I Trust in You

Refrain

Jesus, I trust in you, giver of mercy.  
Jesus, I trust in you, O Font of Life.  
Healer, teacher, Savior and friend,  
Jesus, I trust in you.  
All that I am is in your hands.

1. Let not this heart be troubled,  
but let it rest in you.  
For with you, every sorrow will be washed away.  
Let not my mind be burdened,  
but set it free with truth,  
for every care is lost in understanding grace.

2. As you gave up yourself, Lord,  
into your Father's hands,  
so let me give myself  
to all that is your will.  
And as you emptied yourself,  
fulfilled Love's perfect plan,  
let me be emptied,  
that my life might be fulfilled.

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### Greeting *Father Michael Nicosia*

In our readings today we hear of the branches of a tree spreading out to provide sanctuary for all.

Gathering as a community of radical hospitality and inclusive love we spread our arms wide and begin our prayer,

**ALL: In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you**

### Penitential Rite - *Father Michael Nicosia*

The Psalmist today sings, "What a beautiful thing to declare God's love in the morning, and God's faithfulness every night!" —but before we jump to thanksgiving and praise, we must acknowledge that, weighed down by the troubles and injustices of life, many people see no evidence of such love and faithfulness. Jesus, Holder of All, when the world's

troubles are compounded by our failing to be loving and faithful, have mercy on us.

**All: Have mercy on us.**

Christ, Lavisher of Gifts,  
when we doubt that you will give us what we need



to answer the needs of others, have mercy on us.

**All: Have mercy on us.**

Jesus, the Compassion of God, when our zeal fades in the heat of the sun, have mercy on us.

**All: Have mercy on us.**

*Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral*

Empowered by God's grace, let us lift our voices in praise!

May the God of inclusive blessing have mercy on us,  
✠ forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

**All: Amen**

## Glory to God - Mass of the Joyful Heart *(please join in singing while muted)*

Refrain

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will. (Amen.)

1. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,  
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great  
glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

2. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

3. For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.

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## Opening Prayer - *Father Michael Nicosia*

*Father Michael Nicosia*

Let us pray...

God of Unfailing Goodness,  
the mystery of your Reign unfolds around us, we  
know not how.

Call us to do our part as faithful ministers of your  
justice and love.

This we ask you through Jesus Christ, your Son and  
our brother, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives  
and works in our midst, now and forever. **All: Amen**

*Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral*

And now let us open our hearts to the inspired word of God in our midst.

## Liturgy of the Word

### A Reading from Ezekiel 17. 22-24 *Lector Ruth Alexander*

Thus says the Holy One:  
"As an eagle soars, shall I.  
From the top of the tall cedar tree,  
from the highest branch, I shall take a tender  
shoot, and plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

"On the mountain heights, I will plant it.  
It shall put forth branches, and bear fruit,  
and grow into a noble cedar.  
Birds of every kind shall roost beneath it.  
Every kind of winged creature will nest in the  
shade of its branches.



“And all the trees of the field shall know that I, God, am the One who brings low the high tree and lifts high the lowly tree; I wither the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish.

“I God, have spoken, and so I will do it.”  
The Word of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm 92 — *Lector Ruth Alexander*

The response is: : Beloved, we proclaim your love at daybreak.

**All: Beloved, we proclaim your love at daybreak..**

What a beautiful thing to declare Your love in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night!  
With a ten-stringed harp, to the melody upon the lyre, we sing! For You, O God, have brought us joy. At the works of Your hands, we sing!

**Response: Beloved, we proclaim your love at daybreak.**

The just shall flourish like the palm tree,  
grow like the noble cedar of Lebanon.  
Planted in the house of the Holy One,

they will flourish in the courts of our God.

**Response: Beloved, we proclaim your love at daybreak.**

The just shall bear fruit even in old age.  
They will remain fresh, green and full of sap.  
They will sing of God’s unfailing goodness,  
“God is just; our source, in whom there is not wrong.”

**Response: Beloved, we proclaim your love at daybreak.**

## A Reading from 2Corinthians 9. 6-10- *Lector Matt Chavez*

Sisters and Brothers,

Remember: anyone who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. Whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you should give as you have determine, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that—by always having enough of

everything—you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written,

*God lavished gifts on those in need;  
God’s justice endures forever.”*

The One who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your justice.

Listen to the Spirit speaking to God’s people.

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation — *Father Michael will bless Dcn. Rosean*

**Alleluia** – Mass of the Joyful Heart (*please join in singing while muted*)

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Let your heart rejoice in the Lord.

Let your word proclaim his deeds.

Let your voice sing out to the world

that our God has come to save.

