

The Easter Vigil

WELCOME TO THIS SPECIAL SERVICE ON HOLY SATURDAY

As we wait to celebrate the Resurrection we try to keep a sense of silent expectation

On this night, we gather in a darkened church to celebrate the liturgy that proclaims the saving work of God in raising Jesus Christ from the dead. As the liturgy progresses, light fills the church and our hearts as we welcome the risen Christ, who conquers the scandal of Good Friday and the apparent finality of death, to bring new life to all.

The liturgy falls into four main sections:

1 The Liturgy of Light

The Easter candle represents the risen Christ, the source of light. We move from darkness to light visually in the liturgy and spiritually in our hearts as we listen to the Easter proclamation, the Exsultet, one of the oldest liturgical texts we have and still use, an extended celebration of the resurrection and its place in God's plan of salvation.

2 The Liturgy of the Word

We listen and remember how God has been active throughout history to save his people. It is only in the light of the Easter Candle that we are able to appreciate the meaning of the miraculous escape of God's people as recorded in the reading from the Book of Exodus.

3 The Liturgy of Baptism

Here we focus on the font, and are reminded that in our baptism we share in the dying and rising of Christ. We renew our baptismal promises and recommit ourselves to serve him and one another as his people.

4 The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Every time we celebrate the Eucharist we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again, and yet we also share in his resurrection in receiving the body and blood of the risen Lord.

Cover Photograph: *Symbol of the resurrection*: the Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) is shown with the halo of Jesus and a flag of victory bearing the cross, proclaiming that Jesus is the sacrifice that has triumphed. From the window on the south side of the West end of the church. Taken by John Cheal.

THE LITURGY OF LIGHT

All gather in silence and darkness. When the choir and clergy enter, all stand and turn to face the west end of the church.

President The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

The President introduces the liturgy and blesses the New Fire

*The Paschal Candles are marked in the traditional manner
and one is lit from the New Fire*

President May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all
darkness from our hearts and minds.

***The Paschal Candle is carried into the nave.
Three stations are made, at each of which is sung:***

Deacon The Light of Christ.
All **Thanks be to God.**

***During the procession, your candles will be lit by the servers.
Please pass the light to those around you.***

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION (EXSULTET)

***All remain standing with lighted candles as the Paschal Candle
is placed in a stand and honoured with incense***

The Deacon proclaims the Exsultet.

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
O Universe, dance around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation,
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!
Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!
Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is right and good that with hearts and minds and voices
we should praise you, Father almighty, the unseen God,
through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who has saved us by his death,
paid the price of Adam's sin,
and reconciled us once again to you.

For this is the Passover feast,
when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain,
whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

This is the night when you first saved our ancestors,
freeing Israel from her slavery
and leading her safely through the sea.

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

This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin,
restored to grace and holiness,
and share the victory of Christ.

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost;
beyond our deepest dreams
you made even our sin a happy fault.

Most blessed of all nights!
Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away,
lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

Night truly blessed, when hatred is cast out,
peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth
and all creation reconciled to you.

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering,
this wax, the work of bees and the hands of your ministers.
As we gaze upon the splendour of this flame
fed by melting wax conceived by mother bee,
grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light.

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;
Christ is risen from the dead
and his flame of love still burns within us!
Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The President introduces the Liturgy of the Word

Please sit

THE FIRST READING *from the Book of Genesis*

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 104 *Please remain seated*

Response **Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

Choir Praise the Lord O my soul,
O Lord God, your glory is great:
how manifold are your works,
in wisdom you have made them all.

Response **Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

Choir All creatures look to you,
to give them their food to eat:
when you open your hand, they are filled with good,
when you hide your face, they pine away.

Response **Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

Choir When you take away their breath, they die,
and return to the earth whence they came:
when you send forth your spirit,
all things spring to life,
and the face of the earth is renewed.

Response **Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

Choir The glory of the Lord shall never cease,
the Lord shall rejoice in all his works:
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live,
I will praise my God while my breath remains.

Response **Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.**

The President concludes the reading with a prayer

All **Amen.**

THE SECOND READING *from the Book of Exodus*

The President concludes the reading with a prayer.

All **Amen**

Silence is kept

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

President Alleluia. Christ is risen!

All **He is risen indeed! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*A fanfare is played, bells are rung
and a holy noise is made to celebrate the resurrection!*

The lights are switched on.

