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Joshua Tree in Autumn, photo by Julianna Barnaby

"...I make a way in the desert..." Is. 43:19

Ordinary Time II - Fall
October 5, 2025
Feast of St Francis & Blessing of the Animals

Welcome and Announcements

GONG

Good Evening. Welcome to Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, California, on the unceded territory of the Kumeyaay people, with whom we now are neighbors. The CLC is looking into ways we can be better neighbors to the indigenous populations not only in word but also in deed.

My name is..., one of your lectors this evening. Suzie is our in-person presider and preacher. We welcome RCWP Vieda Baker as co-presider. Vieda has preached for us twice before, and Vieda, we are so pleased to have you join us in person! We also welcome our online participants. We will not have an on-line presider this evening because of the technical limitations of holding Mass outside.

Today we gather in person and online as we journey through Ordinary Time. Know that wherever you are and whoever you are, you are welcome here, just as you are. We are glad you are joining us.

For those of you joining us online, you can find the worship aid at mmacc.org. After our liturgy concludes, we invite you to stay online 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, we invite you to stand and introduce yourselves and tell us where you are from.

[Pause for introductions] 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

- Yesterday we enjoyed the first of two presentations by Oliva Espín on the Popes, from Leo XIII to XIV. This Saturday, October 11, from 10am-12noon, we will enjoy Part 2 of Oliva's presentation. The event will be hybrid, in-person here at GLC as well as on Zoom. To attend in-person, just show up. To attend on line, the zoom link will be available on the web-site and via email.
- Dave Glassner is gathering a group from MMACC to tour Homeboy Industries in LA this Tuesday, October 7. Father Greg Boyle founded Homeboy Industries, a gang rehabilitation center. Detailed information has been sent via email and is in the bulletin. See Dave with any questions.
- The NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner will take place in the evening on Saturday, October 11. The reception begins at 5:30pm, the dinner program begins at 6:30pm. To purchase seats online, please go to naacpsandiego.org. If you intend to go, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Barbara, by email or phone.
- Elections for the Community Leadership Council (CLC) are coming up in November. The CLC serves as the Board of MMACC. Please consider whom you might nominate, including yourself.
- Save the Date! MMACC's 20th Anniversary Celebration will take place on Sunday, November 30. Mass will be at 1pm, followed by a reception.
- Please see our bulletin for other community news and events.
- Donations to MMACC may be placed in the basket outside the chapel doors. Online donations may be made through our website under the "donate" tab.

GONG

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Blessing of the Animals

Suzie: As we gather, we are mindful that, as part of God's creation, we wish the best for one another, and for all that God called good. Within our faith community we express this through prayer and blessing. For those of you online, we invite you to hold your pets in hand or heart, or photos of your pets during the blessing.

Vieda: *Blessed are you, O God, maker of all living creatures.
You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land.
You inspired Saint Francis to call all of them his siblings.
We ask you to bless our beloved pets.
By the power of your love, may their lives be free from suffering,
full of love and happiness within our homes and families.
May we always praise you for the beauty of creation.
Blessed are you, our God, in all your creatures! **Amen.***

Suzie: Let us take a moment now to remember our animal companions who are no longer with us physically. **(brief pause)**

Vieda: *We give thanks for the lives of animal companions no longer with us
and commit them into your loving hands,
O God, create within us a spirit of gratitude
for the lives of our beloved companions
who have lived among us and given us unconditional love.
We give thanks for the gifts they gave us and the variety of ways
they enriched and blessed our lives. **Amen.***

Suzie: Now, let us rise as able, celebrating the beauty of creation in song...

Opening Song – “Canticle of the Turning”

Haugen

***The heavens are telling the glory of God, and all creation is shouting for joy.
Come, dance in the forest, come play in the field, and sing,
sing to the glory of our God.***

Praise for the sun, the bringer of day, it carries the light of our God in its rays;
the moon and the stars that lighten the way unto our path. **(R)**

Praise for the wind that blows through the trees, the seas' mighty storms, the gentlest breeze;
they blow where they will, they blow where they please to praise our God. **(R)**

Praise for the rain that waters our fields, and blesses our crops so all the earth yields; From death unto life its myst'ry revealed springs forth in joy. **(R)**

Praise for the fire it gives us its light, the warmth of the sun to brighten our night; It dances with joy, its spirit so bright, it sings of you. **(R)**

Opening Rite

We gather and we begin...

