



## The Great Vigil of Easter

Saturday, April 4, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

**SINCE ANCIENT TIMES**, the Church has gathered to remember the Passion (the suffering and death) of our Lord Jesus Christ, as well as to celebrate his resurrection from the dead. This is the central truth of our Christian faith: that Jesus Christ was crucified, died and was buried, and on the third day he rose again from the dead.

The Great Vigil of Easter moves us from the sadness of Good Friday to the joy of Easter, and tonight we celebrate Christ's passing over from death to life. The liturgy of the Easter Vigil has four parts: The Service of Light, The Service of Readings, The Service of Holy Baptism, and The Service of Holy Communion. Through these, we remember important parts of our faith story: the Creation, the Flood, the testing of Abraham, the Miracle at the Sea, and our new life in Christ. All of these point us to Jesus, who is both our sacrifice for sin and our model of the godly life. Tonight we celebrate our own passing over from the darkness of despair to the new light of joy and freedom in the risen Christ.

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### THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

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#### “From Darkness to Light”

*We gather outside for the lighting of the new fire of Easter.*

**P** Dear friends in Christ, this is the night of the passover of our Lord, the night of rescue from death and deliverance from the slavery of sin. This is the night to recall God's ordering of creation, and to remember our first parents' fall from grace into sin, the sin which we have inherited. This is the night to remember Noah and his family, borne up by the waters of the flood, and to recall our own rebirth by water and the Word. This is the night to hear how God spared Isaac, the only son of Abraham, and redeemed us by the sacrifice of Jesus, the only Son of God. This is the night to hear of the sacrificial lamb, whose blood was

shed for the children of Israel, and of Jesus, the true Lamb of God whose blood cleanses us from all sin. This is the night to hear of Israel's rescue from the waters of the sea, and our rescue from death in the cleansing waters of Holy Baptism. This is the night we sit in darkness, the darkness of the tomb, the darkness of our death, to wait and watch for the light of the risen Christ who sheds his light on our world and makes all things new.

**P** May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

*From the new fire of Easter, the Paschal candle is lit. While worshipers' candles are lighted,  
please join the choir in singing "Within Our Darkest Night"*

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. The first system starts with a tempo marking of quarter note = 63 and a dynamic marking of *p*. The second system has dynamic markings of *mf* and *p*. The third system has dynamic markings of *pp* and *fine*. The score includes chords (B, Em, D, G, C, Am) and lyrics in both English and French.

**System 1:**  
 Chords: B, Em, D  
 Tempo: ♩ = 63  
 Dynamic: *p*  
 English: With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a -  
 French: Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés al - lu - me le feu qui ne s'é - teint ja -

**System 2:**  
 Chords: G, C, G, D, G, Em, C, Am  
 Dynamic: *mf*, *p*  
 English: way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the  
 French: mais, ne - s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri - tés, al - lu - me le

**System 3:**  
 Chords: B, Em, Am, B, Em, Am, B  
 Dynamic: *pp*, *fine*  
 English: fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est  
 French: feu qui ne s'é - teint ja - mais, ne s'é - teint ja - mais. Dans nos ob - scu - ri -

**P** Let us pray:

Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Entrance Hymn

“The Light of Christ” (Marty Haugen)

*The procession forms and moves into the church, following the Paschal candle, minister, and choir.*

