



# PASCHAL TRIDUUM

*The Three Days*

Maundy Thursday	April 17th
Good Friday	April 18th
Easter Vigil	April 19th

# Explanation of the Paschal Triduum

The Three Days recall Jesus’ own words that he would be handed over to death, and that “after three days he will rise again.” The services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter unfold in a single movement, as the church each year makes the passage with Christ through death into life.

On **Maundy Thursday**, the disciplines of Lent are concluded with a remembrance of the New Command to love one another as Christ loves us. The first day’s worship concludes with the stripping of the altar. Symbolically, Christ, now stripped of his power and glory, is in the hands of his captors.

On **Good Friday** the baptized, who could not watch with Jesus one hour in Gethsemane, fled from the Place of the Skull. Come to hear the story of our community’s disobedience and Christ’s obedience even unto death for our benefit. This is done by reading of the Passion. By grace we are given the gift of laying our burdens down at the foot of the cross.

Neither Maundy Thursday nor the Good Friday liturgy ends with a benediction. As the benediction (“good word” from our God) concludes with the worship; it is reserved for the end of the Vigil of Easter.

**The Vigil of Easter** is the earliest form of Easter worship in the church. Gathering in the darkness of sin and death, the church marks the gift of light at creation, and in readings marks the mighty acts of salvation that brings us to the new creation in Christ, the light of the world. This new life of the resurrection is then celebrated in remembrance of the Holy Bath of Baptism and the foretaste of the heavenly banquet at Holy Communion. The three-day service is concluded with the benediction followed by a time of festive celebration.

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## Maundy Thursday

### April 17th, 2025

On this night we begin the Three Days during which we participate once again in the saving power of Jesus' passing over from death into life. The Maundy Thursday service includes the words of Jesus' new commandment (*mandatum*, from which *Maundy* comes) to love one another. As a sign of our calling to follow Jesus' example of humility and service, we may wash one another's feet as Jesus washed the disciples' feet. On this night in which Jesus was handed over to death we also gather around the Lord's Supper. At the service's conclusion the altar area is stripped of furnishing as a sign of Jesus' abandonment.



# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*Enter in silence.*

## GATHERING HYMN #358

### Great God, Your Love Has Called Us



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and  
3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us  
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,  
as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,  
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,  
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems  
but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your  
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.  
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.  
mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.  
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889–1953

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Music © Oxford University Press. Used by permission.



# WORD

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** Exodus 12: 1 -14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.

If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. [Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.

They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD.

For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

## **SERMON**

*The Word part of our liturgy, is where we hear "the living voice of the Gospel." We experience this in the Biblical readings, a sermon based around these readings, and the hymn of the day.*

## EXHORTATION

In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil – all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example the Lord gave us on the night before his death.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

## CONFESSION

Let us kneel and make confession to God.

**Almighty God, merciful Father: I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen**

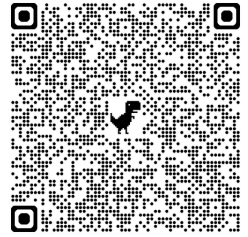
## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

## OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.  
Electronic giving may be done by simply scanning the QR Code and making a donation.*



## OFFERTORY What Shall I Render

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me?

I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the

name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-va-tion and will

call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the

pres-ence of all his peo-ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,

in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are printed below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the final staff.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

