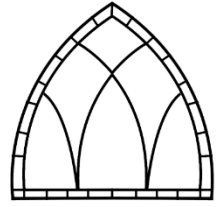
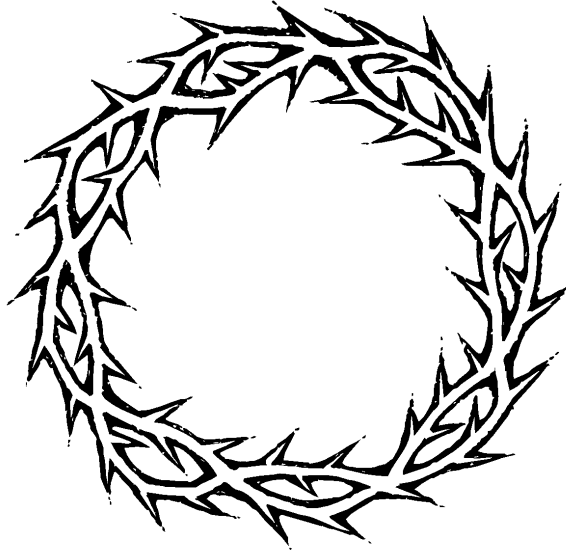


THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
Shelby, NC



Triduum 2025



7:00 p.m. April 17 – Maundy Thursday
12:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. April 18 – Good Friday
7:00 p.m. – April 10 Easter Vigil

Maundy Thursday: April 17, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Welcome to Redeemer! We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. There are candles available at the devotional candle stand, located behind the pews on the right-hand side of the altar rail. Please feel free to light a candle representing your prayers or intentions for today, before the service or during communion.

The Word of God

Entrance Hymn *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* (H 690)

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Presider says

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

The Presider may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening Anthem

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

First Reading: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

1The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. 4If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. [5Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] 11This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. 12For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. 13The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

14This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 116:1, 10-17

Remain seated.

(Italics: repeat last measure)



1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my suppli- | **cation**, * |
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called up- | **on him**. |

10 How shall I repay the | **Lord** * |
for all the good things he has done for | **me**? ||

11 I will lift up the cup of sal- | **vation** * |
and call upon the Name of the | **Lord**. |

12 I will fulfill my vows to the | **Lord** * |
in the presence of all his | **people**. ||

13 Precious in the sight of the | **Lord** * |
is the death of his | **servants**. |

14 O Lord, I am your | **servant**; * |
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my | **bonds**. ||

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanks- | **giving** * |
and call upon the Name of the | **Lord**. |

16 I will fulfill my vows to the | **Lord** * |
in the presence of all his | **people**, ||

17 *in the courts of the Lord's* | **house**, * |
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

| **Hallelujah!** ||

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

23 I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 25 In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *Let thy Blood in mercy poured* (H 313)

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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

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

1Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper 3Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, 4got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 5Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. 6He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." 9Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 10Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." 11For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

12After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? 13You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

31b"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon *The Rev. Pam Bright*

Foot-washing

Fellow servants of our Lord Jesus Christ: On the night before his death, Jesus set an example for his disciples by washing their feet, an act of humble service. He taught that strength and growth in the kingdom of God come not by power, authority, or even miracle, but by such lowly service, and he commanded them to follow his example by washing one another's feet.

Therefore I invite you who share in the royal priesthood of Christ to come forward, that we may follow the example of our Master, remembering the new commandment that he gave this night "Love one another as I have loved you. By this shall the world know that you are my disciples: That you have love for one another."

Hymn *Ubi Caritas* (H 606)

The Prayers of the People

We are called, especially during this holy season, to lift up all the needy world to God. Let us pray for those who are in need, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the church, that during these days of Lent we may clear away much that is needless and become true ministers of reconciliation, praying especially for... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For this nation and all nations, especially... that we have the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and live in harmony and peace, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For the outcasts, the alienated and rejected of this world, that all may come to know God's welcome to join us at the table, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For this community, that we may seek the lost and rejoice when they are found, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are sick, for all the dying, for all who grieve, for all who are lonely, for those whose burden is too deep for words, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have gone before us, family, friends, and neighbors, mighty saints and repentant sinners, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Mighty God, mercifully hear the prayers of your people. Give us zeal in our ministries and joy in our work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The Peace

All stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn *Kneels at the feet of his friends* (H 602)

Presentation Hymn *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* (H 380 v 3)

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Facing the Holy Table, the Presider 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

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 *S 124* Holy, holy, holy

**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 People stand or kneel.

The Presider continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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. **AMEN.**

The Lord’s Prayer

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

People and Presider

**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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.

Invitation

The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Distribution of Communion from Reserved Sacrament

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider 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.**

Prayer Over the People

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Stripping of the Altar

Psalm 22

Leave in Silence

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Friday, April 18, 2025 – Good Friday

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two – 12:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Presider says

Presider Blessed be our God.

People **For ever and ever. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13—53:12

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹³See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. ¹⁴Just as there were many who were astonished at him —so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals— ¹⁵so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. ^{53:1}Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? ²For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. ³He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

8By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. 9They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

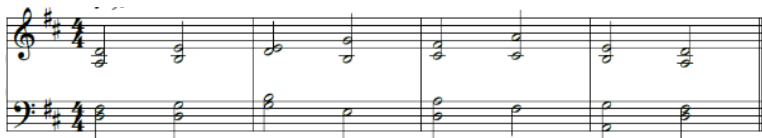
10Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. 11Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. 12Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 22

Remain seated.



1 My God, my God, why have you for- | **saken me?** * |
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my di- | **stress?** |
2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not | **answer;** * |
by night as well, but I find no | **rest.** ||
3 Yet you are the Holy | **One,** * |
enthroned upon the praises of | **Israel.** |
4 Our forefathers put their trust in | **you;** * |
they trusted, and you de- | **livered them.** ||
5 They cried out to you and were de- | **livered;** * |
they trusted in you and were not put to | **shame.** |
6 But as for me, I am a worm and no | **man,** * |
scorned by all and despised by the | **people.** ||
7 All who see me laugh me to | **scorn;** * |
they curl their lips and wag their heads, | **saying,** |
8 "He trusted in the Lord; let him de- | **liver him;** * |

let him rescue him, if he de- | **lights in him.**” ||
 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the | **womb,** * |
 and kept me safe upon my mother’s | **breast.** |
 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was | **born;** * |
 you were my God when I was still in my mother’s | **womb.** ||
 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is | **near,** * |
 and there is none to | **help.** |
 12 Many young bulls en- | **circle me;** * |
 strong bulls of Bashan sur- | **round me.** ||
 13 They open wide their jaws at | **me,** * |
 like a ravening and a roaring | **lion.** |
 14 I am poured out like water;
 all my bones are out of | **joint;** * |
 my heart within my breast is melting | **wax.** ||
 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
 my tongue sticks to the roof of my | **mouth;** * |
 and you have laid me in the dust of the | **grave.** |
 16 Packs of dogs close me in,
 and gangs of evildoers circle a- | **round me;** * |
 they pierce my hands and my feet,
 I can count all my | **bones.** ||
 17 They stare and gloat over | **me;** * |
 they divide my garments among them;
 they cast lots for my | **clothing.** |
 18 Be not far away, O | **Lord;** * |
 you are my strength; hasten to | **help me.** ||
 19 Save me from the | **sword,** * |
 my life from the power of the | **dog.** |
 20 Save me from the lion’s | **mouth,** * |
 my wretched body from the horns of wild | **bulls.** ||
 21 I will declare your Name to my | **brethren;** * |
 in the midst of the congregation I will | **praise you.** |
 22 Praise the Lord, you that | **fear him;** * |
 stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
 all you of Jacob’s line, give | **glory.** ||
 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
 neither does he hide his | **face from them;** * |
 but when they cry to him he | **hears them.** |
 24 My praise is of him in the great a- **ssembly;** * |
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who | **worship him.** ||



25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall | **praise him**: * |
“May your heart live for | **ever!**” |
26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the | **Lord**, * |
and all the families of the nations shall bow | **before him**. ||
27 For kingship belongs to the | **Lord**; * |
he rules over the | **nations**. |
28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in | **worship**; * |
all who go down to the dust fall be- **fore him**. ||
29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall | **serve him**; * |
they shall be known as the Lord’s for | **ever**. |
30 They shall come and make known to a people yet un- | **born** * |
the saving deeds that he has | **done**. ||

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:16-25

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

[After the Holy Spirit says,] 16 “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,” 17 he also adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” 18 Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

19 Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Hymn *Were you there when they crucified my Lord* (H 172)

The Passion of Jesus Christ According to St. John John 18.1–19.end

This Passion is read by four voices: The Narrator, Jesus, Peter, and Pilate. In addition the congregation should contribute the voices of the crowd. These sections are marked "CONGREGATION" and italic.

