CHRIST CHURCH PARISH
EPISCOPAL

8:00 PM

Easter Vigil

March 30, 2024



WELCOME

Christ Church is an Episcopal Parish in the Diocese of Massachusetts. We welcome and honor the God-given gifts that make us unique as individuals and strong as community. You and your family are welcome regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, marital status or prior religious affiliation.

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

OPENING PRAYER
In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant may address the people in these or similar words

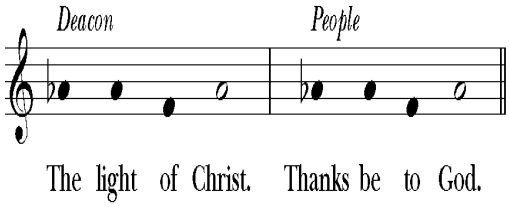
Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

The Celebrant may say the following prayer

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING VERSICLE
The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon (the Celebrant if there is no deacon) bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing or saying



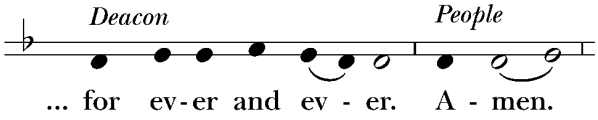
If candles have been distributed to members of the congregation, they are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time. Other candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the Altar, may also be lighted.

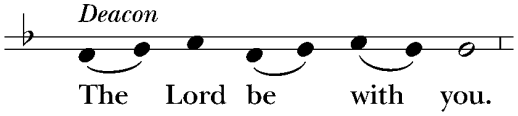
The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

EXSULTET

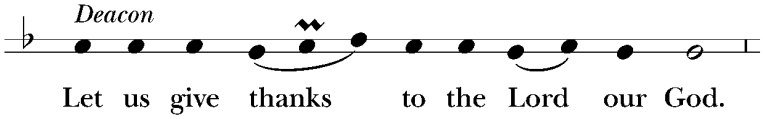
Then the Deacon, or other person appointed, standing near the Candle, sings or says the Exsultet, as follows

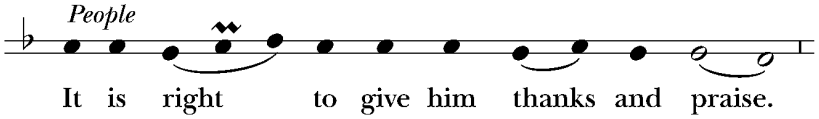
Exult now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,
and let your trumpets shout Salvation
for the victory of our mighty King.
Exult and sing now, all the round earth,
bright with a glorious splendor,
for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.
Exult and be glad now, Mother Church,
and let your holy courts, in radiant light,
resound with the praises of your people.
All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame,
pray with me to God the Almighty
for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light;
through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord,
who lives and reigns with him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God,











Deacon

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

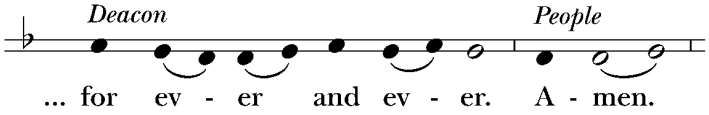
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Therefore, O Holy Father, accept the evening sacrifice of this lighted candle, which your holy church makes before you, and offers to you by the hands of your servants and the work of the bees your creatures. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns



It is customary that the Paschal Candle burn at all services from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost.

The Liturgy of the Word

INVITATION
The Celebrant may introduce the Scripture readings in these or similar words

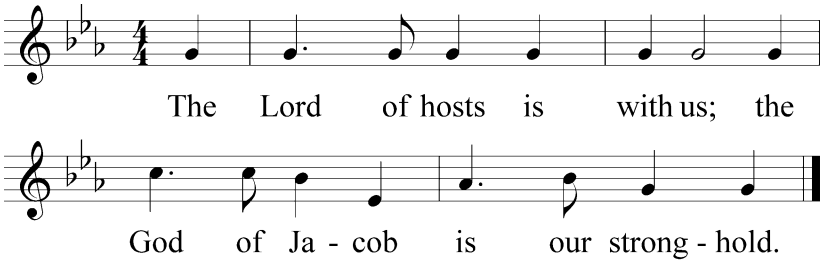
Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

FIRST READING:
The Flood **Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13**

Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind — every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in. The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to

him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more. In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh — birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth — so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

FIRST RESPONSE: Psalm 46



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[1]God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

3 Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

4 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.