+ In the name of Holy Mystery, Jesus, God-with-Us, and Sophia Spirit, we pray.... **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 ~ "Call to Consciousness"

Presider: *As we begin, we call to mind times we forgot that Creation is not separate from us; times we forget that we are one with Creation.*

Holy Mystery, we fail You when we cling to past concepts of You and are afraid to enlarge our consciousness.

ALL: Holy Mystery, Stretch our minds.

Jesus the Christ, we fail to follow you when we do not care for and respect creation.

ALL: Jesus the Christ, Help us stretch out our hands.

Sacred Spirit, we shut You out when we resist change and fail to respond to the needs of our time.

ALL: Sacred Spirit, stretch our hearts to the dimensions of God.

ALL: Help us find You within, follow Jesus, and embrace Holy Wisdom, Amen.

Opening Prayer

Presider: *Cosmic Creator, you laughed and brought the universe into being. You smiled and breathed life into humanity. Remind us to walk gently upon the Earth, in right relationship with you and nurtured by your love. Help us to love all creatures as kin. Keep us open to your Spirit, taking only what we need, making choices that bring wellbeing to all and honoring all creation with reverence and love. Together we pray...Amen.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Amos 8:1-2, 11-12

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos

The Holy One, God, showed me a plumb line, a cord with a weight on the end to confirm verticality with right angles. God was standing, plumb line in hand, by a wall built with a plumb line. God asked me, "What do you see, Amos?" And I answered, "A plumb line." Then God said: "See, I am dropping the plumb line in the midst of my people; and they are not upright. I will forgive them no longer. The high places of Isaac and Rebekah shall be laid waste, and the sanctuaries of the northern kingdom made desolate. I will attack the house of Jeroboam, their ruler, with the sword.

Next God showed me a basket of ripe summer fruit, saying, "Amos, what do you see?" I said, "A basket of ripe summer fruit." Then God said to me, "Ripe, are my people, for their own harvest. I will forgive them no longer."

God continued. "The days are coming when I will send a famine through the land: not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water; but a famine for hearing the voice of God. People will wander from sea to sea. They will run to and fro, searching for the word of God. In that day of famine, they will not find it."

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Ps 146:5-10

The psalm response is sung:

Your word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

R: Thy word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

Your word, Holy One, is a lamp for our feet,
a light for our path.

To You, we make a solemn vow
to observe Your just judgments.

R: Thy word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

O God we are very much afflicted.
Give us life in accord with Your word.
Accept our freely offered praise.
Teach us, O God, Your vision of justice.

R: Thy word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

Our lives are always at risk,
but we do not forget Your law.
The wicked set snares for us,
but from Your precepts we do not stray.

R: Thy word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

Your testimonies are our heritage forever.
 They constitute the joy of our hearts.
 Our hearts are set on fulfilling
 the desire of Your heart for the world,
 which is our reward forever.

R: Thy word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

Second Reading

2 Tim 1:1-9a, 14

A Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy 1:1-9a, 14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's choosing, to Timothy, my beloved child in faith: grace, mercy, and peace from the God of all and Jesus the Christ.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, a faith that now lives in you. For this reason, I remind you to keep aflame the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands. Remember, God gave us not a spirit of cowardice, but a spirit of action, love, and self-discipline.

And you, also, are called. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you. The Holy Spirit, who lives within us, will help you.

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

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

"Halle, Halle" John L. Bell



Gospel

Lk 13:18-21; 17:5-6, 20-25

God is with you. ***And also with you.***

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

A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Luke

Jesus said to the crowd, "What is the kin-dom of God like? To what can I compare it? It's like a mustard seed planted in a garden which grew into a large bush, and the birds of the sky dwelt in its branches."

