The Great Vigil of Easter
Saturday, April 19, 2025 at 8:00 PM



ARTISIT: JEN NORTON
ART: EASTER MORNING

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Great Vigil of Easter
Saturday, April 19, 2025
8:00 PM

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

5 Paterson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901
732-545-6262

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH, an Episcopal parish of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship this evening, and to receive Holy Communion or a blessing at the communion rail. We invite you to ask questions, explore, and to make yourself known to those around you. Please pick up a welcome bag, and any other information about the parish located on the bookshelf in the back of the church. Tell us more about yourself by filling out one of the cards located in each pew. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ALL SERVICES. Changing stations are available in both rest rooms at the Paterson Street entrance; you can get there through the side door of the church.

WE REJOICE that you have chosen to worship here this Easter. If you would like to learn more about our Parish, please phone the Parish Office at 732.545.6262. Many of our upcoming events are listed on our web site, christchurchnewbrunswick.org; we hope that you decide to join us.

YOU ARE INVITED to worship with us any Sunday.

Our regular service times are 8:00 and 10:30 AM.

FREE PARKING VOUCHERS
Are available for the Lower Church Street parking deck next to the church grounds.
Please see an usher for a voucher and instructions.

Permission is given to print and stream music via One License # #A-700522

The Great Vigil of Easter

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The congregation gathers outside the tower door. If it is raining, the congregation will gather in the back of the church. In the darkness, the new fire is kindled.

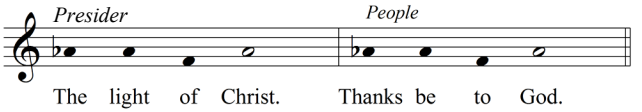
The Presider addresses the people with these words

Presider 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.

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.

People **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is then lit from the newly-kindled fire, and the congregation proceeds to the pews in the sanctuary and remains standing. An appointed person, bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and



The Congregation's candles are lit from the Paschal Candle during the procession. Then the Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

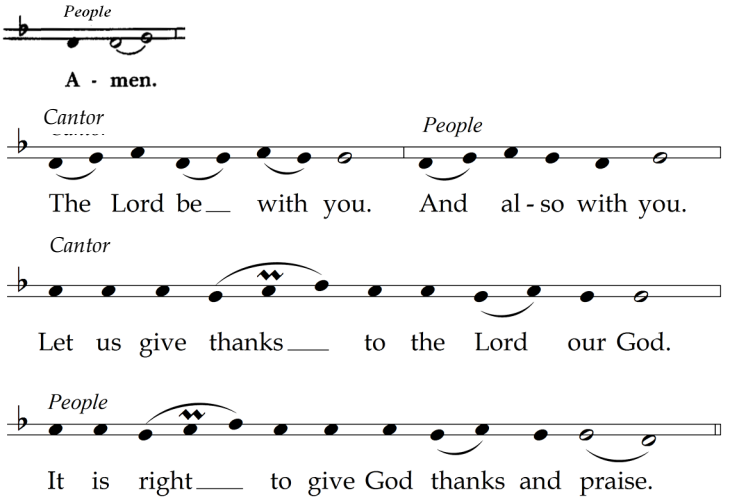
A Cantor, standing near the Candle, sings the Exsultet.

Cantor Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice 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 our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,



Cantor 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.

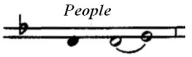
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

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.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. 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 for ever and ever.



The Paschal Candle and every candle lit from it are signs of the Light of Christ in our midst. Please be seated, and feel free to keep your candle burning until the Easter acclamation.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROPHECIES

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

Please be seated

THE STORY OF CREATION *Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a*
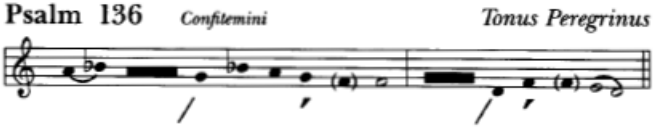
Reader In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters

and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

PSALM 136:1-9, 23-26 *Confitemini* *Tone II*

The cantor will intone the refrain; all repeat. Verses sung by choir





1 *Give* thanks to / the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures / for ever.

2 Give / thanks to the God of gods, *
for his mercy endures / for ever.

3 Give / thanks to the Lórd of lords, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

4 Who on/ly does great wónders, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

5 Who by wis/dom made the héavens, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

6 Who spread out the earth / upon the wáters, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

7 Who / created gréat lights, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

8 —/The sun to rúle the day, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

9 The moon and the stars / to govern thé night, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.
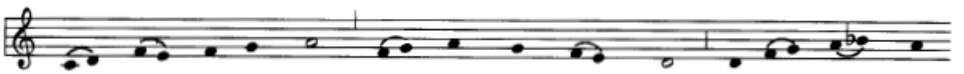
23 Who remembered / us in our lów estate, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.
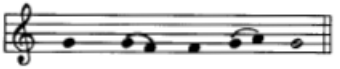
24 And delivered / us from our énemies, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

25 Who gives / food to all créatures, *
for his mercy endures / for évër.

26 Give / thanks to the Gód of heaven, *
for his mercy endures / for évër. *[Ant.]*

In Lent





All who are able please stand

COLLECT

Presider Let us pray. O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA *Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21*

Reader 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
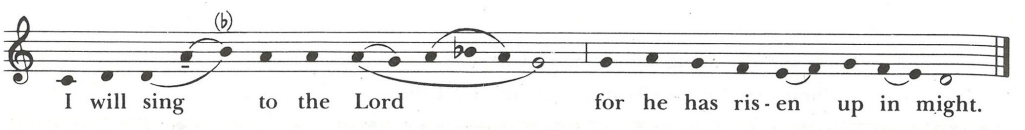
Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, 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 the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: 'Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.'

CANTICLE 8

Tone I and Tonus Peregrinus

The Cantor intones the Antiphon, All repeat. The Antiphon is repeated at the end.

Antiphon
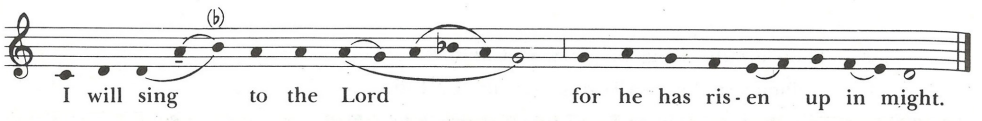


Choir

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.
The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.
This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.
The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness,
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.

