



St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church  
**Sacred Sophia Contemplative Eucharist**

April 27, 2024 | 5:00 pm

Contemplative Prelude

Lisa Muratore Beckelhymer

Welcome

Rev. Mary Hardy

Hymn (*sing 1x*)

“Be Still and Know,” *Songs for Worship #109*

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am.

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am. *rit.*

Be still and know. Be still and know. *rit.* Be still. Be still. Be.

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Collect

Divine Wisdom, Sacred Sophia, Feminine Face of God, we know you from Holy Scriptures. You co-created with God all that is, as you laughed and delighted in the beauty of Earth, in our beauty as creatures of Earth, yet full of light. You called us to eat of your bread and drink of your wine. You are present with us now. Drench us with your Spirit. Crack our hearts open with Your transforming Love. **Amen.**

## Scripture

Proverbs 8: 1-11

Wisdom is not silent; She boldly raises Her voice above the din. She stands upon the most desolate peak, and the busiest highway, at every intersection, gate, and doorway. Listen to Me, all of you! Listen to Me, for I speak of noble things. Truth comes from My lips. My words are just and simple. Reason and understanding will show you the rightness of My words. Accept Me, Wisdom-Sophia, rather than silver and fine gold. For I surpass rubies; nothing equals the gift I offer you.

Hymn (*sing 3x*)

*Alleluia* Taizé 7

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

## Lectio Divina: Contemplative Reading of the Gospel

John 14: 15-20

Anything you ask in My name I will do. If you love Me and obey the command I give you, I will ask the One who sent Me to give you another Advocate, another Helper to be with you always-the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept since the world neither sees her nor recognizes her; but you can recognize the Spirit because she remains with you and will be within you. I will not leave you orphaned; I will come back to you. A little while now and the world will see me no more; but you will see me; because I live, and you will live as well. On that day you will know that I am in God, and you are in me, and I am in you.

**Read 3 times with 2 minutes of silence after each reading.**

Hymn (*sing 4x*)

*Ubi Caritas* Taizé 49

**Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

## Praying in the Power and Spirit of Sacred Sophia

*Presider* My friends, I invite you to lift up to our loving Sophia that which gives joy to or burdens your heart this evening. For whom or what shall we pray?

*As the music plays quietly in the background you may pray silently, aloud, or light a candle as a symbol of your petition or thanksgiving. After a time we will conclude in song.*

Hymn (*sing continuously while table is prepared*)

*Veni Sancte Spiritus* Taizé 41

**Veni sancte Spiritus. Holy Spirit come to us.**

Eucharistic Prayer (*please stand as you are able*)

*Enriching our Worship* Prayer 3

*Presider* May God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to God**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to our God.

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

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of Earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

*Presider and People*

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and grace,  
heaven and Earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your Earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*Presider and People*     **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. **Amen.**

### **The Prayer of Jesus**

The New Zealand Prayer Book

**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 forever. **Amen.****

## The Breaking of the Bread

*Presider* 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.**

*Presider* Behold who you are. Become what you receive.

## Post Communion Hymn

*Enemy of Apathy* SFW 77 vs 1, 3-4

**She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters,  
hov'ring on the chaos of the world's first day;  
She sighs and she sings, mothering creation,  
waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.**

**She dances in fire, startling her spectators,  
waking tongues of ecstasy where dumbness reigned;  
She weans and inspires all whose hearts are open,  
nor can she be captured, silenced, or restrained.**

**For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,  
gifted by the Savior in eternal love;  
and she is the key opening the scriptures,  
enemy of apathy and heavenly dove.**

## The Blessing

May Sophia's blessing be with you and with all those you love, and pray for, and serve, this night and always. **Amen**

## Dismissal and Peace

*Presider* May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People* **And also with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Postlude

Lisa Muratore Beckelhymer

In the Wisdom writings of the Hebrew Scriptures (Proverbs) God is personified as female "Wisdom." In the Apocrypha, Wisdom writings are also found (Ecclesiasticus or Baruch and The Book of Wisdom or The Wisdom of Solomon). Since the Greek translation of "Wisdom" is "Sophia," it has become common among scholars to use "Sophia." In Proverbs Sophia is with God before creation; together they create all that is, permeating all with radiant light and spirit. Sophia delights in her cherished beings, calling them to herself and her way of goodness and compassionate justice.

In The Book of Wisdom, which was written around the time of Jesus, Sophia comes to her fullest development as a female image of God, creating, ordering, loving and saving the world. Some in the early Christian movement saw Jesus as the child of Sophia and spokesperson for the compassion of Sophia-God. Some worshiped Jesus as Jesus-Sophia.

Resource: *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, by Marcus Borg; see the Wisdom/Sophia chapters.

## 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](http://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](mailto: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.