

Mary of Magdala Inclusive Catholic Community
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sunday, August 27, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.
CST



WE GATHER AS COMMUNITY

Gathering

P: Dear Family of Faith, come: Be gathered in the heart of the Divine Holy One: Source of Life, Love Incarnate and Abiding Wisdom. **All: Amen.** **Chime**

Acknowledgement of Territory

V1: In the Spirit of Truth and Reconciliation we Acknowledge the Land and the Territory on which we live. For thousands of years, Indigenous people walked the lands of Turtle Island; relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality.

We are gathered on Treaty 4 territory, traditional lands of the Nêhiyawak (neh HEY o wa), Nahkawé (NUK ah way), Nakota, and homeland of the Métis, Lakota, and Dakota. Take a moment to acknowledge the territory on which you reside.

We acknowledge our responsibilities as settlers and treaty people: that solidarity with our indigenous relatives with whom we share this sacred trust requires active participation in the ongoing struggle for justice, restitution and reconciliation. Let us resolve to live in right relationship with our Creator and all Creation.

Opening Song

Sing A New Church – Text: Dolores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939, ©1991, Sisters of St. Benedict,
Published by OCP Publications. Tune: from Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Pt. II, 1813.

1. Summoned by the God who made us rich in our diversity.
Gathered in the name of Jesus, richer still in unity:

**Refrain: Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in splendid, varied ways,
Sing a new church into being, one in faith and love and praise.**

2. Radiant risen from the water; robed in holiness and light,
Male and female in God's image, male and female God's delight. **R./**
3. Trust the goodness of creation; trust the spirit strong within.
Dare to dream the vision promised sprung from seed of what has been. **R./**
4. Bring the hopes of every nation; bring the art of every race.

Weave a song of peace and justice: let it sound through time and space. **R./**

5. Draw together at one table all the human family;

Shape a circle ever wider and a people ever free. **R./**

Prayer for Wholeness:

P: Holy, Loving One, we come together today to give thanks and praise for the many blessings you have showered upon us.

V2: We honour and respect these gifts:

R. May we use them for your glory.

V2: We recognize these gifts as grace:

R. May we use them to care for all of creation with love, humility, and justice.

V2: We acknowledge the responsibility you have given us:

R. Help us to refocus our hearts and minds when we fall short of our responsibilities.

P: Sophia, we know you are with us in this journey to our own wisdom. Open our hearts so that we always recognize you and continue to grow in relationship with you, with each other, and with the earth.

R. Amen.

Gloria - GLORY TO GOD MOST HIGH Missa del Mundo Jesse Manibusan

Glory! Glory to God! Glory in the highest!

Glory! Glory to God! Glory to God most high!

1. O God, Holy One, almighty God and Father (mother);
we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory!

2. O Lord (God) Jesus Christ, Holy One Redeemer.
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world!

3. You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord (our God).
You alone are the Most High God with the Spirit in the glory of God!

Opening Prayer

P: Gracious One of Open Arms and Open Heart, your table of abundance is spread for all to come and be welcomed and fed. Open the sacred space within us that we may join you in proclaiming your message among those whom we meet along the road of life. Let us walk in integrity of heart following the path you set before us and be bearers of your good news by our deeds as well as our words. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Christ.

All: Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading - Isaiah 22:15-16, 19-24

V3: A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the God of the Multitudes to the unjust householder, to the leader of the palace: "Get up! What have you here? Who are you that you have hewn for yourself a tomb on high, as a shrine, carving a resting place in rock? I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your post.

On that day, I will call on my servant, Eliakim, of the clan of Hilkiah, whom I will clothe with your robe and bind with your sash. I will commit your authority into the hand of this my servant who will be a mother to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, a father to the house of Judah.

I will place the key to the house of David and Bathsheba on the shoulder of my servant, Eliakim. What my servant opens, no one will shut. What my servant closes, no one will open. I will fasten my servant firmly in place like a peg, like a wooden nail, so that my servant will have a seat of honour and an ancestral house. Upon my servant shall hang the glory, and the weight, of the entire ancestral house, descendants and offspring, and all the little dishes, from bowls to jugs.

Beware, says the God of the Multitudes, for the peg that was fastened firmly in a secure place will give way. It will break off and fall, and the load hanging on it will be lost." God has spoken.

The Word of Isaiah, the Prophet.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

Response: God, Your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of Your hand.

I will give thanks to You, O God with all my heart, for You have heard the words of my mouth; In the presence of the angels I will sing Your praise; I will worship at Your holy temple.

I will give thanks to Your name, because of Your kindness and Your truth; when I called You answered me; You built up strength within me.

Our God is exalted, yet the lowly He sees, and the proud She knows from afar. Your kindness, O Godde, endures forever, forsake not the work of Your hands.

