



THE GREAT
VIGIL OF
EASTER

APRIL

8

2023

*This service brings us from the darkness of Good Friday
to the joy of resurrection.*

We light the Paschal Candle.

*On the candle are painted
the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, alpha and omega.*

*In Revelation 21:6 the exalted Christ says
“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”*

We make a cross on the candle with “nails”.

*We then process the candle into the darkened church
which represents the tomb, and light the candles inside.*

The light heralds the resurrection of Christ.

*We hear the story of Exodus
when God led the people of Israel through the desert by fire.*

*We affirm our faith and take part in a baptism
following the tradition of the early church where the new converts,
the catechumens, were baptised at dawn on Easter Day.*

*The Paschal Candle stays lit for all services
during the fifty days of the Easter season
and is removed on Ascension Day.*

*We use it then for baptisms and funerals
as a link back to the Easter resurrection of Jesus.*

*At any time in the service when we invite you to stand
you are welcome to remain seated if you need to.*

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

We gather outside.

Dear friends in Christ,
on this most holy night when the gospels tells us
Jesus passed over from death to life,
we gather with all the Church throughout the world
in vigil and prayer.

This is the passover of Jesus Christ.
Through light and word, through water, bread and wine
we celebrate the new life that Christ shares with us.

The Paschal candle is marked and blessed.

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

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

The Paschal Candle is lit.

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

*The Easter candle is carried in procession into the church,
and each time the procession stops:*

Cantor: Christ our light.

All: Thanks be to God.

*The congregation move into the pews lighting their candles;
the church remains in darkness.*

THE EXSULTET

arranged by Douglas Mews (1918-1993)

Cantor:

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 splendour,
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 marvellous and holy flame
pray with me to God the Almighty
for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light.

Cantor: **God's peace be with you.**

All: **And also with you.**

Cantor: Let us give thanks to God.

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

Cantor:

The Exsultet continues.

Priest:

Fellow pilgrims on the Christian way,
let us now listen to the story
of how God saved the people of Israel
by mighty acts in their history, and in the fullness of time
came among us in Christ Jesus as our Redeemer.

READING

Exodus 14:21-31, 15:20-21

Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

SONG OF MOSES

Setting: Douglas Mews (1918-1993)

God of steadfast love, you delivered your chosen people
from slavery under Pharaoh,
open our eyes to see those still enslaved in our time
and to help them come to freedom
that the world might also be free.

READING

Romans 6:3-11

SONG OF ISAIAH

Setting: Robert Loretz

God unlimited by mortal fear or tomb's cold grip:
in the lingering dark
give us grace to know your life triumphant,
your love undimmed in the face of Jesus Christ,
the firstborn from the dead.

Amen.¹

¹ *Steven Shakespeare*

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Matthew, chapter twenty-eight, beginning at verse one.



Hal - le - lu - jah,___ hal-le-lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Matthew 28:1-10

This is the Gospel of Christ.



Hal - le - lu - jah,___ hal-le-lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Alleluia Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed, alleluia.

HYMN

Candles are lit on the altar and the lights are turned on.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heaven and voic - es raise;
sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
Je - sus on the cross as Sav - ior for the world's sal - va - tion bled;
but the cru - ci - fied Re - dee - mer now is ris - en from the dead!

Now the iron bars are broken,
Christ from death to life is born;
glorious life, and life immortal
on this holy Easter eve;
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer
by God's liberating deed;
now the Christ with us abiding
to eternal life shall lead.

Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain and dew and gleams of glory
from the brightness of your face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel hands be gathered,
and be yours eternally.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God of joy;
Alleluia to the Savior, who came death's bonds to destroy;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia! To the Triune Majesty.

*Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), alt. TNCH 243
Tune: Lux Eoi, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900). CAHO&N 9*

BAPTISM

GOD'S CALL

The priest says:

E te whānau a te Karaiti,
God is love, God gives us life.
We love because God first loves us.
In baptism God declares that love;
in Christ God calls us to respond.

THE PRESENTATION FOR BAPTISM

The candidate for baptism is presented by a sponsor:

I present Tamara Catherine Mary Craigen to be baptised
and made a member of the Body of Christ, the Church.

The priest says:

From the beginning
the Church has received believers by baptism.

