



*The Vigil of Easter*

*April 4, 2026*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of the Holy Trinity*

## Holy Saturday

# *The Vigil of Easter*

The Church began to celebrate her redemption on Maundy Thursday and continued through Good Friday. In this Vigil of Easter, all that has gone on before is reversed: darkness turns to light, mourning becomes great joy, our waiting merges into a present reality.

This vigil is a celebration in four distinct parts. First, NEW FIRE is kindled and carried into the darkened church with the Paschal Candle, and the light is spread throughout the congregation for the Easter Proclamation, the deacon's Exultet. A liturgy of READINGS, from the prophecies to God's final saving deed in Jesus the Christ, follows the service of light. The blessing of water for HOLY BAPTISM, and the affirmation of our baptismal vows (and sprinkling) all celebrate the identity of the Christian as one with Christ's passover from Death into Life. Luther's litany is sung while the church is prepared for the celebration of the HOLY EUCHARIST. The Light of Christ has completely lighted up the darkness of our lives.

The Church of Christ asks us this night to wait, to exult, to praise, to proclaim, and finally to become one with and celebrate the Victory of the Lord of Life. So far-reaching is our joy, that Christians greet one another during this night, and for the great Fifty Days, until Pentecost, with the words "CHRIST IS RISEN!" and return the greeting "HE IS RISEN INDEED!"



The congregation is asked to gather in the Library/Lounge until the time of the Vigil. **Please take a worship booklet and a candle.** After a brief explanation of the liturgy, the ministers will lead the congregation to the front steps (weather permitting) for the beginning of the Vigil. Please keep the silence, for this is indeed a Holy Night! Each member of the congregation, upon entering the nave, will receive light taken from the Paschal Candle. Please pass the light, **tipping only the unlighted candle.**

## *Service of Light*

*When the assembly has arrived at the place of the new fire the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*The new fire is struck.*

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister traces the inscription on the paschal candle, which is held by the deacon.*

Christ, yesterday and today,

*Trace the sign of the cross.*

the beginning and the ending.

*Trace the Greek letters Alpha and Omega.*

To Christ belongs all time

*Trace the first numeral.*

and all ages;

*Trace the second numeral.*

to Christ belongs glory and dominion

*Trace the third numeral.*

now and forever.

*Trace the fourth numeral.*

**Amen.**

*The Paschal Candle is lit from the New Fire.*

The light of Christ, rising in glory,

**Dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.**

*The procession forms, led by the thurifer (bearing incense) and the deacon carrying the Paschal Candle. Incense is a mixture of pine and other resins burned for use in worship.*

*Its use in the church is traced to the 4th century. One of several meanings of incense use is: a sign of honor rendered to God, God's people, and holy things (e.g. Paschal Candle, altar, communion elements). The assembly follows the cantor/choir in procession. All move in silence to the entrances of the church. DURING THE PROCESSION LIGHT FROM THE PASCHAL CANDLE WILL BE PASSED UNTIL THE PEOPLE'S CANDLES ARE ALL LIGHTED.*

*During the procession the deacon will stop and sing **three times**, each time on a higher pitch, with the assembly responding:*

ALL:  
 W The light of Christ. R Thanks be to God

*The congregation remains standing for the Easter Proclamation (Exultet), sung by assisting ministers.*

### **Easter Proclamation – The Exultet**

Rejoice now, all heavenly choirs of angels . . . who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**A - men.**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should with full devotion . . . who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**A - men.**

*The members of the congregation extinguish their candles and are seated.*

## *Service of Readings*

The First Reading                      *Creation*    Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Silent reflection.*

The Prayer  
*The assembly stands as the presiding minister stands.*

Let us pray.  
Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of him who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord.  
**Amen.** *(sung)*

*The assembly is seated.*

The Second Reading                      *The Flood*    Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13  
The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Silent reflection.*

The Prayer  
*The assembly stands as the presiding minister stands.*

Let us pray.  
O God, strength of the powerless and light in all darkness: Look in mercy upon your church, that wonderful and sacred mystery, that it may be an ark of peace in the midst of chaos. Let the whole world come to see that what was fallen is being raised up, that what was old is being made new, and that all things are being restored to wholeness through the one from whom they first took being, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.** *sung*

