

The Great Vigil of Easter

The Service of Light

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.
We remember his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries; we are confident
that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever in God.

Let us pray.

Father,
we share in the light of your glory
through your Son, the light of the world.
Sanctify this new fire, and inflame us with new hope.
Purify our minds by this Easter celebration
and bring us one day to the feast of eternal light.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing of Paschal Candle

Lighting of Paschal Candle

The Light of Christ
Thanks be to God

Hymn: Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

The Liturgy of the Word

Dear friends in Christ,
let us now listen attentively to the word of God,
recalling how he saved his people throughout history and in the fullness of time,
sent his own Son to be our Redeemer.

1st Reading:

A reading from the book of Genesis [1:1-5, 2:1-4]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

Prayer

2nd Reading:

A reading from the book of Exodus [14:10-31; 15:20-21]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

Prayer

3rd Reading:

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah [55:1-11]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

Prayer

4th Reading:

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel [37:1-14]

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God

Prayer

Gloria – Advocate choir (One License #07615)

Collect of the Day

The Gospel

The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

[John 20:1-18]

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

Hymn – Come and Journey (verses 1,2, &4)

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we celebrate our fellowship in him in faith.

We pray that all who have passed through the water of baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Dear friends, through the paschal mystery we have been buried with Christ in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life. Now that our Lenten observance is ended, let us renew the promises we made in baptism, when we rejected Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
I do.

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,
his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.**

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.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

God the creator, the rock of our salvation,
has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ.
May he keep us faithful to our calling,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,

the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Doxology

Glory to God

**whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.**

Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, loving and service others. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Hymn: Thine be the Glory Risen Conquering Son