



•*Making Catholicism relevant* •*Restoring women's ordination* •*Living the change we envision*



*"Landscape with Snow" by Vincent Van Gogh*

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

**February 8, 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 Paul Russo, one of your lectors this evening. Our other lectors are Roger and Mary Hassett, from online. Jane Via 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 CLC will hold an Annual Strategic Meeting this Tuesday, February 10th. If you have ideas for MMACC goals for the year ahead, please contact Sue Bruner.
- The joint MMACC/GLC Book Club meets this **Wednesday, February 11th at 7:00 pm** on Zoom. This month's book discussion will be on *Uncle Tungsten* by Oliver Sacks.
- 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 – "Lift Up Your Hearts to Our God"

Schutte

***Lift up your hearts to our God! We praise gracious mercy.  
Sing out your joy to our God, whose love is enduring.***

Shout with joy to our God all the earth! Praise the Name above all names.  
Say to God "How wondrous Your works!" *"How glorious Your name!"*. **R**

Let the earth worship singing Your praise. Praise the glory of Your Name.  
Come and see the deeds of our God. Bless Love's Holy Name. **R**

God's hand made a path through the night, split the waters of the sea.  
All creation, lift up your voice: Our God set Love free. **R**

Listen now all you servants of God. As I tell of Love's great works.  
Blessed be the God of my life. Whose Love shall endure. **R (x2)**

### Opening Rite

We begin our liturgy with the sign of our faith:  
*In the name of God who is Love, Jesus who lived Love, and Sophia Spirit who breathes love into human hearts, 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 consider those times we feel more safety in law than in love...*

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

*Loving One, Giver of all Joy in human life, we pause to remember your ancient manifestation in law and in the law of love. As followers of Jesus, we seek to understand our spiritual heritage. Give us the patience and grace to do the hard work rather than weaponizing texts to support our greed, we pray... Amen.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

*Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18, 33-34*

#### A Reading from Leviticus

God spoke to Moses, saying: Assemble together all of the people of Israel and say: "You shall be holy, for I your God am holy.

"You shall not steal. You shall not deal falsely with one another. You shall not lie to one another. You shall not swear by My Name with intent to deceive and thus profane My Name. I am the One-who-Is.

"You shall not exploit or rob your neighbor. You shall not hold back the wages of a laborer until morning. You shall not speak ill of those who are deaf or trip up one who cannot see. For I am your God who sees all.

"You shall not be unjust in administering justice. You shall not be partial to those who are poor nor defer to those with wealth and privilege. You shall administer justice justly among yourselves. You shall not go around slandering your own kin, nor shall you profit from your neighbor's blood. I am God.

"You shall not harbor hatred in your heart for any of your kin. You shall reprove your neighbor firmly and, thus, avoid becoming guilty yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am God.

"And when an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as a citizen among you. You shall love the wayfarer as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. I am the Holy One; I am your God."

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

***Thanks be to God.***

### Psalm

*Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34*

Our Psalm response is: *Help us to know You, O Wisdom.*

***R: Help us to know You, O Wisdom.***

Blessed are those whose way is clear,  
     who live with spiritual integrity.  
 Blessed are those who choose what is good  
     and seek You with their whole heart.

***R: Help us to know You, O Wisdom.***

You have shown us the way of truth,  
     the way that leads to freedom.  
 O, that we might ever walk on those paths,  
     and know inner peace!

***R: Help us to know You, O Wisdom.***

Be bountiful with Your people, O God,  
     that we may be Your Word.  
 Open our the eyes of our hearts that we may see  
     the wondrous blessings of creation.

***R: Help us to know You, O Wisdom.***

Help us to know You, O Wisdom.  
 In Your love is the power to calm storms of adversity.  
 O, that we might learn to bless others selflessly,  
     to be a silent benediction!

***R: Help us to know You, O Wisdom.***

## Second Reading

*1 Cor 2:1-5*

### A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

When I came to you, dear ones, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God with any particular eloquence or wisdom. For I determined that, while I was with you, I would know nothing but Jesus the Christ, and Christ crucified. I came to you in weakness, with great fear and trembling. My message and my preaching did not rest on philosophical arguments or persuasive words, but on the convincing power of the Spirit. I did this so that your faith also might not rest on human wisdom, but on the power of God.

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 5:21-30 (or 5:21-32<sup>1</sup>)*

<sup>1</sup> The CCL generally advises against including the highlighted Mt 5: 31-32 unless you/the homilist/the community seeks to engage the problematic verses directly and openly. A historical-critical (and feminist) reading reveals a "Matthew" sympathetic toward, and radically aligned with, women's freedoms at the time. In that context, this teaching on divorce protects the woman in ways that before didn't exist (e.g. a wife was not allowed to issue a "bill of divorce." To deny the husband that "right" is an equalizing act and ensures the wife will continue to receive basic care otherwise not readily available to her).



God is with you.

