

A Christ-Centered Community of Practice Awaking to the Abiding Presence of God

# July 27, 2025 The Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene, The First Apostle

# WE GATHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

PRELUDE "Adagio in Db" Franz Liszt

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN IN PROCESSION LEVAS Hymnal, 31



Words: Jennie Evelyn Hussey (1874-1958). Music: William J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921). Copyright © 1921. Renewed 1949 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Then, the Presider says:

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

# SONG OF PRAISE



# COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

# Let us pray:

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed from all our infirmities and know you in the power of his unending life; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

# WE PROCLAIM AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

(Usually one each from the Hebrew scriptures, the Psalms, and the Epistles. NOTE: During July and August, the Epistle may be omitted.)

# THE FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 5: 14-18

Following the Lesson...

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

Thanks be to God.

As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
so longs my soul for you, O God.
My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; *
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all day long they say to me,
"Where now is your God?"
I pour out my soul when I think on these things; *
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,
With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
among those who keep holy-day.
Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?
• •
Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

The Hymnal, 692



\*The bracketed notes are to be treated as triplet groups.

Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), alt. Music: The Third Tune, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585?); ed. John Wilson (1905-1992). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Preceding the Gospel...

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 20: 11-18

Following the Gospel...

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** 

### SIGNPOSTS & THE SERMON

Silence is kept following the sermon.

Mr. Ricky Davidson & the Reverend adwoa Wilson

#### THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

and his kingdom will have no end.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

# WE PRAY FOR GOD'S CREATION, FOR THE WORLD, AND FOR THE CHURCH

The prayers conclude with a form of "General Confession" said by the community, with the Deacon or Presider saying: Leader:

Let us confess our sins to God.

After a period of silence, all say together:

God of all mercy, we confess that
we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

#### ABSOLUTION

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

# THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.** 

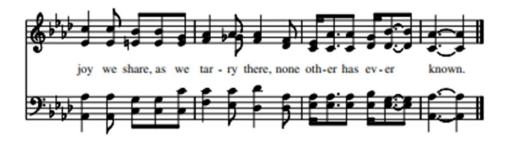
# WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION TOGETHER

All stand to sing
OFFERTORY HYMN

LEVAS Hymnal, 69



EASTER



### **OFFERING**

During the hymn ushers pass the offering plates. An offering to God and for the work of the church is taken. Representatives from the parish bring the people's offerings of food for the hungry, bread and wine for the Eucharist, and money for mission and ministry to the Altar.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### **Eucharistic Prayer II**

The people remain standing. The Presider faces them and says,

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

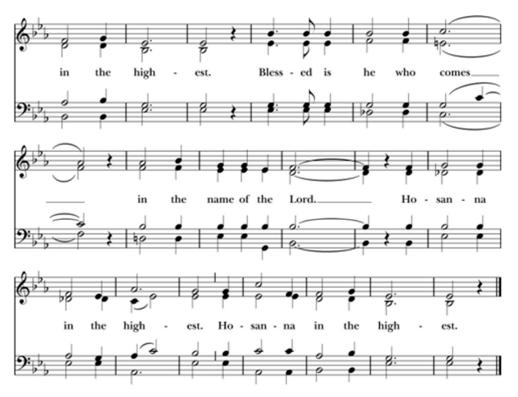
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

# Then, the Presider proceeds:

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. .... And so this day we join with the Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:





Music: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright € 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Then the Presider, continuing on behalf of and with the community, recalls God's work in Creation; people's failure to see it; God's love shown in Jesus and the Last Supper; and our calling on the Spirit to be with us.... Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the Unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be the honor, glory, and praise for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

(ICET text ecumenical translation)

OR:

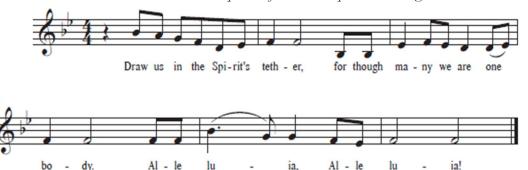
Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept, then we sing a Fraction Anthem.



