

# THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

The Service of Light, the Liturgy of the Word,  
Holy Baptism, and the First Eucharist of Easter



Easter Even  
Saturday, April 4, 2026  
8:00 p.m.

## LITURGICAL NOTES

The Great Vigil is the first liturgy of Easter Day and perhaps the most theologically significant service of the Church Year. In it, the new fire of God is struck, banishing darkness, and showing forth the victory won on Good Friday; the saving acts of God in history are recounted in the *Exsultet* and in scripture; new Christians are made through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism; the vows made by all Christians at their baptism are renewed; and, with the end of the Lenten observance, the first Eucharist of the joyful season of Easter is celebrated. The Great Vigil is not a short service. It marks time in the evening, while the people of God await the announcement of the Resurrection.

Celebrated between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Morning, the Great Vigil consists of four distinct parts: the Service of Light, the Liturgy of the Word, Christian Initiation (Holy Baptism and / or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows), and the First Eucharist of Easter.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion during this liturgy. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please make your need known at the altar rail. If the reception of Holy Communion is not part of your tradition, you are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate to the priest your desire to receive a blessing.

The choral settings of the *Sanctus* and *Benedictus qui venit* and *Agnus Dei* are from the *Communion Service in E (Collegium Regale)*, by Harold Darke (1888-1976).

Personal listening systems for the hearing impaired are available. Please speak with an usher.

Be sure to silence mobile phones and other electronic devices.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** When lighting hand-held candles during this liturgy, tilt the unlit candle **into** the candle from which you are receiving the flame. Please extinguish your hand-held candle as it burns down or at the conclusion of the Liturgy of the Word.



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**W**E extend a warm welcome to all who have gathered for worship this holy night, especially the clergy, seminarians, and people of our neighboring Georgetown parishes, Saint John's Church and Grace Church. If you are visiting and would like to learn more about Christ Church or become more closely associated with this community, we encourage you to complete a pew card, which may be placed in the offering plate, given to an usher or member of the clergy, or mailed to the parish office. We hope you will return to Christ Church and worship with us again soon. For detailed information about the mission, ministry, work, and witness of the parish, including the complete schedule of Sunday and weekday services, visit our website: [www.christchurchgeorgetown.org](http://www.christchurchgeorgetown.org).

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## THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

*At the appointed time, fire is kindled  
after which the Celebrant addresses the people, saying*

### THE BIDDING

**D**EAR 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 BLESSING OF THE NEW FIRE

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 PREPARATION AND LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

*After the New Fire has been censed, the Celebrant prepares the Paschal Candle, saying*

*While tracing the arms of the cross:*

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End.

*While tracing Alpha and Omega:*

Alpha and Omega.

*While tracing the year:*

His are the times and ages. To him be glory and dominion through all ages of eternity. Amen.

*While inserting five wax nails in the form of a cross:*

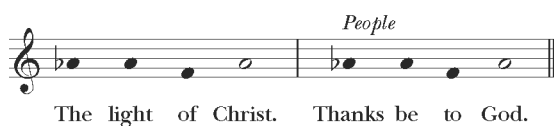
Through his holy and glorious wounds may Christ the Lord guard and preserve us.

*While lighting the Paschal Candle from the New Fire:*

May the light of Christ gloriously rising dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

## THE PROCESSION

*The Deacon, bearing the Paschal Candle, leads the procession, pausing three times, during which a cantor and the people sing*



*Handheld candles are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time.*

*After the Paschal Candle has been placed in its stand and censed, a cantor sings*

## THE EXSULTET

*The Proclamation of the Resurrection*

Plainsong, Solemn Tone

**R**EJOICE 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.

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

*People*  
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people. Now therefore, we sacrifice our Paschal feast, in which for us the very Lamb of God is slain, by whose blood his faithful people are made holy. This is the night, when you brought our forebears, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life. This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave. How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam, which gained for us so great a Redeemer. How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined, and we are reconciled with God. Therefore, O Holy Father, accept the evening sacrifice of this lighted candle, which your holy Church makes before you, and offers to you by the hands of your servants, the work of the bees your creatures. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness, as we celebrate the glad solemnity of our redemption. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning, who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns with you ...

*People*  
 ... for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*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.

*All sit for*

THE FIRST READING: Genesis 22:1-18

*Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac*

**G**OD 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."

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

*The Choir sings*

PSALM 16 *Conserua me, Domine*

Plainsong, Tone VIII.1

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*  
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me; \*  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

*All stand. The Celebrant says*

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

**G**OD 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; though Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**A**S 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."

