

**The Great Vigil
and
First Eucharist of Easter
April 8, 2023, 8:00 p.m.**



THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY

The Episcopal Church in Agoura, Oak Park, and Westlake Village

The Rev. Jamie Barnett, Vicar

Welcome to the end of the journey: the Great Vigil of Easter. On this holy night, heaven and earth are joined and humanity is reconciled to God. Tonight, we celebrate the light that comes unexpectedly out of the darkness; at the end of Good Friday, we think all is lost, but a glimmer of hope tonight brightens into new light and new life through Christ. Thank you for journeying through to the end of Holy Week with us, and for celebrating the resurrection tonight!

Welcome to The Church of The Epiphany

For our Visitors: We are delighted you have come to worship with us today. There is a break the fast celebration in the Bishop's Hall directly after the service. Please join us!

Worshiping with us: This booklet contains the full order of service. If you are unfamiliar with our rituals and customs, just be present with us in this ancient liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. The bold type indicates where the people are invited to respond or pray.

During the distribution of Communion, we welcome you to receive the sacrament or a prayer of blessing. Additional information about communion is in that section of this booklet. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to an usher or other congregants.

Additional assistance: To locate the restrooms proceed through the office door to the right of the church and go straight down the hall and to the left. Both restrooms have baby changing tables.

Assisted listening devices are available from the ushers in the back of the church.

Children in the church: We welcome children at all our worship services. The sounds of children are a gift from God. Please do not feel you have to subdue them! In the chapel to the left of the altar, we have our *pray ground*. This space is for parents and younger children to use quiet activities such as books, coloring, soft blocks etc., while still participating in worship. We offer activity bags for older children.

Making Epiphany your spiritual home: If you are interested in learning more about our church, please fill out the purple information card found in the slot in front of your seat and place it on the collection plate. We are excited to meet you and would love to get to know you. Start by joining us for coffee after the service!

When we are open: The church is open Monday-Thursday for private prayer and meditation from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Our office is open Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Our phone number is (818) 991-4797. The Rev. Jamie Barnett has office hours Tuesday through Thursday by appointment.

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Treasurer – Keith Krantz
Clerk – Eileen Hannemann

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The Great Vigil of Easter

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The congregation assembles in silence. At the sound of the bell, all stand.

In the darkness, fire is kindled, after which the priest addresses the people and leads them in a prayer.


Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

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

The Paschal Candle is then lighted and is processed to the chancel, pausing three times for the singing of

Cantor *People*




The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand. The Exsultet is sung.


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,

Cantor *People*




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

Cantor *People*



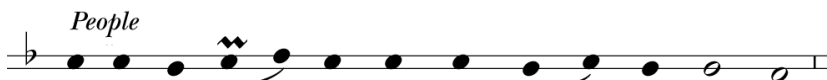
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Cantor



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People



It is right to give God 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. This is the night, when you brought our ancestors, 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 we are reconciled to God. Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns



The Liturgy of the Word

The Priest 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.

The people sit. After each reading, there will be a time for silent reflection, a sung response, and a prayer offered by the priest.

FIRST LESSON

The Creation

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON (1871-1938)

And God stepped out on space,
 And he looked around and said:
 I'm lonely—
 I'll make me a world.
 And far as the eye of God could see
 Darkness covered everything,
 Blacker than a hundred midnights
 Down in a cypress swamp.
 Then God smiled,
 And the light broke,
 And the darkness rolled up on one side,
 And the light stood shining on the other,
 And God said: That's good!
 Then God reached out and took the light in his hands,
 And God rolled the light around in his hands
 Until he made the sun;
 And he set that sun a-blazing in the heavens.
 And the light that was left from making the sun
 God gathered it up in a shining ball
 And flung it against the darkness,
 Spangling the night with the moon and stars.
 Then down between
 The darkness and the light

