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"Landscape with Snow" by Vincent Van Gogh

**Winter Worship Aid
Ordinary Time I ~ Third Sunday**

January 25, 2026 at 4PM

Welcome and Announcements

GONG

Good evening. Whether you are joining us online or in person, welcome to Mary Magdalene the Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, CA, on the unceded territories of the many tribes and bands of the Kumeyaay nation, our neighbors. Tonight, we continue in Ordinary Time.

My name is... one of your lectors this evening. Our other lector is... Suzie Knapp is our in-person homilist and presider. Nancy Corran is our online presider.

We'd 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. Know that wherever you are and whoever you are, you are welcome here, just as you are. We are glad you are joining us.

[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.

For those of you joining us online, the worship aid is available on our website and is posted in the chat. You may wish to have bread and wine or something similar with you to share in our communion. After our liturgy concludes, we invite our online participants to stay online for some social time.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The celebration of Life for Rod Stephens, co-founder of MMACC and beloved friend to many of us, will be held this Thursday, January 29 at 1pm here at GLC. The service will be hybrid.
- February 6th is the first Friday of February when we will again pray the Contemporary Rosary (9:30am to 10:00am). The link will be sent out the day before. All are welcome.
- Jane Via is not at liturgy today because she is, starting (now) at 4pm, participating in a **"Procession of Faith"**. San Diego's Bishop Pham will also be in attendance. It is a peaceful, faith-led, public procession in response to increased ICE activity and the growing fear within families and communities. The procession is from Cesar Chavez Park and ends at Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- Please see our bulletin for other community happenings and information.
- General donations to MMACC are appreciated. In-person donations can be placed in the basket on the welcome table. Online donations can be made through our website.
- Please take a prayerful moment as we prepare for liturgy.

GONG

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Song – "Gather Your People"

Hurd

***Gather your people, O God. Gather your people, O God.
One bread, one body, one spirit of love. Gather your people, O God.***

Draw us forth to the table of life;
Grateful companions, each of us called to walk in your light. **(R)**

We are parts of the body of Christ,
Needing each other, each of the gifts the Spirit provides. **(R)**

Opening Rite

We begin our liturgy with the sign of our faith:
*In the name of God who is Beloved Community,
Jesus who created Beloved Community,
and the Holy Spirit who inspires Beloved Community, 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.

Knowing God's Loving-Kindness

We pause for a moment to remember those times this past week when we struggled to do justice, to be kind, and to walk humbly with God...

Holy Love, Holy Wisdom, Holy Spirit,
When we do not pause to contemplate You in creation...
Forgive us. Help us to breathe.

When we do not seek Sophia-Wisdom to guide our ways...
Forgive us. Help us to listen.

When we do not speak out and take just action on behalf of the silenced...
Forgive us. Help us to embody You in the world.

***ALL: Holy One, forgive us when we do not honor You, Your Creation, and Your people.
Gift us with awesome wonder, holy curiosity, and courage, we pray, Amen.***

Opening Prayer

John Philip Newell

*Holy Mystery, we gather this evening to seek your presence,
not because we have managed to see clearly or been true in all things this day,
not because we have succeeded in loving or reverencing those around us,
but because we long to be true, because we desire to love as we have been loved.
Renew our inner sight, make fresh our longings to be true, and grant us the grace of loving,
to bring forth your kin-dom of everlasting justice and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus the
Christ, who modeled for us a life of service and love. We pray...Amen.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Micah 6:1-4, 6-8

A Reading from the Prophet Micah

Hear, now, what God says:

Stand up, O people!

Before the mountains, plead your case against Me, Your God!

Let Your voice resound in the hills!

Yet hear God's case too, You mountains!

Hear My case, you enduring foundations of the earth!

For I, your God, have a case against the people:

I, the One Who Is, file a lawsuit against my people:

"O my people, what have I done to you?

In what way have I wearied you?

Bring your charges!

I brought you up from the land of Egypt

and delivered you from a house of slavery.

I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to lead you."

The people respond:

"With what shall I come before God?

How shall I bow down before God, who is above all?