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

*The Choir sings*

CANTICLE 8 The Song of Moses *Cantemus Domino*

Plainsong, Tone I.2

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 ever.

*All stand. The Celebrant says*

## THE COLLECT

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. *Amen.*

*All sit for*

THE THIRD READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

*The valley of dry bones*

**T**HE hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O LORD God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the LORD God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the LORD God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

*The Choir sings*

PSALM 143    *Domine, exaudi*

Plainsong, Tone I.2

- 1    LORD, hear my prayer, and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; \*  
      answer me in your righteousness.
- 2    Enter not into judgment with your servant, \*  
      for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- 3    For my enemy has sought my life; he has crushed me to the ground; \*  
      he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.
- 4    My spirit faints within me; \*  
      my heart within me is desolate.
- 5    I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds; \*  
      I consider the works of your hands.

- 6 I spread out my hands to you; \*  
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.
- 7 O LORD, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; \*  
do not hide your face from me or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
- 8 Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning, for I put my trust in you; \*  
show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my soul to you.
- 9 Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD, \*  
for I flee to you for refuge.
- 10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; \*  
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
- 11 Revive me, O LORD, for your Name's sake; \*  
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.
- 12 Of your goodness, destroy my enemies and bring all my foes to naught, \*  
for truly I am your servant.

*All stand. The Celebrant says*

## THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

**A**LMIGHTY God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

# HOLY BAPTISM

*The Celebrant addresses the people, saying*

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

*The candidates, their parents, and godparents / sponsors gather at the foot of the chancel steps.*

## THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Clare Walker Bilek | Curtis Allen Harrison | Elizabeth Ann Kendler  
Theodore James Mitchell | Ciel Qi

*The Celebrant says*

The candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their sponsors, who say*

I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented*

Do you desire to be baptized?

*The candidate responds*

I do.

*Then the candidate who is unable to answer for himself is presented by his parents and godparents, who say*

I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*When all have been presented, the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents*

I will, with God's help.

*The Celebrant then asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of a young child.*

*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*

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

*The people respond*

We will.

*The Celebrant then says*

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 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.

## THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

*The Celebrant then says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*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*

**G**RANT, 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.*

## THE PROCESSION TO THE BAPTISMAL FONT

*The Paschal Candle is taken from its stand to the Baptismal Font.  
During the procession, the Choir sings*

ANTHEM: Sicut cervus

**S**ICUT cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum: *As the deer longs for the water-brooks,*  
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus. *so longs my soul for you, O God.*

Words: Psalm 42:1

Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c.1525-1594)

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

*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.

*The Celebrant continues*

**W**E 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. Amen.

## THE BAPTISMS

*The candidates are presented by name to the Celebrant,  
who then pours water upon each, saying*

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The Celebrant places a hand on each candidate's head,  
marking on the forehead the sign of the cross with Chrism, saying*

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

*As a Baptismal Candle is presented to each candidate, the Celebrant says these or similar words.*

N., receive the light of Christ. Amen.

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us pray.

**H**EAVENLY 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.

*The Celebrant continues*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*The Celebrant and people say*

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.



Holy Stephen, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Ignatius of Antioch, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Polycarp, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Alban, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Perpetua and Felicity, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Thomas Cranmer and William Laud, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Constance and Companions, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Jonathan Daniels and Martin Luther King, Jr. *pray for us.*  
 All holy martyrs of our God, *pray for us.*

Holy Gregory and Chrysostom, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Augustine, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Basil, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Martin, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Columba, Aidan, and Patrick, *pray for us.*  
 All holy bishops, confessors, and doctors, *pray for us.*

Holy Anthony, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Benedict, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Aelred and Hilda, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Augustine and Theodore, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Anselm and Thomas á Becket, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Francis, Clare, and Dominic, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Julian of Norwich, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Richard Hooker and Lancelot Andrewes, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Nicholas Ferrar and George Herbert, *pray for us.*  
 Holy John Keble and Edward Pusey, *pray for us.*  
 Holy Frederick Maurice and Charles Gore, *pray for us.*  
 Holy James Huntington and Richard Benson, *pray for us.*  
 All holy priests and deacons, *pray for us.*  
 All holy monks and hermits, *pray for us.*  
 All holy men and women, saints of God, *intercede for us.*

*Litanist* *People* *Litanist*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

# THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER

*The candles at the Altar are now lighted from the Paschal Candle.  
Then, in a loud voice, is thrice said*

## THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*All join in singing*

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



1. Glo - ry be to God on high, and on earth peace,  
good will towards men. 2. We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy thee, we give  
thanks to thee for thy great glo - ry, 3. O Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, God the Fa - ther Al - might - y.  
4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
5. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that  
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -  
on us. 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the  
right hand of God the Fa - ther, have mer - cy up - on us.  
8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. thou  
on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most  
high in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. —  
A - - - - - men.

