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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 26, 2025

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 Robin, one of your lectors this evening. Jane Via is our in-person homilist and presider. Nancy Corran is our online presider. Today we gather in person and online as we journey through fall. 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

- Next Sunday, with the changing of clocks, Liturgy will begin at 4pm. Liturgy will begin at 4pm through winter until we return to Daylight Saving Time in March 2026.
- The Celebration of Life for A. J. Kopkowski will be held this Thursday, October 30th at 10:00am at GLC. An afternoon reception will be held at Pacific Beach and La Jolla Chapel from 3-6pm. You are welcome to both or either event.
- Training for Tech Volunteers did not happen today do to low availability. There will be another opportunity next Sunday, Nov 2. Please arrive at the church one hour before Liturgy at 3pm. During the liturgy, you can "shadow" Sally and Lupita. At the end of liturgy, they will stay for 30 minutes to answer any questions.
- Nominations are now being accepted for the Community Leadership Council (CLC). The CLC is the Board of MMACC. The election will be in November. You should have received the nomination forms via email this past week, but they will also be sent out again this week. Please consider whom you might nominate, including yourself.
- MMACC's 20th Anniversary Celebration will take place on Sunday, November 30. Mass at 1pm followed by a reception. You should have received an invitation via email. You may also RSVP via the web-site. Feel free to share the invitation with anyone you know who might appreciate this celebration. Please contact Nancy with any questions.

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

Opening Song - "10,000 Reasons"

Redman

Bless our God, oh, my soul, oh, my soul. Worship God's holy name. Sing like never before, oh, my soul. We worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up. It's a new day dawning. It's time to sing Your song again. Whatever may pass and whatever lies before us, let us be singing when the ev'ning comes. **R**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger. Your name is great, and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness we will keep on singing, ten thousand reasons for our heart to find. **R**

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come, still my soul will sing Your praise un-ending, ten thousand years and then for evermore. **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: For those times this past week we found ourselves unable to sing God's praises...

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: Holy Mystery, in Scripture, again and again we hear that you desire a contrite heart, that a broken spirit you will not despise. As we break open Your Word and examine it, seeking Wisdom, may we break open our hearts and examine them, that we might grow wiser. Help us trust that you are truly "near the broken-hearted", we pray.... **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Sirach 35:12, 14, 15b2ad

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Give to God as God has given to you, generously and according to your means. But offer no bribes! These, God does not accept.

Our God is a God of divine justice,
 a Judge who show no partiality.

God shows no partiality to the wealthy;
 rather, God hears the prayer of those who are exploited.

God will not ignore the plea of the orphaned
 or the forsaken when they pour out their hearts.

See how the tears that stream down their cheeks
 cry out against the one who causes them to fall!

But you who wholeheartedly give yourselves to God will be welcomed.

Your prayer will reach the heavens and be carried upon the clouds.

Indeed, the prayer of the humble heart pierces the clouds: Until it is heard, it will not rest.

It will no desist until God responds, granting justice to the righteous, and judging justly and mercifully.

But alas for those who are unmerciful!

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

Ps 34:2-3, 5+8, 12+6+20; 19+16; 13-15

Psalm

Our Psalm Response is: God hears our cry.

R: God hears our cry.

I bless God always. Praise is continually on my lips.

In God alone do I glory. Let all who are humble hear this and be glad.

R: God hears our cry.

My spirit cried and was heard by God. God carried me as I met my fears.

The angel of God wraps around us and tends to all who long for love.

R: God hears our cry.

Come, children, listen to Me. I will teach you to love God fearlessly and fiercely.

Fix your gaze upon God, and your face will grow radiant. You will never hang your head in shame.

Many are the troubles of the righteous, but in God you will not be condemned,

you will be delivered into the fullness of life.

R: God hears our cry.

God is near to the broken-hearted.

God helps those whose spirit is crushed.

The eyes of God are on those who seek justice.

God's ears are attentive to their cry.

R: God hears our cry.

Who loves to see good days? Who delights in life?

Keep *your* tongue from evil and *your* lips from speaking lies.

Turn from evil and do good. Seek peace and pursue it.

R: God hears our cry.

Second Reading

2 Tim 4:6-19, 21-22

A Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy

As for me, I am already being poured out like a wine offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now there is waiting a crown for righteousness, which God, the just judge, will give me on that day; and not only to me but to all love the Christ and long for the Christ's return.

Do your best to come to me quickly. Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia and Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Bring Mark with you, for he is of excellent use in my ministry. I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm. God will hold him accountable. You, too, must be on your guard, for he strongly opposed our words.

At my first defense, no one came to my support. All deserted me. May it not be counted against them! God stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed, and all the Gentiles might hear it. I was rescued from the lion's mouth. God will rescue me from all evil and preserve my heart for the cosmic kin-dom. To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greet Prisca and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus. Try to get here before winter. Eubulus, Pudens, Linus, and Claudia send their greetings, as do all the beloved.

God be with your spirit. Grace be with all of you.

Hear what the Spirit is saying. *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation

"Halle, Halle" John L. Bell

Halle, halle - lujah! Halle, halle - lujah! Halle, halle - lujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Gospel Lk 18:9-14, 18-24

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

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

To some who trusted in their own righteousness and looked down on others, Jesus told this parable: "Two people went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing alone, was praying like this: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of all my earnings.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven but while breast-beating said: 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this one went back home justified before God, rather than the other. For all who raise themselves up will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be raised up."

Later, an official asked Jesus this question, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus answered, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall honor your father and your mother." The official replied, "All of these I have observed from my youth." When Jesus heard this he said, "There is still one thing left for you. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have a treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When the official heard this he became very sad, for he was very rich. When Jesus saw that the official was filled with sorrow, Jesus was also sad and said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kin-dom of God."

