



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Being a light to the world.

Worship, Youth, Discipleship

The Great Vigil of Easter

April 8, 2023

7:00 pm

THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The people gather in the garth, where the service begins. Fire is kindled; after which the presider addresses the people in these words. The people's responses are in bold type.

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 presider then says the blessing of the New Fire.

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.

The presider marks the Paschal Candle saying

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages;
to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever.

Amen.

By his holy and glorious wounds
may Christ our Lord guard and keep us.

Amen.

The presider lights the Paschal Candle, saying

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The Candle leads the procession to the church. Three times the procession stops and all join in singing



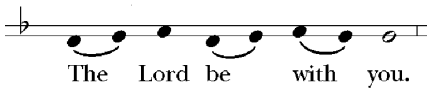
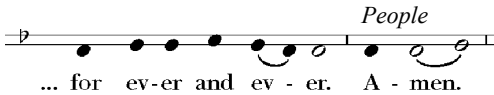
The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

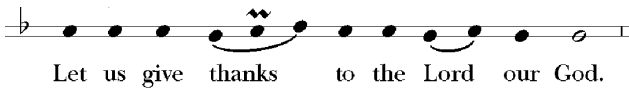
The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand. Lights are taken from the Paschal Candle to illuminate the people's candles.

THE EXULTET

The appointed person then sings

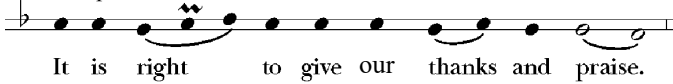
Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,
and let your trumpets shout Salvation
for the victory of our mighty King.
Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth,
bright with a glorious splendor,
for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.
Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church,
and let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





Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

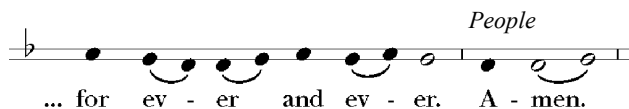
People



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 a 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.
O truly necessary sin of Adam,
destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!
O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!
O truly blessed night, worthy alone to know the time and hour
when Christ rose from the underworld!
This is the night of which it is written:
the night shall be as bright as day,
dazzling is the night for me, and full of gladness.
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.
this gift from your most holy Church.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice,
 the offering of this candle in your honor.
 The work of bees and of your servants' hands,
 an evening sacrifice of praise,
 this gift from your most holy Church.
 But now we know the praises of this pillar,
 which glowing fire ignites for God's honor,
 a fire into many flames divided,
 yet never dimmed by sharing of its light,
 for it is fed by melting wax,
 drawn out by mother bees to build a torch so precious.
 O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth,
 and divine to the human.
 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



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The presider introduces the scripture readings as follows.

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.

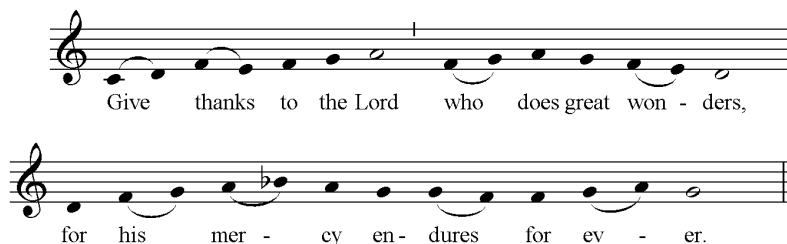
The people sit for the Vigil readings.

THE STORY OF CREATION: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalms 136:1-9, 23-26

The people join in singing the antiphon, sung first by the cantor, then by all at the beginning and the end of the Psalm.

Antiphon



Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
 for his mercy endures for ever.
 Give thanks to the God of gods, *
 for his mercy endures for ever.
 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, *
 for his mercy endures for ever.
 Who only does great wonders, *
 for his mercy endures for ever;
 Who by wisdom made the heavens, *
 for his mercy endures for ever;
 Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *
 for his mercy endures for ever;
 Who created great lights, *
 for his mercy endures for ever;
 The sun to rule the day, *
 for his mercy endures for ever;
 The moon and the stars to govern the night, *
 for his mercy endures for ever.
 Who remembered us in our low estate, *
 for his mercy endures for ever;
 And delivered us from our enemies, *
 for his mercy endures for ever;
 Who gives food to all creatures, *
 for his mercy endures for ever.
 Give thanks to the God of heaven, *
 for his mercy endures for ever.

Antiphon

Give thanks to the Lord who does great won - ders,
 for his mer - cy en - dures for ev - er.

Silence is kept.

