

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

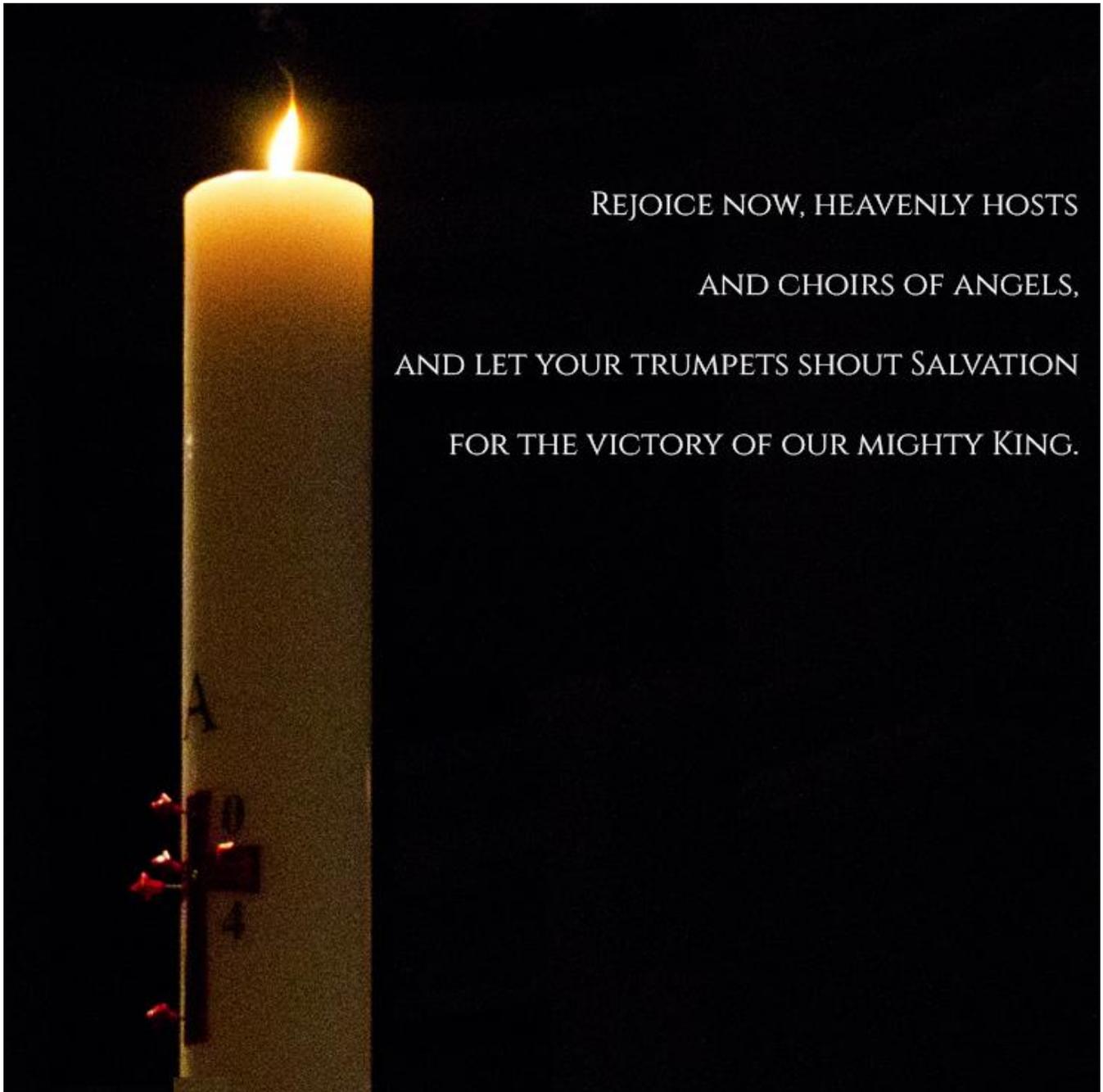
Extending the Love and Embrace of Christ

April 16, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Baptism

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The wearing of face masks is recommended, but optional, at Christ Church
You may stream this service from Christ Church's [website](#), [Facebook page](#), or [YouTube channel](#).



THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCAL CANDLE

The people stand as able.

The service begins with the kindling of a new fire, a symbol of renewal and rebirth.

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.

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.

People: Amen.

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

The Deacon, bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel.

The Deacon pauses three times and says the following each time:

Deacon: The Light of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Deacon: The Light of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Deacon: The Light of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE EXSULTET

Patrick Frith, cantor

Cantor: 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.