Shall I come before God with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

Will God be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

God says:

"O Human, I have told you what is good

and what is required of you:

To do justice, to love kindness,

and to walk humbly with your God."

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm*Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 6*

The Psalm response is: *We delight in the Spirit of Love.*

R: We delight in the Spirit of Love.

Blessed are those
 who walk hand in hand with goodness,
 who stand beside virtue,
 who sit in the seat of truth.
 For their delight is in the Spirit of Love,
 and in Love's heart they dwell day and night.

R: We delight in the Spirit of Love.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
 that yield fruit in due season,
 and their leaves flourish.

In all that they do, they give life.

R: We delight in the Spirit of Love.

Love knows the way of truth.
 The way of ignorance will perish
 as Love's penetrating Life breaks through hearts
 filled with illusions.

Forgiveness is the way.

R: We delight in the Spirit of Love.

Second Reading*1 Cor 1:1a, 2a, 10-19***A Reading from Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians**

Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus the Christ by God...to the church of God in Corinth...

I appeal to you, beloved, in the name of Jesus the Christ. Live in harmony with one another. Have no divisions among you. Be united in one spirit and one purpose.

My dear kin in Christ, it has been reported to me from Chloe's household that there are quarrels among you. What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another "I follow Christ."

Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized "in the name of Paul"? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can claim to have been baptized in my name. (Yes, I did also baptize the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not remember whether I baptized anyone else.) For the Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the good news. Even then, I do not preach with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

For the message of Christ's death on a cross is foolishness to those who insist on war and destruction as a means to victory. But to those who are being made whole, we know that God works most powerfully through human vulnerability. For it is written:

*"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."*

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

Gospel Acclamation

Mass of Renewal, C. Stephan

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

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

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

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. Jesus left Nazareth and went to stay in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

*"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
Way to the Sea, across the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles:
A people suffering in the fog of ignorance
have seen a great light penetrating through.
For those living in the land of death's long shadows,
a new day has dawned."*

From that time on, Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent for the Kin-dom of Heaven has come near."

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the coming Reign. He healed every disease and every sickness among the people. Jesus' fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all those who were sick: those who were afflicted with various diseases, pains, demons, seizures, and paralysis. Jesus cured them all.

Great crowds followed Jesus from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

The Gospel of God.

Praise to You, Jesus the Christ.

Homily*Suzie Knapp***Prayers of the Faithful 01-25-26***3rd Sunday in the Order of Time*

"A people suffering in the fog of ignorance have seen a great light penetrating through ... a new day has dawned." Knowing that we have been called by the Spirit as Jesus was, let us ask for all that we and all creation need.

Our response: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

All: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

That we, like Jesus, discern our call and work to embrace all who are afflicted with disease or sickness in body, in mind, in spirit ... we pray ...

All: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

In thanksgiving for our dear sister Suzie, whose second anniversary of ordination to the priesthood occurs this week, that she may remain steadfast in her ministry, and that we remain a constant source of love and support for her ... we pray ...

All: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

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: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

That together we live out our commitment to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God ... we pray ...

All: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

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 kin-dom of heaven has come near.

For those who do not believe that they can be channels of the Spirit, and for the times we have failed to live up to that realization ... we pray as Jesus said we should ...

All: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

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: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

[After all petitions have been spoken:]

We lift up all 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: The kin-dom of heaven has come near.

Closing Presider's Prayer:

*Compassionate God, hear the prayers we bring to you in trust and confidence. May our lives be prayer in action, honoring the dignity of all, bringing peace and understanding where there is strife, being hope to those in need. Guide our efforts as the Body of Christ to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you, each day. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.***

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song – "Eye Has not Seen"

Haugen

*Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who live Love;
Spirit of Love, come give us the mind of Jesus; teach us the wisdom of God.*

When pain and sorrow weigh us down, be near to us O God, forgive the weakness of our faith, and bear us up within your peaceful word. **R**

We sing a myst'r'y from the past in halls where saints have trod, yet ever new the music rings to Jesus, Living Song of God. **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 be our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God forever.

Friends, pray that sharing this bread and wine will awaken in us a passion for equity and generosity of spirit, that all may be brought to the table of abundance.
Transform us to be Your loving and courageous prophets.