Then all stand and the presider prays the collect.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant
 with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and
 the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

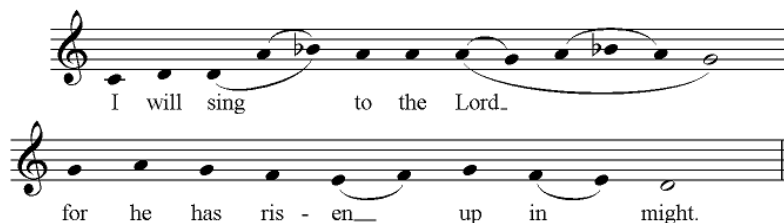
Amen.

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

Canticle 8: The Song of Moses

The people join in singing the antiphon, sung first by the choir, then by all at the beginning and the end of the Psalm.

Antiphon



I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted;
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.
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.
The Lord is a mighty warrior;
Yahweh is his Name.
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea;
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them;
They sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might;
Your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods?
Who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown,
and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand;
The earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed;
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them
on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord,
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign
for ever and for ever.

Antiphon

I will sing to the Lord.
for he has risen up in might.

Silence is kept.

Then all stand and the presider prays the collect.

Let us pray.

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.

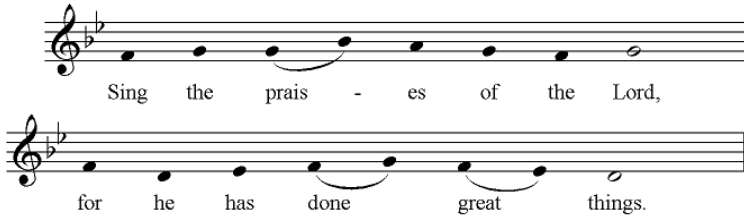
Amen.

SALVATION OFFERED FREELY TO ALL: Isaiah 55:1-11

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

The people join in singing the antiphon, sung first by the choir, then by all at the beginning and the end of the Canticle.

Antiphon



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.

Antiphon

Silence is kept.

Then all stand and the presider prays the collect.

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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT: Ezekiel 36:24-28

Psalm 42

The people join in singing the antiphon, sung first by the choir, then by all at the beginning and the end of the Psalm

Antiphon

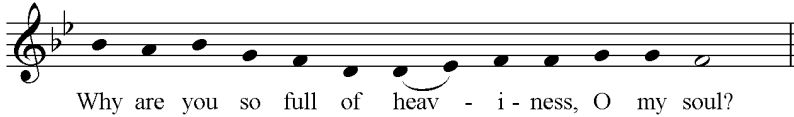


Why are you so full of heav - i - ness, O my soul?

As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
so longs my soul for you, O God.
My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; *
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all day long they say to me, "Where now is your God?"
I pour out my soul when I think on these things: *
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,
With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
among those who keep holy-day.
Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?
Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.
My soul is heavy within me; *
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,
and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.
One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; *
all your rapids and floods have gone over me.
The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; *
in the night season his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
I will say to the God of my strength,
"Why have you forgotten me? *
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?"
While my bones are being broken, *
my enemies mock me to my face;

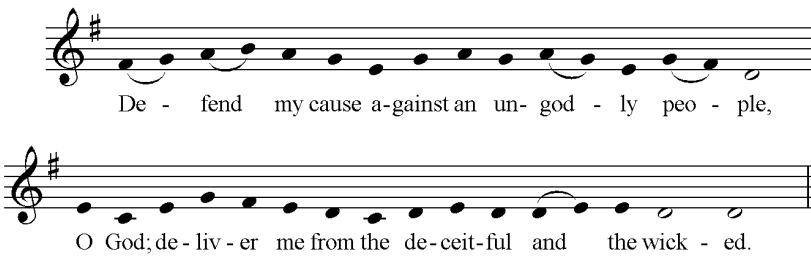
All day long they mock me *
 and say to me, "Where now is your God?"
 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
 and why are you so disquieted within me?
 Put your trust in God; *
 for I will yet give thanks to him,
 who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Antiphon



Psalm 43

Antiphon



Give judgment for me, O God,
 and defend my cause against an ungodly people; *
 deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.
 For you are the God of my strength;
 why have you put me from you? *
 and why do I go so heavily while the enemy
 oppresses me?
 Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, *
 and bring me to your holy hill
 and to your dwelling;
 That I may go to the altar of God,
 to the God of my joy and gladness; *
 and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?
Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Antiphon

De - fend my cause a-against an un- god - ly peo - ple,
O God; de - liv - er me from the de - ceit - ful and the wick - ed.

