

Sunday, June 22, 2025

Eucharist Liturgy

Opening Song: [\(4\) WE COME TO YOUR FEAST - YouTube](#)

Opening Prayer: Let us begin as we begin all things. In the name of the Creator, the Word and Holy Wisdom + Let us pray:

God of Mystery and Abundance,

We gather today to affirm our belief in compassion, advocating for others and speaking truth to power because of God's love. May we embrace God's immense generosity to those in need. We stand in faith ready to defend those who are marginalized, alone or at risk. Give us the wisdom to know how and when to act. This we pray as Full Circle. **AMEN.**

Penitential Rite:

God, our Mother and Father of compassion, through his living, dying, and rising, Jesus has revealed that nothing can separate us from the infinite love of God. May God give us pardon and peace, and may we forgive each other our failures to care for one another and for our earth in the name of God our creator, and of Jesus our brother, and of the Holy Spirit our wisdom. Amen.

Gloria:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. O God, heavenly Being, all loving God and Mother, we praise you, we give you thanks, we honor all creation. Jesus Christ, blessed Son of the Creator, Our God, help us to become a loving people: for you have loved us from the beginning and you dwell within us always. For you, Eternal Word, are Whole and Holy, you are the light of our faith, one with the Trinity, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God our Father. Amen.

(Choose Readers)

FIRST READING: A Reading from Genesis 14:18-20

Sarai and Abram had a nephew named Lot who was taken captive. Abram and many from their household went to bring him back. When they returned with Lot, Melchizedek, the ruler of Salem, brought out bread and wine to celebrate.

Melchizedek, who was also a priest of El-Elyon, God of the Universe, blessed them, saying:

"Blessed are you,
Abram and Sarai and all your house,
by the God of the Universe,
Author of all that is!
Blessed be the God of the Universe,
who has delivered you from your enemy's hands,
and your nephew back into your hands!"

The Word of an Ancient Israelite Writer.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 110:1-4

Our Psalm Response is:

Come! Drink from the streams of Living Water.
Come! Feast on the Bread of Life.

**R: Come! Drink from the streams of Living Water.
Come! Feast on the Bread of Life.**

The Word of God to God's Servant Leader:
Reign alongside me until enemies are no more,
until your foes become friends.
My staff, which is My scepter, is in your hands.
You and your people will be ready to rise,
facing enemies and fears.

**R: Come! Drink from the streams of Living Water.
Come! Feast on the Bread of Life.**

In the holy splendor before dawn,
from the womb of the morning,
like dew, your vigor will return.

**R: Come! Drink from the streams of Living Water.
Come! Feast on the Bread of Life.**

The promise holds true:
God's mind is set on you.
"You are a priest forever
according to the order of Melchizedek."

**R: Come! Drink from the streams of Living Water.
Come! Feast on the Bread of Life.**

SECOND READING: A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 11:23-26

I received from the Christ what I have also handed on to you: that Christ Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and after giving thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and said, "This cup is the covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink from it, do so in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim Jesus' death until the Christ comes again.

The Words of Institution, as handed down from the earliest Christians.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A Reading from the Gospel attributed to Luke 9:10-17

Glory to You, O God.

After the disciples returned from their mission, they told Jesus stories of all they had done. Jesus withdrew quietly with them to a town called Bethsaida, where they could be alone. The crowds, meanwhile, learned about it and followed him. Jesus welcomed them. He spoke to them about the kin-dom of God and healed those who needed healing.

The day was drawing to a close. The disciples came to Jesus and said, "Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and farms to find lodging and food. This is a deserted place."

But Jesus said to them, "You give them something to eat."

They said, "We only have five loaves and two fish – unless you want us to go and buy food for all these people?" There were about 5,000 families.

But Jesus said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." The disciples did so, and everyone sat down. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing over them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. All ate and were satisfied. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

The Gospel of God.

Praise to You, Jesus the Christ.

Homily

Recently, I went to see my Spiritual Director, Marsha Lowe. She's known me for years and has supported me through many rough patches. This time, my issues were less intense. I shared with Marsha that I've been struggling with how to connect to God in a more personal way. The God I know now is very different from the God I've known, more abstract like the Source. As a chaplain, I'd often ask patients what their image of God was. It helped give me a frame of reference for how to support them spiritually. Some would reference the "old man on the throne" or Jesus or the Father. Those are common, anthropomorphic answers; a God that is finite and humanly defined. For most of us, this God morphs. I hope your image of God has changed over time. This can happen for various reasons. In my case, it was often because the image was no longer sufficient or negative.