On the day when the apostles
first preached the Gospel of Christ's resurrection,
Peter urged his hearers
'Repent and be baptised, every one of you,
in the name of Jesus the Christ
for the forgiveness of your sins,
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
For the promise is to you and to your children,
and to all who are far away, everyone whom
the Lord our God may call.'

Tamara, how do you respond to this promise?

Candidate: I hear God's call and come for baptism.

The priest says to the candidate:

Do you turn away from what could separate you from God
and do you desire to know the love of God in your life?

The candidate replies:

I do.

The priest says:

Do you trust in Christ's victory
which brings forgiveness, freedom and life?

The candidate replies:

In faith I turn to Christ my way, my truth, my life.
May God keep you in the way you have chosen.

THE BAPTISM

The priest stands by the water for baptism, and says:

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

whose promise endures for ever.

The priest prays:

We thank you God for your love in all creation,
especially for your gift of water
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

We thank you for your covenant with your people Israel;
through the Red Sea waters
you led them to freedom in the promised land.

In the waters of the Jordan
your Son was baptised by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

Through the deep waters of death Jesus fulfilled his baptism.

He died to set us free

and was raised to be exalted Lord of all.

It is Christ who baptises with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

We thank you that through the waters of baptism
you cleanse us, renew us by your Spirit and raise us to new
life.

Through your Holy Spirit, fulfil once more your promises
in this water of rebirth,
set apart in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever.**

Amen!

*The priest baptises the candidate for baptism,
by pouring water on the candidate, saying:*

Tamara Catherine Mary,
I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

**God receives you by baptism into the Church.
Child of God, blessed in the Spirit,
welcome to the family of Christ.**

The priest makes the sign of the cross on the baptised with oil, saying:

We sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ.

A lighted candle is given by a representative of the congregation, who says:

Walk in the faith of Christ crucified and risen.
Shine with the light of Christ.

THE AFFIRMATION

The congregation, the newly baptised, respond in these affirmations.

Praise to God who has given us life.

Blessed be God for the gift of love.

Praise to God who forgives our sin.

Blessed be God who sets us free.

Praise to God who kindles our faith.

Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.

The priest says to all those present who are baptised Christians:

Let us, the baptised, affirm that we commit our lives to Christ.

All respond:

Blessed be God, blessed be Jesus!

The priest then says to the newly baptized:

What is your faith?

They respond:

I believe and trust in God the Creator,
maker and sustainer of all things;
and in God the Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ;
and in God the Holy Spirit, giver of life and truth.
This is my faith.

Priest:

As a community of faith we rejoice at this baptism
and will share with Tamara
what we ourselves have received:
a delight in prayer, a love for the word of God,
a desire to follow the way of Christ, and food for the journey.

Tamara you are now a pilgrim with us.
May you grow in the Holy Spirit,
fulfil your ministry and follow Christ you whole life long.

**God of love,
we thank you for our calling to be disciples of Christ.
Help us to nurture these people in the faith we share.
May they grow to love, worship and serve you,
and bring life to the world. Amen.**

The clergy asperge (sprinkle with water) on the congregation saying:

From death to life, we have been baptised in Christ.

THE PEACE

The peace of God be with you all.

In God's justice is our peace.

E te whanau, Christ calls us to live in unity.

We seek to live in the Spirit of Christ.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

HYMN

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!
God hath brought his Israel
into joy from sadness;
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today:
Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death
as a sun hath risen.
All the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give
laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendour,
with the royal feast of feasts,
comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death,
 nor the tomb's dark portal,
 nor the watchers, nor the seal,
 hold thee as a mortal.
 But today amidst the Twelve
 thou didst stand, bestowing
 that thy peace which evermore
 passeth human knowing.

Words: John of Damascus (c. 675-749); trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)
Tune: Ave Virgo Virginum, melody from J. Horn's "Gesangbuch", 1544. TIS 391

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Glory be to God who flows through all creation,
 blessing us with gifts to share.

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. There are two triplets: the first triplet covers G4, A4, B4, and the second triplet covers A4, G4, F#4. The text "Bless-ed be God for ev - er." is written below the notes.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. There are two triplets: the first triplet covers G4, A4, B4, and the second triplet covers A4, G4, F#4. The text "Alleluia. The Spirit is here God's hope is in us" is written below the notes. The word "Cantor" is written above the first note, and "All" is written above the eighth note.

