



Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community

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



"There is a time to plant and a time to uproot."
Eccl 3:2b

Ordinary Time II ~ FALL

**Worship Aid
September 20, 2026**

Welcome & Announcements

GONG

Good Evening. Welcome to Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community based in San Diego, California, on the unceded territories of the many tribes and bands of the Kumeyaay nation, our neighbors on whose land we have made our home.

My name is..., one of your lectors this evening. Nancy Corran is our homilist and online presider. Jane Via is our in-person presider. Today we gather in person and online. Know that wherever you are and whoever you are, you are welcome here, just as you are.

A liturgical 'Season of Creation' is currently celebrated by many Christians around the globe, culminating on October 4 the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. Orthodox Christians began celebrating a "Day of Prayer for Creation" in 1989. Over time more Christians joined and the celebration expanded from a day to more than a month. In 2015, Pope Francis invited Catholics into the ecumenical celebration. This year's focus is "Living Water." At MMACC, our cosmology recognizes that creation is the ongoing, evolving reality in which we live and move and have our being - and of which we are part. As is often the case in our liturgy at MMACC, you will notice creation imagery in the weeks ahead.

We greet those of you on YouTube. Those on Zoom can find the worship aid on our website or in the chat. 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 lines:

[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

October 2, 2026 is the first Friday of October. Once again, we will gather to pray a contemporary version of the rosary at **9:30 am** on Zoom. All are welcome to join us in this collective prayer for the world. The prayer text and zoom connection will be sent out the week of the first Friday

On Sunday, October 4th, we will celebrate the Memorial of St Francis of Assisi and the Feast Day of Teresa of Avila. Weather permitting, we will hold Liturgy outdoors. It will still be hybrid. It will include a blessing for animals. Chairs will be provided but please feel free to bring your own. You may bring your leashed and well-trained pet. There will also be a table for a picture or symbol of your animal companion.

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.

I invite you now to center yourselves in Holy Presence before we begin our opening song.

GONG

~ INTRODUCTORY RITES ~

Opening Song: "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Pierpoint

For the beauty of the Earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies.

***God of All to You we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.***

For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light. ***R***

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony, linking sense and sound to sight. ***R***

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild. ***R***

Sign of the Cross & Greeting

And we begin our liturgy with the sign of our faith...
+ In the name of God, Who Creates, Sustains, and Transforms, ***Amen.***

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

Kyrie ~ Knowing God's Loving-Kindness

We pause in awe of the cosmos, that we participate in its continual unfolding, and that all spirit-matter is connected. And as we begin, we acknowledge that we often seek for answers instead of contemplate mystery.

Creating One, quiet us to contemplate You-in-all and our relationship with all.
We stand on holy ground, connected in the web of life.

Jesus the Christ, open our hearts that we may become who we are: channels of Your love in the world, especially to those who need it most.
We stand on holy ground, connected in the web of life.

Life-giving Spirit, teach us to live in communion with all creation and in harmony with the diversity in Creation.
We stand on holy ground, connected in the web of life.

ALL: Holy One, awaken us to the needs of Earth and the whole earth community. Help us advance the common good that all beings may flourish. Amen.

Opening Prayer

*Holy Mystery, open our senses, to understand and answer the needs of our world.
Open our ears to the wisdom of the scriptures we share today.
Open our mouths to sing and proclaim your unceasing love.
Open our hands to reach out to those who live under heavy burdens.
As we gather today, may we savor the taste of your abundance and make the earth sustainable for all. Holy Mystery, open our senses, we pray...Amen.*

First Reading

Job 38:1-9, 12-14, 16-18

A Reading from the Book of Job 38:1-9, 12-14, 16-18

From the heart of the tempest, God addressed Job:

“Who is this, obscuring my intentions with ignorant words?
Brace yourself for debate!
I will ask the questions, and you tell me the answers.

Where were you when I spun the cosmos into being?
Tell me, if you know.

Who decided Earth's dimensions, measuring its belly with a cord?
Who placed it among the heavenly bodies?
Who called forth its land?

Who paved space with the elements while morning stars burst out in song,
and all the angels shouted for joy?
A cosmic throng in cosmic chorus!

Who filled the earth with its seas
as waters burst forth from the womb?
Where were you when I wrapped the ocean in clouds,
thick darkness its swaddling bands?

Have you ever called forth morning,
or guided dawn to its place to hold the corners of the sky
and shake off the last few stars?
All things touched with color, and all that is, is changed?

Have you journeyed to the springs of the sea,
or walked the recesses of the deep?

