**Mary of Magdala Inclusive Catholic Community**

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sunday of the Word of God) – January 23, 2022, 10:00 a.m. CST



**WE GATHER AS COMMUNITY**

Welcome/Introductions

Greeting

**P:** We come to worship and celebrate in the name of the Holy One – source of all being, eternal word and spirit of wisdom**.**

**All:** **Amen.**

Acknowledgement of Territory:

Centering Chime

Gathering Song: *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

**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.**

1. Radiant risen from the water; robed in holiness and light,

Male and female in God’s image, male and female God’s delight.

Refrain:

1. Trust the goodness of creation; trust the spirit strong within.

Dare to dream the vision promised sprung form seed of what has been.

Refrain:

1. 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.

Refrain:

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

Shape a circle ever wider and a people ever free.

Refrain:

Prayer for Wholeness

**Prayer of Wholeness** (based on p.274-276 *Calling on God* by Peter Bankson & Deborah Sokolove)

**P:** Holy God/de our Rock and Redeemer,

who opens our senses

to your Presence through the Sacred Scriptures,

awake in us a yearning to meet you there,

and to encounter You in other Christians and people of all faiths and walks

that we may be aligned with your call for ecumenism and

Jesus’ prayer for unity.

**V1:** Wonderful Architect of culture and community,

Holy Lover of life,

we’ve come from near and far

to share with those we love, this special time with you.

We marvel at your wisdom:

the way your commandments

enlighten the eyes of the faithful;

the way you help us make the holy day a day of celebration;

the way you call us to the joyful task

of being united with all Creation.

Holy Creator of all that we cannot imagine,

we offer now our prayers of praise and thanks,

our prayers of wonder and hope,

for all that you are doing in these difficult years

to nourish a hopeful future for our world.

**P:** We lift these prayers in our hearts,

and share them aloud in this sacred space today.

Song of Praise: *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

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:** God of Life, you created all things in your image and likeness.

We praise you for the gifts of many cultures, traditions, and expressions of faith.

May your people be united in love and stand together against fear, hatred and injustice

that all may know and hear your voice calling in the depths of their hearts.

We ask this in the name of Jesus and the Spirit**.**

**All:** **Amen.**

**WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD:**

**P:** The Word of God comes to us in many ways. Let us be attentive to Divine Wisdom speak to our hearts in these readings.

**First Reading:** Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 - Comprehensive Catholic Lectionary

**V2:** A Reading from the Ezra Source in the Book of Nehemiah.

On the first day of the seventh month, Ezra the scribe brought out the Book of the Law before all the assembled people of all genders, including women, men, and children old enough to understand the reading. Ezra read the book aloud from early morning till noon while facing the broad expanse before the Water Gate, in the presence of all the people, women, men, and children. All listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra stood on a raised, wooden platform made for the purpose. He opened the book in the presence of all the people. When he opened it, all the people stood; and when Ezra blessed the Most High, the Greatest God, all the people raised their hands with the response, “Amen, Amen”. Then, they bowed their heads and worshipped God, prostrate on the ground. Reading from the Book of the Law, Ezra interpreted it and gave it meaning so that the people understood it.

Then Nehemiah, the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, along with the Levites, instructed the people, saying to all of them, “This day is holy to the Most High God, your God. Do not mourn. Do not weep”—for all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah continued, “Go now! Enjoy rich food and sweet wine! Be certain that you send a share to those who cannot provide for themselves. For this day is holy to our God. Let no one be sad, for the joy of God is our strength.”

The Word from the school of Ezra.

**All: Thanks be to God*.***

Psalm *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

**We Are Many Parts -**  Text: 1 Corinthians 12, 13; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Tune: Marty Haugen, © 1980, 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

**Refrain:**

**We are many parts, we are all one body,**

**And the gifts we have we are given to share.**

**May the Sprit of love make us one in deed;**

**One, the love that we share, one, our hope in despair,**

**one, the cross that we bear.**

1. God of all, we look to you, we would be your servants true,

Let us be your love to all the world.

Refrain:

1. So my pain is pain for you, in your joy is my joy, too;

All is brought together in the Lord.