Then he said, "To what else shall I compare the kin-dom of God? It's like yeast that a woman mixed in three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch of dough was leavened."

Later, when the apostles asked Jesus to increase their faith, Jesus said: "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to [this] mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

As Jesus continued on the journey to Jerusalem, the Pharisees questioned him about when the reign of God would come. He answered, "The reign of God is not something that can be observed. Nor will people be able to say, 'Look, it's here!' or, 'There it is!' God's reign, God's kin-dom, is already within you."

Then he said to his disciples, "The time will come when you will long to see a day of the Chosen One again; but you will not see it. People will say to you, 'Look over there!' or 'Look here!' But don't go running off after them. For the Chosen One will be like lightning, which flashes and lights up the whole sky from one end to the other. But first it's necessary that the Chosen One suffer many things and be rejected by this generation."

The Gospel of God.

Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Homily

Suzie Knapp

Litany of Saints

Becker, lyrics adapted

Sung Refrain: All you holy beings, pray for us...

Prayer concluding the Litany of Saints

God of Compassionate Love, hear the prayers we have sung to you and the prayers of our hearts. We offer them in trust and confidence. May we accept the challenge to put our faith into action despite any discomfort or fear. And may Saint Francis inspire us to reach out in kindness and respect to every person and creature we encounter, we pray...Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song – “I Have Loved You”

Joncas

*I have loved you with an everlasting love,
I have called you and you are mine;
I have loved you with an everlasting love,
I have called you and you are mine.*

Seek the face of our God and long for life
God will bring you such light and such peace. **(R)**

Seek the face of our God and long for life
God will bring you such joy and such hope. **(R)**

Seek the face of our God and long for life
God will bring you such care and such love. **(R)**

Our Eucharist

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. ***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. ***Blessed be God forever.***

Beloved, may these gifts embolden us to receive You more fully.
The gifts are ready. All are welcome at this table.

Prayer with our Gifts

Presider: *God of Life, we come to share our food and our lives. We come to break bread together and open ourselves to one another. We come to express our faith and give thanks. As we share this simple meal, we give you thanks for your abundant creation and remember those who do not have enough. Through the example of St Francis, may our hunger for justice increase, as well as our commitment to serve those in need, we pray...Amen.*

Eucharistic Prayer

God dwells in you. ***And also in you.***
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them up to God.***
Come to the table and give thanks. ***We give God thanks and praise.***

Presider

Cosmic Creator, You choreograph the spinning stars, the orbits of planets, the wildly flung asteroids. You paint with colors yet unseen. You open our ears to the music of the spheres, our minds to the science of mystery and the mystery of science. Your holy writ is everywhere. You are unceasingly at work, bringing order from chaos, filling emptiness with life.

Voice 1

You made Yourself known in Your servant, Jesus. Through healing and teaching, he modeled love in a ministry of prophetic compassion. He calls us to live and love on the margins, to align ourselves with those who are oppressed, outcast, and isolated.

Voice 2

Empowered by Your Spirit, we too can create new possibilities of healing, connection, and freedom. We are grateful for Your assurance of love in the face of hate, justice in the face of injustice. With trust and thanksgiving, we join with the angels and saints, and all peoples around the world, as we sing our song of praise:

Sanctus [Sung]

Adina Meyer, RCWP

Ho - ly, ho - - ly! The u - ni-verse shines with your glo -

ry! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - - na, ho - san - na to our God! —

— Bles - sed are all who come in the name of our God most

high! Ho - san - na, ho - san - na to our God of Love!

Voice 3: God calls us as we are, from wherever we are, to feast on the dreams of God, to be in solidarity with the Christ, to turn from the lure of money, power, greed, and control. God calls us to love unceasingly.

(Please extend your hand, palm up, toward the bread and wine.)

Presider: We recognize Your Spirit manifest in these gifts, O God. May this bread and wine become in us the body and blood of Jesus, inspiring us anew to pursue a just world in which everyone can flourish. We remember that...

On the night before Jesus died, he took bread and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread and shared it with his disciples saying, "Take and eat; this is my body. Do this in memory of me."

