



# *The Vigil of Easter*

*Lutheran Church of Our Savior  
Cupertino, California*

# *Service of Light*

## INVOCATION

**P** *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C** **Amen.**

## INVITATION

**P** *Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which Our Lord Jesus passed over from death into life, we are gathered here in vigil and in prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.*

## COLLECT

**P** *Let us pray. O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen.**

## THE RECONSECRATION OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

*The cross is traced on the paschal candle.*

**P** *Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the ending,*

*The Greek letters Alpha and Omega are traced on the paschal candle.*

**P** *the Alpha and the Omega.*

**P** *His are time and eternity; His are the glory and dominion, now and forever.*

*The five jewels representing the five wounds of Christ are touched.*

**P** *By His wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen.*

*The paschal candle is lit.*

**P** *May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.*

## COLLECT

**P** *Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

*All candles receive the light of the Paschal Candle and all participants follow the candle bearer in procession into the darkened church. The bearer of the paschal candle stops at the entrance to the nave.*

## LUX CHRISTI



**P** The light of Christ.

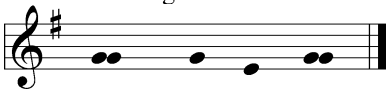


**C** Thanks be to God.

*The bearer of the paschal candle stops in the middle of the nave.*



**P** The light of Christ.



**C** Thanks be to God.

*When all have processed, the bearer of the paschal candle lifts the paschal candle high.*



**P** The light of Christ.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## EXSULTET

**P** *Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.*

## PREFACE



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al-so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

**P** *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty everlasting God, and Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. For He is the very Paschal Lamb who offered Himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of His precious blood. 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 ground. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality. This is the night when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night. Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is Your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave You gave Your Son. How holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away. How holy is this night when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast. How blessed is the night when man is reconciled to God in Christ. Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the true light and morning star, shine in our hearts, He who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen.**

*All extinguish their candles.*

# *Service of Readings*

## INTRODUCTION TO READINGS

**P** *In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.*

## THE CREATION

*Genesis 1:1–2:3*

**P** *A reading from Genesis, chapters one and two.*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the

earth.” And it was so. And God made the two great lights – the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night – and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

And God 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 heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens 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. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. ...

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity. Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

## THE FLOOD

*Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18; 8:6–18; 9:8–13*

**P** *A reading from Genesis, chapters seven, eight and nine.*

Then the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in.

The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.

In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. Then God said to Noah, “Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh — birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth — that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the ark. Keep us in safety in the ark of Christ’s body, the Church, that Your mercy may come to its fullness and Your salvation be preached to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**





1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of  
 2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-  
 3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-mersed and drowned for-  
 4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of  
 cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-  
 ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-  
 cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The  
 out ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned  
 gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-destroyed And  
 for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!  
 in-ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de-nied Him.  
 all our sin-ful selves em-ployed Ac-cord-ing to our na-ture.  
 makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.

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## ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

Exodus 14:10 – 15:1

**P** A reading from Exodus, chapters fourteen and fifteen.

When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work

for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,  
“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

### A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT

Ezekiel 36:24–28

**P** *A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 36.*

I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, by the death and resurrection of Your Son You cleansed our hearts and put a new Spirit within us. Grant that all who are brought to newness of life in the fellowship of the body of Christ may show forth in their lives what they confess with their lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**



1 All man - kind fell in Ad - am's fall; One com - mon  
 4 But Christ, the sec - ond Ad - am, came To bear our  
 5 As by one man all man - kind fell And, born in  
 6 We thank You, Christ; new life is ours, New light, new



sin in - fects us all. From one to all the  
 sin and woe and shame, To be our life, our  
 sin, was doomed to hell, So by one Man, who  
 hope, new strength, new pow'rs. This grace our ev - 'ry



curse de - scends, And o - ver all God's wrath im - pends.  
 light, our way, Our on - ly hope, our on - ly stay.  
 took our place, We all were jus - ti - fied by grace.  
 way at - tend Un - til we reach our jour - ney's end.

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**JOB CONFESSES THE REDEEMER**

*Job 19:20-27*

**P** *A reading from Job, chapter 19.*

My bones stick to my skin and to my flesh,  
 and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.  
 Have mercy on me, have mercy on me, O you my friends,  
 for the hand of God has touched me!  
 Why do you, like God, pursue me?  
 Why are you not satisfied with my flesh?

“Oh that my words were written!  
 Oh that they were inscribed in a book!  
 Oh that with an iron pen and lead  
 they were engraved in the rock forever!  
 For I know that my Redeemer lives,  
 and at the last he will stand upon the earth.  
 And after my skin has been thus destroyed,

yet in my flesh I shall see God,  
whom I shall see for myself,  
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.  
My heart faints within me!"

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. Almighty God, our great Redeemer, in the sacrifice of Your Son You put to death our wretched flesh and in His rising restored our life. Grant that we may always cling to Christ by faith in this life that at the last we may rejoice to stand in our own flesh and see You face to face; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

**HYMN** ..... **# 741**

*Selected stanzas*



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is  
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall  
5 Glo - ri - fied, I shall a - new With this flesh then be en -  
8 O, then, draw a - way your hearts From all plea - sures base and



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence  
wak - en. He will bring me where He is;  
shroud - ed; In this bod - y I shall view  
hol - low; Strive to share what He im - parts



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the  
Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I  
God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; In this  
While you here His foot - steps fol - low. As you



night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.  
fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?  
flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.  
now still wait to rise, Fix your hearts be - yond the skies!

**P** *A reading from Jonah, chapter three.*

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days’ journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. O God, as the prophet Jonah spent three days in the belly of the great fish, so Your Son Jesus spent three days in the heart of the earth. Grant us repentance to embrace our death in Him through Holy Baptism and to proclaim His victory over sin and death to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

**THE GATHERING OF GOD’S PEOPLE**

Zephaniah 3:12–20

**P** *A reading from Zephaniah, chapter three.*

“I will leave in your midst  
a people humble and lowly.  
They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD,  
those who are left in Israel;  
they shall do no injustice  
and speak no lies,  
nor shall there be found in their mouth  
a deceitful tongue.

For they shall graze and lie down,  
and none shall make them afraid.”

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Fear not, O Zion;

let not your hands grow weak.

The LORD your God is in your midst,

a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;

he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,

so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

Behold, at that time I will deal

with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise

and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you in,

at the time when I gather you together;

for I will make you renowned and praised

among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes

before your eyes,” says the LORD.

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. Look in mercy, O Lord, upon Your faithful people, and by Word and Spirit bring to completion that good work which You have begun in us. Gather in Your people that all the world may see and know that what has been cast down is raised up and what has grown old is made new, until the work You have begun in us is brought to its joyful fulfillment in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *A reading from Daniel, chapter three.*

King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits and its breadth six cubits. He set it up on the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent to gather the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Then the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces gathered for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. And they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. And the herald proclaimed aloud, “You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. And whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace.” Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and maliciously accused the Jews. They declared to King Nebuchadnezzar, “O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree, that every man who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image. And whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into a burning fiery furnace. There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men, O king, pay no attention to you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought. So they brought these men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar answered and said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up? Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?”

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If this be so, our



God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with fury, and the expression of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. He ordered the furnace heated seven times more than it was usually heated. And he ordered some of the mighty men of his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace. Then these men were bound in their cloaks, their tunics, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the burning fiery furnace. Because the king's order was urgent and the furnace overheated, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell bound into the burning fiery furnace.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." He answered and said, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods."

Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the burning fiery furnace; he declared, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men. The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them. Nebuchadnezzar answered and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants, who trusted in him, and set aside the king's command, and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God. Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins, for there is no other god who is able to rescue in this way." Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

**P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*      **C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** *Let us pray. O God, Your Son protected faithful Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace of the king. Grant us protection in our time of testing that we would boldly confess Your name, reject all false worship, and live and die in confidence, knowing that we are safe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen.**



**C** All you works of the Lord, | bless the Lord — \*  
 praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.  
 You angels of the Lord, | bless the Lord: \*  
 Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.

**P** *You heavens, | bless the Lord; \*  
 all you waters above the heavens, | bless the Lord;  
 all you powers of the Lord, | bless the Lord: \*  
 Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.*

**C** You sun and moon, | bless the Lord; \*  
 you stars of heaven, | bless the Lord;  
 all you showers and dew, | bless the Lord: \*  
 Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.

**P** *All you winds of God, | bless the Lord; \*  
 you fire and heat, | bless the Lord;  
 you winter and summer, | bless the Lord: \*  
 Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.*

**C** You dews and frost, | bless the Lord; \*  
 you frost and cold, | bless the Lord;  
 you ice and snow, | bless the Lord: \*  
 Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.