NARRATOR: Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

JESUS: Whom are you looking for?

CONGREGATION: *Jesus of Nazareth.*

JESUS: I am he.

NARRATOR: Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, 'I am he,' they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them,

JESUS: Whom are you looking for?

NARRATOR: Jesus of Nazareth.

JESUS: I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.

NARRATOR: This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, 'I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.' Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

JESUS: Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?

NARRATOR: So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter,

CONGREGATION: *You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?*

PETER: I am not.

NARRATOR: Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered,

JESUS: I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.

NARRATOR: When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

CONGREGATION: *Is that how you answer the high priest?*

JESUS: If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?

NARRATOR: Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

CONGREGATION: *You are not also one of his disciples, are you?*

NARRATOR: Peter denied it and said,

PETER: I am not.

NARRATOR: One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

CONGREGATION: *Did I not see you in the garden with him?*

NARRATOR: Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed. Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,

PILATE: What accusation do you bring against this man?

CONGREGATION: *If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.*

PILATE: Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.

NARRATOR: The Jews replied,

CONGREGATION: *We are not permitted to put anyone to death.*

NARRATOR: (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him,

PILATE: Are you the King of the Jews?

JESUS: Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?

PILATE: I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?

JESUS: My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.

PILATE: So you are a king?

JESUS: You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.

PILATE: What is truth?

NARRATOR: After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them,

PILATE: I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

NARRATOR: They shouted in reply,

CONGREGATION: *Not this man, but Barabbas!*

NARRATOR: Now Barabbas was a bandit.

NARRATOR: Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying,

CONGREGATION: *Hail, King of the Jews!*

NARRATOR: and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them,

PILATE: Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.

NARRATOR: So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,

PILATE: Here is the man!

NARRATOR: When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

CONGREGATION: *Crucify him! Crucify him!*

PILATE: Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.

CONGREGATION: *We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.*

NARRATOR: Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

PILATE: Where are you from?

NARRATOR: But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him,

PILATE: Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?

JESUS: You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.

NARRATOR: From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out,

CONGREGATION: *If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.*

NARRATOR: When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. Pilate said to the Jews,

PILATE: Here is your King!

CONGREGATION: *Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!*

PILATE: Shall I crucify your King?

NARRATOR: The chief priests answered,

CONGREGATION: *We have no king but the emperor.*

NARRATOR: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' Many of the Jews read this inscription, because

the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

CONGREGATION: *Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'*

PILATE: What I have written I have written.

NARRATOR: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another,

CONGREGATION: *Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.*

NARRATOR: This was to fulfill what the scripture says, 'They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.' And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

JESUS: Woman, here is your son.

NARRATOR: Then he said to the disciple,

JESUS: Here is your mother.

NARRATOR: And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),

JESUS: I am thirsty.

NARRATOR: A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,

JESUS: It is finished.

NARRATOR: Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

(Silence is kept for a few moments; some may wish to kneel.)

NARRATOR: Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken.' And again another passage of scripture says, 'They will look on the one whom they have pierced.'"

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to

Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Meditation on the Ethiopian Crucifixion or Station XII: Jesus dies on the cross.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Prayer: Lord Christ, as we meditate on your Passion, may we also remember those for whom you died. Hear our prayers this day

For all who witness the suffering of those they love;

For all those who watch beside a sickbed;

For all those who keep vigil with the dying;

For those who fear for a missing or wounded child;

For those who grieve for a loved one in danger;

For those who fear deportation and for their families;

For those who fear persecution because of race, gender identity or sexuality; For those who fear standing up against injustice;

For all who fear losing their jobs or homes;

For all who are afraid, for all who suffer, for all who feel hopeless.

We pray also for all those we name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

The Solemn Collects

The congregation may kneel, as able, for the Solemn Reproaches. The people and choir sing the antiphon where indicated.