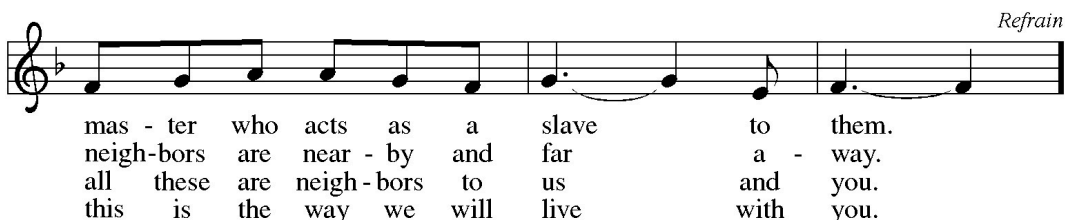
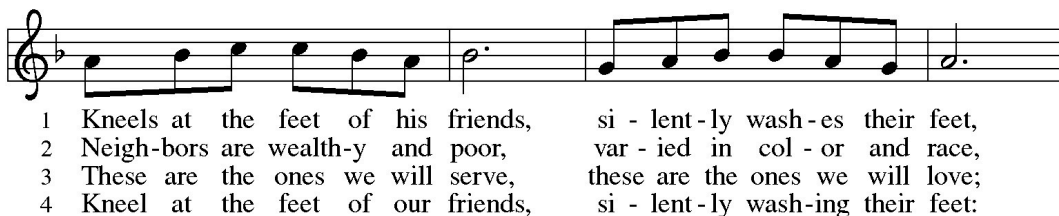
Let us pray. Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: to love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment on our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## HYMN #708 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love



## **GOSPEL READING** John 13: 1-17, 31b - 35

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 13th Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me."

Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!"

Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"

You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

# FOOT WASHING OR SILENT MEDITATION

## HYMN #360

### Love Consecrates the Humblest Act



- 1 Love con - se - crates the hum-blest act and ha - loes mer - cy's deeds;
- 2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet
- 3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true



it sheds a ben - e - dic-tion sweet and hal-lows hu - man needs.  
of his dis - ci - ples, he gave us a sign of love com - plete.  
has free - ly done for one and all, let us now glad - ly do!

Text: Silas B. McManus, 1845–1917

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God who kneels to wash our feet, gather your church around the world during this holy week. Humble the powerful and lift up any who are marginalized. Renew our faith and make us bold in service and love to our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who blesses the grain of the soil and the fruit of the vine, inspire in us a reverent care for the earth. Sustain fields, gardens, and wild places, that all people are fed and every living thing flourishes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God whose greatest commandment is love, guide all who govern by the principle of love. Transform unjust human systems that oppress some for the gain of others. Restore communities as places of justice and concern for those who are vulnerable. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who was betrayed, comfort people everywhere who have suffered abuse at the hands of someone they knew and trusted. Heal the bodies, minds, and hearts of victims of exploitation. Help all in pain to know that you are near especially Judy, Greg, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Phyllis, Larry, Bob, Ellie, Mary, John, Pat, Anna, Pat, Susan, Wendy, Charlie, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who sits at the table with us, grant the joy of your presence to people celebrating first communion today, and to all who share the meal. Strengthen communities of faith in grace and courage. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God who brings new life out of death, we pray with thanks for the lives of those who have joined the communion of saints. In our holy meal, connect us to the faithful who have gone before us, and nourish us as your people living today. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer. **Amen.**

## PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The congregation is invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another*

*The assembly sits.*

*The prayers of intercession are prepared in advance by writers from across the Church based around the scripture for a given week.*



## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*In the meal part of our liturgy we prepare to come to Christ's table. In the Great Thanksgiving we focus on being thankful for all God has done and for all God has given to us. In the Eucharistic Prayer, we ask God to send the Holy Spirit to this meal and we ask that Christ will fulfill his promise to be in the bread and wine.*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.



## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth and created us in your likeness. You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care. All through our weary years and our silent tears, you did not abandon us to ourselves, but sought us out in love. When we were captives in Egypt, you did not abandon us. When we wandered in the wilderness, you did not abandon us. When we turned to false gods, you did not abandon us. Through your holy prophets you called us to return to your graciousness, to your mercy, and to your steadfast love. In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him will have eternal life. For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world, but to save the world from sin. Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us; his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners, his healing of the sick, his care for the poor. Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine, that we who share this meal may become a holy communion, the body of Christ in the world.

**Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

## COMMUNION

*This is the Lord's table. Jesus is the host. We are Christ's guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come, to eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Visitors and children are welcome to receive communion. Those who do not receive communion are welcomed forward to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. The pastor and communion assistant will come to the pews of those unable to come forward.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

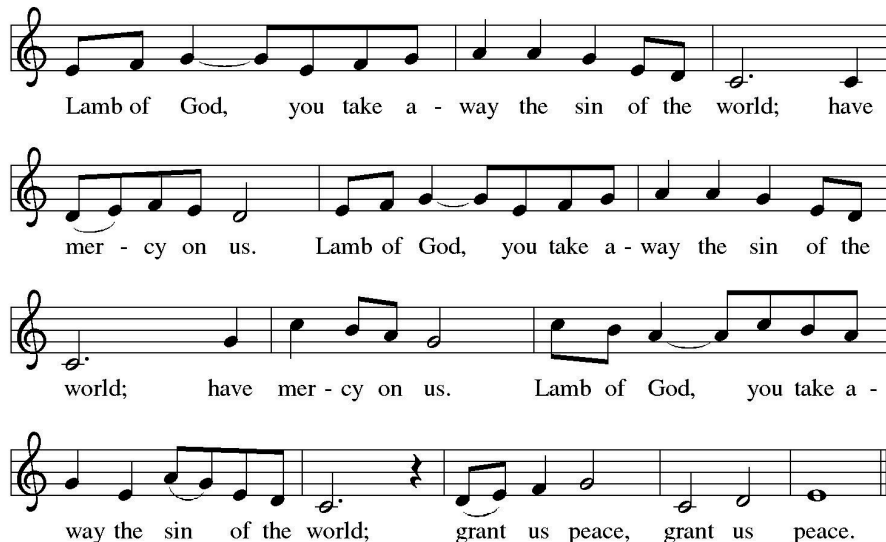
The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond:* **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*The Lamb of God is a title for Jesus that appears in John 1:29. It is here that we are reminded that our Lord is present and we are to behold his glory.*

## A New Commandment



A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as



I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.



By this shall peo - ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if



you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know



you are my dis - ci - ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

Text: John 13:34-35

Music: NEW COMMANDMENT, anonymous

*The assembly stands.*

## **TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together.

**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*After communion, the altar is stripped of sacramental elements and vessels, linens, paraments, banners, and books. The assembly may sit or stand as Psalm 22 is sung by a cantor.*

*After the Psalm, please exit the sanctuary in silence.*



# Good Friday

## April 18th, 2025

The Good Friday service continues the journey through the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. At the heart of this service is the passion reading according to John, which celebrates Christ's victory on the cross. As Jesus draws all people to himself, we pray for the whole world for which Christ died. Finally, we honor the cross as the sign of forgiveness, healing, and salvation. With all God's people we are invited to bow before this mystery of faith. Christ has died, so that we may live.



# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*Enter in Silence. A silent prayer may be said as you enter the church:*

*Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life.  
May we, and all who remember this day, find new life in You now and in the world to  
come – where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
Amen.*

## INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from Eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord; who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, secured and delivered me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death; in order that I might be His, live under Him in His Kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

## HYMN #349 Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to  
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my  
3 Lo, the Good Shep-herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath  
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal  
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,  
sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,  
sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish  
dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.  
while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.  
and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.  
and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **A SERVICE OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS**

*The distinctive feature of this service is the contrast of light and shadows, symbolizing the apparent victory of death and evil. In reality, however, we witness and testify to their failure to defeat Him who is the Light of the World. The service is divided into seven parts. After each reading of the lessons, a candle on the altar will be extinguished. During this time a period of silent prayer will be observed and concluded with a prayer by Pastor Anderson before the hymn is sung. The sanctuary will grow darker as the service continues.*

# I. Father, Forgive Them For They Know Not What They Do

## LESSON OF PROPHECY Isaiah 53: 3

He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces. He was despised, and we held him of no account.