Prayer with our Gifts*adapted from Michael E. Dixon*

We praise you, loving God, and bless your name, for your steadfast love abounds. From generation to generation, your great gift of love in Jesus the Christ has been proclaimed and celebrated as disciples gathered around your table. Though languages, cultures, and centuries have varied, your bread is broken, and your cup is raised, remembering the life and ministry of Jesus. As we gather round this table, we form a great chain of strength, mutual encouragement, and dedication. A chain of love in which your power is made perfect through our vulnerability. We pray. 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 one another.

Presider: Wise and faithful Indwelling Spirit, we thank and praise you! You birthed the Cosmos in wisdom and love that life might emerge and thrive.

Voice 1 (online)

We witness around us Your creative power in the unfolding story of the universe. We, Your creatures, often deviate from Wisdom, hindering Your evolutionary and revolutionary presence in our midst.

Voice 2 (online)

You sent Jesus, Your Messiah, to live among us as friend, prophet, and liberator. In Jesus, You reveal humanity come of age; divinity-in-humanity. Through Jesus, You extend the invitation to wholeness.

Voice 3

Indwelling Spirit, You companion us on the journey, calling us as a people of faith to embrace the cosmos and our world with new vision. In union with all throughout time who have lifted their voices in joy, we, too, acclaim our song of praise:

Sanctus [Sung]*Mass of Renewal, C. Stephan*

***Holy, holy, holy, O God of hosts, 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.***

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

Presider:

We invoke Your Spirit upon these gifts of grain and vine, that they may become the body and blood of Jesus in us, to nurture in us the discerning gifts of wisdom, life, and truth.

ALL: *The night before Jesus died, he gathered around the table of shared wisdom with his disciples. Jesus took bread; blessed You, God of all good gifts; broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying: Take this all of you and eat. This is my body which is for you.*

[Pause]

After the meal, Jesus took a cup, gave thanks, and shared the cup with his friends, saying: Take this all of you and drink. This is the cup of my life-blood, the cup of love, a sign of the new and everlasting covenant. In prophetic solidarity, it is poured out for you and for all. Sustain one another in the power of sacred memory.

Presider:

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith *(sung)*: *Mass of Renewal, Stephan*

***We proclaim Your death O Jesus, and profess Your resurrection,
until You come again.***

Voice 4: As we celebrate this sacred meal, we remember the blessings of ages past, and we look forward in hope, knowing that You, Holy Love, will continue to empower us in our earthly mission.

Presider: In union with all peoples living and dead, we unite our longings and prayers, asking for wisdom and courage:

Voice 5: to discern Your Voice in the circumstances of our daily lives;

Voice 6: to act justly in confronting the desecration of Earth and its peoples, their pain and their suffering;

Voice 7: to take risks to be creative and proactive on behalf of those who are poor and marginalized;

Voice 8: and to love all people, beyond all our labels, with generosity of heart.

Presider: As our world unfolds amid pain and beauty, inspire us to attend to new things Sophia Spirit makes possible. Remind us that we are co-creators in the wise and wonderful work of creation, and our future.

Through God, - Loving Creator

Through Christ, - Liberator,

Through Sophia, - Enlivening Spirit,

we give thanks and praise, now and always. Amen.

The Great Amen

Mass of Renewal, C. Stephan

A-a-men, a-a-men, a-men!

COMMUNION RITE

The Prayer of Jesus

Fresen/Willman/Klotz, adapted

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

***Birther of the Cosmos, you breathe life into us.
May your Wisdom guide us and all creation.
May your love be acknowledged
in its home in each human heart,
as it is at home throughout the cosmos.
Grant us today both bread and insight
that we may become bread for others.
Loose the cords of wrongs that bind us.
In this freedom, help us loose the cords we bind round others.
Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from clouded vision,
from all that holds us back from loving.
For in you is born the astonishing fire that gives life to all
and the song that beautifies all, here, now and always, Amen.***

Sign of Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you. ***And also with you.***
Let us offer one another, and the whole world, God's peace.

