

April 19, 2025
8:00 p.m. - Easter Eve
The Great Vigil of Easter

EASTER VIGIL: THE CHRISTIAN PASSOVER

The Jewish Passover commemorated the slaying of the first-born, the exodus from Egypt, and the entry into the Promised Land. Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of the old feast for the early church. In almost every language except English the same word is used for the Jewish Passover and the Christian Easter - pascha. The celebration of the Christian Passover or Paschal Vigil can certainly be documented as far back as the second century.

Our current Prayer Book recovers the ancient Vigil, the keystone about which the rest of the church year is built. Other baptisms of the year reflect this primary baptism rite. Other Eucharists of the year are the repeatable part of this rite. In the Great Vigil of Easter we celebrate and make present the pivotal events of the Old and New Testament heritage, the passover of the Hebrews from the bondage of slavery in Egypt to the freedom of the Promised Land, the passover of our Lord Jesus Christ from death, and our own passover from the bondage of sin and death to the glorious liberty of new life in Christ Jesus.

-Taken from Commentary on the American Prayer Book, by Marion J. Hatchett

MINISTERS FOR THIS SERVICE

All God's People, including:

The Very Rev. David Michaud	<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rev. Greg Harbaugh	<i>Preacher</i>
The Lynn Wiljanen	<i>Deacon</i>	James Wallace	<i>Music Director & Organist</i>
The St. Peter's Choir		Annie Nichols	<i>Acolyte/Crucifer</i>
Richard Culver, Tom Moskios & Annie Nichols	<i>Lectors</i>		
Phil & Karen Shields	<i>Ushers</i>	Will Burdett	<i>Camera Operator</i>
Kathy Fahey, Linda Smith & Cheryl Steczak	<i>Altar Guild</i>		

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

In the darkening evening, the fire is kindled; after which the celebrant addresses the people in these words.

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Blessing of the Paschal Candle

The Celebrant traces the cross

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End.

The Celebrant traces the Alpha and Omega

Alpha and Omega

The Celebrant traces the year

Here are the times and ages. To him be glory and dominion through all ages of eternity. Amen.


The Celebrant places five grains of incense, one each into the four points and the center of the cross, saying:

Through his holy and glorious wounds may Christ the Lord guard and preserve us.

The candle is now lighted, the Celebrant then saying
May the light of Christ, gloriously rising, dispel the darkness of our hearts and
minds.

The People's candles are then lit from Paschal Candle. The Deacon bearing the candle,
leads the procession of the people into the church. The Deacon pauses three times and
sings:

Deacon *People*



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

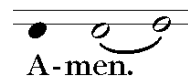
At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.

The People follow the Deacon in the procession and take their places in the pews. Other
candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the altar, are also lighted at this
time. The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

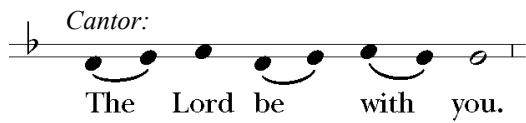
Then the Cantor, standing near the candle, sings the Exsultet:

The Exsultet

Cantor: Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trum-
pets 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 van-
quished 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, for ever and ever.

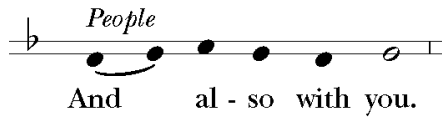
People: 
A-men.

Cantor:



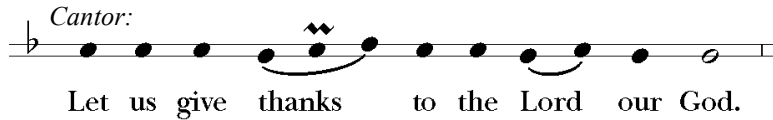
The Lord be with you.

People



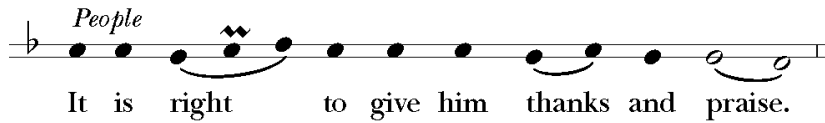
And al - so with you.

Cantor:



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

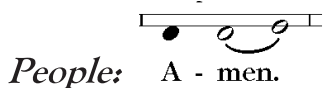


It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God. 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 for ever and ever.



People: A - men.

It is customary that the Paschal Candle burn at all services from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost.

The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant: Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

All are seated. The people's candles are extinguished. A lesson is read, after which a Psalm, Canticle or Hymn is read or sung as indicated. Then a period of silence may be kept, and the Collect is said.

READING: The story of Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 136: 1-9, 23-26

Confitemini

BCP 789

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *for his mercy endures for ever. | 8 The sun to rule the day, * for his mercy endures for ever; |
| 2 Give thanks to the God of gods, * for his mercy endures for ever. | 9 The moon and the stars to govern the night, *for his mercy endures for ever. |
| 3 Give thanks to the Lord of Lords, * for his mercy endures for ever. | 23 Who remembered us in our low estate, * for his mercy endures for ever; |
| 4 Who only does great wonders, * for his mercy endures for ever; | 24 And delivered us from our enemies, *for his mercy endures for ever; |
| 5 Who by wisdom made the heavens, *for his mercy endures for ever; | 25 Who gives food to all creatures, * for his mercy endures for ever. |
| 6 Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *for his mercy endures for ever; | 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, * for his mercy endures for ever. |
| 7 Who created great lights, * for his mercy endures for ever; | |

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence.