## PASSION STORY Luke 23: 32 -38

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

*Silent meditation.*

## PRAYER

Almighty God, to whom your crucified Son prayed for the forgiveness of those who did not know what they were doing, grant that we, too, may be included in that prayer. Whether we sin out of ignorance or intention, be merciful to us and grant us your acceptance and peace: In the name of Jesus Christ, our suffering savior. **Amen.**

*Choir sings The Tree of Life by K. Lee Scott, Stanza 1*



## II. Today You Will Be With Me In Paradise

### LESSON OF PROPHECY Isaiah 53: 10-11

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

### PASSION STORY Luke 23: 39-43

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

*Silent meditation.*

### PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to the repentant the joy of paradise, enable us by the Holy Spirit to repent and to receive your grace in this world and in the world to come. **Amen.**

*Choir sings The Tree of Life by K. Lee Scott, Stanza 2*

### III. Woman, Behold Your Son. Son, Behold Your Mother

#### LESSON OF PROPHECY Isaiah 53: 12

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

#### PASSION STORY John 19: 23-27

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top.

So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it."

This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son."

Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

*Silent meditation.*

#### PRAYER

O Blessed Savior, who in your hour of greatest suffering expressed compassion for your mother and made arrangements for her care, grant that we who seek to follow your example may show our concern for the needs of others, reaching out to provide for those who suffer in our human family. Hear this our prayer for your mercy's sake. **Amen.**

# HYMN

## #353 Were You There



- 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual

## IV. My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?

### LESSON OF PROPHECY Isaiah 53: 6

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

### PASSION STORY Matthew 27: 45-46

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

*Silent meditation.*

### PRAYER

O Lord, I call for help by day, and in the night I still must cry. Regard me, listen to my prayer. My soul is troubled, I am weak, cut off as one whom you forsake, forgotten near the pit of death. Your wrath weighs heavy on me here. Your angry waves upon me break. Friends watch in horror from afar. I am shut in without escape. My eyes are dim because I weep. My hands are lifted up to you. Do you work wonders for the dead? Can graves tell out your mighty deeds? There, who can know that you can save? Lord, do not hide your face from me. You have afflicted me from youth. Your anger is destroying me. Your flood of anger closes in. The darkness is my closest friend – shunned and forsaken, all alone. **Amen.**

# O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,  
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;  
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,  
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!  
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?  
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!  
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;  
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,  
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.  
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.  
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

## V. I Thirst

### LESSON OF PROPHECY Isaiah 53: 7

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

### PASSION STORY John 19: 28-29

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty."

A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

*Silent meditation.*

### PRAYER

O blessed Savior, whose lips were dry and whose throat was parched, grant us the water of life that we who thirst after righteousness may find it quenched by your love and mercy, leading us to bring this same relief to others. **Amen.**

### HYMN ELW #673

#### God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard  
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,  
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,  
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the  
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -  
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the  
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.  
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.  
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.  
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

## VI. It Is Finished

### LESSON OF PROPHECY Isaiah 53: 4-5

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

### PASSION STORY John 19: 30-37

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished."

Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed.

Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.

(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.)

These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

*Silent meditation.*

### PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, who finished the work that you were sent to do, enable us by your Holy Spirit to be faithful to our call. Grant us strength to bear our crosses and endure our sufferings, even unto death. Enable us to live and love so faithfully that we also become good news to the world, joining your witness, O Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

## VII. Father, Into Thy Hands I Commit My Spirit

### LESSON OF PROPHECY Isaiah 53: 8-9

By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

### PASSION STORY Luke 23: 44-49

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

*Silent meditation.*

### PRAYER

Father, into whose hands your Son Jesus Christ commended his spirit, grant that we, too, following his example, may in all of life and at the moment of our death entrust our lives into your faithful hands of love. In the name of Jesus who gave his life for us all. **Amen.**