*The assembly is seated.*

The Third Reading      *The Testing of Abraham*  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**  
*Silent reflection.*

Genesis 22:1-18

The Prayer  
*The assembly stands as the presiding minister stands.*

Let us pray.  
God and Father of all the faithful, you promised your servant Abraham that he would become the father of many nations, and through this gift of faith you increase your chosen people throughout the world. Form us anew by the death of your Son, that we may joyfully accept the new life of grace given through him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.** *sung*

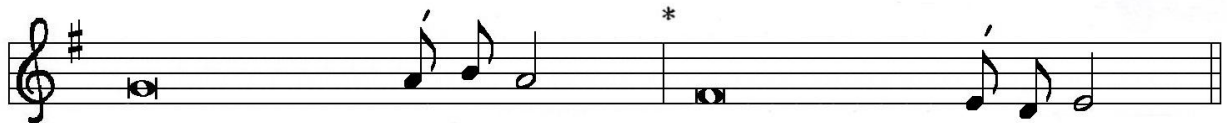
*The assembly is seated.*

The Fourth Reading      *Deliverance at the Red Sea*  
The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21

*Silent reflection.*

The Song of Moses and Miriam  
*The song will be sung by cantors and assembly responsively by full verse.*  
**C: Cantor; A: Assembly**



C: I will sing to the Lord for he has | triumphed gloriously;\*  
the horse and its rider he has thrown in | to the sea.  
A: **The Lord is my strength | and my song;\***  
**He has | been my savior.**  
C: This is my God, and | I will praise him,\*  
my father's God, and I | will exalt him.  
A: **Your right hand, O Lord, glo | rious in power,\***  
**Your right hand, O Lord, shat | ters the enemy**  
C: Who among the gods is like | you, O Lord?\*Who is like you, majestic in holiness,  
awesome in splendor, | doing wonders?  
A: **In your mercy you led forth the people | you set free;\***

**you guided them in your strength to your  
holy | habitation.**

C: You will bring them | in and plant them\*  
on the mount that is | your possession,

A: **The place, O Lord, you have made for your dwelling,  
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands | have prepared.\*  
the Lord shall reign forev | er and ever.**

**ALL: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the | Holy Spirit;\***  
**as it was in the beginning, \***  
**is now, and will be forev | er. Amen**

*Silent reflection.*

### The Prayer

*The assembly stands as the presiding minister stands.*

Let us pray.

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: by the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation offered to everyone by the water of baptism. Grant that all the people of earth may partake in the salvation of the Israelites and together dance on the safe side of the sea, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.** *sung*

*The assembly is seated.*

### The Fifth Reading *The Song of Moses*

Deuteronomy 31:19-30

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silent reflection.*

### A Song of Moses

*The song will be sung by cantors and assembly responsively by full verse.*



C: Give ear to what I | say, you heavens,\*  
and let the earth hear the words | of my mouth.  
My teaching shall fall like | drops of rain;\*  
my words shall distill | as the dew,

- A:** like fine rain up | on the grass\*  
and like the showers | on young plants.  
**When I call aloud in the name | of the Lord,\***  
**you shall respond, "great | is our God,**
- C:** The rock whose | work is perfect,\*  
and all his | ways are just;  
A faithful God, who | does no wrong,\*  
righteous and | true is he."
- A:** **Remember the | days of old;\***  
**think of the generations | long ago;**  
**ask your father | to recount it\***  
**and your elders to tell | you the tale.**
- C:** The Lord will give his | people justice\*  
and have compassion | on his servants.  
Rejoice with | him, you heavens;\*  
all you gods, bow | down before him.
- A:** **Glory to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the | Holy Spirit\***  
**as it was in the begin|ning is now\***  
**and will be forev|er. Amen.**

*Silent reflection.*

#### The Prayer

*The assembly stands as the presiding minister stands.*

Let us pray.

O God, exaltation of the humble and strength of the righteous: you taught your people through Moses to sing your praise, that the law which he delivered to them might be helpful to us. Show your power among all nations that, in the forgiveness of sins, terror may turn to joy, and fear of retribution to salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.** *sung*

*The assembly is seated.*

#### The Sixth Reading

*Salvation freely offered to all*

Isaiah 55:1-11

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silent reflection.*

The Prayer

*The assembly stands as the presiding minister stands.*

Let us pray.

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your spirit. Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.** *sung*

*The assembly is seated.*

The Seventh Reading      *Valley of the dry bones*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silent reflection.*

The Prayer

*The assembly stands as the presiding minister stands.*

Let us pray.

Living God, by the death and resurrection of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life. Breathe into us your life-giving Spirit, that receiving the gifts of word and sacrament, we may live in the hope of all your blessings to come, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.** *sung*

*The assembly is seated.*

The Eighth Reading      *The fiery furnace*

Daniel 3:1-29

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

Benedicite, Omnia Opera *All you works of the Lord*

**Response**



*Cantor:*  
All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord: Praise him and mag - ni - fy him for - ev - er.

*All:* Praise him and mag - ni - fy him for - ev - er.

*During the singing, the assembly gathers at the font. Bring booklet and candle.*

1-5. You angels of the Lord, bless the Lord; . . . You nights and days, bless the Lord.



*All:*  
R Praise him and mag - ni - fy him for - ev - er.  
*Sung after every 5 verses.*

6-10. You heavens, bless the Lord; . . . You light and darkness, bless the Lord.

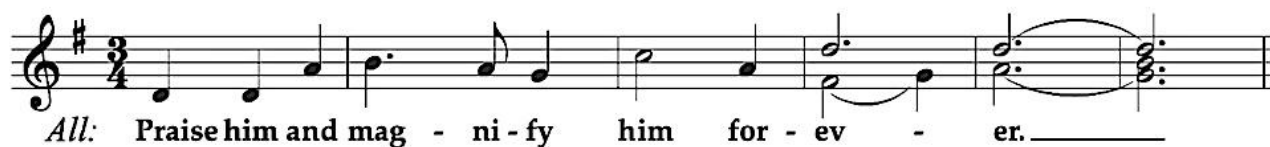
11-15 All you powers of the Lord, bless the Lord; . . . You lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord. R.

16-20 Let the earth bless the Lord; . . . You spirits and souls of the righteous, bless the Lord. R.

21-25 You mountains and hills, bless the Lord; . . . You pure and humble of heart, bless the Lord. R.

26-30 All you green things that grow on the earth, bless the Lord; . .

Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.



*All:* Praise him and mag - ni - fy him for - ev - er.

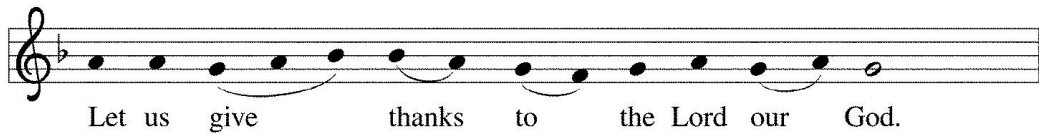
## *Affirmation of Baptism*

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. The power of sin is put to death in this holy flood, and we are raised with Jesus Christ to new life. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sent out in mission for the life of the world.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**





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 us and 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 water 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, so that those who affirm their baptism may be renewed in life. Wash away the sin of all those who are renewed and cleansed by this water and bring them forth as 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.



A - men.