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you?

How have I offended you? Answer me.

I led you out of slavery into freedom,
and delivered you through the waters of rebirth,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.

I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire,
but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate;
I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.

I planted you as my fairest vineyard, but you brought forth bitter fruit;
I made you branches of the vine and never left your side,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.

I poured out saving water from the rock,
but you gave me vinegar to drink;
I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.
I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns;
I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.
I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed;
I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.
I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear;
I washed your feet as a sign of my love,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.
I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross;
I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.
I grafted you into my people Israel,
but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God

Holy and Mighty

Holy Immortal One

Entrance of the Cross

Cross Hymn *Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended* (H 158)

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Presider stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

People and Presider

**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 from Reserved Sacrament

The ministers receive the Sacrament from reserve in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

Final Prayer

The service concludes with the following prayer. No blessing or dismissal is added.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Easter Vigil: Saturday, April 19, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Opening Prayer

In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Presider 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 Presider 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 Presider if there is no deacon) bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing or saying

The light of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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 (the [indicated sections] may be omitted)

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 his Son our Lord,
who lives and reigns with him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*]

The Lord be with you.

Answer **And also with you.**

Deacon Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Answer **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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.]

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. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

Invitation

The Presider 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 story of Creation: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷So 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. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then 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. ¹²The 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. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And 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, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So 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. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and

multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And 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. ²⁵God 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.

²⁶Then 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.” ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸God 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.” ²⁹God 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. ³⁰And 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. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And 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. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

First Response: Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

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

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

**³Give thanks to the Lord of lords, *
for his mercy endures for ever.**

**⁴Who only does great wonders, *
for his mercy endures for ever;**

**⁵Who by wisdom made the heavens, *
for his mercy endures for ever;**

**⁶Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *
for his mercy endures for ever;**

**⁷Who created great lights, *
for his mercy endures for ever;**

- ⁸**The sun to rule the day, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ⁹**The moon and the stars to govern the night, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.
- ²³**Who remembered us in our low estate, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ²⁴**And delivered us from our enemies, ***
for his mercy endures for ever;
- ²⁵**Who gives food to all creatures, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.
- ²⁶**Give thanks to the God of heaven, ***
for his mercy endures for ever.

First Collect

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

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. *Amen.*

Second Reading: Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac: Genesis 22:1-18

¹God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and

offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

¹⁵The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

Second Response: Psalm 16

**¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord,
my good above all other.”**

**²All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.**

**³But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.**

**⁴Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

**⁵O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.**

**⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

**⁷I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.**

**⁸I have set the Lord always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**

**⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.**

**¹⁰For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

**¹¹You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

Second Collect

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Third Reading: God's Presence in a renewed Israel: Isaiah 55:1-11

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Third Response: Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

Surely, it is God who saves me; *

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.**

**Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.**

And on that day you shall say, *

**Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.**

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.**

**Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.**

Third Collect

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, you led your ancient people by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we, who serve you now on earth, may come to the joy of that heavenly Jerusalem, where all tears are wiped away and where your saints for ever sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Fourth Reading: The valley of dry bones: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The 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. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I 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."

⁷So 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. ⁸I 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. ⁹Then 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." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then 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.' ¹²Therefore 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. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I 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."

Fourth Response: Psalm 143

**¹Lord, hear my prayer,
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; *
answer me in your righteousness.**

**²Enter not into judgment with your servant, *
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.**

³For my enemy has sought my life;
he has crushed me to the ground; *
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.

⁴My spirit faints within me; *
my heart within me is desolate.

⁵I remember the time past;
I muse upon all your deeds; *
I consider the works of your hands.

⁶I spread out my hands to you; *
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.

⁷O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; *
do not hide your face from me
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

⁸Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,
for I put my trust in you; *
show me the road that I must walk,
for I lift up my soul to you.

⁹Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, *
for I flee to you for refuge.

¹⁰Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; *
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

¹¹Revive me, O Lord, for your Name's sake; *
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

¹²Of your goodness, destroy my enemies
and bring all my foes to naught, *
for truly I am your servant.

Fourth Collect

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.*

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

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.

