



Orthodox icon depicting Mary Magdalene and the Risen Christ

# The Great Vigil of Easter

Divine Service 3

March 30, 2024 7:16pm

## Scripture of the Day

Genesis 1:1—2:3

Genesis 7:1—5, 11—18; 8:6—18; 9:8—13

Exodus 14:10—15:1

Daniel 3:1—30

John 20:1—18

## About the Liturgy

The celebration of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ on the Saturday night and Sunday morning of Easter is the Church's oldest liturgical observance. The Paschal celebration is not a mere recalling of events; it is a continuation of these events by the power of the Holy Spirit. By that same power, those He has called and gathered are adopted into the family of God through Holy Baptism. The Church has traditionally baptized catechumens into the Christian faith at the great Vigil of Easter for this reason, highlighting the connection between our dying and rising with Christ in Holy Baptism, and His death and resurrection for us.

### A Prayer before Worship

*O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.*

*The congregation gathers outside the sanctuary. All are given candles, which will later be lit from the paschal candle.*

### ✠ Service of Light ✠

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*An acolyte brings the paschal candle forward. The pastor traces the cross on the candle while saying:*

**P** Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the ending,

*and then traces the Greek letters Alpha and Omega on the candle while saying:*

the Alpha and the Omega.

*He traces the year on the candle, saying:*

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

*He puts the five wax nails into the candle, saying:*

**P** By His wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen.

*Then, lighting the candle from the newly kindled fire, he says:*

**P** May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*All light their candles from the paschal candle. The acolyte then leads a procession into the darkened church. As the people process into the sanctuary, they sing the following responsive chant:*



**A** The light of Christ.



**C** Thanks be to God.




**A** The light of Christ.

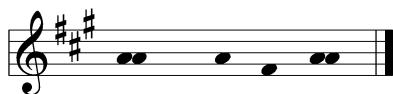


**C** Thanks be to God.

*The pastors and the acolyte proceed to the baptismal font; the paschal candle is raised high.*



**A** The light of Christ.



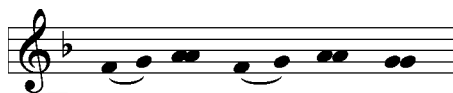
**G** Thanks be to God.

*The candle is placed in its stand.*


### Exsultet

**A** Rejoice now, all you heav'nly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.


### Preface Dialogue



**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



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



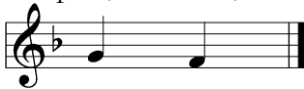
**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### Easter Proclamation

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary ... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*The individual candles are extinguished. A few lights in the church are turned on.*

*Sit*

## ✠ Service of Readings ✠

### Introduction to Readings

**P** In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

### The First Reading - Creation

*Genesis 1:1—2:3*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one

place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work

that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Collect

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity. Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn: Creator of the Stars of Night

*LSB 351 sts. 1, 2, 5*



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
2 Thou, griev - ing that the an - cient curse  
5 O Thou, whose com - ing is with dread



Thy peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing Light:  
Should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
To judge the liv - ing and the dead,



O Christ, Re - deem - er, save us all  
Hast found the heal - ing, full of grace,  
Pre - serve us from the an - cient foe



And hear Thy ser - vants when they call.  
To cure and save our ru - ined race.  
While still we dwell on earth be - low.

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Sarum plainsong, c. 9th cent., mode IV

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Second Reading - The Flood

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

Then the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him. In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in. The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent forth a raven. It went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground. But the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark. And the dove came back to him in the evening, and behold, in her mouth was a freshly plucked olive leaf. So Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days and sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him anymore. In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. Then God said to Noah, “Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him. Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and with



every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Collect

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the ark. Keep us in safety in the ark of Christ’s body, the Church, that Your mercy may come to its fullness and Your salvation be preached to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Psalm

*Psalm 36:5–10*



**C** <sup>5</sup>Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the | heavens,\*  
your faithfulness | to the clouds.

<sup>6</sup>Your righteousness is like the moun- | tains of God;\*  
your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, | O LORD.

<sup>7</sup>How precious is your steadfast love, | O God!\*

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow | of your wings.

<sup>8</sup>They feast on the abundance | of your house,\*  
and you give them drink from the river of | your delights.

<sup>9</sup>For with you is the foun- | tain of life,\*  
in your light do | we see light.

