Mary of Magdala Inclusive Catholic Community

The Manifestation of Jesus (Feasts of Epiphany and Baptism)

January 9, 2022, 10 a.m. CST

**WE GATHER AS COMMUNITY**

Welcome/Introductions

Acknowledgement of Territory:

Chime

**P:** *As we begin our opening song, I invite you to light your candle and raise it so all can see it.*

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

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**Arise, Shine -** Is 9 Marty Haugen

*Refrain:* Arise, shine! Your light has come;

 the light that shatters the darkness,

 And the glory of God/de is risen upon you.

1) The people who stumbled in the darkness,

 the people have seen the light of hope;

 the people who dwelt beneath death’s shadow,

 on them the light has shown! *Refrain*

2) The yoke of your suff’ring shall be lifted,

 the rod of oppression’s weight shall break;

 The weapons of hatred shall be shattered,

 and wars shall be no more! *Refrain*

3) For unto us a child is born,

 the Holy One is given to be light for all the people in night,

 *Cantor All Response*

 to be hope for our hearts Wonderful Counsellor;

 to be strength for our lives Mighty God/de;

 to be peace for our souls God/de of all mercy;

 to be wisdom and joy Light for the world;

 to be hope for the poor God/de of all justice;

 to be God/de for all time Prince of Peace;

 to be love that renews Lover and Healer;

 to be light for our eyes Spirit of Truth!

*Refrain:* Arise, shine! Your light has come; the light that shatters the darkness,

 And the glory of God/de is risen upon you. And the glory of God/de has risen upon you!

Greeting

**P:** Dear Family of Faith, Come and be gathered in the name of + God/de-our-Creator, Source of All Being, of God/de-with-us, Eternal Word-Wisdom, and of God/de-within-us, Spirit of Love.

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

Prayer for Wholeness: (“I Know How Far” Jan Richardson in *Circle of Grace*p.75-76)

**V1:** I know how far you would walk to offer what is needed, the lengths you would go to provide for those you hold dear;

**R: Pause and in the quiet wait.**

**V1:** I know how every road you travel begins in the hollow of your chest, in the chambers of your heart;

**R:** **Pause and in the quiet wait for the gifts.**

**V1:** I know how you measure your steps by the rhythm of your pulse; how you find your way across terrains no map could ever show.

**R:**  **Pause and in the quiet wait for the gifts that have been gathering around you.**

**V1:** No distance, no barrier, no expanse of time would keep you from propelling yourself toward the place your heart has already arrived.

**R:**  **Pause and in the quiet wait for the gifts.**

**V1:** But for a moment, for one small space of time, could you pause and wait for the gifts that have been gathering around you, the treasures borne by those who have been travelling to welcome you since the moment you left home?

**R: Pause and in the quiet wait.**

**P:** O God/de of all journeys, our lives are gifts to one another even as the earth is gift to us in the water of our baptism. Help us to see afresh, in the pauses of our life journey, your abundant gifts.

**R. Amen.**

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!

**LITURGY OF THE WORD:** (Comprehensive Catholic Lectionary)

**P:** With open minds and hearts, we listen to the words of Sacred Scripture.

First Reading:Matthew2:1-12

**V2:** A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Matthew

After Jesus had been born in Bethlehem in Judea during the reign of Herod,

Magi from the East arrived in Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the newborn leader

of the Judeans? We observed the child’s star at its rising and have come to pay homage.” When Herod heard this, he was greatly disturbed, and all Jerusalem

with him. Summoning all the chief priests and religious scholars of the people,

he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem of Judea,” they informed him, “for this has been written by the prophet:

*And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,*

*are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,*

*for from you shall come a leader*

*who will shepherd my people.”*

Then Herod secretly called for the Magi and learned from them the exact time of the star’s appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem, having instructed them, “Go! Search diligently for the child. When you have found the newborn, bring me word so that I may also go and pay homage.”

After their audience with Herod, they set out. The star which they had observed at its rising went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child lay. When they saw the star hovering, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they found the child with his mother, Mary. They bowed down and paid homage. Opening their treasure chests, they offered the child gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another route.

Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

***All: Praise to you Jesus the Christ.***

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

**Spirit Blowing Through Creation** – Marty Haugen, b. 1950, © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.

V1: Spirit blowing through creation, Spirit burning in the skies,

Let the hope of your salvation fill our eyes;

God of splendor, God of glory, You who light the stars above,

All the heavens tell the story of your love.

V2: As you moved upon the waters, As you ride upon the wind,

Move us all, your sons and daughters deep within;

As you shape the hills and mountains, Formed the land and filled the deep,

Let your hand renew and waken all who sleep.

Refrain:

Spirit renewing the earth, renewing the hearts of all people;

Burn in the weary souls, blow through the silent lips,

come now and awake us, Spirit of God.

V3: Love that sends the rivers dancing, Love that waters all that lives,

Love that heals and holds and rouses and forgives;

You are food for all your creatures, You are hunger in the soul,

In your hands the broken hearted are made whole.

