EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH Easter Vigil April 19, 2025, 7 PM Austin Campus

Welcome to the Vigil of Easter! The Vigil is the final service in the Triduum (meaning the Three Days), which began at sundown on Thursday. Worship begins outside as the Paschal Candle is lit from a new fire. This candle represents the presence of the resurrected Christ, and worshipers process behind it into a candlelit space for the service of readings from the Old Testament. These stories of God's saving mercy throughout the generations lead worshipers to a return to the waters by which we are saved, in a service Holy Baptism. The procession reaches its climax in the sanctuary where darkness turns to light and silence to joy as the congregation proclaims, "Christ is risen!" The Triduum concludes with the first resurrection gospel and the celebration of Holy Communion. We are glad you have come to join us in this movement from darkness to light, from death to life!

Worship begins on the patio. The congregation gathers in silence.

Service of Light

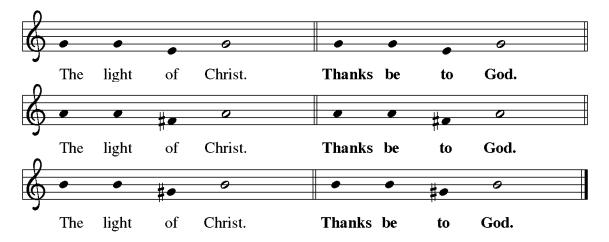
APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

BLESSING THE NEW FIRE

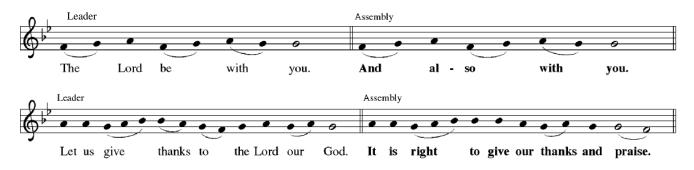
A lantern is lit from the new fire, and the congregation processes, picking up a small candle or glow stick.

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

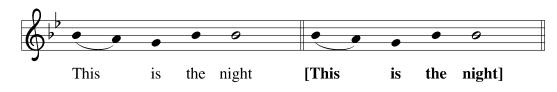


The lantern lit from new fire now lights the Paschal candle. The light of the Paschal candle is passed to each worshiper's candle. Please remember to tip your unlit candle to receive the light.

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION



The Cantor continues the Easter Proclamation, singing the words, "This is the night," which the congregation repeats.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The congregation extinguishes their candles

Service of the Word

FIRST READING: CREATION, GENESIS 1:1-2:4

- L: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE: THE SINGER AND THE SONG (vv. 1,2,3,6)



Text: Peter W. A. Davison, b. 1936 Music: THE SINGER AND THE SONG, Peter W. A. Davison Text and music © Peter W. A. Davison, admin. Augsburg Fortress

PRAYER

SECOND READING: DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA, EXODUS 14:21-29, 15:20-21

Response: Go Down, Moses (vv. 1-5) (Verses – Cantor starts, All sing 'let my people go'. Refrain – All) When Is - rael was E - gypt's land, in 1 2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go; pillar of cloud shall 3 The clear the way, Is - rael stood by the wa - ter - side, 4 As ο op - pressed so hard they could not stand, Is - rael through, to lead the childr'n of let my peo-ple go. by night, shade by fire а day, а God's com-mand di - vide, at it did Refrain E - gypt's land, Mo - ses, Go down, down way in 6 tell old Pha - raoh: Let go! my peo - ple 5 When they had reached the other shore, 6 Oh, let us all from bondage flee, let my people go; let my people go; they sang the song of triumph o'er,

let my people go. Refrain

and let us all in Christ be free, let my people go. Refrain

PRAYER

THIRD READING: SALVATION FREELY OFFERED TO ALL, ISAIAH 55:1-11

The word of the Lord. L:

Text: African American spiritual

Music: TUBMAN, African American spiritual

C: Thanks be to God.



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PRAYER

FOURTH READING: VALLEY OF THE DRY BONES, EZEKIEL 37:1-14

- P: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE: COME ALIVE, DRY BONES (Lauren Daigle)

