



the
Church of
Our Redeemer

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER



Saturday, April 20, 2019

7:30 p.m.

WELCOME!

Thank you for participating in our virtual worship.

Tune in at <https://www.our-redeemer.net/worship-live-streaming/>

or on our Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/Church-of-Our-Redeemer-145507075486413/>

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Today's liturgy is the third and final part of the The Paschal Triduum, the Sacred Three Days during which we celebrate the Paschal Mystery of our redemption, through which we pass over with Christ from death to new life. What began Maundy Thursday evening and continued through Good Friday reaches its climax in tonight's liturgy.

*You may wish to have **a candle to light, a bowl of water, and a bell to ring,** available as you worship at home.*

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Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Presider Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

The Presider traces the alpha and omega and date on the candle while saying:
Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, the alpha and the omega. All time belongs to him and all ages. To him be glory and dominion throughout all eternity. **Amen.**

The Presider inserts grains of incense into the candle while saying:
By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us. **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is then lit.



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.

You are invited to light your candle at home. As you do, know that candles are being lit in many homes and churches tonight as we spread Christ's light in the world.

The Exsultet

The Cantor sings:

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God

Deacon *People*

... for ev-er and ev - er. A - men.

Deacon

The Lord be with you.

People

And al - so with you.

Deacon

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Cantor It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns...

Deacon *People*

... for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Candles may now be extinguished, and the people may be seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

Presider Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how God saved God's people in ages past, and let us pray God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

The Story of Creation (Genesis 1:1-2:4a) the Story of the Flood (Genesis 7-9), the Story of Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea (Exodus 14-15), and the prophecy of Ezekiel (37:1-14) will be read from the storybook "Bible Stories for the 40 Days" by Melissa Musick Nussbaum, illustrations by Judy Jarrett.

Presider Let us pray. *(Please stand in body or in spirit.)*

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life; Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The service now takes a turn from solemn to celebratory as we celebrate our passage with Christ from death to life, and with the church from paschal fast to paschal feast. The Alleluias that the children of Redeemer buried on Shrove Tuesday are now unburied. Ring your bell at home as soon as you see the first Alleluia arise, and every time we say the word Alleluia in rest of this service. The service now takes a turn from solemn to celebratory as we celebrate our passage with Christ from death to life, and with the church from paschal fast to paschal feast.

Ring your bell at home as we say:

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Collect for the Easter Vigil

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Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Easter Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

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

Sermon

The Rev. Kate Ekrem

Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Presider Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are all buried with Christ by baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism.

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

People **I do.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

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

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

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

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

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

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

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

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

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

Presider Will you cherish the wondrous works of God and protect the beauty and integrity of creation?

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

Touch the water in your bowl as we say together:

Presider and people together:

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Grant by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we who sign ourselves with the cross and with water as a reminder of our Baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To Christ, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Make the sign of the cross on your forehead with water from the bowl. In some places, it is also a tradition to splash each other with water to celebrate Easter!

Let us pray together:

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

Presider:

O death, where is thy sting?
O Hell, where is thy victory?

Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are annihilated!
Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down!
Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice!
Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!

Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead;
for Christ having risen from the dead,
is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

To Christ be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!

--from the Easter Homily of St. John Chrysostom

Easter Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal (*ring your bells!*)

Leader Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

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



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Mr. Roy McHoul, Sexton