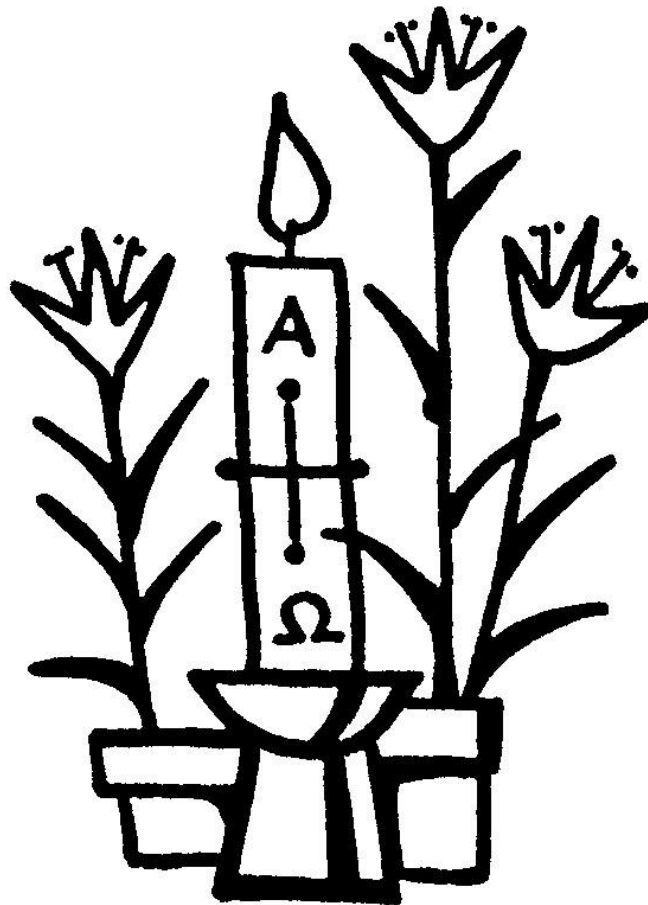


# **The Great Vigil of Easter**

April 11, 2020



**Alleluia, Christ is Risen!**

**The Lord is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!**

## About the Easter Vigil

By at least the second century Christians, believing that Christ would return on the night before Easter Day, held vigil by listening to Scripture readings on the whole arc of salvation. It was also on this night that, after lengthy preparation, candidates were baptized into the faith. Tonight we continue in this ancient tradition as we kindle the Easter fire, hear (by candlelight) our most sacred stories, renew our baptismal vows, and shout our first “Alleluias.”

During the Middle Ages, the Vigil was moved to a “more convenient hour, (by the 12<sup>th</sup> century it began at midday), and by the 16<sup>th</sup> century it was no longer the focus of popular devotion. Reformers abolished the Vigil altogether, and it was not reintroduced into Anglicanism until the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Easter Vigil made its way back into the liturgical mainstream of the Episcopal Church in the 1950s and 1960s.

There are four parts to the Easter Vigil:

We begin with the **Service of Light**, during which the Paschal fire is kindled and the Exultet is sung (the word *paschal* is the equivalent of the Greek “pascha” and is derived from the Hebrew word “pesah”, meaning “the passing over.” Remember that the Jewish Passover is the setting for Easter events recorded in the Gospels.) The **Service of Lessons** follows, whereby we hear, through Scripture, song and prayer the story of our salvation as it is told in the Old Testament. Then, as in ages past, new Christians are baptized (or baptismal promises are renewed) during the Service of **Christian Initiation**. The Vigil (and indeed all of Holy Week and Lent) culminates in the alleluias and songs of praise which we fasted from during Lent. In a typical year, the service concludes with a festive celebration of the first **Holy Eucharist**, or Holy Communion of Easter, while this year we reach for spiritual communion in our hearts, instead. Throughout the service, fire, light, word, water, bread and wine provide powerful symbols of God’s love, presence, and mercy, and our adoption as God’s children through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

### The Exsultet

The Exsultet is an ancient blessing of the paschal candle, usually sung by the deacon (*exsultet* is the first word in Latin of the Easter Proclamation). In it, the whole company of heaven and earth are called upon to rejoice in God’s victory, and Christ is praised as the Paschal Lamb who delivers his people from sin and death in the same way that the people of Israel were delivered from bondage during the Exodus. By the Passover of Christ, earth and heaven are joined and humankind is reconciled to God. Finally, the candle is then offered as an evening sacrifice to God.