<sup>10</sup>Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who | know you,\*  
and your righteousness to the up- | right of heart!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

## The Third Reading - Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

*Exodus 14:10—15:1*

When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." The LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen." Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. Then Moses and the

people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, “I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Collect

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn: Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

*LSB 487 st. 1*



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad - ness!



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,



Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547

Text and tune: Public domain

## The Fourth Reading - The Fiery Furnace

*Daniel 3:1–30*

King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits and its breadth six cubits. He set it up on the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent to gather the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Then the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces gathered for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. And they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. And the herald proclaimed aloud, “You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. And whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace.” Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and maliciously accused the Jews. They declared to King Nebuchadnezzar, “O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree, that every man who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image. And whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into a burning fiery furnace. There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men, O king, pay no attention to you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.” Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought. So they brought these men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar answered and said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up? Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?” Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.” Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with fury, and the expression of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. He ordered the furnace heated seven times more than it was usually heated. And

he ordered some of the mighty men of his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace. Then these men were bound in their cloaks, their tunics, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the burning fiery furnace. Because the king's order was urgent and the furnace overheated, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell bound into the burning fiery furnace. Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." He answered and said, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods." Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the burning fiery furnace; he declared, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men. The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them. Nebuchadnezzar answered and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants, who trusted in him, and set aside the king's command, and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God. Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins, for there is no other god who is able to rescue in this way." Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Collect

**P** Let us pray.

O God, Your Son protected faithful Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace of the king. Grant us protection in our time of testing that we would boldly confess Your name, reject all false worship, and live and die in confidence, knowing that we are safe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn: All You Works of the Lord

LSB 931 sts. 1–3, 10, 11

*Chant Tone* \* \* \*

*Refrain*

Praise Him and mag-ni - fy Him for - ev - er.

<sup>1</sup>All you works of the Lord, | bless the Lord—\*  
praise Him and magnify Him for- | ever.\*  
You angels of the Lord, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

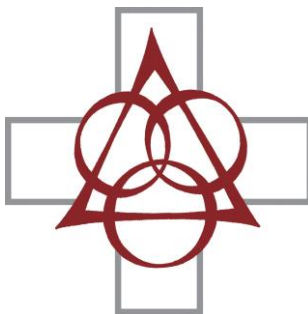
<sup>2</sup>You heavens, | bless the Lord;\*  
all you waters above the heavens, | bless the Lord;\*  
all you powers of the Lord, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

<sup>3</sup>You sun and moon, | bless the Lord;\*  
you stars of heaven, | bless the Lord;\*  
all you showers and dew, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

<sup>10</sup>O Israel, | bless the Lord;\*  
you priests of the Lord, | bless the Lord;\*  
you servants of the Lord, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

<sup>11</sup>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: **Refrain**

Text: Song of the Three Young Men Tune: Paul J. Grime, 1958 Text: Public domain  
Tune: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001376



## ✠ Service of Holy Baptism ✠

### Baptismal Address

**P** On this holiest of nights ... through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Do you renounce the devil?

**C** Yes, I renounce him.

**P** Do you renounce all his works?

**C** Yes, I renounce them.

**P** Do you renounce all his ways?

**C** Yes, I renounce them.

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

**C** Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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

**C** Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

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

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Peace ✠ be with you.

**C** Amen.



*Stand*

## ✠ Service of Prayer ✠

### Litany of the Resurrection

- A** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** O Christ,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
**C** hear us.
- A** Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who foretold Your passion saying, “The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,”  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,  
**C** have mercy on us.



- A** Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,  
**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By Your victory over sin and death,  
**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By the majesty of Your risen body,  
**C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** We poor sinners implore You  
**C** **to hear us, Lord Jesus.**
- A** That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness,  
**C** **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving others as we have been served by You,  
**C** **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,  
**C** **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **have mercy on us.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **grant us Your peace.**
- A** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- A** O Christ,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- A** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy. Amen.**



## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

### Easter Acclamation

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

*The rest of the lights in the church are turned on, and the acolytes proceed to light the candles on the altar during the singing of the Gloria in Excelsis.*

