



Community of St. Bridget
an inclusive catholic experience
Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 13, 2024
Indigenous Peoples' Day 10/14
Liturgist: Donna Nagel



The rich person. Pinterest

Suggestion: *Please provide a piece of bread and cup of wine/juice, and a copy of this liturgy so that you can fully participate.*

Welcome to the Community of St. Bridget. Your participation in our liturgy is essential and makes this celebration very special. Here the ordinary is sanctified, the human is celebrated, the compassionate is expected.

ALL: Together we make it a holy place with our every act of celebration.

With the flame of St. Bridget's fire, we proclaim the transformative power of God. We give thanks that God's transforming love has been, is now, and will ever be at work within us and in all creation. Christ's Spirit is alive and living among us! May the fire of this light continue to shine! Amen.

Opening Song: **Come Follow Me** Gael Berberick · Barney Walker; Album: Through The Eyes Of Faith © 2005 OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland OR 97213. All rights reserved.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI2xeJwrTt0> (no video)

Refrain: Come follow me and live
Do not be afraid, believe and trust in
me Your faith will give you strength
Leave all your fears behind you
Let your heart be free, for I will be your guide
O come and follow me.

Come follow in these footsteps I'll lead you gently home
No shelter food nor money will you need upon this road. **R**

Come walk across the water. Place all your faith in me
Cast all your doubts behind you to the wind and raging sea. **R**

If you remain within me, my words remain in you. Whatever you may ask of me, that is what I will do. **R**

In our Scripture readings today, Jesus highlights the importance of not only keeping the commandments but challenges us to consider whether we do so with love. The gift of wisdom enables us to choose wisely in our daily actions. Today we also honor all Indigenous Peoples whose faith in the Divine has given us prayers that speak to our hearts and give us a greater appreciation of all creation. We will include some of their prayers in our liturgy today. Recalling the many blessings we have received, and giving thanks for God's living word, let us begin in the name of the Divine: Source of All Being, Eternal Word and +Holy Spirit. Amen.

Transformation Rite

As we prepare to celebrate this sacred meal, and as we acknowledge all that prevents us from accepting God's loving forgiveness and healing touch, let us be open to the transformative power of our indwelling God:

1. Jesus, you invite us to follow you and you forgive us for the times we turn away from your invitation.

ALL: O gracious One, thank you for understanding our weaknesses.

2. Jesus, you have taught us that love is the answer to all our concerns, yet we still persist in doing things based on our own wants.

ALL: O gracious One, send your spirit of wisdom to guide us in all our affairs.

3. So often we struggle to change our attitudes and practices that keep us from becoming more mature Christians as we continue our journey back to wholeness.

ALL: O gracious One, strengthen our resolve to grow in wisdom that we may understand your message and how to apply it in our lives. Amen.

Gloria: ***Praise, Give Glory to God*** by Denise Pyles on *Creation of Love*, © 2010-03-19. <https://youtu.be/tA22QokvwPA?si=1gXks20MeRTt-8UC&t=25>
(no video; begin 0:25)

Praise, praise, give glory to God! Nations, peoples, give glory! Strong the love embracing us, faithful our God forever.

Alleluia, alleluia! (x3)

Opening Prayer

Loving Creator, you have generously blessed all people with the Spirit of your wisdom and love for one another and for creation. May we live each day in gratitude and praise for your constant presence and assistance in our lives. We make these requests in the name of Jesus. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD*

We experience the Spirit of Our Living God as we listen to the Scripture readings broken open and shared by all.

First Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11

A reading from the book of Wisdom:

So I prayed, and understanding was given to me;
I called for help and the spirit of Wisdom came to my aid.
I valued Wisdom above even my throne and scepter
and all my great wealth was nothing next to this.
I held no precious jewel as an equal, because all the gold in the world was just
a handful of sand compared with Her, and all the silver in the world was worth
no more than mud.

I loved Wisdom more than health and beauty; I preferred Wisdom to the light of
day, whose countenance shone unceasingly. Through Wisdom, I received all
good things, and I had wealth beyond counting.

The inspired words of the ancient writer of the Book of Wisdom. Amen.

Responsorial: Psalm 90 (Nan Merrill, adapted)

Cantor: *O Holy One, you have been our refuge in all generations.*

When our days on Earth are ended, You welcome us home to your Heart, to the
city of Light, where time is eternal and days are not numbered. **R**

For our days on Earth are a mystery, a search for You, a yearning for the great
Mystery to make itself known. **R**

Teach us, O Beloved, to honor each day that we may have a heart of wisdom.
Help us to wait in silence listening for your gentle Voice: Strengthen us with
courage to face the fears within. **R**

Let your Love be known to the nations, your glory to our children's children. Let the grace and gentleness of the Holy Spirit be upon us, guiding our feet upon paths of Love consciousness. **R.**

Cantor: 8 Alleluias

Second Reading – Gospel: Mark 10:17-25, 28-30

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark:

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, someone came running up and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to share in everlasting life?" Jesus answered, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: No killing. No committing adultery. No stealing. No bearing false witness. No defrauding. Honor your mother and your father."

The other replied, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my childhood."