Refrain

1. All you seekers, great and small, seek the greatest gift of all;

If you love, then you will know the Lord.

Refrain:

**Second Reading:** From The Directory for the Application of Principles and Norms on Ecumenism (1993, para 25)

**V3:** A Reading from The Directory on Ecumenism

Because ecumenism with all its human and moral requirements

is rooted so profoundly in the mysterious working out

of the providence of . . . [God/de],

it reaches into the depths of Christian spirituality.

It calls for that “change of heart and holiness of life,

along with public and private prayer for the unity of Christians”,

that the Decree on Ecumenism of the Second Vatican Council

calls “spiritual ecumenism”,

and regards as “the soul of the ecumenical movement.”

Those who identify deeply with Christ must identify with his prayer,

and especially with his prayer for unity;

those who live in the Spirit must let themselves be transformed

by the love that, for the sake of unity,

“bears all things, believes all things,

hopes all things, endures all things” (1Cor 13:7);

those whose lives are marked by repentance

will be especially sensitive to the sinfulness of divisions

and will pray for forgiveness and conversion.

Those who seek holiness will be able to recognize its fruits also

outside the visible boundaries of their own Church.

They will be led to know truly, God/de as the one

who alone is able to gather all into unity …

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

**ALL: Thanks be to God/de.**

Gospel Acclamation: *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

[Halle! Halle lu jah! Halle! Hal le lu jah!

Halle! Halle lu jah! Ha lle lu jah!](2x)

Ha lle lu ia!

**GOSPEL:** Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21 – Comprehensive Catholic Lectionary

**P:** A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Luke

Many others have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events fulfilled among us, just as they were passed on to us by the original eyewitnesses and ministers of the Word. I, too, have investigated everything carefully - from the beginning - and have decided to write an orderly account for you, noble Theophilus, so that you may know the truth of the teaching you received. ...

After Jesus was baptized, the Spirit led him to the desert where he was tested. Then, Jesus returned to Galilee with the power of the Spirit in him. His reputation spread throughout the region. He was teaching in the synagogues in Galilee, and all were loud in their praise.

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, as was his custom. He stood up to do the reading. When the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him, Jesus unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

“The Spirit of God is upon me. The Most High has anointed me to bring Good News to those who are poor. God has sent me to proclaim liberty to those held captive, recovery of sight to those who are blind, release to those in prison— to proclaim the year of God’s favor.”

Rolling up the scroll, Jesus gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then Jesus said to them, “Today, in your hearing, this scripture passage is fulfilled.”

The Good News of Our God.

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

Homily/Shared Reflection (Breakout Rooms)

For your consideration: Your response to today's liturgy or:

What scripture stories or quotes stay with you and what meaning do they have for you?

What life event has brought you to your feet or to your knees?

Describe a speaker from another faith tradition or culture who captivated your attention.

Profession of Faith

**P:** *(We pause for a moment in silence and make a personal act of faith: put into words what you believe, in your heart of hearts about God, about Jesus, the Holy Spirit and what it means to be Church.)* And to this we all say:

**All:** **AMEN.**

Prayers of the People

**Prayers of the People** (adapted from p. 277-278 *Calling on God*)

**P:** Great, giving Heart, Lover of all peoples everywhere, hear our prayers:

**V4:** When all the world seems cold, wet, or traumatized,

and it’s somehow easier to find the places

where there doesn’t seem to be love enough to go around,

Open our hearts to your unifying Heart and our resources to countries and communities in Canada suffering from the climate crisis, we pray:

**All: Prompt us to live out hope through Gospel values.**

**V4:** The holidays are long behind us now,

and we seem to miss their tinsel distractions

as we step out in the cold,

Be with those seeking work especially persons disabled, students,

families new to our country, and people without shelter, we pray,

**All: Prompt us to live out hope through Gospel values**

**V4:** We watch as little signs of hope are tossed aside,

like Jesus in his own hometown,

a voice for change and healing,

rejected just because it came from someone too familiar.

