

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

April 8, 2023 + 7:00 PM + Christ Church + Greenville, South Carolina

WELCOME

In the name of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, we welcome you to Christ Church Episcopal.

Known as the “Parish in the Heart of the City,” Christ Church is blessed by the beauty of its church, chapel, and setting, which have been preserved and expanded by the energy and vision of faithful stewards, both past and present.

Now into our third century, we have been gathering to worship God and demonstrate our faith in our daily lives. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are inspired to be *a joyful community sharing life in Jesus Christ.*

We hope you will experience God’s blessings during this service as we have been blessed by your presence.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Easter Sunday, April 9

7:30 AM – Quiet Sunrise Eucharist, Markley Chapel

9:00 AM & 11:15 AM – Family Eucharist, Markley Chapel

9:00 AM – Festal Eucharist with Choir, Organ & Brass, Church

11:15 AM – Solemn Eucharist with Choir, Organ, Brass, Incense & Chant, Church

5:00 PM – Evening Eucharist with Choir, Organ & Harp, Church

Incense will be used at the 11:15 AM Solemn Eucharist in the Church.

CHRIST CHURCH CLERGY

The Reverend Dr. Harrison McLeod, Rector

The Reverend Kellie Wilson, Senior Associate Rector

The Reverend Scott Fleischer, Associate for Pastoral Care

The Reverend Lindy Bunch, Associate for Parish Life

The Reverend Wallace Adams-Riley

Christ Church Episcopal School Chaplain

MUSICIANS FOR THE EASTER VIGIL

The Christ Church Parish Choir

Donald W. Duncan, Director of Liturgy & Music

Order of Service

The Easter Vigil liturgy is intended as the first (and arguably, the primary) celebration of Easter in the BCP. The service begins in darkness, sometime between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter, and consists of four parts: The Service of Light (kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet); The Liturgy of the Word (readings from the Hebrew Scriptures interspersed with psalms, canticles, and prayers); Christian Initiation (Holy Baptism) or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows; and the Eucharist. Through this liturgy, the BCP recovers an ancient practice of keeping the Easter feast.

+ The Service of Light +

All stand for the blessing of the new fire.

The Blessing of the New Fire

Priest 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.

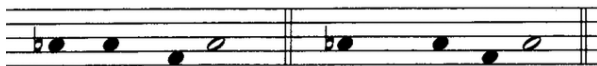
O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Paschal Candle is lighted from the newly-kindled Paschal fire and then the light is shared among the congregation.

The Entrance Procession & Candle Lighting

The procession pauses three times and at each pause the following is sung:

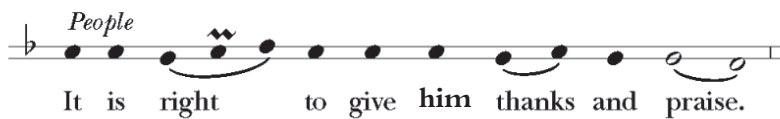
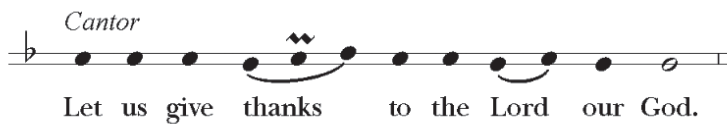
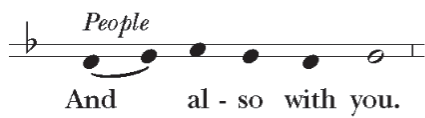
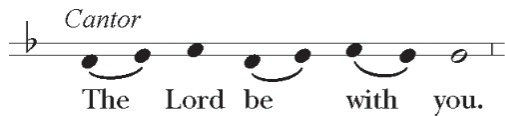
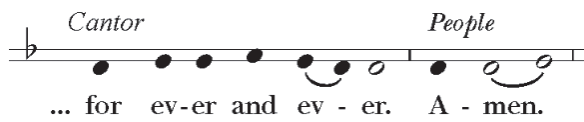


The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

The Exsultet

Cantor 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 our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God...



Cantor 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.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, 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.