Silence is kept.

Then all stand and the presider prays the collect.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery
established the new covenant of reconciliation:
Grant that all who are reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body
may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

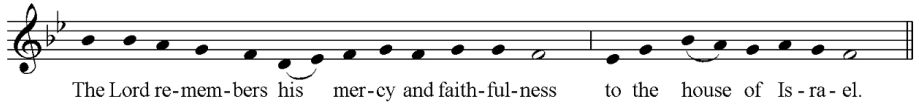
Amen.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm 98

The people join in singing the antiphon, sung first by the choir, then by all at the beginning and the end of the Psalm.

Antiphon



Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.
The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Antiphon

Silence is kept.

Then all stand and the presider prays the collect.

Let us pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light:
Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery;
by the effectual working of your providence,
carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation;
let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down
are being raised up, and things which had grown old
are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection
by him through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE INVITATION TO BAPTISM AND RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The presider continues,

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.

Presider: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider: 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.**

Presider: 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.**

Presider: 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.**

Presider: 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.**

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of
God in Christ?

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

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

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

Presider: 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 presider 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.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The presider sprinkles the people with holy water saying

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.

The people return to their places as the procession moves to the altar.



At the Eucharist

The candles at the Altar are lit from the Paschal Candle.

The presider then says the Easter Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

All then sing the Gloria in excelsis, an ancient hymn of praise, as bells are rung.

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The presider introduces the Collect of the Day, a prayer which gathers together the thoughts and prayers of the people.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.
 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

The Epistle - Romans 6:3-11

The people sit. Readings from the Bible are proclaimed and we share in the gift of God's Word through listening to the scriptures.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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. 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. 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. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 114 - sung by all.

Anglican Chant: William Crotch



- 1 Hallelujah! When Israel / came out of / Egypt,*
the house of Jacob from a / people / of strange / speech.
- 2 Judah became God's / sanctu - / ary*
and Israel / his do- / **min** - / ion.
- 3 The sea be- / held it and / fled;*
Jordan / **turned** / and went / back.
- 4 The mountains / skipped like / rams,*
and the little / hills like / **young** / sheep.

- 5 What ailed you, O / sea that you / fled?*
- O Jordan / that you / **turned** / back?
- 6 You mountains, that you / skipped like / rams?*
- you little / hills like / **young** / sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the / presence of the / Lord,*
- at the presence / of the / God of / Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a / pool of / water*
- and flint-stone / into a / flowing / spring.

All stand. To herald the Gospel the cantor sings the following three times, at successively higher pitches, the people repeating it each time.



The Gospel - Matthew 28:1-10

The ✠ Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 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.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

The Gospel of the Savior.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

After the Gospel, one of the ministers gives the sermon.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people stand, as they are able, and prayers are offered for our own needs and for those of others.

After each petition all join in saying the response

God of love and mercy

Hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers the presider adds a concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

Then the presider introduces the Peace

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia!

The people greet one another in the name of Christ.

The Holy Communion

The presider introduces the Offertory. An anthem is sung by the choir as the bread and wine for communion are brought forward. After the collection, the gifts of the people are presented at the altar.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

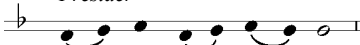
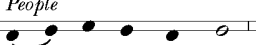


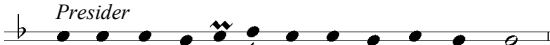

Lift Your Voice, Rejoicing

Roland E. Martin

The Presider offers the bread and the wine, the gifts of the people, back to God remembering that God is the source of all that we give.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The service continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

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

The presider gives thanks for God's faithfulness in creating, sustaining and redeeming humankind.

Then all sing the Sanctus, the song of the angels.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven 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 presider praises God for the salvation of the world through the holy self-giving of Jesus; and remembering the events of the Last Supper, prays that the gifts of bread and wine may become the body and blood of Christ.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The presider prays that all may benefit from Christ's holy sacrifice and be renewed by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Presider *People*
for e - ver. A - men.

The presider introduces the Lord's Prayer.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The presider breaks the consecrated bread. After a period of silence all join in the following

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All are welcome at the altar. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing (to indicate this, carry your service booklet forward to the altar). For more information about baptism, please speak to the clergy.

The ushers will direct the people forward to the altar. There are rails on either side of the altar platform for those who wish to receive communion kneeling.