He hurled the world;
And God said: That's good!
Then God himself stepped down—
And the sun was on his right hand,
And the moon was on his left;
The stars were clustered about his head,
And the earth was under his feet.
And God walked, and where he trod
His footsteps hollowed the valleys out
And bulged the mountains up.
Then he stopped and looked and saw
That the earth was hot and barren.
So God stepped over to the edge of the world
And he spat out the seven seas—
He batted his eyes, and the lightnings flashed—
He clapped his hands, and the thunders rolled—
And the waters above the earth came down,
The cooling waters came down.
Then the green grass sprouted,
And the little red flowers blossomed,
The pine tree pointed his finger to the sky,
And the oak spread out his arms,
The lakes cuddled down in the hollows of the ground,
And the rivers ran down to the sea;
And God smiled again,
And the rainbow appeared,
And curled itself around his shoulder.
Then God raised his arm and he waved his hand
Over the sea and over the land,
And he said: Bring forth! Bring forth!
And quicker than God could drop his hand,
Fishes and fowls
And beasts and birds
Swam the rivers and the seas,
Roamed the forests and the woods,
And split the air with their wings.
And God said: That's good!
Then God walked around,
And God looked around
On all that he had made.
He looked at his sun,
And he looked at his moon,
And he looked at his little stars;
He looked on his world
With all its living things,
And God said: I'm lonely still.
Then God sat down—
On the side of a hill where he could think;
By a deep, wide river he sat down;
With his head in his hands,
God thought and thought,
Till he thought: I'll make me a man!

Up from the bed of the river
God scooped the clay;
And by the bank of the river
He kneeled him down;
And there the great God Almighty
Who lit the sun and fixed it in the sky,
Who flung the stars to the most far corner of the night,
Who rounded the earth in the middle of his hand;
This great God,
Like a mammy bending over her baby,
Kneeled down in the dust
Toiling over a lump of clay
Till he shaped it in his own image;
Then into it he blew the breath of life,
And man became a living soul.
Amen. Amen.

PSALM 136: 1-9, 23-26

ANGLICAN CHANT: THOMAS NORRIS (c. 1741-1790)

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Give thanks to the God of gods, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 4 Who only does great wonders, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 5 Who by his wisdom made the heavens, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 6 Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 7 Who created great lights, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 8 The sun to rule the day, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 9 The moon and the stars to govern the night, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 23 Who remembered us in our low estate, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 24 And delivered us from our enemies, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 25 Who gives food to all creatures, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

Priest: Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

¹God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ²He 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.” ³So 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. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then 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.” ⁶Abraham 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. ⁷Isaac 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?” ⁸Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When 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. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹²He 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.” ¹³And 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. ¹⁴So 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.”

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 16

ANGLICAN CHANT: EDWARD CUTHBERT BAIRSTOW (1874-1946)

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.

Priest: Let us pray. (Silence)

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

THIRD LESSON

Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14: 10-31; 15: 20-21

¹⁰As 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. ¹¹They 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? ¹²Is 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." ¹³But 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. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

¹⁵Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. ¹⁶But 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. ¹⁷Then 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. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

¹⁹The 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. ²⁰It 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.

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

²⁶Then 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." ²⁷So 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. ²⁸The 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. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

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

^{15:20}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. ²¹And Miriam sang to them:

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

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 8: THE SONG OF MOSES

ANGLICAN CHANT: STEPHEN ELVEY (1805-1860)

- 1 I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
 the horse and the rider has he hurled into the sea.
- 2 The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
 the Lord has become my Savior.
- 3 This is my God and I will praise him, *
 the God of my people and I will exalt him.
- 4 The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
 Yahweh is his name.
- 5 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.
- 6 The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
 they sank into the depths like a stone.
- 7 Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
 your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.
- 8 Who can be compared to you, O Lord, among the gods? *
 Who is like you, glorious in holiness,
 awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
- 9 You stretched forth your right hand; *
 the earth swallowed them up.
- 10 With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
 with your might you brought them in safety to your
 holy dwelling.
- 11 You will bring them in and plant them
 on the mount of your possession,
- 12 The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
 the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
- 13 The Lord shall reign *
 for ever and for ever.

Priest: 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.**

¹The 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. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I 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.”

⁷So 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. ⁸I 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. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, 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.” ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then 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.’ ¹²Therefore prophecy, 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. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I 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.”

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 30

ANGLICAN CHANT: JAY WILCOX (B. 1954)

1 I will exalt you, O Lord,
 because you have lifted me up *
 and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

2 O Lord my God, I cried out to you, *
 and you restored me to health.

3 You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; *
 you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

4 Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; *
 give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, *
 his favor for a lifetime.

6 Weeping may spend the night, *
 but joy comes in the morning.

7 While I felt secure, I said,
 “I shall never be disturbed. *
 You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.”

8 Then you hid your face, *
 and I was filled with fear.

9 I cried to you, O Lord; *
 I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

10 “‘What profit is there in my blood if I go down to the Pit? *
 will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?”

- 11 Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; *
O Lord, be my helper.”
- 12 You have turned my wailing into dancing; *
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
- 13 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; *
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Priest: Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty 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.**

BAPTISMAL RENEWAL INVITATION

All stand, as able, as the Priest addresses the people

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, 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 in his holy Catholic Church.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Priest

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People

I do.