THE GLORIA

**Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise;
of heavenly joy and earthly peace we sing.
We worship you, to you our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heavenly king.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
you bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O lamb of God, your glorious vict'ry won,
receive our pray'r, grant us your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, you only are the Lord,
at God's right hand in majesty most high;
who with the Spirit worshipped and adored:
with all the heavenly host we glorify.**

Tune: Woodlands

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way of life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Please sit

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING *from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans*

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN

**Early morning. "Come prepare him,
to the tomb your spices bring;
death is cold and death decaying.
we must beautify our King."**

**Early morning, women excited,
seeking Peter everywhere;
telling of a man who told them,
"He is risen: don't despair".**

**Peter racing, early morning,
to the tomb and rushing in;
seeing shrouds of death dispensed with,
finding new-born faith begin.**

Early morning, Mary weeping,
asking if the gardener knew;
knowing, as his voice says, "Mary",
"Lord, Rabboni, it is you".

ALL FOR JESUS
Text, JOHN GREGORY
Music, JOHN STAINER

GOSPEL ALLELUIA



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

All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Cantor I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the
living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

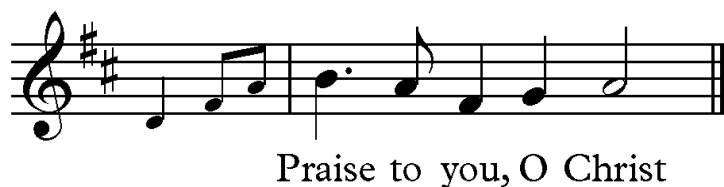
Please turn to face the Gospel as it is read

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to *N*



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Deacon This is the Gospel of the Lord



Praise to you, O Christ

THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM

The Deacon carries the Paschal Candle to the font as we sing the hymn, turning to face the font as the candle passes by.

**Come, God's people, sing for joy,
shout your songs of gladness;
for the hope of Easter day
overcomes our sadness.
Come with all his people here,
who with true affection,
join again to celebrate
Jesus' resurrection.**

**Years before, as Moses led
Israel's sons and daughters
from their bonds to Exodus
through the Red Sea waters:
so the living Lord of life
speaks through our baptism
of the new life that we share
with him who is risen.**

ST JOHN DAMASCENE
Text, KEITH D. PEARSON
Music, ARTHUR HENRY BROWN

THE BLESSING OF THE WATER

The President prays over the water, inserting the Paschal Candle into the water. The prayer concludes ... "We ask this through Christ our Lord".

All Amen

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

President As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life within the family of his Church.

Now that we have completed our observance of Lent, we renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ, and our rejection of all that is evil.

Therefore I ask these questions:

President Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
All **I reject them.**

President Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
All **I renounce them.**

President Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
All **I repent of them.**

President Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
All **I turn to Christ.**

President Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
All **I submit to Christ.**

President Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?
All **I come to Christ.**

President And now I ask you to make the profession of Christian faith into which you were baptised, and in which you live and grow.

President Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
All **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

President Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
All **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

President Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?
All **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.
Amen.**

President Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship
in the household of faith
with all who have been baptised into your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation
shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
All **Amen.**

HYMN *during which the procession returns up the nave, the
President sprinkling the people with water from the font.*

**Springs of water, bless the Lord! Alleluia!
Now through Christ is life restored! Alleluia!
Praise the faithful, living Word! Alleluia!
Grace on grace to us outpoured! Alleluia!**

**Springs and fountains shout for joy! Alleluia!
All your talents now employ! Alleluia!
Praise the Fount of life and grace! Alleluia!
God of ev'ry time and space! Alleluia!**

**All you waters, dance and play! Alleluia!
Praise the one who made this day! Alleluia!
Breathed in us the living breath! Alleluia!
Brought us back to life from death! Alleluia!**

EASTER HYMN
Text, MARTY HAUGEN
Melody adapted, LYRA DAVIDICA 1708

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PEACE

President Alleluia! The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you. Alleluia!**

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

***We extinguish our candles and exchange a sign of peace
with those around us.***

THE PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

During the **OFFERTORY HYMN** bread and wine are brought to the altar by representatives of the community and prepared for their holy use.

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing
praise to our victorious King:
who hath washed us in the tide
flowing from his pierced side;
praise we him whose love divine
gives the guests his blood for wine,
gives his body for the feast,
Love the Victim, Love the Priest.**

**Where the Paschal blood is poured,
death's dark angel sheaths his sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Christ, the Lamb whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, Paschal bread!
With sincerity and love
eat we manna from above.**

**Mighty Victim from on high,
powers of hell beneath thee lie;
death is broken in the fight,
thou hast brought us life and light.
Now thy banner thou dost wave,
conquering Satan and the grave.
See the prince of darkness quelled;
heaven's bright gates are open held.**

**Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,
only sin can this destroy;
from sin's death do thou set free,
souls reborn, dear Lord, in thee.
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,
Father, unto thee we raise.
Risen Lord, all praise to thee,
ever with the Spirit be.**

SALZBURG

Words, from a LATIN BREVIARY HYMN

Translated, ROBERT CAMPBELL

Melody, J. HINTZE

Harmony, J. S. BACH

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

President

Lord of life,
with unbounded joy we offer you
our sacrifice of praise.
As we are fed with the bread of heaven
may we know your resurrection power;
through Christ our risen Lord.

All

Amen

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Please remain standing. However, feel free to sit or kneel if you need to.

*Pr*President

All



President

All



President

All



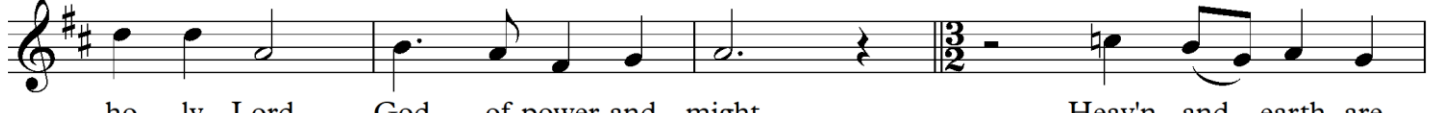
President

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and on this night of our redemption
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.
For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women
the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise and
opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all
creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:


Maestoso ♩ = 72
mf


 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho-ly, ho-ly,

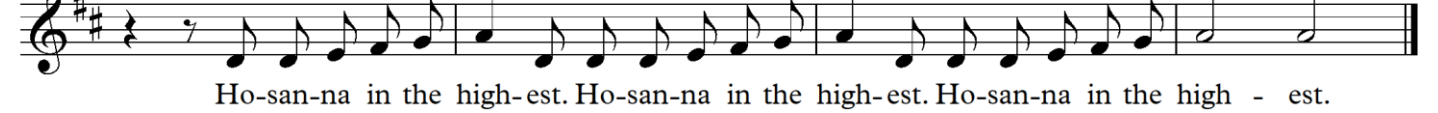
7 **Un poco meno mosso**

 ho-ly Lord, God of power and might, Heav'n and earth are

11 *f*

 full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the

14

 high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est, in the high-est.

Andante con moto ♩ = 74
mp

 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

5 *rit.*

 Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

President

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
 grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
 and according to your holy will,
 these gifts of bread and wine
 may be to us the body and blood
 of our Lord Jesus Christ;
 who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
 took bread and gave you thanks;
 he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
 do this in remembrance of me.
 In the same way, after supper
 he took the cup and gave you thanks;
 he gave it to them, saying:

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.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

President
All

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

President

And so, Father, calling to mind
his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice
made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this
our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

President

All



By whom, and with whom and in whom, A - men.

President

All



In the unity of the Ho-ly Spirit A - men.

President

All



All honour and glory be yours, almighty Father for ever and ever A - men.

We acknowledge the presence of Christ in our midst as the consecrated bread and wine are elevated and the bell is rung

Please sit or kneel as the President bows

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The President introduces the Lord's Prayer

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The President breaks the consecrated bread

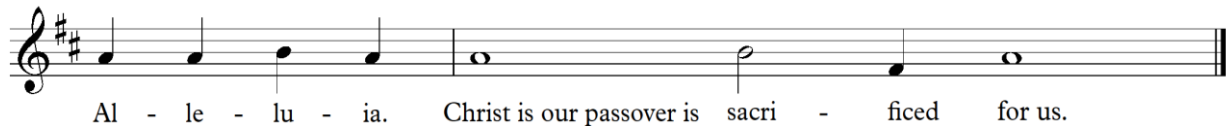
President We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE INVITATION

The President invites the people to receive Holy Communion

President



All



Please come forward to the High Altar when indicated by a Warden. Baptised communicant members of any church are able to receive communion. Otherwise, do come forward anyway and, by holding this order of service, a minister will give you a blessing instead.

*During the distribution anthems and hymns may be sung,
and music played*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After a period of silent prayer, the President says the post-communion prayer and all respond:

All **Amen.**

All Faithful God,
in baptism you have adopted us
as your children,
made us members of the body of Christ
and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:
we thank you that in this Eucharist
you renew your promises within us,
empower us by your Spirit
to witness and to serve,
and send us out as disciples of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

THE EASTER BLESSING

President The Lord be with you
All **And also with you.**

President God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life.
All **Amen.**

President God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
All **Amen.**

President God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.
All **Amen.**

President And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

The paschal candles for the village churches and other places of worship in the parish are lit.

FINAL HYMN

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Alleluia!**

**Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluia!**

**On the third morn he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Alleluia!**

VICTORY
Words, LATIN 17TH CENTURY
Translated, FRANCIS POTT
Music, ADAPTED FROM *GLORIA* OF PALESTRINA'S *MAGNIFICAT TERTII TONI*
New English Hymnal, 119

Deacon



All



ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Please return this booklet to a sidesperson

Refreshments are served at the back of church after the service and you are welcome to stay to continue our Easter celebration.

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