



The Paschal Triduum

Maundy Thursday

March 28

7:00 pm

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Good Friday

March 29

7:00 pm

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The Easter Vigil

March 30

7:30 pm

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Maundy Thursday

The Trinitarian Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

The Invocation and Instruction (*stand*)

P: In the name of the Father, and the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death and the devil – all that keeps us from loving God and neighbor. This is the struggle to which we were committed at baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus Christ.

Within the community of his Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord. All who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love and be servants to one another as Jesus became our servant.

It is however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with his disciples, we eat of the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

The Confession and Absolution

P: Let us now make confession to God.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father: I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us, and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power

to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore forgive you your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

All who wish to receive individual absolution through the laying on of hands may come forward at this time by way of the center aisle and return to their seats by the side aisles.

P: In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

C: Amen.

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Greet others near you in the name of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: To love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Lesson *(sit)*

Exodus 12:1–14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell 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. If 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. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs.

You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This 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 pass-over of the Lord. For 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. The 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.

“This 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 “

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm (*read responsively*)

Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19

I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

**for he has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

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

**I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord.**

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

**Precious in your sight, O Lord,
is the death of your servants.**

O Lord, truly I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

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

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

Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

For 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, 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. “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. For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.’”

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Verse

Gospel

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now 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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand. “Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” Jesus 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.” For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

After 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? You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little 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.’ I give you a

new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon (*sit*)

Hymn 109 (*stand*) *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

GETHSEMANE

Nicene Creed, p. 105

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord, in your mercy. **C: Hear our prayer.**

The prayer concludes:

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Offering (*sit*)

Anthem (Choir)

Ubi caritas

Audrey Snyder (b. 1953)

Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est Excultemus et in ipso jucundemur. Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur: Et ex corder diligamus nos sincero.	Where there is charity and love, God is there. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Likewise, therefore when we come together let us be united as one; And from a sincere heart let us love one another
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Offering Prayer, p. 108 (*stand*)

Great Thanksgiving and Proper Preface, p. 109

Sanctus, p. 110 – *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Eucharistic Prayer (#33) and Words of Institution, p. 111

Lord’s Prayer, p. 113

Agnus Dei, p. 114 – *Lamb of God*

Holy Communion (*sit*)

Post-Communion Prayer, p. 117 (*stand*)

Psalm 22 is chanted by a cantor as the chancel is stripped.

The text of Psalm 22 can be found on p. 224 of the hymnal.

The stripping of the chancel by the Altar Guild symbolizes the stripping of Christ of his power and glory by his captors. The service ends without benediction, showing its continuity with the services on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, which all together form one complete service known as the Triduum (The Three Days).

The people leave the nave in silence.



Holy Week Services

March 29, 7:00 pm – Good Friday Solemn service with interactive reading of the Passion story as told by St. John.

March 30, 7:30 pm – Easter Vigil Candlelight procession, readings, and prayers. This service rehearses salvation history and prepares for God's greatest act of salvation and concludes with the proclamation of the resurrection which we will hear on Sunday morning.

March 31, Easter Sunday

9:30 – Brunch begins

10:30 am – Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 am – Worship

Good Friday

Prelude

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Prayer of the Day

First Lesson (*sit*)

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.
Just as there were many who were astonished at him
— so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals —
so 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.
Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
For 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.
He 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.
Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
But 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.
All 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.

He 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.

By 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.

They 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.

Yet 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.

Out 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.

Therefore 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.

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson

Hebrews 10:16–25

“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, He also adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is,

through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 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. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, 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.

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

John 18 - 19

*The congregation reads aloud with appropriate emphasis
the underlined portions of the text. Remain seated except as noted.*

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³So 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.

⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” ⁵They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus replied, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they stepped back and fell to the ground. ⁷Again he asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” ⁸Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.” ⁹This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, “I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.”

¹⁰Then 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. ¹¹Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

¹²So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

¹⁵Simon 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, ¹⁶but 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. ¹⁷The woman said to Peter, “You are not also one of this man’s

disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸Now 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.

¹⁹Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered, "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. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." ²²When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" ²³Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" ²⁴Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

²⁸Then 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. ²⁹So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." ³¹Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." ³²(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "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." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "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." ³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. ³⁹But 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?" ⁴⁰They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²And the soldiers wove a crown of

thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³They kept coming up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and striking him on the face. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.” ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Here is the man!”

(The congregation stands.)

⁶When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.” ⁷The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”

⁸Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Pilate therefore said to him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?” ¹¹Jesus answered him, “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.” ¹²From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.”

