

THE
GREAT VIGIL
of
EASTER



Saturday, April 4, 2026
7:30 p.m.

**A Witness to the Power and Promise of Resurrection Life
by the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran,
United Methodist, and Episcopal Mid-Coast Churches**

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant may address the people in these or similar words

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

The Celebrant may say the following prayer

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon bearing the Candle, pausing three times and singing



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

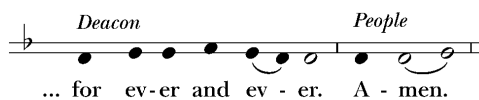
At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.

Members of the congregation light their candles from the Paschal Candle at this time.

The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

Then the Deacon, 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 his Son our Lord,
who lives and reigns with him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,



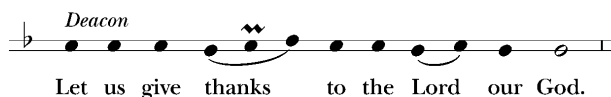
... for ev-er and ev - er. A - men.



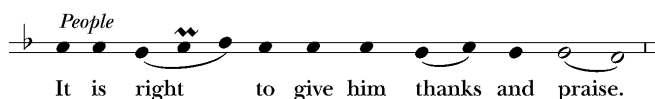
The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Deacon

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our forebearers, 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.

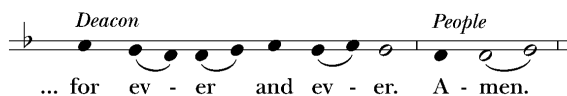
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

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 of this lighted candle, which as at this time your holy Church makes and offers to you by the hands of your servants the work of the bees, your creatures. 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.*



It is customary that the Paschal Candle burn at all services from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost.

The Liturgy of the Word

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.

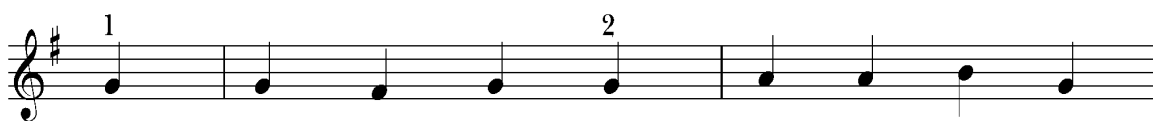
THE STORY OF CREATION: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Tony Garratt-Reed, St. John Baptist, Thomaston

Hymn 25

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ

The Eighth Tune



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O





blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
 Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
 all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

This hymn may be sung unaccompanied as a four-part canon at a distance of one measure.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FLOOD: Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

St. Thomas', Camden

Hymn 645

The King of love my shepherd is

St. Columba



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Canticle of the Turning

Verses



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, And my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, And your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his throne. The
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp. This



fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, 'Til the spear and rod can be

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the
 fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the
 dawn draws near, And the world is a - bout to turn!

Text: Luke 1:46-58; Rory Cooney, b.1952
 Tune: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN, Irregular with refrain; Irish melody; arr. by Rory Cooney, b.1952
 © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

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.**

THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES: Ezekiel 37:1-14
 Belfast

St. Margaret's,

Hymn 508

Breathe on me, Breath of God

Nova Vita

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die;

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
 un - til with thee I will one will, to do or to en - dure.
 till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
 but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE DELIVERANCE OF JONAH: Jonah 1:1-2:1

Nativity Lutheran, Rockport

Hymn 680

O God, our help in ages past

St. Anne

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
 5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God of deliverance, you saved Jonah through the waters of death, and after three days you brought him to new life. Speak to us by this sign, and call us to repentance, that we may heed the voice of your risen Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Bishop says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present *N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

When there are others to be presented, the Bishop says

The other Candidates will now be presented.

Presenters I present *these persons* for Confirmation.

Or I present *these persons* to be received into this Communion.

Or I present *these persons* who *desire* to reaffirm *their* baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil.

Candidate I do.

Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Bishop then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Bishop

Do you believe in God the Father?

People

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop

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.**

Bishop

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.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop 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.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop 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.**

Prayers for the Candidates

The Bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A period of silence follows. Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The Laying on of Hands

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him* for your service; and sustain *him* all the days of *his* life. **Amen.**

For Reception

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. Amen.

For Reaffirmation

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. *Amen.*

The Bishop concludes with this prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

PROCESSION TO THE CHURCH AND EASTER ACCLAMATION

As all enter the darkened church, the people's candles are relighted. The people enter by the center aisle and find their way to a pew.

Those who require special assistance should notify an usher.

All remain standing.

Processional on *Easter Hymn*

Sean Fleming

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Celebrant then says

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

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

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Church at Rome [6:3-11]

Candida Steel

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 208

The strife is o'er, the battle done

Victory

All stand and sing

Antiphon (at the beginning)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -
2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
*3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es
4 He closed the yawn - ing gates of hell, the bars from
5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly
 3 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our
 4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his
 5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew [28:1-10].

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

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Deacon The Gospel of our Savior.

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

The Prayers of the People

All standing.

Deacon

Risen Lord, with joyful hearts and confident expectation, we lay our concerns and intentions before you, saying: hear us and transform us.

Intercessor

For the Church, for Thomas, our bishop, for all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay persons, that we may recognize your resurrection in our common life and show it to the world:

Risen Lord,

hear us and transform us.

