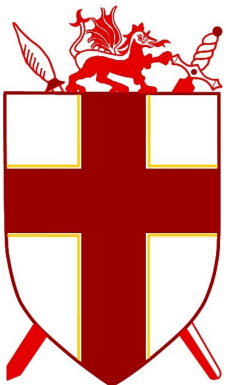


The Great Vigil of Easter



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in the heart of the historic Stockade District

The Great Vigil of Easter is perhaps the most theologically important service of the Church Year. In it the new fire of God is struck, banishing darkness, and showing forth the victory won on Good Friday; the saving acts of God in history are recounted in the Exsultet and in scripture; new Christians are made through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism; the vows made by all Christians at their baptisms are renewed; and with the end of the Lenten observance, the first mass of the joyful season of Easter is celebrated. The Vigil is not a short service. It marks time in the evening, while the people await the announcement of the Resurrection: "Alleluia. Christ is risen!" He is risen indeed, and the Paschal Candle burns as a sign of the presence of the resurrected Christ.

THE MINSTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGIES

Celebrant:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, <i>Rector</i>
Deacon of the Mass :	The Reverend Abigail Bee, <i>Parish Deacon</i>
Subdeacon:	Mr Christopher Henry
Master of Ceremonies:	Dr Kevin Decker
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Thurifer:	Mr. David Kennison
Boat Boy	Aiden Bassant
Acolytes:	Eric Bassant, Anne Kennison, JJ Moran.

THE GREAT VIGIL AND FIRST MASS OF EASTER

THE SOLEMN BLESSING OF THE NEW FIRE

V. The Lord be with you

R. And with thy Spirit.

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church doth bid 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 Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, who through thy Son, who is the true corner-stone, hast bestowed upon thy faithful people the fire of thy brightness: we beseech thee that thou wouldest sanctify this new fire, now struck by us from flint-stone, to be profitable to our service: and grant unto us that by this paschal feast we may be so inflamed with heavenly desires, that we may with pure hearts and minds attain unto the feast of thine eternal brightness. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen

During the procession, the following versicle and response are sung three times by deacon and people:

V. The Light of Christ. *iiij.*

R. Thanks be to God. *iiij.*

THE BLESSING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

THE EXSULTET

Now let the Angelic host of heaven be joyful; let the divine Mysteries be celebrated with exultation; and for the victory of so great a King, let them sound the trumpet of salvation. Let earth itself rejoice, enlightened with such glorious radiance; and shining with the splendor of the King eternal, let the whole world perceive that darkness, gloom, and sorrow have been driven hence. Let, also, our Mother, the Church, exult, adorned with the glory of so great a light: and let this holy house resound again with the triumphant voices of the people. Wherefore, I pray you, brethren most beloved, ye that stand by within the wondrous brightness of this holy light, to join with me in calling upon Almighty God: that he, who, not for my deserving, hath been pleased to gather me into the number of his Levites: would pour forth upon me the light of his Holy Spirit, and so fit me to express the worthy signification of this waxen taper. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, his only Son, who with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Deacon Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Deacon Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that with the service of the voice, and with all the affection of heart and soul, we should laud the invisible God, the Father Almighty and his only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; who for us paid the debt of Adam to the Father eternal, and blotted out the handwriting of the olden trespass with his precious Blood. For this is the feast of the Passover, whereon he, the true lamb, is slain, and by his Blood are all our doorposts hallowed. For this is the night whereon at first thou madest our fathers, the children of Israel, when led forth out of Egypt, to pass, dryshod, over the Red Sea. This therefore is the night which dispelled the darkness of sin by the light of the fiery pillar. This is the night which now, throughout all the world, setteth apart them that believe in Christ from the corruption of this life, and from the blackness of offences, restoreth them to grace, and uniteth them in holiness. This is the night whereon, when he had broken the bonds of death, Christ came up a Conqueror from the lower parts. For being born would naught have availed us, unless we had been redeemed. O wondrous condescension of thy loving kindness towards us! O tenderness of love without all price. That to redeem the bondman thou didst deliver up the Son! O surely needs must have been the sin of Adam which the death of Christ hath forever blotted out! O happy failing, to remedy which there was granted so good and so mighty a Redeemer! O night verily blessed, which alone was counted worthy to know the time and the hour at which Christ rose again from the lower parts. For this is the night concerning which it is written: But the night is as clear as the Day; And, Then shall my night be turned to day in my gladness. Therefore the sacredness of this holy night banisheth vice, washeth away guilt; and restoreth innocence to the fallen, and joy to the sorrowful. It putteth enmities to flight, prepareth peace, and boweth down dominions.

