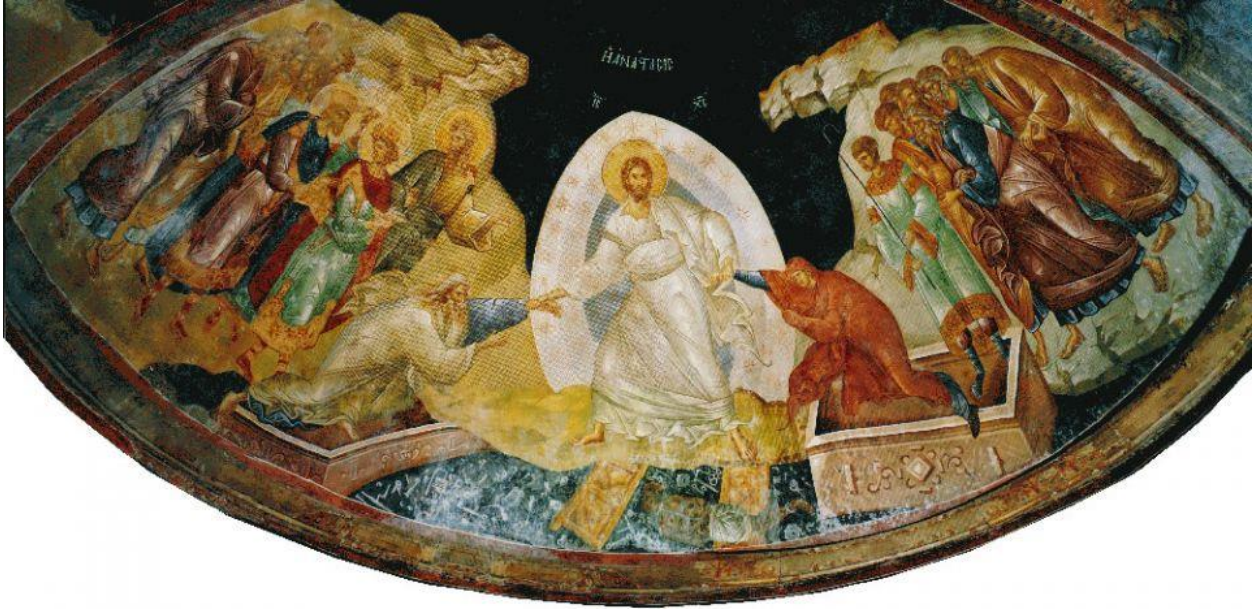

Mary Mother of Jesus Inclusive Catholic Community
Sixth Week of Easter, May 4 2024

Theme: Let all around us be **Love!**

Liturgy Team: Cheryl Brandi (IT), Lee Breyer, Pat & Bob Ferkenhoff, Jack McKillip, Mary Montavon, Michael Rigdon

Lee: Welcome to Mary Mother of Jesus,
our inclusive Catholic Community, our church without walls.
"Whoever you are, wherever you are,
you are welcome at our table."
Lee & All: Let us begin together ✝ in the name of God our creator, Jesus our brother, and Spirit Sophia. Amen.

Michael: We welcome each other with a sign of Christ's peace:
All: Namaste, Namaste, Namaste. May Christ's peace be with us!
Gathering Song 🎵

Peace before us, Peace behind us, Peace under our feet.
Peace within us, Peace over us, Let all around us be Peace.
Love before us, Love behind us, Love under our feet.
Love within us, Love over us, Let all around us be Love.

Opening Prayer. Jack. Jesus the Christ, we celebrate today the marvel of your intimate love breaking into the lives of Gentiles—into the lives of all people everywhere. May we be at home in your love, as you are at home in your Abba's love. **All:** Amen

Liturgy of the Word. Excerpts from *The Message* by Eugene H Peterson

Pat. The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.
The minute Peter came through the door, Cornelius was up on his feet greeting him—and then down on his face worshiping him! Peter pulled him up and said, "None of that—I'm a man and only a man, no different from you."
Peter fairly exploded with his good news: "It's God's own truth, nothing could be plainer: God plays no favorites! It makes no difference who you are or where you're from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. The Message he sent to the children of Israel—that through Jesus Christ everything is being put together again—well, he's doing it everywhere, among everyone."
No sooner were these words out of Peter's mouth than the Holy Spirit came on the listeners. The believing Jews who had come with Peter couldn't believe it, couldn't believe that the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on "outsider" non-Jews, but there it was—they heard them speaking in tongues, heard them praising God.

Then Peter said, "Do I hear any objections to baptizing these friends with water? They've received the Holy Spirit exactly as we did." Hearing no objections, he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay on for a few days.
These are the inspiring words of Luke, that author of Acts, and the community responds
Michael & All

Love before us, Love behind us, Love under our feet.
Love within us, Love over us, Let all around us be Love.

Bob: The second reading is from chapter 4 of the first letter of John.
My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn't know the first thing about God, because God is love—so you can't know him if you don't love. This is how God showed his love for us: God sent his only Son into the world so we might live through him. This is the kind of love we are talking about—not that we once upon a time loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they've done to our relationship with God.
My dear, dear friends, if God loved us like this, we certainly ought to love each other. No one has seen God, ever. But if we love one

another, God dwells deeply within us, and his love becomes complete in us—perfect love!
This reading is from Jesus' beloved disciple John, and the community responds,

Michael & All

Love before us, Love behind us, Love under our feet.
Love within us, Love over us, Let all around us be Love.

Pat. A reading from the Good News attributed to Jesus' beloved disciple John, chapter 15. This reading begins at the end of last week's reading on the vine and the branches.
I've loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you'll remain intimately at home in my love. That's what I've done—kept my Father's commands and made myself at home in his love.

I've told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I'm no longer calling you servants because servants don't understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from my Abba.

You didn't choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won't spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask my Amma in relation to me, she gives you.

But remember the root command: Love one another.

Michael & All

Love before us, Love behind us, Love under our feet.
Love within us, Love over us, Let all around us be Love.

Shared Homily. Michael & Community

Mary & All. Profession of Faith.

We believe in God, the creator of the universe,
the fountain of life, flowing through every being.
We believe in Jesus the Christ
who reflects the face of God and the fullness of humanity.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God in the cosmos,
who calls us to loving service without counting the cost.
We believe in our global communion with all in the circle of life.

Amen to loving actions on behalf of justice, healing,
compassion and equality for all in our world!
We are called to be light to the world!

Prayers of the Community
Jack: Aware that the Holy One is present within us and works through us, we bring to the table our intentions.
Response: We remember and we pray.
We bring to the table the many families and children who suffer due to wars in the Ukraine and in Gaza and Israel, **R.**
We bring to the table the hundreds of thousands of displaced, starving women & children in Gaza. May love drive us to provide for so many who are suffering and dying. **R.**
We bring to the table the seriously ill, particularly members of MMOJ and our family and friends. **R.**
Joan M. We bring to the table the petitions in our MMOJ prayer book, especially….
Jack. And who/what else do we bring to the table today? **R.**
We can do all things in the power of the Spirit of love working through us. **All:** Amen

Offering of Our Gifts at the table *Have bread and wine on your table*
Mary. O Holy One, we bring you our gifts from creation, bread of the grain and wine of the grapes. We recognize that they are holy in you their creator. And we know that they will make us holy, one with you and one with each other.

Mary. Please join in song to begin our **Eucharistic Prayer**
Here in This Place **https://youtu.be/sgkWXOSGmOQ**

Lee & All, *with hand extended in blessing:* As we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, send down your Spirit Sophia on us and on these gifts of bread and wine that they may become for us your body, healing and making us whole. And that we may become for you, your body, loving and caring in the world until your kindom comes. Amen.

Jack & All:
On the night before he died, while at supper with his friends,
Jesus took bread said the blessing,

broke the bread 🥖 and gave it to them saying,
"Take and eat. This is my very self." (Pause)
Jesus then raised high the cup of blessing
and offered them the wine🍷with these words,
"Take and drink of the covenant made new
through my life for you and for everyone.
Whenever you do this, remember me."

Bob & All:
Remember, gracious God, your Church throughout the world.
Open us to welcome everyone.
In union with all people,
may we strive to create a world where suffering is diminished,
and where all people can live in health and wholeness.
Thru Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, gracious God. Amen

Michael This is Jesus, God with us, loving us forever. All are invited to partake of this sacred banquet of love. **All:** We are the Body of Christ.
All sing 🎶: Holy gifts for holy people, come you hungry and believe.
Come receive Christ's body offered, come and be what you receive(x2)

Communion Instrumental 🎶 Sentinel Meadow, Mars Lasar
http://youtube.com/watch?v=B9JFOEcq1GA&fea 2:33

Mary: We pray our common prayer that Jesus taught us:
All: 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 echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your will be done by all created beings!
May your beloved community 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 forever. Amen.

Adapted from The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa.
This version of the Lord's prayer was influenced by Maori theologians

Michael. Prayers of Thanksgiving. Announcements.

Final Blessing. *With hand extended in prayer*
Michael & All
Peace before us, Peace behind us, Peace under our feet
Peace within us, Peace over us, Let all around us be Peace.
Love before us, Love behind us, Love under our feet
Love within us, Love over us, Let all around us be Love.
Christ before us, Christ behind us, Christ under our feet,
Christ within us, Christ over us, Let all around us be Christ!

Lee. Go in the peace of Christ.
Let us bring God's reign of love and peace to all those we meet!
Lee & All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Final Song Hymn of Promise by Natalie Sleeth
https://youtu.be/sDpByzZqeQ4?si=H0rT4_0lT7C_CAv-

To support our community, please send your check to:
Mary Mother of Jesus Inclusive Catholic Community
5342 Clark Road #3079, Sarasota, FL 34238

Email your prayer petitions to Joan Meehan: **JMeehan515@aol.com**

You can find our weekly liturgy at: **MMOJliturgies.blogspot.com**