

**March 30, 2024  
7:00pm**

**The Easter Vigil**

The Vigil of Easter is celebrated this evening as the conclusion to the sacred Triduum (Three Days). What began on Holy Thursday, and continued through Good Friday and Holy Saturday, now culminates in the initial celebration of the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ, from the dead – a celebration that will continue tomorrow morning and throughout the seven weeks of the Easter season.

The Vigil of Easter is typically comprised of six parts: 1) The Service of Light, 2) The Service of Readings, 3) The Service of Holy Baptism, 4) The Service of Prayer, 5) The Service of the Word, and 6) The Service of the Sacrament (which we will reserve for tomorrow morning).

The prominent theme is how as Christians we have been baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus (Romans 6). Tonight, we remember our own baptism as we witness a baptism and a confirmation. Just as Christ passes from death to life, we too pass into life eternal and out of darkness into His marvelous light.

## Service of Light

*We begin gathered around a newly kindled fire. From this fire we light a new Paschal Candle which will be used at baptisms and funerals throughout the year, reminding us that in baptism we have received Christ, who is the Light of the World.*

## Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to 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.

**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.

## Blessing 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.

*The year is traced on the paschal candle.*

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

*Five wax nails are placed into the paschal candle.*

- 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.

- 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.

*Make your way into the sanctuary. When all have arrived at their places, the ushers will pass the light from the Paschal Candle to the congregation.*

***Tip only the UNLIT candles.***

## Lux Christi

**A** The light of Christ.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

**A** The light of Christ.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*The bearer of the paschal candle lifts the paschal candle high.*

**A** The light of Christ.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Exsultet

**P** Rejoice now, all you heav'nly 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.



**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.

## Easter Proclamation

**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** A - men.

*All extinguish their candles.*

# Service of Readings

## Introduction to Readings

- A** 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 Flood

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

- A** A reading from Genesis, the seventh, eighth, and ninth chapters.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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, <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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.” <sup>5</sup>And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him....

<sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. <sup>13</sup>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, <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. <sup>16</sup>And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in.

<sup>17</sup>The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. <sup>18</sup>The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

<sup>6</sup>At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made <sup>7</sup>and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore.

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. <sup>15</sup>Then God said to Noah, <sup>16</sup>“Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. <sup>17</sup>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.” <sup>18</sup>So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him.

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>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.” <sup>12</sup>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: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”

**A** 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.

## Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

*Exodus 14:10–15:1*

**A** A reading from Exodus, the fourteenth and fifteenth chapters.

<sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>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? <sup>12</sup>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.” <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

<sup>15</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

<sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. <sup>24</sup>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, <sup>25</sup>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.”

<sup>26</sup>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.” <sup>27</sup>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. <sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>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.

<sup>30</sup>Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>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.

<sup>1</sup>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.”

**A** 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.

## Hymn: 925 Song of Moses and Israel

LSB 925

**P** *I will sing to the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.*

*Refrain*

I will sing to the LORD, for He has tri-umphed glo - rious -  
ly; the horse and his rid-er He has thrown in - to the sea.



<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my strength | and my song,\*  
and He has become my sal- | vation;

<sup>2</sup>**this is my God, and I will | praise Him,\***  
**my father's God, and I will ex- | alt Him.**

*Refrain*

<sup>3</sup>The LORD is a | man of war;\* the LORD | is His name.

<sup>4</sup>**Pharaoh's chariots and his host He cast in- | to the sea,\***  
**and his chosen officers were sunk in the | Red Sea.**

<sup>5</sup>The floods | covered them;\*  
they went down into the depths | like a stone.

<sup>6</sup>**Your right hand, O LORD, glorious | in power,\***  
**Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the | enemy.**

*Refrain*

<sup>7</sup>Who is like You, O LORD, a- | mong the gods?\*

Who is like You, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds,  
doing | wonders?

<sup>8</sup>**You stretched out Your | right hand;\***  
**the earth | swallowed them.**

<sup>9</sup>You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You | have redeemed;\*

You have guided them by Your strength to Your ho- | ly abode.

<sup>10</sup>**You will bring them in and plant them on Your own | mountain,\***  
**the place, O LORD, which You have made for | Your abode,**

<sup>11</sup>the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have es- | tablished.\*

The LORD will reign forever and | ever.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*Refrain*

## Jonah Preaches to Nineveh

*Jonah 1; 2:10–3:10*

**A** A reading from Jonah.

<sup>1</sup>Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,  
<sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” <sup>3</sup>But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

<sup>4</sup>But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. <sup>5</sup>Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. <sup>6</sup>So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.”

<sup>7</sup>And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. <sup>8</sup>Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” <sup>9</sup>And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” <sup>10</sup>Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

<sup>11</sup>Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. <sup>12</sup>He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” <sup>13</sup>Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore they called out to the LORD, “O LORD, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.” <sup>15</sup>So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. <sup>16</sup>Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

<sup>17</sup> And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. ... <sup>10</sup>And the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out upon the dry land.

**A** 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.

## Hymn: 462 All the Earth with Joy Is Sounding

LSB 462



1 All the earth with joy is sound - ing: Christ has ris - en  
2 Christ, the dev - il's might un - wind - ing, Leaves be - hind His  
3 Je - sus, au - thor of sal - va - tion, Shared in our hu -  
4 Praise the Lord, His reign com - menc - es, Reign of life and



from the dead! He, the great - er Jo - nah, bound - ing  
bor - rowed tomb. Strong - er He, the strong man bind - ing,  
man - i - ty; Crowned with ra - diant ex - al - ta - tion,  
lib - er - ty— Pas - chal Lamb, for our of - fens - es,



From the grave, His three - day bed, Wins the prize:  
Takes, dis - arms his house of doom; In the rout  
Now He shares His vic - to - ry! From His face  
Slain and raised to set us free! Ev - er - more



Death's de - mise— Songs of tri - umph fill the skies.  
Cast - ing out Pow'rs of dark - ness, sin, and doubt.  
Shines the grace Meant for all our fall - en race.  
Bow be - fore Christ, the Lord of Life a - dore!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Herbert Howells, 1892-1983

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# The Valley of Dry Bones

*Ezekiel 37:1-14*

**A** A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 37.

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, Your Son came as the Son of Man to breathe His Word and Spirit upon the dry, dead bones of Adam's children. Grant that we may hear Your holy Word, receive Your Spirit, and rise each day from the death of sin to live in newness of life before You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

# Hymn: 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It *LSB 594 sts. 1, 4-5*



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized  
 4 Death, you can - not end my glad-ness: I am bap-tized  
 5 There is noth - ing worth com-par - ing To this life-long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,  
 in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness  
 com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's  
 To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in  
 E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -



trea - sures man - y? I have one worth  
 dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance  
 waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -



more than an - y That brought me sal -  
 bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the  
 tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized



va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!  
 strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.  
 in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957  
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# Service of Holy Baptism

## Baptismal Address

**P** On this holiest of nights, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls His death and burial, rejoicing with great joy in the Gospel of His glorious and mighty resurrection from the dead. The apostle Paul says:

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

*Romans 6:1-11*

## 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 all according to Your boundless mercy and bless us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in us, which has been inherited from Adam and which we ourselves have committed since, 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 in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

**C** Yes, 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 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.

**P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**C** Yes, I 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.

## Blessing

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

**R** Amen.



*Easter has now arrived! The full lights of the sanctuary return to reveal the altar adorned with fragrant flowers and the gleaming white paraments of Easter joy!*

## Easter Acclamation

**P** Christ is risen!

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

*Mark 16:1-8*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” <sup>4</sup>And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. <sup>5</sup>And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup>And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**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.

# Hymn: 458 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands *LSB 458*

sts. 1, 4-6



1 Christ Je - sus lay in death's strong bands For our of - fens -  
4 It was a strange and dread - ful strife When life and death  
5 Here our true Pas - chal Lamb we see, Whom God so free -  
6 So let us keep the fes - ti - val To which the Lord



es giv - en; But now at God's right hand He stands  
con - tend - ed; The vic - to - ry re - mained with life,  
ly gave us; He died on the ac - curs - ed tree—  
in - vites us; Christ is Him - self the joy of all,



And brings us life from heav - en. There - fore let us  
The reign of death was end - ed. Ho - ly Scrip - ture  
So strong His love—to save us. See, His blood now  
The sun that warms and lights us. Now His grace to



joy - ful be And sing to God right thank - ful - ly  
plain - ly saith That death is swal - lowed up by death,  
marks our door; Faith points to it; death pass - es o'er,  
us im - parts E - ter - nal sun - shine to our hearts;



Loud songs of al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Its sting is lost for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia!  
And Sa - tan can - not harm us. Al - le - lu - ia!  
The night of sin is end - ed. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.  
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter  
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Philip Zielinski

## Litany of the Resurrection

**A** O Lord,

**C** have mercy.

**A** O Christ,

**C** have mercy.

**A** O Lord,

**C** have mercy.

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

**C** hear us.

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

**C** have mercy on us.

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

**C** have mercy on us.

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

**C** have mercy on us.

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

**C** have mercy on us.

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

**C** have mercy on us.

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

**C** have mercy on us.

**A** 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.

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

**C** have mercy on us.

- A** Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** 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.**
- A** Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,  
**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By Your victory over sin and death,  
**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By the majesty of Your risen body,  
**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** We poor sinners implore You  
**C** **to hear us, Lord Jesus.**
- A** 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.**
- A** That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving others as we have been served by You,  
**C** **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** 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.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**

- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** grant us Your peace.
- A** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** O Christ,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy. Amen.

## Collect

- P** 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.

## Blessing

- A** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** Amen.
- P** Christ is risen!  
**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

# Hymn: 473 Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free

LSB 473



1 Our Pas - chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac - ri - ficed. O keep  
 2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate The feast; let mal - ice die.  
 3 Let all our deeds, u - nan - i - mous, Con - fess Him as our Lord



The feast of free - dom gal - lant - ly; Let al - le - lu - ias leap:  
 Let love grow strong a - new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie.  
 Who by the Spir - it lives in us, The Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.

*Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A -



gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a-loud: Al-le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

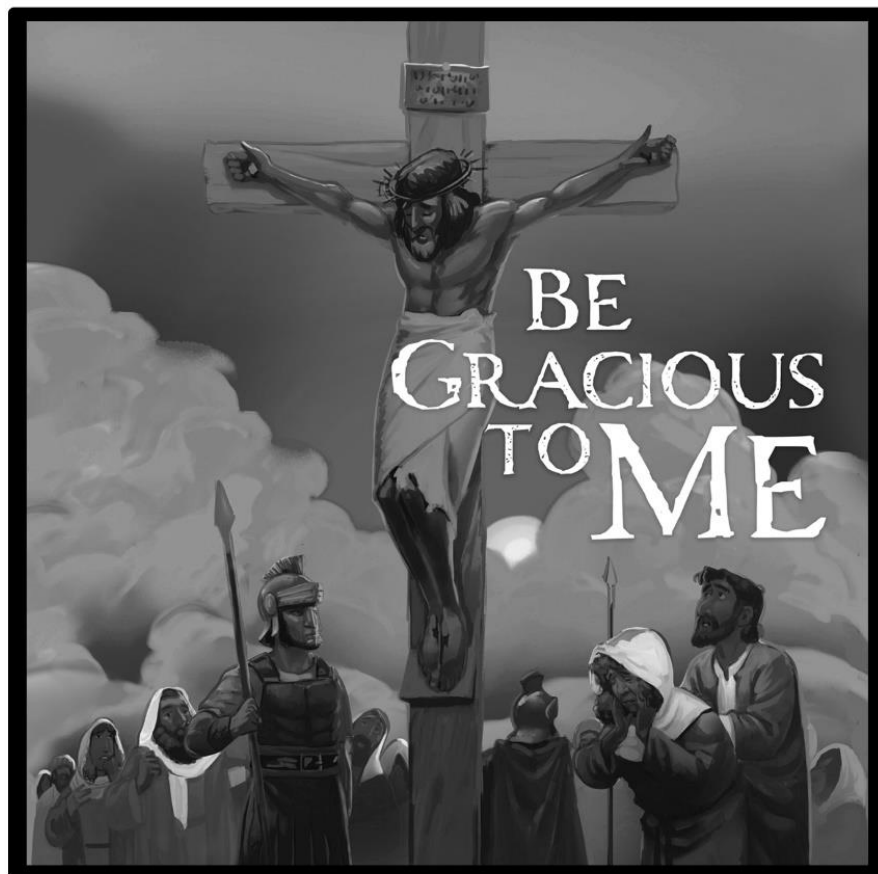
Tune: Walter L. Pelz, 1926

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# WORSHIP FOR LENT

## **Ash Wednesday, February 14**

11:30am - Worship (Study @ 10am)

7:00pm - Worship (Supper 6-7pm)

Lord's Supper celebrated at both services

## **Maundy Thursday**

(Divine Service with the Lord's Supper)

March 28, 11:30am & 7:00pm

## **Good Friday**

March 29, 11:30am & 7:00pm

## **Wednesdays in Lent**

11:30am - Worship (Study @ 10am)

7:00pm - Worship (Supper 6-7pm)

## **Easter Vigil**

Saturday, March 30, 7:00pm

# EASTER SUNDAY: MARCH 31

8am & 10:30am - Festival Divine Service

9:15am Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt

**[www.spvc.org](http://www.spvc.org)**