Cantor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also 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.

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 forever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

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.

The people may be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

The people stand as able.

HYMN 412 (V. 1-2) – Earth and All Stars

Earth and All Stars



1 Earth and all stars, loud rush - ing plan - ets, sing to the
2 Hail, wind, and rain, loud blow - ing snow - storms, sing to the



1 Lord _____ a new song! O vic - to - ry,
2 Lord _____ a new song! Flow - ers and trees,



1 loud shout - ing ar - my, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!
2 loud rus - tling dry leaves, sing to the Lord _____ a new song!



Refrain
He hath done mar - vel - ous things.



I, too, will praise him with a new song!

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

The people may be seated.

Please sing at direction of the cantor.

(Cantor; all repeat)

Sing a song of free - dom!

(Cantor; all repeat)

God has won the vic - t'ry.

(Cantor; all repeat)

Horse and char - i - ot are cast in - to the sea.

The people stand as able.

Celebrant:

Let us pray.

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 people may be seated.

THE THIRD LESSON

Salvation offered freely to all

Isaiah 55:1-11

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;

and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

1. Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust-ing him, I shall not fear.
2. Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed Name.

For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing help is near.
Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his might pro-claim.

So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal - va - tion's liv - ing spring;
Zi-on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with you has come to dwell,

in the day of your de - liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
in your ve - ry midst, the great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Celebrant:

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

THE FOURTH LESSON

The Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

ANTHEM – With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.

The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.

O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of his name, make his praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Alleluia.

Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.

THE FIFTH LESSON

The Gathering of God's People

Zephaniah 3:14-20

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY BAPTISM

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Jacob Lee Bianco

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents and
Godparents:* I present Jacob to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents:

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and
Godparents:* I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and
Godparents:* I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children:

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the Spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce all the sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

I do.

The celebrant then addresses the congregation:

Celebrant: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in their life in Christ?

***People:* We will.**

Celebrant: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

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 the 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.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Celebrant: Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.
Intervenor: Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervenor: Open his heart to your grace and truth.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervenor: Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervenor: Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervenor: Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervenor: Send him into the world in witness to your love.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intervenor: Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you
People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who pours water upon the candidate, saying:

Celebrant: I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The celebrant continues:

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the candidates' heads, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying:

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: We receive you into the household of God.
Confess the faith of Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

James Chepponis



Choir:
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father **Refrain**

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

OPENING COLLECT

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only- begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. or this 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 forever. **Amen.**

The people may be seated.

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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

SEQUENCE HYMN 205 – Good Christians, All Rejoice and Sing

Gelobt sei Gott

We will sing stanzas 1-3 before the reading of the Gospel, and 4-5 after.

1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the
 *2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
 4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the

1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
 2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
 3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:
 5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

***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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

***People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE PEACE

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

***People:* And also with you.**

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord and then be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING – Now Glad of Heart

K. Lee Scott

*Now glad of heart be every one! The fight is fought, the day is won,
The Christ is set upon His throne. Alleluia, alleluia!
Who on the rood was crucified, who rose again, as at this tide,
In glory to His Father's side. Alleluia, alleluia!
Who baffled death and barrowed hell and led the souls that loved Him well
All in the light of lights to dwell: Alleluia, alleluia!
To Him we lift our heart and voice And in his paradise rejoice
With harp and pipe and happy noise. Alleluia, alleluia!
The rise all Christian folk, with me And carol forth the One in Three
that was, and is and is to be, Alleluia, alleluia!*

The people stand as able.

PRESENTATION 400, V. 7

Laast Uns Erfreuen

Let all things their creator bless, and worship him in humbleness, O praise him, Alleluia!

Praise God the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

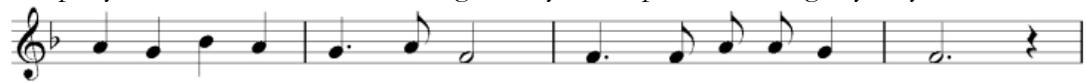
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



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



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: 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.

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:

All: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: 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 forever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Fa - ther in heav'n, hal - lowed be your Name, your king - dom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heav'n. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we for - give those

who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial, and de - li - ver us from e - vil.

For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men. *rit.*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

Mode 6 melody; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

Cantor: Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Choir: **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Cantor: The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

Choir: **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

Cantor: One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

Choir: **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.**

COMMUNION HYMN LEVAS 41 – Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia!

1. Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia. Re-joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
2. For three long days the grave did its worst un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
3. The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for Je - sus who is not here.

For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb, e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
He who gives life did death un - der - go, and in its con - quest his might did show.
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare. On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy. Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de -

stroy. Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: 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.

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: Amen.

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 forever. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

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

CLOSING HYMN 174 – At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing

Salzburg



1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing, praise to our vic - to - rious King,
2. Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
3. Migh - ty vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;
4. Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.



who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:
From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.



praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;
now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:



gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.
ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:
Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE – Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Paul Manz

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Send announcements to communications@christchurchcolumbia.org

Easter Sunday: This Sunday | Join us in worship this Palm Sunday, as we'll have Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Weather permitting, we will begin the Sunday morning services in Old Brick, and process together over to the New Brick Sanctuary during the liturgy. That evening, join us for Meditations on the Passion at 7:30 p.m. in New Brick. If you want to join us for any service in person, please **complete our brief attendance registration form**, and with **every county in the Diocese of Maryland currently in the Green Omicron phase**, remember that masks are now optional for all parishioners while on campus. We will also livestream the New Brick portions of the 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. services on all of our usual platforms. **See you on Sunday!**

Holy Week Formation Classes | Please note that all Formation and Confirmation classes are taking a break for Holy Week and Easter. All three - Sunday School, Sunday Circle, and Confirmation Class - will resume on Sunday, April 24th.

Sign Up for Coffee Hour | Coffee Hour is back! The Green Omicron phase permits us to resume those activities where we serve food. This includes our Coffee Hour, and so we hope you'll join us for refreshments and fellowship time between services this Sunday, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. If you'd like to help by providing light refreshments for a future Coffee Hour, **please sign up using this link** or scan the QR code on the Coffee Hour posters in the Narthex.

Easter Altar Flowers and Gifts | Easter Sunday is a time that we honor, remember, or give thanks for someone or a blessing in our lives by donating flowers to adorn our worship spaces as we celebrate our risen Lord. If you would like to present Altar gifts this Easter, you can find our online Easter Offering form at **<https://onrealm.org/christchurchcolumbia/-/form/give/lenteaster>**. Be sure to place the dedication name(s) in the *MEMO* line. You can also drop a donation on Sunday or during the week; include the same dedication information on the *MEMO* line of a check, please. **Email the Church Office** with any questions.

Church Office Closed | Please note that the Church Office will be closed for business on Friday, April 15th, and Monday, April 18th, in observance of Easter. It will resume business on the morning of Tuesday, April 19th.

Adult and Children's Choir News | There are no choir rehearsals next week. We will resume later this month, and announce the date in upcoming *Gatherings* editions. If you've ever been interested in joining our choir, now's that time... and this invitation is open to every parishioner. No experience is necessary. Generally, the Children's Choir meets on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Adult Choir meets Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Please email **music@christchurchcolumbia.org** to learn more.

Lectionary Bible Study – Wednesdays | Bible Study takes place on Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., discussing and reflecting on the readings for the coming Sunday. Our next gathering's readings are located **at [LectionaryPage.net](#)**. You do not have to know much about the Bible; just join in and we'll all study and learn together. The Zoom link is here, Meeting ID is **885 9287 2661** and the Password is **CECBible**.

CEC Book Club – Fridays | The CEC Book Club takes this week off for Good Friday and resumes on April 22nd at 7:30 p.m. with our discussion of the book *Why I Believe in a Personal God: The Credibility of Faith in a Doubting Culture* by George Carey. We're always welcoming new members to join our virtual gathering. For about an hour, we discuss a specified section of the current book and plan future readings and ideas. The Zoom link is here, the Meeting ID is **894 0227 6226**, the Password is **CECbooks** and we hope that you'll find time to join us for this engaging and enlightening group discussion.

Women of Christ Church News for April | Mark Your Calendars: 12:00 p.m., Saturday, April 23rd, we'll be meeting at the Robinson Nature Center to have lunch and conversation followed by a walk through their trails. We'll meet at the outside tables near the Center's front door. It's free to use the trails, and if you want to visit the exhibits, it will cost \$5. Bring your lunch, and join us for a spring walk!

Our trip to Seafarers has been changed from April 7th to April 21st, so you still have time to donate, if you'd like to. This will be our last donation trip before autumn. They are in need of men's shirts, especially flannel shirts, sizes M-L, and are also in need of warm socks, sized men's medium. As always, they are grateful for calendars, magazines, and notecards. If you'd like to donate, the Seafarer's bin is under the table in the tower room of New Brick.