6 God is in the midst of her;
she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.

7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

8 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

9 Come now and look upon the works of the LORD, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth."

12 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

FIRST COLLECT

Celebrant: Let us pray. *(Silence)*

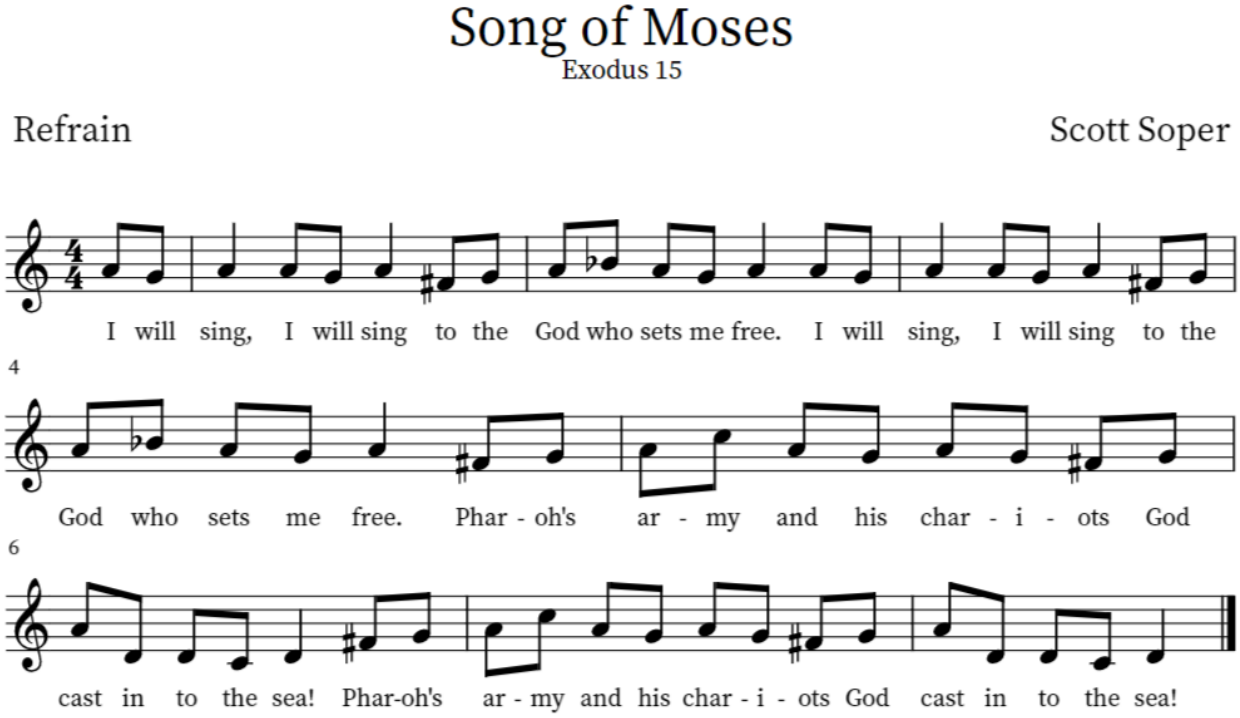
Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SECOND READING:
Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea **Exodus 14:10-15:1**

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers." The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He

clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

SECOND RESPONSE:



The Lord is my strength, my protection and my shield;
Pharaoh's army and his chariots God cast into the sea.
Our God is a warrior whose name is "the Lord,"
God of might, God of victory!

[Refrain]

The brave and the mighty, the pride of Pharaoh's army,
God plunged them to the bottom of the sea like a stone.
The hand of the Lord is magnificent in power;
the Lord has crushed our foes!

[Refrain]

O God who redeems, who delivers us from slav'ry,
you set us on the mountain of your holy place.
Your throne and your temple shall endure for all time;
your reign shall never end!