V4: All the creatures you have fashioned, All that live and breathe inn you,

Find their hope in your compassion, strong and true;

You, O Spirit of salvation, You alone, beneath, above,

Come, renew your whole creation in your love.

Refrain:

Second Reading:Galatians 3:26-28

**V3:** A Reading from a letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Each one of you is a child of God/de because of your faith in Jesus the Christ.

All of you who have been baptized into the risen Christ have clothed yourselves

with a new way of being in the world.

In Christ there is no Judean or Greek, slave or free, male or female.

All are one in Jesus the Christ.

The Word of the Apostle Paul.

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

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

A Gladsome Alleluia,  James Victor Marchionda, OP

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! **2x**

Gospel: Luke3:15-23

**D:** A Reading from the Good News attributed to Luke.

All the people were filled with expectation. All were wondering in their hearts if John might be the Messiah. John answered them, “I baptize you with water. One who is more powerful than I is coming. I am not worthy to untie the thongs of his sandals. That one will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. With winnowing-fork in hand, the threshing floor will be cleared. The wheat will be gathered into the barn; but the chaff will be burned in an unquenchable fire.” John proclaimed the good news to the people with other exhortations too.

John rebuked Herod, the ruler. John had spoken out against Herod because of his marriage to his brother's wife, Herodias. John also called out other evil things Herod had done. Herod added a further crime to them all: he threw John in prison.

Before all this, when all the people were being baptized by John, Jesus was baptized too. As Jesus was praying, the skies opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. A voice came from the heavens, "You are Mine, whom I love. In you I delight."

The Gospel of Our God/de.

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

Homily/Shared Reflection:

* What touches you in the readings today? What links do you see between Epiphany and Baptism?
* What can we learn about the multiple manifestations of the Divine in religions around the world?
* What might it look like, even now - especially now - to imagine a new way? To try something new? To not do it the way we’ve always done it but to listen carefully to our dreams and set out on another way? To met Jesus at the Jordan as well as the manger?

Profession of Faith

**P:** *Bless the water*: Water of Life, we honour you and +bless you that through you we may know the blessing of the Creator of us all, that we are God/de’s beloved.

We dip in to the waters of life and affirm our faith.

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* We believe that when we live in love, we live in Divine Love and Divine Love lives in us.

**All: We immersed in this belief.**

* We believe that the mystery we call God/de comes to visibility in human form in each of us.

**All: We immersed in this belief.**

* We believe that the life and teaching of Jesus set us free from fear of God/de/de.

**All: We immersed in this belief.**

* We believe that the Church exists to affirm God/de/de’s loving presence with us and to challenge us to give witness to this presence in our love for one another and in our work for justice and peace.

**All: We immersed in this belief.**

**P:** *We bless ourselves with holy water, dearly beloved of God/de*.

Prayers of the People:

**P:** Keeping in mind the gifts of our baptism and the invitation in this feast of Epiphany to include the stranger in our everyday life:

**V4 :** We pray for the nations of the world, for growing unity, mutual respect and peace. May our own actions, founded in the Spirit, affect the wellbeing of all relations, we pray,

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**V4:** We pray for the sick: for those infected with Covid19, especially in places where vaccines are few in number, and for those encumbered by recent injuries and chronic illnesses, for the dying and all those who care for the sick, we pray,

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**V4:**  For those recently baptized, for those on life journeys that take them far from home, that their missions in life be aided by willing and hospitable hearts and by stars of Spirit, that light and support the way, we pray,

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**V4:** For those who are grieving a significant loss, that we weep with them, we pray,

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**V4:** For leadership around the world, that we and our leaders make timely decisions with regard to the climate crisis, and that leaders listen and respond to the voices of care for Mother Earth we pray,

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**V4:** For the homeless, especially those facing winter in harsh climates, for the hungry, the imprisoned, and persons in situations of abuse, that our actions bring about relief to their suffering and social justice for their cause, we pray,

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**V4:** On this World Religions Day, may mutual respect and reverence for various faith traditions reflect the love the Divine Holy One has for all and may we grow in interfaith dialogue in our communities, we pray;

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**V4:** For all the intentions entered in the Chat and those we hold deep in our hearts …., we pray;

**R: Loving God/de, you hear our prayer.**

**P:** Gracious and loving Source of all that is, we thank you that your loving wisdom accompanies us on this journey of light and darkness. We take comfort that your prayers come alive in us for those in need. May we respond freely, O Christ, like the wise ones of old with our generous gifts for you, so visible in the lonely, the suffering, and marginalized at our door.

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

**LITURGY OF EUCHARIST**

Offering our gifts:

**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.

 They 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:** God/de is with us!

