

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

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. **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon (the Celebrant if there is no deacon) bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing or saying

The light of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The candles are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time. Other candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the Altar, may also be lighted.

The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

EXSULTET

The Liturgy of the Word

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

FIRST READING: The story of Creation: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God

saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of

the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. ^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. ^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

- ¹**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.
- ²**Give thanks to the God of gods, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.
- ³**Give thanks to the LORD of lords, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.
- ⁴**Who only does great wonders, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ⁵**Who by wisdom made the heavens, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ⁶**Who spread out the earth upon the waters, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ⁷**Who created great lights, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ⁸**The sun to rule the day, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ⁹**The moon and the stars to govern the night, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.
- ²³**Who remembered us in our low estate, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ²⁴**And delivered us from our enemies, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ²⁵**Who gives food to all creatures, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.
- ²⁶**Give thanks to the God of heaven, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SECOND READING: Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea: Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

¹⁰As 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. ¹¹They 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? ¹²Is 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." ¹³But 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. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. ¹⁶But 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. ¹⁷Then 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. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers." ¹⁹The 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. ²⁰It 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. ²¹Then 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. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At 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. ²⁵He 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." ²⁶Then 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." ²⁷So 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. ²⁸The 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. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰Thus the LORD

saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel 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. ^{15:20}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. ²¹And 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.

Thanks be to God

Canticle 8: The Song of Moses

**I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.**

**The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.**

**This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.**

**The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.**

**The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.**

**The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.**

**Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.**

**Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness,
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?**

**You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.**

**With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.**

**You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,**

**The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.**

**The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.**

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. **Amen.**

THIRD READING: Salvation offered freely to all: Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4

⁹Hear the commandments of life, O Israel;
give ear, and learn wisdom!

¹⁰Why is it, O Israel, why is it that you are in the land of your enemies,
that you are growing old in a foreign country,
that you are defiled with the dead,

¹¹that you are counted among those in Hades?

¹²You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom.

¹³If you had walked in the way of God,
you would be living in peace forever.

¹⁴Learn where there is wisdom,
where there is strength,
where there is understanding,
so that you may at the same time discern
where there is length of days, and life,
where there is light for the eyes, and peace.

¹⁵Who has found her place?
And who has entered her storehouses?

³²But the one who knows all things knows her,
he found her by his understanding.

The one who prepared the earth for all time
filled it with four-footed creatures;

³³the one who sends forth the light, and it goes;
he called it, and it obeyed him, trembling;

³⁴the stars shone in their watches, and were glad;
he called them, and they said, "Here we are!"

They shone with gladness for him who made them.

³⁵This is our God;
no other can be compared to him.

³⁶He found the whole way to knowledge,
and gave her to his servant Jacob
and to Israel, whom he loved.

³⁷Afterward she appeared on earth
and lived with humankind.
^{4:1}She is the book of the commandments of God,
the law that endures forever.
All who hold her fast will live,
and those who forsake her will die.
²Turn, O Jacob, and take her;
walk toward the shining of her light.
³Do not give your glory to another,
or your advantages to an alien people.
⁴Happy are we, O Israel,
for we know what is pleasing to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 19

¹**The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.**
²**One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**
³**Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,**
⁴**Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.**
⁵**In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.**
⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**
⁷**The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.**
⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**
⁹**The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.**
¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

**¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.**

**¹²Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.**

**¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.**

**¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in
your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

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. **Amen.**

FOURTH READING: The valley of dry bones: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The 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. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I 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.” ⁷So 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. ⁸I 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. ⁹Then 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.” ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then 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.’ ¹²Therefore 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. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my

people. ¹⁴I 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.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 143

- ¹**LORD, hear my prayer,
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; *
answer me in your righteousness.**
- ²**Enter not into judgment with your servant, *
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.**
- ³**For my enemy has sought my life;
he has crushed me to the ground; *
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.**
- ⁴**My spirit faints within me; *
my heart within me is desolate.**
- ⁵**I remember the time past;
I muse upon all your deeds; *
I consider the works of your hands.**
- ⁶**I spread out my hands to you; *
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.**
- ⁷**O LORD, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; *
do not hide your face from me
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.**
- ⁸**Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,
for I put my trust in you; *
show me the road that I must walk,
for I lift up my soul to you.**
- ⁹**Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD, *
for I flee to you for refuge.**
- ¹⁰**Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; *
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**
- ¹¹**Revive me, O LORD, for your Name’s sake; *
for your righteousness’ sake, bring me out of trouble.**
- ¹²**Of your goodness, destroy my enemies
and bring all my foes to naught, *
for truly I am your servant.**