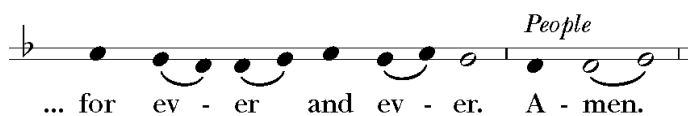
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

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 man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning - he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns...



+ The Liturgy of the Word +

Priest 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.

The congregation is seated for the Lessons, Psalms, and Canticles.

The First Lesson | The story of creation

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the 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. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So 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. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then 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. The 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. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And 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, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights - the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night - and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So 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. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And 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. God 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.

Then 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."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God 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.” God 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. And 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. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And 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. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Canticle *(Sung by the Parish Choir)*

A Song of Creation: Benedicite, omnia opera Domini

*O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye heavens, bless ye the Lord; O ye waters that be above the firmament bless ye the Lord;
O all ye powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye sun and moon, bless ye the Lord; O ye stars of heaven, bless ye the Lord;
O ye showers and dew, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye winds of God, bless ye the Lord; O ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord;
O ye winter and summer, bless ye the Lord, praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye dews and frosts, bless ye the Lord; O ye frost and cold, bless ye the Lord;
O ye ice and snow, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye nights and days, bless ye the Lord; O ye light and darkness, bless ye the Lord;
O ye lightnings and clouds, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O let the earth bless the Lord; O ye mountains and hills, bless ye the Lord;
O all ye green things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye wells, bless ye the Lord; O ye seas and floods, bless ye the Lord;
O ye whales and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him forever
O all ye fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord; O all ye beast and cattle, bless ye the Lord;
O ye children of men, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye people of God, bless ye the Lord; O ye priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
O ye servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; praise him and magnify him for ever.
O ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye the Lord;
O ye holy and humble men of heart, bless ye the Lord.
Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; praise him and magnify him for ever.*

The congregation stands for the Collect.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.

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.

All Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis.

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.”

The Canticle *(Sung by the Parish Choir)*

A Song of Praise: Benedictus, es Domine

*Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers;
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty;
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness;
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim;
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom;
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven,
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
praised and exalted above all for ever.*

The congregation stands for the collect.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.
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.

All **Amen.**

The congregation is seated.

The Third Lesson | Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac

Genesis 22:1-18

Lector A reading from the Book of Genesis.

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since

you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

The Canticle *(Sung by the Parish Choir)*

The Song of Zechariah

*Blessed be the Lord God of Israel : for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us : in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets : which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies : and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers : and to remember his holy Covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham : that he would give us;
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies : might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him : all the days of our life.
And thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest :
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people : for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God : whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death :
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.*

The congregation stands for the collect.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.

God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Lector A reading from the Book of Exodus.

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 Canticle *(Sung by the Parish Choir)*

Carol of the Exodus

*Moses sing unto Christ thy King, who hath won the victory,
and hath laid low haughty Pharaoh, underneath the deep Red Sea.*

*Yea, merry, merry, merry, merry, merry may we be,
As bird upon the berry of the may or cherry tree,
While as we stand with harp in hand on the shore of the Red, Red Sea.*

*God perforce overthrew the horse, rider, car and axletree.
They sank as lead, and their men lie dead, dead as stone; so mote it be!*

*His right hand, and his staff's command did divide, at his decree,
The surging wave, and thereby did save us and ours from slavery.*

*Thou didst't blow, and entomb our foe, in the bottom of the sea:
And if dry-shod we went o'er by God, be ascribed the praise to Thee!*

The congregation stands for the Collect and remains standing for the Procession to the Font.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray.

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.**

The Procession to the Font

The congregation turns to the face the West End of the church as the procession moves to the font.

The Psalm at the Procession *(All join in singing the refrain)*

Psalm 136, selected verses

Cantor Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

Refrain **for his mercy endures for ever.**

Cantor Give thanks to the God of gods, **Refrain**

Cantor Give thanks to the Lord of lords, **Refrain**

Cantor Who only does great wonders, **Refrain**

Cantor Who by wisdom made the heavens, **Refrain**

Cantor Who spread out the earth upon the waters, **Refrain**

Cantor Who created great lights, **Refrain**

Cantor The sun to rule the day, **Refrain**

Cantor The moon and the stars to govern the night, **Refrain**

Cantor With a mighty hand and an out-stretched arm, **Refrain**

Cantor Who divided the Red Sea in two, **Refrain**

Cantor And made Israel to pass through the midst of it, **Refrain**

Cantor Give thanks to the God of heaven, **Refrain**

+ The Sacrament of Holy Baptism +

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

Priest The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsor I present *Jacob Edward* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidate.

