

BETHESDA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Washington Street near Broadway
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866**



**THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER
EASTER EVE**

31 MARCH 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

About this Service

The Great Vigil of Easter is a service held in traditional Christian churches as the first official celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. Historically, it is during this service that people are baptized and that adult catechumens are received into full communion with the Church. It is held in the hours of darkness between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Day — most commonly in the evening of Holy Saturday or midnight — and is the first celebration of Easter, days traditionally being considered to begin at sunset.

In the Roman Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox churches, Oriental Orthodox churches, the Anglican Communion, and Lutheran churches, the Easter Vigil is the most important service of public worship and Mass of the liturgical year; in the West it is the first celebration of the Gloria during the fifty-day long celebration of Easter, marked by the first use since the beginning of Lent of the exclamatory "Alleluia", a distinctive feature of the Easter season. Similarly, in the East, the extremely festive ceremonies and Divine Liturgy which are celebrated during the Easter Vigil are unique to that night and are the most elaborate and important of the ecclesiastical year and usher in the fifty-day long celebration and many people who only attend church services once a year do so at midnight for Easter.

The Easter Vigil consists of four parts:

1. The Service of Light
2. The Liturgy of the Word
3. Christian Initiation and the Renewal of Baptismal Vows
4. Holy Eucharist

Solemn Vigil of the Resurrection

Please turn off all cellular telephones, Blackberries, and other electronic devices before the liturgy begins. Thank you.

The Entrance Rite: The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

All stand as the Sacred Ministers and servers enter the church in silence and process to the West Doors of the church.

In darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant addresses the people in these 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 Blessing of the New Fire

Celebrant 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.*

The Blessing and Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The Celebrant marks the Paschal Candle, saying

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to him,
and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever.
Amen.

By his holy
and glorious wounds
may Christ our Lord
guard us
and keep us.
Amen.

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire.

Celebrant May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The Deacon bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing

People The light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

The Paschal Proclamation

*Then the Deacon, or other person appointed, standing near the Candle, sings the **Exsultet**.*

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

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

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Deacon</i>	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
<i>People</i>	It is meet and right so to do.

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

The Celebrant introduces the Scripture readings in these 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.

All sit.

The First Lesson – *A Reading from the Book of Genesis*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he

called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them

have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. (1:1-2:4)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The choir now sings this

Response – Confitemini

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Give thanks to the God of gods, *
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

- 4 Who only does great wonders, *
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 5 Who by wisdom made the heavens, *
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 6 Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 7 Who 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.

Words: *Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26*

Music: *Tonus Peregrinus*

All stand. The Celebrant now sings this

Collect

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.

All sit.

The Second Lesson – *A Reading from the Book of Exodus.*

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

over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea." (14:10-31; 15:20-21)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The choir sing this

Response – *Cantemus Domino*

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *

the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *

the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him, *

the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; *

Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *

the finest of those who bear armor have been

drowned in the Red Sea.

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

Words: *Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18*
Music: Tone 1f/Tonus Peregrinus

All stand. The Celebrant now sings this

Collect

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

All sit.

The Third Lesson – *A Reading from the Book of Isaiah*

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. 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. 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. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. 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. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; 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. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 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, 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. (55:1-11)

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The choir sings this

Response –*Ecce, Deus*

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.

Words: *The First Song of Isaiah, Isaiah 12:2-6*
Music: Tone IV5

All stand. The Celebrant now sings this

Collect

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Baptismal Liturgy

The Celebrant address the people in these or similar words, all standing

On this most Holy Night, let us pray for all those who will receive the Sacrament of new birth and for ourselves as we prepare to renew our own Baptismal vows.

A procession is now formed. The Sacred Ministers and servers now move to the font, during which is sung

The Litany of Saints

Kyrie eleison.	Christe, eleison.	Kyrie, eleison.
<i>Kyrie, eleison.</i>	<i>Christe, eleison.</i>	<i>Kyrie, eleison.</i>

Holy Mary, Mother of God,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Michael,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Holy angels of God,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint John the Baptist,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Joseph,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Peter and Saint Paul,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Andrew,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint John,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Mary Magdalene,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Stephen,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Ignatius,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Lawrence,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint John Fisher and Saint Thomas More,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Agnes,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Gregory,	<i>pray for us.</i>
Saint Ambrose,	<i>pray for us.</i>

Saint Augustine,
Saint Athanasius,
Saint Basil,
Saint Martin,
Saint Benedict,
Saint Augustine of Canterbury,
Saint Francis and Saint Dominic,
Saint Francis Xavier,
Saint John Vianney,
Saint Catherine,
Saint Teresa,
All holy men and women,
Lord, be merciful,
From all evil,
From every sin,
From everlasting death,
By your coming as man,
By your death and rising to new life,
By your gift of the Holy Spirit,

pray for us.
Lord, save your people.
Lord, save your people.

Be merciful to us sinners,
Jesus, Son of the living God,
Christ, hear us.
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Lord, hear our prayer.
Lord, hear our prayer.
Christ, hear us.
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Deliver us, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Open our hearts to your grace and truth.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Send us into the world in witness to your love.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring us to the fullness of your peace and glory.
Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant that we mind our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles and martyrs and all the saints; and we pray that, encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers, and strengthened by their fellowship, we also may be partakers of the eternal life of the saints in light, through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Blessing of the Baptismal Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus

received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The Celebrant begins

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

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

People I do.

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

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

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

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and
fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the
prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever
you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

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

People I will, with God's help.

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

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being?

People I will, with God's help.

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

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

The procession returns to the chancel, during which the choir sings

Asperges

I saw water which flowed out of the temple, from the right side thereof,
alleluia; and all they to whom that water came were saved every one, and
they say, alleluia.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious
and his mercy endureth forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;
world without end. Amen.

Words: *Ezekiel 47; Psalm 118: 1*
Music: Tone 8

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

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

The Celebrant now announces the Resurrection as follows

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

All now sing this hymn of praise, during which bells are rung

Gloria in excelsis – *Hymnal S202*

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who didst make this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in thy Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship thee in sincerity and truth; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

All sit.

The Epistle – *A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united

with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand and sing this

Hymn 207

The Holy Gospel

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for

terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. [16:1-8]

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Dean Vang

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, “Peace be with you.” Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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

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

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.

While the people’ offering is being received, the choir sings this

Anthem – Like as the Hart

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul is athirst for God,
yea, even for the living God.
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

My tears have been my meat day and night,
while they daily say unto me,
“Where is now thy God?”

Words: *Psalm 42: 1–3*

Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

All now stand and sing the following

Hymn 174

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer II*

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant faces them and sings

 The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

But chiefly we are bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death

hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus and Benedictus *Hymnal S114*

The people kneel.

*Then the Celebrant continues with the **Prayer of Consecration***

Our Father

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy Name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then is said

Pascha nostrum

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Sacred Ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately communicate the people.

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

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. *Amen.*

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. *Amen.*

During the ministration of Communion, the choir sings the following

Motet – *Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem*

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem, Your sweetest notes employ.
The Paschal victory to hymns, In strains of holy joy.
For Judah's Lion bursts His chains, crushing the serpent's head;
And cries aloud through death's domains To wake the imprisoned dead.
Devouring depths of hell their prey At His command restore;
His ransomed pursue their way Where Jesus goes before.
Triumphant in His Glory now To Him all power is given;
To Him in one communion bow All saints in earth and heaven.
While we, His soldiers praise our King,
His mercy we implore,
Within His palace bright to bring,
And keep us evermore.
All Glory to the Father be,

All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost to Thee,
While endless ages run.
Alleluia. Amen.

Words: Saint Fulbert, Bishop of Chartres (960?-1082)
Music by Charles V. Stanford (1852-1924)

The Concluding Rite

Celebrant Let us pray.

The People kneel.

Celebrant

O God, who for our redemption didst give thine only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection hast 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 thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Paschal Blessing

Celebrant

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

All stand.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

During the retiring procession all sing this

Hymn 200

Organ – *Hail the Day so Rich in Cheer* Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

A champagne reception immediately follows the liturgy in the narthex. All are welcome.

NOTICES

The Clergy would be pleased to bring the EASTER SACRAMENT to those unable to attend today's liturgies of the Resurrection. Please telephone the Parish Offices to schedule arrangements.

Please note: the Parish Offices will be closed on Easter Monday.

A whole-hearted THANK YOU do we extend to those whose joyful gifts of devotion and time made Holy Week a special time: our Acolytes, the Altar Guild, the Schola Cantorum, Lectors, Ushers and Greeters, flower arrangers, Hospitality Hosts, Bell Ringers, and our Verger and Sacristan.

In Thanksgiving for
The Resurrection of Our Lord
and for
The Bethesda Church Family
by *The Very Rev'd Marshall J. Vang*

A new Fair Linen for the High Altar is given in loving memory of
Mary Krumal Eddy
by *a parishioner of Bethesda*

The Paschal Candle is given in loving memory of
Ray Priestley & Madeline Stewart
by *Lynne Priestley*

Given By:

Aronstamm Family

Audrey J. Ball

Sharon & Gordon Boyd

Joe & Janet Equale

Anita E. Harding

Field Horne

Pam Houde

Jean Huber

In Loving Memory Of:

Dorothy & Frances McTygue

Edward Ball

Mary Eddy

Anna Equale, Rose DiGangi

Lucy Rossi, Agusta Alvigi

Aimee Harding-Anderson

Dorothy & Harold Horne

Gary Houde, James Norton

Clarence & Laura Pickard

Lance Pickard

Adelaide Peters

Given By:

Huntley-Federiconi Family

Douglas C. Huston

Katharine Klimpke Richman

Marcia Mac Donald

Jim & Candy McColl

Mildred Meeker

Moeller Family

Rhoda Nimsker

Claudia R. O'Brien

In Loving Memory Of:

*Bruno & Aurelia Federiconi
C. William & Lee Huntley*

Loved ones of the Huston family

*Gwendolyn Grant Klimpke
Paul Heminway Klimpke*

*Jerry Mac Donald
Al Graves, Timothy Goodale
Marcus & Louise Goodale*

*Leola & Royal Meader
Jane Rinfret*

*Robert C. Meeker, John Hoyle
Lottie Hoyle*

*G. Jeffrey Wise, Alan & Clarissa
Beerbower, Walter & Ruth
Moeller, Russell & Alberta
Weise, Charles & Marion
Nettleship*

*Lester Nimsker, Edwin Warren
John Sunderland*

*Donald "OB" O'Brien
Shirley Brown*

Given By:

Lynne Priestley

The Remington's

Carol Simek

Dr. & Mrs. R.J. Sofarelli

Shauna M. Sutton

Barbara Tasso

Jerilyn & Michael E. Towner

In Loving Memory Of

*Ray Priestley, Madeline Stewart
Emilie & John Becher
Anna & Raymond Priestley*

*Barbara & Alfred Moses Sr.,
Helen & George Remington,
Alfred Moses Jr., Edward &
Patricia Stiles, Carrie Ortiz*

David J. Simek

*Joseph & Francis Sofarelli
John & Wanda Walter*

*William H. Sutton, Sr. &
Cornelia May Sutton, Minna
Jane Sutton, William H. Sutton,
Jr. & Muriel Armer Sutton,
George Hodgson, Sr. & May
Sutton Hodgson, Fred H.
Hodgson, Rod O. Sutton, Albert
M. & Elizabeth M. Chandler*

*Anthony Tasso, Gene & Nellie
Tasso, Andrew & Julia
Tykwinski*

*L. Carlton & Lena S. Armstrong
Robert C. Sr. & Margaret
Armstrong, Robert C. Armstrong Jr.
Charles F. & Helen Towner*

Given By:

Karen & Craig Walton

Richard Wissler

Mary Withington

In Loving Memory Of

Michael Stockman

Martha LeMaire Wissler

*The Rev'd Robert & Kathleen
Withington, Betty Withington,
Diana Mobley, William Quinn,
Frances & Dorothy Wendelglass,
Philip & Doris Kautzman*

Given By:

Joan Corsetti

In Honor Of:

Beatrice Benoitt

THE PARISH STAFF

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang

The Reverend Paul F. Evans

Mr. Landon M. Moore

Mr. Farrell Goehring

Dr. Kathleen Slezak

Mrs. Barbara Latzko

Mr. Robert E. Bullock

Mr. Sean P. Byrnes

Interim Rector

Associate Priest

Candidate for Holy Orders

Organist & Director of Music

Choral Director

Parish Administrative Assistant

Verger

Sacristan

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