

# H O L Y   C O M M U N I O N



## The Great Vigil of Easter

*April 4, 2026 | 8:00PM*

Saint Gabriel's Episcopal Church | Marion, Massachusetts

# Easter Vigil

The liturgy intended as the first (and arguably, the primary) celebration of Easter in the BCP (pp. 284-95). It is also known as the Great Vigil of Easter. The service begins in darkness, sometime between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter, and consists of four parts: The Service of Light (kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet); The Service of Lessons (readings from the Hebrew Scriptures interspersed with psalms, canticles, and prayers); Christian Initiation (Holy Baptism) or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows; and the Eucharist. Through this liturgy, the BCP recovers an ancient practice of keeping the Easter feast. Believers would gather in the hours of darkness ending at dawn on Easter to hear scripture and offer prayer. This night-long service of prayerful watching anticipated the baptisms that would come at first light and the Easter Eucharist. Easter was the primary baptismal occasion for the early church to the practical exclusion of all others. This practice linked the meanings of Christ's dying and rising to the understanding of baptism.

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# The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

## OPENING PRAYER

*In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant may address the people in these or similar words*

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

*The Celebrant may say the following prayer*

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## OPENING VERSICLE *Versicle and Response: The Light of Christ*

**S 68**

*The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing*



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

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

*If candles have been distributed to members of the congregation, they are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time. Other candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the Altar, may also be lighted.*

*The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.*

## EXSULTET

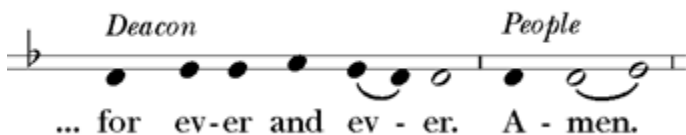
### *The Exsultet: Responses*

**S 69**

*Then the Deacon, standing near the Candle, sings the Exsultet, as follows*

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King. Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King. Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,



... for ev-er and ev - er. A - men.

*The Deacon continues.*

*Deacon* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

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

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Deacon

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

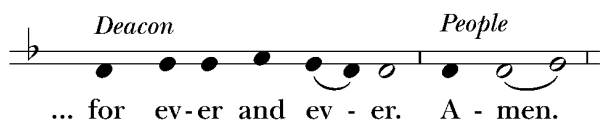
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns



*It is customary that the Paschal Candle burn at all services from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant may introduce the Scripture readings in these or similar words*

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

*At least two of the following Lessons are read, of which one is always the Lesson from Exodus. After each Lesson, the Psalm or Canticle listed, or some other suitable psalm, canticle, or hymn may be sung. A period of silence may be kept; and the Collect provided, or some other suitable Collect, may be said.*

*A homily may be preached after any of the Readings.*

## FIRST READING: ABRAHAM'S SACRIFICE OF ISAAC: Genesis 22:1-18

<sup>1</sup>God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>2</sup>He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." <sup>6</sup>Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. <sup>7</sup>Isaac said to his father Abraham,

“Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”<sup>8</sup> Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called that place “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

<sup>15</sup>The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, <sup>16</sup>and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, <sup>18</sup>and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

## THE SERMON

The Rev. David Fredrickson

### FIRST RESPONSE: Psalm 16

<sup>1</sup>Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*  
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord,  
my good above all other.”

<sup>2</sup>*All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble among the people.*

<sup>3</sup>But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup>*Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.*

<sup>5</sup>O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.

<sup>6</sup>*My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.*

<sup>7</sup>I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.

<sup>8</sup>*I have set the LORD always before me; \*  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.*

<sup>9</sup>My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup>*For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.*

<sup>11</sup>You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

### FIRST COLLECT

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

*God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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

<sup>10</sup>As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. <sup>11</sup>They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? <sup>12</sup>Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." <sup>13</sup>But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. <sup>14</sup>The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

<sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. <sup>16</sup>But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. <sup>17</sup>Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. <sup>18</sup>And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

<sup>19</sup>The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. <sup>20</sup>It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

<sup>21</sup>Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup>The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup>At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. <sup>25</sup>He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

<sup>26</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." <sup>27</sup>So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. <sup>28</sup>The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

<sup>30</sup>Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

<sup>15:20</sup>Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. <sup>21</sup>And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo-ple go;  
 2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;  
 3 They jour-neyed on at his com - mand, let my peo-ple go;  
 4 Oh, let us all from bond - age flee, let my peo-ple go;

op - pressed so hard they — could not stand, let my peo-ple go.  
 to lead the chil-dren of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.  
 and came at length to — Ca - naan's land, let my peo-ple go.  
 and let us all in — Christ be free, let my peo-ple go.

*Refrain*

Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land;

tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo-ple go.

SECOND COLLECT

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

*O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**THIRD READING: GOD'S PRESENCE IN A RENEWED ISRAEL: Isaiah 55:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
    come to the waters;  
and you that have no money,  
    come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
    without money and without price.  
<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
    and your labor for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
    and delight yourselves in rich food.  
<sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me;  
    listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
    my steadfast, sure love for David.  
<sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
    a leader and commander for the peoples.  
<sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
    and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
    for he has glorified you.  
<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
    call upon him while he is near;  
<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way,  
    and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,  
    and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.  
<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
    nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.  
<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
    so are my ways higher than your ways  
    and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
    and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
    giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
    it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
    and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

**THIRD RESPONSE: Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah**

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*  
    I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
***For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
    and he will be my Savior.***  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
    from the springs of salvation.  
***And on that day you shall say, \****  
    ***Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;***  
Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
    see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

***Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.***

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

### **THIRD COLLECT**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

***O God, you led your ancient people by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we, who serve you now on earth, may come to the joy of that heavenly Jerusalem, where all tears are wiped away and where your saints for ever sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

### **BAPTISMAL RENEWAL INVITATION**

*The Celebrant may first address the people in these or similar words, all standing*

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

### **THE PRAYERS FOR THE BAPTIZED**

On this most Holy Night, let us pray for all those who will receive the Sacrament of new birth and for ourselves as we prepare to renew our own Baptismal vows, saying, "Lord hear our prayer."

Deliver us, O Lord, from the way of sin and death. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Open our hearts to your grace and truth. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Send us into the world in witness to your love. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Bring us to the fulness of your peace and glory. ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles and martyrs and all the saints; and we pray that, encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers, and strengthened by their fellowship, we also may be partakers of the eternal life of the saints in light, through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

### **PROCESSION TO THE FONT**

### **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

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

*People* ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

*Celebrant*

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

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

*People* ***I do.***

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

*People* ***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.***

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People* ***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.***

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

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

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

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

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

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

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

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

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

*People* ***I will, with God's help.***

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The musical score is written on three systems of a single treble clef staff. The first system contains the first line of lyrics. The second system contains the second and third lines of lyrics. The third system contains the fourth, fifth, and sixth lines of lyrics. The music consists of chords and single notes, with some phrasing slurs. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

1 Lord Je - sus, Sun of Right - eous - ness, shine  
 4 Now near - er draws the day of days when  
 5 The u - ni - verse your glo - ry shows, blest

1 in our hearts, we pray; dis - pel the gloom that  
 4 par - a - dise shall bloom, when we shall be at  
 5 Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son; we shall ac - claim your

1 shades our minds and be to us as day.  
 4 one with you, Lord, ris - en from the tomb.  
 5 ma - jes - ty, e - ter - nal Three in One.

## At the Eucharist

### EASTER ACCLAMATION

*The candles at the Altar may now be lighted from the Paschal Candle.*

*The Celebrant may say to the people*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
 might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
 praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
 on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of  
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## COLLECT FOR EASTER VIGIL

*The Celebrant then says*

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

***O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

## The Lessons

### EPISTLE: Romans 6:3-11

<sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

### PSALM: Psalm 114

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah!

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

***<sup>2</sup>Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.***

<sup>3</sup>The sea beheld it and fled; \*

Jordan turned and went back.

***<sup>4</sup>The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.***

<sup>5</sup>What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*

O Jordan, that you turned back?

***<sup>6</sup>You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?***

<sup>7</sup>Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

***<sup>8</sup>Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.***

### SEQUENCE HYMN

*Christ the Lord is risen again*

#184 v 1 *Christ ist erstanden*

### GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

*All stand.*

*Deacon*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

<sup>1</sup>After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## SEQUENCE HYMN

*Christ the Lord is risen again*

#184 v 3 *Christ ist erstanden*

## THE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

On this holy night of resurrection and joy, let us pray for the church and the world, saying: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

O God, we give thanks for the goodness of creation, for the victory of resurrection, and for the grace of redemption. We praise you for leading us from darkness into light, and for bringing us through the waters of death into new life in you: Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer***

That the church, celebrating the resurrection with joy, may bring the light of Christ into the world: Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer***

That our community, renewed this night through word and sacrament, may be strengthened in the covenant of our baptism: Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer***

That the people of the world, remembering the source of creation, may care for the waters of the earth and for all living things. Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer***

That the leaders of nations, knowing their power, may bring peace and justice to the world: Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer***

That all who suffer, recalling the mystery of Christ crucified and risen, may be comforted, especially those on our parish prayer list and those we remember at this time either silently or aloud.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer***

In thanksgiving for the saints and martyrs, for the witnesses of the resurrection, and for all who have passed over from the darkness of death into the glorious light of Christ, especially those who are honored this evening by the gift of the Easter flowers: Lord, in your mercy, ***Hear our prayer***

*The celebrant adds the concluding collect*

## THE PEACE

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*                ***And also with you.***

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

# The Holy Communion

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY HYMN      *Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!*      #199 *St. Kevin*

## FESTAL DOXOLOGY

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

Praise God, from whom all bles - sings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - le -  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly  
Ghost! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## The Great Thanksgiving

*The People remain standing.*

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.

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

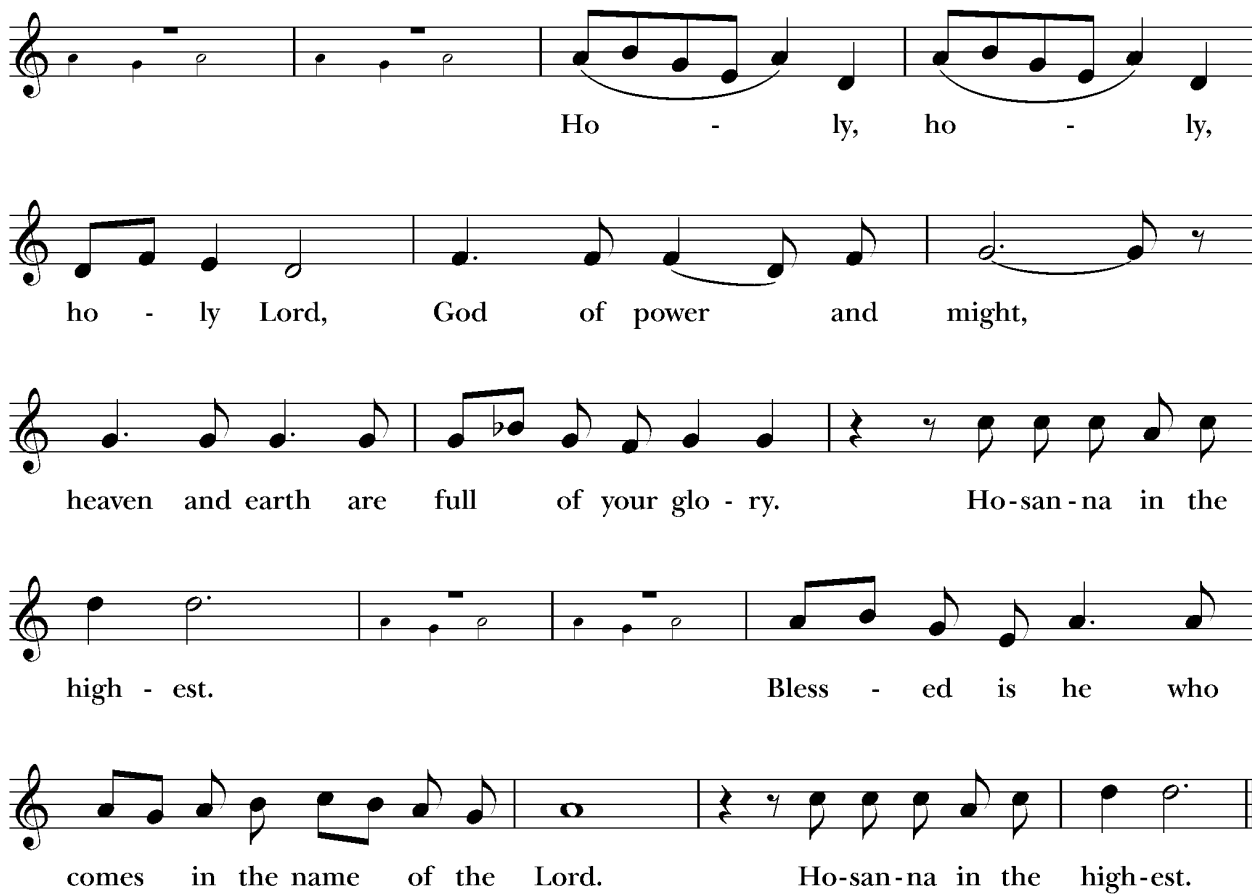
*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*      ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*Celebrant*      It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

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

high - est. Bless - ed is he who

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

*The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Gabriel and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 364)

*People and Celebrant*

## The Breaking of the Bread

AGNUS DEI

*Jesus, Lamb of God*

S 165 Mathias

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy  
on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy  
on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

## FRACTION ANTHEM

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

## INVITATION

COMMUNION INTERLUDE

*At Easter-tide*

Charles Villiers Stanford

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

***God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.***

**BLESSING**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

***He is risen, he is risen!***

**# 180 *Unser Herrscher***

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People*

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

**POSTLUDE**

**Chorale Prelude on *Gelobt sei Gott***

**Healey Willan**

*Clergy & Staff*

**Interim Priest:** The Rev. David Fredrickson;

**Deacon:** The Rev. Kristine Holmes;

**Director of Music:** David N. Burnham

*Assisting at Today's Liturgy*

**Ushers:** Russell Barre; Louis Coffin; **Chalice Bearer:** Scott Bienz; **Lector:** Heather Bienz;  
**Acolyte:** James Russell; **Altar Guild:** Vanessa Neely, Maureen O'Donnell, & Pat Voigt

# Holy Week Schedule

## April 5<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday

8:00 AM: Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 AM: Holy Eucharist Rite II \*

All are welcome! Come as you are.

### LIVE STREAMING

This is available for select services. On the schedule to the right, an asterisk (\*) denotes that the service will be live streamed. Visit [www.stgabrielsmarion.org](http://www.stgabrielsmarion.org) for information on how to view these services.

### ACCESSIBILITY

- Wheelchair access is via the side entrance.



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