People



All who are able please stand

COLLECT

Presider Let us pray. 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.

People **Amen.**

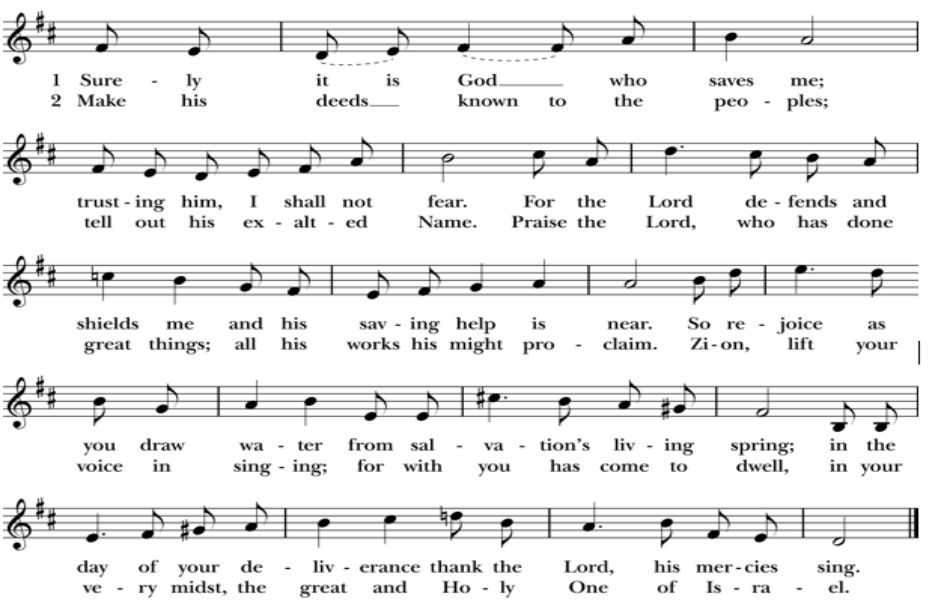
Please be seated

THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

Reader 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."

HYMN "Surely it is God who Saves Me " ***Blue Hymnal 1982*, #678**



All who are able please stand

COLLECT

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Presider 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.

Presider Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider 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.**

Presider 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.**

Presider 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.**

Presider 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.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider 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.**

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

ASPERGES RITE

As a reminder of our Baptism, the Presider sprinkles the congregation with water. Meanwhile, the choir sings verses from Psalm 42, a text which is traditionally appointed for this moment of the Vigil. The congregation joins with the choir in singing the antiphon before and after the motet.

ANTHEM "Like as the Hart" (Psalm 42) N. RAWSTHORNE

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
So longeth my soul after thee, O God

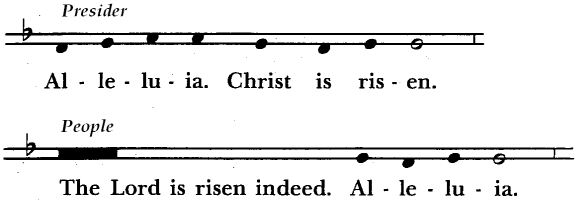
My soul thirst for the living God,
yea even he that shall keep my soul.

My tears have been my meat day and night.
While they daily say unto me,

Where is now thy God,
Where is now thy God?
Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks
So longeth my soul after thee O God
My soul thirst s for the living God, yea even he that shall keep my soul
Yea even he that shall keep my soul

THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER
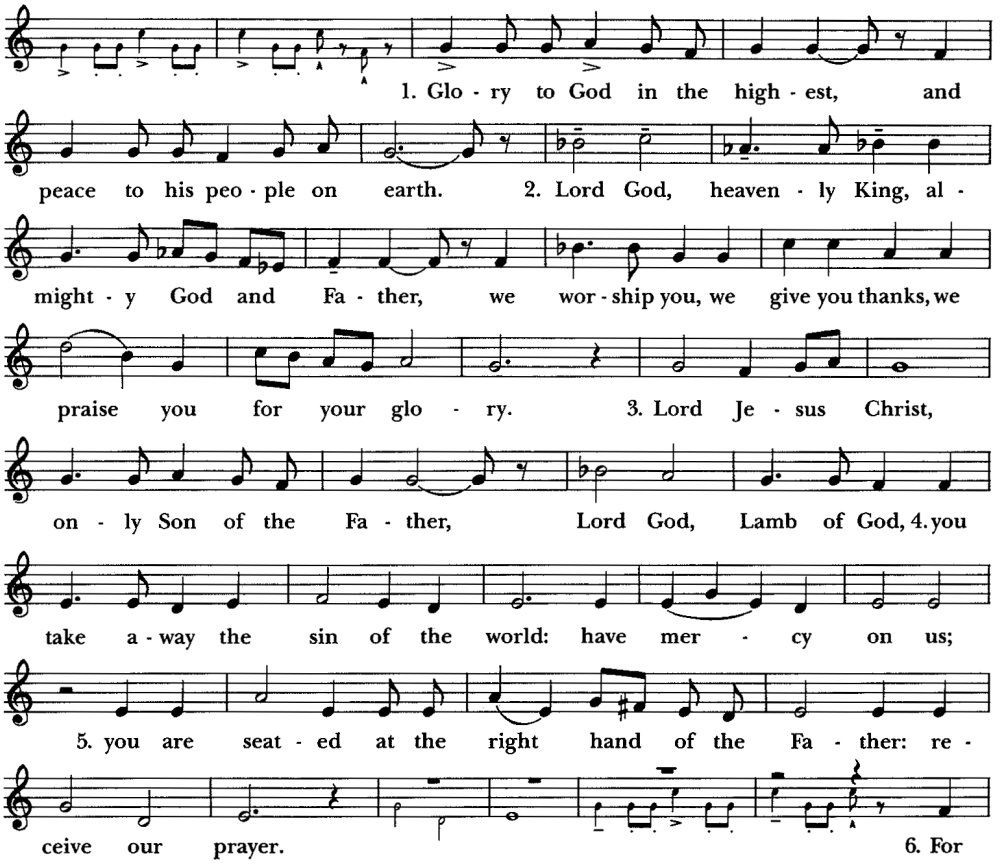
With great joy, all sing the Easter Acclamation as the altar candles are lighted from the Paschal Candle.

