



St. Mary Magdalene

— EPISCOPAL CHURCH —

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024 | 10:00 am

Welcome to St Mary Magdalene! Whether this is your first time here or you are a long-time member, we're glad you are joining us for worship this morning. We know that people come to church seeking many different things: a fresh worship experience, a sanctuary for rest and healing, a social network, connection with long-time friends, a deeper relationship with God, or a first-time introduction to the Way of Jesus. Some may not yet know why the Spirit has led them here.

We welcome the opportunity to learn more about you and your spiritual journey, and to become your companions on the way for however long you may be with us. Please look over the information on the bulletin insert and feel free to stop by our Welcome Center to learn more about our community.

In the meantime, we are blessed to have you with us as we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to God.
Peace,

Rev. Bruce H. Swinehart

Service Notes

SMM Health Precautions: We recommend wearing a mask in order to protect our most vulnerable members. Please wash your hands often and if you are not feeling well stay home and attend our service on YouTube.

Children: We welcome the presence of children among us! Children of all ages are welcome to come up for the Children's Homily at the beginning of the service, and are welcome throughout the service. Our nursery is not currently staffed, but is open for diaper changing if needed.

Coats: Coat racks are available in the hallway off the main entrance to the church. Please utilize coat racks instead of chair backs so as not to block access to book pockets on church chairs.

Frequency: St. Mary Magdalene offers two weekend services. The first is a year-round Contemplative Service every Saturday evening at 5:00 pm; 2nd and 4th Saturdays are in person/livestream hybrid; other Saturdays are online only via Zoom. On Sundays there is a 10:00 am service (with music, in the sanctuary and live-streamed) also year-round.

Format: The weekly bulletin contains the service outline and page numbers for any music. The liturgy is based on ones found in the Book of Common Prayer. Words in bold are spoken by the entire congregation. Most people will stand to sing, sit to listen, and either stand or kneel during the prayers, but please use whatever posture is most helpful and comfortable for you. Feel free to ask someone if you would like help understanding any part of the service.

Music & Singing: Hymn numbers refer to Songs for Worship, which can be found in the chairback pockets.

The Peace: A longstanding tradition of the Episcopal Church is to exchange The Peace with those sitting near you in preparation for Communion. The traditional exchange is, "The peace of the Lord be with you"; the response is, "And also with you." During this time, please share the peace while maintaining distance from those outside of your household.

Receiving Communion: All are welcome to receive communion. Ushers will invite you to the altar at the appropriate time. The bread will be placed in your outstretched hands; a response of "Amen" is traditional. Due to health precautions, communion wine is served in single serving cups. Those whose circumstances make it difficult to come to the altar may receive communion at their seats by notifying the ushers or clergy.

Healing Prayer: During and following Communion, individuals who have specific prayer requests are invited to approach the prayer station, or *prie dieu* (pronounced pray dew), for confidential prayer with trained Healing Prayer volunteers.

Community Blessing for New Beginnings: Please come to the front of the sanctuary for a communal prayer, if you want to acknowledge and/or celebrate a significant milestone, including your desire to become part of, or to renew your commitment to, the community of St. Mary Magdalene.

Accessible Seating: Please check with the ushers and greeters for accessible seating.

Restrooms: Gender-neutral restrooms are located next to the nursery. Additional restrooms are located in the Education Wing.

Preludes

Ryan Connell

As the prelude begins please quiet your hearts to prepare for worship.

Welcome and Announcements

The Word of God

Opening Hymn *(Please stand as you are able.)*

We Know That Christ Is Raised Songs for Worship #293

Gathering Words

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise

Songs for Worship S4

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Children's Homily

The First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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



Psalm 22:24-30

My praise is of God in the great as | ssembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the | Lord.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall give | praise: *
“May your heart live for | ever!”
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the | Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before | God.
For sovereignty belongs to the | Lord, *
who rules over the | nations.
To God alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in | worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before | God.
My soul shall live for God; my descendants shall serve | God; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for | ever.
They shall come and make known to a people yet un | born *
the saving deeds that God has | done.

The Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

Sequence Hymn

Sing a New Church Songs for Worship #161

The Gospel

John 15:1-8

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless

you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

A moment of silent reflection is observed following the Gospel.

The Sermon

Rev. Sasha Bilow

A period of silence follows to reflect on the sermon.

Affirmation of Faith *(Please stand as you are able.)*

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.**

**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,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father,
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.**

The Prayers of the People

Intercessions for the Christian People, p. 104

Celebrant Let us join through prayer with everything that lives. Let us acknowledge to God the one life we share, saying: O God, who makes us one, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor 1 O God, your Holy Spirit is alive in all the earth. Your Spirit that moved and shaped land and sea, trees and beasts still moves and shapes us into creation. Through Christ we know your one Holy Spirit, for you are God of all. That all the world may know your Spirit, we pray: O God, who makes us one, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor 2 Open your world before our eyes, so that we see far and near. Show us newly what lives around us, over and behind and within. Give us the mind of Christ. O God, who makes us one, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor 3 Bring us to one another, that we may hear and understand each other. Bring trust and sympathy between the peoples of the world. Make all nations one household with many rooms. O God, who makes us one, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor 4 Heal us who are sick. Cheer us who are guilty. Love us who are alone. Join us who are distant. Call all the world to yourself. O God, who makes us one, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor 5 Enliven the church with the Spirit of Christ. Through us give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort. Make our many gifts one offering for the world. O God, who makes us one, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered, silently or aloud.

