

Mary of Magdala Zoom Meeting for Tuesday, June 2, 2020  
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## **Welcome**

### **Opening prayer for justice and peace.**

- O Let us take a moment in the midst of all the anguish of this time, to bring ourselves, mind, heart and soul, into the presence of God.
- A We gather here as God's family, called to be peacemakers in today's world.
- O We gather here as God's family as people called to establish justice on earth in God's name.
- A May we enter into this time now conscious of our high calling, open to God's voice within and among us. Amen

### **Reading Gospel of Luke. 11:42-46**

"But woe to you, Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all kinds, and neglect justice and the love of God. It is these you ought to have practiced, without neglecting the others.

Woe to you Pharisees!!! For you love to have the seat of honor in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces.

Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without realizing it."

One of the lawyers answered him, "Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us too."

And he said, "Woe also to you lawyers!! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not lift a finger to ease them."

The word of God. Thanks be to God.

### **Prayers of the People**

- O O God, you are the maker of justice, and you teach us to treat one another in love.  
A Make us people of justice, we pray.
- O Now we offer ourselves to do your work in the world, the work of announcing your Reign  
A and establishing your justice for all people.
- O For this we need your grace, your wisdom, your courage and your power. For this we  
need eyes of faith.  
A May we see world as you do and may we not rest until justice is done.
- O We stand in solidarity with you Jesus Christ, as the way to peace.  
A Help us see the way to peace.

- O Guide us, we pray, to be conscious of our world and its dire needs.  
A Give us the courage to witness to Christ, in all we say and do,
- O In all we say and do, may we be people of peace,  
A In our homes, our communities, and our nation.

*(Please add personal intentions.)*

ALL: Stir up within us the desire to take the actions needed to establish peace of earth in these days of turmoil and hatred no matter what personal cost there may be in doing so. May we do this work in love and faith. Amen.

**Second Reading      A reflection based on the *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World* from the Second Vatican Council:**

We believe that peace is the result of justice. When society is rightly ordered, when people live as God intends, then peace reigns. But while this is true, we also realize that peace must be constantly built up, human nature must be called again and again to make peace. But even this is not sufficient.

We believe, further, that peace comes, in the end, from love. Unless people willingly come together to share their talents and bright minds, peace cannot be achieved. Love goes beyond what justice can achieve. When we love our neighbor, even those who irritate us, or alienate us, then we give peace its only chance. All of this loving attitude and behavior connect us to Christ who is the only one who can bring real peace. "Forgo violence, speak with love, and defend the weak--for then you are in Christ and the peace of the world is at hand.

(Article 78)

The first requirement, if peace is to succeed in our time, is to end the causes of discord which lead people to war. This means, concretely, that economic justice is needed, that the desire for power is tamed, and that selfish passions are identified and controlled.

In order for this to occur, we must learn to share this planet together in peace. We must create a system of governance which meets the needs of today's people. Certain international bodies must be allowed to take their proper role. In assisting the world to find peace through justice. Christians and those of other religions are working more together and we applaud this!

(Articles 83 & 84)

## **Sharing**

## **Concluding Reflection**

Riots are "socially destructive and self-defeating," `Martin Luther King Jr. said in 1967, during an earlier spasm of unrest. In the same passage he wrote, "It is as necessary for me to be as vigorous in condemning the conditions which cause persons to feel that they must engage in riotous activities as it is for me to condemn riots." "In the final analysis, a riot is the language of the unheard," Dr. King said. "As long as America postpones justice, we stand in the position of having these recurrences of violence and riots over and over again."