

# The Great Vigil of Easter

March 30, 2024 A.D.

Holy Saturday

**A Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord and Remembrance of our Holy Baptism**

*Prayerful reflective silence is most appropriate prior to the service.*

*Prayers for worship may be found inside the front cover of the hymnal.*

*\*Stand*

*The service will begin outdoors around the fire.*

## \*Service of Light

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C Amen.**

**P** Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating his sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

**P** Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

*The pastor traces the cross and the Greek letters Alpha and Omega upon it, saying:*

**P** Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, & forever, the beginning & ending, the Alpha & Omega.

*He traces the year upon the candle, saying:*

**P** His are time and eternity; His are the glory and dominion, now and forever.

*He puts the five wax nails into the candle, saying:*

**P** By His wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen

*Then, lighting the candle, he says:*

**P** May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts & minds.

**P** Let us pray...even Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

*The congregation enters the sanctuary; candles are lit from the paschal candle as they pass by.*

*Please remain standing and face the cross as it passes.*

**\*Lux Christi ~ Three times during the procession the bearer of the paschal candle stops and chants:**



**P** The light of Christ.



**C** Thanks be to God.

**Exsultet (EASTER PROCLAMATION)**

**\*Preface**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C** It is good and right so to do.

**P** It is truly good, right, & salutary... one God, now & forever. **C Amen.**

*The members of the congregation extinguish their candles and are seated.*

*Please push the top of the candle into the cup so wax does not drip on the pews or floor.*

## Service of Readings (Prophecies)

**P** In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death & by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

### **The Creation**

**A** A reading from Genesis, chapters one and two. *Genesis 1:1—2:2*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** Let us pray...even Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **The Flood**

**A** A reading Genesis, chapters seven, eight and nine. *Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** Let us pray...through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **The Fiery Furnace**

**A** A reading from Daniel, chapter three. *Daniel 3:1-30*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** Let us pray...through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **Benedicite, Omnia Opera (SONG OF THE THREE YOUNG MEN)**

## Service of Holy Baptism

### **Baptismal Address (Romans 6:3-11)**

*The Paschal Candle is lowered into the water and the sign of the cross is made to show that, in Holy Baptism, a person is born of God*

### **\*Flood Prayer**

**P** Let us pray...through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **\*Renunciation of the Devil and Confession of Faith**

**P** Do you renounce the devil? **C Yes, I renounce him.**

**P** Do you renounce all his works? **C Yes, I renounce them.**

**P** Do you renounce all his ways? **C Yes, I renounce them.**

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

**C** Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

**C** Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day, He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**C** Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

**P** Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

**C** Amen.

**\*Service of Prayer**

**P** O Lord, **C** have mercy.

**P** O Christ, **C** have mercy.

**P** O Lord, **C** have mercy.

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, **C** hear us.

**P** Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be crucified & on the third day rise again,"

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life & immortality to light,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing & teaching them,

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,

**C** good Lord, deliver us.

**P** By Your victory over sin and death,

**C** good Lord, deliver us.

**P** By the majesty of Your risen body,

**C** good Lord, deliver us.

**P** We poor sinners implore You

**C** to hear us, Lord Jesus.

*That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism & walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness*

**C** grant us, good Lord.

**P** That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving as we have been served by You,

**C** grant us, good Lord.

**P** That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,

**C** grant us, good Lord.

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **C** have mercy on us.

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **C** have mercy on us.

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **C** grant us Your peace.

**P** O Lord, **C** have mercy.

**P** O Christ, **C** have mercy.

**P** O Lord, **C** have mercy. Amen.

**Service of the Word**

**\*Easter Acclamation** ~ *The Altar candles are lighted from the Paschal candle, then the bells are rung, the Sanctuary is lighted. Then is said:*

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen! **C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

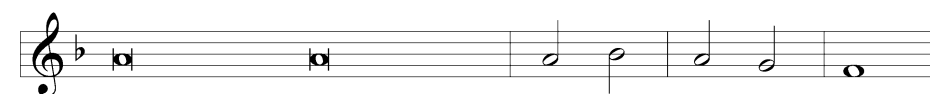
**\*Gloria in Excelsis**



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



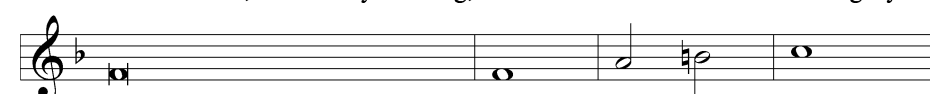
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