Celebrant O God, keep our minds inside your love, for we are many parts and need to be one. We beg for this unity which only your Spirit can give, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All are invited to exchange expressions of God's peace.

Community Blessing *(Please be seated.)*

Book of Common Prayer p. 830 #50

Those desiring a special blessing for anything "new" in your life – birthday, anniversary, baby, job, etc. – are invited to come forward. Those desiring to identify themselves to our church community as members of St. Mary Magdalene are invited to come forward.

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants in the journeys of their lives. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Offertory Hymn *(please remain seated)*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling Songs for Worship #131

Presentation Hymn *(please stand as you are able)*

Praise God Songs for Worship S8

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

Enriching Our Worship Prayer 2

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord Songs for Worship S9

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to

you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:

Lord’s Prayer

Refer to blue music sheet in chair pocket

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Behold who you are. Become what you receive.

All who wish are invited to come forward at this time to receive communion. The bread will be placed in your outstretched hands; a response of “Amen” is traditional. Due to health precautions, communion wine is served in single serving cups. Those whose circumstances make it difficult to come to the altar may receive communion at their seats by notifying the ushers or clergy. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of bread and wine, cross your arms over your chest as you come forward.



If you would like to receive communion bread



If you would like a blessing

The Communion Hymns

Songs for Worship #92, 108, 100, 94

The Prayer After Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **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 proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Sending of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ’s Body and Blood.

People **May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Holy Communion from the altar of St. Mary Magdalene.**

The Blessing

Celebrant Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you always. **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

O Love, How Deep Songs for Worship #273

The Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postludes

Ryan Connell

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Sunday Volunteers for April 28, 2024

Verger - Rick Fredo

Vestry Announcements - Margaret Buttery

Greeters - Karla Allen & Vickie Morgan

Ushers - Jack and Joan Wheeler

Altar Guild - Judy Nieusma & Colleen Brolin

Acolytes - Eamon Temme & Joseph Temme

Lectors - LCB: Carla Hunter & CB2: Myra O'Leary

Healing Prayer - Linda White

AV Engineer - Joshua Monen

Communion Bread - Joan Wheeler

Godly Play I - Barb Houlik & Amy Thornbury

Godly Play II - Carmel Hill & Karen Henson

Altar Flowers - Lucy Carter

A Community Celebrating and Sharing God's Love

Sunday	04/28	10:00am	Sunday Worship (in person and livestreamed on YouTube)
Sunday	04/28	1:00pm	Misa en Español (in person and livestreamed on YouTube)
Tuesday	04/30	9:15am	Centering Prayer (in person in the Library and on Zoom)
Wednesday	05/01	9:00am	Men's Discussion Group (in person in the Library and on Zoom)
Saturday	05/04	8:00am	Church Work Day (in person at SMM)
Saturday	05/04	5:00pm	Contemplative Prayer (on Zoom)

Donate to Our Offering Plate

Please prayerfully consider giving to our plate offering today. Your generosity helps support the work and mission of the church. You can also give online (at smmboulder.org/give) or text GIVE to 720-797-5717.

Coffee Hour | Sign Up Sheet Is Available

Pick your Sunday to sponsor Coffee Hour! Sign up sheet is on the sign up table in the entryway.

Misa en Español | Sunday, April 28, 1pm (In person in the library and on Zoom)

Centering Prayer | Tuesdays, 9:15am - 10:15am (in person and on Zoom)

This is a great time to join Centering Prayer as we begin our new book, *Meditations of the Heart* by Howard Thurman (with a new foreword by Yolanda Pierce) on Tuesday, April 16. Please join us for a time of centering prayer followed by readings from contemplative authors as well as discussion. Contact the office at office@smmboulder.org for more information.

Men's Discussion Group | Wednesdays, 9:00 - 10:00am (in person and on Zoom)

Join us for open discussion and examination of spiritual themes.

Church Work Day | Saturday, May 4, 8:00am - Noon

Mark your calendars for the workday on Saturday, May 4!! There are many tasks to accomplish to spruce up the church grounds for the bishop's visit on May 5. Come when you can, leave when you have to.

Bishop's Visitation | Sunday, May 5, 10:00am Service

Youth Group | Sunday, May 5th at 4:30pm (in person at SMM)

Join us at 4:30 at SMM for a pizza dinner and the opportunity to share your hopes for St. Mary Magdalene with the visioning committee. We will also have a scavenger hunt (with prizes) to help you get to know the Book of Common Prayer.