Priest Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

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, saying:

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

People We will.

Priest Let us join with *Jacob* who is committing himself to Christ
and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Priest 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.**

Priest 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.**

Priest 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.**

Priest 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.**

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

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

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

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

Priest 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.**

The Prayers for the Candidate

Priest Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.
Deliver *him*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Open *his* heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Fill *him* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Keep *him* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Teach *him* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Send *him* into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest Bring *him* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest 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 for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Thanksgiving over the Water

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Priest 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.

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.

All Amen.

The Baptism & Chrismation

Priest *Jacob Edward*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Priest I anoint your eyes so you may see Christ in everyone.

I anoint your lips so you may speak nothing but the Gospel.

I anoint your ears so you may hear the cry of the poor.

I anoint your hands so that everything you give and everything you receive may be a sacrament.

I anoint your feet so you may run to those who need you.

Jacob Edward, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever.

All Amen.

Priest Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, 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.

All Amen.

Priest Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People 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 Procession from the Font and Sprinkling of Holy Water

*The congregation is now sprinkled with holy water as a remembrance of our own baptism.
During the sprinkling the Parish Choir sings the traditional text, Vidi Aquam, associated with this rite.*

The Vidi Aquam (Sung by the Parish Choir)

setting by Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548–1611)

Translation of Latin text:

*I saw water flowing out of the Temple, from its right side, Alleluia:
And all to whom this water came were saved, and they shall say: Alleluia, Alleluia.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for the world is in his mercy.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

+ The First Eucharist of Easter +

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

The Proclamation of Easter

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

The Easter Fanfare and Ringing of the Bells

The Gloria in excelsis, S-278

setting by William Mathias

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of the Father.
Amen.*

The Hymn of Praise, No. 182

Christ is alive!

1. *Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.*

2. *Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now
and conquer every place and time.*

3. *Not throned above, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life,
our Savior with the Father reigns.*

4. *In every insult, rift, and war
where color, scorn or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.*

5. *Christ is alive! His Spirit burns
through this and every future age,
till all creation lives and learns
his joy, his justice, love, and praise.*

The Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest 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.

All Amen.

The congregation is seated.

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 6:3-11

Lector A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The congregation stands.

The Sequence Hymn, No. 191

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise

*Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise:
sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
He, who on the cross a victim, for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.*

*Now the iron bars are broken, Christ from death to life is born,
glorious life, and life immortal, on his resurrection morn.
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer by his mighty enterprise:
we with him to life eternal by his resurrection rise.*

*Christ is risen, Christ, the first-fruits of the holy harvest-field,
which with all its full abundance at his second coming yield:
then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine from the furrows of the grave.*

*Christ is risen, we are risen! Shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain and dew and gleams of glory from the brightness of thy face;
that, with hearts in heaven dwelling, we on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel hands be gathered, and be ever, Lord, with thee.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia! to the Savior who has won the victory;
Alleluia! to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity:
Alleluia, alleluia! to the Triune Majesty.*

The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 28:1-10

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then 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." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The congregation is seated.

A Reading of the Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom

Priest Let all those who are devout and lovers of God enjoy this beautiful and radiant festival.
Let all loyal servants come in and rejoice in the joy of their Lord.
Let all those who have wearied themselves in fasting enjoy now the recompense.
Let all those who have labored from the first hour receive today their just wages.
Let all those who have come after the third hour celebrate the feast with thankfulness.
Let all those who have arrived after the sixth hour have no doubts, for they will suffer no loss.
Let all those who have delayed until the ninth hour draw near without hesitation.

Do not let those who have arrived even at the eleventh hour fear their delay; for the Master is gracious and receives the last, even as the first; he gives rest to those that come at the eleventh hour, just as to those who have labored from the first. He has mercy on the last and cares for the first; he rewards the one, and is gracious to the other. He both honors the work and praises the intention. Enter all of you, therefore, into the joy of our Lord, and, whether first or last, enjoy your reward. O rich and poor, dance together for joy! You that exercised self-control and you that were negligent celebrate the day! You that have fasted and you that have not fasted rejoice today! The table is full; all of you feast on it! The calf is fatted; let no one go forth hungry! Let all partake of the banquet of faith. Let all enjoy the riches of goodness.