¹³When 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. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, “Here is your King!” ¹⁵They cried out, “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!” Pilate asked them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but the emperor.” ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” ²⁰Many 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. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” ²²Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” ²³When 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. ²⁴So they said to one another, “Let us not tear

it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.” This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

“They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.”

²⁵And 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. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” ²⁹A 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. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Choral Anthem *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*
(You may follow along at LBW #117)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The congregation sits in silence for a time.

³¹Since 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. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”

³⁸After 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. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now 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. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Sermon

Bidding Prayer (*remain seated*)

A: Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that God the almighty Father guide it and gather it together, so that we may worship him in peace and tranquility.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the Church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring salvation to people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

A: Let us pray for Bishop Dan Selbo and Dean Kris Brower, for our pastors and other ministers, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our pastors and our leaders; keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church, and help each of us to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

A: Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who share our faith in Jesus Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one Church all those who know Christ as Lord.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give your church its unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. We are all consecrated to you by our Baptism; make us one in the fullness of faith, and keep us one in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his posterity. Hear the prayers of your Church that the people you first made your own may arrive with us at the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen**

A: Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the way of salvation.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to receive the truth of the Gospel. Help us, your people, to grow in love for one another, to grasp more fully the mystery of your Godhead, and so to become more perfect witnesses of your love in the sight of all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

A: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God, that they may find him who is the author and goal of our existence.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, they may all recognize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

A: Let us pray for those who serve in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts, so that all of us may live in true peace and freedom.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

A: Let us pray that God, the almighty and merciful Father, may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty,

and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

A: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask:

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

Hymn of the Day 123 (*stand*)

Ah, Holy Jesus
HERZLIEBSTER JESU

The Versicle (*sit*)

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

C: **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

*The Paschal Candle is removed from the stand and carried from view.
After a brief silence, a door will slam, symbolizing the closing of Jesus' tomb.*

The people leave the nave in silence, or they may remain in prayer for a time.



March 30, 7:30 pm – Easter Vigil Candlelight procession, readings, and prayers. This service rehearses salvation history and prepares for God's greatest act of salvation and concludes with the proclamation of the resurrection which we will hear on Sunday morning.

March 31, Easter Sunday

9:30 – Brunch begins

10:30 am – Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 am – Worship

The Easter Vigil

*The people gather outside as a fire is prepared.
Each person receives a candle.*

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: 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.

C: Amen

*The Assisting Minister holds the Paschal Candle
while the Pastor traces the inscription on it, saying:*

P: Christ, yesterday and today (✠), the beginning and the ending.

Alpha (A) and Omega (Ω):

His are time (2) and eternity (0),

His are glory (2) and dominion forever (4).

C: Amen

The Pastor lights the Paschal Candle from the new fire and says:

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

C: Amen

The candles of the people are lighted from the Paschal Candle.

The Procession

*The Assisting Minister leads the procession into the nave, stopping at the entrance,
at mid-point, and before the altar, each time saying:*

A: The light of Christ!

C: Thanks be to God!

The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand near the altar.

The people file into the pews and remain standing.

The Easter Proclamation

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult,
let Angel ministers of God exult,
let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!
Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her,
ablaze with light from her eternal King,
let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.
Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice,
arrayed with the lightning of his glory,
let this holy building shake with joy,
filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.



It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart and with devoted service of our voice,

to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father,
and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten.

Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and,
pouring out his own dear Blood, wiped clean the record of our ancient
sinfulness. These then are the feasts of Passover,
in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb, whose Blood anoints the
doorposts of believers.

This is the night, when once you led our forebears,
Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt and made them pass dryshod through
the Red Sea.

This is the night that with a pillar of fire banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night that even now, throughout the world,
sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin,
leading them to grace and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night, when and rose victorious Christ broke the prisonbars of death

O love, O charity beyond all telling,
to ransom a slave you gave away your Son!
O truly necessary sin of Adam, from the underworld.
O wonder of your humble care for us!
destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!
O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!
The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away,
restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners.
O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and
divine to the human.
On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn
offering, the work of bees and of your servants' hands, an evening sacrifice of
praise, this gift from your most holy Church.
Therefore, O Lord, we pray you that this candle,
hallowed to the darkness of this night.
Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven.
May this flame honor of your name,
may persevere undimmed,
to overcome be found still burning by the Morning Star:
the one Morning Star who never sets,
Christ your Son, who, coming back from death's domain,
has shed his peaceful light on humanity,
and lives and reigns for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

Sit

THE SERVICE OF READINGS

*The people remain seated for the lessons and prayers.
Before each prayer a brief silence is kept.*

