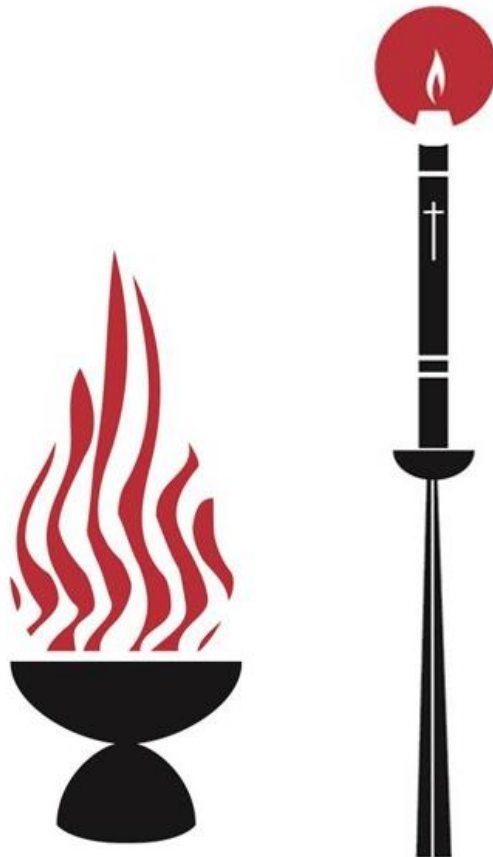


Easter Vigil

March 30, 2024

7:00 pm



Welcome to worship. We are glad you are here and hope you will spend as much of Holy Week with us as you can. You and your friends are welcome here—always. Please keep the back cover for yourself or give it to a friend as it has the Holy Week schedule of worship services.

INTRODUCTION



*The service begins in darkness (weather permitting outside by the fire pit, otherwise in the narthex).
All gather in silence.*

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

The new fire is lighted. The presiding minister waits until the fire is burning before praying.

One: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The presiding minister lights the paschal candle and says:

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

*The assembly processes to outside the front door.
The assistant lifts the candle so that all may see it.
The pastor sings and the assembly responds:*

One: The light of Christ. **All: Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly processes into the narthex.
The assistant lifts the paschal candle
and the Pastor sings on a higher tone:*

One: The light of Christ. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The assembly processes and gathers around the font.

*The assistant takes the paschal candle to the font,
lifts it high, dips it in the water at the font.
The Pastor sings on a still higher tone:*

One: The light of Christ. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The paschal candle is placed in its stand.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

One: Let us pray. Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **All: Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

VIGIL READINGS, RESPONSES, AND PRAYERS

Each reading is followed by a sung response. After the response there is silence for reflection, followed by a prayer.

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Creation

In 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." ²³And 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.

⁴These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

FIRST RESPONSE:

God of Wonders

God Of Wonders

Words and Music by
Marc Byrd and Steve Hindalong

INTRO

♩ = 82

Dsus Em7 C2 Dsus Em7

VERSE 1

(pattern cont.)

4 C2 Dsus Em7 C2 Dsus Em7

1. Lord of all cre - a - tion, of wa - ter earth, and

8 C2 Dsus Em7 C2 Dsus Em7

sky; The heav - ens are Your tab - er - nac - le. Glo - ry to the Lord on

CHORUS 1

12 C2 G Dsus D G/A Am7

high! God of won - ders be - yond our gal - ax - y, You are ho - ly,

16 G/C C G Dsus D G/A Am7

ho - ly. The u - ni - verse de - clares Your maj - es - ty, You are ho - ly,

20 G/C C D/C C2 C D/C C2 2nd time to Coda

ho - ly. Lord of heav - en and earth, Lord of heav - en and earth.

BRIDGE

INSTRUMENTAL

Dsus Em7 C2 Dsus Em7 C2

to the Lord of heav - en and earth. to the

VERSE 2

4 Dsus Em7 C2 Dsus Em7 C2

2. Ear - ly in the morn - ing, I will cel - e - brate the light.

33 Dsus Em7 C2 Dsus Em7 C2 D.S. al Coda

When I stum - ble in the dark - ness I will call Your name by night.