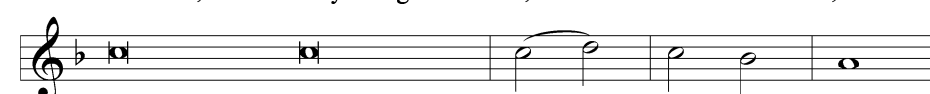
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



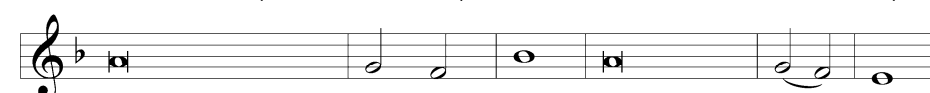
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

**\*Salutation and Collect of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

Let us pray.

A - men.

**\*The Gospel Processional Hymn #477 vs. 1-2 (see below)**

**P** The Holy Gospel According to St. Mark the sixteenth chapter:

**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

*After the reading:*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**\*The Gospel Processional Hymn #477 vs. 3 (see below)**

**Sermon**

**Offering**

**Alleluia! Christ is Risen**

**Zion Adult Choir**

**Service of Holy Communion**

*The liturgy continues on pg. 194 of the Hymnal*

**\*Preface pg. 194**

**\*Sanctus pg. 195**

**\*The Lord's Prayer pg. 196**

**\*The Words of Institution pg. 197**

**\*Pax Domini pg. 197**

**\*Agnus Dei pg. 198**

**The Distribution** *(Please see the note about Holy Communion on the last page)*

**Hymn(s) during Distribution #467 & #487 (see below)**

*(The Post-Communion Canticle and Salutation are omitted)*

**\*Post Communion Collect**

**P** O God, for our redemption... one God, now and forever.

A - men.

**\*Salutation & Benedicamus pg. 202**

**\*Benediction pg. 202**

**\*Processional Hymn #490**

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

***Easter Day Service at 10:00 AM***

***Easter Breakfast 8:30 – 9:45 AM***

### Gospel Processional Hymn #477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;  
 See the an - cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;  
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—  
 Once He died, and once was bur - ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,  
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.  
 Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor - ship and a - dore.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

### Communion Hymn #467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness



1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness, See what to - day is done;  
 2 The foe in tri - umph shout - ed When Christ lay in the tomb;  
 3 This is a sight that glad - dens—What peace it doth im - part!  
 4 Now hell, its prince, the dev - il, Of all their pow'r are shorn;



Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, Comes forth the glo - rious sun.  
 But lo, he now is rout - ed, His boast is turned to gloom.  
 Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens The joy with - in my heart.  
 Now I am safe from e - vil, And sin I laugh to scorn.



My Sav - ior there was laid Where our bed must be made  
 For Christ a - gain is free; In glo - rious vic - to - ry  
 No gloom shall ev - er shake, No foe shall ev - er take  
 Grim death with all its might Can - not my soul af - fright;



When to the realms of light Our spir - it wings its flight.  
 He who is strong to save Has tri - umphed o'er the grave.  
 The hope which God's own Son In love for me has won.  
 It is a pow'r - less form, How - e'er it rave and storm.

### Communion Hymn #487 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on  
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,  
 4 For to - day a - mong His own Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,  
 And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;  
 With the roy - al feast of feasts Comes its joy to ren - der;  
 His deep peace, which ev - er - more Pass - es hu - man know - ing,



Loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
 All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing  
 Comes to glad - den faith - ful hearts Which with true af - fec - tion  
 Nei - ther could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal



Led them with un - moist - ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
 From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
 Wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
 Nor the watch - ers nor the seal Hold Him as a mor - tal.

5 Alleluia! Now we cry  
 To our King immortal,  
 Who, triumphant, burst the bars  
 Of the tomb's dark portal.  
 Come, you faithful, raise the strain  
 Of triumphant gladness!  
 God has brought His Israel  
 Into joy from sadness!

## Recessional Hymn # 490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -  
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is  
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus  
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!  
giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,  
liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,  
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er  
Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is  
Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I  
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will



scenes will then com - mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
faith - ful; doubt - ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.

5 Jesus lives! And now is death  
But the gate of life immortal;  
This shall calm my trembling breath  
When I pass its gloomy portal.  
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:  
Jesus is my confidence!