[Refrain]

SECOND COLLECT
Celebrant: Let us pray. *(Silence)*

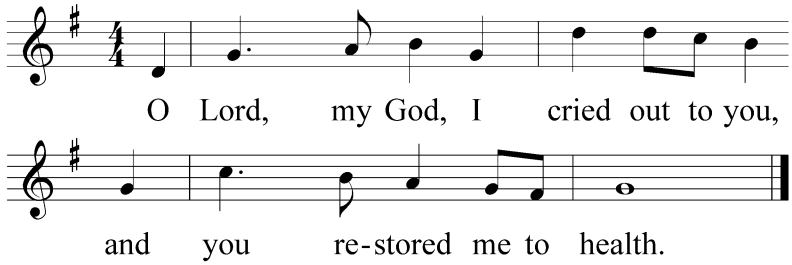
O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THIRD READING:
The valley of dry bones **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I had

been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

THIRD RESPONSE - PSALM 30



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1 I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

2 O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.

3 O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

4 Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

5For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

6As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."

7By your favor, O LORD,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

8To you, O LORD, I cried,
and to the LORD I made supplication:

9"What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?

10Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!
O LORD, be my helper!"

11You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,

12so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

THIRD COLLECT

Celebrant: Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOURTH READING:
The gathering of God's people **Zephaniah 3:12-20**

For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD—the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid. Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

FOURTH RESPONSE - ***Precious Lord, take my hand*** **WLP 800**



FOURTH COLLECT

Celebrant: Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANTHEM ***Above All Powers*** **Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche**

At the Eucharist

EASTER ACCLAMATION

The candles at the Altar may now be lighted from the Paschal Candle.

The Celebrant may say to the people

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

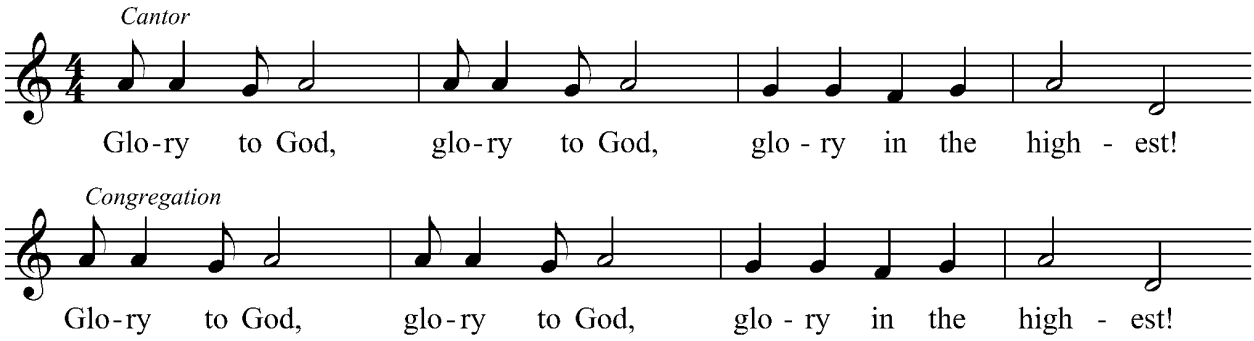
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The people celebrate with loud cheering and ringing of bells.

ALLELUIA!

CANTICLE FOR EASTER VIGIL ***Glory to God*** **MHSO 11**

The following is sung, all standing





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COLLECT FOR EASTER VIGIL

The Celebrant then says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed

both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

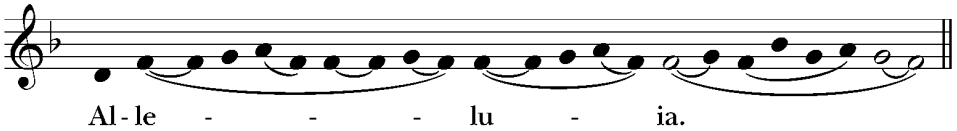
The Lessons

EPISTLE: **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.

THE GREAT ALLELUIA ***Great Alleluia*** **1982 Hymnal S 70**

After the Epistle, this Alleluia is traditionally sung three times by the Celebrant or by a Cantor, at successively higher pitches (one whole tone each time), the Congregation repeating it each time.