Here the five grains of blessed incense are fixed into the candle in the form of a Cross.

Therefore in thanksgiving for this night do thou receive, O Holy Father, this evening sacrifice of incense, which by the hands of her ministers the Holy Church maketh unto thee in the offering of this waxen candle. But now we know the signification of this Pillar which, in honour of God, the sparkling fire now kindleth.

Here the Paschal Candle is lighted.

Although it be dived into many parts, yet it knoweth no loss by the communication of its light. For it is fed by the melting wax, provided by its mother the bee for the making of this most precious taper.

The other candles in the church are now lighted.

O verily blissful night, which spoiled the Egyptians, and enriched the Hebrews! Night wherein earth and heaven, things human and divine are joined! We therefore pray thee, O Lord, that our faith, of which this waxen Candle consecrated in honour of thy Name is but a figure, may continue unfailing to vanquish the night of all our darkness. Let it find acceptance before thee as a sweet-smelling savour, and be mingled with the burning lights of heaven. Let the Bright and Morning Star find it burning when he appeareth. That Morning

Star, I say, which shall never know his going down, even he, who coming forth again from the lower parts, hath shed abroad his gladsome light on all mankind. We therefore beseech thee, O Lord, that it may please thee to preserve thy servants, both all the Clergy and thy faithful people, together with Jeremiah our Bishop, that we, being guided governed, and preserved under thy continual protection, may have peaceful times in these our Paschal joys; through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE PROPHECIES

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 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.

Response by cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray. *Deacon:* Let us bow the knee. (*all genuflect*). *Subdeacon:* Arise.

O God, who in a wondrous manner didst create the race of man, and still more wondrously hast redeemed the same: Grant us, we beseech thee, so steadfastly to withstand all the crafts and devices of sin, that we may be found worthy to attain everlasting felicity. Through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. **Amen.**

The Flood

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

The LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind- every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.

The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him anymore.

In the six hundred first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month,

on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh~ birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth~ so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

Response by cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray. *Deacon:* Let us bow the knee. *(all genuflect).* *Subdeacon:* Arise.

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

Abraham's Sacrifice of Isaac

Genesis 22:1-18

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.

On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your

offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Response by Cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Deacon: Let us bow the knee. (*all genuflect*). *Subdeacon:* Arise.

O God, Almighty Father of them that put their trust in thee, for the glory of thy Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of thy children; that thy Church may rejoice to see fulfilled thy promise to our father Abraham; through 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."

Response by cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray. *Deacon:* Let us bow the knee. (*all genuflect*). *Subdeacon:* Arise.

O God, who hast ordained that thy mighty works of old should enlighten even this our present generation; who didst by the mighty defense of thy right hand deliver one people from persecution in the land of Egypt to be a figure of the salvation of all nations by the washing of regeneration: Grant, we pray thee, that the fullness of all mankind, being delivered from its present bondage, may be made sons of Abraham and worthy members of thy true Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God's Presence in a renewed Israel

Isaiah 4:2-6

On that day the branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and glory of the survivors of Israel. Whoever is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem, once the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and cleansed the bloodstains of Jerusalem from its midst by a spirit of judgment and by a spirit of burning. Then the Lord will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over its places of assembly a cloud by day and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night. Indeed over all the glory there will be a canopy. It will serve as a pavilion, a shade by day from the heat, and a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.

Response by Cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray. *Deacon:* Let us bow the knee. (*all genuflect*). *Subdeacon:* Arise.

O God, who by the mouth of thy holy Prophets hast manifested thyself before all the children of the Church, to be in all places of thy dominion, to be the sower of good seed and the husbandman of thine elect branches: Grant unto thy peoples, that, the vineyard of thy planting and the harvest of thy sowing being purged of all thorns and briars, they may be made to bring forth worthy fruit in abundance; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

Response by Cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Deacon: Let us bow the knee. *(all genuflect).* *Subdeacon:* Arise.

Almighty and everlasting God, who didst swear unto the faith of our forefathers that they should by thy holy adoption be made the fathers of many: Increase and multiply, we pray thee, to the honor of thy Name, the sons of promise; that, like as they of old doubted not thine oath, so thy Church in our time may see in due measure the fulfillment of the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A new heart and a new spirit

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Response by Cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Deacon: Let us bow the knee. *(all genuflect).* *Subdeacon:* Arise.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast 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. **Amen.**

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.