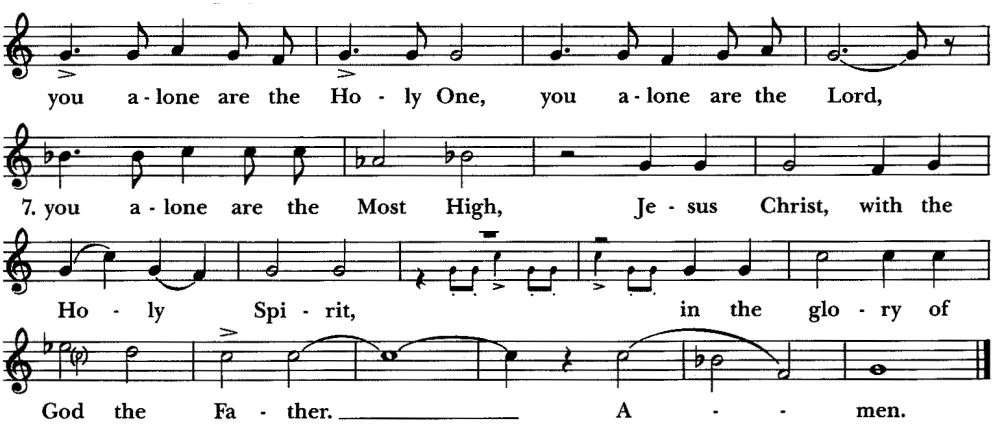


All are invited to ring bells with great joy during the Gloria in excelsis*, sung for the first time since before Ash Wednesday.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS — *The Blue Hymnal 1982, S,* **#278**

William Mathias





Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING *Romans 6:3-11*

Reader *A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans*: 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.

Silence is kept for a space
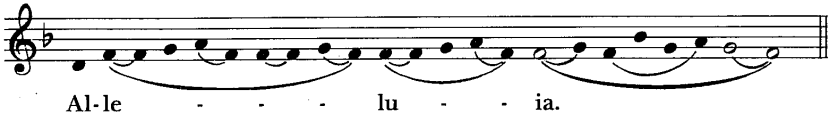
Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All who are able please stand

THE GREAT ALLELUIA

The cantor sings the Great Alleluia three times, and it is repeated each time by the people. Each repetition is at a higher pitch.



GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:1-12

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

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

Deacon But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Silence is kept for a space

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Rev. Salvador Ros

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Responding, "In the joy of the Resurrection," let us pray for our own needs and the needs of others.

The Leader requests the prayers of the People of God for the world, the mission of the Church, and for those individuals who have asked for or need our prayers. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church.

After the last petition, the Presider adds a concluding Collect

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM This Joyful Eastertide *P. Ledger*

Sung by the Gallery Choir

1. This Joyful Eastertide,
Away with sin and sorrow.
My Love the Crucified,
Hath sprung to life this morrow.

Refrain

Had Christ, that once was slain,
Ne'er burst his three – day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now hath Christ arisen,
Arisen, arisen, arisen.

2. My flesh in hope shall rest,
And for a season, slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number.

Refrain

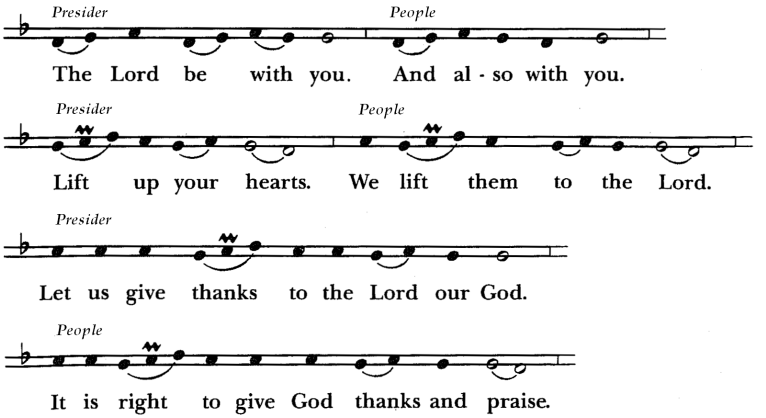
3. Death's flood hath lost his chill,
Since Jesus cross'd the river,
Crossed the river.
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver.

Refrain

Scan this code to support Christ Church's ministries and outreach to the community.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

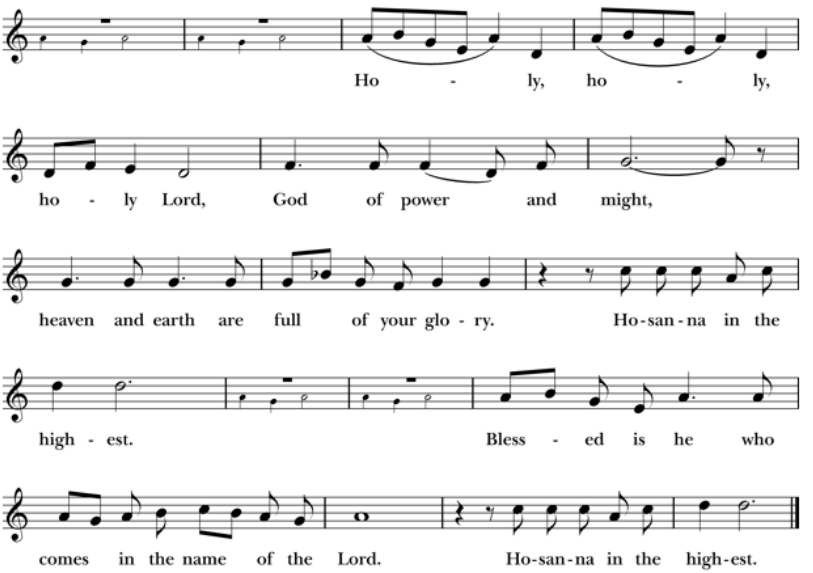
Adapt. from Janet Morley,
All Desires Known