### Gloria in Excelsis

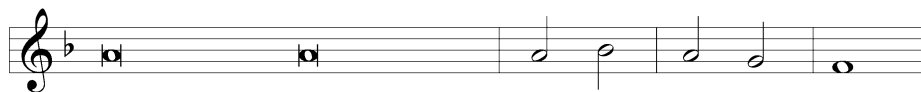
*Luke 2:14; John 1:29*



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



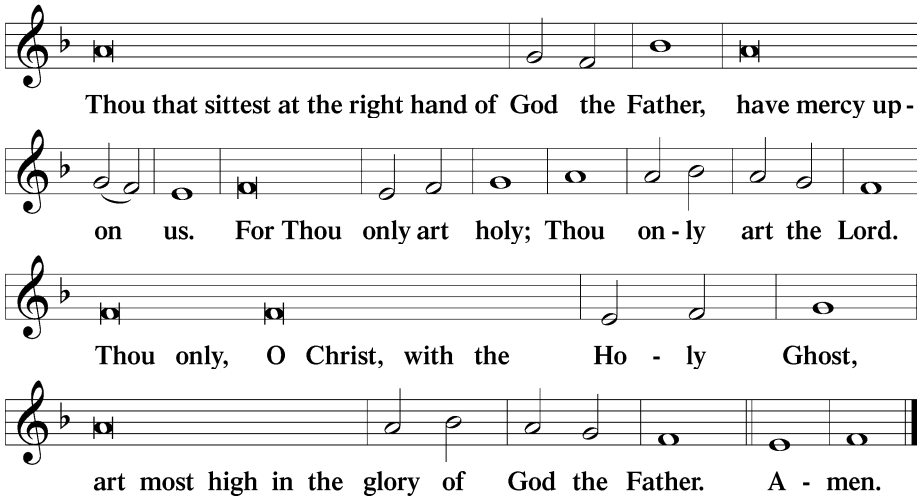
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -  
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.  
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Let us pray.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

- P** O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord’s resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

*Please remain standing for the Holy Gospel.*

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

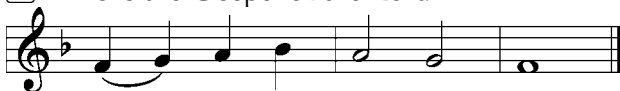


**G** Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>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** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

*Sit*

Choral Response: “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”, J. Leavitt

*Stand*

## ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

### About Receiving the Lord’s Supper at Bethany

As we receive the Lord’s Holy Supper according to His institution, we receive the salvation, forgiveness, and life eternal won for us on the cross. Also, we believe that when a person communes at an altar, one confesses unity with the teachings of that church. Therefore, if you are not in fellowship with the teaching of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we ask that you refrain from communion until you have had opportunity to speak with one of the pastors about Christ’s bodily presence and the forgiveness of sins given in this meal. However, all are welcome to receive a blessing, for the forgiveness of Jesus is still yours. Please indicate this as your intention by crossing your arms over your chest when the pastor comes by.

### Preface



**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



**G** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.

*[Colossians 3:1]*



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



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

*[Psalm 136]*

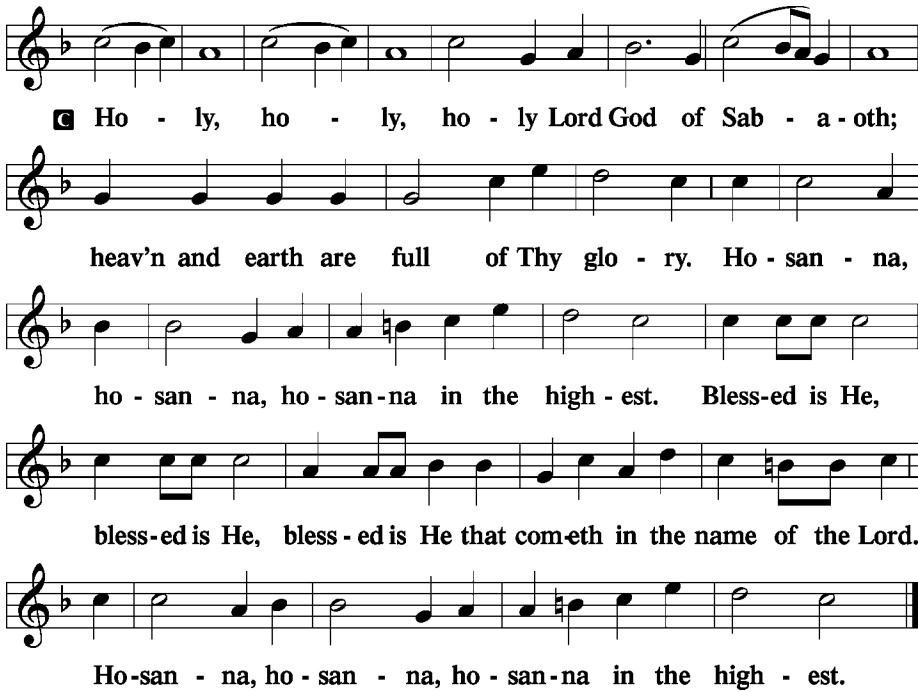


**G** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.

The  
**L**ORD'S  
Prayer

## The Words of Our Lord

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\dagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\dagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## Pax Domini

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**A** - men.

## Agnus Dei

*John 1:29*



**O** Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*

# Distribution Hymn: This Joyful Eastertide

LSB 482



1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and  
 2 Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the  
 3 My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,  
 riv - er; Lov - er of souls, from ill  
 slum - ber Till trump from east to west



Has sprung to life this mor - row:  
 My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:  
 Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

*Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on,



Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; But now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934 Tune: Davids Psalmen, 1684, Amsterdam Text and tune: Public domain





# Distribution Hymn: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LSB 465



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



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed!  
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed!  
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer  
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and  
 He is liv - ing!" Now still He comes to give us  
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's  
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 life And by His pres - ence stills all  
 day That by our lives we tru - ly  
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"  
 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!  
 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: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln

Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001376 Tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## Dismissal

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

## Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.  
O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Salutation and Benedicamus



**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**A** Bless we the Lord.

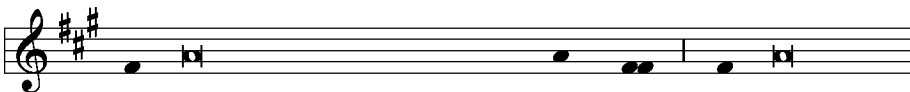
*[Psalm 103:1]*



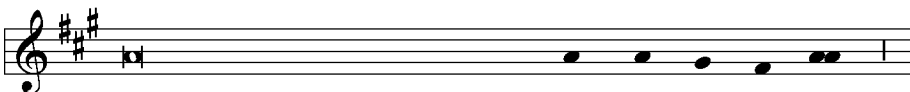
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

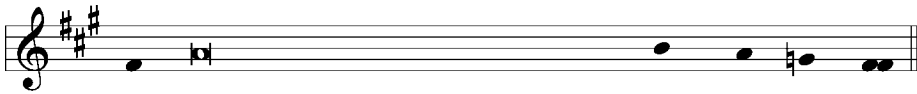
*Numbers 6:24-26*



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

### Closing Hymn: He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

LSB 488



He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled



is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are o - pen.



My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, And Sa - tan's ar -



rows bro - ken lie, De - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.



O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, Ris - ing glo - rious,



Life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye, 1742–1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt. Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 155  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Postlude:** DUKE STREET (“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”), R. Hobby

*We depart by sharing the Easter greeting with one another:*



**Alleluia!**  
**Christ is risen!**  
**He is risen, indeed!**  
**Alleluia!**

### **A Prayer after Worship**

*Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

### **Those Serving You Today**

**Preacher and Celebrant:** Rev. Stephen Schumacher

**Assisting Pastors:** Rev. Seth Clemmer, Rev. Emmett Bartens

**Organist:** Kantor Jonathan Swett

**Musical Ensemble:** Bethany Women's Choir

**Live Stream Tech:** Gia Singer

**Acolytes:** Henry Fox, Kenny Fox

**Sacristans:** Tye Fox, Ted Quilitz, volunteers needed

**Ushers:** Keith Luhrs, Dominic Salvino, volunteers needed

**Communion Care:** Pam Splitt



For information on activities and updates at Bethany, please subscribe to the "Week at a Glance" by emailing [office@bethanylcs.org](mailto:office@bethanylcs.org). If you prefer, some paper copies are available at the Welcome Center.

[www.bethanylcs.org](http://www.bethanylcs.org)

630-355-2198

Pastor Seth Clemmer

Pastor Stephen Schumacher

Pastor Emmett Bartens

email: [office@bethanylcs.org](mailto:office@bethanylcs.org)