Once, I remember when I could no longer pray to God the Father. My brother, David had just died, and I was not only angry but enraged. My dad was the pious, ever-faithful Catholic who somehow used the story of Abraham being asked to sacrifice his son to feel okay about God and David's death. Ewww.

I needed an entirely new God, one that had no prior connotations. My then spiritual director suggested the name, Ruah, from the Hebrew scriptures. Ruah. I liked the sound of it but mostly I liked that I had no connection with this name. Ruah felt feminine to me and that helped; a grandmother-like God who held me while I grieved. That enabled me to pray again. And my prayers were not pretty. Ruah never seemed to mind.

When I read today's gospel, I'm reminded of a generous God, one who notices the needs of their people. This God will feed them, both physically and spiritually. And there are leftovers! Such a visual for all who try to imagine this event. So, when Marsha started to tell me about Visio Divina, I

was hooked. Visio Divina instead of Lectio Divina, is divine seeing instead of divine reading. She encouraged me to look around, to notice God in all things and of course, all people. We happened to be in City Park and there is plenty to see there but it shouldn't matter where we are. Can we find God in anything and anyone?

The disciples who helped give food to the multitude learned a powerful lesson that day. Instead of panicking and reacting, "Send them away!" they learned to trust and to act in accordance with Jesus. Each of us needs to savor this (another sense) and take time to see. God is here among us, in all of creation. There is plenty to go around.

As you know, I saw James Taylor last weekend at Red Rocks. At one point he said, "I'm not going to talk politics but I will say, we just need to take care of each other." There was silence then applause as he began strumming the lyrics to "Shower the People." I got emotional because it really is that simple. Start with those you love, then keep reaching out further.

[James Taylor - Shower The People \(Live at the Beacon Theater\)](#)

You can play the game
You can act out the part
Though you know
It wasn't written for you
Tell me how can you stand there
With your broken heart
Ashamed of playin' a fool?

One thing can be to another
It doesn't take any sacrifice
Oh, Father and Mother
And sister and brother

If it feels nice

Don't think twice

Just shower the people you love with love

Show them the way that you feel

Things are gonna work out fine

If you only will

Do as I say...

I would be remiss if I didn't link this with Corpus Christi. Jesus, at the last supper was giving of himself, completely. As Catholics, we believe that his words that night are worth cherishing, so much so that they are part of our sacramental ritual. Today, we will say those words and by doing so, we embrace that God is fully with us, nourishing us with bread and wine as his body and blood. Transubstantiation is a mystery. Many of us have varying views about it but I hope we can agree that God is truly here, in each of us, as we give thanks and remember. Just as James encourages us to "shower the people with love," Jesus empowers us to do just that. God's grace through the Eucharist enables us to move beyond our instinctual reactivity to protect ourselves first and, instead, to shower others with love. Imagine a world where love pours like rain on all peoples. Right now, that seems far off, with a leader who cannot act from love but only from fear. And so, we will show that we are wiser than fear. We understand that love is stronger than fear and hatred. And we will be the ones to shower the people with love, to care for one another. AMEN.

Profession of Faith

ALL: 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 love and serve 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 believe we are light to the world! Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful:

We invite you to give voice to any concerns, needs and thanksgivings. After each petition, please say, "Hear our prayer." **Our response: Amen.**

We believe that you hear our prayers and join us in our time of need and gratitude. For these and the requests we carry in the silence of our hearts, be near and fill us with your grace. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

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. **All: 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 our spiritual drink. **All: Blessed be God forever.**

My siblings, let us pray that these gifts may be acceptable to God, our Creator. + **All: Creator God, accept these gifts from our hands for the praise and glory of your name, for our good and the good of all your people.**

Ever-gentle God, Jesus accepted all who came to him as an example for us. Accept our gifts, our intentions and ourselves. We offer our lives in service to you and your people. Fill us with the spirit of humility and love. We ask this through Jesus our hope. **Amen.**

Eucharist Prayer I

[Compiled and adapted by Full Circle]

Creator God, Jesus' disciples, both male and female, knew the power of love, and they became the tellers of love's tale in both word and practice. Love united them in faith, love bound them in praise, love cemented their purpose, enjoining them to live in a faith community with true compassion, concern and love for the poorest among them. Jesus' commandment of love announced a new world of justice, reconciliation and peace. Jesus, filled with the spirit, gave his life to change the unjust practices of this world. For our sake, He suffered, died and revealed the resurrection. In this He fulfilled God's will, establishing for all time the reign of truth upon the earth. And so, we join the angels and saints in proclaiming Your glory as we say:

Holy, holy, holy, God of gentleness and light. Heaven

***and Earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna in the Highest.***

We give You thanks for the gift of conscience that allows us to recognize the hypocrisy of our time, and in Your name, seek to rectify the errors that have worked to separate us, Your people, from You. Aware that we are one with You, we give You praise for Your loving presence in all people to discern for themselves that we are the Church, and we have the responsibility to lay the groundwork for a new model of Catholicism that engages the talents of Your People. We thank You for Jesus who showed us the way to put our energy into changing ourselves.

On the night of His arrest, as Jesus shared a meal with his friends, He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his followers, saying:

(Please extend your hands and say these words together)

Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body, which will be given up for you.

When the supper was over, He took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to His disciples, saying:

(Please extend your hands and say these words together)

Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the life of the new and everlasting covenant, a covenant of love. Do this in memory of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

God of love, spirit of compassion, bless us and this bread and wine. May this meal be food and drink for our journey—renewing, sustaining, and making us whole. When we eat this bread and drink from this cup we experience again the presence of Jesus in our midst. The table is ready. All are welcome. Come, for the feast is spread. Send us from here to reveal Your love to the world. Inspire in us the resolve and the courage, the compassion and the passion, to do justice, to offer kindness, and to walk with You.

God of light and truth, we ask Your assistance to reclaim our church and bring it in line with the gospel values on which it was founded. We are interested in "re-founding" Your Church with a structure like the early Christian Church—through small faith communities at the grass roots, reflecting the Gospel of the living, liberating and raising us up in Jesus the Christ. Consequently, we are putting our energy into changing ourselves and educating ourselves that we are the Church and we have the responsibility to re-claim our Catholic beliefs and values.

**All: *Through Christ, may all creation unfold;
With Christ, may all creation be one;
In Christ, may all divisions be healed;
In the unity of the Holy Spirit, may all glory and
Honor be Yours, forever and ever. Amen!***

Kiss of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

The Lord's Prayer: (We now offer this version that is based on the original Aramaic and interpreted by Neil Douglas Klotz)

O Cosmic Birther of all radiance and vibration!

***Focus Your light within us—make it useful.
Soften the ground of our being
And carve out a space within us
Where Your presence can abide.***

***Fill us with Your creativity
So that we may be empowered
To bear the fruit of Your mission.
Let each of our actions bear fruit
In accordance with Your desire.***

***Endow us with the wisdom
To produce and share what each being needs
To grow and flourish.***

***Untie the tangled threads that bind us,
As we release others
From the entanglement of past mistakes.***

***Do not let us be reduced
By that which would divert us from our true purpose
But illuminate the opportunities of the present moment.***

***For You are the ground and fruitful vision,
The birth, power and fulfillment,
As all is gathered and made whole once again. Amen.***

Communion: This is Jesus, the Bread of Life and the Wine of Salvation. How blessed are we who are called to this table.

All: God, by your invitation, we delight in our worthiness to receive you.

Communion Meditation:

On this Corpus Christi Sunday, let's renew our understanding of where the Body and Blood of Christ point us as Richard Rohr calls us to "So many religious people could be called "defenders of the metaphors!" they love the bread or the water, but do not go where they point: to the inherent sacrality of quite ordinary things... the soul surely uses and enjoys well-done rituals- the kind where we are not just affirming ourselves by roles, genders, or sacred words that only some can speak, but also pointing ourselves to the transcendent and to the always-present presence. The question is whether the ritual is pointing to the good, the true, and the beautiful." Put differently by Pope Francis "Adoring the Body and Blood of Christ, let us ask Him with our heart: "Lord, give me that daily bread to go forward, and satisfy me with your presence!"

Announcements:

- 1) CRC meeting
- 2) June 29th: Business/Adult Ed. "History of Full Circle"
- 3) MK here all of July
- 4) Pride?
- 5) Website: Sadie

Closing Prayer: Creator God,

Help us to have the stillness and peace of mind to be receptive to what you want to show us. God be in our eyes and God be in our hearts. Help us to see with your eyes through Visio Divina (Divine Seeing) to recognize your presence, alive in everything and everyone! **AMEN.**

Blessing: May our loving God bless you, in the name of the Creator, the Word and Holy Wisdom + Our mass has ended but our service has just begun. Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.