Then Jesus looked at the person with love and said, "There is one thing more that you must do. Go and sell what you have and give to those in need; you will then have treasure in heaven. After that, come and follow me."

At these words, the inquirer, who owned much property, became crestfallen, and went away sadly.

Jesus looked around and said to the disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"

The disciples could only marvel at these words. So Jesus repeated what he had said: "How hard it is to enter the realm of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the Needle's Eye gate than for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!"

Peter was moved to say to Jesus, "We have left everything to follow you!"

Jesus answered, "The truth is, there is no one who has left home, sisters or brothers, mother or father, children or fields, for me and for the sake of the Gospel who will not receive a hundred times as much in this present age — as many homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, children and property, though not without persecution — and, in the age to come, everlasting life."

The inspired words of the evangelist, Mark. Amen.

Cantor: 8 Alleluias

Third Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:11-13 (adapted)

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult I put an end to childish ways.

We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, and we will know God directly just as God knows us.

But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.

The inspired word of St. Paul. Amen.

Homily/Reflection: Donna Nagel

"I had conquered the world, but what then did I have? Without love, I had nothing, nothing at all." These lyrics are taken from the song "Without Love" released in 1970 and sung by a very popular English artist at the time, Tom Jones. If Jesus were into using song to convey his message, I think he would have chosen this one in response to the rich young person in today's gospel.

The individual in question had religiously memorized and kept the Ten Commandments and the other rules of the Jewish religion. Yet, he lacked the maturity to understand that obedience to laws without love in one's heart is "like a noisy gong or clanging cymbal." (1Cor.13:1b)

Paul's message today invites us to leave behind the ways we learned as a child and instead learn how to apply the spirit of those laws and regulations to the unique and routine events of our lives. In doing so, it frees us to abandon our attachments to all the pat answers we memorized and thought we could apply to everyone and everything we encountered as we grew up. However, once we left the friendly confines of our family and friends, we soon discovered that life was not that black and white. As we encountered people from different cultures, ethnic groups and religions whose beliefs and practices were dissimilar to ours, we became keenly aware we needed the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to guide us in making choices that would be life-giving to them and to ourselves.

Let us then accept the challenge to leave behind childish ways and continue our growth in the wisdom of Sophia. For only then will we become the beloved individual God created us to be and live the message of peace, compassion, love and acceptance of others.

Have you ever had to change your opinion about something or someone? How were you able to do this? Please share if you wish.

Holding these thoughts in the sacred space among us, and strengthened by the support of one another, we now proclaim our affirmation of faith:

Affirmation of Faith

4. We believe that where people are gathered together in love, God is present and good things happen and life is full.
5. We believe that we are immersed in mystery, that our lives are more than they seem, that we belong to each other and to a universe of great creative energies, whose source and destiny is God.
6. We believe that through his mother Mary's resolve, the Spirit of God beat in the heart of Jesus of Nazareth, and God's good news was heard by the broken and wounded.
7. We are glad that the Spirit of peace is present with us, the church, as we gather to celebrate our common existence, and the fidelity of God.
1. And most deeply we believe that in our struggle to love, we incarnate God in the world.
2. And so aware of mystery and wonder, caught in friendship and laughter, we become speechless before the joy in our hearts as we celebrate the sacredness of life in this bread broken and fruit of the vine poured out to be shared by all. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

We know that when we raise our minds and hearts in prayer to the Holy Presence within and among us, extraordinary things happen! Mindful of our Creator's love and care for us, we now bring to this Table our blessings, cares, and concerns, and respond: ***We awaken to your call.***

For what and for whom shall we pray?

Creator Spirit, we know that you hear the prayers of your people, and all unspoken concerns that we hold in our hearts. In your compassionate love, strengthen our faith so we may believe that with your guidance we will transform our world. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Sign of Peace

As we prepare this sacred meal, we reaffirm that just as Jesus was anointed, so is each of us. And so, we celebrate our Creator's fruitful

love as we extend our blessings to one another with joy. May the peace that our brother, Jesus, offers, be always with us!

Offertory (Raise bread and cup)

We place on our plate the harvest to be won by labor's love. And into the cup we pour all the sap which is to be pressed out this day from the Earth's fruits.

ALL: O Gracious God, giver of the gifts we bring, receive them from your church gathered here today, affirming the sacrament of your Presence among us.

The Holy One is with us, abounding in Love!

3. We open our hearts in Christ, who lives and loves, heals and empowers through us and give thanks to the Source of All Life.
4. O Loving God, you bring to birth the world of our dreams for mutual respect and partnership. Give us courage to act justly and work collaboratively to change systems that keep people poor and marginalized in our society.
5. We thank you for the women and men who are working for justice and equality in our church and world. Your gift of the Spirit gives us hope that one day, through our unselfish work in your vineyard, all will be living in peace and harmony within your kingdom. With thankful hearts in the company of the angels, saints and all souls created in your love, O God of Abundance and Welcome, we praise you in song:

Holy, Holy, Holy Hosanna by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan © 2019 Worldmaking.net
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFR5opb0f2k> (lyric video)

Holy, holy, holy Hosanna.
Everything everywhere is full of you.

