



THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

7:00 P

APRIL 16, 2022

WELCOME

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is a time of great rejoicing for Christians around the world. Our Easter joy comes from our being a part of God's eternal love and presence through the resurrection of Christ. Our awareness of this helps us to know that nothing can separate us from the forgiving and redeeming love of God. There is no darkness in life where the light of God's love cannot shine. And in this light, we see truth and the way forward. So we rejoice!

In our lifelong journey as Christians, we take this into our heart and mind. We internalize the unconditional love of God, and we learn to forgive ourselves and others with that same love.

Today, more than ever before, we are called with urgency to be intentional in our living. Based on the love shown to us through Easter, we choose to act with kindness, to welcome one another, to build up one another in love, and to listen to the life stories of others even when those stories are difficult and challenging. We choose to embody the love of Christ. This is worth giving our complete selves to so that love can become the dominant experience in the human community. We work and reflect and then apply ourselves again to make this so.

I rejoice with you today in this great universal gift of resurrection and redemption. You are loved. Reflect on this frequently this Easter season, and rejoice in the fullness of this blessing.

May we shine with the radiance of God's eternal love in everything we do.

In faith and gratitude,



The Rev. Channing Smith, Rector

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

We are glad to celebrate Easter with you! No matter where you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

If you are looking for a spiritual home, we invite you to come back. We celebrate the Holy Eucharist on Sundays with a simple, spoken service at 8:00a; a service designed for children under age eight at 9:15a; a traditional service featuring organ and choir at 10:30a; a contemporary service featuring an acoustic band at 10:30a; and a service featuring organ music at 6:00p. We share ministry with our second campus — the Hill at 1700 Woodland Ave — and we celebrate the Holy Eucharist at the Hill on Sundays at 10:30a.

If you are new or visiting with us today, we invite you to fill out a newcomer card. You can complete an online newcomer card at gsaustin.org > **connect > let's connect**. You can find paper newcomer cards in the pew racks, by the back doors of the church building, and in the Parish Life Center by the doors to the lobby. Please place the card in the offering plate or hand it to a clergy person after the service. We would love to know more about you.

You can find more ways to participate in the life of our parish on the back of this bulletin and on our website: gsaustin.org. We would be honored for you to join us.

The Liturgy of Light

7:00 pm [1]

¶ *In the darkness, a fire is kindled, after which the Celebrant addresses the people.*

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ:

On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer.

For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify ✙ this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

PREPARATION OF THE CANDLE

¶ *The Celebrant traces a cross in the wax of the candle, then traces an Alpha and an Omega above the cross, and the numerals of the current year beneath the cross, while saying:*

1. Christ yesterday and today,
2. the beginning and the end,
3. Alpha
4. and Omega.
5. All time belongs to him,
6. and all the ages.
7. To him be glory and power,
8. through every age and for ever.

¶ *The Celebrant then inserts grains of incense in the candle, in the shape of a cross, saying:*

By his holy and glorious wounds
may Christ our Lord guard us
and keep us. Amen.

¶ *The Paschal Candle is then lit from the newly kindled fire, and the light is passed to everyone as the following is sung.*

Deacon *People*



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

¶ *All follow the Paschal Candle into the church, while the acclamation is repeated en route.*

The Exsultet

Priest Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation! Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes for ever! Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people! My dearest friends, standing with me in this holy light, join me in asking God for mercy, that he may give his unworthy minister grace to sing his Easter praises.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are as follows:

- Staff 1:** Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And al - so with you.
- Staff 2:** Celebrant: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them to the Lord.
- Staff 3:** Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- Staff 4:** People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and voices, we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful Father, and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. For Christ has ransomed us with his blood, and paid for us the price of Adam's sin to our eternal Father! This is our passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers. This is the night when first you saved our fathers: you freed the people of Israel from their slavery and led them dry-shod through the sea. This is the night when the pillar of fire destroyed the darkness of sin! This is the night when Christians everywhere, washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement, are restored to grace and grow together in holiness. This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave. What good would life have been to us, had Christ not come as our Redeemer? Father, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless your merciful love! To ransom a slave you gave away your Son. O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam, which gained for us so great a Redeemer! Most blessed of all nights, chosen by God to see Christ rising from the dead! Of this night scripture says: "The night will be as clear as day: it will become my light, my joy." The power of this holy night dispels all evil, washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy; it casts out hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride. Night truly blessed when heaven is wedded to earth and man is reconciled with God! Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night, receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering. Accept this Easter candle, the work of bees and of your servants' hands, a flame divided but undimmed, a pillar of fire that glows to the honor of God. Let it mingle with the lights of heaven and continue bravely burning to dispel the darkness of this night! May the morning Star which never sets find this flame still burning: Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead, and shed his peaceful light on all mankind, your Son who lives and reigns...

The musical notation consists of two staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are as follows:

- Staff 1:** Deacon: ... for ev - er and ev - er. People: A - men.

The Liturgy of the Word

7:00 pm [3]

Celebrant Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history,
how God saved the people in ages past;
and let us pray that our God will bring each of us
to the fullness of redemption.

