

EASTER VIGIL

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
APRIL 4, 2026

8:00PM



The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

(Stand)

OPENING 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.*

OPENING VERSICLE S 68 Versicle and Response: The Light of Christ (BCP p. 285)



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

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

Congregation's Candles are lit.

EXSULTET (BCP p. 286)

*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, for ever and ever. **Amen.***

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him 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 fathers, 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 man is 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 for ever and ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

INVITATION

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.

(Sit)

FIRST READING: THE STORY OF CREATION: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

A Reading from the book of Genesis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were

gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26 with Response (H 288)

**Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days;
bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ:
all to thee, our God, we owe, source when all our blessings flow.**

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *

for his mercy endures for ever.

²Give thanks to the God of gods, *

for his mercy endures for ever.

³Give thanks to the LORD of lords, *

for his mercy endures for ever.

⁴Who only does great wonders, *

for his mercy endures for ever;

⁵Who by wisdom made the heavens, *

for his mercy endures for ever;

⁶Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *

for his mercy endures for ever;

**Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days;
bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ:
all to thee, our God, we owe, source when all our blessings flow.**

⁷Who created great lights, *

for his mercy endures for ever;

⁸The sun to rule the day, *

for his mercy endures for ever;

⁹The moon and the stars to govern the night, *

for his mercy endures for ever.

²³Who remembered us in our low estate, *

for his mercy endures for ever;

²⁴And delivered us from our enemies, *

for his mercy endures for ever;

²⁵Who gives food to all creatures, *

for his mercy endures for ever.

²⁶Give thanks to the God of heaven, *

for his mercy endures for ever.

**Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days;
bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ:
all to thee, our God, we owe, source when all our blessings flow.**

FIRST COLLECT

Let us pray.

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.**

SECOND READING: ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA: Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

As 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.”
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 8: The Song of Moses with Response (Gather #23)

**The Lord is my light and my salvation,
of whom should I be afraid,
of whom should I be afraid?**

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.
The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.
This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.
The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.
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.
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation,
of whom should I be afraid,
of whom should I be afraid?**

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness,
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation,
of whom should I be afraid,
of whom should I be afraid?**

SECOND COLLECT

Let us pray.

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.**

THIRD READING: A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT: Ezekiel 36:24-28

A Reading from the book of the Prophet Ezekiel

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. ²⁸Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 42-43 with Response (H-635)

**If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength what e'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days.**

¹As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
so longs my soul for you, O God.

²My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; *
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

³My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all day long they say to me,
“Where now is your God?”

⁴I pour out my soul when I think on these things; *
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,

⁵With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
among those who keep holy-day.

⁶Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?

⁷Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

**If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength what e'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days.**

⁸My soul is heavy within me; *
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,
and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.

⁹One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; *
all your rapids and floods have gone over me.

¹⁰The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; *
in the night season his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.
¹¹I will say to the God of my strength,
“Why have you forgotten me? *
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?”
¹²While my bones are being broken, *
my enemies mock me to my face;
¹³All day long they mock me *
and say to me, “Where now is your God?”
¹⁴Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?

**If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength what e'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days.**

¹⁵Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.
^{43:} ¹Give judgment for me, O God,
and defend my cause against an ungodly people; *
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.
²For you are the God of my strength;
why have you put me from you? *
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?
³Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, *
and bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling;
⁴That I may go to the altar of God,
to the God of my joy and gladness; *
and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.
⁵Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?
⁶Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

**If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength what e'er betide thee, and bear thee through the evil days.**

THIRD COLLECT

Let us pray.

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.**

EASTER ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 294)

(Stand)

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

CANTICLE FOR EASTER VIGIL S 278 Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Mathias)



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y 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 EASTER VIGIL

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.**

(Sit)

EPISTLE: Romans 6:3-11

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114

¹Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

²**Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.**

³The sea beheld it and fled; *

Jordan turned and went back.

⁴**The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.**

⁵What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *

O Jordan, that you turned back?

⁶**You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?**

⁷Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *

at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸**Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

GOSPEL: Luke 24:1-12

(Stand)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Sit)

THE SERMON

(Stand)

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

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.

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

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With all our heart, mind, soul and strength, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord have mercy."

For the church and all its ministers, especially Sara, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean our Presiding Bishop, our diocesan bishop search, Adam our priest, Erin our deacon, our parish staff, and for our mission and ministry here at St. John's, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Donald our president, Joshua our governor, our legislators, courts, and school boards, and for all those in authority throughout our nation and the world, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace, especially in Iran, the Middle East, Israel and Ukraine, and an end to all terrorism and violence, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in our armed forces at home and abroad, especially those from our families and community, and for all first responders, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, the unemployed and the destitute, for refugees, prisoners and captives, and for victims of natural disasters, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and the suffering and all those who care for them, especially health care professionals and other front line-workers, and for all who have asked for our prayers, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the right use and proper stewardship of the wonders of creation, and for all creatures of earth, sea, and sky, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Good and gracious God, you invite us to recognize and reverence your divine image and likeness in our neighbor. We have promised that with your help we will strive for justice and peace among all people and will respect the dignity of every human being. Enable us to see the reality of racism and free us to challenge and uproot discrimination from our church, our society, our world and ourselves, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy**

For those who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

(Sit)

OFFERTORY INSTRUMENTAL: Italian Symphony (Op.90 3rd movement) For Bb Clarinet [Rochelle Gracilla] and Piano. By Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) arr. Thea King / Alan Frank. (C) Copyright 1994 Chester Music Limited. All Rights Reserved.

(Stand)

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The lyrics are: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant. The lyrics are: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People. The lyrics are: "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say,

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

[Remember (NN. and) all who minister in your Church.]

[Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.]

[Remember _____.]

[Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.]

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with _____) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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 – VERSE 1 OF “I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE” (H 335)

**I am the bread of life;
they who come to me shall not hunger;
they who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me
unless the Father draw them.
And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up,
and I will raise them up on the last day.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

(Sit)

COMMUNION INSTRUMENTAL: “Of the Father’s love begotten” tune: *Divinium mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582 (H82)

(Stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**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.**

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

POST-COMMUNION HYMN *Jesus Christ is risen today (Easter Hymn) (H 207)*

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

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

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

**Sing we to our God above
praise eternal as his love;
praise him, all ye heavenly host,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!**

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