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. **Amen.**

FIFTH READING: The gathering of God's people: Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 98

- ¹**Sing to the LORD a new song, ***
for he has done marvelous things.
- ²**With his right hand and his holy arm ***
has he won for himself the victory.
- ³**The LORD has made known his victory; ***
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- ⁴**He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, ***
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- ⁵**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; ***
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- ⁶**Sing to the LORD with the harp, ***
with the harp and the voice of song.
- ⁷**With trumpets and the sound of the horn ***
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- ⁸**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, ***
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- ⁹**Let the rivers clap their hands, ***
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- ¹⁰**In righteousness shall he judge the world ***
and the peoples with equity.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Celebrant

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People

I do.

Celebrant

Do you believe in God the Father?

People

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

Celebrant

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

People

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?

People

**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?

People

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?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

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

People

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?

People

I will, with God's help.

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

CANTICLE FOR EASTER VIGIL S 280 *Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Powell)*



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.

COLLECT FOR EASTER VIGIL

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

The Lessons

EPISTLE: Romans 6:3-11

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore 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. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

SEQUENCE HYMN *The strife is o'er, the battle done (Victory)* (H 208)

Antiphon (at the beginning)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
 *3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es
 4 He closed the yaw - ing gates of hell, the bars from
 5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly
 3 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our
 4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his
 5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON - THE REV'D SUSAN GAGE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joined by those who are newly baptized in Christ, and filled with joy on this queen of feasts, let us offer prayers to God who fills the darkness of the world with the light of Christ.

For the holy churches of God, Frank, our bishop, the presbyters and deacons, our new brothers and sisters, this holy gathering, and all the holy people of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For all those in need, the suffering and the oppressed, travelers and prisoners, the dying and the dead.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For ourselves, our families, and those we love.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

That our Savior may grant us triumph over our visible and invisible enemies.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

That with Christ we may crush beneath our feet the prince of darkness and all evil powers.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

That Christ may fill us with the joy and happiness of his holy resurrection.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

That we may enter the chamber of the divine wedding feast and rejoice without limit with the angels and saints.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

Remembering our most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary, Anna our Patron Saint, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord.

Celebrant

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Hear our prayers which we offer in the hope of eternal glory, and grant that we who have received new life in baptism may live for ever in the joy of the resurrection.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages.

Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalms 50:14

Offertory Anthem: *On that Great, Great Mornin'* by Mary McDonald

Doxology

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS *S 129 Holy, holy, holy (Powell)*

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

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with Blessed Joseph, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Blessed Barnabas, and Blessed Anna, our Patrons, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

FRACTION ANTHEM S 154 *Christ our Passover (Hurd)*

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN *Through the Red Sea brought at last (Straf mich nicht)* (H
187)



1 Through the Red Sea brought at last, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Like the cloud that o - ver - head, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 In that cloud and in that sea, Al - le - lu - ia!



E - gypt's chains be - hind we cast, Al - le - lu - ia! Deep and wide
through the bil - lows Is - rael led, Al - le - lu - ia! by his tomb
bur - ied and bap - tized were we, Al - le - lu - ia! Earth - ly night



flows the tide sev - ering us from bond - age past, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ makes room, souls re - stor - ing from the dead, Al - le - lu - ia!
brought us light which is ours e - ter - nal - ly, Al - le - lu - ia!

COMMUNION HYMN *Jesus is Lord of all the earth [Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord] (Alleluia No. 1) (H 178)*

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

EASTER BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Jesus Christ is risen today (Easter Hymn) (H 207)*

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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The Easter Flowers are given to the Glory of God

And in Memory of:

