The Great Vigil of Easter

The Rev. George Adamik, Celebrant The Rev. Dr. Cathy Deats, Homilist 8:00 p.m. Service April 3, 2021

### The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

**BCP 285** 

The Celebrant says

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.

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 light of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

The Exsultet S 69 Russell McKinney, Cantor

# 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 First Reading

Genesis 1:1 - 2:2

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.

**Psalm 36:5-10** BCP 632

- 5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, \* and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; \* you save both man and beast, O Lord.
- 7 How priceless is your love, O God! \*

your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; \*

you give them drink from the river of your delights.

- 9 For with you is the well of life, \* and in your light we see light.
- 10 Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, \* and your favor to those who are true of heart.

Collect BCP 288

Let us pray.

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 Second Reading

Exodus 14:10 - 15:1

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 Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

#### **Canticle 8**

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.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Collect BCP 289

Let us pray.

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 Third Reading

Isaiah 55:1 - 11

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.

**Psalm 42:1-7** BCP 643

- 1 As the deer longs for the water-brooks, \* so longs my soul for you, O God.
- My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; \* when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
- My tears have been my food day and night, \* while all day long they say to me, "Where now is your God?"
- I pour out my soul when I think on these things: \* how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,

- With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, \* among those who keep holy-day.
- Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \* and why are you so disquieted within me?
- 7 Put your trust in God; \*

for I will yet give thanks to him, who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

# Collect

BCP 289

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 Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

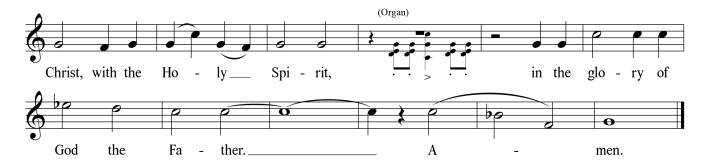
#### **Easter Acclamation**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

# The Ringing of Bells





Collect of the Day BCP 295

Celebrant 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*.

The Epistle Romans 6:3—11

A Reading from 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 114

1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \*

the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary \* and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*

Jordan turned and went back.

The mountains skipped like rams, \*

and the little hills like young sheep.

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*

O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \* you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \* at the presence of the God of Jacob,

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \* and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

The Gradual The Great "Alleluia"

Please stand.

8

The Gospel Mark 16:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

> The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily The Rev. Dr. Cathy Deats

## The Baptismal Covenant

People

**BCP 292** 

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.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? Celebrant

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.

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

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.

Celebrant continues.

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.

**Prayers of the People** 

People's Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

**Peace BCP 360** 

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you. People

**Announcements** 

# **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

Offertory Christus Resurgens Peter Philips

Voices of St. Paul's

Translation (Sung in Latin)

Christ, rising again from the dead, dies now no more.

Death shall no more have dominion over him.

For in that he died to sin, he died once: but in that he lives, he lives unto God.

He died for our sins and rose again for our justification,

Who lives unto God.

Alleluia.

#### **Eucharistic Prayer A**

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

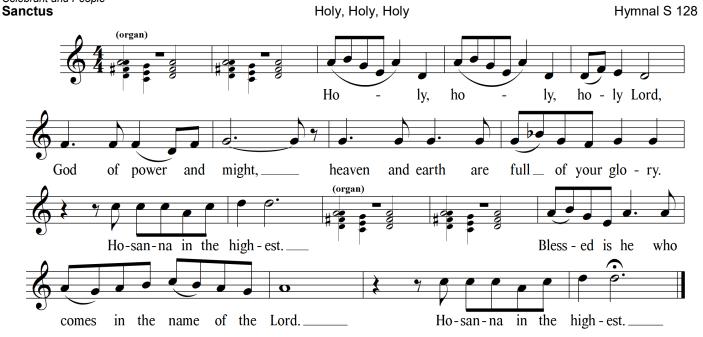
The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People



The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

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

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

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

### **Memorial Acclamation**

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

## The Celebrant continues.

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

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new

and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

The Celebrant then continues

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

#### Lord's Prayer

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.

## **Breaking of the Bread**

A period of silence is kept.



## **Holy Communion**

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## **Spiritual Communion Prayer**

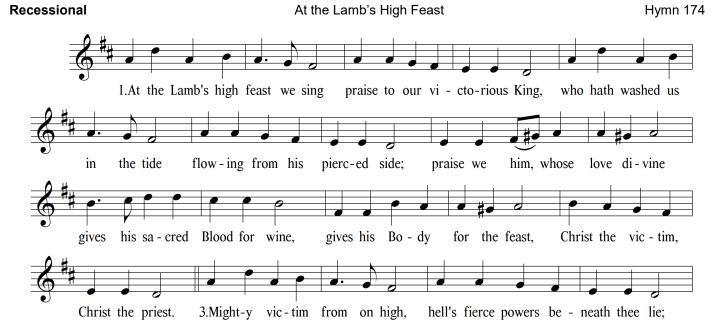
Celebrant and People

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

### **Final Prayer**

Celebrant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food as we hear your Word proclaimed and gather at your holy Table. 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.





**Dismissal** 

Deacon People Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.* 

Postlude Joanna Li, organist

### Voices of St. Paul's

Linda McKinney & Emily Neuhauser, sopranos Andrea Dreier, alto Russell McKinney, tenor Jon Douglas, bass

#### **Brass Ensemble**

Emery Anderson, trumpets Barbara Prillaman, horn Russell McKinney, tenor and bass trombones All brass arrangements are by Russell McKinney

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All of the music for today's service is prerecorded by members of St. Paul's Music Ministries using "virtual choir" techniques (individually recorded tracks electronically submitted), and is compiled and engineered by Russell McKinney, Minister of Music, and accompanied by Joanna Li, organist. All music is licensed for broadcast through CCS WORSHIPCast License #9427.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Acknowledging that all of St. Paul's gifts come from God, the mission of St. Paul's Church is to know Christ and to make Christ known.

Church Phone: 919-467-1477 Fax: 919-467-0152 Web Site: www.stpaulscary.org

The Rev. George Adamik, Rector
The Rev. Javier E. Almendárez-Bautista, Associate Rector
The Rev. Antoinette Wike, Priest Associate
The Rev. Candy Snively, Deacon
Russell McKinney, Minister of Music
Andrea Dreier, Music Associate
Joanna Li, Organist

x 13 | George.Adamik@stpaulscary.org x12 | Javier@stpaulscary.org Tony.Wike@stpaulscary.org Candy.Snively@stpaulscary.org x 15 | Rusty.McKinney@stpaulscary.org