



A caring Christian community celebrating God, proclaiming Christ, and serving others in the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER 2022



The Great Vigil of Easter is the culmination of the sacred celebration of Holy Week and the beginning of the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection. It is the climax of the Christian Year and unfolds in scripture-and liturgy the story of redemption. It begins in darkness and proceeds to a joyous burst of light at the Gloria. It begins in silence and proceeds to the glorious proclamation of the Paschal Alleluia.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

Greeting

Dear friends in Christ,
on this most holy night,
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,
the Church invites her children throughout the world
to come together in vigil and prayer.
This is the Passover of the Lord.
We remember his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries;
we are confident
that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever in God.

Prayer

Let us pray.
Father,
we share in the light of your glory
through your Son, the light of the world.
Sanctify this new fire, and inflame us with new hope.
Purify our minds by this Easter celebration
and bring us one day to the feast of eternal light.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preparation of the Paschal Candle

Lighting of the Paschal Candle

THE PROCESSION

Priest: The light of Christ

People: Thanks be to God.

The Exultet

Green 323

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus
Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the trumpet of
salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour, radiant in
the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered!
Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory! The risen
Saviour shines upon you! Let this place resound with
joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!
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 our thanks and praise

It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and
voices we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful
Father, and his only Son, our Lord Jesus
Christ. For Christ has ransomed us with his blood,
and paid for us the price of Adam's sin to our
eternal Father!

This is our passover feast, when Christ, the true
Lamb, is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes
of all believers.

This is the night when first you saved our forebears:
you freed the people of Israel from their slavery and
led them dry-shod through the sea.

This is the night when Christians everywhere,
washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement,
are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains
of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

Father, how wonderful your care for us! How
boundless your merciful love! To ransom a slave
you gave away your Son.

The power of this holy night dispels all evil, washes
guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings
mourners joy.

Night truly blessed when heaven is wedded to
earth and we are reconciled with God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night,
receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your
Church's solemn offering. Accept this Easter
candle. May it always dispel the darkness of this
night!

May the Morning Star which never sets find this
flame still burning: Christ, that Morning Star, who
came back from the dead, and shed his peaceful
light on all creation, your Son who lives and reigns
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

A Reading From: **Genesis 1:1-2:2**

Jim Mills

Prayer

Almighty and eternal God,
you created all things in wonderful beauty and order.
Help us now to perceive
how still more wonderful is the new creation,
by which in the fullness of time
you redeemed your people
through the sacrifice of our Passover, Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

A Reading From: **Exodus 14:10-15:1**

Sonia Sobers

Prayer

God of steadfast love,
your wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own
day.
By the power of your mighty arm
you once delivered 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.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer

Living 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 power to proclaim you to all the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Glory to God

Green 95

*During the singing of The Gloria,
the lights will be turned on and the bells will be rung.*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

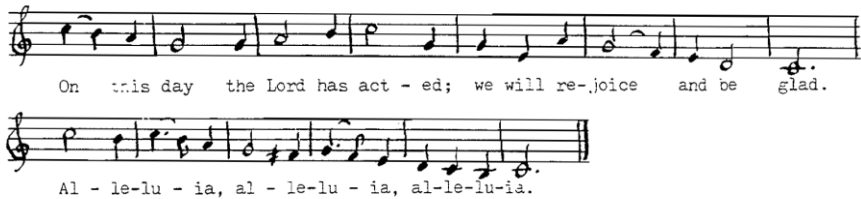
Eternal Giver of life and light,
 this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ.
 Renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,
 that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,
 and shine as a light in the world;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

A Reading From: **Romans 6:3-11**

Prince Mori

Psalm 118

Green 866



On this day the Lord has act - ed; we will re-joice and be glad.

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

**On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel Acclamation:

(Please stand)

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
 alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His Name.

**Together: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
 alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His Name.**

Cantor: Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed;
 let us feast with joy in the Lord.

**Together: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
 alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His Name.**

The Gospel: **Luke 23:55-24:9**

Together: **Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His Name.**

Sermon: The Rev. Canon David Harrison

Hymn: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* Blue 203

**Jesus Christ is risen today, alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, alleluia!
who did once, upon the cross, alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, alleluia!
unto Christ our heavenly King, alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains which he endured, alleluia!
our salvation have procured; alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

The Renewal of the Baptismal Vows

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water 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 celebrate our fellowship in him in faith. We pray that all who have passed through the water of baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Dear friends,
through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,
so that we may rise with him to a new life.
Now that our Lenten observance is ended,
let us renew the promises we made in baptism,
when we rejected Satan and all his works,
and promised to serve God faithfully
in his holy catholic Church.

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 neighbour 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.**

God the creator, the rock of our salvation,
has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
May he keep us faithful to our calling,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Sean Joseph

The Peace

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

People: *And also with you.*

Offertory Hymn *Walk Softly in Springtime*

Blue 209

**Walk softly in springtime, to hear the grass sing
its whispering carols to Jesus our king;
to see the new flowers bright colours display;
to tell all the children of glad Easter day.**

**Sing gently in springtime, and join with the birds,
who warble their music, a song without words,
that floats through the air and that reaches the sky,
a message of love to the Father on high.**

**Praise gladly in springtime when earth seems to glow
with new life and colour in all things that grow;
for all nature's children are happy to say,
"Rejoice, for the Saviour is risen today."**

God of life and health,
accept the offering of your holy people,
and grant that we who are baptized into Christ
may be perfected in your salvation,
in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

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

All **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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Giver of all, enlivened by your Easter triumph
fill us with the Spirit of love, and unite us in faith,
that we may be witnesses to the resurrection
and show your glory to all the world,
in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn *Yours Be the Glory* Blue 210
 Risen, Conquering Son

**Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory over death you won.
Angels robed in splendour rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave—clothes where your body lay.**

Refrain:

*Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory over death you won.*

**See! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord is living; death has lost its sting!**

Refrain:

**No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life:
what is life without you? Aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through your
 deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to your home above.**

Refrain:

Dismissal

Leader: *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!*

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia!*