Second Reading - Romans 11:33-12:2

V4: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are Your judgments! How unfathomable Your ways!

“For what human being has ever known the mind of God?

What human being has ever been God’s advisor?

Who has ever given a gift to God, expecting the same in return?”

Everything comes from God and everything returns to God.

To God be glory forever.

Therefore, beloved, instead of giving “things” to God, present your very selves to God as a living sacrifice. You, your life, is holy and pleasing to God. Living for God is your spiritual worship.

So do not model yourselves after the pattern of this age. Rather be transformed by the renewal of your hearts and minds, so that you may discern the desire of God's heart, what is good and pleasing and true.

The Word of the Apostle Paul.

All: Thanks be to God/de.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

This is the gospel of Jesus the Christ.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

This is the Word of our loving God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel - Readings from the Gospels attributed to Matthew and John: Mt 16:13-26; Jn 11:17, 21-27

V5: A Reading from the Gospels attributed to Matthew and John.

All: Glory to you, O God/de!

From the Gospel attributed to Matthew:

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Chosen One is?”

They responded, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

Jesus asked, “But you, who do you say that I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the One from the Living God.”

Jesus replied, “Simon, son of Jonah! Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Loving God in heaven. So I say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my community. The gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the reign of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven. Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then Jesus strictly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

V6: And from the Gospel attributed to John:

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, near the house of Mary and Martha, Jesus found that Lazarus, their brother, had already been in the tomb for four days... Martha said to Jesus, “Teacher, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. Even now, I know that God will give you whatever you ask.”

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha answered “I know he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live; and, everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

Martha replied, “Yes, I believe that you are the Messiah, the One from God, the one coming into the world.”

The Gospel of God.

All: Praise to you Jesus the Christ.

Homily & Breakout Rooms

Profession of Faith -

V7: We believe in God, the creator and lover of all.

We believe in Jesus, the Christ,
who shows us how to live in the fullness of God’s love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who empowers us with spiritual gifts for loving service
and right relationship with all of creation.

We believe in Shekinah, God’s dwelling among the people.

We believe in Sophia, Holy Wisdom,
leading us to justice, and equality.

We believe in Christ Sophia,
nourishing us with abundant life as the Body of Christ at the table,
on the table and around the table at the Banquet of love.

All: Amen. (Sister Joan Chittister, OSB; edited version)

Prayers of the Community

V8: For the Church -- for equality in ministry; for humility, compassion, and justice in leadership; and for wisdom in decision-making, we pray:

R. Help us to recognize Jesus in all we do.

For leaders everywhere -- of nations, of political parties, of advocacy groups, of faith groups, in families – to lead with integrity, fairness, and love for all who count on them for guidance and good decisions, we pray:

R. Help them to recognize the sacred in all they do.

For those who are endangered by flood, by wildfire, by forest fire, and by all natural disasters, we pray:

R. May they find safety and solace in those who are coming to their aid.

For those whose lives are affected by war, poverty, abuse, discrimination, and other wrongs, we pray:

R. May they find justice and the life Creator meant them to have.

For the physical healing of the earth, the emotional and physical healing of those who suffer because of climate change, and for the strength of all humanity to work to correct our failings in the care of creation, we pray:

R. Help us to be the change Jesus wants us to be.

For those who have died, those who are ill, and all who are in need of prayer for any reason, including those already named and those who we hold in our hearts, we pray:

R. Help them feel your love and our compassion.

P: Gracious Holy One, help us to recognize Jesus in all we encounter and to act in service in his name. **R: Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

We offer our gifts

P: Most Holy One, God of Life and Love
We offer you these gifts of bread and wine
Fruit of the earth and work of human hands,
May they become for us, and we for the world,
the Body and Blood of Christ Jesus, your son.

**All: Bless this bread and bless this wine,
the wheat and the grape,
the farmer and the harvest,
the seed and the sower.**

P: God is with us! **All: We are not alone!**

P: Let us give thanks to our God of all Creation. **All: We give our thanks and praise.**

V9: We bless you, God of all Creation,
revealing anew in the diversity and multiplicity of forms,
the creative design of eternal love and goodness.
From the beginning of time, even until now,
you endow our world with grace and beauty;
and amid the chaos and brokenness of life
you awaken hope and promise for your people as
time and time again you renew your covenant of love with us.
As we gather this sabbath day, we remember your faithful love and
we join with all creation as we sing:

Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, Holy One, God of wonder and joy.
Heaven and earth your presence revealed,
Holy, Holy, Holy, One.
Bless'd the One who comes in your name;
Bless'd the One as Brother we claim;
Bless'd our God forever to reign;
Holy, Holy, Holy One.