Open our minds and habits to new ideas and new ways of being in Christ, we pray,

**All: Prompt us to live out hope through Gospel values**

**V4:** We want to hear that voice of Christ today,

those promises that prophecy will be fulfilled,

but somehow it is often easier for us to see the problem,

rather than the Gospel, we pray:

**All: Prompt us to live out hope through Gospel values.**

**V4:** Hopeful, invigorating Messenger of spring,

we bring our prayers for those in pain,

for those whose burdens keep them in the cold,

for those whose sorrow flows,

Fill us with compassion and inspire us to take action, we pray,

**All: Prompt us to live out hope through Gospel values.**

**V4**: People of faith are not one in mind and heart;

Differences in belief and practice separate us.

Draw us closer to one another and to you

as we celebrate this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

We pray especially Bishop Helen Kennedy who was consecrated Bishop

for the Anglican Diocese of Qu’Appelle, Saskatchewan yesterday.

**All: Prompt us to live out hope through Gospel values**

**V4:** For our personal intentions, (*silent moment*), we pray:

**All: Prompt us to live out hope through Gospel values**

**P:** We lift our prayers as part of your body

incarnate and uniting us to the world in this time and place,

present in the Word of God,

Immanuel, God among us, Christ Sophia.

**All: Amen.**

**LITURGY OF EUCHARIST**

We offer our gifts

(*Please raise the bread and wine you have brought for communion as we pray)*

**P:** Blessed are you, Most Holy One, Source of Life and Love

through your goodness we have received these gifts of bread and wine

which we now offer to you; Fruit of the earth and work of our hands.

It will become the bread of life for us and our spiritual drink.

**All: Bless this bread and bless this wine,**

**the wheat and the grape,**

**the farmer and the harvest,**

**the seed and the sower.**

**P:** Ever-gentle God, may this offering of our lives and our friendship be acceptable to you.

Let it transform our lives and fill us with hope.

We ask this through our brother, Jesus.

**All: Amen.**

**P:** God/de is with us!

**All: We are not alone!**

**P:** Come to the table with thankful hearts.

**All:** **We open our hearts to God and to one another.**

Eucharistic Prayer – D. O’Murchu (adapted)

**V5:** O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us,

as we set our hearts on belonging to you.

May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all creation.

You know our limitations and our essential goodness and you love us as we are.

You beckon us to your compassionate heart

and inspire us to see the good in others and forgive their limitations.

Acknowledging your presence in each other and in all of creation, we proclaim:

Holy, Holy: *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

***MASS OF LOUVORES DE DEUS****, Inca Tradition; words: Sophia 2016*

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.

**V6:** Guiding Spirit, when opposing forces in us tug and pull

and we are caught in the tension of choices,

inspire us to make wise decisions toward what is good.

**V7:** We thank you for our brother, Jesus, and for all people who have modeled for us

a way to live and love in challenging times.

Inspired by them, we choose life over death;

we choose to be light in dark times.

*(Extend hands over gifts)*

**V8:** We ask your Spirit to come upon the gifts of this holy table,

bread of the grain and wine of the grape,

that they may become for us the Body and Blood of Jesus, the Christ,

to nurture afresh in us the discerning gifts of wisdom, light and truth.

**V9:** 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 this, and eat it. This is my very self which will be given up for you.**

**Eat, and remember me.** (Pause)

**P:** Then he took the cup of the covenant, spoke the grace, and offered it to them saying:

**All: Take this and drink it. This is my life-blood poured out for you and for all,**

**for life, the life of the world. Whenever you remember me like this,**

**I am among you.** (Bow)

**D:** We proclaim the mystery of faith.

Acclamation: *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

***MASS OF LOUVORES DE DEUS****, 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.

**V10:** Holy One, your transforming energy is within us

and we join our hearts with all who are working for a just world.

We pray for wise leaders in our religious communities.

We pray for courageous and compassionate leaders in our world communities.

**V11**: Together with Mary and all the holy friends of God and prophets,

we unite our thoughts and prayers for the good of all your holy people throughout the world.

We open ourselves up to your Spirit,

for it is through living as Jesus lived that we awaken to your Spirit within,

moving us to glorify you, at this time and always.