**All: We are not alone!**

**P:** Let us give thanks to our God/de of all Creation.

**All: We give our thanks and praise.**

Eucharistic Prayer: – Wisdom ~O'Murchu (Adapted)

**V5:** Blessed are you, Compassionate and Faithful God/De.

 We do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

 You have no need of our praise, yet our desire to thank you is itself your gift to us.

**V6:** You have birthed us in your image, Most Wise and Holy One,

 gifted us with life and cherish us in love.

 In the heart of our being your Spirit dwells –

 A Spirit of courage and vision; A Spirit of wisdom and truth.

 In the power of that same Spirit, we lift our hearts in prayer.

 We offer our thanks and praise in union with all who sing the ancient hymn of praise:

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

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

 Holy, holy, Holy One, God/de 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/de forever to reign;

 Holy, Holy, Holy One.

**V7:** Creator God/de, we see around us the work of your hands, the fruit of your wisdom and love.

 The ongoing story of creation witnesses unceasingly to your creative power.

 The stars of the heavens are your witnesses and we, ourselves, are made of stardust.

 The waters of the earth are waters of our birth and sustain every cell of our bodies.

Through Jesus your son, sent to live among us, you renew in our world the power of Sophia,

and in her gifts your creative goodness blooms anew in the variety and wonder of life.

*(Extend hands over gifts)*

**P:** That same Spirit we ask 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 renew in us the discerning gifts of wisdom, light and truth.

Gathering the disciples around the table of shared wisdom, Jesus took bread,

blessed you, God/de of all good gifts, broke the bread,

and gave it to those seeking nourishment, saying:

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

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

**P:** In the same way the cup of life is poured out and offered to each and all, saying:

**All: Take this and drink it. This is the cup of the new and everlasting covenant.**

**It is poured out for you and for all, for forgiveness and for reconciliation,**

**for life, the life of the world. Drink, and remember me.** (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.

**V8:** As we celebrate this sacred meal, we recall the gracious gifts bestowed upon us down through the ages; and we look forward in hope, knowing that you,

 our wise and faithful God/de, will continue to endow us in abundant goodness.

**V9:** Together with Mary and all the holy friends of God/de and prophets,

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

 May the creative Spirit, in whose power all things are changed and transformed,

 renew and strengthen us in our search for wisdom

 as we are nourished by the gifts of this Eucharistic feast.

**V10:** As seekers of wisdom, may our spirits be open:

* to discern more wisely your call to us in the circumstances of our daily lives;
* to act justly and courageously in confronting the pain and suffering that desecrates the Earth and its peoples;
* to take risks in being creative and proactive on behalf of all who are marginalized;
* and to love all people with generosity of heart, beyond the labels of race, creed or colour.

 May we be aware and alert to the new things the Spirit makes possible, as our world unfolds

 amid pain and beauty, into the fullness of life to which all are called, participating in the wise

 and wonderful work of co-creation.

**P:** Through, with, and in Christ-Sophia, all honour and glory are yours Most Holy One; we are blessed with the gifts of this Eucharistic table.

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

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

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

Prayer of Jesus: *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

**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 sure you are on mute for all songs)*

**One Bread One Body** – John Foley, SJ, b.1939 © 1978, John B. Foley, SJ, and OCP Publications

Refrain:

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,

One cup of blessing which we bless.

And we though many, throughout the earth,

We are one body in this one Lord.

V1: Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man no more.

V2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the lord of all.

V3: Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.

Communion Antiphon:

**All: You are my beloved on whom my favour rests. Alleluia!**

Prayer after Communion: (excerpt from Jan Richardson’s “The Map You Make Yourself” p. 78)

**P:** … Speak this blessing as you set out and watch how your rhythm slows,

 the cadence of the road drawing you into the pace that is your own. …

 Pray for protection. Ask for guidance.

 Offer gladness for the gifts that come,

 And then let go.

 Do not expect to return by the same road.

 Home is always by another way, and you will know it not

 by the light that waits for you

 but by the star that blazes inside you,

 telling you where you are

 is holy and you are welcome here.

 May you know the blessing of the welcome light of Christ Jesus.

**ALL: Amen.**

**WE GO TO BE WITNESSES**

Announcements …

Blessing/ Dismissal

**P:** “Chalking the door” is a traditional way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God/de/de’s blessing of our lives and homes as we begin a new year.

A way of doing this is to use chalk to write above the home’s entrance: 20 + C + M + B + 22. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They abbreviate the Latin words ***C****hristus* ***m****ansionem* ***b****enedictat*, “May Christ bless the house.” They are also the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. The “+”represent the love of Christ, and 2022 is the year.

Blessing for Chalking the Door

Most Holy One, + bless this chalk with which we will mark our homes this day. We welcome your presence among us and ask your blessing on all who live or visit here. May we be your loving presence to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in wisdom and grace, and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace.

In the name of Christ Sophia may you be blessed and may the + Divine Face shine upon you and give you Peace.

**All: Amen**.

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

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

*You are welcome to stay as visit as you like.*

*You are invited to unmute yourself and give your greetings to all before you leave.*