Mary of Magdala Inclusive Catholic Community

Mary, Mother of God, World Day of Peace, New Year's Day

January 1, 2022, 10:00 a.m. CST

**WE GATHER AS COMMUNITY**

Welcome/Introductions

You are invited to enter your prayer intentions in the “Chat box” when you log on. We will include them in our Prayers of the People.

Acknowledgement of Territory:

Centering Chime

Gathering:

**P:** Dear Family of Faith, come: Be gathered in the heart of the Divine Holy One,

Creator of all that is: **+** Source of Life, Love Incarnate and Abiding Wisdom.

**All: Amen.**

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

**O Come, Christ-Sophia** Jann Aldredge Clanton

**1.** O come, Christ-Sophia, full of grace and wisdom;

Bless us, come challenge us to make life anew.

Come bring us power, beauty, hope, and harmony.

***R.*** *O come, thou Christ-Sophia, O come, thou Christ-Sophia,*

*O come, thou Christ-Sophia, wisdom and peace.*

**2.** We long for your coming, labor for your birthing;

You are our hope of peace, our power for change.

Come, Christ-Sophia, break down walls and free us.

***R.*** *O come, thou Christ-Sophia, O come, thou Christ-Sophia,*

*O come, thou Christ-Sophia, wisdom and peace.*

**3.** Rejoice all you people, sisters, brothers, join now;

Sing of a bright new day just dawning for all.

Sing now a new song, sing with jubilation.

***R.*** *O come, thou Christ-Sophia, O come, thou Christ-Sophia,*

*O come, thou Christ-Sophia, wisdom and peace.*

Prayer for Wholeness:

**P:** O Gracious God, who knows all our needs

and who cares for our world with such great love,

be with us in our yearning for your healing touch.

As we pray in honour of the Theotokos

and pray for peace in our lives, communities, and globe,

open our very being to your light, your support, and your help to aid us

in being the change we need to see in your holy creation.

**R. Amen.**

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

**Angels, From the Realms of Glory /** Gloria

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;

Ye who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth:

Glor - - - - ia, in excelsis Deo (x2)

2. Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,

God on earth is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.

Glor - - - - ia, in excelsis Deo (x2)

3. Sages leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;

seek the great desire of nations, ye have seen his natal star;

Glor - - - - ia, in excelsis Deo (x2)

**LITURGY OF THE WORD** *(Readings from the Comprehensive Catholic Lectionary)*

1st Reading: Numbers 6.22-27

**V1:** A Reading from the Book of Numbers.

God spoke to Moses and said, “Speak to Aaron, Elisheba and their children and say: ‘This is how you shall bless the Israelites. You shall say:

*May God bless you and keep you.*

*May she make her face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you.*

*May he lift his face unto you, and may God grant you peace all the days of your lives.\**

In this way, they will invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them.”

The Word of a Priestly Writer.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*\*An inclusive Priestly Blessing*

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

**Let The Heavens Rejoice** Based on Ps 98 TOM KENDZIA / NALR

***Let all the heavens rejoice and all the earth be glad.***

***Give glory to God in the highest for Jesus Christ is born.***

**1.** All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

A light has shone on us this day: Jesus Christ is born.

**2.** Let the sea and all that it holds resound to all the earth.

Let the rivers clap their hands, the mountains shout for joy!

**3.** All the ends of the earth, all the ends of the earth,

All the ends of the earth … have seen the saving power of our God.

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

**V2:** A Reading from Paul’s letter to the Galatians.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent from God’s own being, one born of a woman, born under the Law, in order to free those burdened under the law, so that ***all*** might be adopted by God as God’s own, including us.

Since we are God’s own, God sent the spirit of Jesus into our hearts, the spirit who calls out to God, as to an intimate and loving parent, “Ima, Abba, Mother, Father!”

So now, understand that you are no longer a slave, but God’s own. And if you belong to God, then you are also an heir.

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)*

**Hail, Hail to The Newborn King**

Hail, hail to the newborn king let our voices sing Him our praises.

Hail, hail to the guiding light that brought us tonight to our savior.

***R.*** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!**  *Hallé,* **halleluia!**

Come now where it shines so bright to the knowing light of the stable;

Feel close to the child so dear cast aside your fear and be thankful.

*R. Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!**  *Hallé,* **halleluia!**

So let us give of ourselves today to the light who lay in the stable.

We in search shall find Him still as we love and serve one another.

***R.*** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!**

***R.*** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!** *Hallé,* **halleluia!**

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

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

When the time came for purification according to the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to God. (It is written in the Law of God: “Every firstborn male shall be set apart and offered as holy to God.”) So, they offered the appropriate sacrifice for Jesus according to what is stated in the Law: “a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.”