**P:** For you are the love that dwells in our depths,

the Wisdom of the Ages that speaks through us,

the Divine Connection that makes us all one through all ages.

**Amen:** *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

***MASS OF LOUVORES DE DEUS****, Inca Tradition; words: Sophia 2016*

Bless our God forever to reign; Amen, Amen, Amen.

Prayer of Jesus:

**Abba of Jesus** Winter Name of God/de Michael Joncas

Abba of Jesus, our God/de in heaven.

How holy do we hold the name you bear!

Send forth your kin-dom, your rule upon us;

your will be done by all your creatures ev’rywhere!

Abba of Jesus, our God/de in heaven,

give us this day the bread we need to live.

Do not remember our sins against you;

forgive us all as we ourselves learn to forgive.

Abba of Jesus, save us from trial,

and keep your people far from evil ways.

Yours is the kin-dom, the power, the glory, through endless days.

Abba of Jesus…

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, Paz*,* Paix**, **Peace.**

Chime

**D:** Let us offer one another a sign or greeting of peace.

Invitation to the Table

**P:** Filled with the peace we have shared, and in communion with all that is,

all that was, and all that will be, come and share at this table.

**All: Jesus, by your word you transform our lives.**

**We are happy to be called to this feast.**

**P:** Receive who you are: The Body and Blood of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

Communion Meditation: *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

**The Spirit Of God** (The Lord) JMT – John Michael Talbot

The Spirit of God is upon me …

because our God has anointed me.

She has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor

And to heal the broken-hearted.

To proclaim liberty to the captives and to set the prisoner free;

To announce a year of favour from our God

And a day of vindication to comfort all who mourn.

[: The Spirit of God is upon me;

the Spirit of God has anointed me;

The Spirit of God has sent me to the poor,

to heal the broken-hearted.:]

The Spirit of our God is upon me.

Communion Antiphon:

**All: Go out to all the world and tell the good news.**

Prayer after Communion:

**V12:** Christ Jesus, your proclamation of the Word

in your home town stirred the hearts and souls

of those in your home synagogue,

as you announce its truth.

Let us receive fully from the bounty of your table

that our words and actions

may spill over into our communities

the gospel truth of unifying love.

We ask this in your name today and always, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

**Blessing Over Our Bibles** (adapted from Stephen J. Binz, “Blessing Over Bibles”)

**P:** The Bible is already the blessed Word of God/de.

It does not require a blessing.

So we take this moment to pray for God/de’s blessing

upon us as we commit to listen to, read from, study

and proclaim the Sacred Word as a guide in our lives.

Let us continue the ancient practice

of asking the Holy Spirit, who inspired these writings,

to inspire us as we pray these scriptures.

I invite you to touch or

hold your Bible near your heart

at this time of celebrating Christ’s Eucharistic presence,

and please respond:

**All: Come Holy Spirit, enkindle in us the fire of your love.**

**P:** May the Holy Spirit instill in us a deep desire

to know God/de’s Word so that we will

grow as disciples of Christ,

and commit to frequent reflection on its pages.

**All: Come Holy Spirit, enkindle in us the fire of your love.**

**P:** Through the Spirit Sophia, may our reading of scripture

lead us to a deeper faith, a more lively hope,

and a more fervent love for Christ in all Creation.

**All: Come Holy Spirit, enkindle in us the fire of your love.**

**P:** Loving God/de you have revealed your life

and your spirit through the lives of our ancestors in the faith.

From Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Bathsheba and David

to Mary and Joseph, Mary Magdalene and Peter, Paul and Junia

you have spoken your word and called your people to fuller life.

May we faithfully receive your Word and proclaim it with our lives

in your name, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

**All: Amen.**

**WE GO TO BE WITNESSES**

Announcements …

Blessing/ Dismissal

**P:** May the God of Oneness fill us with all joy and peace,

And may we be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the name of Christ Sophia may we be blessed

and may the + Divine Face shine upon us and give us Peace.

**All: Amen**.

**D*:*** Our liturgy is ended. Let our service begin.

**All: Thanks be to God/de!**

*You are invited to unmute yourself and give your greetings to all before you leave. You are welcome to stay and visit as long as you like.*

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