***And also with you.***

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

**GOSPEL**

**A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Matthew**

“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, ‘You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you, whoever is angry with their kin will be liable to judgment, and whoever says to their own family, ‘Raqa,’ will be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar and, there, recall that your kin has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar. Go! First be reconciled; then come and offer your gift.

“Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court. Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce.’ But I say to you, whoever divorces his wife (unless the marriage is unlawful) causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

The Gospel of God.

***Praise to you, Jesus the Christ***

**Homily**

*Jane Via*

**Prayers of the Faithful 02-08-26**

*5th Sunday in the order of time*

“You shall be holy, for I your God am holy. ... You shall not be unjust in administering justice. ... You shall not ... defer to those with wealth and privilege.” Let us hold these words in our hearts and ask for all that we and all creation need.

Our response: We seek You with our whole heart.

***All: We seek You with our whole heart.***

That our message in the public sphere not rest on philosophical arguments or persuasive words, but on actions that show the convincing power of the Spirit ... we pray ...

***All: We seek You with our whole heart.***

That if we have anything against another person, we leave our gift at the altar and first be reconciled, then offer our gift ... we pray ...

***All: We seek You with our whole heart.***

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: We seek You with our whole heart.***

That we keep open the eyes of our hearts so we might see the wonders of this earth and of the unfathomable cosmos ... we pray ...

***All: We seek You with our whole heart.***

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: We seek You with our whole heart.***

For those who deal with us and others unjustly, and for the times we ourselves have ignored or supported injustice ... we pray as Jesus said we should ...

***All: We seek You with our whole heart.***

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: We seek You with our whole heart.***

***[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: We seek You with our whole heart.***

**Closing Presider's Prayer:** *Holy Love, You call us to live the whole law and prophets by living the law of love. May our prayers align us with Love and with the desires of Your heart for ourselves and the world, we pray... Amen.*

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### Offertory Song – "Here is Bread"

*Kendrick*

Here is bread, here is wine; Christ is in us, Christ is in us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine; Christ is in us here.

***In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.  
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is in us here.***

Here is grace, here is peace; Christ is in us, Christ is in us.  
Know the grace, find the peace; feast on Jesus here. **(R)**

Here we are, joined in one; Christ is in us, Christ is in us.  
We'll proclaim ev'rywhere; Jesus crucified. **(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

*Holy Mystery, so often we live out of touch with nature, with growing and harvesting crops and transforming them into food for our bodies and souls. Bread is physical...wine is physical...gifts that unify our bodies and spirits. May we experience this wholeness as we share this bread and wine in Jesus' name. 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 – "The Love of Our God"***Joncas*

All that I counted as gain, now I consider as loss.  
 Empty and worthless to me, in the light of the love of our God.  
 Riches and honors will fade, earthly delights disappear.  
 Fade like the grass of the field, in the light of the love of our God.

***What more could bring us hope, than to know the pow'r of this life?  
 What more could bring us peace, than to serve in the way Jesus served?  
 What more could be our final wish, than to live in the love of our God?***

Silver and gold have I none, no land to count as my home.  
 Yet wealth beyond measure I own, in the light of the love of our God.  
 Faith is the wealth I possess, finding its source in my God.  
 Faith in the promise of Christ, is my life and the love of our God.

***What more could bring us hope, than to know the pow'r of this life?  
 What more could bring us peace, than to serve in the way Jesus served?  
 What more could be our final wish, than to live in the love of our God?***

**Prayer After Communion**

*Holy One, our spiritual ancestors grounded their faith in law, its interpretation and observance. Jesus believed that loving You and loving our neighbor was the key to integrating law into our lives. Jesus expanded love of neighbor to include all people. Pope Francis expanded this understanding to all creation. Give us the strength we need to embrace this difficult approach to life and, when needed, the courage to live love's demands. We pray in Jesus' name...Amen*

**CONCLUDING RITES**

## Closing Blessing

*Burning Man Blessing + the Very Re. Brian Baker (adapted)*

*Dear People  
The world is now too dangerous  
And too beautiful  
For anything but love. Love is a blessing.  
So may your eyes be so blessed that you see God in everyone and everything.  
Your lips – so you speak nothing but the truth,  
Your ears – so that you hear the cry of the poor.  
May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch becomes a sacrament,  
Your feet – so you run to those who need you.  
And may your heart be so opened,  
So set on fire, That your love,  
Your love, Changes everything.....Let the church say, Amen.*

## Sending Forth

This mass is ended. Ordinary Time continues.  
***Thanks be to God!***

## Closing Song - "For Everyone Born"

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead,

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice... justice and joy!***

For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong, **R**

For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free, **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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*Some song lyrics have been adapted to align with our commitment to inclusive language.*

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*\*The Eucharistic Prayers (EP), "Wisdom" and "Calling Forth the Adult" were composed by Diarmuid O'Murchu. The two EPs were adapted by the MMACC Liturgy Committee for use in this worship aid.*