

MAGDALEN COMMUNITY AT ROTHKO CHAPEL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2006, 10:00 A.M.

The Magdalen Community is a connective community seeking conversation and dialogue with other spiritualities and religious traditions.

OPENING MUSIC

Pax Deorum (Peace of the Gods) - The Memory of Trees, Enya

CALL TO SILENCE AND OPENING MEDITATION

OPENING GREETING

Solo: Peace Be With You.

Unison: Acquire My Peace within you.

OPENING DIALOGUE

Solo: Where are you from?

Unison: We have come from the place where light is produced from itself.

Solo: Where is that place?

Unison: It's a mystery.

Solo: But can you say you image the light?

Unison: Yes, indeed. We carry the light within.

Solo: And the peace?

Unison: Yes, also the peace.

Solo: How do you know of such light and such peace?

Unison: The sign is the feeling.

The sign is the movement from within.

The sign is the passion for the well-being of all.

Solo: What are your other signs?

Unison: Our recognitions of injustice and hatred and oppression throughout the globe, of power struggles and violence that seem unending.

Solo: Can we turn those around?

Unison: We must seek to do so.

Solo: Are you willing to spread your light and your peace?

*Unison: We are eager to spread them.
They spread just as love spreads.*

Solo: The kingdom spreads out on the earth, just as love spreads.

Unison: But some people are not aware of it.

Solo: Yet you are aware.

*Unison: Yes, indeed.
We are aware of the light and the movement and the peace.
And we cannot stand back.
We will step forward.
We will overcome the violence, the domination, the hatred,
and spread love.*

PRAYERS TO THE MAGDALENE – SOROR LUCIA; MAGDALEN.ORG

These prayers, and the readings that follow, reflect my own personal path. I have come to believe that until the wider world, including “traditional” religious leaders, political leaders, and society, comes to accept that women and women’s bodies are not the root of all evil but are half of God’s creation of the True Human Being, the messenger is at least as important as the message. The messenger is, of course, Mary Magdalen.

1. Our Lady Magdalene

*Our Lady Magdalene, holy and complete,
your mysteries are many,
Apostle of the Apostles,
blessed among women,
kindle in me the spark of wisdom
which guides from darkness into light.*

2. Prayer for Gnosis

*Glory is in the One,
and in the Logos
and in the Holy Sophia.
As I go forth in faith,
let glory be revealed.*

3. *The Mystery of Love*

*Love is the key to unlock the secrets
of compassion, empathy and life.
I live to transcend this mortal coil
through the power of perfect love.*

4. *The Mystery of Faithfulness*

*For so long as the truth burns
in my secret heart of hearts,
may I walk the path of faithfulness
toward the limitless light.*

5. *The Mystery of Vision*

*From the past, let me learn,
for the present let me live,
and for the future, let me strive.
May today be the holy benefactor of tomorrow.*

6. *The Mystery of the Circle of Life*

*Black, white and red.
The egg, the phoenix and the ouroboros.
May all things die, be transformed,
and live again in magnificence.*

7. *The Mystery of Seven*

*I shed the seven one by one,
through the miracle of the Logos,
and ascend to a realm beyond,
pure, transmuted and free.*

READINGS AND CALL TO CONVERSATION

A Reading from The Gospel of Philip, plate 118 (LeLoup translation)

*What is the bridal chamber,
if not the place of trust and consciousness in the embrace?
It is an icon of Union,
beyond all forms of possession:*

here is where the veil is torn from top to bottom;
here is where some arise and awaken.

The powers can do nothing against those who are clothed in light;
they cannot see them.

All will be clothed in light

when they enter into the mystery of the sacred embrace.

If woman had not been separated from man, she would not die with man.

Her separation was at the origin of death.

Christ comes again to heal this wound,

to rediscover the lost unity,

to enliven those who kill themselves in separation,

reviving them in union.

A Reading from The Gospel of Philip, pg. 49 (Meyer translation)

Wisdom, who is called barren, is the mother of the angels.

The companion of the [savior] is Mary Magdalene. The [savior loved] her more than [all] the disciples, [and he] kissed her often on her [mouth].

The other [disciples] ... said to him, "Why do you love her more than all of us?"

The savior answered and said to them, "Why do I not love you like her? If a blind person and one who can see are both in darkness, they are the same. When the light comes, one who can see will see the light, and the blind person will stay in darkness."

A Reading from Pistis Sophia, pg. 68 (Meyer translation)

When Jesus finished saying these things, Mary Magdalene stepped forward and said, "My master, my enlightened person has ears, and I accept all the words you speak. Now, my master, this is what you said: 'All souls of the human race who will receive the mysteries of the light will be first in the inheritance of the light, before all the rulers who have repented, before the entire place of the right, before the entire place of the treasury of light.' Concerning this saying, my master, you one said to us, 'The first will be last and the last will be first.' That is to say, the last is the whole human race that will be first within the kingdom of light, before the inhabitants of the places on high, which are first. For this reason, my master, you have said to us, 'Whoever has ears to hear should hear.' In other words, you wanted to know whether we have grasped all the sayings you spoke. My master, this is the word."

When Mary finished saying these things, the savior marveled greatly at the answers she gave, for she had become entirely pure spirit. Jesus answered and said to her, "Well done, Mary, pure spiritual woman. This is the interpretation of the word."

CLOSING DIALOGUE

Solo: Blessed be the Divine Teachers.

Unison: The Blessed Ones of Perfect Peace.

Solo: How do we acquire that Perfect Peace?

Unison: Look within!

Solo: Peace be with you.

Unison: Acquire my peace within you.

Solo: My Peace I leave with you.

Unison: My Peace I give to you.

Solo: Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Unison: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MUSIC

Ancient Wisdom, Celtic Moon