D: Sisters and brothers in Christ, through the paschal mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life. Now that we have completed our Lenten observance, let us affirm the promises we made in Baptism when we rejected Satan and his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his Holy Church. And so I ask you, as you were asked at your Baptism, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

D: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?  
**I renounce them!**

D: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?  
**I renounce them!**

D: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?  
**I renounce them!**

*As the Apostles' Creed is confessed in response to the questions, water from the font is sprinkled by the Presiding Minister upon the assembly in remembrance of their baptism.*

*The Deacon addresses the assembly.*

D: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

D: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

D: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

P: God has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven us all our sins. May the Holy Spirit keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All return to their seats. The assembly will have hand candles lighted for use throughout the litany.*

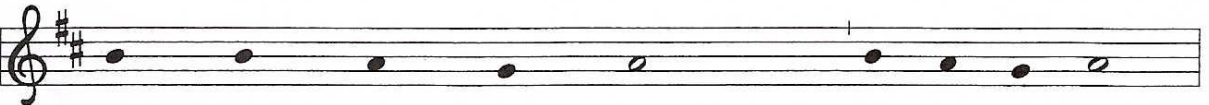




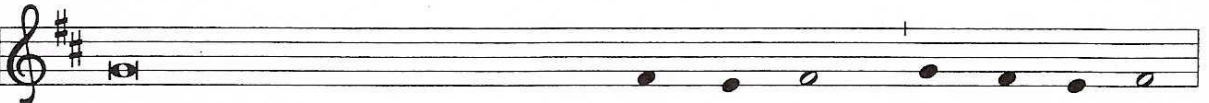
For Mary, mother of our Lord: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For John, who baptized in the Jordan: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For Mary Magdalene and Joanna, Ma-ry and Martha: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For James and John, Pe - ter and Andrew: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For Paul and Apollos, Ste - phen and Phoebe: **Thanks be to God.**



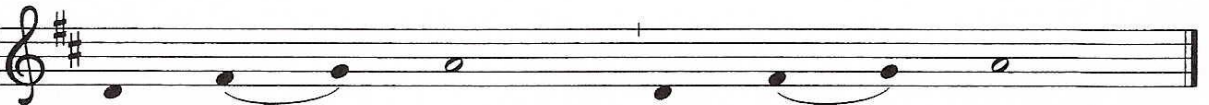
For all holy men and women,  
 our mothers and fa - thers in faith: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For the noble band of the prophets: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For the glorious company of the a - postles: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For the white-robed ar - my of martyrs: **Thanks be to God.**  
 For cherubim and seraphim,  
 Michael and the ho - ly angels: **Thanks be to God.**



Be gra - cious to us: **Hear us, O God.**  
 De - liv - er your people: **Hear us, O God.**



Give new life to your servants by the grace of baptism: **Hear us, O God.**  
 Strengthen all who bear the sign of the cross: **Hear us, O God.**  
 Clothe us in compas - sion and love: **Hear us, O God.**  
 Bring us with all your saints to the riv - er of life: **Hear us, O God.**



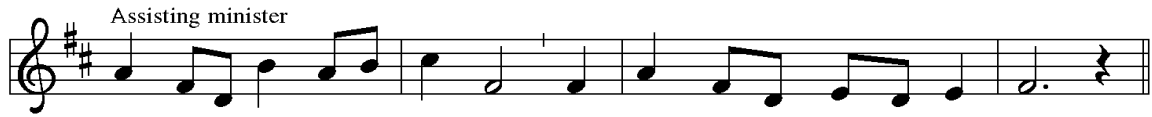
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
 Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

*Following the Litany hand candles are to be extinguished. The congregation will stand as the ministers approach the chancel following completion of the Litany.*

# Holy Eucharist

## The Entrance Rite

### Hymn of Praise



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, 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.



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.



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.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.

**Amen.** *sung*

*The assembly is seated.*

*Word*

New Testament Reading

Romans 6:3-11

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

*Seeing the risen Christ*

John 20:1-18

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

*The reading of the Easter Gospel*

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

Sermon

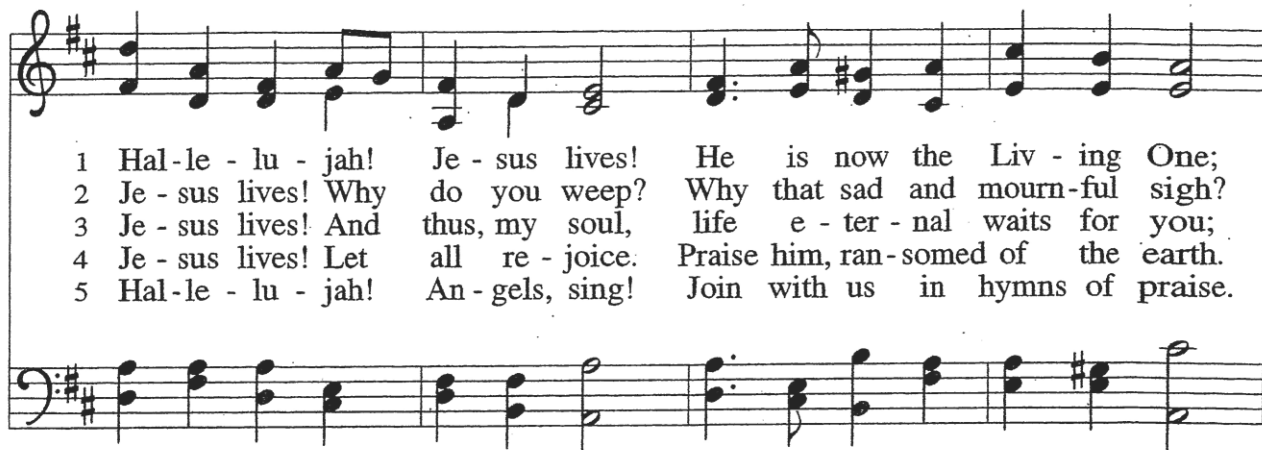
The Rev. Brenda Martin

*Silence for reflection.*

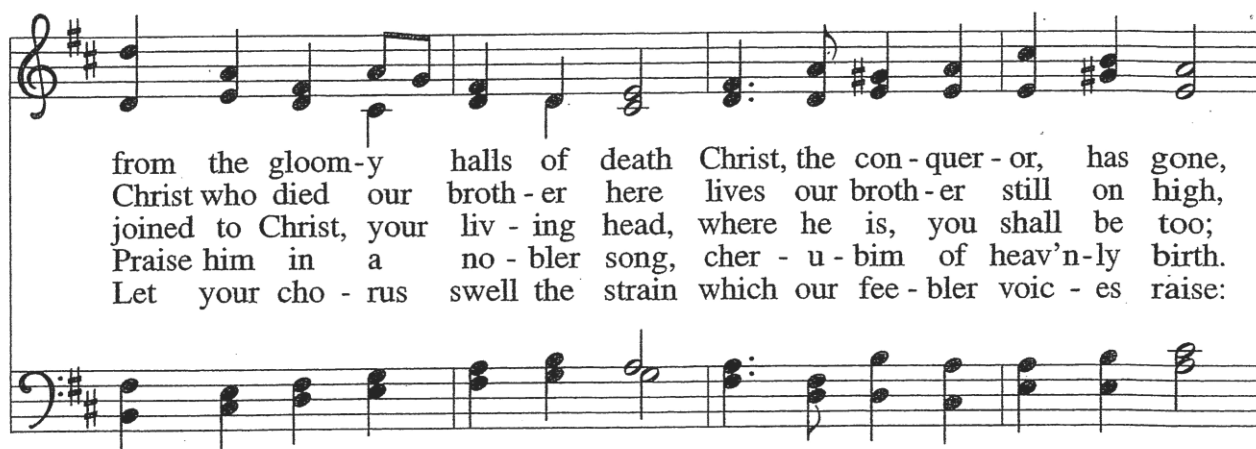
*The assembly stands as the organ sounds to proclaim the Word of God in song.*

Hymn of the Day

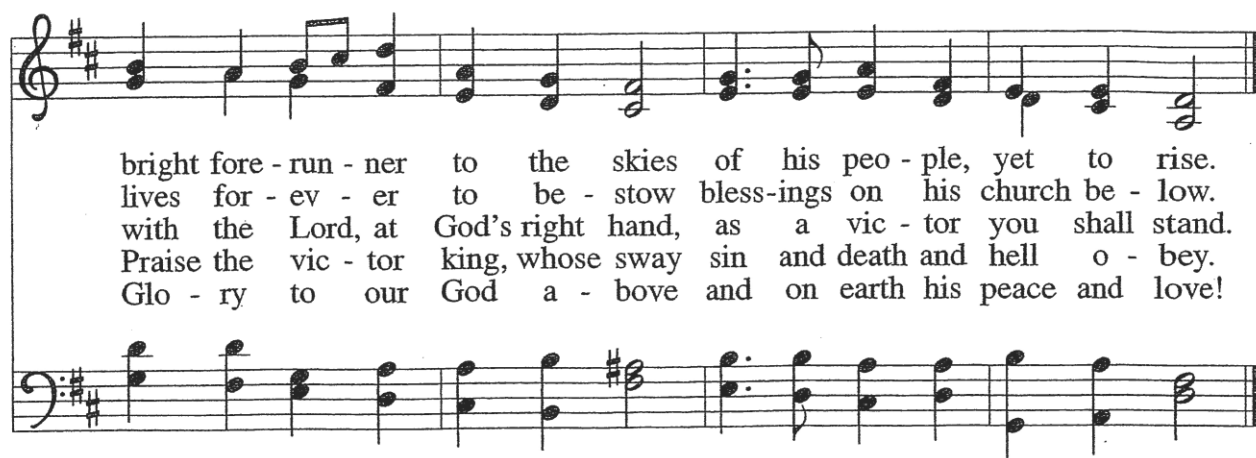
Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn-ful sigh?  
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;  
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran-somed of the earth.  
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,  
Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,  
joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;  
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.  
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless-ings on his church be - low.  
with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.  
Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.  
Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

The Prayers

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*Meal*

Offertory anthem:

I know that my Redeemer liveth from *Messiah*

George Frideric Handel

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

-- Job 19:25-26 & I Corinthians 15:20

Marie Lineman, soprano

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

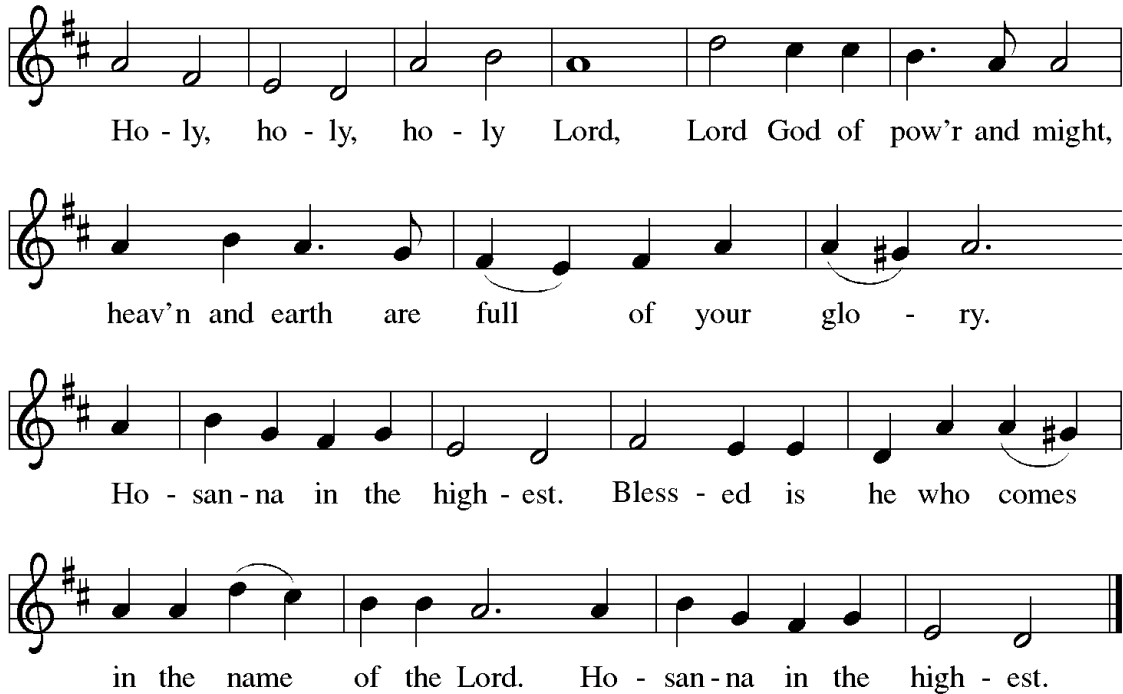
**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

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.

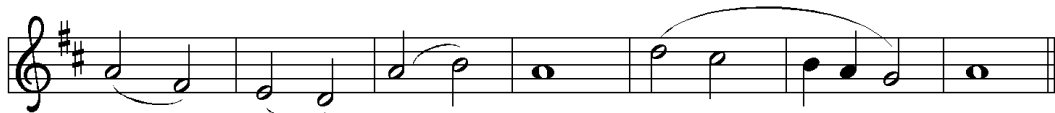
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death,  
his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all is now ready.

*The assembly is seated.*

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The Communion of the Faithful

Communion Hymn

Women, Weeping in the Garden



1 Wom - an, weep - ing in the gar - den, who has  
 2 Wom - an, wait - ing in the gar - den, af - ter  
 3 Wom - an, walk - ing in the gar - den, Je - sus  
 4 Wom - an, weep - ing in the gar - den, weep for  
 5 Wom - an, danc - ing from the gar - den, find the



pushed the stone a - side? Who has tak - en Je - sus?  
 men have come and gone, af - ter an - gels give their  
 takes you by sur - prise; when the gar - d'ner calls you,  
 joy, for you have seen Je - sus, the Mes - si - ah,  
 oth - ers and pro - claim Christ is ris - en as he



bod - y, Je - sus Christ the cru - ci - fied?  
 wit - ness, si - lent - ly you watch the dawn.  
 "Mar - y!" faith and joy meet in your eyes.  
 ris - en; Christ, of whom the proph - ets dream.  
 prom - ised; tell the world he knew your name!

Text: Daniel Charles Damon, b. 1955  
 Music: CEDARWOLF, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962  
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Communion Hymn

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
 2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,  
 hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;  
 you have conquered in the fight,  
 you have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;  
 from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
 newborn souls in you to be.  
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
 now no more the grave enthrall;  
 you have opened paradise,  
 and your saints in you shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
 Savior, by whose death we live,  
 Spirit, guide through all our days:  
 Three in One, your name we praise.  
 Alleluia!

*The assembly stands.*

Post Communion Blessing:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life  
**Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection.*

*Sending*

Benediction

A: Almighty God, Father, Son+ and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
C: **Amen.** *sung*

Recessional Hymn      Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

*The assembly turns to face the cross in procession.*



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



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

Dismissal

Christ is risen!  
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



℣. Let us bless the Lord, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
℟. All: **Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.**

Postlude                      Hallelujah Chorus from *Messiah*                      G. F. Handel;  
arr. for organ by John W. West

+   +   +   +   +   +   +   +   +   +

## Reception

You are invited to share light refreshments in Brath Hall following the Vigil.

## Serving Tonight

### Presiding and Preaching

The Rev. Brenda Martin  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Greenville

### Presiding at the Table

The Rev. Canon Dennis Blauser  
Christ Lutheran Church, Sharon  
The Holy Trinity, Hermitage

### Masters of Ceremonies

Catherine Mott

### Deacon

Sheryl Lanning

### Thurifer

John Logan

### Crucifer

Chuck Lanning

### Readers

Carol McQueen  
Ron Tomko  
Catherine Mott  
Chuck Lanning

### Readers

Trey Wilt  
The Rev. Canon Dennis Blauser  
Mike Bradley  
The Rev. James Seeley

### Lector

Bonnie Massing

### Director of Music

Steve Repasky

### The Vigil Choir

### Cantor

Marie Lineman

### Altar Guild

Bonnie Massing

Marj Stubert

### Head Usher

Jim Martin  
Bob Massing