Now, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. He was upright and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel. The Holy Spirit dwelt in him. It had been revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen God's Anointed. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the Temple. When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus into the Temple, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God, singing,

“Now let Your servant depart in peace,

for Your word has been fulfilled.

My eyes have seen Your bearer of justice,

made ready in the sight of all peoples:

a revelation to the Gentiles,

and glory to Your people.”

The child’s parents were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary, “This child is destined for the fall and the rise of many, destined to be a sign that will be opposed. The inner thoughts of many will be laid bare. And a sword will pierce your own heart too.”

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. After seven years of marriage, she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the Temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer, night and day. At the moment Simeon finished speaking, she joined those gathered and began to praise God. She spoke about the child to all who were anticipating freedom and peace.

When Mary and Joseph had finished everything required by the Law of God, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. The favor of God was upon him.

The Good News of Our God.

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

Homily/Shared Reflection:

What touches me in the readings today? How do I sense God being born through me? How do I work

with others to bring the Christ presence into the world? What difference does it make in me?

Profession of Faith: (Iona Creed)

**V3:** We believe that God is present  
in the darkness before dawn;  
in the waiting and uncertainty  
where fear and courage join hands,  
conflict and caring link arms,  
and the sun rises over barbed wire.

We believe in a with-us God  
who sits down in our midst  
to share our humanity.

We affirm a faith  
that takes us beyond a safe place:  
into action, into vulnerability  
and onto the streets.

We commit ourselves to work for change  
and put ourselves on the line;  
to bear responsibility, take risks,  
live powerfully  
and face humiliation;  
to stand with those on the edge;  
to choose life and be used by the Spirit  
for God’s new community of hope.

**All: Amen.**

Prayers of the People of God

**P:**  On this World Day of Prayer for Peace and the Solemnity of Mary, we humbly but earnestly bring our prayers:

**V4:**

1. For true inclusivity within the Church so that the gifts God has conferred on each person can be respected, welcomed, and invited into our midst, and that unjust practices be rejected, we pray:

**R: Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

1. For world leaders who are responsible for making choices between violence and acceptance; indifference and love; inequity and justice, so that we can grow into a world that can experience universal peace, we pray:

**R: God of love, hear our prayer.**

1. In solidarity with Pope Francis and others around the world, for dialogue between generations, education, and employment as tools for lasting peace, we pray:

**R. God of peace, hear our prayer.**

1. Mary, Mother of God, for your intercession in the struggle for the dignity, the rights, the safety, and the courage of all women, children, and other marginalized persons – each created in God’s image -- who have been denied their rightful places in cultural and political institutions, we pray:

**R. God of justice, hear our prayer.**

1. For the protection of Mother Earth, who nurtures and sustains us all, that we live in harmony with all her creatures and all who call her dwelling place home, we pray:

**R. God of creation, hear our prayer.**

1. As we continue in this time of global pandemic, for the sick, the dying, those that are grieving, and all who suffer from injustices against God’s love, that they find in Mary a companion as she reveals the mercy and compassion of her Cosmic Son, the Christ, alive in and through all of us, we pray:

**R. God of mercy, hear our prayer.**

**P:** We pray, too, for all the intentions written in the Chat and those we hold in the silence of our hearts. (Pause)

With grateful hearts and faith in the knowledge of your goodness, we offer our prayers to you, God of overflowing goodness. You know our needs even before we ask. In your compassion and love, hear our prayers and answer them in Jesus’ name.

**R. 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 – Feminine Face of God, D. O’Murchu (adapted)

**P:** We recall and celebrate the manifold love and wisdom of God revealed to us through the ages. In the evolving story of our universe we see:

**V5:** The God/de who gives birth to every living organism, from the vast galaxies to the tiny specks of dust;

**V6:** The God/de who our ancient ancestors perceived to be the Great Mother of expansive fertility;

**V7**: The God/de of the Jewish people, imagined as the Wisdom Woman, endowing our world with wisdom and light.

**P:** For all that has been birthed in our world, through the power of feminine creativity, we unite with all rejoicing hearts, to sing:

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.

**V8:** In the beginning was the seed, sown in silence of eternal becoming, containing within itself the possibility for new life, sprouting forth to fill the empty fertile places of our world, and of our hearts.

**V9:** In God/de’s own time the Virgin Woman ripens into a fullness that births forth God’s own fullness in the person of Jesus, and in the liberating power of the creative Spirit.

