

# THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

April 4, 2026

6:30 PM



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Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wed. Service at 6 PM

**Our Sunday 10:00 AM service is livestreamed**

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## WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

**Restrooms:** Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

**We have gluten-free wafers available:** Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

**Standing, sitting, and kneeling:** Throughout the bulletin, there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

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**A gentle Reminder:** Please enter the Nave Quietly and reverently and silence your phones.



Virtual Worship Bulletins

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

*All gather on the patio.*

### 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*

*Celebrant* 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.

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

*All*       **Amen.**

*The Paschal Candle is then lit. The Celebrant bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing.*


*Celebrant* The light of Christ.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

*Celebrant* 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 ever and ever.


*All*       **Amen.**

*Celebrant*




The Lord be with you.

*People*




And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people. This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life. This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave. How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God. Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

*Celebrant* 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 1:1-2:4a

*Lector* *The First Reading is taken from Genesis chapters 1 and 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. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

Third Mode Melody

Thomas Tallis  
arr. Michael Burkhardt

*Celebrant* 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.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE SECOND READING

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

*Lector* 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.

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

Intermezzo

Rachel Laurin  
(1961-2023)

*Celebrant* 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.

*All* **Amen.**

**THE THIRD READING**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

*Lector* The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

Christ ist erstanden

Wilbur Held  
(1914-2015)

*Celebrant* Let us pray. 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.

*All* **Amen.**

**THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

BCP 292

*All stand as able.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen:

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

*You are invited to ring your bells at this time.*

# AT THE EUCHARIST

GLORIA S-280

Robert Powell

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us: you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
 ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*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 your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE EPISTLE

Romans 6:3-11

*Lector* 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.

*Celebrant* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL HYMN H-199

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

*(stanzas 1,2)*

**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.**

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And 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. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where



he lay. Then 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." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

SERMON

*Please be seated.*

Cindy Huffman

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Celebrant* Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered all people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray.

*Lector* Risen Lord, we pray for your Church, that it may continue your work of reconciling all people to God; for our clergy and our bishops; for the many lay people who serve the church and serve others through the church.

*People* **We pray for all gathered here in worship and prayer, here and around the world.**

*Lector* Risen Lord, we pray that the joy of Easter may ever grow within us and the nations and peoples of the world, that the powers that oppress and destroy may cease.

*People* **We pray that a passion for justice, peace, and the common good will fill each of our hearts, and for the Spirit to guide us in lives of active faith.**

*Lector* Risen Lord, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially those we now name aloud or in our hearts (*Pause.*) Comfort, restore and heal them.

*People* **We pray that the troubles facing us will teach us that we endure nothing alone, but that you are always present, creating, redeeming and sustaining us every step of our journey through life.**

*Lector* Risen Lord, we give thanks for the multitude of gifts you shower upon us, for the beauty of this home you have created for us, and especially for the flowers given today to your glory. Grant us a sense of joy and wonder in all your works.

*People* **We give thanks for our lives and the lives of our families, friendships, and neighbors near and far, and praise you for your mercy and care for us.**

*Lector* Risen Lord, we pray for those who have died. We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially those we now name aloud or in our hearts (*Pause.*) May the hope born of Easter give both them and us peace, acceptance and renewal.

*People* **Heavenly Father, grant that all who now celebrate these joyful holy days here on earth may praise you forever, with all the angels and saints in heaven. We ask this through your risen Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**OFFERTORY SENTENCE** *Please be seated.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN H-205** Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing      GELOBT SEI GOTT  
*(all singing)*

**Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**The Lord of life is risen today! Sing songs of praise along his way;  
let all the earth rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life which can-not die,  
and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

**Your Name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord  
the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**To God the Father, God the Son, to God the Spirit, always One,  
we sing for life in us begun: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B

*Celebrant*      *People*  
The Lord be with you.      And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*      *People*  
Lift up your hearts.      We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* 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:

**SANCTUS S-129**      *All*

Robert Powell

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

BCP 362

*Celebrant*      Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All*              **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

BCP 363

*Celebrant*      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.

*People*          **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Celebrant*      And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*People*          **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**

*Celebrant*      Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People*          **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant*      The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**COMMUNION**      Variations on "Christ, the Light of All the Living"

Brenda Portman

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

*People*          **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

### THE SENDING HYMN H-210

The Day of Resurrection

ELLACOMBE

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;  
and, listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain  
his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin,  
the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;  
let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.

### DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

### VOLUNTARY

Toccatà on ELLACOMBE

Michael Burkhardt

### SERVING US TODAY

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Celebrant             | The Rev. Whitney Burton                         |
| Preacher              | Cindy Huffman                                   |
| Organist/Choirmaster  | Tom Huffman                                     |
| Crucifer              | Ayden Watson                                    |
| Torch/Chalicer        | Carolyn Hughes and Tony Bowman                  |
| Lectors               | Gail Griffin and Sharon Ozbun                   |
| Prayers of the People | Sharon Ozbun                                    |
| Ushers                | Sherry Boothe, Alan Mackay, and Crystal Collyer |

Please join us for a celebratory reception after today's service, tomorrow for Easter Sunday services at 8 and 10 AM, and an Easter egg hunt at 11:30 AM on the playground.