Setting: from *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

## THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

*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.*

*All sit for*

## THE EPISTLE: Romans 6:3-11

**D**o 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.

*All stand for*

## THE GREAT ALLELUIA

*A cantor sings the Great Alleluia three times at successively higher pitches.*

*The people repeat it each time.*



*All join in singing the hymn.*

*Stanzas one and two precede the reading of the Holy Gospel; stanzas three and four follow.*

HYMN AT THE GOSPEL PROCESSION 180: He is risen, he is risen!

*Unser Herrscher*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

*Gospeler*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

*People*      Glory to you, Lord Christ.

**A**FTER 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."

*Gospeler*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*At the invitation of the preacher, all sit for*

THE HOMILY

The Rector

*All stand for*

THE PEACE

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

*People* And also with you.

*All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*Then all sit for*

THE GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



*The Choir sings*

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
    Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
    Hosanna in the highest.

*The people kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

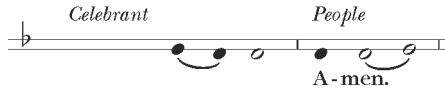
*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever ...



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant*

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

*Celebrant and People*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then is said*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*The Choir sings*

## AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*The Celebrant offers the following Invitation.*

**B**EHOLD the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## THE COMMUNION

*During the administration of Holy Communion, the Choir sings*

ANTHEM: Most glorious Lord of life

**M**OST glorious Lord of life, that on this day, didst make thy triumph over death and sin, and having harrowed hell, didst bring away captivity thence captive, us to win. This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin, and grant that we for whom thou didest die, being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin, may live for ever in felicity: And that thy love we weighing worthily, may likewise love thee for the same again; and, for thy sake, that all like dear didst buy, with love may one another entertain. So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought; love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

Words: Edmund Spenser (c. 1522-1599)  
Music: Gary Davison (b. 1961)

*All join in singing*

HYMN 199: Come, ye faithful, raise the strain

*St. Kevin*

*All kneel and say*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

**E**TERNAL 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.

*The Celebrant blesses the people using the following form.  
The people respond Amen after each invocation.*

## THE BLESSING

**M**AY Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. *Amen.*

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

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

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

*All stand and join in singing*

HYMN IN PROCESSION 207: Jesus Christ is risen today

*Easter Hymn*

VOLUNTARY: The heavens declare the glory of God

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

# PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

## CELEBRANT AND HOMILIST

The Reverend Timothy A. R. Cole

## DEACON

The Reverend Nathan G. Huddleston

## SUBDEACON

Marshall H. Ginn

## ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Tiffany A. H. Clark  
The Reverend Andrew J. Stump

## THURIFER

Anastasia B. Clark

## CRUCIFER

Andrew L. Franklin-Murphy

## TORCH BEARERS

Anne E. Grambsch  
Amy L. Klett

## SECOND CRUCIFER AND ALTAR SERVER

Brent T. Franklin-Murphy

## LECTORS

Rachel E. Barham  
Anastasia B. Clark  
Sargon M. de Jesus

## HEAD USHER

Charles A. Thorley

## ASSISTING USHERS

Will Andersen  
Timothy J. R. Cole  
Creighton Reed

## ALTAR GUILD

Lesly A. Bell  
Mark Hoffman

## FLOWER GUILD

Christina T. Thorley  
with the assistance of many others

## MUSICIANS

The Choir of Christ Church  
Brandon Almagro and Kevin Businsky, *trumpeters*  
Thomas P. Smith, *Organist and Choirmaster*

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The Reverend Nathan G. Huddleston, Associate Rector  
The Reverend Tiffany A. H. Clark, Associate Priest  
The Reverend Andrew J. Stump, Associate Priest  
Mr. Thomas P. Smith, Organist and Choirmaster  
Mr. Duane F. Roth, Director of Administration