Let no one lament his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed.
Let no one mourn his transgressions, for pardon has dawned from the grave.
Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free.

He has annihilated death by submitting to it! He descended into Hell and took Hell captive! He embittered it when it tasted his flesh! When Isaiah foresaw this, he cried out:

Priest Hell was embittered.
People It was embittered,
Priest when it met you below.

Priest Hell was embittered.
People It was embittered,
Priest for it was abolished!

Priest Hell was embittered.
People It was embittered,
Priest for it was mocked!

Priest Hell was embittered.
People It was embittered,
Priest for it was destroyed!

Priest Hell was embittered.
People It was embittered,
Priest for it was stripped of its power!

Priest Hell was embittered.
People It was embittered,
Priest for it was bound in chains!

Priest It took a body and encountered God!
It took earth and met heaven!
It took what it saw but crumbled before what it had not seen!
O death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory?

Priest	Christ is risen,
People	Truly, he is risen,
Priest	and you are overthrown!
Priest	Christ is risen,
People	Truly, he is risen,
Priest	and the demons are fallen!
Priest	Christ is risen,
People	Truly, he is risen,
Priest	and the angels rejoice!
Priest	Christ is risen,
People	Truly, he is risen,
Priest	and life has dominion!
Priest	Christ is risen,
People	Truly, he is risen,
Priest	and not one dead remains in a tomb!
Priest	For Christ, being raised from the dead, has become the First-fruits of those who slept. To him belong glory and might unto ages of ages.
All	Amen.

Please stand.

The Peace

Priest	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People	And also with you.

The Words of Welcome

The Anthem at the Offertory

Oh Mary, don't you weep, don't you mourn
African-American Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

*Oh Mary, don't you weep, don't you mourn, Pharaoh's army got drowned, Oh Mary, don't you weep.
One of these morning's bright and fair, take my wings and cleave the air.
When I get to heaven gonna sing and shout, nobody there gonna turn me out.
When I get to heaven gonna put on my shoes, run about glory and tell the news.*

The congregation stands for the hymn.

The Presentation Hymn

sung to the tune LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Now let the vault of heaven resound
In praise of Love that doth abound,
"Christ hath triumphed! Alleluia!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear,
Repeat their song of glory here,
"Christ hath triumphed, Christ hath triumphed!"
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

Celebrant It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

The Sanctus et Benedictus

Robert J. 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.

The congregation remains standing in recognition of the festive nature of the first Eucharist of Easter.

Celebrant 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.

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

Celebrant 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.

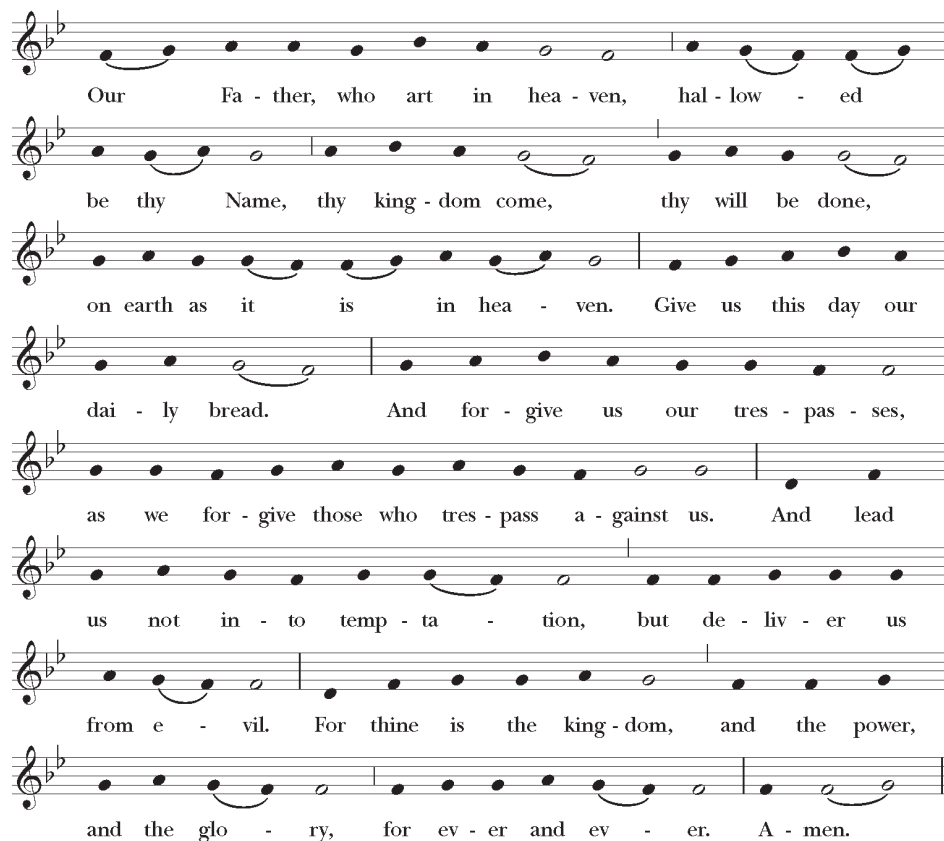
And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles and martyrs, and with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 for ever.