Have the gates of death been shown to you?
Have you unlocked the doors of the deepest dark of space?
Have you comprehended the vast expanse of the cosmos,
 seeing beyond its boundaries?
Tell me, if you know all this!"

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

Psalm

Ps 145:3+5+7; 9+13; 18-20a

Our Psalm Response is: *Creation is filled with Your Love.*
R: Creation is filled with Your Love.

Great is God and greatly to be praised!
Your grandeur, O God, none can fathom!
From age to age Your glorious splendor is proclaimed,
Your wondrous works extolled!
The Cosmos celebrates your abounding goodness,
The stars sing joyfully of your justice.
R: Creation is filled with Your Love.

God is good, good to all!
You have compassion toward all Your creation.
Your reign is for all ages;
Your goodness for all generations.
You are trustworthy in Your words,
loving in Your works.
Creation is filled with Your love.
R: Creation is filled with Your Love.

You are near to all who call upon the Holy Name,
to all who call upon You in truth.
You fulfill the desires of those who love You.
You hear our cries, delivering us in our distress.
You watch over all who love.
R: Creation is filled with Your Love.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:20-4:1

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians

Our citizenship is in the heavens...

We are citizens of the Cosmos, and we await the coming of the fullness of the Cosmic Christ. Then, our own bodies will transform into glory.

Therefore, saints, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in God, dear friends!

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

Thanks be to God.

~ Moment of Silence ~

Gospel Acclamation

Mass of Light



Gospel

Mt 21:23-27

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

A reading from the Gospel attributed to Matthew.

Glory to You, O God.

Jesus entered the temple courts. While he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

So, they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then Jesus said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

The Gospel of God.

Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Prayers of the People

25th Sunday in the Orderly Course of Time

“Who paved space with the elements while morning stars burst out in song, and all the angels shouted for joy?” To Creator of all that is, let us pray!

Our response: We see creation filled with your love.

All: We see creation filled with your love.

To the Beloved who spun the cosmos into being, and planted it with the seeds of life from which we have arisen ... we pray ...

All: We see creation filled with your love.

Saints, you whom I love and long for, stand firm in God, dear friends! ... we pray ...

All: We see creation filled with your love.

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 see creation filled with your love.

That we might remain attuned to the changing of our Earth’s seasons, and take to heart the blessings and revelations of both light and darkness ... we pray ...

All: We see creation filled with your love.

In memory eternal of our dear friend Mary O’Brien, who went home in Holy Mystery this past Tuesday, that both she and we might forever dance in the embracing arms of the Beloved ... we pray ...

All: We see creation filled with your love.

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 see creation filled with your love.

For those who do not see the self-revelation of God in the complexity and diversity of the cosmos ... we pray as Jesus said we should ...

All: We see creation filled with your love.

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.

[After each petition:]

All: We see creation filled with your love.

[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 see creation filled with your love.

Concluding Prayer of the People:

adapted from Ruth C. Duck

Gracious God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty. We thank you for opportunities to grow in understanding and concern for one another. May our community be an incarnation of your love within and beyond this building, wherever there is loneliness, injustice, or misunderstanding. In Jesus' name we pray... Amen.

Offertory Song: "We Remember"

Haugen

***We remember how you loved us to your death,
And still we celebrate, for you are with us here;
And we believe that we will see you, When you come – in your glory –
We remember, we celebrate, we believe.***

Now we re-create your love, we bring the bread and wine to share a meal.
Sign of grace and mercy, the presence of our God. **(R)**

See the face of Christ revealed in every person standing by your side,
gift to one another, and temples of your love. **(R)**

~ LITURGY OF THE 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 for us our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God forever.

Friends, pray that sharing this bread and wine will open our eyes to the joy of
companionship.

We offer these gifts for the good of all and in gratitude for Earth's abundance.

Prayer with Our Gifts

adapted from Annie Heppenstall

Loving God, as we gather at your table, we give thanks for the earth that gives of itself, ceaselessly, that we might live. Grain seeds buried in the earth grow in the sun and rain; they sprout seeds of their own, become ripe, then are cut down, the new seeds become our bread. Vines grow up from the soil, nurtured by sun and rain, pruned, and tended with care. Ripe grapes are harvested, their juice crushed out for us to enjoy. We thank the earth for its generous self-giving, our siblings for their labor, and God for the wonder of life itself, in Jesus' name we pray...

Eucharistic Prayer

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

Come to the table with thankful hearts.

We open our hearts to God and to one another.