GOSPEL: **Mark 16:1-8**

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they

went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.

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

HOMILY **The Rev. Melissa Howell**

BAPTISMAL RENEWAL INVITATION
The Celebrant may first address the people in these or similar words, all standing

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS
Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
People: **I do.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?
People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

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

Celebrant: Will you cherish the wondrous works of God and protect the beauty and integrity of all Creation?
People: **I will, with God's help.**

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows:

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jesus Christ is risen. Alleluia! Let us pray, saying, "Risen Christ, hear our prayer."

Heavenly Savior, we give thanks that through your life, death, and resurrection, you have offered the gift of redemption to us and to all people. Empower us and all members of your Church to sing your eternal praises with our voices and our lives.

Silence
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Redeemer, inspire the leaders of our towns, state, country, and world to serve their communities with open minds and hearts, and to promote restorative justice, peace, dignity, and flourishing for all people.

Silence
Risen Christ**, hear our prayer.**

Incarnate Love, bring your transformative and healing presence to all who are grieving, suffering, or in danger, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name now, either silently or aloud.

Silence. The congregation may offer their own intercessions.
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Author of Life, remind us that we are inter-connected with you, with one another and with all living things. Compel us to care for your Creation.

Silence
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

Risen Christ, we give thanks that you have opened heaven's gate and freed us from the power of sin and death. We pray for the dying and for those who have died, remembering especially those we name now, either silently or aloud. May they forever be united with you in Resurrection joy.

Silence. The congregation may offer their own intercessions.
Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant prays a concluding collect:
Living Christ, you are risen from the dead, and love reigns! You are life stronger than death. Raise our hearts to you as the new day dawns, for the glory of your name. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE WITH HOLY WATER

SONG ***I Will Rise*** **Chris Tomlin**

THE PEACE
All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM ***Resucitó*** **Kiko Argüello**

233 ¡Resucitó, Resucitó!



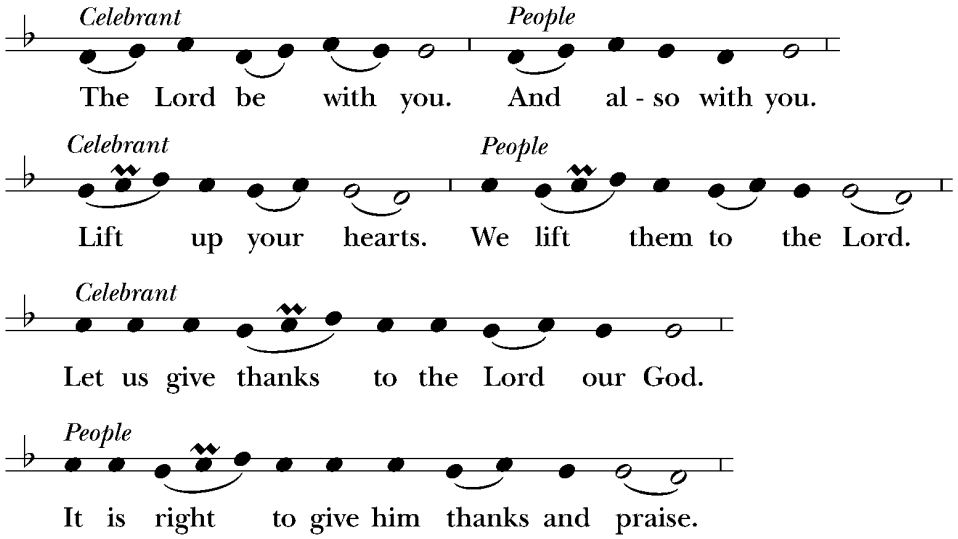
HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!
1. *Death, where is death? Where is my death? Where is its victory?*
2. *Rejoice, brothers, for if today we love each other, it is because He is risen.*
3. *If we die with Him, we live with Him. We sing with Him, Alleluia!*

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DOXOLOGY **1982 Hymnal 380, v3**

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.