Priest: O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

READING: The Flood

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13

Sung by all, standing

Hymn #699 *Jesus, Lover Of My Soul*

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence.

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

People: Amen.

READING: Abraham's Sacrifice of Isaac

Genesis 22:1-18

Psalm 16

Conserva me, Domine

BCP 599

1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; * I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, * upon those who are noble among the people.

3 But those who run after other gods * shall have their troubles multiplied.

4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, * nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; * it is you who uphold my lot.

7

6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; * indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; * my body also shall rest in hope.

7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; * my heart teaches me, night after night.

10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, * nor let your holy one see the Pit.

8 I have set the Lord always before me; * because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

11 You will show me the path of life; * in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence

Priest: God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

READING: Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10 - 15:1

Sung by all, standing

Hymn #648 *When Israel Was in Egypt's Land*

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence

Priest: O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery

under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

READING: Salvation offered freely to all

Isaiah 55:1-11

Sung by all, standing

Hymn #692 I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence.

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

People: Amen.

READING: Learn Wisdom and live

Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4

Psalm 19

Cæli enarrant

BCP 606

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, * and the firmament shows his handiwork.

4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, * and their message to the ends of the world.

2 One day tells its tale to another, * and one night imparts knowledge to another.

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; * it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

3 Although they have no words or language, * and their voices are not heard,

6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; * nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; * the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; * the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; * the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, * sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence.

Priest: O God, you led your ancient people by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we, who serve you now on earth, may come to the joy of that heavenly Jerusalem, where all tears are wiped away and where your saints for ever sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, * and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? * cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; * then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, * O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Sung by all, standing

Hymn #297 *Descend, O Spirit, Purging Flame*

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence

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

People: Amen.

READING: The valley of dry bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 143

Domine, exaudi

BCP 798

1 Lord, hear my prayer, and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; * answer me in your righteousness.

6 I spread out my hands to you; * my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.

2 Enter not into judgment with your servant, *for in your sight shall no one living be justified.

7 O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; * do not hide your face from me or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

3 For my enemy has sought my life; he has crushed me to the ground; * he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.

8 Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning, for I put my trust in you; * show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my soul to you.

4 My spirit faints within me; * my heart within me is desolate.

9 Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, * for I flee to you for refuge.

5 I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds; * I consider the works of your hands.

10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; * let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

11 Revive me, O Lord, for your Name's sake; * for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

12 Of your goodness, destroy my enemies and bring all my foes to naught, * for truly I am your servant.

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

READING: The gathering of God's people

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sung by all, standing

Hymn #604 *When Christ Was Lifted From The Earth*

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence

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

People: Amen.

Homily

The Rev. Greg Harbaugh

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant: Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

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

People: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Baptism Hymn #295 *Sing Praise To Our Creator*


The Holy Eucharist

Celebrant



Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People



The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia.

All the lights are turned on. The altar candles are now lit from the Paschal Candle. All may ring bells now through the singing of the Gloria.

Gloria S278



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

The Epistle - *The people sit for the reading of The Epistle.*

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans (6:3-11)

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

All stand. The cantor sings the Great Alleluia of Easter as the gospel procession moves to the center of the congregation.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (24:1-12)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you,

while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Prayers of the People: Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
Silence

Celebrant says the Concluding Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements - *The people are seated.*

To make your offering electronically, please scan the QR code.



Anthem at the Offertory *Christ The Lord Is Risen Again* – F.R.C. Clarke

Christ the Lord is risen again; Christ has broken death's strong chain. Hark, the angels shout for joy, singing evermore on high: Hallelujah! He who gave for us his life, who for us endured the strife, is our Paschal Lamb today. We too sing for joy and say: Hallelujah! Now he bids us tell abroad how the lost may be restored, how the penitent forgiv'n, how we too may enter heav'n, Hallelujah! Thou our Pascal Lamb indeed, Christ, today thy people feed; take our sins and guilt away, that we all may sing for ay, Hallelujah!

text: Michael Weisse (c. 1480-1534)

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The People may kneel or stand

Celebrant: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at sup-

per with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People: We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Celebrant: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. Remember Sean our Presiding Bishop, Santosh our Bishop, and all who minister in your Church.

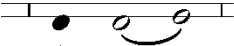
Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all those in whose memory and honor the flowers on the altar are given.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Blessed Peter and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

People: 
A-men.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now say,

Celebrant and People:

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

THE FRACTION

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S151



Cantor

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

All

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

Cantor
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us

All
keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

You may receive a blessing at the Communion Rail if you are not baptized. Please indicate your desire to receive a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest.

The customary posture for receiving communion is to kneel at the rail and place one hand over the other for the bread. You may, of course, stand to receive communion. Consume the bread. The minister holding the chalice will then present the chalice to you. Please, guide the chalice to your lips. If you prefer you may dip the wafer into the wine.

Gluten-Free Communion Wafers are available. Let the Clergy know if you would like a gluten-free wafer when you receive Holy Communion at the communion rail.

Communion Hymn #306 Come, Risen Lord

Post-Communion Prayer - the People kneel

Celebrant: Let us pray.


Celebrant and People: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

All Stand.


Closing Hymn #210 *The Day Of Resurrection*

Easter Blessing


Celebrant: 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.

People:  A - men.


Celebrant: 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.

People:  A - men.

Celebrant: 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.

People:  A - men.

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

People:  A - men.

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: *Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

Voluntary Final from Symphony 2, Widor

Thank you for being part of our congregation this evening. Happy Easter!



ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Salisbury, Maryland

Founded 1768

To Know and Share the Love of Christ

