

## + The Vigil of Easter +

*With Rite of Holy Baptism for Henry Johnson  
Apr 16, Year of Our Lord 2022*

*The congregation gathers in a convenient place outside the nave of the church. Where permissible, candles are given to all, later to be lighted from the paschal candle.*

*A fire may be kindled.*

## + Service of Light +

**Invocation** *Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Invitation

**P** Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

### Collect

**P** Let us pray.

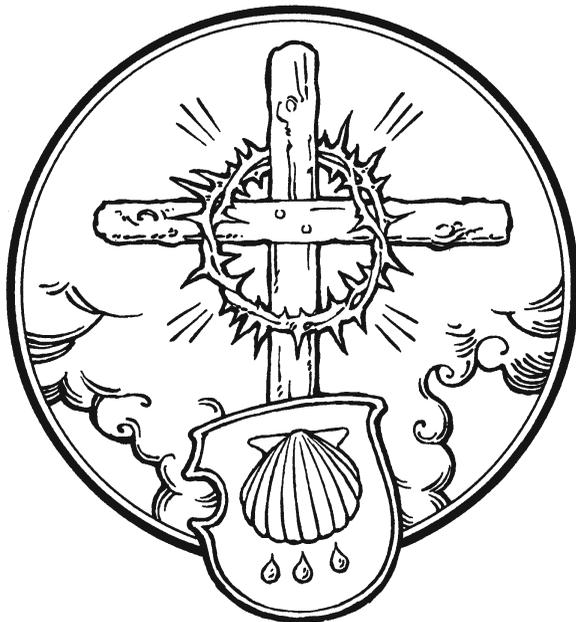
O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*The pastor traces the cross on the candle while saying:*

### Blessing of the Paschal Candle

**P** Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the ending, *and then traces the Greek letters Alpha and Omega on the candle while saying:* the Alpha and the Omega.



*He traces the year on the candle, saying:*

**P** His are time and eternity; His are the glory and dominion, now and forever.

*He points out the five wax nails on the candle, saying:*

**P** By His wounds we have healing both now and forever. Amen.

*Then, lighting the candle from the newly kindled fire, he says:*

**P** May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

### **Collect**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, pour out on us Your abundant blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*All light their candles from the paschal candle and then follow the candle bearer in procession into the darkened church.*

*At the entrance of the nave, the bearer of the paschal candle stops and chants:*

### **Lux Christi**



**A** The light of Christ.



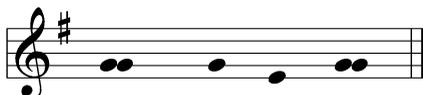
**C** Thanks be to God.

*When the candle bearer reaches the middle of the nave, he chants for the second time:*

### **Lux Christi**



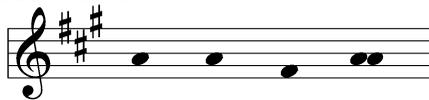
**A** The light of Christ.



**C** Thanks be to God.

*When the candle bearer arrives at the candle stand, he turns to face the congregation. After all have reached their places, the candle bearer lifts the candle high and chants the third time:*

## Lux Christi



**A** The light of Christ.



**C** Thanks be to God.

*After the candle bearer places the paschal candle in its stand, the assistant turns to face the people and chants or speaks the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet).*

## Exsultet



**A** Re - jice now, all you heav'n - ly choirs of an - gels; re - jice now, all  
... (sung from the Altar Book) ...



joic - ing, with the prais - es of all God's faith-ful peo - ple.

## Preface Dialogue



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al-so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



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



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

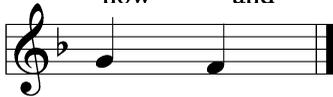
### Easter Proclamation



**P** It is truly good, right, and sal - u - tar - y that we should at all ...  
(sung from the Altar Book) ...



now and for - ev - er.



**C** A - men.

*All may extinguish their candles at this time. The paschal candle remains lighted throughout the service. A few lights in the nave may be turned on. Sit*

## + Service of Readings +

### Introduction to Readings

**P** In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death. *[Some or all of the Readings follow]*

### The Flood

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

**A** A reading from Genesis, chapters seven, eight, and nine.

Then the LORD said to Noah, ... covenant between me and the earth.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the ark.

Keep us in safety in the ark of Christ's body, the Church, that Your mercy may come to its fullness and Your salvation be preached to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **The Testing of Abraham**

*Genesis 22:1–18*

**A** A reading from Genesis, chapter 22.

After these things God tested Abraham ... because you have obeyed my voice.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**P** Let us pray. O God, since You promised faithful Abraham that he would be the father of a great multitude, You provided a substitute for his son Isaac. In the fullness of time, You sent Your Son, the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world, to lay down His life that we might live as faithful children of Abraham. Grant to all people a living trust in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea**

*Exodus 14:10–15:1*

**A** A reading from Exodus, chapters 14 and 15.

When Pharaoh drew near, ... and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,  
“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**P** Let us pray. O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

### **Salvation Offered Freely to All**

*Isaiah 55:1–11*

**A** A reading from Isaiah, chapter 55.

“Come, everyone who thirsts, ... and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your Word You created and sustain all things, and by Your Spirit You renew Your creation. Grant now the water of life to all who thirst for You that they may bring forth abundant fruit in Your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C Amen.**

**A New Heart and a New Spirit**

*Ezekiel 36:24–28*

**A** A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 36.

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 on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, by the death and resurrection of Your Son You cleansed our hearts and put a new Spirit within us. Grant that all who are brought to newness of life in the fellowship of the body of Christ may show forth in their lives what they confess with their lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**Hymn: 930 All You Works of God, Bless the Lord**



1 All you works of God, bless the Lord!  
2 Sing, you sun and you moon a - bove,  
3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold,  
4 Hills and moun - tains, now sing His worth,



All you an - gels, now bless the Lord;  
Stars of heav - en, now sing His love;  
Dews of sum - mer, your song un - fold;  
All you green things that grow on earth;



Come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,  
 Dew and show - ers, you winds that blow,  
 Light and dark - ness, you day and night,  
 Seas and riv - ers, you springs and wells,



Praise the Lord and His maj - es - ty:  
 Heat and fire, you ice and snow:  
 Clouds of thun - der, you light - nings bright:  
 Beasts and cat - tle, you birds and whales:

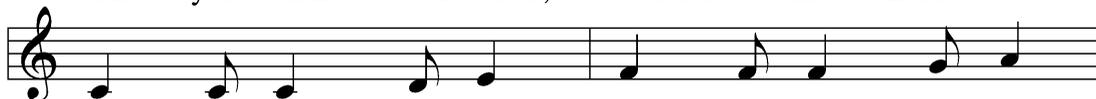
*Refrain*



Raise your voic - es high, praise and mag - ni - fy,



All you works of God, bless the Lord!



Raise your voic - es high, praise and mag - ni - fy,



All you works of God, bless the Lord!

- 5 Come, humanity, sing along,  
 Sing, you people of God, a song;  
 Priests and servants, your Lord now bless,  
 Join, you spirits and souls at rest: Refrain

- △ 6 Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;  
 All you humble, His praise impart;  
 God the Father and Son adore,  
 Bless the Spirit forevermore! Refrain

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955; Tune: Jamaican; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-80  
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*Candidates for Baptism (or confirmation, or if there are new members to be received) gather at the font, together with their sponsors and families.*

## **+ Service of Holy Baptism +**

### **Baptismal Address**

**P** On this holiest of nights, the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls His death and burial, rejoicing with great joy in the Gospel of His glorious and mighty resurrection from the dead. The apostle Paul says:

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now 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. For 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.

**Anthem:** *I was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

*Nick and Rebecca Johson*

### **The Flood Prayer**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold us all according to Your boundless mercy and bless us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in us, which has been inherited from Adam and which we ourselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that we be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, we would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## Renunciation

- P** Do you renounce the devil?  
**C** **Yes, I renounce him.**
- P** Do you renounce all his works?  
**C** **Yes, I renounce them.**
- P** Do you renounce all his ways?  
**C** **Yes, I renounce them.**

## Profession of Faith

- P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?  
**C** **Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**
- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?  
**C** **Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**
- P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?  
**C** **Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

## Sign of the Cross

- P** Receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ forehead and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

## Naming of the Candidate

- P** How are you named?  
**R** Henry James Johnson
- P** *Henry, do you desire to be baptized?*  
**R** *Yes, I do.*

*The pastor pours water three times on the head while saying:*

## The Baptism

- P** Henry, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**



*The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:*

### **Blessing of the Newly Baptized**

**P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life  $\text{✠}$  everlasting.

**C** Amen.

*The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:*

### **Presentation of the Baptismal Candle**

**P** Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

### **The Peace**

**P** Peace  $\text{✠}$  be with you.

**C** Amen.

*Addressing the entire congregation, the pastor says:*

### **Blessing**

**P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life  $\text{✠}$  everlasting.

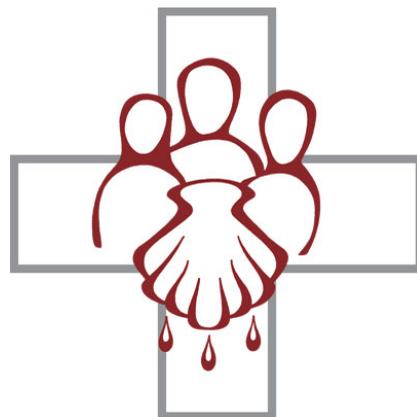
**C** Amen.

### **The Peace**

**P** Peace  $\text{✠}$  be with you.

**C** Amen.

*Following the Service of Holy Baptism, the candidates return to their places. The paschal candle is placed back in its place in the Sanctuary.*



## + Service of Prayer +

### Litany of the Resurrection

- A** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** O Christ,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.
- A** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
**C** hear us.
- A** Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who foretold Your passion saying, “The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,”  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,  
**C** have mercy on us.
- A** Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,



**C** have mercy on us.

**A** By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,

**C** good Lord, deliver us.

**A** By Your victory over sin and death,

**C** good Lord, deliver us.

**A** By the majesty of Your risen body,

**C** good Lord, deliver us.

**A** We poor sinners implore You

**C** to hear us, Lord Jesus.

**A** That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness,

**C** grant us, good Lord.

**A** That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving others as we have been served by You,

**C** grant us, good Lord.

**A** That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,

**C** grant us, good Lord.

**A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** have mercy on us.

**A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** have mercy on us.

**A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** grant us Your peace.

**A** O Lord,

**C** have mercy.

**A** O Christ,

**C** have mercy.

**A** O Lord,

**C** have mercy. Amen.

## + Service of the Word +

*The Vigil continues with a brief service of the Word according to one of the settings of the Divine Service, allowing for the proclamation of the Easter Gospel.*

*The service is abbreviated in the following manner:*

### Easter Acclamation

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



The altar candles may now be lighted from the paschal candle. Lights in the church are turned on, bells may be rung, the chancel may be decorated, and the altar may be prepared while the congregation sings the Hymn of Praise.

### Hymn: 488 He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled  
is God, my Lord; The gates of heav'n are o - pen.  
My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, And Sa - tan's ar -  
rows bro - ken lie, De - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.  
O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, Ris - ing glo - rious,  
Life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye, 1742–1824; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

Text and tune: Public domain

### Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

### Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray. O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made

alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 27:57–66*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

*A brief sermon may be preached.*

## Benedicamus



**A** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction



**P** The al - mighty and mer - ci - ful Lord, the Father, the † Son,



and the Holy Spir - it, bless and pre - serve you.



**C** A - men.

*Return for Easter Sunday Divine Services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.*

## Acknowledgments

Vigil of Easter from Lutheran Service Book

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