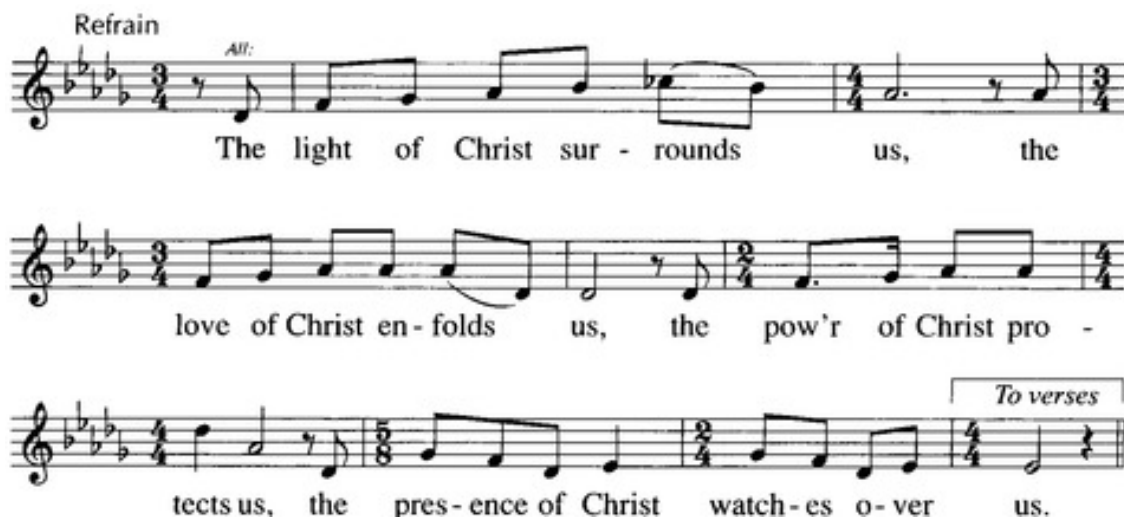
*The cantor will intone the proclamation several times and the people will sing the reply.*



A musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of a series of quarter notes: G4, A4, B-flat4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The notes are grouped into two measures of four notes each.

**A** The light of Christ! **C** Thanks be to God!

*Once the congregation has assembled in the sanctuary, we sing “The Light of Christ”:*



Refrain

All:

The light of Christ sur - rounds us, the  
love of Christ en - folds us, the pow'r of Christ pro -  
tects us, the pres - ence of Christ watch - es o - ver us.

To verses

The musical notation is in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features a 3/4 time signature for the first two lines and a 4/4 time signature for the third line. The melody is written on a single staff with lyrics underneath. The first line starts with a rest followed by a quarter note G4, then quarter notes A4, B-flat4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The second line continues with quarter notes G5, F5, E5, D5, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4. The third line starts with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes F5, E5, D5, C5, B-flat4, A4, G4. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

*Please extinguish your candle at the conclusion of “The Light of Christ.”  
Please be seated.*

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## THE SERVICE OF READINGS

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### “From Bondage to Freedom”

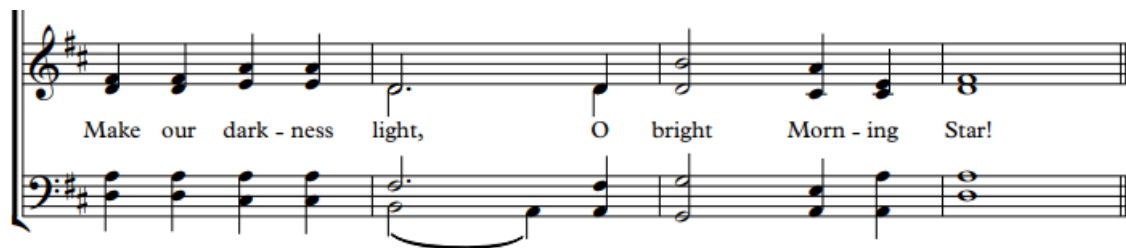
**L** The story of salvation begins with God’s creation of all things, and continues with our first parents' fall from grace into sin. As God’s loving grace reached out to them, so his grace continues to reach out to us. The blood of the lamb which delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt points us to the blood of the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. As God destroyed Pharaoh's army at the sea, so God has destroyed and defeated sin, death and the power of Satan and saved us through the water of Holy Baptism. Hear the story of salvation and know that it is our story, for we, too, are God's children. As the loving grace of God reached out to Adam and Eve, the children of Israel, so even today does God's loving grace reach out to us through the new covenant of Holy Baptism which God has established through the sacrifice on the cross by the blood of his Son, Jesus Christ.