The First Lesson Genesis 1:1-2:4a

P: Let us pray:

O 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 him who
came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. **C: Amen**

The Second Lesson Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

P: Let us pray:

O God, strength of the powerless and light in all darkness: Look in mercy upon your Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery, that it may be an ark of peace in the midst of chaos. Let the whole world experience and see that what was fallen is being raised up, that what was old is being made new, and that all things are being restored to wholeness through him from whom they first took being, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

The Third Lesson

Genesis 22:1-18

P: Let us pray:

God and Father of all the faithful, you promised Abraham that he would become father of all nations, and through this paschal mystery you increase your chosen people throughout the world. Help us respond to your call by joyfully accepting the new life of grace. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

The Fourth Lesson

Exodus 12:1-14

P: Let us pray:

Almighty and ever-living 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. **C: Amen**

The Fifth Lesson

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

P: Let us pray:

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

The Sixth Lesson

Exodus 15: 1b-13; 17-18

P: Let us pray:

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation offered to everyone by the water of baptism. Grant that all the people of earth may partake in the salvation of the Israelites and together dance on the safe side of the sea, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen**

The Seventh Lesson

Isaiah 55:1-11

P: Let us pray:

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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

The Eighth Lesson

Ezekiel 37:1-14

P: Let us pray:

O God, by the Passover of the Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life. Give us such an understanding of your mercy that, in receiving the gifts of Word and Sacrament now, we may learn to hope for all your gifts to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Hymn 18 - Canticle: *Benedicite, Omnia Opera*

(chanted responsively, tone 1, cantor/congregation)

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourished and sustained us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you have chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of eternal life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father [✠] and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that all who are baptized may find joy in their new life. Wash away the sin of all the baptized and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE LITANY

L Lord, have mercy.

R Lord, have mercy.

L Christ, have mercy.

R Christ, have mercy.

L Lord, have mercy.

R Lord, have mercy.

L O Christ, hear us.

R In mercy hear us.

L God, the Father in heaven,

R have mercy on us.

L God, the Son, redeemer of the world,

R have mercy on us.

L God, the Holy Spirit,

R have mercy on us.

L Holy Trinity, one God,

R have mercy on us.

L Be gracious to us.

R Spare us, good Lord.

L Be gracious to us.

R Spare us, good Lord.

L From all sin, from all error, from all evil; from the cunning assaults of the devil; from an unprepared and evil death: **R Good Lord, deliver us.**

L From war, bloodshed, and violence; from corrupt and unjust government; from sedition and treason: **R Good Lord, deliver us.**

L From epidemic, drought, and famine; from fire and flood, earthquake, lightning and storm; and from everlasting death: **R Good Lord, deliver us.**

L By the mystery of your incarnation; by your holy birth:

R Help us, good Lord.

L By your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by your agony and bloody sweat; by your cross and suffering; by your death and burial:

R Help us, good Lord.

L By your resurrection and ascension; by the gift of the Holy Spirit:

R Help us, good Lord.

L In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

R Save us, good Lord.

L Though unworthy, we implore you

R to hear us, Lord our God.

L To rule and govern your holy catholic Church; to guide all servants of your Church in the love of your Word and in holiness of life; to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense to those who would believe; and to bring into the way of truth all who have gone astray:

R We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

L To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful workers into your harvest; to accompany your Word with your Spirit and power; to raise up

those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the fainthearted and the distressed:

R We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

L To give to all nations justice and peace; to preserve our country from discord and strife; to direct and guard those who have civil authority; and to bless and guide all our people:

R We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

L To behold and help all who are in danger, need, or tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel; to preserve and provide for all women in childbirth; to watch over children and to guide the young; to heal the sick and to strengthen their families and friends; to bring reconciliation to families in discord; to provide for the unemployed and for all in need; to be merciful to all who are imprisoned; to support, comfort, and guide all orphans, widowers, and widows; and to have mercy on all your people:

R We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

L To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to reconcile us to them; to help us use wisely the fruits and treasures of the earth, the sea, and the air; and graciously to hear our prayers:

R We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

L Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

R we implore you to hear us.

L Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; R **have mercy on us.**

L Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; R **have mercy on us.**

L Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; R **give us peace. Amen**

L O Christ, hear us. R **In mercy hear us.**

L Lord, have mercy. R **Lord, have mercy.**

L Christ, have mercy. R **Christ, have mercy.**

L Lord, have mercy. R **Lord, have mercy.**

Leave in silence, looking forward to the resurrection!

March 31, Easter Sunday

9:30 – Brunch begins

10:30 am – Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 am – Worship