There are several other WOCC news items this month, so **[please be sure to check the WOCC page on the Christ Church website for those.](#)**

Christ Church's Grief Support Group | If you are grieving a loss and would like to occasionally join a group of others for mutual support and learning, please let us know. Christ Church is planning on creating a Zoom gathering, led by Mother Marcia, for those who might find comfort in sharing &/or listening to experiences of processing loss. This group would meet on a schedule that's most convenient for all participants. Mother Marcia is also happy to meet individually to offer pastoral care and counseling, so if you're interested in taking part in either gathering, **[please email](#)** or speak to her at any time.

A Message of Gratitude from our Afghan Refugee Family | Each member of the Afghan refugee family who has been under Christ Church's care and support since late December is so full of gratitude for what we have done, and continue to do, to help them. Anwar, the oldest son, recently wrote this poem for us and chose the accompanying photo. You can view this in last week's blog post on the Christ Church Outreach page.

On Sundays May 8th and May 22nd, the family will be at Christ Church between the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services so they can meet more of us, and so more of us can meet them. Please plan to come.

And please continue to pray for this family and for refugees everywhere. Thank you for giving so generously. Thank you for your help in so many ways. To talk about what is needed to support this ministry and what you can do, please contact Deacon Denise, Jan DeBoissiere, Cherrylyn Williams, or any member of the Afghan Refugee Ministry committee.

Donate Snacks, Crackers, and Cookies to FISH in Bin on our Breezeway | Organizers for **[FISH of Howard County](#)** are continuing to ask for cookies, crackers, and snacks to fulfill its shopping lists. The yellow bin is between Old Brick and the Parish Hall. Thanks for your contributions to our neighbors in need.

In general, if you have suggestions about ways to help the community, if you want to get involved, or if you need assistance, please email Christ Church Outreach at **outreach@christchurchcolumbia.org**. Your help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.



WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF OUR BELOVED CHRIST CHURCH

Because of your genuine and overwhelming acts of selflessness, kindness, grace, compassion, and love, you continue to give immensely to support and build our common life at Christ Church. You inject life into Christ Church so that we may be able to serve the world. It is your giving that has made it possible for us to accomplish some of the work that God has given us. The truth is that we have been able to minister and serve countless people because of your faithfulness, and for that, we thank God for each one of you and thank God for what God is doing in your lives.

We also want to thank **YOU**. Your faithfulness is what makes life happen at Christ Church. Your faithfulness makes Christ Church stronger. Your faithfulness enables Christ Church to embrace, with courage, the task that God has for us.

We need to remember that Christ Church is completely dependent on this faithfulness. Your beloved Christ Church counts on you and your faithful giving, and so as we celebrate the season of giving, we want to highly encourage all who have not fully completed their pledge for 2021 to remember their faithfulness. We also want to appeal to all who have not as yet returned their pledge for 2022 to remember their faithfulness.

TEXT GIVING: You can now give securely and conveniently by using your mobile phone! Simply text **CECGIVING** to **73256**, and you'll receive a secure link to our page where you can set up a one-time or recurring gift.

ONLINE GIVING: You can also continue to pledge and give to Christ Church online. It's a safe and secure method of contributing towards your annual pledge or another offering. Whether it's a one-time donation or a recurring gift, you can go to our [overview page](#) for instructions and links. Signing up is fast and easy; if you need assistance doing so, or if you have any Stewardship-related questions, please contact us at info@christchurchcolumbia.org



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The Rev'd Emmanuel Ato Mercer, *Rector*

The Rev'd Marcia Davenport, *Associate Priest*

The Rev'd Denise Schiavone, *Deacon*

Todd Domer, *Youth Minister*

Len Langrick, *Interim Music Director*

Kathleen Lyon, *Pastoral Care Coordinator*

Yetti Lipede, *Ministry Coordinator*

Christopher Pouch, *Communications Administrator*

Aisha White, *Parish Administrator*

James Peters, *Sexton*

Vestry

Sara Kirkpatrick (*Senior Warden*) • Isaac Olajide (*Junior Warden*) • Andrew Eaton (*Treasurer*) Ron Couch (*Registrar*)

Tim Beaty • Jan DeBoissiere • Alfred Titus-Glover • Lynn Foor • Greta Pike-Barnes •

Jason Whong • Jane Adams • Diane Phillips-Laguerre • Beth Johnson • Andrea Leeman