

# The Great Vigil of Easter

Saturday, April 4, 2026

## The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

*In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Officiant may address the people in these or similar words.*

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 Officiant may say the following prayer.*

Let us pray.

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

*The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire.*

*People* The light of Christ.  
Thanks be to God.

*The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.*

## The Exsultet

*Then the Deacon, or other person appointed, standing near the Candle, sings or says the Exsultet, as follows (the indicated sections may be omitted)*

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, for ever and ever. *Amen*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*Answer* And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Answer* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us 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. *Amen*.

# The Liturgy of the Word

*The Officiant may introduce the Scripture readings in these or similar words*

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

## The Story of Creation

Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying,

"Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

## Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

*Antiphon*

The image shows a musical score for an antiphon. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "God's mer - cy en - dures for ev - - - er." The word "ev" is followed by three dashes, indicating a long note or a specific rhythmic value. The music is a simple, homophonic setting of the text.

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

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

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. *Amen.*

## Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10–31; 15:20-21

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.”

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the

people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses. Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

## Canticle 8

*Antiphon*



I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; \*  
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.  
The Lord is my strength and my refuge; \*  
the Lord has become my Savior.  
This is my God and I will praise him, \*  
the God of my people and I will exalt him.  
The Lord is a mighty warrior; \*  
Yahweh is his Name.  
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; \*  
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.  
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; \*  
they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; \*  
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.  
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? \*  
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?  
You stretched forth your right hand; \*  
the earth swallowed them up.  
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; \*  
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.  
You will bring them in and plant them \*  
on the mount of your possession,  
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, \*  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.  
The Lord shall reign \* for ever and for ever.

Let us pray. (Silence)

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Gathering of God's People

Zephaniah 3:12-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

## Psalm 98

Antiphon

Shout with joy — to the LORD, — all you lands; lift up your voice, re - jice — and sing.

The image shows a musical score for the antiphon of Psalm 98. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.

- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

Let us pray. (Silence)

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

**The Homily**

The Rev. Martin Gutwein

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

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.

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

*People* I do.

*Officiant* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Officiant* 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.

*Officiant* 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.

*Officiant* 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.

*Officiant* 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.

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

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

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

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

*Officiant* 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 Officiant 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.*

## **The Holy Eucharist**

*The altar candles are now lit.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Christ is Risen

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

**Gloria in Excelsis** (*ring bells*)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

## **The Collect for Easter**

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

## The Epistle

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.

## Gradual Hymn

No. 199

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!  
God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness:  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,  
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ hath burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;  
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying  
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal:  
but today amidst thine own thou didst stand, bestowing  
that thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing.

## The Holy Gospel

Mark 16:1-18

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Christ being raised from the dead will never die again \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and 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. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.

### **The Prayers of the People**

*All remain standing.*

Jesus Christ is risen today, our triumphant holy day. Alleluia!  
So let us pray to our Lord, saying, "To you we offer praise eternal; Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Heavenly King, for us you endured the cross and the grave. When we were yet sinners, you redeemed and saved us. May we sing your eternal praises everywhere we go.

To you we offer praise eternal;  
*People: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Incarnate Love, where hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, call forth new life by your touch. Bring forth life in the barren places of this world.

To you we offer praise eternal;  
*People: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Author of Life, you are the ruler of creation. All things created on earth sing to your glory. From the death of the winter, raise the fair beauty of earth.

To you we offer praise eternal;  
*People: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Living Savior, you hold the future. You bless and restore our families, our communities, our world with babies and children. Though they face uncertain days, we trust them to the certainty of your endless and eternal love.

To you we offer praise eternal;

*People: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Jesus the health of the world, pour out your balm on our souls and the souls of all in pain or sorrow. Be the source of life for all people.

To you we offer praise eternal;

*People: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Purify us. O Lord from all evil that we may rightly see you in the eternal light of your resurrection. By your victory, bring us from death to life eternal... We remember all the dearly departed family and friends listed in the Easter Flower Memorials.

