



Community of St. Bridget
an inclusive catholic experience

Twenty -Ninth Sunday Ordinary – October 19-20, 2024

World Mission Sunday

Liturgist: Rose Gordyan



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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 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: ***For All That is Our Life***, Mike Menefee" Singing The Living Tradition"
#128 Words - Bruce Findlow; Music - Patrick L. Rickey Piano - Brian Kenny Vocals - Alena Hemingway

[For All That Is Our Life \(youtube.com\)](#) (lyric/video)

For all that is our life
we sing our thanks and praise;
for all life is a gift
which we are called to use
to build the common good
and make our own days glad.

For needs which others serve,
for services we give,
for work and its rewards,
for hours of rest and love;
we come with praise and thanks
for all that is our life.

For sorrow we must bear,
for failures, pain, and loss,
for each new thing we learn,
for fearful hours that pass:
we come with praise and thanks
for all that is our life.

For all that is our life
we sing our thanks and praise;
for all life is a gift
which we are called to use
to build the common good
and make our own days glad

Our Scripture readings today focus is on love, mercy and faith—our missionary journey. When we decide to commit ourselves in faith, we will enter into a union with God deeper than anything we have previously known. We may not understand, but believe and trust in God’s mercy. Honoring this World Mission Sunday, let us begin our prayer 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. Give us open hearts and minds to receive your word, Jesus, and nurture it to transform our lives for the good of all creation.

ALL: Loving Spirit, come to our aid:

2. Renew our hope in your power to change the hearts and minds of all people so Your message of love, peace and compassion will spread throughout our sphere of influence.

ALL: Loving Spirit, come to our aid:

3. Recalling the failures of past history, may we choose not to repeat them, but inspired by God’s word of life bring peace to our family, our nations and our world.

ALL: Loving Spirit come to our aid:

4. Remove from us all that hinders our ability to hear Your voice within and around us so we may make room for Your blessings. Amen.

Gloria

5. Glory to the Spirit of Life, to the Holy One who surrounds us, who lives with us, whose Sacred Word is shared by us in our world.

6. Glory to the Spirit of Life, who offers us peace; peace in our hearts, peace in our thoughts, peace with one another as we reach out to bring that peace to our cities, states, countries and world.
7. Glory to the Spirit of Life, who offers guidance to all of our leaders, both religious and civil who serve our needs in numerous ways.
1. Glory to the Spirit of Life, who sent Jesus, who teaches us how to live the Gospel, who brings hope and healing to all those in need. Amen.

ALL: O Holy One, you are one with us. We strive to be strong in our faith and live life in hope and faithfulness to you, to be committed to the message of the Gospel. We depend upon the ever-present Spirit to walk with us as we journey in the present and rejoice in the life before us.

Opening Prayer: Loving God, we pray for all who give life and love to us in the world. We lift up to You our hopes, fears, and needs. We pray that we may be protected on our life journey by being honored and heard. We hope that all may be welcomed with open arms as equals in homes, in workplaces and in the world, with dignity and respect as missionaries in God's call as missionaries of the good News. 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: Job 42:10-17

A reading from the Book of Job:

Job held fast to the integrity of his faith through all his suffering, disease, loss, and tribulation. Finally, God spoke to Job about the mystery of Creation, and the incomprehensibility of its ways.

After Job had prayed for his friends (that God not deal with them according to their folly), God restored Job's fortunes and prosperity. God gave to Job twice as much as before. All his sisters and brothers, and all who had known him from former times, came to see him. They broke bread together with him in his house. They consoled and comforted him for all the suffering he had endured. Each of them gave him a silver coin and a gold ring. God blessed the end of Job's life more than the beginning. Job came to own 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 donkeys.

He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first daughter Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third, Keren-happuch. Throughout the land, there were no women who shone as brightly as the daughters of Job. Their father gave them inheritance rights, like their brothers. After this, Job

lived for another one hundred and forty years. He saw his children, and his children's children, and even his great-grandchildren. Then, old and full of days, Job died.

The inspired word of a Wisdom Writer. Amen

Responsorial: Psalm 33:1,3; 4-5; 6-8, 20-22 (Merrill's rendition, adapted)

Cantor: *All Creation is held together by Love.*

Good people, take heart and sing "Alleluia!" Praise comes well from honest lips. Compose a new song and sing it! Play a skillful melody! Lend it your voice! Let the trumpet shout! **R**

God's Word is truth. God's work endures. Creation reveals the Beloved's faithfulness. God loves what is good, kind, and just. The universe is filled with unfailing love, Love Divine. **R**

By the Word of God, the heavens were hung. God breathed into being the mysteries of the Cosmos. From the farthest stars scattered and sown in space, to the sea scooped in bowled hands, poured out into ocean vats, all Creation is held together by Love. **R**

Our life depends upon You, O God, for peace, joy, and assurance. Our hearts brim with joy. We sing! You have named us with Your own Holy Name. Let Your unfailing Love rest upon us, even as our hope rests in You. **R**

Cantor: 8 Alleluias

Second Reading – Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

A reading from the Holy Gospel attributed to Mark:

Glory to You, O God. Jesus and his followers were on their way to Jerusalem. Jesus was walking ahead of them. The disciples, and other followers, were puzzled and not just a little afraid. For the third time, Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him: "We are going up to Jerusalem where the Chosen One will be handed over to the chief priests and teachers of the law, and will be condemned to death. Then the Chosen One will be handed over to the Gentiles, mocked and spat upon, flogged and killed; and three days later will rise."

Then James and John, of the Zebedee family, came to Jesus. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask." "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked. They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right side and the other at your left side in your glory." "You don't know what you're asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?" "We can!" they answered. Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, but

to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.” When the others heard about this, they became indignant with James and John.

Jesus called them all together and said, “You know the rulers of the Gentiles “lord” it over them, and their high officials wield power over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be servant of all. Even the Chosen One did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give up life that others might live.

The inspired words of the apostle Mark. Amen.

Cantor: 8 Alleluias

Third Reading: Hebrews 3:12-15b

A reading from the Book of Hebrews:

Take care, friends. Make sure you have no resentment in your hearts, throwing you off course. Make sure no evil diverts you from the living God. Encourage each other daily; for each day is a gift. Don't be taken in by deceit. Don't become hardened, unable or unwilling to hear the truth. We have become partners with the risen Christ. Hold fast to the faith we started out with; hold it firm until the end. May these words continue to resound in our ears: *Today, if you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.*

The inspired words attributed to the apostle, Paul. Amen.

Homily/Reflection: Rose Gordyan

Our Scriptures today reveal the needed faith and trust in God that enables us to follow the Way of Jesus. In the first reading, Job's life was full of suffering but he held on to his faith. God spoke to Job about the mystery in creation and in his inability to totally understand it's ways. Job then began to pray for his friend's unbelief. God restored Job to more than he had. This speaks of Job's unfailing trust and belief in God in spite of his tribulations.

The theme of the Psalm is faith in God's Word, faithfulness, justice, and ever-present love. This encourages us to trust in God. Hebrews tells us to take care and be sure that there is no resentment in our hearts, so that we will hear the truth of God's love, care and gifts bestowed upon us.

Mark's Gospel is filled with misunderstandings and reversals of Jesus' teachings. James and John want a prominent place in Jesus' Kingdom and Jesus tells them that the real prominence is in service to, and not authority over, others. The apostles were upset because James and John were so bold to speak first before they could make their request. They were all very ambitious

and did not understand that the purpose of Jesus' life and nature of His ministry was for them to follow in His mission.

