THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
EARTH DAY SUNDAY
April 23, 2023

Holy Wisdom Monastery
4200 County Road M
Middleton, WI 53562
http://HolyWisdomMonastery.org
608.836.1631

Please silence your cell phone before worship begins.
• **Hospitality Sunday**  All are encouraged to bring a food item to share. It is also a time for the Sunday Assembly community to greet and meet and get to know other members, especially our new members! Please provide a small sign for your item if it is gluten-free, or contains nuts or alcohol.

• Starting Saturday, April 29, and running through June, we will be displaying an exhibit of photography in our gallery entitled “Seeing the Sacred Beyond the Beautiful” by painter & photographer Terrill Knaack. Terrill will be present on Sunday, April 30, following Sunday Assembly, to hand out information and answer questions about his exhibit. Photographs will be available for purchase. For a sneak-preview, we have two photographs currently on display in our gallery.

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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**Presider** Rex Piercy

**First Reading** Denise West, OSB

**Second Reading** Roberta Felker

**Homilist** Wayne Sigelko

**Piano/Organ** Lynn Lemberger

**Greeters** Janine Edwards, Joan & Al Liegel

**Cantor** Sarah Wilkin Gibart

**Communion Ministers** Lila Hemlin, Julie Melton, Aggie Stiechen

**Sacristans** Diane Smith, Margaret Sommers

**Technology Assistant** Tony Gibart

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homebound. Steve Zwettler will provide training. If you are interested in serving in this capacity or if you are homebound and wish to receive communion or Pastoral Care services, please contact Sandy Adams on the Pastoral Care Team at 608-833-2058 or adamssandra454@gmail.com.

- **Evolutionary Exploration Series of Presentations** Join us for the next 2 sessions held from 10:00-11:30 am on: April 25, Transformational Leadership; and May 2, “Mission” Evolution and Transformation. Register at: https://holywisdommonastery.org/event/evolutionary-exploration/

- **Thank a volunteer- send them a postcard!** April is Volunteer Appreciation Month and we're inviting our whole community to help us personally thank our monastery volunteers...by flooding them with thank-you cards! A table is set up in the gathering space with blank postcards and instructions. After writing your note, drop the postcard in the box and we'll take care of addressing, stamping, and mailing it. Postcards will be available all month long.

- **Sunday Assembly members, Ann Baltes, Sherri Hansen, and Bill Rosholt will be singing with the Wisconsin Chamber Choir on April 29th for “I Dream a World,” a concert of works by African American composers and poets. The program will feature special guests Leotha and Tamera Stanley and Friends, a gospel ensemble based at Madison’s Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Tickets are $25 for adults and $5 for students, available in advance from www.wisconsinchamberchoir.org and at the door. Use special code Bill10 at checkout to receive 10% off.

- **Today:**
  - **Earth Day Sunday** Our prayer reflects our values for care for the earth.
  - **Childcare** is available during worship in the Hospitality Room, the first room on the right in the hallway to the restrooms.
  - **Sunday Assembly Choir** will rehearse in the Assembly Room after worship.
  - ‘Seeking Balance of Being Alone and Yet in Community’ is meeting for coffee and conversation after Sunday worship in the sisters’ Dining Room. We will be talking about “sacred spaces”, alone and in community: kitchen table? garden? monastery? Interested in joining us? Contact Marcia Krater, ezyzam4@gmail.com or 608-239-3488 for more information.
  - **Sunday Assembly Council** will meet in the Board Room after worship.
  - **Friends of Wisdom Prairie** invites you to stop by our membership table after worship. We’ll have information about joining or renewing your membership along with a display of spring leaves and flowers to identify. The annual membership fee is $35. **Friends of Wisdom Prairie Note Cards** will also be for sale. They feature lovely pictures of the prairie. We appreciate your support and know you will enjoy seeing the pictures as you send the note cards to loved ones. Cost is $3.00 for one or $10.00 for four.

- **Next Sunday, April 30**
  - **Sunday Assembly Choir** will rehearse at 8:25 am and sing for worship.
  - **Blessing of New Members** We welcome and bless our new Sunday Assembly members who have joined since September.
  - **New Sunday Assembly Members introduced September 25, 2022 and April 30, 2023** are invited to enjoy our April 30th Hospitality Sunday potluck buffet in the Sisters Dining Room where there will be a special meet and greet session for these new member classes. This hospitality event is designed to foster relationships among new Sunday Assembly members and to help our members become more informed about Holy Wisdom. The program will include brief but lively highlights of the monastery’s offerings and time for you to ask questions. Registrations are helpful to our planning. For more information or to register, contact Bob Dinndorf bdinndorf@gmail.com or (608)770-6282.
Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Following each reading:

Reader  The Word of Salvation
All Thanks be to God

A time of silent reflection follows each reading as we practice the Benedictine value of listening.

Psalm 116

I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of God.

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Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

Gospel Acclamation

Honduran Alleluia

¡Al-le-lu-ya, a-le-lu-ya! ¡Al-le-lu-ya, a-le-lu-ya! ¡Al-le-
lu-ya, a-le-lu-ya! ¡El Señor resucitó!