For Donald, our President, Janet, our Governor, and for all persons in authority, that they may serve the people by recognizing your image in themselves and us:

Risen Lord,

hear us and transform us.

For the world, for those who live in places where truth and justice are absent, where peace and safety are far away, and for those who live in complacency and comfort, that we may all learn your self-giving love:

Risen Lord,

hear us and transform us.

For this town and for all of the communities from which we come and to which we go, that we may live in your life of charity and forgiveness:

Risen Lord,

hear us and transform us.

For those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, for and for those others we name aloud or in our hearts,

Silence

that they might find comfort and healing in their life in you:

Risen Lord,

hear us and transform us.

For the people and relationships and circumstances that bring us joy and for those others we name aloud or in our hearts

Silence

that we may always remember that our joy begins and ends in you:

Risen Lord,

hear us and transform us.

For those who have died, and those we name aloud or in our hearts,

Silence

that they may share with all your saints in your resurrection:

Risen Lord,

hear us and transform us.

Celebrant

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.***



The Holy Communion

The Celebrant says an offertory sentence. Offerings of the people are received and brought forward as the hymn is sung; all standing. Online Offerings: Scan the QR Code or click the Donate Button on our website (www.stthomascamden.org)

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters

and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM WLP 880

Christ our Passover (Vaughan Williams)

Sine Nomine

though Ad - am's sin had doomed all flesh to die, in

There - fore with joy we keep the Eas - ter feast; for -
death has no more do - min - ion o - ver him; Through
though Ad - am's sin had doomed all flesh to die, in

The musical score consists of three systems. The first system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The third system shows the piano accompaniment for the final part of the piece.

Descant

3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead:

1. God's Pas - chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 2. Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain;
 3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead:

Christ's new life shall all be made a - live. Al -

sak - ing sin, we share the bread of truth. Al -
 him we die to sin and live to God. Al -
 Christ's new life shall all be made a - live. Al -

le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
 le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
 le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion

This is God's table, all are welcome. You may receive at the altar or the Communion station by the pulpit. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the priest. You can request that Communion be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Hymn 335

I am the bread of life

I Am the Bread of Life



1	I am the bread	of life;	they who
2 (The)	Bread that	I will	give is my
3 (Un-)	less	you eat	of the
4	I am the re - sur -	rec - tion,	
5 (Yes,)	Lord,	we be - lieve	that



1	come to me shall	not hun - ger;	they who be -
2	Flesh for the life	of the world,	and they who
3	Flesh of the Son	of Man	and
4	I am the	life.	They who be -
5	you are the	Christ,	the



1	lieve in me shall	not thirst.	No one can come to
2	eat of this	bread,	they shall live for
3	drink of his	Blood, you	shall not have life with -
4	lieve in me,	e - ven	if they
5	Son of God	who	has



1	me un - less	the Fa - ther	draw them.
2	ev - er.	they shall	live for ev - er.
3	in you. you	shall not have	life with - in you.
4	die,	they shall	live for ev - er.
5	come in - to	the	world.

Descant

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

Refrain

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

up, and I will raise them up on the

up, and I will raise them up on the

last day. 5 Yes, day.

last day. 2 The 3 Un- day. 4 — 5 Yes, day.

Final Ending

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

Hymn 712

Dona nobis pacem

1
Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem. Do - na no - bis

2
pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

3
Do - na no - bis pa - cem. Do - na

no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

All stand and sing

Thine Be the Glory

Edmond Budry, 1884

Tr. Richard B. Hoyle, 1923

MACCABAEUS

From G. F. Handel

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly he
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won; an - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom; let the church with glad - ness
 out thee: aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors.

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes, where thy bod - y
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for her Lord now liv - eth, death hath lost its
 thro' thy death - less love: bring us safe thro' Jor - dan to thy home a -

lay.
 sting. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en con - qu'ring Son;
 bove.

end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won.

All remain standing, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Bishop blesses the people

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

After the ministers depart, the congregation may be seated for the remainder of the postlude.

Postlude

Toccata from Symphony V

Charles -Marie Widor

A reception in the parish hall follows.

Liturgical Ministers

Ushers: Phil Groman, Dwayne Robinson

Musician: Sean Fleming

Thurifer: Linda Parsloe

Crucifer: Cipperly Good

Master of Ceremonies: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Preacher: Dr. Deirdre Good

Ministers of Communion: The Rev. Percy Grant, The Rev. Barbara Briggs, Dr. Deirdre Good

Deacon: The Rev. Kristen Burkholder

Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown, Bishop of Maine

THE CANDIDATES

Baptism

Louise Barbara Cordes (St. Margaret's)

Fern Cassidy Cordes (St. Margaret's)

Reception

Francis Anthony Stewart (St. Thomas)

Bruce Benjamin Lowry (St. Thomas)

Diane Sally Veronica Snow (St. Peter's)

Confirmation

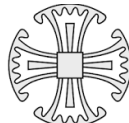
Alison Ruth Angell (St. Thomas)

Reaffirmation

Rebecca Leigh Cordes (St. Margaret's)

Nan Strohmenger Hunter (St. Peter's)

Candida Staempfli Steel (St. Peter's)



St. Thomas ' Episcopal Church

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