People **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

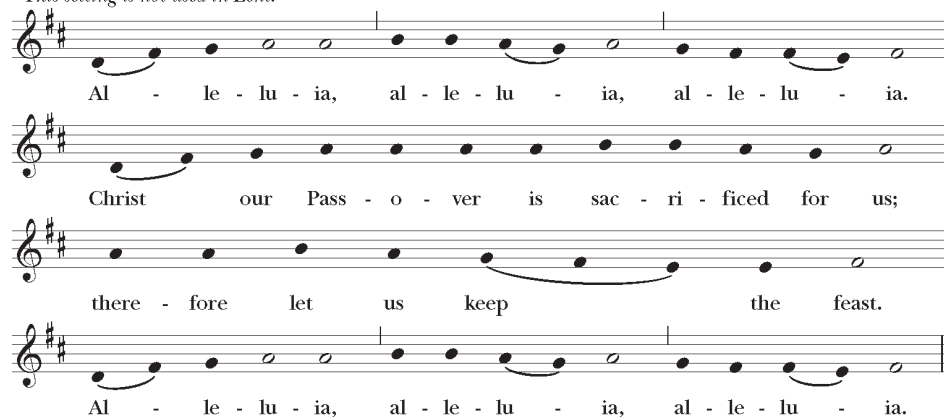
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Fraction Fanfare & Breaking of the Bread

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 Ministration of Holy Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion in this Church. If you are receiving communion, you are invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers and receive the bread (a wafer) in the palm of your hands. (For those with special dietary needs, gluten-free wafers are available upon request to the priest at the altar rail.) The wine which follows may be received either by drinking from the chalice as it is extended to you, or by retaining the wafer and dipping it lightly into the chalice. You are also welcome to receive the bread only. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing.

The Communion Hymns

Hymn No. 174 | *At the Lamb's high feast we sing*

Hymn No. 194 | *Jesus lives!*

Hymn No. 210 | *The day of resurrection*

The congregation stands for the Postcommunion Prayer.

The Postcommunion Prayer

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 Easter Blessing

Celebrant The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People Amen.

The Hymn in Procession, No. 180

He is risen, He is risen!

*He is risen, he is risen!
Tell it out with joyful voice:
he has burst his three days' prison;
let the whole wide earth rejoice:
death is conquered, we are free,
Christ has won the victory.*

*Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted,
with glad smile and radiant brow!
Death's long shadows have departed;
Jesus' woes are over now,
and the passion that he bore—
sin and pain can vex no more.*

*Come, with high and holy hymning,
hail our Lord's triumphant day;
not one darksome cloud is dimming
yonder glorious morning ray,
breaking o'er the purple east,
symbol of our Easter feast.*

*He is risen, he is risen!
He hath opened heaven's gate:
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
and a brighter Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.*

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth into the world,
 rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Organ Voluntary

Donald W. Duncan
Director of Liturgy & Music



CHRIST CHURCH
EPISCOPAL

A JOYFUL COMMUNITY
SHARING LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST