

Magdalen Community at Rothko Chapel

Sunday, October 8, 2006, 10:00 a.m.

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

Opening Meditation (said responsively) *Adapted from ancient prayers.*

Solo: *Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful,
And kindle in them the fire of your love.*

Unison: *Send forth the Spirit and they will be created
And you will renew the face of the earth.*

Solo: *O Divine Beloved, who enlightens the hearts of all seekers
By the light of the Holy Spirit;
Grant us in the same Spirit to relish what is right and just,
And ever to rejoice in her consolation.*

Unison: *Amen.*

Solo: *Breath of God, Divine Spirit, shower on us your gifts and fruits:*

Unison: *We ask wisdom, understanding, loving-kindness,
Knowledge, charity, justice,
Joy, peace, patience, and compassion.*

Solo: *May these gifts resound, through us, to all the world,*

Unison: *And renew the face of the earth.*

Opening Music: "O Sapientiae" – Robyn Reso, Mezzo-Soprano

*Great 'O Antiphon' sung at Vespers on the last days before Christmas,
invoking the ancient names of God.*

Source: Antiphonale monasticum

*O Wisdom, flowing from the mouth of the Highest, penetrating to the farthest ends of the universe, mightily
Yet sweetly ordering all of creation: Come, and lead us on the path of knowledge.*

V. Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain justice.

R. Let the earth open us, and bring forth salvation.

Alleluia before the Gospel of Mary Magdalene; Robyn Reso, Mezzo-Soprano

Alleluia for Easter Sunday

Source: Graduale romanum

Alleluia! Send forth your Spirit and all things shall be created anew; and you shall renew the face of the earth. Alleluia!

A Reading from The Gospel Of Mary Magdalene

When the Blessed One had said these things, he greeted them all. "Peace be with you!" he said. "Acquire my peace within yourselves!" Be on your guard so that no one deceives you by saying, 'Look over here!' or 'Look over there!' For the child of true humanity [the Son of Man] exists within you. Follow it! Those who search for it will find it. Go then, preach the good news about the Realm. Do not lay down any rule beyond what I determined for you, nor promulgate law like the lawgiver, or else you might be dominated by it."

Response after the Gospel reading: *Pacem relinquo vobis; Robyn Reso, Mezzo-Soprano*
Magnificat Antiphon for Vespers of the Monday after Easter.
Source: Antiphonale monasticum

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you, Alleluia!

V. Where can I go from your spirit?

Where can I flee from your face?

*R. You take me by the hand and lead me,
And hold me by my right hand.*

A Reading from Thich Nhat Hanh's Living Buddha, Living Christ:

Mindfulness and the Holy Spirit

A year ago in Florence, a Catholic priest told me that he was interested in learning more about Buddhism. I asked him to share with me his understanding of the Holy Spirit and he replied, "The Holy Spirit is the energy sent by God." His statement made me happy. I confirmed my feeling that the safest way to approach the Trinity is through the door of the Holy Spirit.

In Buddhism, our effort is to practice mindfulness in each moment – to know what is going on within and all around us. When the Buddha was asked, "Sir, what do you and your monks practice?" he replied, "We sit, we

walk and we eat." The questioner continued, "But sir, everyone sits, walks, and eats," and the Buddha told him, "When we sit, we know we are sitting. When we walk, we know we are walking. When we eat, we know we are eating. Most of the time, we are lost in the past or carried away by future projects and concerns. When we are mindful, touching deeply the present moment, we can see and listen deeply, and the fruits are always understanding, acceptance, love, and the desire to relieve suffering and bring joy. When our beautiful child comes up to us and smiles, we are completely there for her.

To me, mindfulness is very much like the Holy Spirit. Both are agents of healing. When you have mindfulness, you have love and understanding, you see more deeply, and you can heal the wounds in your own mind. The Buddha was the King of the Healers. In the Bible, when someone touches Christ, he or she is healed. It is not just touching a cloth that brings about a miracle. When you touch deep understanding and love, you are healed.

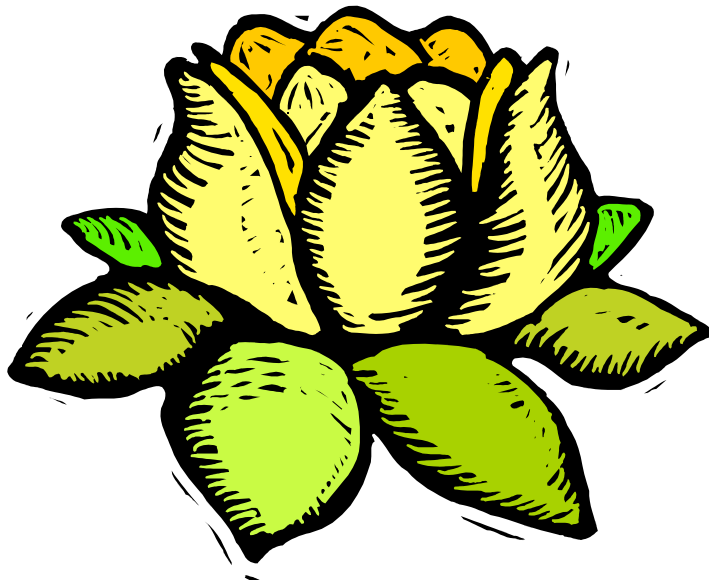
The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus like a dove, penetrated Him deeply, and He revealed the manifestation of the Holy Spirit. Jesus healed whatever He touched. With the Holy Spirit in Him, His power as a healer transformed many people. All schools of Christianity agree on this. I told the priest that I felt that all of us also have the seed of the Holy Spirit in us, the capacity of healing, transforming, and loving. When we touch that seed, we are able to touch God the Father and God the Son.

Call to Conversation

Closing Hymn - *Veni Creator Spiritus*, Robyn Reso, Mezzo-Soprano
Sequence for Pentecost
Source: *Graduale romanum*

*Come Holy Spirit, Send forth from on high, the radiance of thy light.
Come, thou mother of the poor, come, dispenser of all good gifts, thou, light of our hearts.
Supreme Comforter, beloved guest of our soul, its most desirable nourishment.
In the midst of labor, rest, a cool breeze to temper the heat, solace in the midst of suffering.
O most blessed light, fill the innermost being, the very hearts of the seekers.
Wash every stain, irrigate all dryness, heal every wound.
Make supple what is rigid, give ardor to things grown cold, straighten every crooked path.
Grant to thy seekers, who put their trust in thee, the blessing of thy sevenfold gifts.
Grant us the reward the reward of the virtuous, a death that is the doorway to you,
and the gift of eternal joy. Amen.*

*As an expression of appreciation to The Rothko Chapel for use of this sacred space,
your love offering in the box marked "Magdalen Community"
will be gratefully received.*



*For more information about the Magdalen Community, please contact Bridgitt Ayers,
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