**The Creation:** A Reading from Genesis 1 and 2

*Silence for meditation*

*Prayer*

### **Congregational Antiphon:**



*Choir:*

*For the word of the Lord is right,  
and all his works are sure.*

*He loves righteousness and justice;  
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.*

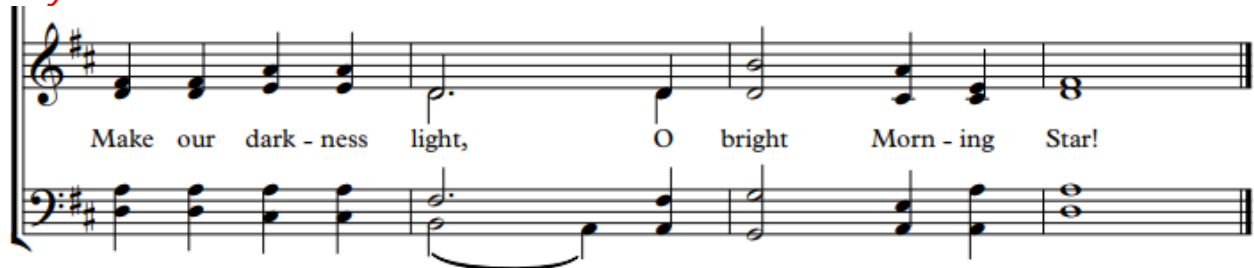
*~Ps. 33:4-5*

**Repeat Congregational Antiphon**

## **The Flood:** Readings from Genesis 7, 8 and 9

*Silence for meditation*

*Prayer*



*Choir:*

*There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.*

*God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;  
God shall help her at the break of day.*

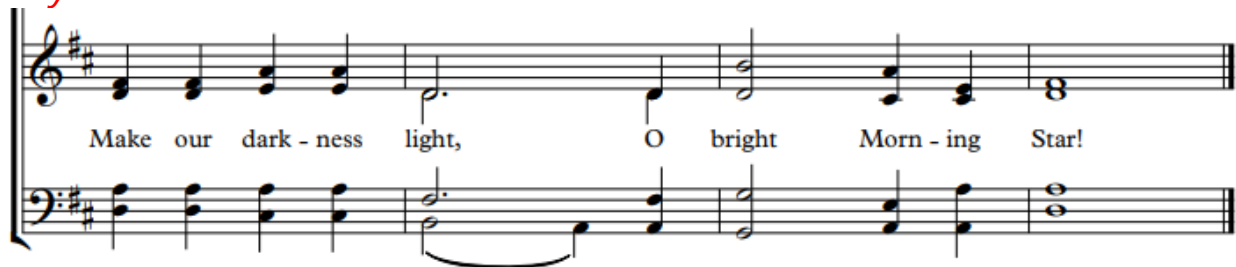
*~ Ps. 46: 5-6*

***Repeat Congregational Antiphon***

## **The Testing Of Abraham:** A Reading from Genesis 22

*Silence for meditation*

*Prayer*



*Choir:*

*I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me, night after night.*

*I have set the Lord always before me;  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.*

*~ Ps. 16: 7-8*

***Repeat Congregational Antiphon***

## **God Delivers Israel at the Red Sea:** A Reading from Exodus 14 and 15

*Silence for meditation*

*Prayer*

Make our dark - ness light, O bright Morn - ing Star!

*Choir:*

*The Lord is my strength and my refuge;  
The Lord has become my Savior.  
This is my God and I will praise him,  
The God of my people and I will exalt him.*

*~ Canticle 8: The Song of Moses*

**Repeat Congregational Antiphon**

## **New Life In Christ:** A Reading from Romans 6

*Silence for meditation*

*Prayer*

Make our dark - ness light, O bright Morn - ing Star!

*Choir:*

*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.*

*~ Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah*

**Repeat Congregational Antiphon**

## **Congregational Response** *(please stand to sing)*

"The Lord Has Triumphed Gloriously"

**The Lord has triumphed gloriously!  
For he has drowned beneath the sea the enemy who sought us.  
The Lord is now my strength and song;  
Glory and praise to him belong who unto freedom brought us.  
Praise him! Raise him songs victorious,  
Grand and glorious, Ransomed nation: Praise the God of your  
salvation!**

**For your right hand, O Lord of might,  
Has put the enemy to flight. In mercy you have freed us.  
Like watered plants now let us grow  
Within your house, your praise to show: With steadfast mercy lead  
us.  
Draw nigh, Most High! Let your promise  
Rest upon us, Failing never, For the Lord shall reign forever!**

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### **THE REMEMBRANCE OF HOLY BAPTISM**

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#### **"From Death to Life"**

**P** Tonight we recall our passover from death to life, accomplished for us and for all people by Christ, and given to us in Holy Baptism.