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## Gospel Reading – Mark 4. 26-33 *Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral*

God is with you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

Jesus continued speaking to the crowds, saying, “The reign of God is like someone scattering seed on the earth. The sower sleeps and rises, night and day. The scattered seed sprouts and grows, but the sower doesn’t know how. Of its own accord, the earth yields: first the shoot, then the head, then the full grain in the head. Then, when the grain is ripe, immediately the sower goes in with a sickle, for the harvest has come.”

Jesus also said, “What else can we say the reign of God is like? What parable can we find to describe it? It is like a mustard seed which, at the

**ALL: And also with you.**

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

time it is sown is the smallest of all the seeds; yet, once sown, it grows into the greatest of shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

Using many parables like these, Jesus spoke the word to them, inasmuch as they were able to hear it.

The Good News of Salvation of Jesus, our Christ.

**ALL: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ**

## Homily “Vicars of Engagement” *Father Michael Nicosia*

### Our Truth

*Father Michael Nicosia*

**ALL: We believe in God, our Mother outpouring, our Father uniting, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and yet to be revealed.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word eternally spoken by God, our brother and teacher, through whom all things were made and hold together. By the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became fully human.**

**For the sake of the truth he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; and on the third day rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven yet remains active in our midst.**

**He will come again in glory to unite the living and the dead, and our communion with him will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the spirit of truth and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son as the dynamic expression of their relationship and channel of their love.**

**With the Father and the Son, She is worshiped and glorified. We believe in the ways She unites us: through her prophetic challenge, through the Body of Christ, the Church, in our shared baptism, in our sacrifices on behalf of others, in our hope in the resurrection, and in the fulfillment of God’s promise in eternity. Amen.**

Our Truth by Father Michael Nicosia © 2020

## Prayers of the People

*Father Michael Nicosia*

With hearts formed by the love and welcome that we ourselves have received, let us intercede for the needs of the Church and the world.



Lector Matt Chavez

The response is: Beloved, receive our prayers.

**ALL: Beloved, receive our prayers**

For all churches, especially Mary of Magdala ECC, Trinity Lutheran, St. Paul's Episcopal, the 301 Faith Partners, as we return to worshipping in the sanctuary that we may remain a welcoming, loving presence to all people, we pray,

**Response: Beloved, receive our prayers.**

For our elected leaders that they may work to end the partisan division keeping our country from moving forward in a healing, moral, respectable manner, we pray,

**Response: Beloved, receive our prayers.**

I now ask all to add your own prayers so that our community may support you. If you are in the sanctuary, please speak your prayers aloud and I will repeat them for those attending on Zoom. If you are joining us via Zoom, please type your prayers into the chat feature and Kerrie will read them aloud.

*(Matt to repeat the prayers from those in the church for Zoom attendees to hear.)* ... we pray **All: Beloved, receive our prayers.**

*(Kerrie to read those prayers that are written in Zoom's chat feature.)*... we pray: **All: Beloved, receive our prayers**

And for those on our Prayer List and all the prayers we hold in the privacy of our hearts, we pray. **All: Hear our prayer**

Father Michael Nicosia

Source of all life, hear the humble prayers of your servants, and help us to continually rely on the self-gift of your Son for our sustenance and strength. This we ask through the same Christ our brother. **ALL: Amen**

## Sign of Peace

Father Michael Nicosia

Celebrating God's faithfulness, may the peace of Christ be with you always

**ALL: And also with you**

Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral

For those on Zoom unmute and go to gallery view, that all might share with one another a sign of Christ's peace. For those in the sanctuary please offer a gesture for a sign of peace.

## Offertory Song *(please join in while muted)*

### The Breastplate of St. Patrick

1. I bind myself  
to the power of heaven.  
I bind myself to the light of the sun,  
the brightness of the moon,  
the deepness of the sea;  
I bind myself to the power of Christ.

Refrain

Christ with me and before me;  
Christ behind me and within me;  
Christ to the right of me  
and to the left of me;  
Christ above me and beneath me:  
I bind myself to the virtue of Christ.

2. I bind myself



to the guidance of angels.  
I bind myself  
to the love of the Lamb,  
for he alone is peace  
and he alone is light.  
I bind myself

to the guidance of Christ..

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## Liturgy of the Eucharist

### Preparation of our Tables

*Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral*

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. Continue to give as you are called and able. The offertory basket is here at the altar for any offering you may have.

### Offertory

*Father Michael Nicosia*

Blessed are you, Lord, 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.**

*Co-Pastor Dcn. Rosean Amaral*

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

*Father Michael Nicosia*

Blessed are you, Lord, 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.**

Lord God, we ask you to receive us and to be pleased with the sacrifice we offer you with humble and contrite hearts. Lord, wash away my iniquity; cleanse me from my sin.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father

**ALL: May the Lord 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 world.**

### Prayer over the Gifts

God of Abundance, in the sharing of these gifts and our very selves may we preserve the foundations of our calling as members of Christ’s body and servants of the world. In the name of this same Jesus, our brother, we pray. **ALL: Amen.**

The Holy One is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our God.