Traditional Honduran melody

Gospel


Before the Gospel,

Reader  A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
All  Glory to you, O Christ

Following the Gospel,

Reader  The holy Gospel
All  Praise to you, O Jesus Christ

Homily

Closing Hymn

Touch The Earth Lightly

Announcements

❖ A special welcome to guests and visitors! Thank you for joining us. We welcome you and hope that you will find a spiritual home with us. We’d love to know that you were here. Please sign our guest book on the table near the entrance. For more information about Sunday Assembly, the monastery or the sisters’ community please see https://HolyWisdomMonastery.org or contact Lynn Lemberger. A special visitors table near the dining room entrance, hosted by our friendliest members is available for our visitors and guests. Please join us after worship for coffee and conversation.

❖ Communion from the Cup Resumes The Monastic Ritual Team and the Liturgy Committee have chosen to resume offering Communion from the cup. Keeping with our tradition of the ‘common cup’, a Communion minister at the station behind the altar, will offer the wine to those who wish to partake. This option is available at one’s own discretion.

❖ Gender Neutral Restrooms can be found in the Hospitality Room in the hallway just after the coat racks.

❖ Join Sunday Assembly! Have you been worshipping with us frequently over the last few months? We hope that you’ve found a spiritual home with us and invite you to consider becoming a member of Sunday Assembly. It’s simple. Yellow membership forms can be found at the monastery entrance. Just fill it out and return in the collection basket next Sunday or send by mail. Or sign-up through our website.

❖ Pastoral Care Services are available to members of the Holy Wisdom Monastery communities. For more information or to receive care, contact Sandy Adams at 608-833-2058.

❖ Training for Communion Ministers to the Sick and Homebound on May 7 A training session will be held in the Board Room after worship on May 7 for those who are willing to take communion to members of Sunday Assembly who are ill or...
Breaking of the Bread

Come and eat this living bread, take and drink this wine.
Come be nourished, healed and fed, shaped into God's sign.
Gathered round as family, many are made one.
Forming love's community, one we now become.

Presider  The bread which we break,
is it not communion in the body of Christ?
The cup of blessing which we share,
is it not communion in the blood of Christ?

All  So all of us are one body,
all who share the one bread and drink from the cup.

Affirmation of Faith for Earth Day Sunday

Presider  Let us stand and affirm our faith together.
Left side  We believe that the Holy One creates all things,
renews all things, and celebrates all things.

Right side  We believe Earth is a sanctuary,
a sacred planet filled with God's presence,
a home for us to share with all humanity
and all creation.

Left side  We believe that God became flesh,
became a part of Earth,
a human being called Jesus,
who lived and breathed and spoke among us.

Right side  We believe that the risen Jesus
is the Christ at the core of creation
reconciling all things to God,
renewing all creation, and filling the cosmos.

Left side  We believe the Spirit renews life in creation,
groans in empathy with a suffering creation,
and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

Together  We believe that with Christ we will rise
and with Christ we will celebrate
a new creation. Amen.

Adapted from Liturgy USA – Planet Earth Sunday.

General Intercessions  Response: Risen Savior, hear our prayer.

Sign of Peace

Presentation of the Gifts

A basket is available on the table to receive your donations. Thank you for your generosity. The gifts of bread, wine and our offering are brought to the altar.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer for Earth Day Sunday

All join in proclaiming the prayer. The Assembly parts are printed in bold.

Presider  May God be with you.
ALL  And also with you.
Presider  Lift up your hearts.
ALL  We lift them up to our God.
Presider  Let us give thanks to the God of all.
ALL  It is right to give God thanks and praise.
Blessed are you, Source of all life, God of all creation.
In the beginning your Spirit hovered over the earth
and called into being every creature that exists.

Earth itself responded to your love
and to every creature that came to be,
you said: Yes, you are good.

The waters brought forth life.
Into clay you breathed a living soul.
From that day all creation has sung your praise.

There is nothing that is not drawn to you
for the glory of your presence is written on all that is.
You are reflected in high mountains and lowly valleys.
You are in the deep oceans and the farthest stars
and in the stirrings of our hearts.

So we thank you, Creator of all,
and give you praise for your beautiful world,
and for every person
who has touched us with your presence.

We blend our voices with the prayer of all creation
and sing your praise with words that shall never cease:

We recall that he took bread
and thanked you for your constant love.
He broke the bread, and gave it to his friends saying:
Take this and share it among you.
This is my body given for you.

He also took the cup of wine.
Again he gave you thanks and praise,
and shared it with those who were with him saying:
Take this and drink from it, all of you.
This is the cup of a new covenant in my blood,
shed for people everywhere.
Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me.

With great joy, let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Giver of every good and perfect gift, send your Spirit upon us,
so that we who eat this bread and share this cup
may become one people nourished by your love.

We pray that by the action of this same Spirit,
we may know that all creation is from your hand
so that wherever we are
peace, justice and care for the earth
will be the signs of your presence among us.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ… forever and ever.

The Prayer of Jesus

Holy One, our only Home, blessed be your name.
May your day dawn, your will be done, here, as in heaven.
Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other.
Do not forsake us at the test, but deliver us from evil.
For the glory, the power, and the mercy are yours,
now and forever. Amen.