¶ *All are seated.*

The Lessons

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

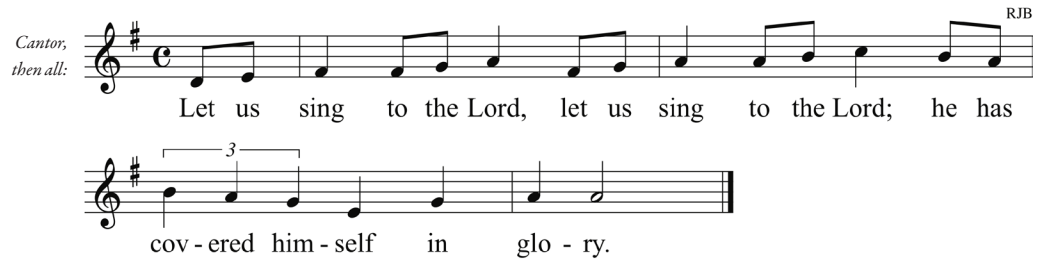
Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20:21

Lector As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers." The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

¶ *All remain seated.*



I will sing to the Lord; glorious his triumph!

Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!

The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.

This is my God and I extol him, my father's God and I give him praise. *R.*

The LORD is a warrior! The LORD is his name.

The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea,
the flower of his army is drowned in the sea. *R.*

The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone.

Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power,

Your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy. *R.*

The people you have redeemed pass by. You will lead them and plant them on your mountain,

the place, O LORD, where you have made your home,

the sanctuary, LORD, which your hands have made.

The Lord will reign for ever and ever! *R.*

¶ *All stand.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

¶ *Silence.*

O God,

whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day,

you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm

your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh,

to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism:

Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered

among the offspring of Abraham,

and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

¶ *All sit.*

A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Lector Say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

¶ *All remain seated.*



1 Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust-ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed



fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his



help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal -
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing-ing; for with



va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the



liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

¶ *All stand.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

¶ *Silence.*

O God, you have created all things by the power of your
Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the
water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring
forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

¶ *All sit.*

Lector The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord. NRSV

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 30



I will extol you, LORD, for you have
raised me up,
and have not let my enemies rejoice
over me.

O LORD, you have lifted up my soul
from the grave,
restored me to life from those who
sink into the pit. *R.*

Sing psalms to the LORD, you faithful
ones;
give thanks to his holy name.

His anger lasts a moment; his favor
all through life.
At night come tears, but dawn
brings joy. *R.*

Hear, O LORD, and have mercy on me;
be my helper, O LORD.
You have changed my mourning into
dancing.

O LORD my God, I will thank you
forever. *R.*

¶ *All stand.*

7:00 pm [7]

Celebrant Let us pray.

¶ *Silence.*

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son
you have brought us out of sin into righteousness
and out of death into life:

Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit
the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

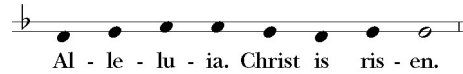
All Amen.

¶ *All remain standing.*

First Eucharist of Easter

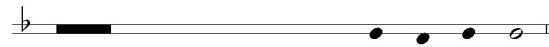
THE EASTER PROCLAMATION

Priest



Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People



The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia.

*All immediately ring bells. Altar candles are lighted from the Paschal candle.
The following is sung, all standing.*

GLORIA

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. or this O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

The Lessons

FIRST LESSON Romans 6:3-11

Lector Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

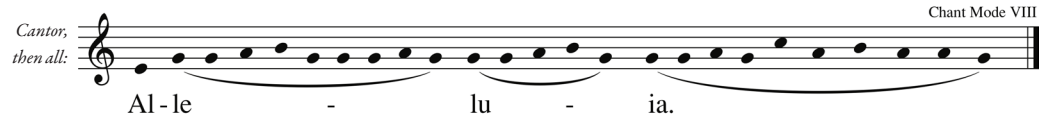
NRSV

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand as The Great Alleluia is sung, first by the choir and then repeated by the congregation.

ALLELUIA AND PSALM 118



Give praise to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.
Let the house of Israel say,
“His mercy endures forever.” *R.*

“The LORD’s right hand has done mighty
deeds;
his right hand is exalted.”

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount the deeds of the
LORD. *R.*

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes. *R.*

THE GOSPEL Mark 16, 1-8

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospeller When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.”

So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

NRSV

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily The Rev. Stanford Adams, *Vice Rector*

Holy Baptism

¶ *The ministers move to the font.*

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

(P.301)

Candidates for Holy Baptism

John Parker Moss

Mary Margaret Moss

Piper Evan Moulton

Katharine Elizabeth Starley

Anthony Luca Tarantino

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented by their parents and godparents.

Answer I present <N.> to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

¶ *When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents.*

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Answer I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Parents and Godparents will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Answer I will, with God's help.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

¶ *The Celebrant addresses the congregation*

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People We will.

