

*Mary, the Mother of Our Lord*

*The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*St. Mary, the Virgin*



**Ecumenical Service**

## **WELCOME!**

Welcome to the first Ecumenical observance in Morristown of the day of Mary, the Mother of Our Lord. "Mary, the Mother of Our Lord" is the name given to this day by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The Roman Catholic Church calls this day "The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary." For the Episcopal Church this is the day of "St. Mary, the Virgin."

Even though we give this day different names, and even though we have different relationships with her, we do have the Blessed Virgin Mary in common. We can join together and praise God for Mary.

Mary is the Blessed Mother of our Lord. She has gone on before into God's eternal presence, crowned forever with God's own immortal love. As the Queen of all the saints, she is the model of the Church catholic and of individual discipleship. Mary is, in short, what the Church catholic has, throughout history, unanimously affirmed her to be - she is the Mother of God.

"...our prayer should include the Mother of God as we say: O God, what a noble person you have created in her! May she be blessed!

Martin Luther  
Commentary on the Hail Mary

### **Order of Worship**

We gather in the name of Jesus Christ to worship God, honoring and giving thanks for Mary, the Blessed Virgin, and mother of our Lord.

Our order of worship is "An Ecumenical Office of Mary, the Mother of Jesus" developed by the Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The ESBVM, founded in England in 1967, exists for the purpose of showing that in the Blessed Virgin Mary, Christians of various traditions may find a focus in the search for unity in Jesus Christ. This act of worship corresponds to the ancient Little Office of the Blessed Virgin. (If you are interested in participating in a local chapter of the ESBVM, please read the enclosed pamphlet.)

*Our Offering* will be distributed equally to M.A.T.S., C.E.A.S.A., and Y.E.S.

*Special thanks* is given to all who serve in this gathering:

Ushers from Good Shepherd:  
Don Baldus, Ralph Beier, Gale Hinkle

Acolyte from All Saints: Dexter Justis

Crucifer from St. Patrick's: Ben Miller

Lector from St. Patrick's: Jim Miller

Assisting Minister from All Saints:  
Carolyn Dean

Organist from Good Shepherd:  
Dr. David Hendricksen

Preacher from St. Patrick's:  
Father Michael Sweeney

Presider from Good Shepherd:  
Pastor Mark Neville

Choir from Good Shepherd, All Saints, and St. Patrick's

Everyone is invited to a reception following the service.



**AN ECUMENICAL OFFICE OF  
MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS  
15 August 93**

Gather in Silence

Prelude

Dr. David Hendricksen

(Stand)

Invocation

Verse

Assisting Minister: Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word." Luke 1:38

Silence

## Act of Penance

**Presider:** Let us confess our sins to almighty God.

(Silence for reflection)

**ALL: WE CONFESS TO ALMIGHTY GOD,  
BEFORE BLESSED MARY,  
BEFORE THE HOLY APOSTLES',  
BEFORE ALL THE COMPANY OF HEAVEN,  
THAT WE HAVE SINNED  
THROUGH OUR OWN FAULT  
IN OUR THOUGHTS AND IN OUR WORDS,  
IN WHAT WE HAVE DONE,  
AND IN WHAT WE HAVE FAILED TO DO;  
WE PRAY ALMIGHTY GOD TO HAVE MERCY ON US.  
AMEN.**

## Prayer for Forgiveness

**Presider:** The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon and forgiveness, the absolution and remission of our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: AMEN.**

## Versicles and Responses

**Assisting Minister:** Our help is in the name of the Lord:

**ALL: WHO HAS MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH.**

**Assisting Minister:** O God, make speed to save us.

**ALL: O LORD, MAKE HASTE TO HELP US.**

**Assisting Minister:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND WILL BE FOREVER. AMEN.**

## Office Hymn



Sing we of the blessed Mother  
 Who received the angel's word,  
 And obedient to his summons  
 Bore in love the infant Lord;  
 Sing we of the joys of Mary  
 At whose breast that child was fed  
 Who is Son of God eternal  
 And the everlasting bread.

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,  
 Of the sword that pierced her through,  
 When beneath the cross of Jesus  
 She his weight of suffering knew,  
 Looked upon her Son and Saviour  
 Reigning high on Calvary's tree,  
 Saw the price of man's redemption  
 Paid to set the sinner free.

Sing again the joys of Mary  
 When she saw the risen Lord,  
 And in prayer with Christ's apostles,  
 Waited on his promised word:

From on high the blazing glory  
Of the Spirit's presence came,  
Heavenly breath of God's own being,  
Manifest through wind and flame.

Sing the chiefest joy of Mary  
When on earth her work was done,  
And the Lord of all creation  
Brought her to his heavenly home:  
Virgin Mother, Mary blessed,  
Raised on high and crowned with grace,  
May your Son, the world's redeemer,  
Grant us all to see his face.