6. Creator God, we see around us the work of your hands, the fruit of your wisdom and love. The unfolding story of creation witnesses unceasingly to your creative power. We, your creatures, often deviate from that wisdom, hindering your creative presence in our midst.
7. Sending among us Jesus, our Light and Hope, you birth afresh in our world the power of Sophia Wisdom, and in the gift of the Spirit, your creative goodness blooms anew, amid the variety and wonder of life.

ALL: Spirit of Life, all that exists is blessed and enlivened by your presence. May these gifts of bread, fruit of the vine, and our very lives, be

+transformed into food that will nourish and sustain us in our time of need.

1. We remember all the courageous companions who have gone before us, the holy women and men who have lived lives of love and service in the midst of hatred, violence and injustice. They are ever-present with us at this Table of Friendship.

At this gathering, we take bread, as Jesus took bread, and we remember, as Jesus remembered, the constant presence of the Spirit of Life and Love. And Jesus offers this bread to us now, saying: **(All raise bread)**

ALL: *Take and eat, this is my very Self given to you. (pause)*

When supper ends, Jesus takes the cup of blessing, speaks the grace, and offers it to us now, saying: **(All raise the cup)**

ALL: *Take and drink this cup of my life-blood, the life of the new and everlasting covenant. It is poured out for you and for all, so that you might be free. Whenever you re-member me like this, I am among you. (pause)*

In sharing this bread and cup, let us embrace the Gospel of justice and peace as we proclaim this mystery of faith:

ALL: Nurtured by your word, nourished by your food;
Called anew to be your people, we acclaim your praise!

2. As we celebrate this sacred meal, we recall the wise and gracious gifts bestowed on us down through the ages; and we look forward in hope, knowing that you, our wise and faithful God, will continue to endow us with abundant blessings.

(Raise bread and cup)

ALL: For it is through learning to live as Jesus lived,
And why he lived,
And for whom he lived,
That we awaken to your Spirit within,
Moving us to worship you truly,
Life-giving God,
At this time, and all time, and in all ways.

Cantor: Amen (x2)

Communion Rite

In the power of this Eucharistic meal, O Divine Spirit, and in union with all people, we unite our thoughts and prayers, asking for wisdom and courage:

3. To discern more wisely the Spirit's call to us in the circumstances of our daily lives;
4. To act justly and courageously in confronting the pain and suffering that desecrates the Earth and its peoples;
5. To take risks in being creative and proactive on behalf of the poor and marginalized.

(Presider raises bread and cup)

This is the Bread and Cup of Life, through which we are nourished and we nourish one another.

ALL: We receive this bread and cup today as the presence of Christ among us!

All are welcome to receive at our Tables of Friendship!

Communion Meditation: **Dream Catcher** by Cusco Apurimac III Album Release Date: 1994; Label: Higher Octave Music © CUSCO*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OevTYCRX7fc> (no video, fade at 2.20)



We now pray to our Creator in the words of Indigenous people:

(First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament by Terry Wildman)

6. O Great Spirit, ...
we honor your name as sacred and holy.
7. Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above
is reflected in the earth below.
1. Provide for us day by day--
the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.

The corn, the squash, and the wild rice.
All the things we need for each day.

2. Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.
3. Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road,
and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.
4. Aho! May it be so!

Closing Prayer

Jesus, give us the courage to go forward in faith willing to abandon the attachments that keep us from total commitment to you. And so we pray in the words of the Lakota people:

Great Mystery, teach me how to trust my heart, my mind, my intuition, my inner knowing, the sense of my body, the blessings of my spirit. Teach me to trust these things so that I may enter my Sacred Space and love beyond my fear and thus Walk in Balance with the passing of each glorious Sun. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing: Please extend your hands for our mutual blessing:
Apache Blessing: (adapted)

May the sun bring you new energy by day,

May the moon softly restore you by night,

May the rain wash away your worries,

May the breeze blow new strength into your being,

May you walk gently through the world and know it's beauty all the days of your life.

We ask + this O Great Spirit. Amen.

Closing Song: ***I Send You with the Grace of My Spirit*** written by Lori True;
Album: Show by Your Life. CCLI Licenses (WB)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOKN7pVH8Hk> (lyric/video)

I send you with the grace of my Spirit.

I send you as companions of peace.
I place you on the path that leads to endless joy.
Go seek me in the least of these.
Show by your life what my gospel requires
Show by your life you are mine. (x3)

Thank you for your courage to worship with us in the spirit of equality and justice, and please feel free to invite a friend to join us next week.

Know that you are always welcome to worship with us and support this Community with your presence and prayer!

* Today's First reading and Gospel are taken from the Inclusive Lectionary, published by the Quixote Center, MD. The Third reading, 1 Corinthians 11:11-13, is an adaptation of this passage from two New Testament sources: the NRSV and *The Message* by Eugene Peterson. Psalm verses taken from Nan Merrill's *Psalms for Praying*.

** *Dream Catcher* Image: [Apurimac III](#) is a contemporary tribute to Native American culture and their renowned Apurimac journey to North America.