Priest

Do you believe in God the Father?

People

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

Priest

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

People

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Priest

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People

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

Priest

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

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

People

I will, with God's help.

Priest

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

People

I will, with God's help.

The Priest concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

EASTER ACCLAMATION

The following is said three times

Priest Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

All sing; the people extinguish their candles and join in the ringing of bells throughout.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we

give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

COLLECT FOR THE EASTER VIGIL

The Priest then says

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The people sit.

EPISTLE: Romans 6: 3-11

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

⁴Therefore 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.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able, and sing.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Hymn 207

Jesus Christ is risen today

EASTER HYMN

GOSPEL: Matthew 28: 1-10

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And 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. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then 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." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people sit for

THE HOMILY

Karen James

A period of silence follows the homily.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

Jesus Christ is risen today, our triumphant holy day. Alleluia! So let us pray to our Lord, saying, "Risen Christ, to you we give undying praise."

Heavenly King, for us you endured the cross and the grave. When we were yet sinners, you redeemed and saved us. May we sing your eternal praises everywhere we go.

Silence

Risen Christ,

To you we give undying praise.

Incarnate Love, where hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain, call forth new life by your touch. Bring forth life in the barren places of your world.

Silence

Risen Christ,

To you we give undying praise.

Author of Life, you are the ruler of creation. All things created on earth sing to your glory.

Silence

Risen Christ,

To you we give undying praise.

Resurrected One, bring our neighbors from sadness into joy. Where they live in darkness, brighten their lives with a day of splendor and give to all that peace that passes human knowing.

Silence

Risen Christ,

To you we give undying praise.

Triumphant Lord, gladden the faces of all who are sad and fearful-hearted. May they rejoice in your victory over sin and pain—even as they share in your glorious triumph.

Silence

Risen Christ,

To you we give undying praise.

We pray today especially for those on our parish prayer list: Mario, Kathy, Joann, and Ronnie. We also pray for those who are on our long-term prayer list and for those who have asked for our prayers but who prefer to remain anonymous.

Risen Christ,

To you we give undying praise.

Risen Christ, you have opened heaven's gate. You have freed us from the power of sin and death. Through your resurrection, you give us the promise of resurrection to a holier state. Bless the dying and the dead.

Silence

Risen Christ,

To you we give undying praise. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Facing the Holy Table, the Priest proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By Christ's death he has destroyed death, and by Christ's rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS S 125 *Holy, holy, holy (Proulx)*

Priest and People

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The People stand or kneel.

The Priest continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O God,

Priest and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Priest continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say in the language of our hearts,

People and Priest

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 169 *My flesh is food indeed (Urwin)*

Cantor or Choir

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in -
deed, says the Lord. *1 All* My Lord. *2 Cantor or Choir* Those who eat my
flesh and drink my blood dwell in me and I in them. *All* My
flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

INVITATION

The Priest says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Priest This is Christ's Banquet. It is made ready for those who love God, and for those who want to love God more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come, because it is Christ who invites you.

During Communion, all are welcome – even encouraged! – to come forward to receive the holy food of new and everlasting life in Jesus Christ. Simply put your hands out (one on top of the other), and the bread will be placed in your hand. (If needed, gluten-free wafers are available.)

You may then consume the wafer (if you do not wish to have it intincted in the wine) or leave the wafer on your palm and the chalice bearer will dip it into the wine for you and place it in your hand. If you aren't sure, or if you'd rather not receive the actual Sacrament, come up and cross your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. You may also cross your arms over your chest or touch the bottom of the chalice if you wish not to receive wine. Finally, if you'd like to receive Communion but mobility is an issue, alert an usher and Communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION ANTHEM Christ rising again, part II

TEXT: BASED ON 1 CORINTHIANS 15: 20-22,
MUSIC: THOMAS TALLIS (C. 1505-1585)

Christ is risen again, the first fruit of them that sleep.
For seeing that by man came death,

by man cometh also the resurrection of the dead.
For as by Adam all men do die,
so by Christ all men shall be restored to life.
Alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Priest says

Let us pray.

Priest and People

**Eternal God,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of 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 Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

All stand and sing.

Hymn 210

The day of resurrection

ELLACOMBE

DISMISSAL

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

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

POSTLUDE

Jesus Christ is risen today

HEALEY WILLAN (1880-1968)

Following this service, please join us for a break-the-fast reception in the Bishop's Hall.

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