



BWIM | MONTH OF ADV♀CACY

Liturgical Resources for March 31, 2023

Texts

Mark 16:1-8

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

John 20:1-18

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus’s head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look ^[a] into the tomb, ¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom

are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Call to Worship

- ONE:** We gather here with great expectations!
- ALL:** We open ourselves to new revelations!
- ONE:** We come to join in new creation.
- ONE:** We come today seeking Wisdom.
- ALL:** If we seek Wisdom, She will come to us.
- ONE:** "Happy are those who find Wisdom and who get understanding. For Her income is better than silver, and Her revenue better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with Her. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all Her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of Her; those who hold Her fast are called happy" (Proverbs 3:13-15, 17-18).
- ALL:** Wisdom is the way, the life, and the path (Proverbs 4). Christ is "the way, and the truth, and the life"(John 14:6).
- ONE:** The Risen Christ is "the power of God and the Wisdom (*Sophia*) of God" (1 Corinthians 1:24), who "became for us Wisdom (*Sophia*) from God" (1 Corinthians 1:30).
- ALL:** Come, Risen Christ-Sophia! Come to us today!

Opening Prayer

Christ-Sophia, we claim your Resurrection!
May our hopes for new life take wing
on your Power and your Wisdom.
For we are your Body,
your life in our world today.
Christ-Sophia, as your partners we labor
to bring new life to the world.

Responsive Reading

“Seeking”

(based on John 20:15; Matthew 25:35-37, 40; I Corinthians 1:24; Luke 4:18)

Reader 1: Whom do you seek?

Group 1: We seek Jesus who has risen from the dead!
Do you know where we can find him?
We want to find Jesus so that we can
learn his secret of beating death.

Reader 2: Where are you seeking?

Group 2: We go to church every Sunday,
and sing praises to Jesus,
and give our tithes and offerings.
We read our Bible and pray daily,
and teach Sunday School,
and serve on church committees.

Reader 3: Are you finding Jesus?

Group 1: Well, we're not so sure, because
There's this longing deep down.

Group 2: Even when we're in church,
we often feel empty and restless.

Reader 1: Whom are you seeking?

Reader 2: Where are you seeking?

Groups 1 & 2: Maybe that's our problem.
Perhaps there's more to seeking.

Reader 1: Jesus said, "I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
I was naked and you gave me clothing,
I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me.
As you did it to one of the least of these
my brothers and sisters, you did it to me."

Groups 1 & 2: We have not sought Jesus among those people.
It's hard to see Jesus in people like that.

Reader 2: The Risen Christ is our Wisdom, our Sophia.
If we ask, we will receive the gift of Sophia,
the Wisdom to find Jesus in the faces of hurting people.
Christ-Sophia opens our eyes to see
divinity in the face of the homeless man and
the poor woman waiting in line for food.

ALL: Christ-Sophia, we come seeking you.
We know this seeking will take us
to difficult people and painful places.
We trust that we will discover new life
and new meaning as we find you in needy people.
O Risen Christ-Sophia, we seek to join you in
bringing good news to the poor,
proclaiming release to the captives,
and letting the oppressed go free.

Invitation to Offering

Our Loving Maker invites us to share our gifts to
show our gratitude. We are grateful for gifts to give.
When we give, we feel the deep joy that comes
from giving to the ministries of this community
and beyond, for giving to works of peace, justice,
and healing in our world. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Divine Wisdom, guide these gifts we bring
to spread your message of love and new life
to our community and around the world.
As we offer our gifts to you today, may we feel
the transforming power of partnership with you.
We dedicate our offerings and ourselves to you. So be it!

Benediction

May we go from this sanctuary out into a world
longing for Resurrection. May we feel the power
of the Risen Christ-Sophia living within and among

us. May we go forth speaking a new message of hope
and singing a new song of peace and new life. May
our words and songs turn into actions of justice-love. Let it be!

Hymn Recommendations

“Mary Magdalene Inspires Us”

Mary Magdalene Inspires Us

Luke 8:1-3; Matthew 5:9; Proverbs 1:20-23, 3:17; John 20:1-18; 1 Corinthians 1:24

Mary Magdalene inspires us on our journey to new life;
she and other women seekers find the Way to end the strife.
These disciples help the others, giving freely of their means,
spreading Jesus’ peaceful message, Bread of Life for all to glean.

Nothing can defeat the message; Living Word will never die;
hate and violence cannot silence Holy Wisdom’s urgent cry.
Mary Magdalene is listening, watching, waiting all night long,
staying faithful to the vision, keeping hope alive and strong.

Mary Magdalene goes seeking just before the rising sun,
loyal to the sacred mission, first to see the Risen One.
As apostle to apostles, she runs quickly to proclaim,
“Come and see the resurrection, miracle for all to claim.”

“Come and join the wondrous story, open wide, affirming all,”
Mary Magdalene gives witness to the all-inclusive call.
Word and Wisdom guide us forward to a still expanding view;
When we welcome all with gladness, Christ-Sophia rises new.

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BEACH SPRING
8.7.8.7 D

“Christ-Sophia Lives Today”

Christ-Sophia Lives Today

Matthew 28:1-10; John 14:6; Habakkuk 2:2-3

Christ-Sophia lives today, Alleluia,
showing us the Truth, the Way, Alleluia.
Free at last, we all can be, Alleluia;
make the vision plain to see, Alleluia!

Sing we now this blessed morn, Alleluia;
Christ-Sophia's work is born, Alleluia,
wisdom, justice, liberty, Alleluia.
Come create the jubilee, Alleluia!

Celebrate a bright new life, Alleluia;
Christ-Sophia ends the strife, Alleluia.
Sound the news to every land, Alleluia;
join together hand in hand, Alleluia!

Christ-Sophia rises glorious, Alleluia;
All creation sings victorious, Alleluia.
Hope springs forth, surprise abounds, Alleluia;
earth transformed with joy resounds, Alleluia.

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EASTER HYMN
7.7.7.7 with Alleluias

“We Are an Easter People”

We Are an Easter People

John 15:13, 1:1; Matthew 28:20, 25:40; I Corinthians 1:24

We are an Easter people; we celebrate new life;
we share an Easter mission of healing pain and strife.
We welcome new creation, unfolding every day;
our risen Friend-Companion shows us the peaceful way.

We are an Easter people; we sing an Easter song;
new hope springs up each morning to help us labor long.
Our risen Brother-Sister goes with us every day
to join the poor and hungry and show the healing way.

We are an Easter people; our gifts can fully flower;
the Wisdom-Word within us has given us new power.
Our resurrection story inspires our highest dreams;

our resurrection vision before us brightly beams.

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LANCASHIRE

7.6.7.6 D

“Rise Up, O People, Proclaim Christ-Sophia Has Risen”

Rise Up, O People, Proclaim Christ-Sophia Has Risen

Isaiah 60:1-5; Matthew 9:22

Rise up, O people, proclaim Christ-Sophia has risen,
raising the buried and opening the doors to all prisons.
Rise up and shine! Lighting the pathway divine,
as we declare this true vision.

Take heart, O daughters, behold, Christ-Sophia brings healing;
sons, lift your eyes and find health in this sacred revealing.
Claim life anew! Earth's richest beauty renew,
showing a way so appealing.

Come now, O sisters, and join Christ-Sophia in daring;
brothers, join in and lay down heavy burdens you're bearing.
Come one and all! Follow the life-giving call,
changing the world through deep caring.

Sing a new song and rejoice, Christ-Sophia adoring,
glory and freedom within and around us restoring.
Sing, for the Light comes to revive truth and right;
Now radiant spirits are soaring.

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LOBE DEN HERREN

Irregular

“Love Rises Up”

Love Rises Up

Luke 24:46-47; Hebrews 2:2-3

Love rises up from deadly foes,
healing divisions, pain, and woes;
our great Creator-Wisdom-Guide
leads to new life so full and wide.

Hope springs from visions plain to see,
setting oppressive systems free;
our Risen Sister-Brother-Friend
gives us new power, our world to mend.

Joy blossoms freely through all lands;
sisters and brothers, hand in hand,
bring New Creation's dream to sight,
rising together into light.

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DUKE STREET
8.8.8.8 (LM)

"Rise Up, O Christ-Sophia"

Rise Up, O Christ-Sophia

John 14:6; Romans 8:19-23; Proverbs 3:13-15

Rise up, O Christ-Sophia, for you the whole world longs
with eager expectation, till you shall right our wrongs.
Your gentle words of wisdom, your warm caress of peace
empower us to labor with you our wars to cease.

Lead on, O Queen of Wisdom; with You none can compare.
You are the Truth within us; you shine through all that's fair.
Our hearts cry out for justice midst conflict, pain, and strife;
You calm the raging tempests to bring us peace and life.

Guide us, Thou Christ-Sophia, in paths of truth and light.
Creation yearns for freedom in your pure beauty bright.
You call us as your ministers, to serve with you on earth,
To co-create a mystery, new life with you to birth.

“She Lives!”

She Lives!

Proverbs 1:20-25, 3:13-18; Amos 5:24

Sophia Wisdom labors throughout the world today;
Her works of loving kindness reveal the Truth and Way.
Her justice flows like waters upon the weary land;
She calls us all to follow Her healing plan. Refrain

We join Sophia Wisdom to take down every wall,
to open doors of welcome, including one and all.
We spread Her fullest blessings to people everywhere,
Her gifts of peace and justice for all to share. Refrain

Sophia Wisdom blossoms within us and above,
a Tree of Life and Beauty, of everlasting Love.
We claim Her glorious visions of new reality,
a world where all can flourish, where all are free. Refrain

Refrain:

She lives, She lives! Sophia lives today;
She lives and works throughout the world to show the peaceful way.
She lives, She lives! We hear Her urgent call;
we work with Her to change the world; She lives within us all.

“All Together We Have Power”

All Together We Have Power

2 Timothy 1:7

Refrain:

All together we have power,
rising up against all the wrong;
all together we have power,
rising up to sing freedom songs.

The Spirit in us feels so strong,

giving us hope to labor long. Refrain

When we are stifled and oppressed,
we will all share our deep distress. Refrain

When things around us don't feel right,
we will resist with all our might. Refrain

The Spirit in all brings new birth,
moving with love through all the earth. Refrain

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FEEL THE SPIRIT
Irregular