Response by Cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Deacon: Let us bow the knee. *(all genuflect).* *Subdeacon:* Arise.

Almighty God, by the Passover of thy Son thou hast brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by thy Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim thee to all the world; 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.

Response by Cantor

Collect

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Deacon: Let us bow the knee. *(all genuflect).* *Subdeacon:* Arise.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of thy 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, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Personal hand candles may be extinguished at this time

THE BLESSING OF THE FONT

Tract. Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks: so longeth my soul after thee, O God. V. My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God: when shall I come to appear before the presence of God? V. My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me: Where is now thy God?

The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us Pray. Almighty, everlasting God, graciously look upon the dedication of the people here to be born anew, who, like the hart, desire the well-spring of thy waters: and mercifully grant that by the mystery of baptism, the very thirst of their faith may sanctify both soul and body. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God world without end. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, be present in the mysteries of thy great loving-kindness, here in this Sacrament: and send forth the Spirit of adoption to regenerate the new peoples whom the font of Baptism bringeth forth for thee; that what is done by our unworthy ministry, may be perfected by the effectual working of thy power. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. **Amen.**

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy Spirit

V. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up unto the Lord

V. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

R. It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Who, working by thy invisible power, dost wonderfully bestow upon thy servants effectual means of grace: and though we be unworthy to be partakers of these holy mysteries; thou leavest us not destitute of the gifts of thy grace, but mercifully inclinest thine ear to these our supplications.

O God, who spirit moved over the waters, when the earth was without form and void at its creation; that even then the face of the waters might receive the virtue of purging all defilement:

O God, who for the destruction of sinners didst once drown all the world, and by the saving of eight persons didst show forth in a figure our regeneration; that by the mystery of this one element of water though mightest make an end of sin, and give birth unto righteousness:

Regard favourably O Lord, the prayers of this thy family, and make the grace of thy regeneration to abound in us, for thou doest with the rivers of thy plenteous mercy make glad the city of the redeemed: and openest unto us fountains of blessing through the whole world for the healing of nations: that at the Word of thy majesty, grace may be bestowed on it from thine only Son, through the Holy Ghost.

Here the priest divides the water in the form of a cross.

May he sanctify by the secret operation of his power this water to the mystical washing away of sin: that having received sanctification, and being born again without spot of defilement, it may be found a new creature, that springeth from the living water: that young and old, both men and women, that henceforth shall be baptized herin, may all become thy children and heirs of thy heavenly promises. Speak the word, O Lord, and drive away

speedily unclean spirits and all things that may hurt us; banish from us by thy Name all the snares and assaults of the devil. May our ghostly enemy have no power at all to encompass us: to deceive our hearts by his subtlety: to waylay us in secret and spread abroad the leaven of malice. May this holy and undefiled creation, seeing that the son of wickedness may not approach it, nor the stain of iniquity come near to defile it, be a fountain that doth regenerate, streams that do purify: may all they that by this means shall be dedicated before thee, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, receive the grace of redemption and remission of their offenses. Therefore do I hallow thee, O gift of water, by God who liveth, by God the faithful by God the holy: By God, who in the beginning by his word divided the land from thee: by who Spirit the waters were overshadowed.

Here the priest divides the water, and scatters it towards the four corners of the earth.

Who did ordain that thou shouldest issue out of Eden and be parted from thence diversely, giving plenty to all his creation. Likewise, in the desert of Marah he did turn thy bitterness into sweetness, and made thee to come forth out of the rock for his people.

In the Name of his only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ do I hallow thee, Gift of Water, for he did change thee into wine in proof of his omnipotence, when he was bidden to the wedding at Cana. Who walked upon thee to his disciples; and was baptized in thee in Jordan, making John his minster. Who moreover did mingle thee with Blood from his side at his passion: and commanded his faithful servants, that believing the should be washed in thee, saying : Go ye, and teach all nations, and baptize them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Almighty God, mercifully assist our prayers, who here observe these thy commandments: and of thy great goodness prosper our petitions.

The priest breathes thrice on to the water in the form of a cross

Enable by thy word and power the weakness of this water: that like as by nature it doeth service unto the purifying of the body, so by thy grace it may effectually cleanse our souls.

The priest lowers the candle into the water thrice, saying each time

May the power of the Holy Ghost be poured out on this Font we have filled.