To you we offer praise eternal;

*People: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant*                      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*                              And also with you.

### **Offertory Hymn**

No. 417

*This is the feast of victory for our God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
Whose blood set us free to be the people of God. (*Antiphon*)

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and all glory are his. (*Antiphon*)

Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation. (*Antiphon*)

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be  
to our God and the Lamb for ever. (*Antiphon*)

For the Lamb who was slain has  
begun his reign. Alleluia! (*Antiphon*)

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# The Holy Communion

## The Great Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing.*

### Eucharistic Prayer A

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.  
People: And also with you.  
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.  
People: We lift them to the Lord.  
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The people kneel. The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

*The Celebrant then continues*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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 Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]*

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give *The Celebrant says*

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **Spiritual Communion**

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. *(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)*

### **Communion Hymn**

**No. 174**

At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our victorious King,  
who hath washed us in the tide flowing from his pierced side;  
praise we him, whose love divine gives his sacred Blood for wine,  
gives his Body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Where the Paschal blood is poured, death's dark angel sheathes his sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, Paschal bread;  
with sincerity and love eat we manna from above.

Mighty victim from on high, hell's fierce powers beneath thee lie;  
thou hast conquered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:  
now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall;  
thou hast opened paradise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.

Easter triumph, Easter joy, these alone do sin destroy.  
From sin's power do thou set free souls newborn, O Lord, in thee.  
Hymns of glory, songs of praise, Father, unto thee we raise:  
risen Lord, all praise to thee with the Spirit ever be.

### Post Communion Hymn

No. 178

*Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. *Refrain.*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth. Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain.*

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live forever. *Refrain.*

Come, let us praise the living God, Joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain.*

Words: Donald Fishel

Music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel, arr. Betty Pulkingham, Charles Mallory, George Mims

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### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

*The Celebrant and People together say*

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

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

## Closing Hymn

Hymnal 180

He is risen, he is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice:  
he has burst his three days' prison; let the whole wide earth rejoice:  
death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory.

Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted, with glad smile and radiant brow!  
Death's long shadows have departed; Jesus' woes are over now,  
and the passion that he bore—sin and pain can vex no more.

Come, with high and holy hymning, hail our Lord's triumphant day;  
not one darksome cloud is dimming yonder glorious morning ray,  
breaking o'er the purple east, symbol of our Easter feast.

He is risen, he is risen! He hath opened heaven's gate:  
we are free from sin's dark prison, risen to a holier state;  
and a brighter Easter beam on our longing eyes shall stream.

## The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia!  
*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia

## Easter Sunday at Holy Trinity

The service will be streamed on Facebook Live - follow the Worship Link on our website at [www.holytrinity.us](http://www.holytrinity.us)



### ***9:00 AM Festival Mass of the Resurrection***

April 5 - With music and incense, Easter will be celebrated with great Festivity and joy! This is the Queen of Feasts for we are heirs of the resurrection life. Please share this celebration with your whole family, your friends and neighbors. **Invite someone you know to attend Easter services with you!** Weather permitting, the service will be followed by an Easter Egg hunt for children.

## Notes and Announcements April 4, 2026

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer** for La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico...

**Diocesan Calendar of Prayer** for Easter Sunday...

**Parish Calendar of Prayer** for our Organist and our Choir...

**For our Sons and Daughters in the Military** Nathan, Kennedy, Zack, Jack, Garrett, Willie, Charley, Erin...

**For the Sick, Suffering & Infirm** Denise, Dan Sr., Stephen, Mark, Julia, Olivia, John, Sue, Bob, Dennis, Alex, Ben, Margie, Virginia, Brigid, Sharon C., Kate, Megan, Lisa & Frank, Mindy, Michael, Douglas, Christine, Al, Maureen, Drew, Alec, Greg, Tina, Mark L., Michael, Audrey, John, Colleen, Bob N., Kay, Milton, Shelley, Buddy, Bob, Gordon, Maggie, Sally, Tim, Howard, Butch, Jeff, Jack, Jessica, Bernadette, Tina...