Lamb of God

Mass of Renewal, C. Stephan

***Jesus Christ, you call us to the gospel of hope, O Jesus, O Jesus, the Christ.
Jesus Christ, you call us to the gospel of love, O Jesus, O Jesus, the Christ.
Jesus Christ, you call us to the gospel of peace, grant us, grant us peace.***

In and through the Spirit, we are God's hands and heart in the world.
We are happy and blessed to share this sacred work.

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. May all who share this communion be united in the Body of Christ that knows no bounds. Amen!

Communion Song – "From the Many Make us One"

Alonso

Cantor: Love the world so loved by God, All: **To this table now we come**
Cantor: Scattered, tattered, worn, and trod All: **From the many, make us one.**
Cantor: Come to welcome table here! All: **To this table now we come**
Cantor: Doors wide open, nothing fear. All: **From the many, make us one**

***When we sing, and when we cry, as we live and as we die:
To this table now we come. From the many, make us one.***

Cantor: This our great procession line, All: **To this table now we come**
 Cantor: Join to walk through earth and time. All: **From the many make us one**
 Cantor: Share and share alike this food, All: **To this table now we come**
 Cantor: Gift of thirsty, hungry God. All: **From the many, make us one.**

***When we sing, and when we cry, as we live and as we die:
 To this table now we come. From the many, make us one.***

Cantor: Let our bold procession grow All: **To this table now we come**
 Cantor: Circling Earth while ages flow. All: **From the many, make us one.**
 Cantor: Running, creeping, leaping high. All: **To this table now we come**
 Cantor: Dancing, stumbling, striding by, All: **From the many, make us one**

Communion Harp Meditation

Linda Hill-Phoenix

Prayer After Communion

Living Christ, your ministry was full of struggle as well as joy; yet you were faithful in following God's call. Breathe Sophia Spirit into our lives that we may never fall back from the way of discipleship or the effort of loving. Grant that we may find true joy and peace as we accept the cost of faithfully following you. For it is in your name we pray... Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

Milestone Birthday Blessing for Linda Hill-Phoenix

(birthday: 01/24/26)

We give thanks for the song of this "angel bending near the earth to touch her harp of gold..."

Holy Love,

We give thanks for your daughter, Linda, and her 8 decades of life.

We give thanks for her heart, her hands, her music.

We give thanks for her gentle, smiling, uplifting presence in our liturgy and community life.

We give thanks for her quiet strength, a bastion of resilience, reminding us, as Eucharistic Minister, that we are the risen Body of Christ.

Bless this generous soul standing in our midst who graciously shares herself and her gifts in this community, and in many spheres.

Bless her music ministry and her compositions, which enrich lives so deeply.

Bless her deep spirituality and healing gifts, which flow from her spirit to all she meets, and through her harp to all who hear.

Bless her kitty, sweet companion, Raya.

Linda embodies our Scripture today in her just actions, her loving kindness, and her humble walk with You.

May You, Holy Wisdom, be Linda's constant companion, her inner guide, her song, as she journeys into the next decade of her life.

Remind her that Ray, her beloved late husband, is with her, strengthening her all of her days.

And may Linda know the loving, sustaining embrace of this Mary Magdalene community in all the challenges and joys along the road ahead.

We ask this blessing in the names of all Your holy people throughout time, especially Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Closing Blessing

John Philip Newell

*In the coming hours of darkness
may there be light in our dreams.*

*In the stillness of sleep
may there be strength for our souls.*

*In the wakeful watches of night
may there be peace in our minds.*

*Light for new vision,
strength to make sacrifice,
peace for our world.*

*On the pathways of earth's journey,
let there be peace. Let the church say: **Amen.***

Sending Forth

This mass is ended. Ordinary Time continues.

Thanks be to God!

Closing Song - "They'll Know We are Christians"

Traditional, Peter Scholtes

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in our God,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in our God,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Refrain

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,

And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. **R**

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride. **R**

We are grateful to have shared in 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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**The Eucharistic Prayers (EP), "Wisdom" and "Calling Forth the Adult" were composed by Diarmiud O'Murchu. The two EPs were adapted by the MMACC Liturgy Committee for use in this worship aid.*