Presider Loving and life-giving God, we praise you and give you thanks for having created us—people in your image. In Jesus Christ you broke forth from the grave; before the stone was moved, and the tomb of our world was opened wide. You were raised in power and revealed yourself to us as a beloved stranger, offering for the rituals of the dead the terror of new life and the comfort of hope. Therefore, with the woman who gave you birth, with the friends who loved you, mourned for you, and met you, risen from the dead; and with all the holy ones throughout the ages, we praise you, singing:

The Blue Hymnal 1982, S, **#128**
William Matthias

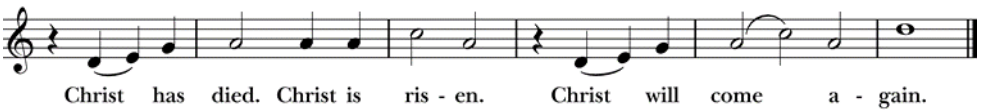
People



Presider Blessed is our brother Jesus, who walks with us the road of our grief, and is known again in the breaking of bread; who on the night he was handed over, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said: "This is my body, which is for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this whenever you drink it, to remember me." And so in faith we pray:

The Blue Hymnal 1982, S, **#135**

People



Presider Remembering Jesus and the power of your love revealed through him, we ask you, Father and Mother and Friend of All, to bless this bread and this wine, making it for us the body and blood of Jesus the Christ. As we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection. In the body broken and the blood poured out, we restore to memory and hope the broken and unremembered victims of tyranny and sin; and we long for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come.
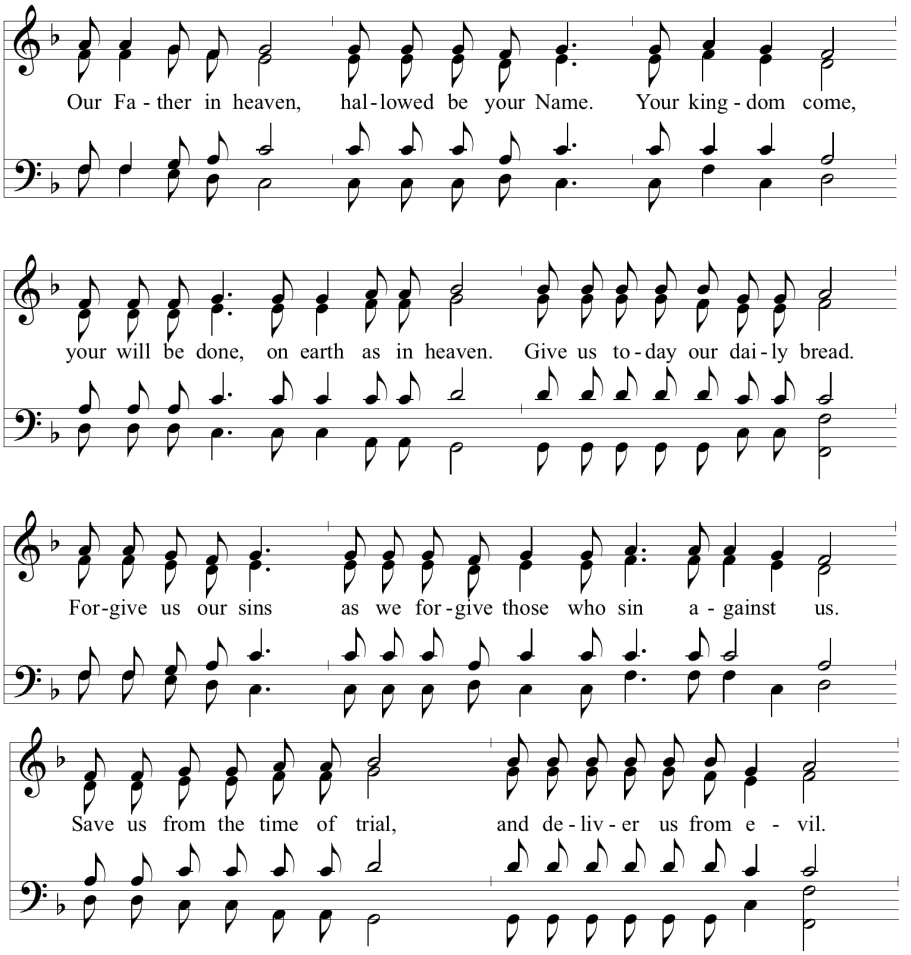
Presider Come now disturbing the spirit of our God,

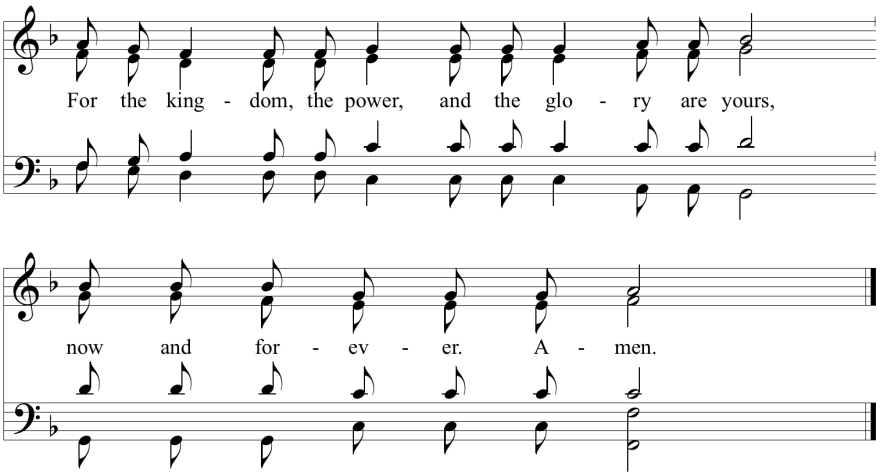
People **Breathe on this bread and wine and make them the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Breathe on us and make us one with Christ. Open our graves, unbind our eyes, and claim us here. Touch and heal all that has been buried in us that we need not cling to our past, but may go forth with power to release resurrection in the world. Amen.**