# HYMN

## #351 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, Stanzas 3 & 4



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,  
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;  
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,  
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!  
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?  
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!  
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;  
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,  
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
mine, mine was the trans - ges - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.  
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.  
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

*The Light of the World is gone, but not extinguished. A loud noise is sounded which signifies the quaking of the earth and the opening of the graves at the death of Jesus (Matthew 28:51)*

*The Christ Candle will now be processed out, signifying the burial of our Lord, Jesus Christ.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Taught by our Lord, we humbly pray,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

*You may remain in the sanctuary for as long as you like, meditating on what God has done for you through Jesus' death on the cross.*

*A benediction is not said on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday because the Holy Week services are connected as one service called the "Triduum" which concludes with the Vigil of Easter.*

***Please exit the sanctuary in silence.***



# Vigil of Easter

## April 19th, 2025

On the night before Easter Day, Christians around the world gather to celebrate Christ's passage from death to life. The service includes strong signs: new fire in darkness, light spreading from the light of Christ, the water and Word of baptism, the first resurrection meal. And powerful words: the great saving stories of Hebrew scriptures and the first Easter gospel. We keep this wondrous night in the spirit of vigil, our lamps lit, awaiting Christ's coming both now and at the end of time. Alleluia! Christ is risen! And Christ will come again.



## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### LIGHT

*The congregation gathers in the creation garden near the fire pit. The new fire is lit.*

### BLESSING OF THE NEW FIRE

Dear friends in Christ, on this most holy night, when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life, the Church invites her children throughout the world to come together in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord: as we honor the memory of his death and resurrection by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries, we also share his victory over death and live with him forever.

The Lord be with you. **and also with you.**

O God, you are like a refiner's fire and your Spirit kindles our hearts with faith. Bless this flame as we celebrate this Easter festival, so that, burning with desire for life with you, we may be found fit to take part in that festival of light which has no end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### BLESSING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

*The paschal candle is blessed and is lit from the new fire and the candles of the worshipers are also lighted.*

Christ yesterday and today – the beginning and the end – Alpha and Omega – his are times and all ages to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. **Amen**

May the light of Christ risen in glory scatter the darkness of our hearts and our minds. **Come let us worship Christ.**

### PROCESSION

*Led by the light of Christ, the congregation moves into the sanctuary as we sing three times:*

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

*When all are in place:*

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

**EXSULTET:** The Easter Proclamation (*sung by Soren Strom-Jensen*)

*Five nail heads with five grains of incense, symbolizing the five wounds of Christ, are inserted into the candle during the Exsultet.*

*(Please extinguish candles at the conclusion)*

## OFFICE OF THE READINGS

Brothers and sisters in the Lord, let us hear now the record of God's saving deeds and mighty acts on our behalf and how, with a mighty arm and outstretched hand, God called people to return to their God.

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 1:1-2:4a

**HYMN #861**

### When Long before Time *The Singer and the Song*



1 When long be - fore time and the worlds were be - gun,  
2 The si - lence was bro - ken when God sang the Song,  
3 The sounds of the crea - tures were one with their Lord's,  
4 Though down through the a - ges the Song dis - ap - peared,



when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,  
and light pierced the dark - ness and rhy - thm be - gan,  
their har - mo - nies sweet and be - fit - ting the Word;  
its har - mo - nies bro - ken and al - most un - heard,



and all was deep si - lence and night reigned su - preme,  
and with its first birth - cries cre - a - tion was born,  
the Sing - er was pleased as the earth sang the Song,  
the Sing - er comes to us to sing it a - gain,



and e - ven our Mak - er had on - ly a dream—  
and crea - ture - ly voic - es sang praise to the morn.  
the choir of the crea - tures re - ech - oed it long.  
our God - is - with - us in the world now as then.