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

Most High and glorious God, what a beautiful thing to declare your love in the morning, and your faithfulness every night!  
This we do through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through Christ you sowed the seeds of your love in the creation of all that is. Through Christ’s

incarnation your compassion became flesh and dwelt among us. This same Jesus, stretching out arms wide on the cross, included all in the shade of your care, giving us an example of what love and faithfulness really mean.



And even now through Christ's Body, your servant church gathered and at work, your promise and provision extend to all those in need.

With grateful hearts we join with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, to sing our unending hymn of praise.

Preface of Christ in the World  
by Fr. Michael J. Nicosia © 2021

**Holy**

*(please join in)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Lord God of hosts.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

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*(please join in while muted)*

We commit ourselves to the community of faith in which this song resonates, calling upon You, most merciful God, to send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon the offerings we have set before You.

Bless ✠ these gifts that they may become the ultimate sign and symbol of Christ's inclusive blessing. Founded upon what we have come to see, may we know that You are truly present through our sharing and that we are truly united in You.

Though some members of your Son's body are still gathered in separate locations we remember what your Son did at table and in life, foreshadowing the self-gift that was his death.

Jesus took bread, gave You thanks and praise, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples saying:

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

When the supper was ended, he took the cup of wine. Again he gave You thanks and praise, gave the cup to the 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.**

*CO-Pastor Dcn. Pastor Rosean*

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

Loving God, we celebrate the memory of Christ, your Son, all that he did and continues to do to liberate your people and bring us true freedom.

While we ask you to remember all our sisters and brothers of many faiths and spiritual paths, who each bring their own insights and blessings to our world, remember, too, your Church, united across the miles.

Make us grow in love, together with all who have heard and follow the calling handed down to us from the Apostles. Continue to empower us as laypersons, deacons and priests for the special ministry given to the Body of Christ, praying especially for its local incarnation, in union with our local bishops, Kym and Jim and our bishop-elect Kae.

Remember, Lord, all those who have died, especially those who were failed by our society and died in want.

...

Welcome them into your glorious presence with Mary, your Mother, our patron Mary of Magdala, and all your apostles, martyrs, and saints as they enjoy the fullness of the communion that is our destiny.

**All: Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**



for all glory and honor is yours, Almighty  
Father/Mother, forever and ever. Amen

### **The Prayer of Jesus** - *Co-Pastor Dcn. Rosean Amaral*

Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

**All: Abba/Amma in heaven, Holy be Your name.  
Your kin-dom come, Your will be done, on earth  
as 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.**

**ALL Amen**

### **The Shared Table** - *Father Michael Nicosia*

**ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, grant us peace.**

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.**

Father Michael invites all to Communion

### **Communion Song** *—(please join in singing)* **Cornerstone**

1. O Father, you're faithful in every age,  
across every culture and land.  
You call to your people in hope to restore  
our lives which we built on fool's sand.  
All things will pass away  
save you, our rock and strength.

Refrain

You are the cornerstone,  
the rock on which we stand.  
You are the cornerstone;

we build our lives in your hands.

2. The seed that you planted within all our hearts  
will flourish and grow hundredfold.  
Save us from the thorns and the shallow hard ground.  
Sow us in the earth that will hold.  
All things will pass away  
save you, our rock and strength.

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## Prayer after Communion

*Father Michael Nicosia*

Gracious God, you have strengthened us  
with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.  
May your power work in us,  
and enable us to spread the branches of our love

wide, connected to your Son who lives and gives  
life with you and your Spirit, now and forever.

**All: Amen**

## Concluding Rite and Blessing— *Father Michael Nicosia*

The Lord is with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

May almighty God bless you: the Source of All-  
Being, the Eternal Word ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

## Dismissal *Co-Pastor Dcn Rosean Amaral*

Our celebration is ended; as vicars of engagement let us go into the world, faithful to our call.

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Closing Song - *(please join in singing)*

### To You Oh God, I Lift Up My Soul

Refrain

To you, O God, I lift up my soul;  
lift up my spirit to my Lord.  
To you I lift up my soul.

1. Make me to know your ways, O God;  
teach me your paths, guide me.  
You are my Savior.

2. Good and upright our gracious God,  
showing the way, guiding the humble to justice.

3. Steadfast and kind your ways, O God;  
all who revere your covenant  
know your friendship.

Text: Based on Psalm 25:1, 4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. Text and music © 1991, Bob Hurd.  
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