Eucharistic Prayer

V10: Creative God/de, source of life and possibility,
gentle touch to the fragile membrane of life;
caring gardener of the wet seed in the dark earth;
Watchful guardian of erupting evolution,
and loving mother to the pain and joy of childbirth,
we open wide our hearts to receive your silent presence.

(Extend hands over gifts)

V11: Spirit of wind and fire come upon the gifts we present;
bread from the grain and wine of the grape,
the harvest to be won by today's labours,
all the things which today will increase and all those that will diminish or die,
that they may become for us the nurturing food of this communion table.

V12: On the night before he faced his own death, Jesus sat at supper with his companions
and friends. He reminded them of all that he taught them, and to fix that memory
clearly with them, he bent down and washed their feet.

P: When he returned to his place at the table, he lifted the bread, spoke the blessing, broke
the bread and offered it to them saying:

All: Take and eat; / this is my very self being given for you.

P: Then taking the cup of wine, crushed from the grapes of nature,

Jesus spoke the blessing and offered it to them saying:

**All: Take and drink of the cup of the covenant / made new again /
through my life in you. Whenever you remember me like this, / I am among you.**

Acclamation - Mass of Louves de Deu, Inca Tradition; words: Sophia 2016

When we eat this life-giving bread; when we share the wine of our lives;
you are here alive in our midst; Holy, Holy, Holy One.

V13: Gathered round this table of remembrance,
we ask that we be transformed by the power of your creative Spirit,
so that we share this sacred meal with humility
and serve our brothers and sisters with joy.

V14: In union with all your holy ones from ancient days,
we remember our beloved dead,
all those who suffer physical, emotional, mental or spiritual pain,
and all citizens in our world who are aching for justice and peace.

V15: May we spare neither time nor effort to give generously,
to live tenderly, and to act in justice and compassion;
thus helping to build up the Reign of God/de where hatred is diminished,
poverty eradicated, and all people can live in equality, love and peace.

P: This prayer we make to the God/de who nurtures and sustains,
in the name of Jesus the Risen Christ:
Through him, with him and in him, in oneness with the Sacred Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours, Most Holy One, now and forever.

Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Prayer of Jesus -

V16: Abwoon de Bashmaya, closer to us than our own hearts, farther from us than the
most distant star, you are beyond naming.

May your powerful presence become obvious not only in the undeniable glory of the
sky, but also in the seemingly base and common processes of the earth.

Give us what we need, day by day, to keep body and soul together, because clever as
you have made us, we still owe our existence to you.

We recognize that to be reconciled with you, we must live peaceably and justly with
other human beings, putting hate and bitterness behind us.

We are torn between our faith in your goodness and our awareness of the evil in your

creation, so deliver us from the temptation to despair.

Yours alone is the universe and all its majesty and beauty.

All: So it is, Amen. (Translation from the Aramaic by James Burklo)

Prayer for Peace

P: Jesus, you gave us your peace and prayed that all would be one in you.
May our prayers for peace ripple throughout the world.

All: Shalom, Salaam, Shante, Myr, Pas, la paix, Peace. **Chime**

P: We offer one another a greeting of peace.

Invitation to the Table

P: With faith in you, Christ Jesus, we eat the bread and drink the wine:
Your Body, Your Blood.

All: You make us worthy to receive you.

P: The gifts of God for the People of God/de.

All: Thanks be to God.

Communion Meditation - With This Bread ~ Kate Cuddy, GIA Publications

Refrain: With this bread we will walk with each other,
with this cup we will follow the Lord,
Compassion, love overflowing,
God's love ever knowing, we share it in our song.
(I am the living bread from heaven.)

To offer assistance when others are blind to the need,
To give loving care to each other is planting God's seed.
Walking the promise and falling on mercy,
Believing we'll walk with you.

Washing the wounds of division, we seek to ease pain.
Sharing the burden of others, like God's gentle rain.
Befriending the one who is lonely and lost,
Believing we'll walk with you.

We hold the key to our future as we share our souls,
Nurturing love in a time when compassion unfolds.
Dancing in joy, sharing in wonder the prayer that we sing to you.

Prayer After Communion

(The Anima Christi is one of the prayers used during the spiritual exercises and is often prayed following the reception of communion.)

**Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O Good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Permit me not to be separated from you.
From the wicked foe, defend me.
At the hour of my death, call me
and bid me come to you
That with your saints I may praise you
For ever and ever. Amen.**

WE GO TO BE WITNESSES

Announcements

Blessing/Dismissal

P: As we go from this place and embrace the challenges before us, we ask for the blessing of the Divine Holy One: for strength to seek justice, for wisdom to care for all creatures, for love to bring forth new life, for courage to speak up for those oppressed.

All: Amen.

P: May the sacred meal we shared strengthen us to hunger for justice as we go to be witnesses of hope in the name of + Creator, Word and Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God!