BRIDGE

37 *Coda* C2 Am11 C2 Dsus Am11

Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah,

to the Lord of heav - en and earth. to the

41 C2 Dsus Am11 C2 Dsus G

Hal - le - lu - jah,

Lord of heav - en and earth. to the Lord of heav - en and earth.

45 Dsus D G/A Am7 G/C C2

You are ho - ly.

CHORUS 2

G Dsus D G/A Am7 G/C C

God of won - ders be - yond our gal - ax - y, You are ho - ly, ho - ly.

52 G Dsus D G/A Am7 G/C C

Pre - cious Lord, re - veal Your heart to me. Fa - ther, hold me, hold me. The

56 G Dsus D G/A Am7 G/C C

u - ni - verse de - clares Your maj - es - y, You are ho - ly, ho - ly,

CHORUS 3

60 G/A Am7 G/C C G/B A

ho - ly, ho - ly! God of won - ders be - yond our gal - ax -

64 Esus E A/B Bm7 A/D D A

y, You are ho - ly, ho - ly. Pre - cious Lord re - veal Your heart to

ENDING

68 Esus E A/B Bm7 A/D D Bm11

me, Fa - ther hold me, hold me. Hal - le - lu - jah, to the

72 D2 Esus Bm11 D2 Esus

Hal - le - lu - jah, Lord of heav - en and earth. to the Lord of heav - en and earth.

75 D2 Esus Bm11

(jah,) Lord of heav - en and earth.

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FIRST PRAYER

Silent reflection.

One: Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

All: Amen.

SECOND READING: Portions of Genesis chapters 7, 8 & 9

7 Then the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. ²Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; ³and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. ⁴For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” ⁵And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. ¹²The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. ¹³On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, ¹⁴they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind—every bird, every winged creature. ¹⁵They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. ¹⁶And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.

¹⁷The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

8 ⁶At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made ⁷and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. ⁸Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; ⁹but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. ¹⁰He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; ¹¹and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. ¹²Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more.

¹³In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. ¹⁴In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. ¹⁵Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶“Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁷Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” ¹⁸So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives.

9⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”

SECOND RESPONSE:

Cling to the Cross by Lost and Found

CLING TO THE CROSS

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Capo 3 (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C) (F)


E \flat B \flat E \flat A \flat B \flat E \flat A \flat



1. Cling — to the cross. Cling — to the
2. Trust — in his
3. Live — in his

(G) (F) (G) (C) (C/B) (Am)

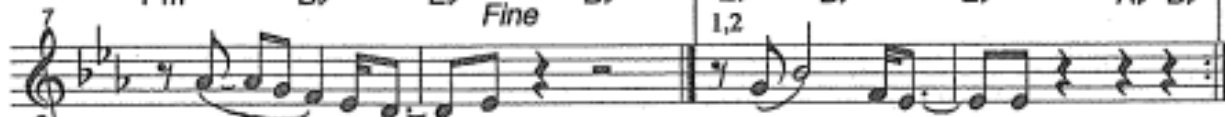
B \flat A \flat B \flat E \flat E \flat /D Cm



cross. I will not be a-shamed. I will not be a-fraid. I will
love. I will not be a-shamed. I will not be a-fraid. I will
Word. I will not be a-shamed. I will not be a-fraid. I will

(Dm) (G) (C) (G) (C) (G) (C) (F)(G)

Fm B \flat E \flat Fine B \flat E \flat B \flat E \flat A \flat B \flat



cling — to the cross. 2. Trust — in his love.
trust — in his love. 3. Live — in his Word.
live — in his Word.