Let us pray:

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father, we give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain all living things. By the waters of the Flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage

to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon all who have been baptized that we may be given new life. As you have washed away our sin by this cleansing water, make us inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Remembrance and Affirmation of Baptismal Covenant**

**P** Holy Baptism is the means by which our heavenly Father creates new sons and daughters. In the waters of Baptism we are joined to the death and resurrection of our Lord. Born again by water and the Spirit, we are made members of the Body of Christ. Living in fellowship with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God. I call upon you, therefore, to affirm the solemn vows and promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced the devil and all his works and ways, and were made members of Christ's Church.

I now ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church in which we are baptized.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

**C I do.**

**P** Do you believe in God the Father?

**C Yes, I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

**L** Do you believe in God the Son?

- C** Yes, 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 into hell. 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.
- P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C** Yes, 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.
- L** Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
- C** Yes, with God's help.
- P** Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
- C** Yes, with God's help.
- L** Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
- C** Yes, with God's help.
- P** Will you seek to serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
- C** Yes, with God's help.
- L** Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
- C** Yes, with God's help.
- P** We have been buried with Christ by baptism into death;
- C** So that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
- L** For if we have been united with him in a death like his;
- C** We shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

**P** Brothers and sisters, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**C** **We live and serve in the light and love of Christ.**

**P** 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 his grace to life eternal, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

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## RITE OF ASPERSION

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*Using water taken from the Baptismal font, the worship leaders will sprinkle water upon the congregation as a visible sign of the new life given in Baptism. The following hymns will be sung:*

“We Know That Christ Is Raised”

(LSB 603)



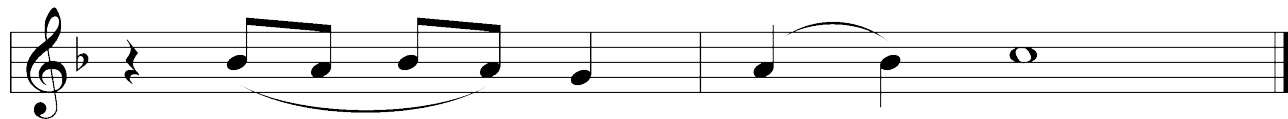
1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
2 We share by wa - ter in His sav - ing death.  
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.



Em-braced by death, He broke its fear - ful hold;  
Re - born, we share with Him an Eas - ter life  
The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the Church of God.



And our de - spair He turned to blaz - ing joy.  
As liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.  
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.



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

Text: John B. Geyer, 1932, alt.

Tune: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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Tune: Public domain



You winds of God, bless the Lord;  
you fire and heat, bless the Lord;  
you winter and summer, bless the Lord— *R/*

You dews and frost, bless the Lord;  
you frost and cold, bless the Lord;  
you ice and snow, bless the Lord— *R/*

You nights and days, bless the Lord;  
you light and darkness, bless the Lord;  
you lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord— *R/*

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— *R/*

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— *R/*

All you birds of the air, bless the Lord;  
all you beasts and cattle, bless the Lord;  
all you children of mortals, bless the Lord— *R/*

You people of God, bless the Lord;  
you priests of the Lord, bless the Lord;  
you servants of the Lord, bless the Lord— *R/*

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— *R/*

## **Anthem**

“Alleluia” (arr. Mack Wilberg)  
(guest vocalists)

# Hymn of Praise



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



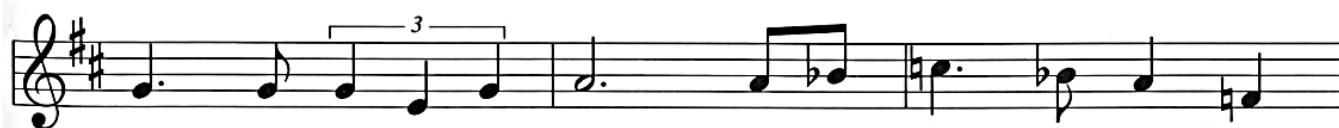
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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

**G Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**G** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

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

**L** We praise you, heavenly Father, and your Son, Christ our Lord, through whom you have saved and redeemed us. Through him you first created us, and now have still more gloriously rescued us from sin and death.