Celebrant Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

(P.304)

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

All I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

All I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

All I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidate

(P.305)

Celebrant Let us now pray for these children who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Celebrant Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Celebrant Fill them with your holy and life giving Spirit.

People Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Celebrant Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Celebrant Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People With their family and friends beside them.

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever.

People Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

(P.306)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

¶ *At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

7:00 pm [13]

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

People Amen.

The Baptism

(P.307)

¶ *Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then pours water upon the candidate, saying*

Celebrant <N.>, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

¶ *The Priest then marks the newly baptized's forehead with chrism oil, making the sign of the cross.*

Celebrant <N.>, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

People Amen.

¶ *After the Baptism the Priest gives to the newly baptized a candle lighted from the Paschal Candle.*

Celebrant The light of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them inquiring and discerning hearts, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

People Amen.

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

ANTHEM *This Joyful Eastertide*

Charles Wood

The Great Thanksgiving

Preface of Easter (P.379)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

S125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

(P.361)

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father...

...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Celebrant ...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

GREAT AMEN

Celebrant All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

By him, and with him, and in him,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit

all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father,

now and for ever.

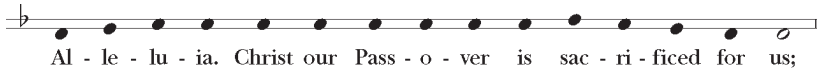
People AMEN.

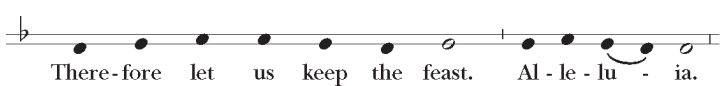
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM

S152

Cantor 

All 

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM *Sicut Cervus*

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

HYMN 174 *At the Lamb's high feast we sing*

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE SOLEMN BENEDICTION

Celebrant Almighty God, who has redeemed us through the resurrection of his Christ
and has brought us out of slavery to sin into everlasting freedom,
give you joy and peace in faith, and bring you to your eternal inheritance,
and the blessing of God Almighty, ✚ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you forever..

All Amen.



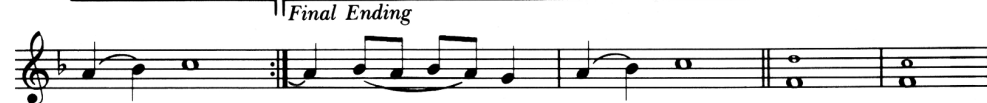
1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.____
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.____
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.____
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows.____



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold;____
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life.____
 The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God.____
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood.____

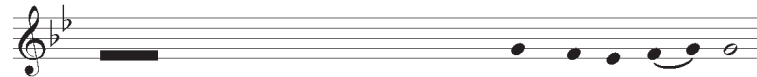


and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.____
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.____ Al - le -
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.____
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:____



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

DISMISSAL

Priest

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia.

People

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POSTLUDE

Liturgy Notes – The Paschal Candle

On this day, and for the entire Easter Season, the Paschal Candle occupies a place of honor in the sanctuary and is lit for all services. During the Great Vigil, the Candle is solemnly inscribed and lighted in a ceremony dating back at least to the second century. The congregation lights their small candles from it as it is carried into the darkened church, and the ancient hymn, the Exsultet, is intoned. That hymn sings of “a flame divided, but undimmed, a pillar of fire that glows to the honor of God”. It goes on to pray that it might mingle with the lights of heaven, and continue “bravely burning to dispel the darkness of this night. May the Morning Star which never sets, find this flame still burning: Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead, and shed his peaceful light on all mankind”.

The symbolism of the Candle is drawn from the baptismal liturgy which traditionally accompanies the Great Vigil: it seems that as early as the letter to the Hebrews, Christians understood Baptism as “being illuminated.” At Easter, the returning Risen Christ, the ‘true light which enlightens everyone’, stands surrounded by His illuminated disciples, the newly baptized, each holding their own candle.

The Paschal Candle bears several traditional markings: during the Vigil it is inscribed with a cross, and between each of the arms of the Cross, the numbers of the current year. We know from the great English monk and historian, Bede the Venerable, that this was customary by the end of the seventh century. While inscribing these marks, the celebrant says “Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega. All time belongs to him, and all the ages. To him be glory and power, through every age and forever”. Five nails, representing the wounds of Christ still evident in his risen body, are sometimes inserted into the candle, accompanied by the prayer “By his holy and glorious wounds, may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us. Amen.”

In medieval times the Paschal Candle became exaggerated: at Salisbury Cathedral, the candle was required to be thirty-six feet high, while Westminster Abbey’s candle required three hundred pounds of wax! However, these candles were customarily melted down at the end of the season and used to make tapers for the funerals of the poor. The candle stands also became significant works of art, many of which still survive.

Our own candle is of more modest proportions and simply decorated, but marked and inscribed in the ancient manner. It will remain on the sanctuary until Pentecost, and then reappear only for Baptisms and for funerals, when we pray that the baptized will know eternal rest, and that the light of the Risen Christ will shine on them forever.

TPG+

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