



The Great Vigil of Easter  
Saturday, March 30, 2024  
8:30 p.m.

# The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

## OPENING PRAYER

*In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant may address the people in these or similar words*

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.

*The Celebrant may say the following prayer*

Let us pray.

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



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

*At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.*

## 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,  
one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lord be with you.

*Answer* And also with you.

*Deacon* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Answer* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Deacon*

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 for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## The Liturgy of the Word

### INVITATION

*The Celebrant introduces the Scripture readings saying*

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.

## ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA EXODUS Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

<sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>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? <sup>12</sup>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." <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

<sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>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."

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>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."

<sup>26</sup>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." <sup>27</sup>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. <sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

<sup>30</sup>Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>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.

<sup>15:20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

### **Canticle 8: The Song of Moses**

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; \*  
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.  
The Lord is my strength and my refuge; \*  
the Lord has become my Savior.  
This is my God and I will praise him, \*  
the God of my people and I will exalt him.  
The Lord is a mighty warrior; \*  
Yahweh is his Name.  
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; \*  
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.  
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; \*  
they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; \*  
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.  
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? \*  
who is like you, glorious in holiness,  
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?  
You stretched forth your right hand; \*  
the earth swallowed them up.  
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; \*  
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.  
You will bring them in and plant them \*  
on the mount of your possession,  
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, \*  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.  
The Lord shall reign \*  
for ever and for ever.

### **FIRST COLLECT**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **GOD'S PRESENCE IN A RENEWED ISRAEL: Isaiah 55:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and you that have no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me;  
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way,  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

### **Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah**

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

## **SECOND COLLECT**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, you led your ancient people by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we, who serve you now on earth, may come to the joy of that heavenly Jerusalem, where all tears are wiped away and where your saints for ever sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT: Ezekiel 36:24-28**

<sup>24</sup>I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. <sup>28</sup>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.

## **THIRD RESPONSE: Psalm 42—43**

<sup>1</sup>As the deer longs for the water-brooks, \*  
so longs my soul for you, O God.

<sup>2</sup>My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; \*  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

<sup>3</sup>My tears have been my food day and night, \*  
while all day long they say to me,  
“Where now is your God?”

<sup>4</sup>I pour out my soul when I think on these things; \*  
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,

<sup>5</sup>With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, \*  
among those who keep holy-day.

<sup>6</sup>Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?

<sup>7</sup>Put your trust in God; \*

for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

<sup>8</sup>My soul is heavy within me; \*

therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,  
and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.

<sup>9</sup>One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; \*

all your rapids and floods have gone over me.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; \*

in the night season his song is with me,  
a prayer to the God of my life.

<sup>11</sup>I will say to the God of my strength,

“Why have you forgotten me? \*

and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?”

<sup>12</sup>While my bones are being broken, \*

my enemies mock me to my face;

<sup>13</sup>All day long they mock me \*

and say to me, “Where now is your God?”

<sup>14</sup>Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*

and why are you so disquieted within me?

<sup>15</sup>Put your trust in God; \*

for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

<sup>43: 1</sup>Give judgment for me, O God,

and defend my cause against an ungodly people; \*

deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

<sup>2</sup>For you are the God of my strength;

why have you put me from you? \*

and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?

<sup>3</sup>Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, \*

and bring me to your holy hill

and to your dwelling;



<sup>4</sup>That I may go to the altar of God,  
to the God of my joy and gladness; \*  
and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.

<sup>5</sup>Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?

<sup>6</sup>Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

### **THIRD COLLECT**

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. *Amen.*

### **PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES**

*The Celebrant says*

The Candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented

*The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Sponsors.*

*Sponsors*            I present *Palmer Lavert, Charlsie Dixon, Trinidad Elizabeth, Steven Vincent* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented*

*Celebrant*            Do you desire to be baptized?

*Candidate*           I do.

*Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children*

*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.

*After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in *their* life in Christ?

*People* We will.

*The Celebrant then says these or similar words*

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

## **THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in God the Father?

*People*

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

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

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

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People*

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

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

I will, with God's help.

## **PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES**

*The Celebrant says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of new birth [and for those (this person) who *have* renewed *their* commitment to Christ.]

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

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

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.  
*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.  
*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Keep *them* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.  
*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.  
*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.  
*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.  
*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*The Celebrant says*

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

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Celebrant*

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

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

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

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. *Amen.*

## **THE BAPTISM**

*Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying*

*Palmer Lavert, Charlsie Dixon, Trinidad Elizabeth, Steven Vincent* I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying to each one*

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

*When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop or Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your *servants* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them* 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. *Amen.*

*When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Celebrant and 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.

## **EASTER ACCLAMATION**

*The candles at the Altar may now be lighted from the Paschal Candle.*

*The Celebrant may say to the people*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

## **CHRIST OUR PASSOVER**

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, \*

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, \*

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, \*

so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

## **COLLECT FOR EASTER VIGIL**

*The Celebrant then says*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

# The Lessons

## Romans 6:3-11

<sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

<sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

## SEQUENCE CANTICLE

## The Song of the Redeemed

*Revelation 15:3-4*

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## Mark 16:1-8

*All stand.*

<i>Deacon</i>	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
<i>People</i>	Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But

he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

## THE HOMILY

Rev. Nancy K. Bridges

## THE PEACE

*All stand.*

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

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

# The Holy Communion

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The Celebrant says*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*The Trumpet Shall Sound from Messiah*  
Logan Walters, baritone

G.F. Handel

*The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be rais'd incorruptible, and we shall be chang'd.  
For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

## DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*



# The Great Thanksgiving

*The People remain standing.*

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 say,

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy,  
holy holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest

*The People stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy God, 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.

Holy God, 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, Jesus 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 Jesus 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 Christ who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, your own first gift for those who believe, to complete your 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 Jesus 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 Jesus 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."

Almighty God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming Christ's resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting Christ's 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.

#### *Celebrant and People*

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

#### *The Celebrant continues*

God our Creator, 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 our Savior 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.

[Remember (NN. and) all who minister in your Church.]

[Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. ]

[Remember \_\_\_\_\_. ]

[Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.]

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with \_\_\_\_\_) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father in heaven,  
    hallowed be your Name,  
    your kingdom come,  
    your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
    as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
    and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
    and the glory are yours,  
    now and forever. Amen.

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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

## **EASTER BLESSING**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

## **DISMISSAL**

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

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

## **POSTLUDE**

*La Rejuissance from Fireworks*

G.F. Handel