And breathing thrice on the water he continues

And make this water to be effectual unto the washing away of transgressions. May every stain of our iniquity here be cleansed: may our nature be restored to its perfect fashioning, and be conformed again to thine own image of righteousness, may it be redeemed from the old sins of its conversation: that every person, being born again by the Sacrament he hath received, may be restored verily unto the innocence of the children. Through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord: Who shall come again to the judge the quick and the dead and the world by fire.

Amen.

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

The Celebrant says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsor I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
Candidate I renounce them.
Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
Candidate I renounce them.
Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
Candidate I renounce them.
Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
Candidate I do.
Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
Candidate I do.
Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
Candidate I do.

Addressing the whole 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 all those around the world who are committing themselves to Christ this most holy night and renew our own 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

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep *them* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

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.

THE BAPTISM

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

N.____, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying to each one

N.____, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop or Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

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

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

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 LITANY OF SAINTS

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,	Pray for us.
Holy Michael,	Pray for us.
All the Holy Angels of God,	Pray for us.
Holy John Baptist,	Pray for us.
Holy Joseph,	Pray for us.
Holy Anne,	Pray for us.
Holy Peter and Paul,	Pray for us.
Holy Andrew,	Pray for us.
Holy John,	Pray for us.
Holy Mary Magdalene,	Pray for us.
Holy Martha,	Pray for us.
Holy Stephen,	Pray for us.
Holy Ignatius of Antioch,	Pray for us.
Holy Lawrence,	Pray for us.
Holy Perpetua and Felicity,	Pray for us.
Holy Agnes,	Pray for us.
Holy George, Our Patron,	Pray for us.
Holy Augustine of Hippo,	Pray for us.
Holy Anthanasius,	Pray for us.
Holy Basil,	Pray for us.
Holy Thomas Aquinas,	Pray for us.
Holy Augustine of Canterbury,	Pray for us.
Holy Martin of Tours,	Pray for us.
Holy Columba,	Pray for us.
Holy Anthony,	Pray for us.
Holy Francis,	Pray for us.
Holy Dominic,	Pray for us.
Blessed Charles Stuart, King and Martyr,	Pray for us.
Blessed Daniel Nash, Servant of God,	Pray for us.
All Holy Men and Women, Saints of God,	Pray for us.
Be thou merciful,	Spare us, good Lord.
Be thou merciful,	Graciously hear us, good Lord.
From all evil,	Good Lord deliver us.
From all deadly sin,	Good Lord deliver us.
From everlasting damnation,	Good Lord deliver us.
By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation,	Good Lord deliver us.
By thine Advent and Nativity,	Good Lord deliver us.
By thy Baptism and holy Fasting,	Good Lord deliver us.
By thy Cross and Passion,	Good Lord deliver us.
By thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension,	Good Lord deliver us.
By the coming of the Holy Ghost the Comforter,	Good Lord deliver us.
In the hour of death and in the day of judgement,	Good Lord deliver us.

Even though we be sinners:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to spare us:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to hear us, good Lord:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy church:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to preserve the household of thine Apostles, and all orders in the Church in thy true religion:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to overthrow the enemies of thy holy Church:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to bestow on all Christian rulers true peace and concord:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to strengthen and preserve us in true worshiping of thee:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to bestow on all our benefactors thine everlasting benefits:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to bestow upon all thy faithful rest eternal:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee graciously to hear our prayer:	We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world	Spare us, good Lord.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world	Graciously hear us, good Lord.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world	Have mercy upon us.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

MASS SETTING

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Please remain standing. Bells are rung while all sing

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMNAL S-202

(people stand)

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

(people kneel)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy Spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

THE EPISTLE

Please be seated.

Romans 6:3-11

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE GREAT ALLELUIA

(people stand)

This Alleluia is sung three times, at successively higher pitches; the Congregation repeating it each time.



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

(people kneel)

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy ✠ grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(people kneel)

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Music: Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winifred Douglas (1867-1944)

THE FRACTION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

THE PAX

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

THE AGNUS DEI HYMNAL S-158 *Sung by all* *(people kneel)*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS *Said by all* *(people kneel)*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on them in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are invited to receive communion at the altar rail.

COMMUNION ANTHEM The First Song of Moses Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Said by all* *(people kneel)*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE SOLEMN BLESSING

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

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

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

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

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia

THE RETIRING PROCESSION, HYMN 210 The day of resurrection

Ellacombe

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Christ the Lord Is Risen Again!

Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer (1656-1746)

