

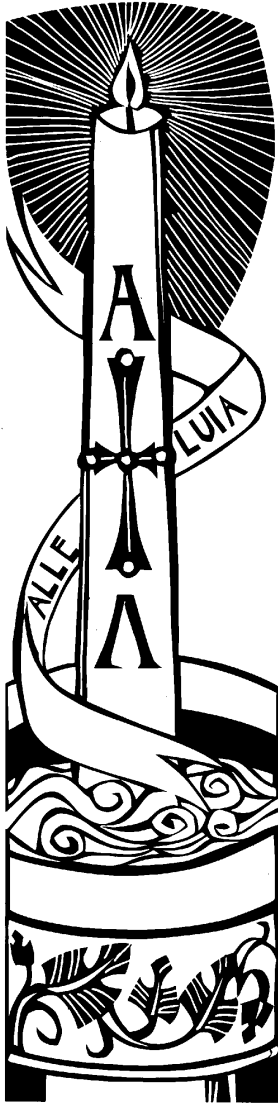


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Easter Vigil

+ April 4, 2026 +

The Vigil of Easter, which is celebrated at the end of Holy Saturday as the conclusion to the sacred Triduum, ushers in the celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Day.



The Vigil of Easter connects the days of Holy Week, especially Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, with the celebration of the resurrection of Christ from the dead. The service points to our Baptism where we are clothed for the banquet and become participants in the victory feast of the Lamb.

Throughout the early centuries of the Church, the people of God kept vigil throughout the night in expectation of Christ's return. This vigil at Easter eventually became a common feature of the celebration of His crucifixion and resurrection.

The vigil consisted of prayer, psalms, hymns, and readings, especially from the Old Testament, culminating in the celebration of the resurrection at dawn with the Lord's Supper. During the Vigil, those who had prepared throughout Lent to be joined to Christ were baptized. At the dawn of the new day at Easter sunrise, the newly baptized joined the entire Church in the chorus of alleluias at Christ's resurrection from the dead.

Now Christians gather on this most holy night to wait in expectation for the proclamation of Christ's resurrection and for His second coming. The Vigil of Easter is comprised of six parts:

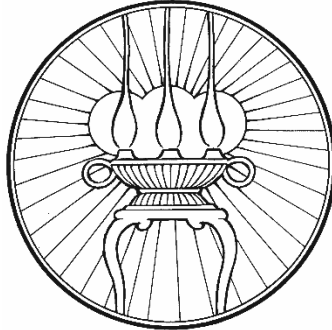
- ✦ *the Service of Light*
- ✦ *the Service of Readings*
- ✦ *the Service of Holy Baptism*
- ✦ *the Service of Prayer*
- ✦ *the Service of the Word*
- ✦ *the Service of the Sacrament*

Because the Vigil of Easter marks the final day in the sacred Triduum, the service ends with the Benediction, which has not been heard since the beginning of the Triduum, and the Easter Acclamation:

Christ Is Risen!

THE VIGIL OF EASTER

SERVICE OF LIGHT



The congregation gathers in the semidarkness around the fire to begin the Vigil.

P Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which Our Lord Jesus passed over from death into life, we are gathered here in vigil and in 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.

The pastor traces the cross upon the Paschal candle, 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, saying:

P the Alpha and Omega.

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

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

Lighting the Paschal 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.

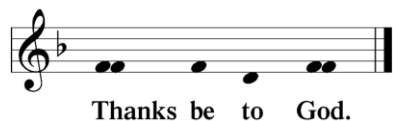
Almighty and most merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the light, even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

C Amen.

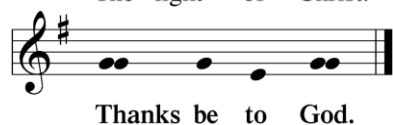
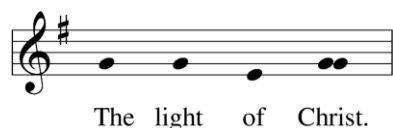
*All light their candles from the Paschal candle.
As you receive the light, please tilt your candle.*

LUX CHRISTI

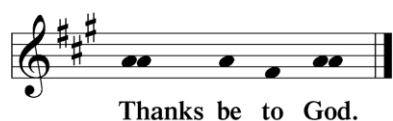
At the entrance of the nave, the bearer of the paschal candles stops, and the pastor chants:



At the middle of the nave, he chants a second time:



When the candle bearer arrives at the front of the nave, and once all have reached their places, the pastor chants a third time:



The congregation remains standing as the Proclamation of Easter (Exsultet) is sung.

