

GATHERING SONG

For All the Faithful Women

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**For all the faithful women who served in days of old,
to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your pow'r to save.**

**We praise the other Mary, who came at Easer dawn
and near the tomb did tarry, but found her Lord was gone.
As joyfully she saw him in resurrection light,
may we by faith behold him, the day who ends all night.**

**All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise to God the Spirit, who binds the church as one!
With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still,
we sing glad alleluias and strive to do your will.**

OPENING PRAYER

Neighbor to all people, you call us into human communities to serve and be served by one another. Open our hearts to the needs of all our neighbors, and teach us to recognize the gifts you have given each of us to use in service to others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 8:1-3; 24:5-10

¹Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, ²as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles.

MONOLOGUE

Mary Magdalene

PRAYERS

Let us pray. Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you—

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .
for the gifts of relationship with others . . .
for the communion of faith in your church . . .

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray—

for those who govern nations of the world . . .
for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .
for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .
for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .
for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

... Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Creator who fashions us together with all things, the Christ who leads us into a new beloved community, the Comforter who holds us in the communion of saints, one God + bless you now and always. **Amen**

SENDING SONG.

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

#708

REFRAIN: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, master who acts as a slave to them. REFRAIN

Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race, neighbors are nearby and far away. REFRAIN

These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love; all these are neighbors to us and you. REFRAIN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, stay safe and be safe, joined together in Christ. **Thanks be to God!**