**P** *You nights and days, | bless the Lord; \*  
 you light and darkness, | bless the Lord;  
 you lightnings and clouds, | bless the Lord: \*  
 Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.*

**C** Let the earth | bless the Lord; \*  
 you mountains and hills, | bless the Lord;  
 all you green things that grow  
 on the earth, | bless the Lord: \*  
 Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.

(continued)

**P** *You wells and springs, | bless the Lord;\**  
*you rivers and seas, | bless the Lord;*  
*you whales and all who move in the waters, | bless the Lord:\**  
*Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.*

**C** **All you birds of the air, | bless the Lord;\***  
**all you beasts and cattle, | bless the Lord;**  
**all you children of men, | bless the Lord:\***  
**Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.**

**P** *O Israel, | bless the Lord;\**  
*you priests of the Lord, | bless the Lord;*  
*you servants of the Lord, | bless the Lord:\**  
*Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.*

**C** **You spirits and souls of the righteous, | bless the Lord;\***  
**you pure and humble of heart, | bless the Lord;**  
**let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy | Spirit:\***  
**Praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.**



*The paschal candle is carried to the baptismal font.*

# *Service of Holy Baptism*

## BAPTISMAL ADDRESS

**P** *Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."*

*The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*

## THE FLOOD PRAYER

**P** *Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.*

*We pray that You would behold us according to Your boundless mercy and bless us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin would be drowned and die. Grant that we be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, we would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

## RENUNCIATION

**P** *Do you renounce the devil?*

**C** **Yes, I renounce him.**

**P** *Do you renounce all his works?*

**C** **Yes, I renounce them.**

**P** *Do you renounce all his ways?*

**C** **Yes, I renounce them.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**P** *Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?*

**C** **Yes, I believe.**

**P** *Do you 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?*

**C** **Yes, I believe.**

**P** *Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?*

**C** **Yes, I believe.**

## BLESSING

**P** *The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life everlasting.*

**C** **Amen.**

## PEACE

**P** *Peace ✠ be with you.*

**C** **Amen.**

*The paschal candle is returned to its place.*



# *Service of Prayer*

## LITANY OF THE RESURRECTION

**P** *O Lord,*

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** *O Christ,*

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** *O Lord,*

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,*

**C** **hear us.**

**P** *Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,"*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

(continued)

**P** *Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,*

**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**

**P** *By Your victory over sin and death,*

**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**

**P** *By the majesty of Your risen body,*

**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**

**P** *We poor sinners implore You*

**C** **to hear us, Lord Jesus.**

**P** *That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness,*

**C** **grant us, good Lord.**

**P** *That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving as we have been served by You,*

**C** **grant us, good Lord.**

**P** *That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,*

**C** **grant us, good Lord.**

**P** *Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,*

**C** **have mercy on us.**

**P** *Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,*

**C** **grant us Your peace.**

**P** *O Lord,*

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** *O Christ,*

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** *O Lord,*

**C** **have mercy. Amen.**

*(Organ or Instrumental Interlude)*

# Service of The Word

## EASTER ACCLAMATION

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## HYMN ..... # 463



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 Hail, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Chris - tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!  
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
All your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!  
When con - tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Now He lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!



## SALUTATION



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** *Let us pray. O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** Amen.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*John 20:1-18*

*Before the reading:*

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.*



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." <sup>3</sup>So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup>Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples went back to their homes.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup>And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup>Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord" – and that he had said these things to her.

*After the reading:*

**P** *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## HOMILY

### CONCLUDING COLLECT

**P** *Let us pray. O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** Amen.

### SALUTATION

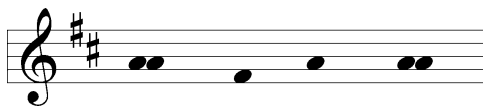


**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## BENEDICAMUS





1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
 2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry  
 3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,  
 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
 △ 5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.  
 The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.  
 And death, hell, and Sa - tan He van - quished, His foes.  
 Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.  
 Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
 In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,  
 The con - quer - ing Lord lifts His ban - ner on high;  
 For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;  
 Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.  
 For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.  
 He lives, yes, He lives, and will nev - er - more die.  
 Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.  
 With Fa - ther and Spir - it He ev - er shall reign.

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