## PRAYER

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

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

**HYMN #453**

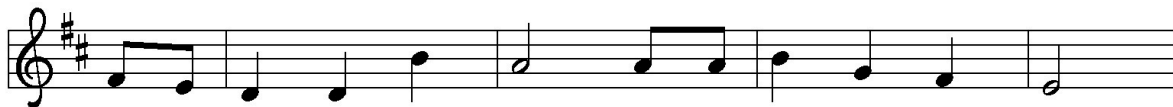
## Baptized and Set Free



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.  
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.  
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,  
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

### PRAYER

O God, strength of the powerless and light in all darkness: Look in mercy upon your church, a wonderful and sacred mystery, that it may be an ark of peace in the midst of chaos. Let the whole world come to see that what was fallen is being raised up, that what was old is being made new, and that all things are being restored to wholeness through the one from whom they first took being, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN WOV#670

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land  
*Go Down, Moses*



- 1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land,  
2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo - ple go;  
3 The pillar of cloud shall clear the way,  
4 As Is - rael stood by the wa - ter - side,



op - pressed so hard they could not stand,  
to lead the childr'n of Is - rael through, let my peo - ple go.  
a fire by night, a shade by day,  
at God's com - mand it did di - vide,



Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land,



tell old Pha - raoh: Let my peo - ple go!

- 5 When they had reached the other shore, let my people go;  
they sang the song of triumph o'er, let my people go. *Refrain*  
6 Oh, let us all from bondage flee, let my people go;  
and let us all in Christ be free, let my people go. *Refrain*

PRAYER

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day:  
By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people  
from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation offered to  
everyone by the water of baptism. Grant that all the peoples of earth may  
partake in the salvation of the Israelites and together dance on the safe side  
of the sea, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## FOURTH READING: Ezekiel 37: 1-14

### HYMN Dry Bones

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

E - ze-kiel cried, "Them dry bones,"E - ze-kiel cried, "Them dry bones,"E - ze-kiel cried,"Them dry bones,"Now hear the word of the Lord. The toe bone con-nec-ted to the heel bone, The heelbone con-nec-ted to the foot bone, The footbone con-nec-ted to the leg bone, The leg bone con-nec-ted to the knee bone, The knee bone con-nec-ted to the thigh bone, The thigh bone con-nec-ted to the back bone, The back bone con-nec-ted to the neck bone, The neck bone con-nec-ted to the head bone, Oh, hear the word of the Lord! Them bones,them bones,gon na walk a-round,Them bones,them bones,gon na walk a-round,Them bones,them bones, gon - na walk a-round, Oh, hear the word of the Lord!

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### PRAYER

Living God, by the death and resurrection of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life. Breathe into us your life-giving Spirit, that receiving the gifts of word and sacrament, we may live in the hope of all your blessings to come, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



## FIFTH READING: Zephaniah 3:14 - 20

### HYMN

#632 O God, Our Help In Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home.

### PRAYER

Sovereign God, by the resurrection of your Son you offer us victory in our struggles, a city for our refuge, the joy of the beloved, and festival celebration. Gather all the outcast into your mercy, and restore your whole creation through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

HYMN #400

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind



1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -  
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your  
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from  
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;  
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,  
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,  
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,  
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,  
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;  
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!  
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!  
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!  
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

PRAYER

Almighty and eternal God, the only hope of the world, by the proclamation of your prophets you declare to us the word of salvation. By the grace of your Spirit increase the devotion of all the baptized, that, strengthened by your presence, we may withstand hardship and sorrow and be united with your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## HOLY BAPTISM

*The water is poured into the font.*

It is truly right and just that we should at all times and in all places, give you

thanks, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God; who by your unseen presence makes your sacraments effective in an amazing way. At the very dawn of creation your Spirit breathed on the waters, making them the wellspring of all holiness. The waters of the great flood you made a sign of the waters of Baptism, that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness.