The Gospel of God.

Praise to You, Jesus the Christ.

Homily Jane Via

Prayers of the Faithful 10-26-2025 *30th Sunday in the Orderly Course of Time*

"... the prayer of the humble heart pierces the clouds ..." "... all who raise themselves up will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be raised up." In this spirit, let us ask for all that we and the whole world need.

Our response: Holy One, raise us up. *All: Holy One, raise us up.*

In gratitude for all our pastors and ministers, past and present, that they may continue to fight the good fight, keep the faith, and persevere in loving service to all in God's family ... we pray ... *All: Holy One, raise us up.*

God never ignores those who are bereft of family, status, and support. That we might also be attentive to those in need ... we pray ...

All: Holy One, raise us up.

Scripture commands us to treat foreigners the same as citizens, and to love them equally, remembering that we, too, were once foreigners. Let us work to make our country welcoming to migrants, immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees ... we pray ...

All: Holy One, raise us up.

Eternal empowering Spirit, as You have given us 15 billion years of our knowable cosmos, so will You energize the future with a wealth of unfolding, beyond our imagination ... and so we pray ...*

All: Holy One, raise us up.

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: Holy One, raise us up.

For our political opponents and for the humility to remain open to their concerns and feelings ... we pray as Jesus said we should ...

All: Holy One, raise us up.

Now it is time to bring to God the personal prayers and intentions of our hearts. 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, remember the universal needs of all people.

[After each petition:] All: Holy One, raise us up.

[After all petitions have been spoken:]

We lift up <u>all</u> those living with illness, injury, loss, and suffering, those who have gone home in Holy Mystery, 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: Holy One, raise us up.

*[The fourth petition is adapted from "An Unfolding Future," from the book Prayers to an Evolutionary God.]

Prayer concluding POF: May our prayers lead us to greater self-examination, greater authenticity, greater healing. And help us trust that our prayers pierce the clouds and will be heard, we pray...**Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song – "Give Thanks"

H. Smith, lyrics adapted

Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One Give thanks because God's given holy bread and wine. **X2**

And now, let it be that all are blessed let us all bless whom we meet because of Love that dwells within our hearts.

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: Holy One, May this broken bread nourish and heal our broken places. May the wine poured out fill us when we feel poured out. May we come to this table with our whole selves, with our Sunday Best, 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 (online): 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 (online): 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

Holy, ho-ly! The universe shines with your glory! Hosanna, hosa-anna to our God! Blessed are all who come in the Name of our God most high! Hosanna, hosa-anna, 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.

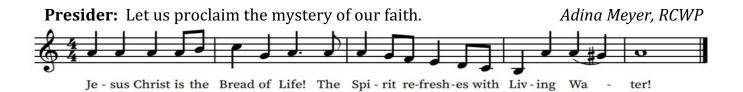
(Please extend your hand, palm up, toward the bread and wine.)

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."



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 AmenAdina Meyer, RCWP

Amen, Amen, Amen; Amen, Amen, Amen.

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 - "For Just One Day, One Just Day"

Beckham

For just one day may we have peace? May anger sleep, may fighting cease? May those in bondage know release for just one day, one just day?

One just day: A day of rest to let the whole world catch its breath; To search our souls each in our own way, for just one day, one just day.

For just one day, no weapon used, no one coerced, no one abused, No one by hate or anger bruised for just one day, one just day.

One just day: No anguished tears, a pause from pain, a rest from fears; No hand or voice in anger raised, for just one day, one just day.

For just one day, no stubborn pride; All wounded honor set aside, No one pursued or forced to hide for just one day, one just day.

For just one day, let no one cheat no guile, no mean deceit; A peaceful trust for all who meet, for just one day, one just day.

One just day: A day of rest to let the whole world catch its breath; To search our souls each in our own way, for just one day, one just day.

One just day, no spin, no skew, when every word we hear is true.
And if somehow we see this through, for just one day, one just day; One Just Day....can we do two?

Prayer After Communion

Presider: Holy Love, We thank you for this hour of rest and this humble meal, reminding us of your call to gentleness and humility. Build in us the courage of the tax collector to examine our own lives, trusting in its power to make us more effective instruments of Your divine justice in our world. We pray... **Amen.**

Closing Blessing

Presider:

May Holy Wisdom give us the strength to stand in solidarity with the forsaken, as God does, Let the church say... **Amen!**

With the Psalmist, may we be attentive to the cries of the humble, as God is, Let the church say... **Amen!**

May the perseverance of early followers of Jesus encourage us to keep the faith, as God does, Let the church say... **Amen!**

And may we hear Jesus' call for us to bring forth not a tenth of who we are, but all of who we are, our Sunday Best.

Let the church say... Amen!

Sending Forth

Our Mass is ended.
Our service continues.
Thanks be to God!

Closing Song - "Though the Mountains may Fall"

Schutte

Though the mountains may fall and the hills turn to dust, Yet the love of our God will stand.
As a shelter for all who will call on God's name.
Sing the praise and the glory of God.

Could our God ever leave you? Could our God forget this love? Though a parent forsake their child, God will not abandon you. *R*

Go to God when you're weary; God will give you eagle's wings. You will never tire in your love of God, for your God will be your strength. **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.

Acknowledgements: The language, "stretch our hearts to the dimensions of God" in the Kyrie is taken from a profession of faith by Joan Chittister, OSB. The language, "sustain us in the power of sacred memory" in Voice 5 is taken from a Eucharistic Prayer by Diarmuid O'Murchu.

This worship aid was originally inspired by RCWP "Eucharistic of Equals," Indianapolis, July 21, 2024, which was based on prayers from "God Calls Us" by M Jade Kaiser. This version was composed, edited, and adapted by Jane Via, Nancy Corran, Suzie Knapp and Ray Trybus.

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