**WELCOME** friends and visitors to this glorious celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. We pray that you will feel at home and be spiritually uplifted by this Easter Liturgy. All who have been baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you'd like more information about Holy Trinity and its Parish family, are interested being placed on the mailing list, please speak to our ushers as you leave this evening and please sign the guest register by the door.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO WELCOME** The Rev. Martin Gutwein whose ongoing care of our Holy Trinity family is deeply appreciated.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH FELLOWSHIP – Will meet again Sunday, April 19!** We're still having a great time at Sunday School, so plan from 4 to 5:30 p.m. for a children's chapel service, followed by snacks and age-appropriate activities for children and youth from pre-K through middle school.

**ONLINE GIVING**– To make it easier for folks to make their weekly offering, just follow the link on the [Holy Trinity website](http://www.holytrinity.us) or click [here](#) and send your contribution electronically through **Vanco**. (You are still welcome to mail your weekly offering if it is easier for you.) Thank you all for your continued financial support.

**2024 ALTAR FLOWER CHART** – is hanging at the back of the Church. If you would like to sponsor flowers for the Altar on any Sunday, please sign next to the desired date, if available or call the office at 856-858-0491. Flowers are \$50.00.

## *Easter Memorials 2026*

### Given By:

Howard & Jessica  
Greenfield  
Sue Verzella

### Thanksgiving for

For all that God Provides  
  
All the Blessings of this life

### Given by:

Yvonne Bones  
Debbie Cruz  
Jim Curran  
  
Barbara Duffy  
  
The Rev. Martin Gutwein  
& Toni Gutwein  
  
Lois Harwood

### In Memory of:

Rodney & Yvonne Ballenger, J. Merle Bones, David S. Snyder  
Cynthia Riddle, Barnard Klitsch, Luis & Petra Cruz  
Judy Curran, Linda Brandley, Peggy & Marvin Hennessy,  
Louise & Bernard Curran  
Fred Shindle, Sophie Jaeschke, Kip Duffy, Clara & Dan LaBrada,  
Diana & John Black, Jack Wiggins  
Mary James  
  
Ray & Flossie Harwood, Arthur & Bella Harwood,  
George & Annie Rose, Doris & Len Hutchinson,  
Bob & Ethel Harwood, Cliff & Alma Covington,  
Cass & Bill Harwood, Violet & Ed Kinder, Bud & Ida Harwood,  
Josephine Vollrath, Sue & Joe Jedrzejewski, Bea Rowand, Bud Heuer  
Anna & Robert Heim  
The Rev. Mark H. Chattin, John & Katherine Hoyt,  
The Very Rev. Lloyd G. & Mary Louise Chattin, Irene Parsells,  
Alessandra Chattin, Evelyn Simmons, Marigold  
Mary, Gail, Eric Tori, Josh  
Mary & Ed Ward, Alex & Alma Rugala, Patrick Ward, Robert Ward,  
Bernard Ward, Marion Ward  
Eleanor & Milton Sink, Eleanor & Charles Bush,  
Thomas & Eleanor, Tom Sink  
Eugene B. Sobota, Gene Osborne, Fred Bauer, Joan Sobota, Jerry  
Cindy Waldrop, Kiki

Richard Heim  
Theresa Hoyt-Chattin  
  
Sharon Reilley  
Diane Rugala  
  
Charlotte Sink  
  
Gene & Karen, Nick  
Osborne, Sobota  
  
Rob & Carol  
Staszewski

Andrew Staszewski

The Woods Family

Raymond W.& Bertha A. Woods, Raymond H. & Violet J. Woods  
Elizabeth Woods, Lawrence W. & Violet F. Stark,  
Cornelius J.& Sheila T. McPeak,  
Hugh J. McGuigan and Dorothy A. McGuigan, Hugh J. McGuigan Jr.