Musical notation for the second line of the hymn. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. There are two triplets: the first triplet covers G4, A4, B4, and the second triplet covers A4, G4, F#4. The text "Lift up your hearts We lift them up to God" is written below the notes. The word "Cantor" is written above the first note, and "All" is written above the eighth note.

Musical notation for the third line of the hymn. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The text "Let us give thanks to the God of peace" is written below the notes. The word "Cantor" is written above the first note.

Musical notation for the fourth line of the hymn. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The text "It is right to offer thanks and praise." is written below the notes. The word "All" is written above the first note.

It is right and a good and joyful thing,
 always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
 God our Creator and Lover.
 You make all things and call them good.
 You love us into being, you form us in your image
 and breathe into us the breath of life.
 When we turn away, and our love fails,
 your love remains steadfast.
 You deliver us from captivity,
 and bring us to a land flowing with milk and honey.
 You set before us the way of life.
 And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
 we praise your name as we join their unending hymn:

4
 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One, God of po-wer and might

Heav'n and Earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.


2
 Bless the One who comes in the pow'r of love. Ho-

3
 san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high-est!

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
 By his baptism of suffering and death
 you give your church birth into a living hope.
 Raising Jesus from the dead, you make a new covenant with us,
 by water and the Spirit, and deliver us into freedom.
 We who were no people are now your people,
 declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,
 who calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
 On the night when he gave himself up for us,
 he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
 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.
 When the supper was over he took the cup,
 gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said,
 Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new Covenant,
 which is shed for you and for all, for the forgiveness of sins.
 Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me
 On the third day you raised him from the dead
 and revealed him to the women
 who came to the tomb to care for his body.
 On that day he was recognized by his disciples
 in the breaking of bread.



Break the bread for free-dom. Pour the wine for jus - tice.



Ce - le - brate this meal for all the world, a



meal of faith and hope, God's love, shared a - mong us. 2

And so, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice,
and we praise you and we bless you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in loving service to all the world,
until all feast at your heavenly banquet. ³



Please be seated.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice

be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen. ⁴

³ Richard Fabian, *St Gregory of Nyssa, San Francisco*

⁴ NZPB, p. 181

BREAKING OF BREAD

We break this bread to share in the hope of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

THE INVITATION

Haere mai e te kahui a te Atua,
tangohia enei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.

Come, bringing your varied faiths and backgrounds,
for all are welcome to share in this act of communion.

*All are welcome to come and receive the bread and wine;
there are gluten free wafers, just ask the serving priest.*

*There is a chalice for dipping -
simply hold the bread in front of you to signify your choice.*

*If you do not wish to take communion
you may come forward for a blessing.*

Te Taro o te Ora. The bread of life.

Te Kapu o te Ora. The cup of salvation.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Psalm 114

Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

This joyful Eastertide

Dutch carol, arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Risen Christ,
whom we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands;
the word of life in whom our joy is complete:
send us out to declare your truth,
your unshakable faith in the world you love. Amen. ⁵

⁵ *Steven Shakespeare*

BLESSING

HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing: Alleluia!

*Words: Compleat Psalmist, 1749
Tune: Easter Hymn, later form of melody from 'Lyra Davidica', 1708. TIS 362*

Deacon:

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go now for the Spirit of God is alive in the land.

Amen. We go in the power of love. Alleluia, alleluia.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Festival Toccata

Percy Fletcher (1879-1932)

MUSIC NOTES

In Bairstow's setting of Psalm 114 (In Exitu Israel), conventional Anglican psalm-chant undergoes modification with dramatic results. These include the dramatic fortissimo at the words 'Tremble, thou earth', together with a 32-foot pedal reed stop and the unusual treatment of the words 'springing well'. This psalm-chant first appeared in the York Minster chant book in 1929. One of Bairstow's favourite devices is employed to good effect — that of a sudden excursion into the flats, which takes the form of an unexpected harmonic shift at the words 'What ailest thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest'.

This joyful Eastertide is a popular Easter carol. Charles Wood's harmonization of the tune *Hoe groot de vrugten zijn* (from David's Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1685) is arranged by Sir Philip Ledger (1937-2012) Director of Music at King's College, Cambridge.

EASTER DAY

9 April, 8am & 10am

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