*The celebrant breathes upon the water in the sign of the Cross.*

Through the waters of the Red Sea you led Israel out of slavery, to be an image of God's holy people, set free from sin by Baptism.

*The celebrant divides the water with his hand.*

Your Son willed that water and blood should flow from his side as he hung upon the cross. After his Resurrection he told his disciples, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

*The celebrant sprinkles the water in the four directions of the earth.*

Father, look now with love upon your Church, and unseal for her the fountain of Baptism. By the power of the Holy Spirit give to the water of this font the grace of your Son. You created us in your own likeness: cleanse all from sin in a new birth of innocence by water and the Spirit. We ask you, Father, with your Son to send the Holy Spirit upon the waters of this font.

*The Paschal Candle is lowered into the water.*

May all who are buried with Christ in the death of Baptism rise also with him to newness of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **New Testament Reading** Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

# HYMN #362 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
 2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured death's dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, pas - chal



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; with sin - cer - i - ty and love



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty victim from the sky,  
 hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;  
 you have conquered in the fight,  
 you have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
 This alone can sin destroy;  
 from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
 newborn souls in you to be.  
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
 now no more the grave enthrall;  
 you have opened paradise,  
 and your saints in you shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
 Savior, by whose death we live,  
 Spirit, guide through all our days:  
 Three in One, your name we praise.  
 Alleluia!

## HOLY GOSPEL John 20: 1 -18

*Before the reading:*

The Holy Gospel According to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## SERMON

# HYMN OF THE DAY

#367 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



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



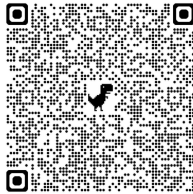
## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*Electronic giving may be done by simply scanning the QR Code and making a donation.*



*A musical offering is given to God in our worship as the gifts of the assembly are collected. This is a reminder of God's abundance. We offer back to God just a small portion of what God has given us, so that the mission of God can be realized.*

### OFFERTORY

*Come Away to The Skies by Mark Sedio*

*The assembly stands.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN ELW #182 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Everlasting God, the whole universe sings a new song of praise: the rivers clap their hands, the hills ring out for joy. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us voices ready to cry out for justice and proclaim resurrection joy wherever your Spirit leads us. In Jesus' name we boldly pray. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has a repeat sign at the end. The second staff also has a repeat sign. The third and fourth staves end with a double bar line.

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The second staff also has a repeat sign. The third and fourth staves end with a double bar line.



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father,**

who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

*In the meal part of our liturgy we prepare to come to Christ's table. In the Great Thanksgiving we focus on being thankful for all God has done and for all God has given to us. In the Eucharistic Prayer, we ask God to send the Holy Spirit to this meal and we ask that Christ will fulfill his promise to be in the bread and wine.*

## COMMUNION

*This is the Lord's table. Jesus is the host. We are Christ's guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come, to eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Visitors and children are welcome to receive communion. Those who do not receive communion are welcomed forward to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. The pastor and communion assistant will come to the pews of those unable to come forward.*

*Distribution of the Communion Elements take place as follows: Exit the pew to the side aisles. Empty cups are obtained from the trays located by the front exit. Proceed to the altar. Persons on the right side (lectern side) proceed to the back of the altar rail and fill forward towards the front. The left side (pulpit side) proceed to the front of the altar rail and fill towards the back. After communing, depart down the center aisle to your seat. Please place your cup in one of the baskets.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*Each person may respond:* **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*The Lamb of God is a title for Jesus that appears in John 1:29. It is here that we are reminded that our Lord is present and we are to behold his glory.*

# HYMN #363      Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain



1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst his pris - on,  
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
 4 Nei - ther could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! now we cry to our Lord im - mor - tal,