### The Paschal Candle

The paschal candle represents the pillar of cloud and fire which led the people of Israel during the Exodus, and the light of Christ which cannot be extinguished, even by death. Its light was used to illuminate the sacred texts read during the Vigil; once it is lighted, other candles may be lighted from it. In some places a cross is “painted” on the candle by anointing it with chrism (holy oil). Placing incense in the candle is a custom interpreted as representing the wounds of Christ, as well as the herbs and spices brought to anoint his body.

# The Great Vigil of Easter

## The Kindling of the New Fire and Lighting of the Paschal Candle

*In darkness, the fire is kindled as we chant:*

**Opening Chant:** Within our darkest night, from Taizé

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a -  
way, that nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the  
fire that nev - er dies a - way, that nev - er dies a - way.

**Presider:** 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.

**Presider:** 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.



*After the blessing of the New Fire, the Paschal Candle is lighted.*

*The Presider then traces the Cross, the symbols Alpha and Omega, and the numerals of the year 2020 in the candle, saying:*

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end. Alpha and Omega. His are the times and ages. To him be glory and dominion through all ages of eternity. **Amen.**

Through his holy and glorious wounds may Christ the Lord guard and preserve us. May the light of Christ gloriously rising dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds. **Amen.**

*Everyone's candles may now be lit, whether at home or at Church. The Presider leads the procession, bearing the Paschal Candle, pausing three times and singing:*

<i>Presider:</i>	<i>People:</i>
	
The light	Thanks be to God.

*The Presider sings the Exsultet:*

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

<i>The Cantor concludes:</i>	<i>All:</i>

*Presider:*

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

Now therefore, we sacrifice our Passover, in which for us the very lamb of God is slain, by whose Blood his faithful people are made holy.

This is the night, when you brought our forebears, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us your children.

Behold what love he has bestowed upon us, who to redeem a servant, delivered up his only son.

O Blessed iniquity, for whose redemption such a price was paid by such a Savior.

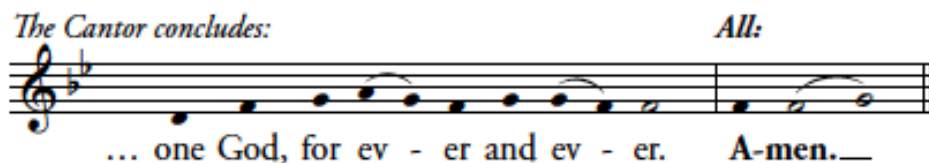
How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and we are reconciled to God.

Therefore O holy Father, accept the evening sacrifice of this lighted candle, which your holy Church makes before you and offers to you by the hands of your servants, the work of the bees your creatures.

May it shine continually to drive away all darkness, as we celebrate the glad solemnity of our redemption.

May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning — he who gives this light to all creation. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,



# The Liturgy of the Word

## A Story of Creation

Genesis 2:4b-25

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates. The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.” Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

# Hymn This is my Father's world



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-tening ears all  
2 This is our Fa-ther's world: O let us not for-get that  
3 This is my Fa-ther's world: he shines in all that's fair; in the

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.  
though the wrong is great and strong, God is the rul - er yet.  
rus - tling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me ev-ery-where.

This is my Fa-ther's world: I rest me in the thought of  
He trusts us with his world, to keep it clean and fair—all  
This is my Fa-ther's world: why should my heart be sad? The

rocks and trees, of skies and seas—his hand the won - ders wrought.  
earth and trees, all skies and seas, all crea - tures ev - ery - where.  
Lord is King, let heav - en ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!

*Presider:* 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.

*People:* Amen.

## The Flood

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

The Lord said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him. In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind—every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the Lord shut him in. The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more. In the six hundred first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, “Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”



## Rain Down

**REFRAIN** *Slow gospel swing* (♩ = ca. 88) 

**Melody**  
Rain down, rain down, rain down your

**Harmony**

1 love on your peo - ple. 2 love, God of life. *last time rit. Fine*

**VERSES**

*mf*

1. Faith - ful and true is the word of our God. All of God's  
2. We who re - vere and find hope in our God live in the  
3. God of cre - a - tion, we long for your truth; you are the

1. works are so wor - thy of trust. God's mer - cy falls on the  
2. kind - ness and joy of God's wing. God will pro - tect us from  
3. wa - ter of life that we thirst. Grant that your love and your

*cresc. D.C.*

1. just and the right; full of God's love is the earth.  
2. dark - ness and death; God will not leave us to starve.  
3. peace touch our hearts, all of our hope lies in you.

**Presider:** Let us pray. (*Silence*)  
Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

## Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-15:1

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 Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: “I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

## **Go Down, Moses**

Traditional Spiritual  
arr. Horace Clarence Boyer

1 When Israel was in Egypt’s land,  
let my people go;  
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,  
let my people go.

**Refrain:** Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt’s land;  
Tell old Pharaoh to let my people go.

2 The Lord told Moses what to do,  
let my people go;  
To lead the children of Israel through,  
let my people go.

**Refrain**

3 They journeyed on at his command,  
let my people go;  
And come at length to Canaan’s land,  
let my people go.

**Refrain**

4 Oh, let us all from bondage flee,  
let my people go;  
And let us all in Christ be free,  
let my people go.

**Refrain**

*Presider:* 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 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 Sarah, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People:* Amen.

## New Heart, New Spirit

Ezekiel 36:24-28

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.

### Hymn 213 Come away to the skies

*Unison or harmony*

1 Come a - way to the skies, my be - lov - ed, a - rise and re -  
2 Now with sing - ing and praise, let us spend all the days, by our  
3 For the glo - ry we were first cre - a - ted to share, both the  
4 We with thanks do ap - prove the de - sign of that love which hath

1 joice in the day thou wast born; on this fes - ti - val day,  
2 hea - ven - ly Fa - ther be - stowed, while his grace we re - ceive  
3 na - ture and king - dom di - vine! Now cre - a - ted a - gain  
4 joined us to Je - sus' Name; so u - ni - ted in heart,

1 come ex - ult - ing a - way, and with sing - ing to Zi - on re - turn.  
2 from his boun - ty, and live to the hon - or and glo - ry of God.  
3 that our lives may re - main, through-out time and e - ter - ni - ty thine.  
4 let us nev - er - more part, till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.

*Presider:* Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who are reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord..

*People:* Amen.

## **Daniel in the Fiery Furnace**

Daniel 3:1-28

King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue whose height was sixty cubits and whose width was six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent for the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces to assemble and come to the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. So the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, assembled for the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. When they were standing before the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up, the herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you are to fall down and worship the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire." Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and denounced the Jews. They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue, and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire. There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These pay no heed to you, O King. They do not serve your gods and they do not worship the golden statue that you have set up." Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in; so they brought those men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?" Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up."

Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary, and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. Because the king's command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire. Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, "Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?" They answered the king, "True, O king." He replied, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a god." Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of the furnace of blazing fire and said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw

that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics were not harmed, and not even the smell of fire came from them.

Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king’s command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.

**Hymn** Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel? *(Congregation sings refrain)*

*Refrain*

Did-n't my Lord de-liv-er Dan-iel, de-liv-er

Dan-iel, de-liv-er Dan-iel, Did-n't my Lord de-liv-er

Dan-iel, An' why not-a ev-e-ry-one. **Fine**

*Verse 1* He delivered Daniel from the lion's den,  
an' Jonah from the belly of the whale;  
An' the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace,  
An' why not everyone.

*Refrain*

*Verse 2* The win' blows eas' an' de win' blows wes',  
It blows like de judgment day;  
An' ev'ry po' soul dat never did pray'll  
be glad to pray dat day.

*Refrain*

*Verse 3* I set my foot on de gospel ship,  
an' de ship begin to sail;  
It landed me over on Canaan's shore,  
An' I'll never come back no more.

*Refrain*

*Presider:* Let us pray. *(Silence)*  
O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers: that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People:* **Amen.**

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

*All standing*

*Presider:* Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. Joining with all those who have prepared and yet still long for this water of new life, I call upon you 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 the holy Catholic Church.

*Presider:* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Presider:* 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.**

*Presider:* 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.**

*Presider:* 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.**

*Presider:* 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.**

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

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

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

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* 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.**

*Presider:* 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.

*People:* **Amen.**

### **Litany of the Saints**

*Together we will remember the saints of our own lives and saints from across time and around the globe.*

*Leader:* Holy Mary the God-bearer,

*People:* **Come rejoice with us!**

Holy Thomas Cranmer; Christina Rossetti; Patrick of Ireland; Florence Nightingale; and Brigid:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Absalom Jones; David Pendelton Oakerhater; Miles Coverdale; Lydia; Dorcas; Phoebe; and Johannes Kepler:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Catherine of Siena, Pauli Murray; John Henry Newman; Oscar Romero; and Frederick Douglass:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Elizabeth Cady Stanton; Amelia Bloomer; Sojourner Truth; Harriet Ross Tubman; and John Cassian:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Joan of Arc; Martin Luther King, Jr.; Ignatius of Loyola; Francis; and Clare:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Jim Brant; Gabrielle Burnand; Brad Cleaveland; Donna Davis; and Audrey Ellis:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Barbara Fogerson; Joan Taylor French, Justin Gile; Sherry Keating; and Judy Lawrence:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Pete McCorkell; Jane Miller; Dan Mullally; Tara O'Sullivan; and Samuel Pickard, Sr.:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Kris Pinkerman; David Pugh; Sylvia Reynolds; Linda Richmond; and Robert Richmond:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

Holy Dennis Roux; Altje Schulken; Linda Silva; Richard Smith, Johnny Storz; Phil Vella; and Patti Weir:

**Come, rejoice with us!**

All you holy men and women of God:

**Come rejoice with us!**

*Presider:* O God, you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels, and to the spirits of the just made perfect in you: Grant us during our earthly pilgrimage to abide in their fellowship, and in our heavenly country to become partakers of their joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The presider bangs on the door three times and proclaims:*

*Presider:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People:** The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*The bells are rung as the congregation sings:*

1 He is ris-en, he is ris-en! Tell it out with  
 2 Come, ye sad and fear-ful-heart-ed, with glad smile and  
 \*3 Come, with high and ho-ly hymn-ing, hail our Lord's tri -  
 4 He is ris-en, he is ris-en! He hath o - pened

joy - ful voice: he has burst his three days' pris-on;  
 ra - dian brow! Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed;  
 um - phant day; not one dark - some cloud is dim - ming  
 hea - ven's gate: we are free from sin's dark pris-on,

let the whole wide earth re - joice: death is con - quer-ed,  
 Je - sus' woes are o - ver now, and the pas - sion  
 yon - der glo - rious morn - ing ray, break - ing o'er the  
 ris - en to a ho - li-er state; and a bright - er

we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.  
 that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.  
 pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.  
 Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.



*Presider:* May God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* 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.

*People:* **Amen.**

## A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 6: 3-11

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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel Acclamation

*Sung once by the Cantor, then the People join*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### ACLAMACIÓN ANTES DEL EVANGELIO

Al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia.  
A - le - lu - ya,      a - le - lu - ya.

Al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia.  
A - le - lu - ya,      a - le - lu - ya.

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Homily**      The Rev. Liz Tichenor

## The Prayers of the People

*Presider:* Let us pray that the fruits of Christ’s resurrection may be seen in our lives and throughout the world.

*Leader:* Lord God, our loving heavenly Creator, we thank and praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Passover Lamb, who has taken away the sin of the world. Give new life to us and all people.

God of life:

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* After his rising, Jesus said, “Peace be with you.” Bring your peace to this world and to our own land.  
God of life:

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Your Son appeared to Mary Magdalene when she was weeping. Comfort those who are suffering, lonely, or grieving, especially those on our Parish prayer list, and those we now name, aloud or silently: \_\_\_\_.

God of life:

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* The Risen Christ met the women and asked them to tell the disciples about his resurrection: Guide Christians everywhere to witness to the power of faith in their lives.

God of life:

***People:* Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Jesus revealed himself to the two disciples through the Scriptures and made himself known to them in the breaking of the bread. Make him known to us and all people through the teaching of your word and at the feasts of your holy people.

God of life:

***People:* Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Your Son strengthened the faith of Thomas by telling him to touch his hands and side. Reassure those who are troubled by doubts, and strengthen their faith in your goodness.

God of life:

***People:* Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Your Son conquered death by his death and won the victory by his resurrection. Be with those who have died, and lead them to life with you forever. This day we remember especially Sherry Keating, Phil Vella, and those we now name, aloud or silently: \_\_\_\_.

God of life:

***People:* Hear our prayer.**

***All:* Creator of All, grant that all who now celebrate these joyful holy days here on earth may finally praise you forever, with all the angels and saints in heaven. We ask this through your risen Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*Presider:* The peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

## Hymn 296 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
 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:

*Final Ending*  
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

## The Lord's Prayer

*Presider:* As we join our hearts together, let us say the prayer that Jesus taught us:


*People:* 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.

## A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people who long to gather at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist has been celebrated, and, we pray, will be celebrated again soon, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

### Hymn 317 Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give  
thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
lu - ia, give praise to his Name.

Verses



1. Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.  
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
4. God has pro - claimed his gra - cious gift:  
5. Come, let us praise the liv - ing God, D.C.

He is the King of cre - a - tion.  
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.  
Life e - ter - nal for all who be - lieve.  
Joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

## Solemn Blessing for Eastertide

**Presider:** May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us her children through the resurrection of her Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of her blessing.

**People:** Amen.

**Presider:** May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

**People:** Amen.

**Presider:** May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

**People:** Amen.

**Presider:** And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

**People:** Amen.

## Concluding Hymn 207 Jesus Christ is risen today



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!

## The Dismissal

*Presider:* Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

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