

# The Great Vigil of Easter

## Welcome

*The Ministers and People gather outside. In the darkness, fire is kindled for*

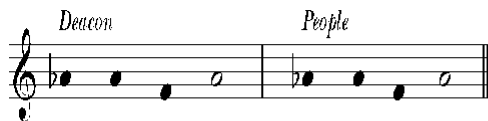
## The Service of Light

*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.**

*The fire is honored with incense. The Paschal Candle is lighted from the newly kindled fire. The members of the congregation then proceed into the church and are seated. The Deacon, bearing the Candle, leads the procession, pausing three times and singing*



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

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

*As the Deacon processes into the church, the members of the congregation seated on the aisle light their candles from the Paschal Candle and then distribute the light to other members of the congregation.*

*All (who are able) remain standing in the dimmed church while the cantors sings*

## The Exultant

## 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 and the psalms.*

## Creation Story

*Genesis 1:1-2:4a*



*All stand. The priest says,*

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.**

*All are seated for the reading of*  
**Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea**

*Exodus 14:10-15:1*

**Song**                      *Go Down Moses, chorus (with verses sung by a chorister)*

Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land; —  
tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo - ple go.

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Arr. Copyright © 1992 Horace Clarence Boyer.

*All stand. The priest says,*  
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**

*All are seated for the reading of*  
**Learn Wisdom and Live**

*Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6*

*What does the Lord require of us?*

What does the Lord re - quire of us? What does the Lord re -  
quire? Do jus - tice, love mer - cy, walk hum - bly with your God.

*All stand. The priest says,*  
Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*All are seated for the reading of*  
**A New Heart and a New Spirit**

*Ezekiel 36:24-28*

Wash me a - way un - til all that's left is love Great Spi - rit

Wash me a - way un - til all that's left is love Great Spi - rit

*All stand. The priest says,*  
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**

*All are seated for the reading of*  
**The Valley of the Dry Bones**

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

**Hymn** *Now the green blade riseth*

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:

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

*All stand. An assisting priest says,  
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.*

## **Homily**

*The Reverend Mary D. Lindquist*

## **Holy Baptism**

*All are invited to stand and gather around the baptismal font.*

*The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.*

*Sponsors* We present Gabriel Isaac Sistare to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*The Priest asks the candidate when presented*  
Do you desire to be baptized?

*Candidate* I do.

*Then the Priest asks the following questions of the candidate.*

*Question* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?  
*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?  
*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?  
*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?  
*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?  
*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?  
*Answer* I do.

*After they have been presented, the Priest addresses the congregation, saying*  
Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Gabriel in his life in Christ?

*People.* **We will.**

*The Priest then says*  
Let us join with Gabriel who is committing himself to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

*Then all stand to say the*  
**Baptismal Covenant**

*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 then says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for Gabriel who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth

*Leader* Deliver him O Lord, from the way of sin and death.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open his heart to your grace and truth.  
*People* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

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

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

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

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

*The Priest says*

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

## Thanksgiving over the Water

*The Priest blesses the water, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

*Priest*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Priest says the Thanksgiving over water.*

## The Baptism

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

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

Let us pray.

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

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Priest and People*

**We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

## CHANT

Based on the Pentecost Sequence

Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

The musical score is presented in three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Melody' and contains a single melodic line in G major, 6/8 time. The middle staff is labeled 'Harmony' and contains a two-part setting of the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes: 'Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.' The bottom staff is a bass line that provides harmonic support for the melody.

Copyright © 1979 by Les Presses de Taizé.  
Published and distributed in North America exclusively by GIA Publications, Inc. • All rights reserved

*Following this chant, there is a brief time of silence, then the Easter acclamation and the ringing of bells. When the lights come on and you may extinguish your candles.*

# The First Holy Communion of Easter

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Christ is risen!

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

*The Celebrant repeats this announcement three times.*

*The assembly is sprinkled with water to remind people of their baptisms.*

## Hymn

*Jesus Christ is risen today*

*The Hymnal 207*

*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!

*The congregation may return to their seats after being sprinkled with holy water.*

## **The Collect of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

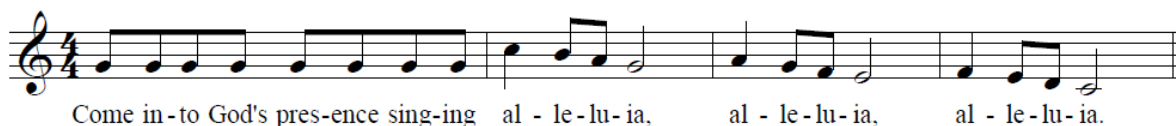
Let us pray.

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.**

## **A Reading from the Early Church**

*Romans 6:3-11*

*All stand to ring bells and to sing this gradual*



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

## **Gospel**

*Matthew 28:1-10*

*Officiant*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*People*

**Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

*Following the reading:*

*Officiant*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Peace**

*Officiant*

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

## **Hymn**

*We know that Christ is raised*

*The Hymnal 296*

## **Holy Communion**

*Following the Peace, we will sing a chant while the altar is set and censed. Then all are invited to come up and stand around the altar to celebrate the first Holy Communion of Easter. After you receive Communion, you may return to your seats for the final prayer.*

*All return to their seats.*

## **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.**

**Hymn**

*The Hymnal 178*

*Descant*  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*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  
 Praise to his Name. Name.  
 Praise to his Name. Name.

*Front Ending*  
 1-4  
 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.  
 Now we shall live for ev - er. Al - le -  
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

*The Officiant dismisses the people with these words*

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

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

### **Participants Today**

Deacon – ***The Reverend Lars Hunter***; Lay Assistants – ***David Treadwell*** and ***Annamarie Pluhar***;  
Thurifer – ***Ann Ely***; Exsultet – ***Jenny Karstad*** and ***Christopher Wesolowski***, Acolytes – ***Ricky Davidson***  
and ***Betsy Bates***; Readers: ***Jeff Lewis, Jennifer Stromsten, Elizabeth Fisher, Jay Pomponio, Craig***  
***Irvine, Joyce Vining Morgan, Laura Frey*** and ***Judith Reichsman***, Ushers – ***Christine Hart*** and ***Brian***  
***Morgan***; Celebrant – ***The Right Reverend Thomas Ely***; Assisting Priests – ***The Reverend Mary***  
***Lindquist and the Reverend adwoa Wilson***; Altar Guild – ***Jane Sbardella, Sherry Stimmel, Craig***  
***Newbert*** and ***Carol Hesselbach***; Easter flowers – ***Marie Lawrence***.

### **EASTER FLOWERS**

*The following gifts have been made for the flowers in the sanctuary this Easter season.*

To the glory of God

*From Elizabeth Vick & Craig Hammond*

In thanksgiving for

The lives of David and Jamie Morgan *from Brian & Joyce Vining Morgan*

All at St. Michael's, especially for your care and generosity at the take of our leave taking *from Jean & Peter Smith*

In memory of

My mother, Phyllis Lindquist, *from Mary Lindquist*

Nini & Bumpa *from Hailey and Ryan Cogliano*

Bob Anderson *from Becky Anderson*

Daniel Dobson *from Susan Gantt Kubert*

Bruce Hesselbach *from Carol Hesselbach*

Richard d. Blazej and Doris E. Spahr *from Lucy Spahr-Blazej*

Tim Gallegher and Nancy & Halsey Hicks *from Pam & Paul Gallagber*