# **Invitation to Receive Holy Communion**

At St. Michael's, we believe that God's love is unconditional. We welcome all people and we affirm the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a beloved child of God. In our celebration of the Eucharist, there is no one here who is ineligible or unwelcome; no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the table of a loving God set for all creation through the power of Jesus Christ. You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. If you would like either, please indicate that preference to the liturgical minister. Receive the Bread in your open palm followed by the Common Cup, taking the cup by its base and guiding it to your lips. You may also receive the Bread only, with arms folded over your chest afterwards. Or if you wish to come to the Altar for a blessing only, please fold your arms over your chest.

No matter where you are in your spiritual journey, you are invited to come forward to share in communion or a blessing.

After all have received Communion there is a period of silence. Then the Presider says ...

# WE ARE SENT AND GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD

Let us pray.

God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

#### SENDING FORTH FOR PRISON MINISTRY

#### THE BLESSING

**HYMN** 

The Hymnal, 231
See next page for verse 2 words



Words: Horatio Bolton Nelson (1823-1913); ver. Hymnal 1982. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: King's Lynn, English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

All praise for Mary Magdalene July 22
All praise for Mary Magdalene,
whose wholeness was restored
by you, her faithful Master,
her Savior and her Lord.
On Easter morning early,
a word from you sufficed:
her faith was first to see you,
her Lord, the risen Christ.

DISMISSAL

Response: Thanks be to God. (Alleluia, Alleluia!)

POSTLUDE "Trumpet Gigue" Gordon Young

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

10:15 The Reverend adwoa Wilson, preacher; The Reverend Thad Bennett, celebrant; The Reverend Lars Hunter, Deacon; Leo Storm and Abbie Haineswood, acolytes; Gabriel Sistare, thurifer; Allie Ackerman-Hovis, lay assistant; Carol Hesselbach and Michael Hightower, readers and element bearers; Cary Gaunt, intercessor; Ricky Davidson and Alex O'Pray, chalicers; Elizabeth Freese and William Stearns, ushers; Sher Wilson, healing minister; Jane Sbardella, Susan Marshall, and Sherry Stimmel, Altar Guild; Rosie Wojcik and Susan Heimer, coffee hour hosts.

At St. Michael's we believe that God's love is unconditional. We welcome all people and we affirm the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a beloved child of God.

All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

- **WELCOME TO VISITORS!** All are welcome at this table. If you have any questions about the liturgy, location of the bathrooms, or anything else, please ask one of the ushers or greeters. Thank you for joining us today.
- TO RECEIVE THE RITE OF HEALING: Trained lay healing ministers are available in the chapel to pray with you individually before or after you receive communion. A healing minister will say prayers, lay her or his hands upon you, and anoint you with consecrated oil. You can come for yourself, for another person, for a need or for a thanksgiving. Please ask ushers for assistance if you have questions.
- GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AND GRAPE JUICE are available for Communion at both 8:00 am and 10: 15 services. Please make yourselves known to the priest when you come up for Communion.
- CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE! There are clipboards with paper and crayons, as well as activity bags with coloring books at the back of the Sanctuary for children who are interested in coloring or drawing during the service. Feel free to come in and out of the worship area as needed with your children! Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

#### ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday, on Zoom, Tuesday-Thursday in-person the Chapel Bible Study, 8:30-10 am, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at The Works, Main St, Brattleboro Centering Prayer, 11:30-11:55 am, Wednesday in the Chapel Eucharist with the Saints, 12 noon-12:30, Wednesday in the Chapel Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday in the Chapel, in-person and on Zoom Centering Prayer, 8 am, Saturday in the Chapel



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Kerry Capponcelli, today; Caleb Fritz and Laura Frey, Saturday



#### WHY ARE WE CELEBRATING MARY MAGDALENE TODAY?

Our chapel is named in honor of Mary Magdalene, and was donated to the congregation by Helen Daly. Though it may not be the first space you think of when you say the word "church," in reality, this chapel space is used more frequently than the sanctuary for worship and healing ministries. It is right and good that we should honor our patroness at the time of her feast day!