The Presider 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.**

The Holy Eucharist

Easter Acclamation

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

The Presider may say to the people

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Canticle 20: Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect for Easter Vigil

The Presider then says

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

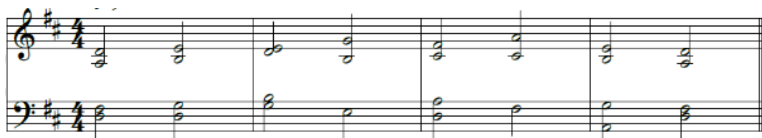
The Lessons

Epistle: Romans 6:3-11

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore 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.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Psalm: Psalm 114



¹Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of | **Egypt**, * |
the house of Jacob from a people of strange | **speech**, |

²Judah became God's | **sanctuary** * |
and Israel his do- | **minion**. ||

³The sea beheld it and | **fled**; * |
Jordan turned and went | **back**. |

⁴The mountains skipped like | **rams**, * |
and the little hills like young | **sheep**. ||

⁵What ailed you, O sea, that you | **fled?** * |
O Jordan, that you turned | **back?** |
⁶You mountains, that you skipped like | **rams?** * |
you little hills like young | **sheep?** ||
⁷Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the | **Lord,** * |
at the presence of the God of | **Jacob,** |
⁸Who turned the hard rock into a pool of | **water** * |
and flint-stone into a flowing | **spring.** ||

Sequence Hymn *Love's Redeeming Work is Done* (H 189)

Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

All stand.

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

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

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The 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. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But 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.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon *The Rev. Martha Richard*

The Prayers of the People

We are called, especially during this holy season, to lift up all the needy world to God. Let us pray for those who are in need, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the church, that during these days of Lent we may clear away much that is needless and become true ministers of reconciliation, praying especially for... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For this nation and all nations, especially... that we have the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and live in harmony and peace, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For the outcasts, the alienated and rejected of this world, that all may come to know God's welcome to join us at the table, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For this community, that we may seek the lost and rejoice when they are found, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are sick, for all the dying, for all who grieve, for all who are lonely, for those whose burden is too deep for words, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have gone before us, family, friends, and neighbors, mighty saints and repentant sinners, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Mighty God, mercifully hear the prayers of your people. Give us zeal in our ministries and joy in our work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

All stand.

Presider 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 Hymn *Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy* (H 482)

Presentation Hymn *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* (H 380 v 3)

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

Facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Presider and People

**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 Presider continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection,

as we await the day of his coming.

Epiclesis

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

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

People and Presider

**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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Invitation

The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Distribution

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider 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

Post-Communion Hymn *Jesus Christ is risen today* (H 207)

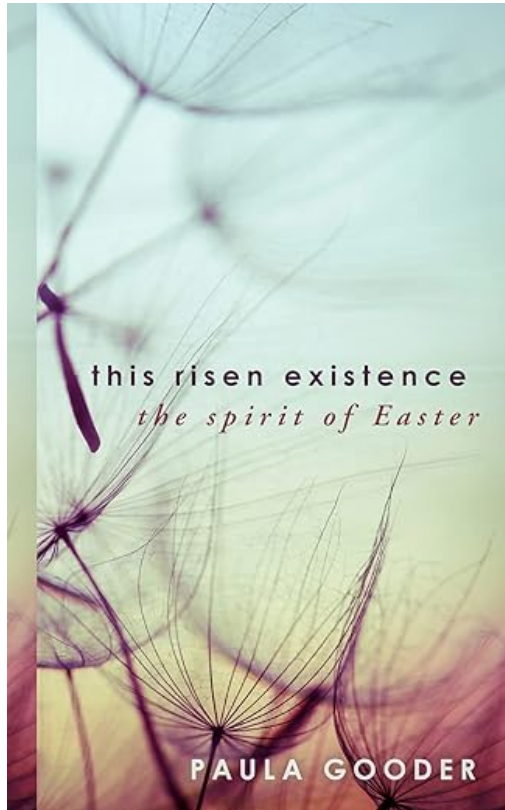
Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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Please join us for Adult Formation at 11:00 a.m. during the Season of Easter to explore the themes in the book ***This Risen Existence: The Spirit of Easter*** by Paula Gooder on April 27th, May 4th, May 11th, May 18th, May 25th, and June 1st. For more information please talk with Ginger Hamrick or Rev. Anita.