COMMUNION HYMN

That Easter day with joy was bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the
 2 His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed; his
 3 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, do
 4 O Lord of all, with us a - bide in
 5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing
 2 wound - ed hands and feet he showed; those scars their sol - emn
 3 thou thy - self our hearts pos - sess that we may give thee
 4 this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon
 5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther



1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
 2 wit - ness gave that Christ was ris - en from the grave.
 3 all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.
 4 death can wield thine own re - deemed for ev - er shield.
 5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

A period of silence follows communion. Then all join in saying

**Almighty and everliving God,
 we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
 that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
 And now, send us out
 to do the work you have given us to do,
 to love and serve you
 as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The presider prays for God's blessing on the people.

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead
open to you the gate of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The service concludes with the hymn, followed by the dismissal.

Antiphon (at the beginning)

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

Ped.

The image shows a musical score for the antiphon 'Al-le-lu-ia'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the treble staff. A 'Ped.' (pedal) marking is present at the beginning of the bass staff.

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -
2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
*3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es
4 He closed the yaw - ing gates of hell, the bars from
5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

The image shows a musical score for a five-verse hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with each line corresponding to a verse. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: 1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -; 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their; *3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es; 4 He closed the yaw - ing gates of hell, the bars from; 5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread.

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly
 3 glo - rious from the dead; all glo - ry to our
 4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his
 5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

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

Ped.

The deacon dismisses the people.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Voluntary Easter Hymn Robert J. Powell

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All are welcome to attend a reception in the parish hall following the service.

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Participants in the Liturgy

Presider:	The Rev. Rick Stravers
Preacher:	The Rev. Edward Ruble, St. Peter Lutheran Church
Deacon:	The Rev. Trish Harris
Crucifer:	Mark Olmstead
Lectors:	Mary Bourgeois, Bill Duggan, Linn Kracht, Barb Marquette, Liz Neumeyer, Yvette Petti
Intercessor:	Becky Squires
Chalice:	The Rev. Trish Harris & Mark Olmstead
Choir:	The St. Thomas Choir
Altar Chapter:	Bob Harberts & Julie McDonald
Ushers:	Ross Dingwall & Bernie Squires
A/V Tech:	Joerg Himmelreich

Easter Flowers are given to the Glory of God by:

Ross & Kathy Dingwall	In loving memory of Joe Sybert
Gillian Ebeling	In loving memory of my Godmother, Helen Nichols
Jeanne Grabe	In loving memory of my family member
Patti and Bob Harberts	In loving memory of their parents: Ellen and James Fox, Martha & Henry Harberts
Bob Hibbard	In loving memory of Shirley Hibbard
Roy and Brenda Hillman	In loving memory of Julian, Wendy Lyon and their parents
Jerry and Connie Hubbell	In loving memory of Valerie Miller
Yvette Petti & Loretta Kaercher	In loving memory of Barbara A. Petti, Harriette Magenheimer & Kuippo Ordway
Karen Keese	In thanksgiving for my family
Tom Kyvig	In loving memory of Mary Lynn Kyvig
Julie McDonald	In loving memory of Chester McDonald
Elizabeth Neumeyer	In thanksgiving for the People of St. Thomas
Barbara Hettich and Eric Prechtel	In loving memory of their parents Wilhelm & Elfriede Hettich and Joyce and Earl Prechtel
Becky & Bernie Squires	In loving memory of their mothers: Erdine Lewis and Donna Squires
Laurel Andrews Stravers	In loving memory of Thom Andrews
Vicki Walker	In loving memory of my sweet sister Valerie Miller

Sponsors for Easter Day Brass:

Ross & Kathy Dingwall	In celebration of Matt & Gabbi Bloom's 1st Anniversary and for Zoé Greenwald
Tom & Gillian Ebeling	In loving memory of Edward & Phyllis Young and Paul & Connie Ebeling
Robert Hibbard	In thanksgiving for St. Thomas Church
Roy and Brenda Hillman	In Thanksgiving for Family and Friends
Yvette Petti & Loretta Kaercher	In loving memory of Barbara A. Petti, Harriette Magenhemer & Kuippo Ordway
Karen Keese	In loving memory of Robert & Faustine Snyder
Kiess and Gray families	In loving memory of Eugene Gray and James Kiess
Tom Kyvig	In loving memory of George E. McKay Jr.
Elizabeth Neumeyer	In loving memory of my parents, Ruth & Raymond Neymeyer
Mark & Debra Olmstead	In loving memory of Jean, Jerry and Linda Olmstead, June & Bob Long, & David Willison
Tom & Noreen Sidnam	In loving memory of Ken & Lona Hart Philo & Louise Sidnam