Presider As our brother Christ taught us, we now pray,

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov
From the Liturgy of St. Chrysostom, Op. 22

People

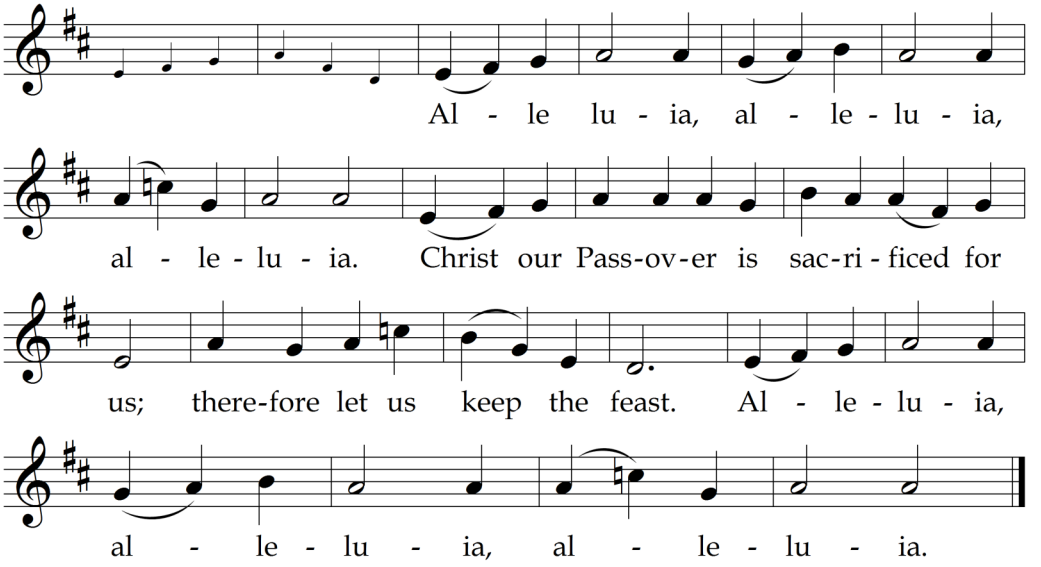




BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the bread. Then All sing

The Blue Hymnal 1982, S, **#155**
Gerald Near



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

The congregation may kneel or sit following the Invitation. All are most welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion, you are cordially invited to come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. If you do choose to receive communion, please sanitize your hands first.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER FOR THOSE JOINING US ONLINE:
Gracious God, our sustainer and source of all good things in the universe. As we gather in community this day, we are mindful of those who through circumstance or conscience are unable to partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation at this time. You are the source of the food and water which nourishes and sustains us. As we are the product of all we have partaken, we know that we are infused with your life-giving food and drink and that are never separated from you. Though we are many, we are joined in Christ. We are one Body, one Cup in the name of the One God. Amen.

The Bread and Cup are given to the Communicants with these words
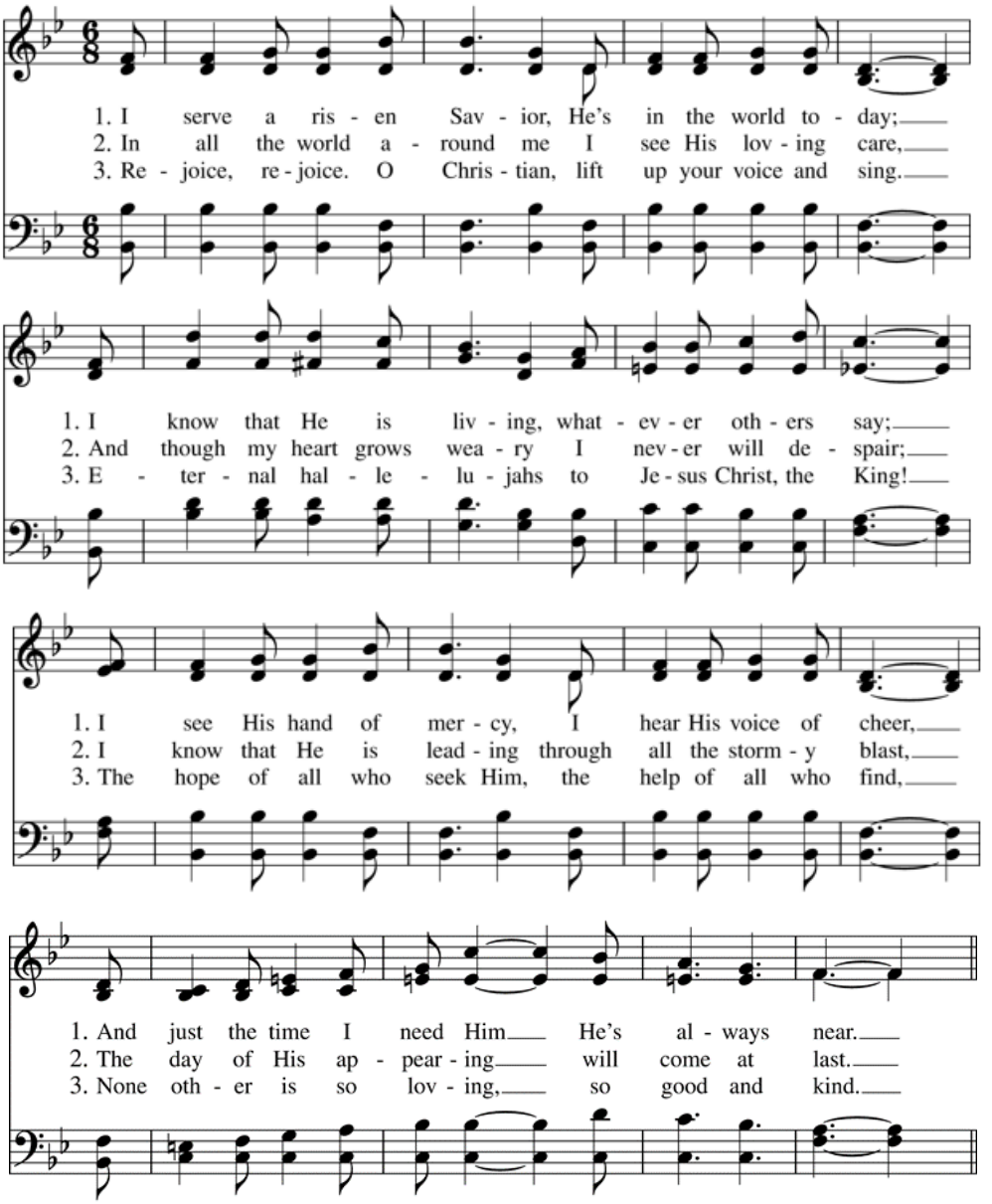
Minister The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Recipient **Amen.**
Minister The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Recipient **Amen.**

COMMUNION ANTHEM God so Loved the World B. Chilcott
Sung by The Christ Church Choir
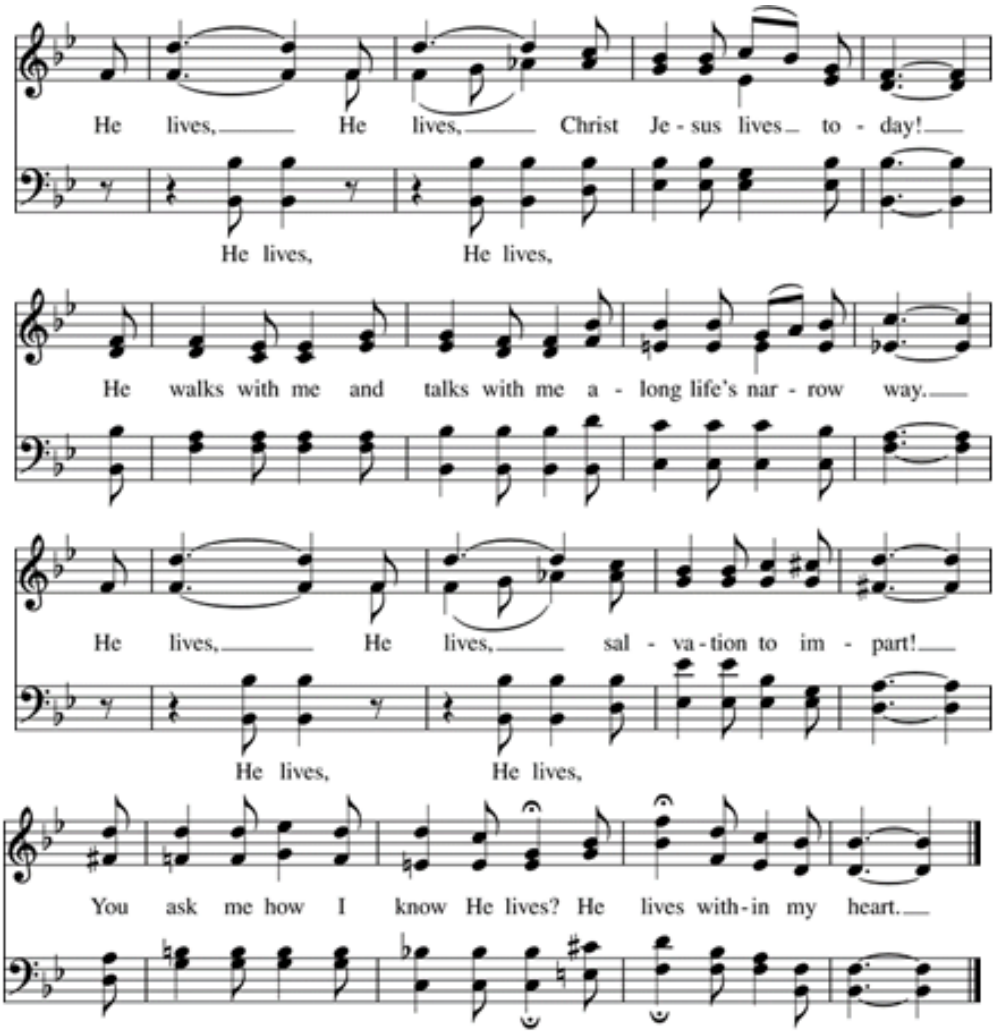
God so loved the world, so loved the world.
God so loved the world, so loved the world,
That he gave his only begotten son
that who-so believeth, believeth in him,
Should not perish but have everlasting life,
Everlasting, everlasting life.

COMMUNION HYMN He Lives **Red LEVAS *Hymnal II*, #42**

Sung by the Christ Church Choir



TURN PAGE



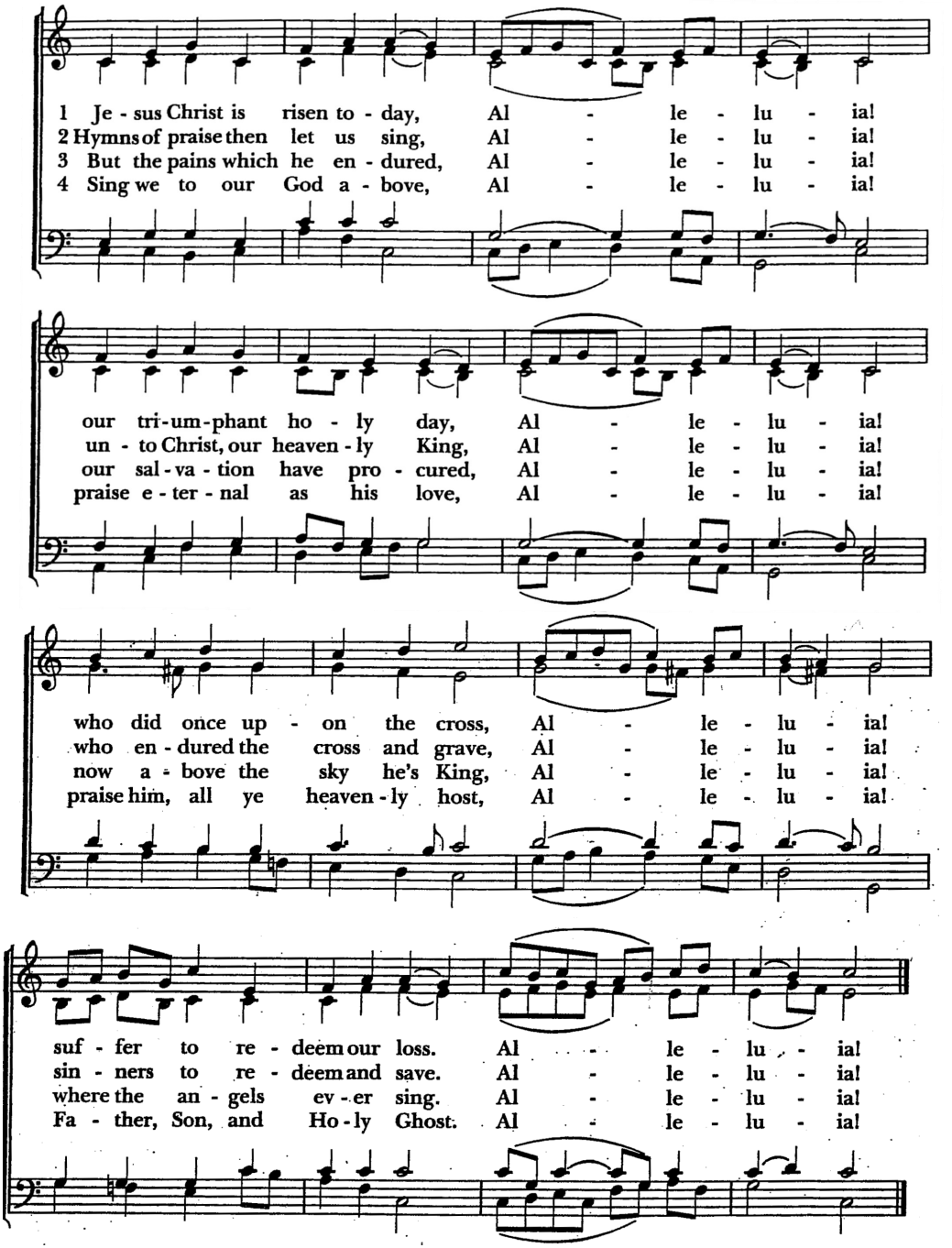
AFTER COMMUNION

All who are able please stand

Presider Let us pray.

People **O God of light, who by triumphing over the power of darkness prepared our place in the new Jerusalem: grant that we, who have this night given thanks for your resurrection, may praise you in the city where you are the light; for there with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

FINAL HYMN "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" Blue *Hymnal 1982,* #207



BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Presider Siblings in Christ, you have been fed and now have full hearts and bellies.
Go into the world, nourished by the bread of life
to share Christ's abundance with a hungry world.
Remember, there is always enough for everyone in the reign of God.
Go forth to love and serve,
for the table is set, the feast is prepared,
and the world awaits God's goodness in you.

May the God of new beginnings fill you with joy.
May the Risen Christ accompany you with peace.
And may the Spirit of resurrection empower you with courage.
Alleluia!

People: Amen.

Deacon Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

POSTLUDE *Fanfare* K. Chapman

Please leave all flowers and bulbs in the church until after the 10:30 a.m. service on Easter Day.

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider	The Rev. Joanna Hollis
Preacher	The Rev. Salvador Ros
Deacon	The Rev. Daphne Roberts
LEM	
Readers	Meegan Adames, Paul Ambos, Isha Davies, Sonya Headlam
Intercessor	*Paul Ambos*
Crucifer	LEM
Thurifer	Jonathan Gloster
Usher(s)	Thelma Fergusson
Production Minister	Steve Caruso
Altar Guild	Margaret Brown-Stansbury, Sheila Cooper, Mervis Johnson, Nancy Walworth

THE CHRIST CHURCH CHOIR

Suzanne McDonald, Music Director and Organist

Soprano: Joanna Gunther Greenwood*, Amani Cole -Felder *, Zida Abbott, Margaret Brown -Stansbury, Julia-Louise Missie, Sonya Headlam*

Alto: Anna Rose Gable*, Louise Deis, Patricia Buckendahl, Catherine Campbell*, Tara Gruszkiewicz, Fariza Anuarbek*

Tenors: Gregory Lorenz*, Ryan Kalin*, Julius Jarrett

Bass: Chris Davies, Gordon Arsenoff*, Stephen Greenwood*, James Nichols, Byron De Leon* Marcus Pena

*Gallery Choir

Trumpet: Andre Dupres

INTERCESSIONS

At every celebration of the Holy Eucharist prayer is offered with intercession for the Universal Church, the nation, the welfare of the world, the concerns of this community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and the departed. Please feel free to add your own petitions during the prayers, either silently or aloud. We remember in today's prayers:

The Sick and Others in Need— *Arnold, Barb, Brianna, Dennis, Doreen, Edith, Erica, Florence, Georgia, Hansford, Jean, Jeannine, Jefferson, Jim, Julia, Kristen, Margaret, Pam, Pat, Robert, Stanford, Steve, Thalia, Theayer, Timothy, Tisha, Vivian, Yvonne*
Anglican Cycle *– we pray for the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui*
Diocesan Cycle *– Church of the Resurrection in Millville*
Christ Church Ministry *– Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors*
Birthdays this week *– Benny Barksdale, Liz Cooper, Thomas Stone, Towanda Stovall, Douglass Watt*

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in crisis, having surgery, are in the hospital and are in need of pastoral counseling from a clergy person, please do not hesitate to contact the Rev. Joanna Hollis—732.354.1450 or the Rev. Daphne Roberts -732.991.6733.

If you would like to schedule home communion, please contact Rev. Hollis and she will arrange for either herself, or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor to bring communion to you. Please do not hesitate to contact either Rev. Hollis or Rev. Roberts if you know of someone who is in need of care or counseling.

Scheule of Parish Events
April 19 – April 26, 2024

The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, April 21 through Thursday, April 24

Sunday, April 20

The Sunday of the Resurrection
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:30 a.m. Festal Holy Eucharist *

An Easter Egg Hunt for children of all ages will be held after the 10:30 a.m. service

** Incense will be used at this service*

Tuesday, April 22

7:00 p.m. Tuesdayers Book Group via Zoom

Wednesday, April 23

Noonday Prayer via Zoom
7:30 p.m. WomenSpirit Zoom

12-Step Program Schedule

Meeting Weekdays
in the Nicholas Room:

7:30 AM—AA First Light



Join members of Christ Church
Sunday, April 27 after the 10:30am service
for a "Packing Party"!

4th Century Church
Saturday, May 3, @ 10 a.m.

Including a tour of the church properties, including the 7 Paterson, and Parish House, the Choir Loft, and the new Boilers!

RaiseRight™
Formerly ShopWithScrip

Paul Ambos will be placing a new card order on the morning of Monday, **May 5**. Please place your orders accordingly.

THE VESTRY

The Rev. Joanna P. Hollis, Rector
rector@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Mark McMahon, Rector's Warden
markroy53@me.com

Jonathan Gloster, People's Warden
jgloster73@gmail.com

John Ager, Treasurer
jager@optonline.net

Meegan Adames, Finance
meegzy79@yahoo.com

Gordon Arsenoff, Music, Clerk
deep.friar@gmail.com

Jonathan Clark, Discipleship
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Eleanor Forbes, Outreach
elliebelle15@gmail.com

Debra Lowe, Personnel
lowedp@yahoo.com

James Nichols, Property
jpnarch@gmail.com

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rector@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

The Rev. Daphne Roberts, *Deacon*
deacon@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Suzanne Davis McDonald, *Director of Music and Organist*
music@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Brittney Girault, *Parish Administrator*
admin@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
bookkeeper@christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*



APRIL 19, 2025
EASTER VIGIL

taking faith home

God is the author and creator of new life.

EASTER VIGIL READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Easter Vigil observances.

Saturday	**Genesis 1:1—2:4a**	**Creation story**
	Genesis 22:1-18	**The sacrifice of Isaac**
	Exodus 14:10—15:1	**The Israelites cross the Red Sea**
	Isaiah 55:1-11	**A hymn of triumph**
	Ezekiel 37:1-14	**The valley of dry bones**
	Romans 6:3-11	**Baptized into Christ**
	Psalm 19	**The wonders of God**
	Luke 24:1-12	**Jesus is alive**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR EASTER VIGIL

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.
Genesis 1:1-2 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Easter Vigil:
Gracious God, you are the author and creator of all life. We thank you for your mercy and steadfast love that forgives us and gives us new life through Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, you who are the source of all life, bless us as we receive food for our bodies and strength for our souls through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God bless you with new life in Christ.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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APRIL 19, 2025

taking faith home

HYMN FOR EASTER VIGIL

Be Not Afraid

EASTER VIGIL MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is one of your favorite Bible stories? What do you remember learning from this story?
- What amazes you about the resurrection of Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Genesis 1:1—2:4a and Romans 6:3-11.

God creates out of nothing. God gives life where it was not present before. That is the point of the earth being without form and where only darkness and waters were present. In ancient times, darkness and waters conveyed chaos. Where nothing exists except lifeless chaos, God creates what was not possible before. The repeated use of the term "good" to describe what God created does not simply mean a moral good but a wonderful goodness filled with beauty. What God created was beautiful. On this Easter Vigil, we praise God for God's act of Christ's resurrection. We also give thanks for joining Christ in his death and resurrection through baptism. It is our new creation experience 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"* (Romans 6:4b). On this night we delight in all that God does as Creator and Redeemer. God's work for us and for all is filled with glory and beauty.

Discuss: What does it mean to you that you are part of God's new creation that is filled with glory and beauty?

Pray: **Dear God, your work of love and new beginnings amaze and delight us. Give us faith to live in the power of Christ's resurrection every day of our lives. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Easter Vigil Bible Readings and theme, in what way can you help protect God's creation?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

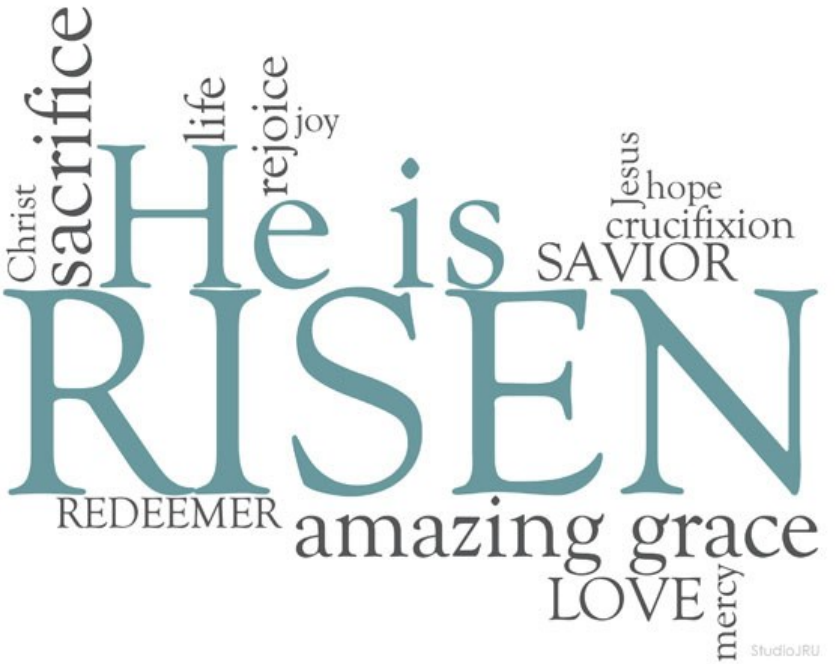
The Easter Vigil takes place after sunset. It is a time to keep watch and pray. An old tradition was to put out all lamps and fires in the home and go to the Easter Vigil. After returning home, the lamps were relit. Turn all the lights off in your home. Place a candle on or near the cross drawn on the paper on the first week in Lent. Reflect on the words of the Lord's Prayer from Luke 11:2-4 that were written around the cross.

Read: **"and God saw that the light was good and God separated the light from the darkness"** (Genesis 1:4).

Light the candle and say: **Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The light no darkness can overcome.**

MILESTONES MINISTRY

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**


Christ
sacrifice
life
rejoice
joy
He is
Jesus
hope
crucifixion
SAVIOR
RISEN
REDEEMER
amazing grace
LOVE
mercy
StudioJRU