SECOND PRAYER

Silent Reflection

One: O God, you increase your Church by continuing to call all peoples to salvation. Let the cleansing waters of Baptism flow, and by your love watch over those whom you have called; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

THIRD READING: Daniel 3:1-29

with instruments (play when the instruments are listed)

¹King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue whose height was sixty cubits and whose width was six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. ²Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent for the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to assemble and come to the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. ³So the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, assembled for the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. When they were standing before the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up, ⁴the herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, ⁵that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you are to fall down and worship the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. ⁶Whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire." ⁷Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

⁸Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and denounced the Jews. ⁹They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever! ¹⁰You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue, ¹¹and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire. ¹²There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These pay no heed to you, O king. They do not serve your gods and they do not worship the golden statue that you have set up."

¹³Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in; so they brought those men before the king. ¹⁴Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? ¹⁵Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?"



THIRD RESPONSE:
Lions by Lost and Found

LIONS

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Oh them li- ons they can eat my bod - y but they

can't swal- low my soul no no no They keepen try-ing to crash

my par - ty but they can't get con- trol no no no no

- no no - no no No way

ba- by Ev- en de- mons be-lieve and trem- ble

but they try to ru- in your life the same yet I know that when the

saints as-sem- ble Sa- tan runs at ev- ery sign of Je- sus' name oh ba- by

2. Satan prowls like a roaring lion, seeking whom he will devour.
 Yet I know that though he keeps on trying, he's not match for Jesus' power

THIRD PRAYER

Silent reflection.

One: O God, nothing we face from within or without do we face alone. You are with us and within us. You became one of us. You go with us through any fiery ordeals. You endure the lion pits with us. There is no other God who delivers and abides the way that you do. Help us worship you only and serve you in ways that are pleasing and glorifying to you.

All: Amen.

FOURTH READING Isaiah 55:1-11

55 Ho, 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. 2 Why 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. 3 Incline 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. 4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. 5 See, 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. 6 Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; 7 let 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. 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For 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, 11 so 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.

FOURTH RESPONSE:

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed Be Your Name

(as published by Worship Together)

*Words and Music by
Matt Redman and Beth Redman*

VERSE

♩ = 116 A E F#m7

1. Bless - ed be Your name in the land that is plen -
2. Bless - ed be Your name when I'm found in the des -
3. Bless - ed be Your name when the sun's shin - ing down
4. Bless - ed be Your name on the road marked with suf -

4

D A E

ti - ful, where Your streams of a - bun - dance flow, bless - ed
 ert place, though I walk through the wil - der - ness, bless - ed
 on me, when the world's "all as it should be." bless - ed
 fer - ing, though there's pain in the of - fer - ing, bless - ed

7

D [1, 3] | 2, 4 A

PRE-CHORUS

be Your name. Ev - 'ry bless - ing
 be Your name.
 be Your name.
 be Your name.

11

E F#m7 D A E

You pour out I'll turn back to praise. When the dark - ness clos - es in, Lord,

16

F#m7 D A E F#m7

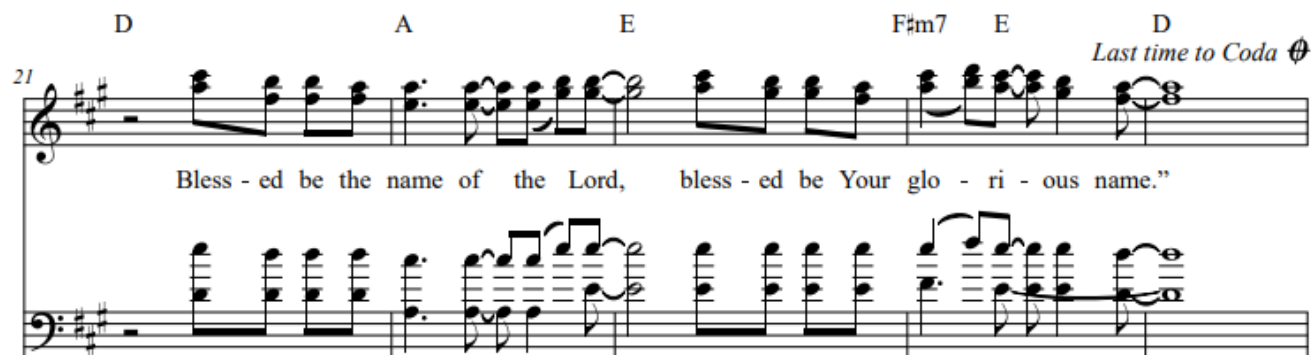
CHORUS

still I will say, "Bless - ed be the name of the Lord, bless - ed be Your name.