#### SIGNPOSTS: SHARING OUR EXPERIENCE OF THE SPIRIT

This Sunday, Karren Meyer at 8am and Ricky Davidson at 10:15am will be our final people to share their SignPost stories. As with the last two Sundays, people are speaking briefly at the start of the "sermon time" about an experience of the Spirit in their lives. The preacher will then give a sermon, trying to incorporate the SignPost story in some way – guided by the Spirit?

The church website will also have a SignPost link where each Sunday's clip of the person's SignPost will be online. As well, there will be some other written SignPost stories; audio SignPost stories, etc.

**WHY?** Christian community is rooted in the story of Jesus – the big God Story. But God's interaction with humans did not stop with Jesus. God's promise is to be with us. If we pay attention, usually in retrospect, we often find that the Spirit was at work. Now, it is our chance to tell a "God Story."

#### RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Responding in Faith group will meet after coffee hour this Sunday in the Meeting Room. This group meets to consider the state of the world in the face of rising Christian Nationalism, and learns and practices ways of responding from a grounding in our faith. To learn more, be in touch with Jeff Lewis and/or come to the meeting!

#### THE GUARDIAN REIMAGINED: AN UPDATE

The eNews has a detailed update on the plans for pilot-testing a new approach to The Guardian, our church "magazine." The shorter story is this: We have imagined and will create a parish communications vehicle that is less about news that we already read in the eNews and Sunday bulletins, and more about opportunities to reflect on where we see God in our lives, to name how we're growing in Spirit, and to get

to know members of the community more deeply. Thanks to Annie Landenberger, Megan Buchanan, Kim Peavey, and Erin Pesut for all their work in thinking through this six-month pilot. (Note: you may not know that Susie sends an abbreviated version of the eNews announcements in hard copy each week to a handful of congregants without access to email. If that describes you and you want to know more, please call Susie: 802-254-6048.)

#### PRAYERS LIST FOR SUNDAYS

Each Sunday, we read the names of people who have asked for the community's prayers. Prayers for specific people or concerns will remain on the list for 4 Sundays unless you indicate that the need is ongoing beyond that. Prayer needs can be communicated directly to Thad via phone, email, or in person, or by contacting Susie in the office; she will pass your messages to Thad.

# JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER SUNDAY SOCIAL HOUR

In the summertime it's an especially good time to gather after the 10:15 service for refreshments and easy-going fellowship time. Come to the Undercroft (accessible by stairs or the elevator when you exit the sanctuary door nearest the altar) and get to know one another! (If you're interested in **hosting** one Sunday, sign up in the Common Room or ask Rosie Wojcik if you have questions: <u>rosie@wojnet.org</u>.

# SUMMER TIME, AND THE LIVIN' IS EASY

In the height of summer, the church calendar is always a little lighter. People are on vacation, tending their gardens, and taking a breather when the hot weather makes us all feel like we have less get-up-and-go. Many regularly-scheduling groups go on a brief hiatus ~ something of a jubilee season! So though there aren't a lot of new announcements for this week in specific, here are some upcoming important dates and possibilities.

#### Mark these dates on your calendars!

- Aug. 3: Rev. Thad's last worship service during his time with us as sabbatical priest
- Aug. 10: Rev. Mary's first Sunday back in the pulpit
- Aug. 23: Service of Thanksgiving for John Carnahan (11 AM)
- Aug. 24: Annual Parish Picnic at the home of Perry Moorhead Lins and Jerry Lins (12-4)
- Sept. 1- Oct. 4: The liturgical Season of Creation
- Sept. 6: Service of Thanksgiving for Ed McCatty (11 AM)
- Sept. 13: Choir Retreat (at St Michael's) and Healing Team Retreat (at Hallelujah Farm)
- Oct. 18: Vermont Interfaith Power & Light symposium hosted at St. Michael's all day



(Image copyright Kelly Latimore Icons, used by permission.)