EXSULTET

Sung by Cantor

*Rejoice now, all you heavenly 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.*

—St. Ambrose of Milan, ca. 380 A.D.

PREFACE



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 Him thanks and praise.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty everlasting God, and Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. For He is the very Paschal Lamb who offered Himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of His precious blood. 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 ground. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality. This is the night when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night. Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is Your mercy toward us, O God, that to redeem a slave You gave Your Son. How holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away. How holy is this night when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast. How blessed is the night when man is reconciled to God in Christ. Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the true light and morning star, shine in our hearts, He who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

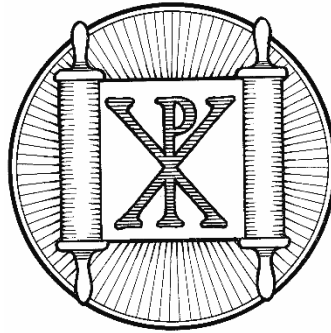


A - men.



Please extinguish your candle and be seated

SERVICE OF 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 CREATION

Genesis 1:1-6, 8-10, 12-15, 19-24, 26-2:3

A This is Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 33:1-11



Shout for joy in the LORD, O you | righteous!*

Praise befits the | upright.

Give thanks to the LORD | with the lyre;*
make melody to him with the harp of | ten strings!

Sing to him a | new song;*

play skillfully on the strings, with | loud shouts.

EXULTATE, IUSTI, IN DOMINO

**For the word of the LORD is | upright,*
and all his work is done in | faithfulness.**

He loves righteousness and | justice;*
the earth is full of the steadfast love | of the LORD.

**By the word of the LORD the heav- | ens were made,*
and by the breath of his mouth | all their host.**

He gathers the waters of the sea | as a heap;*
he puts the deeps in | storehouses.

**Let all the earth | fear the LORD;*
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in | awe of him!**

For he spoke, and it | came to be;*
he commanded, and it | stood firm.

**The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to | nothing;*
he frustrates the plans of the | peoples.**

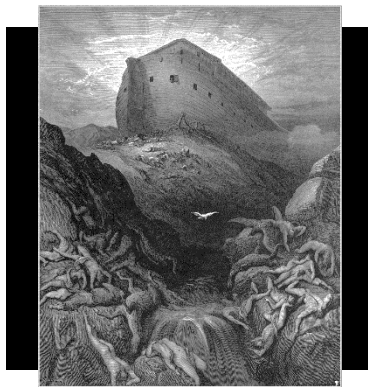
The counsel of the LORD stands for- | ever,*
the plans of his heart to all gener- | ations.

**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.**

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.



THE ARK

Genesis 7:1, 5, 11-12, 17b-18, 8:13-18, 9:8-13

A This is Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly | beings,*
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
worship the LORD in the splendor of | holiness.

The voice of the LORD is over the | waters;*
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many | waters.

The voice of the LORD is | powerful;*
the voice of the LORD is full of | majesty.

The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedars;*
the LORD breaks the cedars of | Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon to skip | like a calf,*
and Sirion like a young | wild ox.

The voice | of the LORD*
flashes forth | flames of fire.

The voice of the LORD shakes the | wilderness;*
the LORD shakes the wilderness | of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the | forests bare,*
and in his temple all cry, | “Glory!”

The LORD sits enthroned o- | ver the flood;*
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | ever.

May the LORD give strength to his | people!*
May the LORD bless his people | with peace!

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.

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.



THE BINDING OF ISAAC
Genesis 22:1-8

- A** This is Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 10:1-10

QUARE DOMINE STAS A LONGE



Why, O LORD, do you stand a- | far off?*

Why do you hide yourself in times of | trouble?

In arrogance the wicked hotly pur- | sue the poor;*
let them be caught in the schemes that they | have devised.

For the wicked boasts of the desires | of his soul,*
and the one greedy for gain curses and renounc- | es the LORD.

In the pride of his face the wicked does not | seek him;*
all his thoughts are, “There | is no God.”

His ways prosper at all times; your judgments are on high, out | of his sight;*
as for all his foes, he | puffs at them.

He says in his heart, “I shall | not be moved;*
throughout all generations I shall not meet ad- | versity.”

His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit and op- | pression;*
under his tongue are mischief and in- | iquity.