God has brought forth Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness,  
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has ris - en.  
 with the roy - al feast of feasts comes its joy to ren - der;  
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal, hold you as a mor - tal:  
 who tri - um - phant burst the bars of the tomb's dark por - tal;



loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;  
 All the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
 comes to glad Jer - u - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion  
 but to - day, a - mong your own, you ap - pear, be - stow - ing  
 Al - le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
 from the Light to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
 your deep peace, which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! yet a - gain to the Spir - it rais - ing.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: GAUDEAMUS PARITER, Johann Horn, 1490–1547

*The assembly stands.*

### **TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

### **SOLEMN BLESSING**

*With heads bowed, we pray...*

May the Almighty God and father of us all, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the death and resurrection of his beloved Son our Lord, pour out upon you manifold blessings. **Amen.**

May the God of all mercies, who through the waters of Holy Baptism has raised us from the bondage to sin into newness of life, unite you in love with Christ and his holy Church, now and forever! **Amen**

May the God of peace and great Shepherd of the flock, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in Christ Jesus our Lord, bring you to the eternal joys of heaven. **Amen**

The blessing of Almighty God: the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you now and forever! **Amen**

# SENDING HYMN #377 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;  
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,  
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

## POSTLUDE

### *Come Ye Faithful Raise The Strain by Wilbur Held*

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# Welcome to St. Paul's

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In celebrating God's beauty and strength created through diversity, we welcome, value, and include all of God's children regardless of race, culture, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, ability, appearance, or citizenship. St. Paul's is committed to racial equality.

**Admission to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** is by invitation of our Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. If you are unable to receive Holy Communion at the altar, please notify an usher to receive communion at your seat. All are welcome at the table for a blessing. We use red wine and bread at communion, and offer grape juice and gluten-free wafers. Inform your server at the rail if you desire either.

## **Distribution of the Communion Elements take place as follows:**

Exit the pew to the side aisles. Empty cups are obtained from the trays located by the front exit. Proceed to the altar. Persons on the right side (lectern side) proceed to the back of the altar rail and fill forward towards the front. The left side (pulpit side) proceed to the front of the altar rail and fill towards the back. After communing, depart down the center aisle to your seat. Please place your cup in one of the baskets.

## **St. Paul's Live Stream Policy**

1. St. Paul's Lutheran Church live streams the 11:00 AM service every Sunday. The service is posted to Vimeo and Facebook. In addition, special services may be live streamed.
2. The 8:30 AM service is not live streamed and is available for attendance by those who do not wish to be recorded. For live streamed services there will be a "No Video Zone" designated in the Narthex.
3. It is recommended that all livestream services include a disclaimer about the service being recorded, posted on a visible location at the entrance of the sanctuary and written in the bulletin.
4. Children must have a signed waiver from their parent or guardian before being recorded.
5. We will not share personal or identifying information while a service is being live streamed, this includes during announcement, prayer requests, or the sermon.

### **Staff of St. Paul's**

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Scott Anderson	<a href="mailto:pastor@stpaulsdurham.org">pastor@stpaulsdurham.org</a>
<b>Associate Pastor</b>	Rev. Amanda Highben	<a href="mailto:Amanda.highben@duke.edu">Amanda.highben@duke.edu</a>
<b>Vicar</b>	Ashley Bowman	<a href="mailto:vicar@stpaulsdurham.org">vicar@stpaulsdurham.org</a>
<b>Church Secretary</b>	Heather Cain	<a href="mailto:assistant@stpaulsdurham.org">assistant@stpaulsdurham.org</a>
<b>Minister of Music</b>	Susan Beschorner (interim)	<a href="mailto:music@stpaulsdurham.org">music@stpaulsdurham.org</a>
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Alan Rigsbee	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@stpaulsdurham.org">bookkeeper@stpaulsdurham.org</a>
<b>Preschool Director</b>	Candace King	<a href="mailto:preschool@stpaulsdurham.org">preschool@stpaulsdurham.org</a>
<b>Property Manager</b>	Clark Brunner	<a href="mailto:property@stpaulsdurham.org">property@stpaulsdurham.org</a>

## **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

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*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod*