

SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SANKT JOHANNES GEMEINDE
ÉGLISE LUTHÉRIENNE ST-JEAN

THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL
MARCH 30TH, 2024

PASTOR: Katherine Gohm

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Esther-Ruth Teel

CANTOR: Leah Weitzner

TROMBONE: Jack Price



Introduction

This is the night of salvation! At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night we experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ. We gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

SERVICE OF LIGHT

Part I

We gather outside, preferably on the sidewalk; the ministers stand at the brazier on the steps.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Beloved people of God, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through

water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

Lighting the New Fire

The presiding minister waits until the fire is burning before praying:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Inscribing & Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The minister prepares the candle, a sign of the paschal mystery, the death and resurrection of Christ.

Christ, yesterday and today, ✝
Trace the sign of the cross.

The beginning and the ending. Α Ω
Trace the Greek letters Alpha and Omega

To Christ belongs all time 2
Trace the first numeral at the upper left

And all the ages; 0
Trace the second numeral at the upper right

To Christ belongs the glory and dominion decade
Trace the third numeral at the lower left

Now and forever. **Amen.** Year
Trace the fourth numeral at the lower right.

The presiding minister lights the paschal candle and says:

The light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

The assisting minister lifts the candle so all may see it.

Procession into the Church

The procession into the darkened church begins, led by the assisting minister bearing the paschal candle.

At the first landing of the stairwell, the assisting minister holds the candle, lifts it high, as the cantor sings:



Mid-way down the aisle, the assisting minister lifts the candle high and the cantor sings a second time:



At this point hand-held candles are lit and the procession continues. In order that all are safe, please only tilt the unlit candle as the light is passed. The lit candle remains upright.

At the chancel, the assisting minister turns to face the congregation, and, when all have reached their places, lifts the candle high and the cantor sings a third time:



The paschal candle is placed in its stand.

Easter Proclamation

Candles remain lit until the end of the Easter Proclamation

The cantor begins the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet):

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Easter Proclamation

Leader

Re - joice, now, all heav'n - ly pow'rs! Sing, choirs of an - gels!

Ex - ult, all creation around God's throne! Je - sus Christ is ri - sen!

Celebrate the divine mysteries with ex - ul - ta - tion;

and for so great a vic - to - ry, sound the trum - pet of sal - va - tion.

Re - joice, O earth, in shin - ing splen - dor, ra - diant in the bright - ness of your king!

Christ has con - quered! Glo - ry fills you! Dark - ness van - ish - es for - ev - er.

Re - joice, O ho - ly church! Ex - ult in glo - ry! The ris - en Sav - ior shines u - pon you!

Let this place re - sound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's peo - ple.

Assembly

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

Leader

Assembly

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

Easter Proclamation, p. 2

Leader

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy, that with full devotion of heart and mind
and voice we should praise the invis - i - ble God, and the only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
who, by his precious blood, redeemed us from bond - age to the an - cient sin,
For this in - deed is the Pas - chal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain,
by whose blood the doorposts of the faith - ful are made ho - ly.

[opt. Assembly] Leader
This is the night **[This is the night]** in which, in ancient times, you delivered
our forebears, the chil - dren of Is - ra - el, and led them, dry - shod, through the sea.

[opt. Assembly] Leader
This is the night **[This is the night]** in which the darkness of sin has been
purged away by the ris - ing bright - ness.

[opt. Assembly] Leader
This is the night **[This is the night]** in which all who believe in Christ are
rescued from evil and the gloom of sin, are re - newed in grace, and are re - stored to ho - li - ness.

[opt. Assembly] Leader
This is the night **[This is the night]** in which, breaking the chains of death,

Easter Proclamation, p. 3

Christ arises from hell in tri - umph. O night tru - ly blessed

which a - lone was worthy to know the time and the hour in which Christ a - rose a - gain from hell!

This is the night [This is the night] of which it is written: "The night is as clear as the day,"

and, "then shall my night be turned in - to day." The holiness of this night

puts to flight the deeds of wick - ed - ness; wash - es a - way sin;

re - stores innocence to the fall - en, and joy to those who mourn;

casts out hate; brings peace; and hum - bles earth - ly pride.

There - fore, in this night of grace, receive, O God, our praise and thanks - giv - ing

for the light of the resurrection of our Lord Je - sus Christ, re - flected in the

burn - ing of this can - dle. We sing the glories of this pil - lar of fire,

the brightness of which is not di - min - ished e - ven when its light is di - vid - ed and bor - rowed.

For it is fed by the melt - ing wax which the bees, your ser - vants, have made for the

Easter Proclamation, p. 4

[opt. Assembly]

sub - stance of this can - dle. This is the night **[This is the night]**

Leader
in which heaven and earth are joined—things hu - man and things di - vine.

We, there - fore, pray to you, O God, that this can - dle, burning to the hon - or

of your name, will con - tinue to vanquish the dark - ness of night

and be min - gled with the lights of heav - en. May Christ the Morn - ing Star

find it burn - ing, that Morn - ing Star who nev - er sets,

that Morning Star who, rising from the grave, faithfully sheds light on the whole hu - man race.

And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve with your continual protection

your whole church, giving us peace in this time of our pas - chal re - joic - ing;

through the same Lord Je - sus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the

Assembly

Ho - ly Spir - it, one God, now and for - ev - er. **A - men.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated. Hand-held candles are extinguished.

WORD

Part II

Seven of the traditional twelve lessons regarding salvation history are read.

First Reading: Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a *Creation*

Silent reflection

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, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Second Reading: Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 *Flood*

Silent Reflection

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.**

Fourth Reading: Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 *Deliverance at the Red Sea*

Canticle: "I will sing to the Lord."

I will sing to the Lord for he has | triumphed gloriously;
the horse and its rider he has thrown in | to the sea.

The Lord is my strength | and my song;
he has | been my Savior.

This is my God, and I will praise him,
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

**Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power,
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.**

Who among the gods is like you, O Lord?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

**In your mercy you led forth you the people you set free;
you guided them in your strength to be your holy habitation.**

You will bring them in and plant them
on the mount that is your possession,

**The place, O Lord, you have made for your dwelling,
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have prepared.**

The Lord shall reign forever and ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

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.**

Fifth Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11 *Salvation freely offered to all*

Silent Reflection

Prayer: Holy God, you created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the whole earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to all who thirst for you, that, rejoicing in your covenant of mercy, we may bring forth abundant fruit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Eighth Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 *Valley of the dry bones*

Silent Reflection

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.

Tenth Reading: Jonah 1:1-2:1 *The deliverance of Jonah*

Silent Reflection

Prayer: O God of deliverance, you saved Jonah through the waters of death, and after three days you brought him to new life. Speak to us by this sign, and call us to repentance, that we may heed the voice of your risen Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Twelfth Reading: Daniel 3:1-29 *Deliverance from the fiery furnace*

Silent Reflection

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.**

Canticle

Benedicite – a Song of Creation

During the canticle the assisting minister takes the paschal candle and leads the procession to the baptistry.

The assembly lights their candles again and join the ministers in procession to the baptismal font.

HOLY BAPTISM

Part III

All You Works of God, Bless the Lord



- 1 All you works of God, bless the Lord! All you an - gels, now
2 Sing, you sun and you moon a - bove, stars of heav - en, now
3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold, dew's of sum - mer, your
4 Hills and moun - tains, now sing his worth, all you green things that



bless the Lord; come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,
sing his love; dew and show - ers, you winds that blow,
song un - fold; light and dark - ness, you day and night,
grow on earth; seas and riv - ers, you springs and wells,

Refrain



praise the Lord and his maj - es - ty:
heat and fire, . . . you ice and snow: Raise your voic - es high,
clouds of thun - der, you light-nings bright:
beasts and cat - tle, you birds and whales:



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, paraphrase of Song of the Three 35-65

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk song, adapt. Doreen Potter

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Dear Friends in Christ, let us ask God, the lover of humankind, to bless this font, that those reborn in it may forever be joined to the community we share in Christ. By your grace bless this womb of your church where your children are born again.

Blessing of the Font

Water is poured into the font.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we give thanks to God who passes over us in a wonderful and unseen power. The power of God's touch rests in the gentleness of grace and the miracle of new life.

In baptism we use your gift of water, which from the beginning covered the earth with the energy of life.

It was at the very beginning of the world that your Spirit moved over the waters and gave water the power to sanctify new life.

By water you washed away the sinfulness of a world gone awry. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and initiated virtue. Through water you led the children of Israel by a pillar of fire, out of their bondage in Egypt into the freedom of the promised land.

On this night Christ leads us through his death and resurrection from the bondage of sin into the freedom of the promised land.

May you look mercifully upon your church gathering here and assist us to let grace flow in torrents from this place so that our love may multiply your acts of renewal.

Open the fonts of baptism all over the world for the renewal of the nations, so that under your majestic dominion the Holy Spirit may flood the earth with healing and the grace of your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Blessed be God forever!

The presider touches the water.

May this water be fruitful so that a heavenly child may come forth from the divine womb of this font.

May all be gathered into a new infancy by the motherhood of grace and may we all be renewed by these waters and affirmed in the promises revealed by God in Jesus Christ.

Because of your passage on this night through the waters from death to life, may all unclean spirits depart from here at your command; may all wickedness and satanic deceit be banished. May no power of the enemy remain here to fly about and lay traps, nor creep in by stealth and corrupt by its poison.

The presider touches the water.

May this element of water be free from all the enemy's assaults and cleansed by the removal of all its wickedness.

May the word of Christ spoken in baptism free us from all assaults of the devil and may this font be our symbol of renewal.

May it be the font of life, a water of new birth, a stream of purification, may all who are washed in this bath of salvation, obtain, through the Holy Spirit working in them, communion with Christ.

Blessed be God forever.

The presider makes a cross above the water.

I bless you, O Water created by the Almighty, who in the beginning separated you from the dry land and lifted life out of your murky depths.

The presider sprinkles the water toward the four corners of the earth.

God made you flow from a fountain in paradise and asked you to water the whole earth;

God led us to this place, like an oasis in the desert, to quench our thirst and refresh us for the journey.

I bless you also as the sign given by our Lord Jesus Christ when by his power he changed you into wine at Cana in Galilee and when he walked upon your surface and when he was baptized in your Jordan stream by John.

Following the institution of Christ, we baptize believers and return ourselves, again and again, to the waters for healing and refreshment.

Blessed be God forever.

The presider moves the evergreen branch three times over the water and blows on the water.

May the breath of God breathe on us and may God's lips kiss these waters.

The Easter Candle, representing Christ as the pillar of fire, is lowered three times into the water.

Let the power of the Holy Spirit descend into the waters of this font and make the whole substance of the water fruitful for regeneration. And let us rise from these waters born of the Spirit to live a new life: to continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ.

Here may our sin be washed away, may human nature be recreated to the glory of its maker, may the word of forgiveness heal us from all pain and may everyone who receives this sacrament of regeneration be born again into a new infancy of true innocence.

Through the power of Christ rising from the dead, reborn in the Spirit, and the one who will come to judge the living and dead and all the world to come.

Amen.

Blessing of the Baptismal Oil

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the creation; and, throughout history, by the gift of the Holy Spirit, God's people have been empowered for service in and for the world. As a sign of that gift, the priests and kings of Israel were anointed with oil; and our Lord Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit at his baptism as the Christ, God's own Messiah.

At baptism, Christians are likewise anointed by that same Spirit to empower them for God's service. Therefore, let us now set apart and bless these oils to be signs of that anointing. With this perfumed oil may all who are baptized bear the fragrance of the Holy Spirit, and may all anointed experience the compassion and saving love of Christ.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was anointed by the Holy Spirit to be the Savior and servant of all, we pray that you to bless these oils, that those who are here anointed be made whole and may share in the royal priesthood of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Remembrance of Baptism

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. The power of sin is put to death in the holy flood, and we are raised with Jesus Christ to new life. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sent out in mission for the life of the world.

On this night God's people keep vigil, awaiting the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through the mystery of this night, we were buried with Christ and lay dead in order that as Christ was raised, so we should also set our feet on the new path of life.

When we were joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we were clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Together let us remember and affirm our baptism.

I ask you to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which be baptize.

Do you renounce the devil, and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

During the profession of faith, water from the font is sprinkled on the baptized as a remembrance of baptism.

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Hear now the description the apostle Paul gives concerning how, on this night, we are united with Christ and the forces of darkness will no longer have power over us.

New Testament Reading: Romans 6: 3-11

Prayer

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Litany of the Saints # 237 ELW

The ministers return to their chairs. The assembly returns to the pews. Hand-held candles are extinguished.

Leader Assembly

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
 Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Be gra - cious to us: Hear us, O God.
 De - liv - er your people: Hear us, O God.

You loved us before the world was made: Hear us, O God.
 You rescued the people of your promise: Hear us, O God.
 You spoke through your prophets: Hear us, O God.
 You gave your only Son for the life of the world: Hear us, O God.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: Great is your love.
 and was born of the vir - gin Mary: Great is your love.
 who by his cross and suffering re - deemed the world: Great is your love.
 and has washed us from our sins: Great is your love.
 who on the third day rose from the dead: Great is your love.
 and has given us the vic - to - ry: Great is your love.
 who ascend - ed on high: Great is your love.
 and intercedes for us at the right hand of God: Great is your love.

For the gift of the Ho - ly Spirit: Thanks be to God.
 For the one holy catholic and apos - tol - ic church: Thanks be to God.
 For the great cloud of witnesses into which we are bap - tized: Thanks be to God.

For Sarah and Abraham, Isaac and Re - bekah: Thanks be to God.
 For Gideon and Deborah, Da - vid and Esther: Thanks be to God.
 For Moses and Isaiah, Jeremi - ah and Daniel: Thanks be to God.
 For Miriam and Rahab, Abi - gail and Ruth: Thanks be to God.



For Mary, mother of our Lord: **Thanks be to God.**
For John, who baptized in the Jordan: **Thanks be to God.**
For Mary Magdalene and Joanna, Ma-ry and Martha: **Thanks be to God.**
For James and John, Pe - ter and Andrew: **Thanks be to God.**
For Paul and Apollos, Ste - phen and Phoebe: **Thanks be to God.**



For all holy men and women, our mothers and fa - thers in faith: **Thanks be to God.**
For the noble band of the prophets: **Thanks be to God.**
For the glorious company of the a - postles: **Thanks be to God.**
For the white-robed ar - my of martyrs: **Thanks be to God.**
For cherubim and seraphim, Michael and the ho - ly angels: **Thanks be to God.**



Be gra - cious to us: **Hear us, O God.**
De - liv - er your people: **Hear us, O God.**



Give new life to your servants by the grace of baptism: **Hear us, O God.**
Strengthen all who bear the sign of the cross: **Hear us, O God.**
Clothe us in compas - sion and love: **Hear us, O God.**
Bring us with all your saints to the riv - er of life: **Hear us, O God.**



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Text: *Welcome to Christ*, 1997
Text and music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Liturgical Drama: "Whom Do You Seek?"

The three Marys come to the tomb, seeking Jesus.

Alleluia Music Alleluias by Esther-Ruth Teel

Decorating the Church

Everyone joins in decorating the church. Please take an Easter lily from the back pew and bring it to the chancel.

Music during Decorating "Alleluias" by Esther-Ruth Teel

FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER

Part IV

After the decorating has been completed, and all have returned to their places, the Hymn of Praise is introduced.

Hymn of Praise

Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free



1 Our Pas-chal Lamb, that sets us free, is sac - ri - ficed. Oh, keep the
2 Let all our lives now cel - e - brate the feast; let mal - ice die. Let
3 Let all our deeds, u - na - ni-mous con - fess him as our Lord who



feast of free-dom gal - lant - ly; let al - le - lu - ias leap:
love grow strong a - new and great, let truth stamp out the lie.
by the Spir - it lives in us, the Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A - gain



sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a-loud: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976
Music: REGION THREE, Walter L. Pelz, b. 1926

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Holy Gospel John 20:1-18

Hymn of the Day Christ is Risen, Alleluia! # 382 ELW

1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
 2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
 3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row that last eve - ning round him lay
 4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
 through the o - pen gates of glad - ness he re - turns to life once more;
 now has found a glo - rious mor - row in the ris - ing of to - day.
 We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed o - ver all.

Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;
 death and hell be - fore him bend - ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,
 See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;
 All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;

bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
 an - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.
 Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.
 hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!

Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

The image shows a musical score for a refrain. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!' and 'Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!'.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
 Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

Prayers

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

God of the church, you lit the new fire of resurrection in the holy darkness of the tomb. Rekindle faith in our hearts, that your church may arise in the promise of new life and hope. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of creation, the earth itself waits for healing and redemption. Protect coastlines and reefs, forests and prairies, and the atmosphere from which we draw the breath of life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of the nations, too often the injustice of the cross echoes in human systems of power. Break cycles of vengeance and violence between peoples and nations and bring liberation to every place of captivity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of compassion, you know every heart that aches with loss and every mind that knows the weight of the tomb. Keep vigil with those who live with mental illness. Comfort the grieving and strengthen all who are close to death. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of grace, grant joy to those celebrating baptism and to all who welcome them into the community of faith. Inspire and lead people of all ages to share the good news in ways that reach new people. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection, the empty tomb proclaims that death itself is swallowed up. As we remember those whose lives on earth have ended, comfort us with the promise of resurrection. 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.**

The Peace

Please share a gesture of Christ's peace with one another, as you are comfortable.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

Music During Offering Concerto in Bb major, III, by Georg Telemann (1681-1767)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

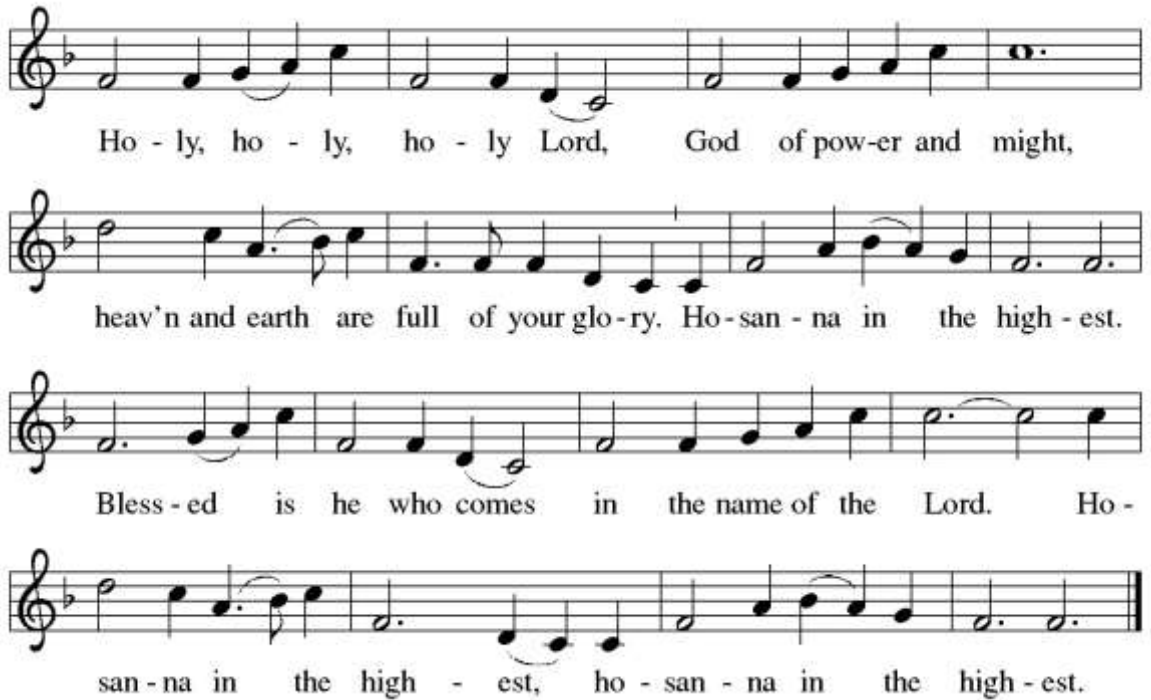
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, 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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer X

God most mighty,
O God most merciful,
O God our rock and our salvation,
hear us as we praise,
call us to your table, grant us your life.
When the earth was a formless void,
you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
you sent them a child;
When the Israelites were enslaved,
you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,

and the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among the poor,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,
life in you, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

**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. All are welcome, all are invited!

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion

Music During Communion Haec Dies by Francesco Turini (1590-1656)

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song The Day of Resurrection # 361 ELW

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
 2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,

the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God,
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
 the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in,
 all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!

From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
 and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
 Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
 for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude *Concerto in Bb major, I, by Georg Telemann (1681-1767)*

All are welcome to the Parish Hall for an Easter Party. Join the procession and head downstairs and celebrate re-creation!

We thank Rosalind Stranzl and her team for the reception tonight.

We give thanks and offer deep gratitude to all who gave their time, talents and energy to make this Easter Vigil possible.

A special thank you to Leah Weitzner, cantor, and Jack Price, trombone.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Thank you for worshipping with us!

Want to get connected? We'd love to be in touch with you! Fill in the pink contact card and please put it in the offering plate or give it directly to Pastor Katherine

ANNOUNCEMENTS

•St. John's Reading Group continues again on Wednesday, April 3rd at 7 pm in the Hall. We are reading *Restoring the Kinship Worldview: Indigenous Voices Introduce 28 Precepts for Rebalancing Life on Planet Earth* by Wahinkpe Topa (Four Arrows) and Darcia Narvaez, PhD. All are welcome. Please speak with Pastor Katherine if you have any questions.

•Thanks goes out to Halmut Gabel for the donation towards the Easter flowers this year.

•Kate's office hours are held on Wednesdays and Fridays from 8-12.

To be in touch with Pastor Katherine: Please phone 514-844-6297 or email:

pastor@SaintJohnsLutheranMontreal.org **Regular office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-2pm.**

We are thankful for your donations! Donations in person are welcome as well as:

Cheque, payable to St John's Lutheran, address below,

CanadaHelps www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119180826RR0001-st-johns-lutheran-church/

Interac transfer: secretary@saintjohnslutheranmontreal.org



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Music and Liturgy

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