*(All Extend hands over gifts)*

**P:** We invoke that same Spirit upon our gifts of bread and wine – to liberate anew the life-giving possibilities they hold, that they may become for us food that nourishes and sustains us as we are birthed again and again along our pilgrim journey.

As a mother gathers her family for supper, Jesus called the first disciples to gather around the table of nurturing love. As it was for them so it is for us; in gratitude to the Source of all good gifts, the bread is broken and offered to each and to all with these words:

**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 of forgiveness and reconciliation poured out for life, the life of the world. When you share this meal, remember me.** *(Bow)*

Anamnesis: *(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:** The sacred gifts of this table: bread broken and wine poured out, hold for us cherished memories of the One who has birthed so much life into our universe and continues to do so through the women and men, children and youth of our world today.

**V11:** In the Sacred Spirit, we pray for receptive hearts that these gifts may satisfy our inner hunger, and send us forth with greater resolve to feed the hungering peoples of our world today.

**V12:** Following in the footsteps of all who bring forth new life, may we have the wisdom and courage to birth anew in our world:

* A love that heals the hurts that alienate;
* A justice that demolishes the barriers that divide;
* A hope that outgrows hopelessness and despair;
* A joy that uplifts all troubled hearts;
* And a feminine energy that re-awakens our creative vitality.

**V13:** May we know in our hearts the faith that sustains,

the hope that endures, and the love that overcomes all things,

reassured as we are in the eternal embrace of our loving and nurturing Creator:

**P**: For it is through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ that all things are possible,

filling our own hearts and our world with new life now and forever.

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

**Carol At The Manger** JOYOUS LIGHT, 8 7 8 7 D; Marty Haugen / GIA

Holy child within the manger, long ago yet ever near;

Come as friend to ev’ry stranger, come as hope for ev’ry fear.

As you lived to heal the broken, greet the out - cast, free the bound,

As you taught us love unspoken, teach us now where you are found.

Once again we tell the story how your love for us was shown.

When the Image of your glory wore and image like our own.

Come enlighten with your wisdom, come and fill us with your grace.

May the fire of your compassion kindle every land and race.

Holy child within the manger, lead us ever in your way.

So we see in ev’ry stranger how you come to us today.

In our lives and in our living give us strength to live as you.

That our hearts might be forgiving and our spirits strong and true.

Prayer after Communion

**P:**  Having recalled Jesus’ final meal with his friends, may the memory of it awaken in us a great desire to serve one another in humble and loving ways. May it call proud hearts to gentleness and awaken the child in those who seek to hold power over others. As Mary birthed and journeyed with her son in his ministry, keep us always mindful that we have been nourished with the bread of life to work for peace in the world. May this gift bind us together in the heart of everlasting love this day and always, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

**We go to be Witnesses**

Announcements …

Blessing/ Dismissal

**A Blessing Prayer for the New Year**

P: On the day when the weight deadens on your shoulders and you stumble,

May the clay dance to balance you.

And when your eyes freeze behind the gray window

And the ghost of loss gets into you,

May a flock of colors: indigo, red, green and azure blue

Come to awaken in you a meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays in the curragh of thought

And a stain of ocean blackens beneath you,

May there come across the waters a path of yellow moonlight

To bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours,

May the clarity of light be yours,

May the fluency of the ocean be yours,   
May the protection of the ancestors be yours.

And so may a slow wind work these words of love around you,

An invisible cloak to mind your life.

*John O’Donohue,* ***To Bless the Space Between Us***

Thus may Christ Sophia bless you,

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!**

**Closing Song** *(Please be on mute for all songs)*

**Mary’s Boy Child** Jester Hairston

*Mary’s Boy Child, Jesus Christ, was born on Christmas day*

*And we will live forevermore because of Christmas Day.*

Long time ago in Bethlehem so the Holy Bible say

Mary’s Boy Child, Jesus Christ, was born on Christmas Day.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night they saw a bright, new, shining star,

And heard a choir from heaven sing; the music came from afar.

## *Hark now, hear the angels sing; new king’s born today,*

## *And we will live forevermore because of Christmas Day.*

Now Joseph and his wife, Mary, came to Bethlehem that night.

They found no place to bear her child; not a single room was in sight.

By and by they found a little nook in a stable all forlorn,

And in a manger cold and dark Mary’s little boy child was born.

*Trumpets sound and angels sing; listen to what they say;*

*That we will live forevermore because of Christmas Day.*

*Trumpets sound and angels sing; listen to what they say;*

*That we will live forevermore … because of Christmas Day.*

*That we will live forevermore … because of Christmas Day.*

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*You are invited to bring a cup of cheer and stay a while to celebrate the New Year!*