**G** **Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you, after your resurrection from the dead, once revealed yourself to your disciples.**

**Congregational Response** "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" (LSB 633)

**G** *(sung)* **At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious king,**

**Who has washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side.**

**Alleluia!**

**Where the paschal blood is poured death's dread angel  
sheathes the sword; Israel's hosts triumphant go through the  
wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!**

## Eucharistic Prayer

**P** Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you. You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**C** *(sung)* **Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread; With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!**

**P** Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**C** *(sung)* **Praise we him, whose love divine gives his sacred blood for wine,  
Gives his body for the feast—Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!**

**P** Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

**C** *(sung)* **Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise, And your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!**

## Lord's Prayer

**P** Now, with all the faithful who ever were, are, and will be, with all creation in all time, with joy we pray:

**C** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

## **First Holy Communion**

*Those young people who will be receiving their first Holy Communion during this service include the following:*

Liam Hutton

Aliyah Pleisch

Sean Wilson

*The Body and Blood of Christ strengthen these young people in their faith to life eternal!*

## **Music at the Distribution**

"Easter Rejoicing"

(Jonathan Willcocks)

Choir of St. John's

*Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!*

*To all the world glad news we bring:*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Lord of life is risen this day! Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Bring flowers of song, bedeck the way. Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Let all the world rejoice and say, "Alleluia, alleluia!"*

*Praise we in songs of victory, Alleluia, alleluia!*

*That love, that life which cannot die, Alleluia, alleluia!*

*And sing with hearts uplifted high, sing alleluia, alleluia!*

*Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord,  
the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

# "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

(LSB 469)



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" Saints on earth and an - gels say;  
2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won;  
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.  
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.  
Lo! Our Sun's e - clipse is o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.  
Death in vain for - bids His rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.  
Once He died our souls to save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Soar we now where Christ has led;  
Foll'wing our exalted Head.  
Made like Him, like Him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!  
Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!  
Thee we greet triumphant now:  
Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Tune: French, 13th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

# "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done"

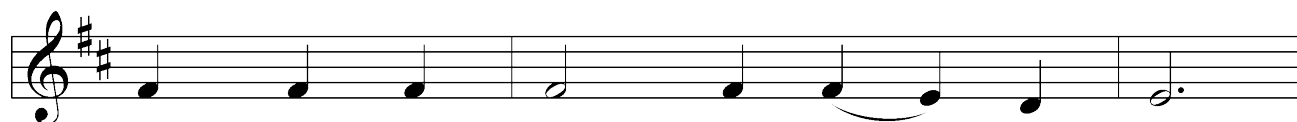
(LSB 464)



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



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;  
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,  
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;  
But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.  
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.

*The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.*



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!

4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;  
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.  
Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,  
From death's dread sting Thy servants free  
That we may live and sing to Thee.

Alleluia! Refrain

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909, alt.  
Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525-1594, adapt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **Dismissal**

**P** The Body and Blood of our risen Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** **Amen.**

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

**L** Let us pray:

Life-giving God, we give you thanks for nourishing us with the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation, the true Body and Blood of Jesus our risen Savior. As you send us into the world, guard us from the power of evil, keep us in unity with all your people, and by your Spirit move us to testify to your grace in our words and actions; through Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## **Blessing**

**P** Almighty God, who raised our Lord Jesus to life, lift you up and restore you to wholeness.

Christ, the Morning Star who is risen from the dead and whose light never ends, scatter the shadows and fill you with light.

God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh you in the gift of Baptism this night and always, that you may be his witnesses in the world.

**C** **Amen.**

## **Sending**

**L** Go in peace. Share the good news!

**C** **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**

## Recessional Hymn "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!" (LSB 475)



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to  
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry That love, that life which  
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, And sing to - day with



of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 strew His way; Let all the world re - joice and say:  
 can - not die, And sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
 one ac - cord The life laid down, the life re - stored:



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

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570-1615

Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd., admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn

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Tune: Public domain

## Postlude

"A selection by the String Quartet"



**Rejoice in the good news of Christ's resurrection: Christ is risen!  
 He is risen indeed!**



**Sunday, April 5**

8:00AM & 10:30AM\* - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday  
(Holy Communion)

***NOTE: livestreaming available for service times with an \****

**Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!**

*Our joy at Jesus' victory of sin, death, and the grave overflows on this  
blessed*

*Easter morning! A brass ensemble will provide glorious music to lead us in  
singing praises to our risen Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Between the worship services, Easter breakfast will be offered as well as  
egg hunts for children.*

*For Easter Sunday, remember to bring spring flowers to "flower"  
the cross in the church entrance.*



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## Serving this evening

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Celebrant	Pastor Meehan
Lay Assistant	Steve Tracy
Communion Lay Assistant	Steve Rempe
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Christian Pleisch
Crucifer	Sofi Hills
Readers	Trevor Hasset – “The Creation” Angela Schulze – “The Flood” Judson Ray – “The Testing of Abraham” Charlotte Hills – “God Delivers Isreal at the Red Sea” Nik Pleisch – “New Life in Christ”
Ushers	Jim Lofgren Greg Miller
Altar Care	Jean Gilbertson
AV Team	Mark Gilbertson Jurgen Gobien
Fire Monitors	Troop 1107
	✝ ✝ ✝

*Thank you to our guest singers and string quartet for gracing us with their exceptional talents and uplifting music during this special Holy Saturday service tonight.*

## **Acknowledgments**

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Portions of the service are from "This Is the Night!" an Easter Vigil service prepared by Arden W. Mead from an original service by Arthur Halbardier, David Johnson, and Richard E. Mueller, published by Creative Communications for the Parish, 10300 Watson Rd., St. Louis, MO 63127. Copyright 1990

*'Easter Rejoicing'* by Jonathan Willcocks (1994 *The Sacred Music Press*; 2013 Roger Dean Publishing company; words by Cyril A. Arlington (1958))



## Easter Flowers and Plants



The **Palm Plants** are given by Barbara Pate  
in memory of Bud Pate, Grace Green, and Michael Brown.

### **Donors**

Megan Askew  
Jeannette Bottomley  
T Carter  
Maritza Guerra  
Gilbertson Family  
Cathy Long  
Melissa Malinowski  
Meehan Family  
Antoinette Shappell  
Strawderman Family  
  
Ethel Sullivan  
Swicord Family  
Lauren & Drew Tomczyk  
Tracy Family  
Patricia Wangeman  
Judith Weikart

### **Dedication**

Honoring the blessing of family  
Dedicated to my daughter, Susan  
In loving memory of our Mama, Eleanor Carter  
To the Glory of God  
In celebration of our Risen Savior  
To the Glory of God  
In celebration of our Risen Savior  
In honor of the Risen Christ  
To the Glory of God  
In honor of Cole Fritz and  
In memory of Cole Stephen  
In honor of Loved Ones  
In memory of Hazel and Herb Tiede  
Ellen and Steve Tomczyk. Happy Easter.  
In memory of loved ones  
Dedicated in memory of Richard Wangeman  
In honor of Ben and Sydney Weikart



**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**5952 Franconia Road**  
**Alexandria, VA 22310**



*A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

### **St. John's Lutheran Church Staff**

Pastor	Rev. John Meehan
Director of Discipleship	Jennifer Hills, DCE
Director of Music	David Leahey
Office/Facilities Administrator	Michelle May
Finance Administrator	Jennifer Smith

### **Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) Staff**

Director of ECEC	Amanda Parks
ECEC Administrator	Kari Wells

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