D A E F#m7 E D *Last time to Coda* Φ

21

Bless - ed be the name of the Lord, bless - ed be Your glo - ri - ous name."




1 2 **BRIDGE**

26 D.C.

A E F#m7

You give and take a - way, You give and take a -



1

31 D A E F#m7 D

way. My heart will choose to say, "Lord, Bless - ed be Your name." You

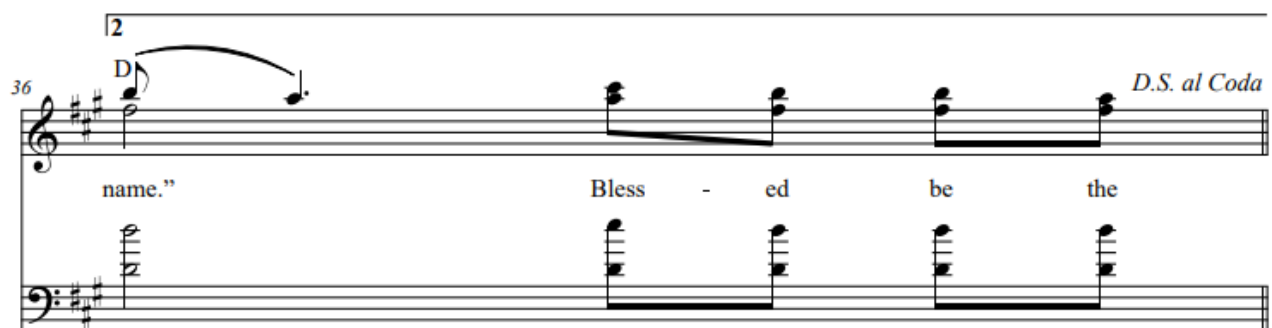


2

36 D

name." Bless - ed be the

D.S. al Coda



D A

37 *Coda* Φ



FOURTH PRAYER

Silent Reflection

One: Almighty and ever-lasting God, wonderful in all your works: Let your people understand that even more marvelous than the world's creation is your gift at the end of time: the sacrifice of our Passover Lamb, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

EASTER PROCESSION – HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH ELW 172

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le - lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le, hal-

- le - lu - jah. Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le -

lu - jah. Hal-le - lu - jah. Hal-le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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with bells and instruments

As the lights in the church are turned up, the altar candles are lighted, bells are rung, the people enter the sanctuary and everyone shouts and sings "Alleluia!"

PEACE

COMMUNION

All who believe that Jesus is present in the bread and wine are welcome and ready to eat at the Lord's table. Everyone is welcome to come up for a blessing. Keeping your hands folded signals the pastor that you prefer a blessing.

DIALOGUE

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

One: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are fully of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

One: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

One: Remembering, therefore, Jesus' salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **All: Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

One: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

First communion class participants will commune with their families first.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 496 One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all.
gath - ered to one for all.

Refrain

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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One: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

Larry Olson
James Desai

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One: Go in peace. Share the good news of the empty tomb.
All: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Karl Hester Assisting Minister: Karla Seckinger
Reader: Deanna Cordts & Jon Abrams
Bread: Deanna Cordts Altar: Marge & Pastor Karl
Tech: Outdoor footage: Kai Hester



Easter (with brunch served afterwards)
March 31, 9:30 am

We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The empty tombs fills our lives with purpose and hope. Come and rejoice. "Christ is risen!!!" We will be receiving new members.

Holy Week 2024

Messiah Lutheran Church
303 Route 101
Amherst, NH 03031

All Are Welcome

www.messiahnh.org
www.youtube.com/@MessiahNH



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