



St George's Anglican Church | Malvern

Mary Magdalene

19 July 2015

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 some 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

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

Responsorial Psalm 63

Andrew Moore



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| 1 O God, you are my God, for <u>you</u> I long;
for you my <u>soul</u> is thirsting.
My body <u>pires</u> for you
like a dry, weary land <u>without</u> water. | 3 So I will bless you <u>all</u> my life,
in your name I will lift <u>up</u> my hands.
My soul shall be filled as <u>with</u> a banquet,
my mouth shall praise <u>you</u> with joy. |
| 2 So I gaze on you <u>in</u> the sanctuary
to see your strength <u>and</u> your glory.
For your love is <u>better</u> than life,
my lips will <u>speak</u> your praise. | 4 For you have <u>been</u> my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul <u>clings</u> to you;
your right hand <u>holds</u> me fast. |

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Paul sees the cross as the supreme evidence of God's love and as God's way of reconciling the world to 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 John

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

It is Mary Magdalene whom John depicts as discovering the empty tomb. 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.
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 Creator God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you: teach us to offer

ourselves to your service, that here we may have your peace, and in the world to come may see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible Readings next week

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 4.42-44 Ps 145.10-18 Ephesians 3.14-21 John 6.1-21

Pray for the Faithful Departed. We remember before God: Edwin Watts, Florence Nelson, John Davis, Roma Simmons, Roma Florence Bruce, Jack Lusby Burns, Susan Moody, Susan Moody, Leigh Manning, John Pritchard, Jeannie Ferguson, Mary Sexton, Lawrence Stokes, Isambard Corless, Iris Menck *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)

CONGRATULATIONS on the 20th anniversary of his consecration as a bishop (22 July 2005) to The Rt Revd Andrew St John, formerly of Melbourne and now Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration on Manhattan, New York. Bishop Andrew had a distinguished ministry here before moving to New York. On Wednesday 22 July, the Feast of Mary Magdalene, the Bishop of New York will preach at a special service to honour Bp Andrew's ministry. We give thanks to God for his ministry and pray for Bp Andrew today.

The Vicar and Bp Andrew had a surprise 'catch up' in London recently and enjoyed a visit to the British Museum and the newly restored St Pancras Station. Bp Andrew's sister, Jenifer is a parishioner at St George's and we look forward to his visits with us.

(Insert A)

Processional Hymn

- 1 WALKING in a garden
At the close of day,
Adam tried to hide him
When he heard God say:
'Why are you so frightened,
Why are you afraid?
You have brought the winter in,
Made the flowers fade.'
- 2 Walking in a garden
Where the Lord had gone,
Three of the disciples,
Peter, James, and John;
They were very weary,
Could not keep awake,
While the Lord was kneeling there,
Praying for their sake.
- 3 Walking in a garden
At the break of day,
Mary asked the gardener
Where the body lay;
But he turned towards her,
Smiled at her and said:
'Mary, spring is here to stay,
Only death is dead.'

HILARY GREENWOOD b 1929

(Insert B)

Offertory Hymn

- 1 A teacher came with grace from God
to heal the living dead,
and Mary of Magdala found
her seven demons fled.
Her life renewed through Jesus Christ,
she walked his dusty road
and, from her own resources, gave
thanks for the love he showed.
- 2 Her teacher came with truth from God
to shake the powers of earth,
and Mary of Magdala saw
that God-forsaken death.
Love kept her faithful, as she watched
her own life-giver killed;
she helped them lay him in the grave,
she saw the tomb was sealed.
- 3 Her teacher came with life from God
to put an end to pain,
and Mary of Magdala heard
him speak her name again.
Through tears she knew him, and obeyed
when Jesus sent her on;
she told the others: Jesus lives!
so Easter faith was born.
- 4 Our teacher, too, is Jesus Christ,
the one who sets us free,
gives life and hope, and sends us out
with Easter energy.
With Mary of Magdala, let
us tell that God is near;
through tears and triumph, spread the news
for all the earth to hear.

Words: Elizabeth J. Smith⁷
Suggested music: Kingsfold (AHB500)