GEORGE B. TIMMS

+ + + THE WORD OF GOD + + +

(Sit)

Psalm 45:10-15

Assisting Minister: Kings and daughters stand among the ladies of the court:

ALL: ON YOUR RIGHT HAND IS THE QUEEN, ADORNED IN GOLD OF OPHIR.

Assisting Minister: Hear, O daughter, consider and listen closely;

ALL: FORGET YOUR PEOPLE AND YOUR FATHER'S HOUSE.

Assisting Minister: The king will have pleasure in your beauty;

ALL: HE IS YOUR MASTER; THEREFORE DO HONOR HIM.

Assisting Minister: The people of Tyre are here with a gift;

ALL: THE RICH AMONG THE PEOPLE SEEK YOUR FAVOR.

Assisting Minister: All glorious is the princess as she enters;

ALL: HER GOWN IS CLOTH OF GOLD.

Assisting Minister: In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king;

ALL: AFTER HER THE BRIDESMAIDS FOLLOW IN PROCESSION.



The Canticle "Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly"

SING OF MARY, PURE AND LOWLY



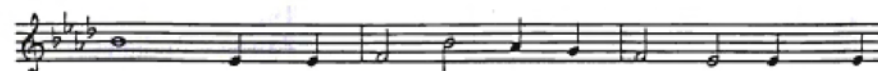
1. Sing of Mar - y, pure and
2. Sing of Je - sus, son of
3. Glo - ry be to God the



low - ly, Vir - gin moth - er un - de - filed; Sing of  
Mar - y In the home at Naz - a - reth, Toil and  
Fa - ther; Glo - ry be to God the Son; Glo - ry



God's own Son most ho - ly, Who be - came her lit - tle  
la - bor can - not wea - ry Love en - dur - ing un - to  
be to God the Spir - it; Glo - ry to the Three in



child. Fair - est child of fair - est moth - er, God the  
death. Con - stant was the love he gave her, Though he  
One. From the heart of bless - ed Mar - y, From all



Lord who came to earth, Word made flesh, our ver - y  
went forth from her side, Forth to preach, and heal, and  
saints the song a - scends, And the Church the strain re -



broth - er, Takes our na - ture by his birth.  
suf - fer, Till on Cal - va - ry he died.  
ech - oes Un - to earth's re - mot - est ends.

**Reading and Response: Galatians 4:4-7**

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba!, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**Lector: Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord:  
let it be to me according to your word.**

**ALL: BEHOLD I AM THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD:  
LET IS BE TO ME ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.**

**Lector: I have come to your will, O God.**

**ALL: BEHOLD I AM THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD:  
LET IT BE TO ME ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.**

**Lector: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:**

**ALL: BEHOLD I AM THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD:  
LET IT BE TO ME ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.**

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Michael Sweeney  
St. Patricks' Catholic Church**

**Offering (to be distributed equally to M.A.T.S., C.E.A.S.A., and Y.E.S. to the  
glory of God in honor of Mary.)**

**(Stand)**

**Magnificat, The Song of Mary**

**Combined Choirs**

**+ + + PRAYER + + +**

**Thanksgiving**

**Assisting Minister: In the joy of creation:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In the presence of Christ:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**



**Assisting Minister: In the power of the Spirit:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In the Mother of Jesus:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In his martyrs and saints:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In his glorious gospel:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In his holy Church:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In the Waters of Baptism:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In the Bread of Angels:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

**Assisting Minister: In time and in eternity:  
ALL: BLESSED BE GOD.**

### **Intercessions**

**Assisting Minister: For the coming of the Kingdom:  
ALL: WE PRAY TO THE LORD.**

**Assisting Minister: For the unity of the Church:  
ALL: WE PRAY TO THE LORD.**

**Assisting Minister: For the peace of the world:  
ALL: WE PRAY TO THE LORD.**

**Assisting Minister: For the suffering and sorrowful:  
ALL: WE PRAY TO THE LORD.**

**Assisting Minister: For the faithful departed:  
ALL: WE PRAY TO THE LORD.**

## Commendation

**Assisting Minister:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Mary ever Virgin and Mother of God, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

**ALL:** FOR TO YOU, O LORD, BELONGS ALL GLORY, ALL HONOR, AND ALL WORSHIP, NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## Concluding Collect

**Presider:** Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary to be the Mother of our Lord and Savior: fill us with your grace, that in all things we may accept your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL:** AMEN.

## Final Prayers

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

**ALL:** AND ALSO WITH YOU.

**Presider:** Let us bless the Lord.

**ALL:** THANKS BE TO GOD.

**Presider:** May the almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, guard us and give us his blessing.

**ALL:** AMEN.

(Reception Follows)