PRAYER

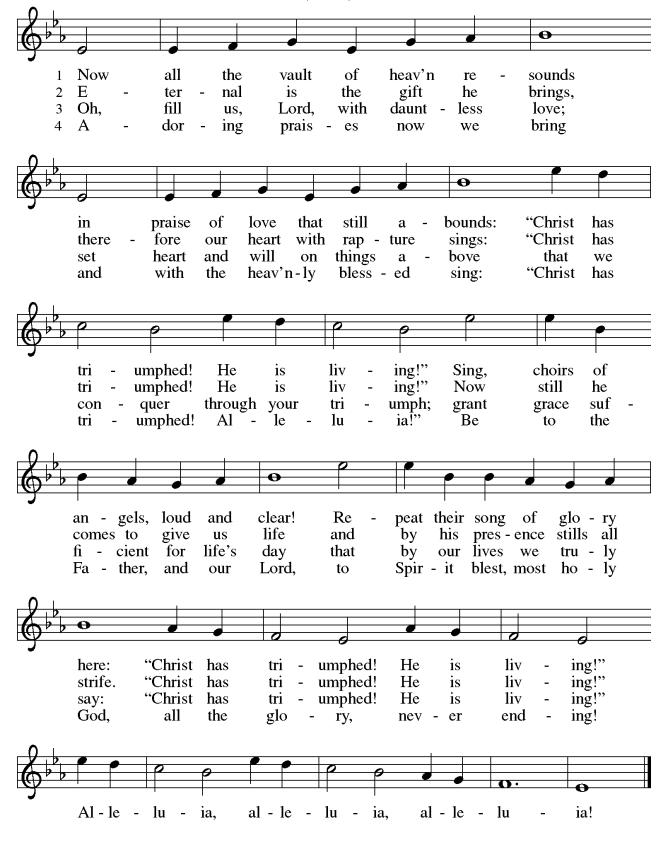
- P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- C: We do.
- P: Do you confess your continual struggle with sin, and affirm afresh your baptismal call and identity, turning from sin and death to be forgiven and born anew in Christ?
- C: We do.
- P: Do you believe in God the Father?
- C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God the Son?
- C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
- P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
- P: People of God, you have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?
- C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.
- P: Do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?
- C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Service of Holy Communion

- P: Christ is risen!
- C: He is risen indeed!
- P: Christ is risen!
- C: He is risen indeed!
- P: Christ is risen!
- C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Congregation processes to their seats during the hymn

HYMN: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (vv. 1,4)

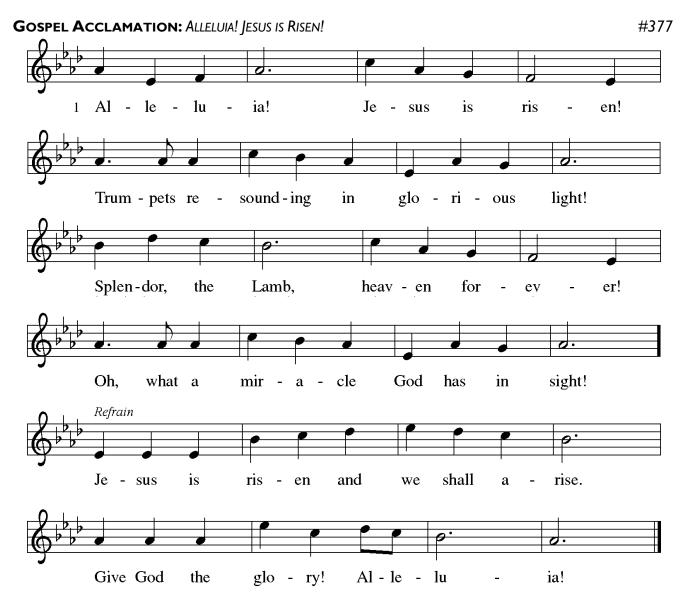


Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt. Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623 Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

NEW TESTAMENT READING: ROMANS 6:3-11

- A: The word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1969 Contemporary Worship 1, admin. Augsburg Fortress. P: The holy gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 20:1-18

- P: The gospel of the Lord.
- C: Praise to you, O Christ.

EASTER REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY: WE KNOW THAT CHRIST IS RAISED

#449



Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924 Text © John B. Geyer.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (after each petition...)

- A: Lord, in your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE

- P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...join their unending hymn:
- C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Christ welcomes you to the meal of grace! All who desire to receive Christ's nourishment and grace may join us at the Lord's Table. Please come to the table by the center aisle and return to your seat by the front or side aisle. Communion is by intinction; dip the bread in the red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION HYMN: CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

This is the night of new beginnings This is the night when heaven meets earth This is the night filled with God's glory Promise of our new birth.

Refrain: Christ, be our light, shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness Christ, be our light, shine in your church gathered today

This is the night Christ, our Redeemer Rose from the grave, triumphant and free Leaving the tomb of evil and darkness Empty for all to see **(***Refrain***)**

Into this world morning is breaking All of God's people lift up your voice Cry out with joy, tell out the story All of the earth rejoice **(Refrain)** #715

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: DAY OF DELIGHT AND BEAUTY UNBOUNDED



SENDING

- A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- A: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

You are invited to place your offering in the basket at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister: Preaching Minister: Assisting Minister: Musicians: Readers: Pastor Corey Wagonfield Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer, Billy Heaning John Benjamin, Mary Miller Ben & Sam Haligowski, Kathy Whited