He sits in ambush in the villages; in hiding places he murders the | innocent.*
His eyes stealthily watch for the | helpless;

he lurks in ambush like a lion in his thicket; he lurks that he may | seize the poor;*
he seizes the poor when he draws him in- | to his net.

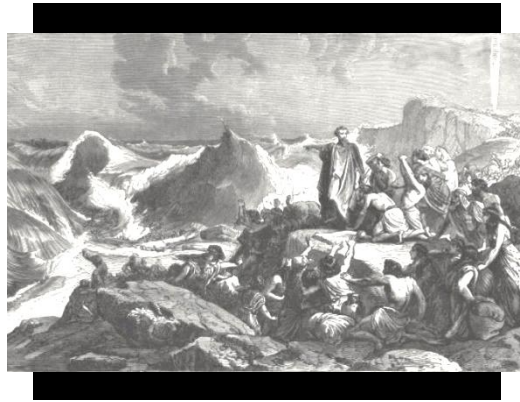
The help- | less are crushed,*
sink down, and fall | by his might.

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.

P Let us pray.

O God, since You promised faithful Abraham that he would be the father of a great multitude, You provided a substitute for his son Isaac. In the fullness of time, You sent Your Son, the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world, to lay down His life that we might live as faithful children of Abraham. Grant to all people a living trust in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.



ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA
Exodus 14:10-11, 13-14, 19-24, 26-15:1

A This is Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

EXODUS 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18

CONTEMUS DOMINO

Cantor:

I will sing to the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously;
The horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.

Refrain

I will sing to the LORD, for He has tri-umphed glo-rious -
ly; the horse and his rid-er He has thrown in - to the sea.

Chant Tone

The LORD is my strength | and my song,*
and He has become my sal- | vation;

**this is my God, and I will | praise Him,*
my father's God, and I will ex- | alt Him.**

Refrain

The LORD is a | man of war;*
the LORD | is His name.

**Pharaoh's chariots and his host He cast in- | to the sea,*
and his chosen officers were sunk in the | Red Sea.**

The floods | covered them;*
they went down into the depths | like a stone.

**Your right hand, O LORD, glorious | in power,*
Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the | enemy.**

Refrain

Who is like You, O LORD, a- | mong the gods?*

Who is like You, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing | wonders?

**You stretched out Your | right hand;*
the earth | swallowed them.**

You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You | have redeemed;*
You have guided them by Your strength to Your ho- | ly abode.

**You will bring them in and plant them on Your own | mountain,*
the place, O LORD, which You have made for | Your abode,**

the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have es- | tablished.*
The LORD will reign forever and | ever.

**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.**

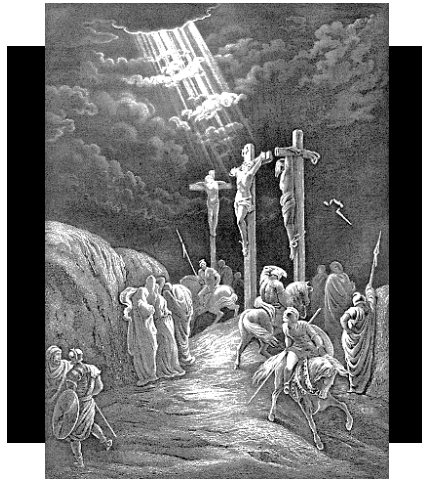
Refrain

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.

Please be seated



THE WORD: SALVATION TO ALL
Isaiah 55:1-11

- A** This is Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM 42

QUEMADMODUM DESIDERAT CERVUS



As a deer pants for | flowing streams,*
so pants my soul for you, | O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the | living God.*
When shall I come and appear be- | fore God?
My tears have been my food | day and night,*
while they say to me continually, “Where | is your God?”

These things I remember, as I pour | out my soul:*

how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the | house of God
with glad shouts and | songs of praise,*
a multitude keeping | festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil with- | in me?*
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation | and my God.
My soul is cast down with- | in me;*
therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount | Mizar.

Deep calls to deep at the roar of your | waterfalls;*

all your breakers and your waves have gone | over me.

By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is | with me,*
a prayer to the God | of my life.

I say to God, my rock: “Why have you for- | gotten me?*
Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the | enemy?”
As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries | taunt me,*
while they say to me continually, “Where | is your God?”

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil with- | in me?*

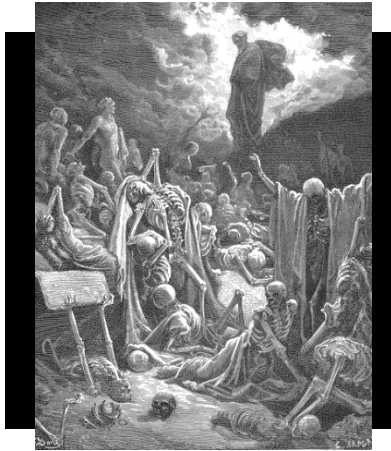
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation | and my God.

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.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your Word You created and sustain all things, and by Your Spirit You renew Your creation. Grant now the water of life to all who thirst for You that they may bring forth abundant fruit in Your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.



VALLEY OF DRY BONES
Ezekiel 37:1-14

A This is Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:8-15

MISERERE MEI, DEUS, SECUNDUM



Let me hear joy and | gladness;*

let the bones that you have bro- | ken rejoice.

Hide your face | from my sins,*
and blot out all my in- | iquities.

Create in me a clean heart, | O God,*
and renew a right spirit with- | in me.

Cast me not away from your | presence,*
and take not your Holy Spirit | from me.

Restore to me the joy of your sal- | vation,*
and uphold me with a willing | spirit.

The LORD is my chosen portion | and my cup;*
you | hold my lot.

The lines have fallen for me in pleasant | places;*
indeed, I have a beautiful in- | heritance.

I bless the LORD who gives me | counsel;*
in the night also my heart in- | structs me.

I have set the LORD always be- | fore me;*
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be | shaken.
Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being re- | joices;*
my flesh also | dwells secure.

For you will not abandon my soul | to Sheol,*
or let your holy one see cor- | ruption.

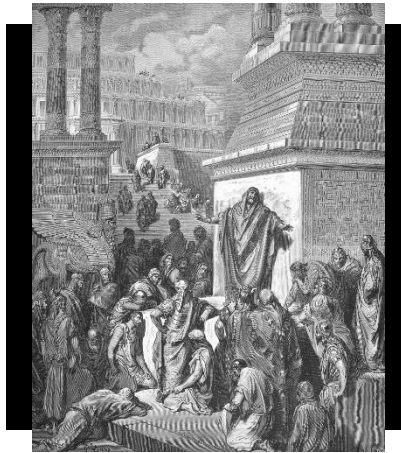
You make known to me the | path of life;*
in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

**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.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our great Redeemer, in the sacrifice of Your Son You put to death our wretched flesh and in His rising restored our life. Grant that we may always cling to Christ by faith in this life that at the last we may rejoice to stand in our own flesh and see You face to face; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.



JONAH PREACHES TO NINEVEH

Jonah 3

A This is Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Cantor:

I called out to the Lord, and He answered me, and He answered me.

Refrain

I called out to the LORD, and He
 an - swered me, and He an - swered me.

Chant Tone

I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and He | answered me; *
 out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and You | heard my voice.

**For You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood sur- | rounded me; *
 all Your waves and Your billows passed | over me.**

Then I said, “I am driven away | from Your sight; *
 yet I shall again look upon Your holy | temple.”

Refrain

The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep sur- | rounded me; *
 weeds were wrapped about my head at the roots of the | mountains.

**I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me for- | ever; *
 yet You brought up my life from the pit, O- | LORD my God.**

When my life was fainting away, I remembered | the LORD, *
 and my prayer came to You, into Your holy | temple.

Refrain

Those who pay regard to vain | idols *
 forsake their hope of | steadfast love.

**But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to You; what I have vowed | I will pay. *
 Salvation belongs | to the Lord!**

**Glorify 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.**

Refrain

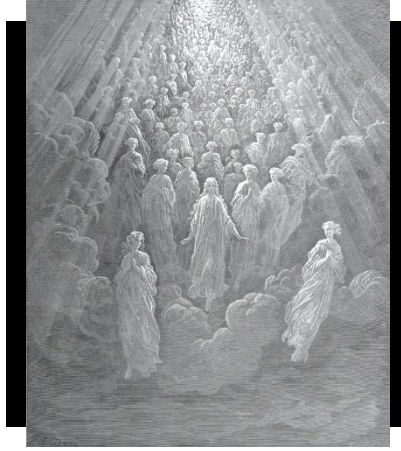
P Let us pray.

O God, as the prophet Jonah spent three days in the belly of the great fish, so Your Son Jesus spent three days in the heart of the earth. Grant us repentance to embrace our death in Him through Holy

Baptism and to proclaim His victory over sin and death to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated



THE INGATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE
Zephaniah 3:12-20

A This is Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85

BENEDIXISTI, DOMINE

Cantor:

Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord, grant us Your salvation.



LORD, you were favorable | to your land; *
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your | people; *
you covered | all their sin.

You withdrew | all your wrath; *
you turned from your hot | anger.

Refrain

Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation, *
and put away your indignation | toward us!

Will you be angry with us for- | ever?*

Will you prolong your anger to all gener- | ations?

**Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | jice in you?
Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.**

Refrain

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to | folly.
Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,*
that glory may dwell | in our land.

Refrain

Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet,*
righteousness and peace kiss each | other.
Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,*
and righteousness looks down | from the sky.

**Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,*
and our land will yield its | increase.
Righteousness will go be- | fore him*
and make his foot- | steps a way.**

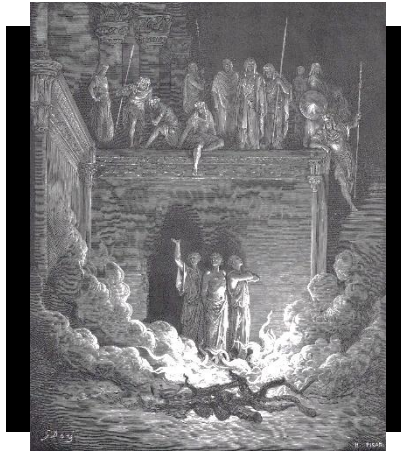
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Refrain

P Let us pray.

Look in mercy, O Lord, upon Your faithful people, and by Word and Spirit bring to completion that good work which You have begun in us. Gather in Your people that all the world may see and know that what has been cast down is raised up and what has grown old is made new, until the work You have begun in us is brought to its joyful fulfillment in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.



THE FIERY FURNACE
Daniel 3

- A** This is Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Please stand

LITURGICAL TEXT

BENEDICITE, OMNIA OPERA

Cantor:

Praise Him and magnify Him forever.



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**

You heavens, | bless the Lord;*
 all you waters above the heavens, | bless the Lord;*
 all you powers of the Lord, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

You sun and moon, | bless the Lord;*
 you stars of heaven, | bless the Lord;*
 all you showers and dew, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

All you winds of God, | bless the Lord;*
 you fire and heat, | bless the Lord;*
 you winter and summer, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

You dews and frost, | bless the Lord;*
 you frost and cold, | bless the Lord;*
 you ice and snow, | bless the Lord: **Refrain**

You nights and days, | bless the Lord;*
you light and darkness, | bless the Lord;*
you lightnings and clouds, | bless the Lord: *Refrain*

Let the earth | bless the Lord;*
you mountains and hills, | bless the Lord;*
all you green things that grow on the earth, | bless the Lord: *Refrain*

You wells and springs, | bless the Lord;*
you rivers and seas, | bless the Lord;*
you whales and all who move in the waters, | bless the Lord: *Refrain*

All you birds of the air, | bless the Lord;*
all you beasts and cattle, | bless the Lord;*
all you children of men, | bless the Lord: *Refrain*

O Israel, | bless the Lord;*
you priests of the Lord, | bless the Lord;*
you servants of the Lord, | bless the Lord: *Refrain*

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*

P Let us pray.

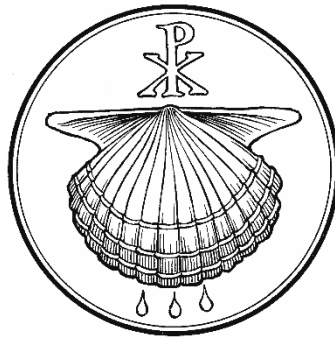
O God, Your Son protected faithful Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace of the king. Grant us protection in our time of testing that we would boldly confess Your name, reject all false worship, and live and die in confidence, knowing that we are safe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,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

C Amen.

Please be seated



SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM



The paschal candle is moved to the font to represent our union with Christ's death and resurrection through the Sacrament of Baptism.

The water from the font is sprinkled upon the congregation to indicate the sealing of God's pledge of salvation made in Holy Baptism to the Church. The aspergillum, the rod used to scatter the water, represents the hyssop branch used in ancient times to scatter the blood of the covenant upon the people of Israel.

In this rite, we receive the New Testament of Christ in a manner typified by how Israel once received the Old.

HYMN

Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

#597

**1 Water, blood, and Spirit crying,
By their witness testifying
To the One whose death-defying
Life has come, with life for all.**

**2 In a wat'ry grave are buried
All our sins that Jesus carried
Christ, the Ark of Life, has ferried
Us across death's raging flood.**

P On this holiest of nights, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls His death and burial, rejoicing with great joy in the gospel of his glorious and mighty resurrection from the dead. The apostle Paul says:

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now 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. For 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.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism.

Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold us all according to Your boundless mercy and bless us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in us, which has been inherited from Adam and which we ourselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that we be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, we would be declared worthy of eternal life; 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?

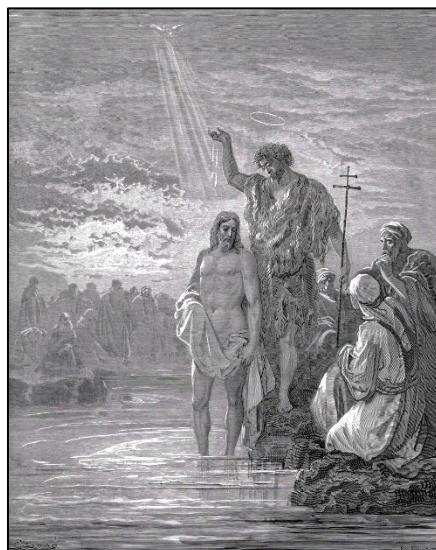
C Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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

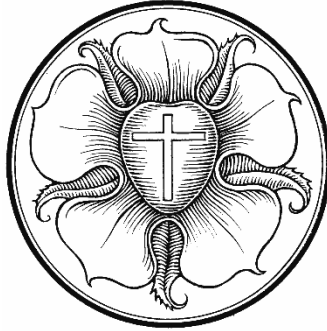
C Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right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



**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION
& THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**



Nathan Wesley Hansford
Baptized March 9, 2014

William Henry Hansford
Baptized March 9, 2014

Melanie Hope Landfair
Baptized November 1, 1986

Having been catechized in the foundations of the orthodox Christian faith, the solemn rite of Confirmation confesses the faith of the catechumen, and seals the pledge of forgiveness, life, and salvation made by our Lord in the sacrament of Holy Baptism to the one who believes in His name.

The Sacred Chrism, or anointing with oil, indicates the giving of the Holy Spirit, by which God now dwells within the faithful, and the faithful in God, as the Lord's beloved possession.

- P** You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.
- P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- R** *Yes, I do.*
- P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?
- R** *I do.*
- P** Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
- R** *I do.*
- P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death,

rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

P Melanie Hope Landfair, upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

R *Amen.*

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing and the anointing with chrism. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

P Nathan Wesley Hansford, be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. 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.

R *Amen.*

P William Henry Hansford, be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. 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.

R *Amen.*

The pastor addresses the congregation:

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.**

HYMN

Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

#597

3 **Dark the way, yet Christ precedes us,
Past the scowl of death He leads us;
Spreads a table where He feeds us
With His body and His blood.**

4 **Though around us death is seething,
God, His two-edged sword unsheathing,
By His Spirit life is breathing
Through the living, active Word.**

5 **Spirit, water, blood entreating,
Working faith and its completing
In the One whose death-defeating
Life has come, with life for all.**

Please stand

SERVICE OF PRAYER



By the Lenten Litany we place our trust in the bitter suffering and death of Our Lord Jesus Christ for our sake. Now by the Litany of the Resurrection we express our certainty and hope in our Lord's victory over death and our union with Him through Baptism into His glorious resurrection.

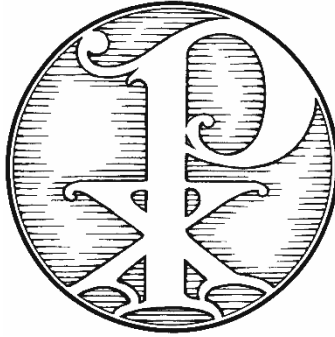
LITANY OF THE RESURRECTION

- 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 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.

Please be seated

SERVICE OF THE WORD



The paschal candle is returned to the Gospel side of the altar.

*The altar candles are lighted from the paschal candle,
and the paraments, books, and holy vessels return as the altar is vested,
preparing for Christ's return in His Holy Supper.*

By His Resurrection, Christ lives and reigns to all eternity. Through this Supper and Most Holy Eucharist, He is with us always in His very body and blood, now, and unto the end of the age.

Please stand

HYMN

Christ Is Arisen

#459

Cantor: Christ is arisen from the grave's dark prison.
So let our joy rise full and free; Christ with comfort true will be. Alleluia!

Choir: Were Christ not arisen, then death were still our prison.
Now, with Him to life restored, we praise the Father of our Lord. Alleluia!

All:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia! Now let our joy rise full and free;
Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

P Christ is risen.

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

DIGNUS EST



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



SALUTATION & COLLECT

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

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.

READING

Mark 16:1-8

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

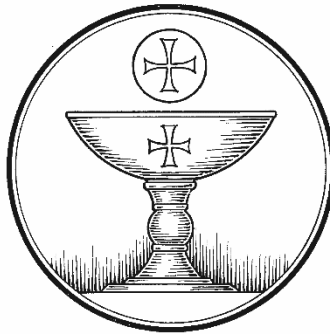
HYMN

Christ Is the World's Redeemer

#539

SERMON

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



Please stand

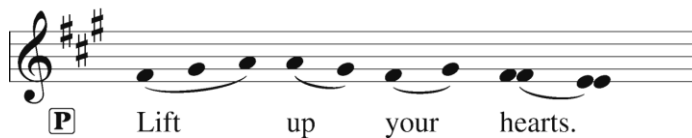
PREFACE



The Lord be with you.



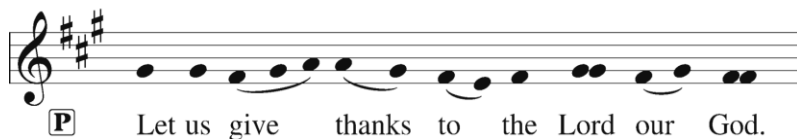
And al-so with you.



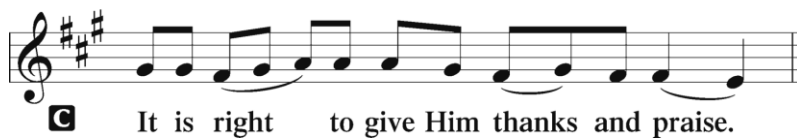
Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



C 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 & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, who of Your tender love for mankind gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon Him and to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. Assembled in His name and in the communion of all saints, we pray You send down Your Holy Spirit on us, and through Him to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our savior, Jesus Christ,

Who, 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Remembering therefore His whole work of redemption, His conception and birth, His suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension, and looking for His glorious coming again, we here present before You the remembrance which Your Son has commanded us to make, beseeching You graciously to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

We pray You that so many of us as shall here receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ may be filled with all heavenly benediction and grace. Grant to us, who trust in the multitude of Your mercies, our part and fellowship with all saints, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to You, O Father Almighty, forever and ever.



C A - men.

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

#957

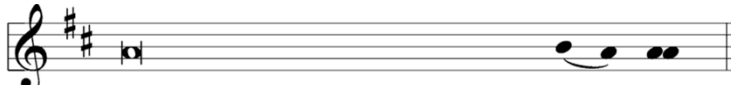
Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as
it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly
bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give
those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -
to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -
ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE INVITATION

P The holy things of God for the holy people of God.

C Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof.
But only speak a word, and I will be healed.

PAX DOMINI



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



A A - men.

AGNUS DEI



C 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.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh

#621

When all have received the Holy Supper, we stand to sing:

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

PRAYER

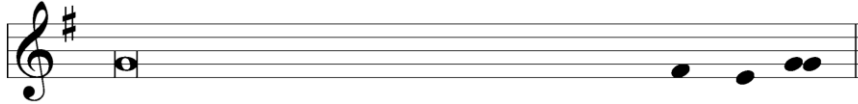
P Let us pray.

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 A - men.

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.



HYMN

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

#458

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today:

Pastor: Rev. George Fields

Interpreters: Denee Smith & Charlie Warren

Organist: Sr. Sara Fields

Acolytes: Nathan Hansford & William Hansford

Ushers: Bruce Bodkin & Mark Ochs

Crucifer: Glen Hansford

Lucifer: Keith Martin

Censor: William Held

Cantors & Choir: Mary Atchley

Emily Held

Eric Held

Christa Kettler

Rachel Landrum

Keith Martin

† FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION †

Sunday, April 5th

Easter Brunch

9:00 a.m.

Divine Service

10:30 a.m.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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