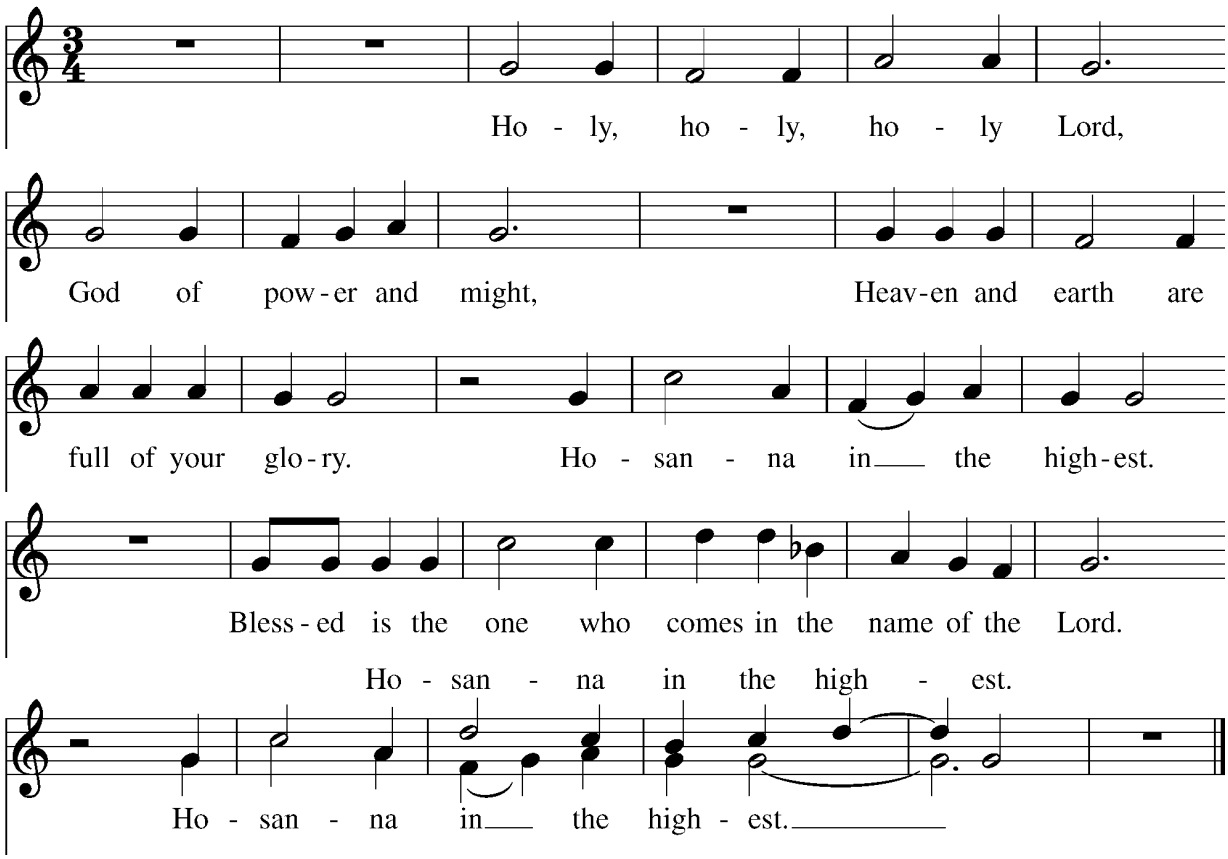
Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS ***Holy, holy, holy*** **WLP 853**



The People stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

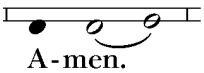
The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

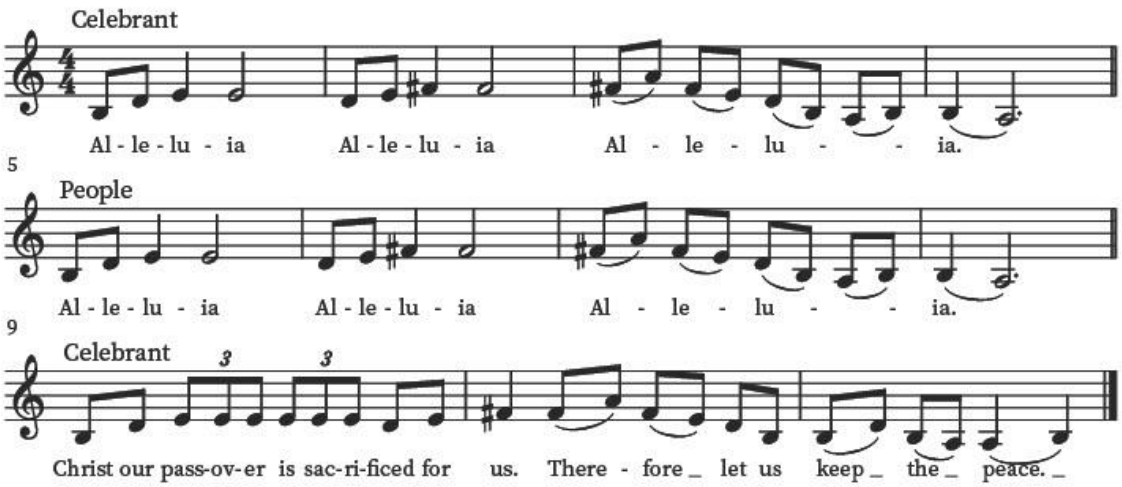
People and Celebrant

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM



INVITATION

The Presider invites the people to Communion with these or similar words:

Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at God's table.

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

To receive the Sacrament, come forward in two lines down the center aisle, to either the main altar or the chapel altar rail. Please fill in all the spaces along the rail. Standing or kneeling, hold out your hands. The minister will place the bread in your palm. You may then receive the wine by drinking from the larger cup or intincting (dipping) the bread in the smaller cup. If you do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms across your chest as the cup bearers come to you. If you would prefer a blessing, come forward to the rail, cross your arms across your chest, and the minister will bless you.

At the main altar, once you have received, stand and exit through the side door closest to you (either left past the organ or right through the choir room) to walk around and back into the sanctuary, using the side aisles to return to your seat.

COMMUNION HYMN ***Sing Hallelujah to the Lord*** **Celebrate 37**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING
The Priest blesses the people, saying

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

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

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

And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you this night, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN
Jesus Christ is risen today **1982 Hymnal 207**

DISMISSAL
The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses the people.
The people respond: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Donations for Easter Flowers and Guest Musicians

Given in Loving Memory of:

Albert, Andrew, and Bonnie Bell, Patricia Chase and Ava Pioppi by Mary Bell
Eileen Cassady, Millard Cassady, and Marjorie Cassady by Craig & Diana DiGiorgi
Elsie Barrett, Maureen Reposa, John DiGiorgi, and Lorraine DiGiorgi by Craig & Diana DiGiorgi
George and Martha Willett by Jack & Joyce Willett
Jane and Nettie, Robert and Elizabeth Cassell, Peter, and Elanor Silva by Jack & Joyce Willett
Jasmine Lane by the Thornton Family
Jim and John Ridpath and Carlos Guerra by Karen Guerra
J Stephen Yeo by Wendela Yeo Correia
Karen Hebert Jacobs by Nancy G. Boulanger
Loved ones by Carl & Robin Nielsen
Loving family, blessed grandchildren and all friends and family by Jack & Joyce Willett
Mom, Todd, Anne, Linda, and Tommy by Donna Lawrence
Our families who are no longer with us by Marilyn & Denis Hassan
Our parents by Bill & Judy Lutz
Our son Michael by Nancy & Dale Alger
Paul Giaccaglia by Jackie & Denise Giaccaglia
Passed Choir members by Roberta Perry
Rena and Charles Melahoures by Connie Melahoures
Selma Peterson by Keith & Amanda Peterson
Stephen Lewis Estes by the Estes family
The Christian, Billingham, Hill and Beal families and Priscilla Palombo by Debbie & Don Hill
The Perry and Colvin family members by Roberta Perry
Tom and Johnny Nordquist by the Nordquist Family
Tom Nordquist by David & Gail Elliott

As a Thank Offering by:

Adrian Massie for Elijah Langille & Lea Tyler
Brad & Judy Bradley for the lives of the departed members of the Bradley & Fall families
Dee & Bill Ferguson for our family
David & Gail Elliott for CCP Ministers
Donna Lawrence for my wonderful family
Drew Lench and Joel Kopke for our children and grandchildren
Karen Guerra for all my children & grandchildren
Mary & Harvey LeSueur for all those who are working to bring peace on earth
Mary Bell for Lea Tyler & Elijah Langille
Richard & Deanna Nealey for our children and grandchildren
Richard Teixeira & Linda Ashcraft for many blessings
The Thrift Shoppe Leaders for our dedicated volunteers, customers and donors

Thank You

Thank you to our staff and all who have worked behind the scenes and up front to make our worship to God's glory and praise, among them: Acolytes, Altar Guild, Choir, Musicians and Soloists, Eucharistic ministers and Lectors, Healing ministers, Ushers/Greeters, those decorated the church, Brass Polishers, Liturgical Arts, and last but not least all the parishioners who make Easter so special at Christ Church Parish.

Announcements

Please keep the following people in your prayers during the coming week. Any names added this week are in bold.

Bill Lutz; Caleb Eaton and family; Carol Owen; Cindy Boyer; Dianne Powers; **Don Bolt;** Doug Perry; Gabriel; Jeff Carter; Karen Romero; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Linda Garrone; Louise Woodruff; Margie Kaupp; Maryanne Kerrigan; Nicole Smith; Nicole Zapolski; Norm Zinger; Owen Smith; Richard Larraga; Ruth Ann Cederholm; Sam Barry; Sharon Steadman; Steven Mills-Price; Suzanne Williamson-Vico; Tina MacAllister; Valerie B. Pflock; Wil Bernard; William Underhill

We ask your prayers for those serving in the military and their families:
Andrew Barton, Austin Vico, Harry Morini, Josh Zabin, Tory Boudreau

From the Office

In order to have your announcements included in the weekly bulletin and *Keeping Connected,* please send them to the office by 12 Noon on Wednesday. They should include date, time, place, description of event and contact information and should be written exactly the way you want them to appear.

Keeping Connected – Christ Church's weekly eNewsletter can now be found on our website christchurchplymouth.org. Visit our website to view the newsletter or scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your name and email to have it sent directly to your inbox.

Adventures In Learning

Greetings Church School Families,

Our Church School is bustling with activity as we gear up for the upcoming Easter celebrations. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks for entrusting us with your children in both church school and worship. Beginning a Sunday morning in the church building with the warm greetings and high-fives from your child is truly special. Watching your child participate in the Lord's Supper and sharing in that sacred moment not only nurtures their faith but also enriches the spiritual tapestry of our entire community.

Being part of the communion experience alongside believers of all ages, witnessing the connection between adults and children as they share profound words about Jesus, and offering prayers with folded arms create visual reminders of Jesus' sacrifice for all of us. We understand that parenting is a demanding journey, and there might be Sundays when you crave a moment of quiet reflection. We also acknowledge that there may have been times when you wondered if your little ones truly belonged in the worship setting. Despite these challenges, we encourage you to persevere, because beyond the joy your children bring to our collective worship, you are actively shaping their path of lifelong worship—a journey we're privileged to undertake together.

Church School Holy Week Schedule

March 31st: EASTER SUNDAY!!

- There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for kids of all ages after the 10 AM service. We are providing special bags for collecting your eggs!

Please encourage your children to invite their friends to our annual easter egg hunt.

April: Love First - Love God

7 Love God 1
14 Love God 2
21 **April Vacation—No regular Church School/YES Prepared Communion**
28 Love God 3

May:

5 ***Prepared Communion Service and Celebration*** *(No regular church School).*
12 Love God 4—Pentecost activity
19 Love God 5—PENTECOST
26 **Memorial Day Weekend –No Church School**

June: Review and Wrap-Up

2 Love First Review (Field Trip to Christ Church Food Pantry)
9 **Family Sunday**. Church School Recognition (No Regular Church School)
16 **In Class celebrations**

Blessings in Christ, Donna Eby & Su D'Ambrosio - Interim Sunday School Coordinators

Bereavement Support Group - Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted (Matthew 5:4). Christ Church is offering an 8-week bereavement support group designed for anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one, whether the death is recent or in the past. Participants will have the opportunity to share their grief story, receive support, get information on ways to cope, and may find new strength and hope to continue on their healing journey. Each session will include some time of prayer.

Meetings will be on Saturday from 3:00 – 4:30 beginning April 13. The size of the group is limited. For more information or to register call Ann Fowler 508-923-9582 or Martha Zinger 401-835-6089.

Thrift Shoppe - Spring finally arrives at the shop on Thursday, April 4th with a large selection of seasonal clothing, most selling for $4.00. Also available are slightly higher priced boutique items, housewares and small furnishings.

We are grateful to the many generous donors who are at the core of this ministry. The need for donations is endless as we work to meet the needs of our community.

Donations of gently used housewares, men's and women's clothing, and small furnishings from smoke-free homes can be dropped inside during shop hours, or at the garage on Saturdays from 10-1.

All proceeds benefit church ministries and community outreach.

Shoppe Hours
Thursday and Friday 10-4
Saturday 10-2

Wishing all a blessed Easter. May the joy of the season fill your hearts with renewed faith, hope, and love.
~The Leadership Team~

Christ Church Food Pantry - All are welcome to the Christ Church Food Pantry!
We are open by appointment:
Tuesday 4:00-5:15, Thursday 12:00-1:15 and 4:00-5:15, and Saturday 10:00-11:15.
Call the pantry message line: 508-746-4959, ext 6, BY 1 PM THE DAY BEFORE YOU WISH TO PICK UP YOUR ORDER. Our volunteers check messages and return your call from their homes to ask you what you need.

Leave a message if you wish to donate non-perishable food and household items, or you may leave your donations under the mailboxes outside the office or in the front entrance to the sanctuary. Squirrels like to get into any bags left on the porch of the food pantry!

Thanks to an outpouring of support, we are all set for egg cartons for a while! This week we are low on spaghetti, egg noodles and any flavor bottles of juice.

If you wish to volunteer, contact Eileen Paris at eileenpca@aol.com

For more information, please contact Barbara Wojtklewicz at 617-291-4634, or by email at barbara.wojtklewicz@gmail.com

Week At - A - Glance * March 31, 2024 – April 7, 2024

SUNDAY	**8:00 AM**	**Easter Sunday**
	10:00 AM	**Easter Sunday**
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour
	11:30 AM	Easter Egg Hunt
MONDAY	**9:00 AM**	**Morning Prayer –** Facebook Live
	9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Office Closed
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
TUESDAY	9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Office Closed
	10:00 AM	Companions Group
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Food Pantry
WEDNESDAY	**9:00 AM**	**Morning Prayer –** Facebook Live
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Office Closed
	5:00 PM	Evening Women's Group
THURSDAY	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Thrift Shoppe
	10:00 AM	Bible Study
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	12:00 PM – 1:15 PM	Food Pantry
	1:00 PM	Book Study
	4:00 PM – 5:15 PM	Food Pantry
FRIDAY	**9:00 AM**	**Morning Prayer –** Facebook Live
	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Thrift Shoppe
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Fore & Aft
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Office Closed
SATURDAY	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Thrift Shoppe
	5:00 PM	**The Second Saturday of Easter**
SUNDAY	**8:00 AM**	**The Second Sunday of Easter**
	10:00 AM	**The Second Sunday of Easter**
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour

Christ Church Parish
Seeking Christ in Ourselves * Serving Christ in the World

JESUS CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH

MINISTERS

All the people of Christ Church Parish

Staff
The Rev. Melissa Howell, Rector
The Rev. Deacon James Thomas
Connie Melahoures, Verger
David Tyler, Parish Administrator
Lea Tyler, Choir Director
Elijah Langille, Organist
Donna Eby, Interim Sunday School Coordinator
Jae Johnson, Sexton

Officers and Vestry Representatives
Bill Ferguson, Senior Warden
John Steele, Junior Warden
Ray Rogers, Treasurer
Brenna Buckley, Clerk
Wil Bernard, Barb Hurney, Kat Libretto, Judy Lutz, Makenzie Manchester, Becky Metzger, Amanda Peterson, and Jack Willett

149 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360
Phone: 508-746-4959
E-mail: office.christchurchplymouth@gmail.com

Scan here to visit our website:
https://www.christchurchplymouth.org/

Office Hours
Monday - Friday 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM