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RC Gorman, "Gracias"

Worship Aid
4PM LITURGY
December 17, 2023
Third Sunday in Advent

Welcome and Announcements

GONG

Good evening. Welcome to Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, California, on the land that the Kumeyaay people have tended for generations. My name is..., one of your lectors this evening. Nancy Corran is our homilist and online presider. Jane Via is our in-person presider. We are a hybrid community, gathering in person and online. Know that wherever you are and whoever you are, you are welcome here, just as you are. It is good to be together as we journey through Advent.

For those online, you can find the worship aid at mmacc.org. You may wish to have some wine and bread nearby, or something similar, for communion. After our liturgy concludes, we invite you to join in breakout rooms for some social time.

We'd also like to welcome any visitors with us today. For those on Zoom, please feel free to introduce yourselves on chat. For those visitors in person, if you feel comfortable, please stand and introduce yourselves and tell us where you are from.

If in-person visitors are present, please read the following paragraph:

Our communal spoken responses are in the Assembly Worship Aid. The songs are on the white song sheet inserted in the Worship Aid.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Christmas Eve Liturgy will be on Sunday, December 24th at 8pm. There will be no 4pm liturgy! You may arrive at 7:45pm for Carol singing. Please bring some finger foods to share after the service which we will enjoy together in the garden room. See Mary Kay to help with set up and clean up.
- MMACC has sponsored a 10-person table for the 2024 All People's Celebration on MLK Day, Monday, Jan 15. This inspiring annual event happens at 9AM in Balboa Park. We have a handful of seats available. Tickets cost \$24 if you are able to contribute, but payment is not required. Please email Jen Bonakdar if you are interested in attending. For those on Zoom, her email address will be in the chat.
- Please see our bulletin for other community news and announcements.
- Donations to MMACC are appreciated. In-person donations can be placed in the basket on the welcome table.
- Now, I invite you to take a prayerful breath as we begin our Advent liturgy.

GONG

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Advent Candle Lighting

Instrumental Music (*"O Come, O Come, Immanuel..."*)

Opening Song – "Rise Up, Jerusalem"

Schoenbachler

Rise up, rise up, rise up, rise up, beloved ones!
Sing out, ring out, sing out, sing out, beloved ones!
Rejoice, the day is near!

A voice in the desert cries "Prepare the way."
 A voice in the desert cries "Today's the day."
 Everyone get ready for our God is on the way.
 Emanuel shall come, the long awaited One.
 Emanuel, come to us. **[R]**

Sing, all you people, for the day is near.
 Sing, all you people, wash away your fear.
 Everyone get ready liberation is near.
 Emanuel shall come, the long awaited One.
 Emanuel, come to us. **[R]**

Rejoice, all you people, and start anew.
 Rejoice, all you people, God comes to you.
 Everyone get ready for our God will guide the way.
 Emanuel shall come, the long awaited One.
 Emanuel, come to us. **[R]**

Opening Rite

We begin our liturgy with the sign of our faith:
+ In the name of God...
.... Amen.

May the grace of Jesus the Christ, the love of God,
 and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you.
And also with you.

Kyrie - Knowing God's Loving-Kindness

Cosmic Creator, when we do not nurture the seeds of life You plant within our souls...

[R] Give us patience to wait for You, to watch and witness Your unfolding Creation within us.

Jesus the Christ, when we forget our dependence upon You and interdependence with creation...

[R] Help us to live in conscious interdependence.

Sophia Spirit, when we choose denial and refuse to grasp the impact of our lifestyles on our planet, its peoples, and all life...

[R] Make us mindful of all creation. Give us courage to make wise choices.

May this Advent season open our hearts to wait, watch, and witness as we anticipate new depths of wonder. **Amen.**

Opening Prayers

Presider: ...Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3b, 10-11

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The Spirit of the Exalted One is upon me, because God has anointed me
to proclaim good news to those who are poor.

God has sent me to mend broken-hearts
to proclaim freedom for captives
and release for prisoners;

to proclaim the year of God's favor,
and the day of God's vindication.

The Spirit of God has anointed me
 to comfort all who mourn,
 and provide for those who grieve in the Holy Land;
 to bestow upon them a crown of beauty
 instead of ashes,
 the oil of joy
 instead of mourning,
 a cloak of praise
 instead of despair.

I will delight greatly in God;
 God is the joy of my soul.
 For God has clothed me in garments of peace,
 and wrapped me in a mantle of justice
 as a bridegroom adorned with a diadem,
 and as a bride bedecked with jewels.
 As the soil helps the sprout come up,
 and a garden nurtures seeds to grow,
 so will God make justice and praise
 spring up before all peoples of Earth.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

1 Samuel 2:1-2a, 4-5ab + 6, 7-8ab, 9 "Hannah's Song"

The Psalm response* is sung:

***Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum
 Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea.***

She rejoiced, singing...

My heart exults in You, O God!

And I have been exalted in You.

Those who deride my lowliness are silenced.

I rejoice and am blessed in Your liberating work!

There is no one holy like You, O God.

***Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum
 Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea.***

The bows of the mighty are broken,
 while the tottering put on strength.
 The well-fed hire themselves out for bread,
 while the hungry feast on spoil.
 God puts to death and God gives life,
 casts down and raises up again."

***Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum
 Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea.***

God makes poor and makes rich,
 humbles and exalts.
 God raises the needy from the dust,
 lifting the poor from the ash heap,
 seating them with nobles
 and making a glorious throne their heritage.
 God guards the steps of the faithful,
 but the mighty shall perish.
 For not by strength does one prevail.

***Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea Dominum
 Magnificat, Magnificat, Magnificat anima mea.***

** Taizé Chant, "Magnificat Anima Mea Dominum"*

Second Reading

1 Thess 5:16-20

A Reading from Paul's 1st Letter to the Thessalonians

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the desire of God's heart for you in Jesus the Christ. Do not quench the spirit nor despise prophetic utterances. Test everything. Retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Mass of Remembrance, Haugen

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia; Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel**Luke 1:26-38**

God is with you.

And also with you.A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Luke. ***Glory to you, O God.***

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a young maiden betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the House of David. The maiden's name was Mary. The heavenly messenger came to her and said, "Hail, favored one! God is with you." Mary was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this sort of greeting might mean. The messenger said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a child, whom you will name, 'Jesus'."

Mary asked the angel, "How can this be, since I do not yet know a man?" The messenger said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Holy One will cover you with its shadow, and so the child will be holy, and be called One Born of God." And I tell you this too; your cousin Elizabeth, in her old age, has conceived. She, whom people called barren, is now in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible for God."

Then Mary said, "Here I am, a servant of God. It shall be with me according to your Word." Then the messenger departed from her.

The Gospel of God.

Praise be to you, Jesus the Christ.**Homily – Suzie****Prayers of the Faithful 12-17-2023***Third Sunday in Advent, "Gaudete!"*

NOTE: Today and each Sunday of Advent our PoF begin with the "O antiphons," that were first used in the 8th century as part of vespers or evening prayer in the week before Christmas. We have the third pair of O antiphons today, and the final one will be at the Christmas Eve Liturgy.

"Gaudete! Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God." With confidence in these messages of hope and encouragement, let us ask Holy Mystery for all that we and all creation need.

Our response: The Spirit of God has anointed us.

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

O Morning Star, splendor of Light eternal, and blazing Sun of righteousness, come and enlighten with hope all those who live in hopelessness and despair ... we pray ...

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

O Sovereign of all nations, the cornerstone making us all one, come and lift up the human race, which You fashioned from the elements of the Earth ... we pray ...

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

That we might proclaim good news to those who are poor, mend broken hearts, and proclaim freedom for those who are held captive in any way ... we pray ...

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

That with Hannah of old and with Mary of Nazareth, let us rejoice and give thanks for being blessed in God's liberating work ... we pray ...

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

The Earth contains the dust of countless generations of our ancestors, as well as the blood of Jesus and of our contemporaries killed in war. May this God-beloved Earth become for them and for us the garden of resurrection and new life ... we pray ...

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

For those who try to quench the spirit and who despise prophetic utterances ... we pray as Jesus said we should ...

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

[Invite the in-person community to sit, if they are standing.]

Now it is time to bring to God the personal prayers and intentions of our Spirit-anointed community of Alleluia and sorrow. We remember the universal needs of all living beings, surrounded by war, injustice, and violence, as well as by all-embracing Beauty and Love.

All who wish to share a prayer here in person, please come forward to the microphone. All who wish to share a prayer online, please raise your physical or digital hand and you will be called on in turn, or type your prayer in the chat and these will be read aloud.

We ask that your prayers be brief petitions, and in consideration of our diversity of perspectives, remembering the universal needs of all people.

[After each petition:]

All: *The Spirit of God has anointed us.*

[After all petitions have been spoken:]

We also lift up ***all*** those living with illness, injury, loss, and suffering, those who have gone home to the Holy One, and all the prayers here today that have remained unspoken, deep in the silence of our hearts...

(Short pause)

For these intentions and for all the prayers remaining in the chat and in our community prayer book ... we pray ...

All: The Spirit of God has anointed us.

Closing Presider's Prayer:

... Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song – “People Look East”

Farjeon

People, look east. The time is near. Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim. One more light the bowl shall brim.
Shining beyond the frosty weather. Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce on this great feast: One who cometh from the East.
Set every peak and valley humming. With the word, the Christ is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Christ, is on the way.

Our Eucharist

Preparation of the Bread and Wine

Blessed are you, 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.

[R] *Blessed be God forever.*

Blessed are you, 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.

[R] *Blessed be God forever.*

Pray that our offering furthers universal peace.

[R] *We long for holy peace. Embolden us to be peacemakers.*

Prayer with our Gifts

Presider:

... Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

God dwells in you. ***And also in You.***

Come to the table with thankful hearts.

We open our hearts to God and to one another.

Presider

Silent Mystery, we give You thanks for fertile darkness, for holy nights, for the longing and the love that created the Cosmos. Give us courage and endurance as we journey through the seasons of life.

Voice 1

Let Your vision for the cosmos be ours. Reveal anew Your love in all creation. Dwell within us that we might live the desire of Your heart for the world. In trust and hope, we enter Sacred Mystery, as we sing our song of unending praise:

Sanctus [Sung]

Mass of Remembrance, Haugen

Holy, Holy, Holy God, God of Spirit of Life.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are all who come in Your name, Holy God.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest!

Voice 2

There is one crying in the wilderness who brings good news of Your long-expected Messiah, who will guide us on a path of universal peace. We know You are the Source, strength and comfort for all people. We turn to You in hope, longing for the joy that comes from You alone.

Voice 3

We acknowledge Your birth in a human child, born of a woman named Miriam, in a town called Bethlehem. We know this birth is a sign to us and to all the world of Your divine presence in all people and all creation.

Voice 4

In the life of Jesus, You were present in a unique way. Through him, You scattered the proud, cast down the mighty, lifted the lowly and fed the hungry with good things.

Voice 5

Through Jesus You fed his disciples. Through him You feed Your disciples gathered here tonight.

[Please extend your hand, palm up, toward the bread and wine.]

Presider

And so, Silent Mystery, we await Your Long-Expected One, the One we praise as the Cosmic Christ, You coming into our world. We recognize Your Spirit alive and at work in this bread and wine, and in us. We open ourselves to Your Spirit who sanctifies and transforms these gifts to become You in us, the body and blood of Christ, as we now fulfill Your command of love. We remember that...

All: *...on the night before Jesus died, while at supper with his friends, he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to them saying: "Take this, all of you and eat. This is my body. Do this in memory of me."*

[Pause]

In the same way, Jesus took the cup filled with wine. He said the blessing, gave the cup to his friends, and said, "Take this all of you and drink. This is my life-blood, the cup of Love. Do this in memory of me."

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: *[Sung]*

Foley

Patience, people till our God is come.

Patience, people for our God is coming.

Voice 6

Sophia Spirit, we anticipate again the birth of Jesus, Your Messiah. We know You loved him. We know You love us. We know he loved us, even to his death. His life and his death teach us to pour out our lives for others and for Your creation.

Voice 7

Remember all leaders, religious and secular. Remember us gathered here. Remember all people who seek You. Remember all who have died into Your cosmic embrace whose faith is known to You alone.

Presider

Silent Mystery, gather us to share in Your one, everlasting banquet with Mary, Jesus, and all Your holy people throughout time, through whom Your goodness flows. In Your presence, we shall join the cosmic chorus and sing Your glory.

*Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
In the unity of Sophia Spirit,
One God of all that is, may glory and honor be yours.*

The Great Amen

"O Come, O Comme Immanuel", vs. 2

*O Come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily,
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in Her ways to go.
Rejoice, rejoice, Immanuel shall come to You, Belov-ed of God.*

The Prayer that Jesus Taught Us...

Bethel, lyrics adapted

The prayer often called the "Our Father" has been translated and rendered in many ways over the last 2,000 years. We invite you join us in this contemporary sung version.

*Be-lov-ed, Cre-a-tor,
Holy be Your Name.
Your kin-dom, come through us
Your heart's de-sire be done
On Earth and through-out the Cosmos (Your cosmic glory)
We are Your hands, Your heaven is in our hands.

Pro-vide bread, for each day,
to share with all on Earth.
Forgive us, as we do
forgive those who hurt us.
And lead us in Your good pathways (your ways are good)
And keep us from evil, protect us, we'll pro-tect Yours.*

***Ours is the kin-dom, Love is the Power, Yours is the glory, forever amen.
Ours is the kin-dom, Love is the Power, Yours is the glory, forever amen.
Let heaven come...***

Sign of Peace

May the peace of God be always with you. **[R] *And also with you.***
Let us offer one another, and the whole world, a sign of peace.

Lamb of God

Mozart

Do-na nobis pacem, pacem, Do-na no-bis pa-cem. (3x)

Presider

We are filled with Holy Longing.
We await Your coming in Holy Silence.

[R] We anticipate the wonder of Cosmic renewal.

*These are the gifts of God for the people of God. At Mary Magdalene, we believe that this is God's table, not ours; all are truly welcome and invited to receive the gluten free eucharistic bread, and consecrated red wine or white grape juice. Whether you are with us in person or online, we are gathered around Christ's table. May all who share this communion be united in the Body of Christ that knows no bounds. **Amen!***

Communion Song – “Sing of Peace, Holy Peace”

Lyrics Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Music, Franz Gruber (“Silent Night”)

Sing of peace, holy peace, sing of all, gifts released.
As we work for peace on earth, new cre-a-tion come to birth,
Christ Sophia, be born; Christ Sophia, be born.

Sing of peace, holy peace, When will all violence cease?
Through our justice work each day, Wisdom comes to show the way.
Christ Sophia be Born; Christ Sophia be born.

Sing of peace, holy peace. Hope and joy, now increase.
Through our works of love each day, Holy Wisdom comes to stay.
Christ Sophia be born; Christ Sophia be born.

Prayer After Communion

Presider:

...Amen.

Closing Blessing

Presider:

Let the church say... Amen.

Sending Forth

This mass is ended. Advent continues.

Thanks be to God!

Closing Song – “Canticle of the Turning”

Rory Cooney

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great.
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

***My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!***

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. **(R)**

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. **(R)**

We are grateful that you have joined us for worship today.

At Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community, we have embraced the dream of a transformed Roman Catholic Church. We seek to support a full-time paid pastor or equivalent and a variety of social justice activities, giving a percentage of our Sunday offering back to the community.

To support our community, please visit <http://www.mmacc.org/donate>

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