Presider: Blessed and holy are You, Creating God. You spoke and the Cosmos flared forth. We celebrate the wonders of the universe, the goodness in creation, and the beauty of Earth. Deep within stars, You forged the building blocks of life from primordial elements. Wherever hydrogen and oxygen bonded, water was born. Your cosmic dust, comets, and meteorites delivered these ingredients throughout the universe, including to Earth. A diversity of life forms emerged, flourished, and died, over and over. Recently, humanity, too, has emerged, blessed to participate in Your ongoing web of life. And so, we join with all, everywhere, throughout time, in singing our unending song of praise:

Sanctus

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 1 (online)

Your presence is revealed in and through all that is, including human experience. You are unceasingly at work, bringing order from chaos and filling emptiness with life.

Voice 2 (online)

We give You thanks for Jesus, who preached good news to the poor, proclaimed release to captives, gave sight to those who could not see, liberated those oppressed, and announced the year of Jubilee.

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

Presider:

On the night before Jesus died, he gathered with friends to share a final meal together.

ALL: We open ourselves to Your Spirit who sanctifies and transforms this bread and this wine to become You in us, the body and blood of Christ.

Presider: We remember that...

ALL: ...on the night before Jesus died, he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his companions, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body. Do this in memory of me."

[Pause]

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, and gave it to them saying: "Take this all of you and drink. This is my life-blood, the cup of love. Do this in memory of me."

Presider

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

Adina Meyer, RCWP



Voice 3

Let Your Spirit come upon all leaders, secular and religious, that they abandon divisive politics and work for the common good. Make them faithful guardians of Earth, on whose fruits we rely.

Voice 4

Help us counter efforts that put profit and greed before human need, the need of all beings, reverence for Creation, and science. Help us abandon our harmful habits and adopt new practices, however small, that heal the earth and support the whole Earth family.

Voice 5

Take away all that divides us. Keep before us the Greater Reality that unites us. Through Your Spirit make us instruments of Your peace.

Voice 6: Be with all who are sick. Be with all who suffer. Be with all who have died and gone before us into the embrace of Cosmic Mystery.

Presider: In Your presence, we give You glory with all creation and with Jesus through whom Your goodness flows.

Through Christ, may all creation unfold. With Christ, may all creation be one.

In Christ, may all life be healed.

We offer our prayer of praise, this day and forever.

Great Amen

Adina Meyer, RCWP



Prayer of Jesus [Sung]

Loreen Wilhelmy

Throughout the centuries, the prayer of Jesus, often known as the "Our Father," has been translated and rendered in many different ways. Feel free to pray in the language and words 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 the peace of the Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another – and the whole world – a sign of God's peace.

Lamb of God [Sung]*Angrisano, Mass of a Joyful Heart*

Je - sus Christ You call us to the ³gospel of hope/love; O

5 Je - sus the Christ Je - sus Christ You call us to the

10 ³gospel of peace. Grant us peace.

In and through the Spirit, we are God's partners in creation.

We are happy and blessed to share at this table.

This is the table of Jesus, who made no restrictions. Neither do we. All are truly welcome and invited 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! 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**

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.

Prayer after Communion

*Loving God, we have enjoyed the hospitality of Your table. May we cherish these moments of sacred unity and shared faith. Sustain us as we attempt to live for you and in your Spirit. May the love of Christ be evident in our words and actions. We pray in the name of the one whose cup of love we have shared this day... **Amen.***

Closing Blessing

Carmen L. Caltagirone

*May Holy Kindness and humility journey with us throughout the week ahead,
Let the church say... **Amen.**
May Holy Wisdom and understanding inspire us in the decisions we are called to make,
Let the church say... **Amen.**
And may Holy Tenderness and compassion fill our hearts with love and respect for all
creation, Let the church say... **Amen.***

Sending Forth

Our mass has ended. Our service continues.
Thanks be to God.

Closing Song: "Go in Peace, Go in Love"

Morris

Go in peace. Go in love. Go to seek. Go to serve.
Go in hope to work and pray; and God goes with you all the way.

Go in peace. Go in love. Go to seek. Go to serve.
Go in hope to work and pray; and God goes with you all the way.
And God goes with you all the way.

We are grateful to have shared in worship this evening.

At Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community, we have embraced the dream of a transformed Roman Catholic Church. To underscore our commitment, we support a full-time paid priest (or equivalent) and a variety of social justice activities, giving a percentage of our Sunday offering back into the community. To support our community, please visit <http://www.mmacc.org/donate>.

Acknowledgements

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This Worship Aid draws inspiration from many sources, including enfleshed.com, Laudato Si', past MMACC liturgies (written by Nancy Corran, Kori Pacyniak, Joe Stewart, Jane Via & MMACC's liturgy committee), and other sources.