(Pause)

After the meal, Jesus took the cup, gave You thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying, "Take and drink. This is the cup of my life-blood, the cup of love. Do this in memory of me."

Presider: Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Adina Meyer, RCWP



Voice 4: For the good of our shared lives and all that is yet to come, transform us that we might protect our planet Earth and dedicate ourselves to its rejuvenation.

Voice 5: We remember all who have died and gone before us into the fullness of cosmic life with You. Sustain us in the power of sacred memory. Comfort all who suffer. Help all peoples to establish peace in every land.

Presider: We trust in the vision of Your one unending banquet, when people of all ways of life, of all time, gather to share in Your Feast of Love. Then, in the grandeur of the Cosmos, we will give you glory with Jesus, through whom your goodness flows. For it is...

[Recited]

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of Sophia Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, now and always.

The Great Amen

Adina Meyer, RCWP



The Prayer of Jesus [Sung]*Wilhelmy*

The prayer often called the "Our Father" has been translated and rendered in many ways over the last 2,000 years. Please feel free to pray using the words and language most comfortable to you. We offer this contemporary sung version.

***Loving God, in whom is heaven;
May your name be honored everywhere.
May your kin-dom come,
the desire of Your Heart for the world be done
in us, by us, and through us.
Give us the bread we need for each day;
Forgive us, enable us to forgive others.
Keep us from all anxiety and fear
For you reign in the pow'r that comes from love, which is your glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.***

Sign of Peace

May you always know the peace of God within you.

[R] *And within you.*

Let us offer one another – and the whole world - a sign of peace.

Lamb of God [Sung]*Holy Cross Mass*

***Jesus Christ, You call us to the Gospel of peace, O Jesus the Christ.
Bread of Life, You call us to the Gospel of love, O Bread of Life.
Emmanuel, You call us to the Gospel of hope, grant us peace.***

This is the Bread of Resurrection, the Wine of New Life.

Blessed are we to share in the Mystery of Life.

This is the table of Jesus, who made no restrictions. Neither do we. All are truly welcome to receive the gluten-free Eucharistic bread and the consecrated red wine or white grape juice. May ***all*** who share in this communion be united in the Body of Christ that knows no bounds. Come! God's table is ready!

Communion Song – "In the Breaking of the Bread"*Hurd*

***In the breaking of the bread,
We have known You; we have been fed.
Jesus the stranger, Jesus the Christ
Be our companion; be our hope.***

Bread for the journey, strength for our years,
Manna of ages of struggle and tears.
Cup of remembrance, fruit of the land,
Bless and receive now, the work of our hands. **(R)**

Bread of the promise, people of hope,
Wine of compassion, life for the world.
Gathered at table, joined as one body.
Sealed in the Spirit, sent by the Word. **(R)**

Prayer After Communion

Presider: *God of Hope, in bread and wine you have nurtured us in faith and brought us together. Open our hearts to Your presence in all creation. Guide our attempts to put our faith into action; reaching out even in the midst of fear, recognizing the face of Christ where we often least expect. In Jesus' name we pray...Amen.*

Closing Blessing

Presider:

*Like Francis, may we honor and protect the gift and interconnectedness of all creation,
let the church say...*

*Like Francis, may we be a prophetic voice for justice and peace in our world,
let the church say...*

*And in the words of our Psalm, May **God's word** be a lamp unto our feet...
let the church say...*

Sending Forth

Our Mass is ended. Our service continues.

Thanks be to God!

Closing Song – “Rain Down”

Cortez

***Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people.
Rain down, rain down, rain down your love God of life.***

Faithful and true is the word of our God. All of God's works are so worthy of trust.
God's mercy falls on the just and the right; Full of God's love is the earth. **(R)**

God of creation, we long for your truth; You are the water of life that we thirst.
Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts, all of our hope lies in you. **(R)**

We are grateful to have shared in worship together today.

At Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community, we have embraced the dream of a transformed Roman Catholic Church. Our three part-time women priests, together, receive the equivalent salary of one full-time pastor. We support 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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