

The Great Vigil of Easter

In the darkness, fire is kindled.

WELCOME

The Service of Light

The Celebrant says

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy morning, 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.

Celebrant: 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.**

After the blessing of the new fire, one of the ministers brings the paschal candle to the Priest, who makes the Greek letter Alpha above the cross, the letter Omega below, and the four numerals of the current year between the arms of the cross.

Celebrant: Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega. All time belongs to him and all the ages. To him be glory and power through every age and forever.

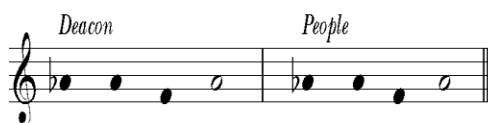
The Priest inserts five grains of incense into the candle in the form of a cross, meanwhile saying:

Celebrant: By his holy and glorious wounds, may Christ the Lord guard us and protect us. *Amen.*

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire.

Celebrant: May the light of Christ rising in glory dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

The Officiant, standing by the candle, proclaims three times:



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

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

THE EXSULTET

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.

The Congregation is seated for the readings.

CREATION STORY

Genesis 1:1 - 2:2

Lau - da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num. Lau -
E nā lā - hui - ka - na - ka ho - o - na - ni ʻŪka Haku! E

da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num! Lau -
nā lā - hui - ka - na - ka ho - o - na - ni ʻŪka Haku! E

Fine

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.**

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

Exodus 14:10-15:1

CHANT

Bless the Lord, my soul

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul. Who leads me in - to life.

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 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**

A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT

Ezekiel 36:24-28

SONG

Take, oh, take me as I am

Take, o take me as I am, Sum - mon out what I shall be;

Set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

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**

THE VALLEY OF THE DRY BONES

Ezekiel 37:1-14

CHANT

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion. In God I trust, in God I trust.

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.*

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Zephaniah 3:12-20

HYMN

Now the green blade riseth

vs. 1 + 2



1 Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that nev - er he would wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain,
 thy touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
 quick from the dead my ris - en Lord is seen:
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:



Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring - eth green.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

HYMN

Now the green blade riseth

vs. 3 + 4

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.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

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

People **I do.**

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 Celebrant 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.*

CHANT *Veni sancte spiritus*

Following this chant, there is a period of silence. Then we proclaim three times

Officiant: Alleluia, Christ is Risen

People: **Alleluia, Christ is Risen**

HYMN

The Hymnal 207

During the hymn, sprinkle with water on your neighbor or on yourself as a reminder of your baptism.

Hymn is printed on the next page

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Latin, 14th cent.; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt. St. 4, Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Easter Hymn*, from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; adapt. *The Compleat Psalmist*, 1749, alt., desc. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950 Copyright © Hymns Ancient and Modern Limited. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

SHARING

All who are willing and outside will be invited to share (through Zoom) the sunrise where you are.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy day 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.**

ALLELUIA

Celtic Alleluia



A - le - lu - ia, A - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

As the procession enters the nave all turn to face the gospel book for the

GOSPEL

John 20: 1-18

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the reading:

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

Adwoa Lewis-Wilson

REFLECTION

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The First Holy Communion of Easter

Following the Peace, all are invited to celebrate the first Holy Communion of Easter

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.**

The Celebrant blesses the people

The people respond to each petition with a loud "Amen."

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us children through the resurrection of Christ our Savior, bestow upon you the riches of 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, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

All stand to sing

HYMN

The Hymnal 178

Hymn is printed on the next page

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

The Officiant dismisses them with these words

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

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!