



*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 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.**



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!*