Diane Beckett, Don Beckett, Joye & Howard Bradley, Oscar & Eleanor Brugel, Beth Burnette, Brad & Jewell Burnette, Elmer & Emma Lee Byrd, Robert & Marie Byrd, Jo Church, Laura Church, Sam Francis Cortese, Steve, Wayne, Lucille & John Mark Cronic, Jake Daughtrey, Sammy Duenke, Blake & Jackie Ellis, Edmund Finch, Howard, Ida, Claire & Francis Gentz, William G. Eager, III, Patricia Ann Emery, Jon Emery, Leonard Hayden Emery, Bud Hatcher, Margaret & Emory Hiers, Marie Stokes Hill, Walter & Velma Hobgood, Claire Holland, Josie Hutchinson, Fr. Peter Ingeman, Marilyn Kemper, Hilda Landau, Joan Lawson, Leigh Long, Bishop Henry Louttit, Brooks & Mary Lovelace, Steven Lovelace, Louis & Helen Marks, Daniel Mayer, Jr., Kenny Mistick, Bill Nunn, Bob Plews, Phil Rasmussen, Clemence & Dorothy Riedie, Jane & Joseph Romita, Anne Rudeen, Ken Rudeen, Dick Saeger, Vera Kate Setser, The Simson Family, LeRoy & Mary Smith, Ann Stone, Nancy Taylor, Vince Thigpen, Gary Thomas, Henry Volpu, Marie Wisenbaker Waters, Gordon & Doris Wisenbaker, John Wisenbaker, Jr., Serra Wisenbaker,

And in Thanksgiving for:

Thaddeus, Hiroko, Alexander & Athena Agar, The grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Brad & Ann Burnette, Ingrid Carroll, Noah Carroll, Leslie & Jay Chadwick, The Christ Church Family, Cecilia & Noah Clifton, Daniel S. Coleman, Grazia Kennedy Cortese, Gwen Daughtrey, Hopkins Eager, Callum Eager, Elizabeth Flowers, Kevin & Stephanie Hiers, Meg Hiers, The grandchildren of John & Phyllis Hiers, Steve Honeycutt, Ellie Hutchinson, Bill & Steve Ingeman, Fr. Kevin & Christine Kelly, "My many blessings", Kip, Tina, Olivia & McKey Nunn, Eloise Salinas, James Setser, Madeline Setser, Jan, Todd, Leila & Emily Skinner, Cindy Story, Mike Tanner, the Thursday Bible Study group, and All of God's Mercy and Blessings.

By:

Gary & Louisa Beckett, Bruce Brugel, Brad & Ann Burnette, Jerry Byrd, Tom & Stefani Carroll, Carolyn Eager Coleman, Pat Denmark, Joan Emery, Connie Flowers, Glen & Jerilyn Flowers, Rachel Hill Freytag, John & Phyllis Hiers, Walter & Gail Hobgood, Mike & Phyllis Holland, Happy Ingeman, Kevin & Christine Kelly, Nancy Lutsko, Dennis & Patricia Marks, Katherine Mayer, John & The Rev. Marcia McRae, Ed & BJ Mistick, Sally Nunn, Jason & Julie Reynolds, Della K. Richards, Pete Stone, Larry & Elizabeth Wisenbaker.



Special Music is given to the Glory of God

And in Memory of:

Kathy Armstrong, Lillian Collins, George & Vera Ferree, Sam Greneker, John & Peggy Guthrie, Fr. Peter Ingeman, Paula & BJ Kurjack, Brett Nelson, Harold & Harriette McGrath, Theo Reed, Audrey Rumstay, Dick Saeger, Lora Shafer, Bill & Lois Stevenson, Hicks Waldron,

And in Thanksgiving for:

The marriage of Chris Hanson & Erin Rudiak, Kevin & Christine Kelly, the Children and Grandchildren of Paul & Molly Stevenson

By:

Ron & Pat Bezona, Leslie Hiers Chadwick, Duke Guthrie, Pepi, Jim & Brian Nelson, Ken & Sue Ellen Rumstay, Debi Saeger, Paul & Molly Stevenson, Willa Ferree Valencia.



In memory of and thanksgiving for the ministry of the Rev. Peter L. Ingeman, the Vespers group donated the 2026 Pascal Candle.



Mission Statement:

As followers of Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we share God's love, grace and mercy through worship, prayer and service, respecting the dignity of all.

The Rt Rev'd Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia
All Christ Church Families & Friends are Ministers.

The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly, Rector

The Rev'd Nancy Sartin, Deacon

Bobby Yarbrough, Sr. Warden

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Kylee Creasy, Children's Ministries Leader

Ellie Copeland & Katie Wisenbaker, Youth Ministers (EYC)

Issa Young, Choir Director

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Director of Music

Nancy Lutsko, Verger

The 10:00 service is livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook

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