James and John were so willing to accept the cup that Jesus would drink, but they misunderstood its meaning. They could not imagine the suffering and death of Him. Jesus assures them that they too would face what He himself would. Jesus also states that places of honor are not His doing. But He is to do God's work as He offers himself as a model for His followers in serving others.

Put another way, when we struggle with misfortunes that we face because of our commitment to Jesus, we will have Him as an inspiration and a model to follow. He can sympathize with our weaknesses and identify with our suffering. For this reason, we can draw strength from His example while holding on to God's grace with trust as we go forward with faith in our mission to follow Jesus' ways.

In life it is not always easy to be the best we can be in making choices in our life, relationships, health, and suffering.

What word or phrase in today's Scriptures has helped you to trust in God and go forward in faith and mission?

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

2. We believe that where people are gathered together in love, God is present and good things happen and life is full.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. And most deeply we believe that in our struggle to love, we incarnate God in the world.

7. 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

1. Glorious God, source and sustenance of life, Redeeming Presence to the pain and brokenness of our world, Holy Spirit who enlivens and energizes all that exists.
2. We ask your healing power upon us, upon our countries, and upon all we pray for today. We now bring to this Table our blessings, cares and concerns. After each request, our response remains:
We awaken to your call.

For whom and for what else 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 can transform our world. Amen.

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 Earth's fruits.

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

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

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:

Here in This Place by Christopher Grundy; Album: Come to the Feast; Licensed to YouTube by CD Baby; Broadcast Music Inc. (adapted)

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

Holy One, may your presence here open our minds
may your Spirit among us help us to find
you are rising up now like a fountain of grace
from the holy ground here in this place.
Here in this place.

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty
the whole universe speaks of your glory
from the holy ground here in this place.
Here in this place.

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 the
nourishment we need to sustain us.

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 peoples, 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 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: **The Summons** – Text: John L. Bell, © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.; Traditional Scottish Tune

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o469PRLdbHU> (lyric video)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

We pray now as Jesus taught us: (An adaptation for our times by Lenora Rand)

6. God of Love, who we experience as mother, father, friend, lover, our deepest longing, our best thought, our solid ground, the sacred soil from which everything grows, our greatest hope.
7. Your love covers Earth, holding us all in your embrace. You hold everything together. We want to know what your vision for the world is—help us. We want to live in that vision – guide us.
1. Everything we eat and drink, everything that gives us life and joy, it all comes from you. We want to thank you for your mercy. You hold nothing back. Help us to be that open and generous with others and with ourselves. Help us forgive each other.
2. Deep in our hearts we believe that this is your world and that you love us all. Help us live with you and with each other in that powerful love. And together we will sing of your mercy and grace and power, forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Prayer

Loving God, source of all goodness, you call us to be servants as we build up the kingdom. Transform our hearts and strengthen us in our mission of sharing the Good News and unite us as one human family. We ask this in your name and with the ever-present help of the Holy Spirit, confident that our prayer is heard, and we are held in your loving embrace. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing: *Please extend your hands for our mutual blessing:*

Gracious God, we come before You as a diverse group of individuals united in purpose. As we engage in mission and outreach, bind us together in harmony and cooperation. Help us to set aside personal agendas and preferences, focusing on Your kingdom work.

Give us hearts of humility and patience to listen and understand one another. Enable us to appreciate our unique gifts and contributions, valuing the diversity You have created. May our unity be a powerful testimony of Your love and draw others to Your saving grace.

Held together by Love Divine, we go forth in love and service to others, clothed with the nature of Jesus our Companion and reinforced by the strength of the +Holy Spirit. Amen.

Closing Song: **Christ be Our Light**, Words and music: Bernadette Farrell (b.1957
Bernadette Farrell Spirit & Song: Disc I © 2013 OCP

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eeBHrn2Dt0>

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain: Christ, be our light! shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. **R**

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. **R**

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. **R**

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. **R**

***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 readings are taken from the Comprehensive Catholic Lectionary, published by the
Women's Ordination Conference.