



Sentence

The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all, so that those who live might live not for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

2 Corinthians 5.14-15

Collect

Lord of the dawn, whose risen life
began deep in the freshening earth,
you called Mary Magdalene to see what men could not,
to be the first witness to resurrection
and whose love was stronger than fear:
speak our name, and open our hands to let your Spirit flow into all the
lightening world,
through Jesus Christ, the Tree of Life. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of the Song of Songs.

The Song of Songs is thought by scholars to be an allegorical representation of the relationship of God and Israel as husband and wife. It most likely originates in Bedouin marriage songs.

Upon my bed at night

I sought him whom my soul loves;

I sought him, but found him not;

I called him, but he gave no answer.*

'I will rise now and go about the city,

in the streets and in the squares;

I will seek him whom my soul loves.'

I sought him, but found him not.

The sentinels found me,
as they went about in the city.
'Have you seen him whom my soul loves?'
Scarcely had I passed them,
when I found him whom my soul loves. *Song of Songs 3.1-4a*

Reader Hear the word of the Lord
All **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 63 at 8am APBA page 284 at 10am TiS 34

*This psalm of trust describes an encounter with God in the Temple.
The depth of longing for God is powerfully expressed.*

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

The death and resurrection of Christ brings life to all who die; Paul calls this a new creation, the cosmic reversal of the primordial 'fall' of humanity from God.

The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is

making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5.14-21

Reader May your word live in us

All And bear much fruit to your glory

Gospel Acclamation

All Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cantor Mary Magdalene announced to the disciples,
'I have seen the Lord'

All Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader The Lord be with you

ALL And also with you

Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

It is Mary Magdalene whom John depicts as discovering the empty tomb and meeting the newly risen Christ. Whilst Peter and John confirm that the tomb is empty, it is to Mary that Jesus appears first. For John, she is the primary witness to the resurrection. In the early church she was given the title 'Apostle to the apostles.'

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. 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.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been

on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 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. 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.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' 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.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to 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." 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.

John 20.1-18

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord

ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Prayer for the Week O God, you alone can order our unruly wills and affections: teach us to love what you command, and to desire what you promise, that, among the changes and chances of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible Readings next week Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29.15-28 Psalm 105.1-11

Romans 8.26-39 Matthew 13.44-58

Pray for the Faithful Departed We remember before God:

Jeannie Ferguson, Mary Sexton, Lawrence Stokes, Isambard Corless, Iris Menck, Russell Myers, Alys Prout-Webb, Frederick Theobald, Charlotte Schnelle, Dorothy (Doree) Gibbons, *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

Commemorations of the Week.

July 25. James Apostle and Martyr. Brother of John and close to Jesus and one of the three present at the Transfiguration and in Gethsemane. There is a legend that he laboured in Spain. Martyred by Herod (Acts.12.2)

July 26. Anne, mother of the Virgin Mary. She is known from tradition. With the increasing significance of Mary, Anne became prominent and Mary's parents (traditionally called Anna and Joachim) have been a frequent subject in art. She is affectionately called 'Blessed Annie, Jesus' granny.'

July 29 Mary and Martha of Bethany. Close friends of Jesus and Jesus usually stayed with them when he visited Jerusalem, Bethany being close to the city. Martha, with Peter, recognised Jesus as the Son of God.

