

The Church of the Holy Trinity

Rittenhouse Square

The Great Vigil of Easter

8:00 PM



March 30, 2024

WELCOME! WE ARE DELIGHTED YOU ARE WITH US TODAY!

We ask that you turn off or silence your Cell Phone during the service. Thank you!

Restrooms are located at the front of the church. Walk down the left aisle toward the door with the EXIT sign. Go through the door, and turn left. Men's room is straight ahead, women's to the right. If you prefer a gender neutral bathroom, please ask our ushers to show you where this is.

Masks: We don't require masks, but we support you if you want to wear one. We generally ask staff and service participants to wear them when they aren't feeling well. Please ask if you need one!

Offering: Halfway through the service you will notice that we pass a plate around to collect the offering. The offerings we give help to support to work this church does, the people who work here, and our programs for the neighborhood. If you wish to help support our amazing programs, you can put something in the plate, text **CHT DONATE** to **73256** or using the QR code to the right. You can also sign up to give weekly with REALM (www.htrit.org/give).



Communion: All who are baptized in any Christian tradition are welcome to join us for communion (all ages are welcome). If you prefer a blessing, please let one of the clergy know. We will share the bread and wine at the altar rail at the front of the church. Gluten free wafers are available. If you are unable to come to the front, or prefer to stay in your pew we will bring communion to you.

During **The Peace**, we invite you to connect with your neighbors by waving, showing the peace sign, or using fist/elbow bumps. Please be sure your neighbor is comfortable with physical contact before shaking hands.

More Information? visit our website www.htrit.org and sign up for the weekly E-News.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

The Great Vigil of Easter is one of the oldest known rites of the Christian church, dating back to the second century. It brings worshippers, literally and symbolically, from darkness into light. The service is comprised of four parts: the kindling of the new fire and lighting of the Paschal Candle; the reading of lessons recounting the many ways in which God has saved and restored his people; the renewal of Baptismal vows; and reuniting the people of God with the Body of the risen Christ by celebrating the first Eucharist of Easter. After weeks of penitence, preparation, and reflection, more joyful elements return to the liturgy. The Exsultet, a chant almost as old as the Easter Vigil itself, invites us to rejoice in Christ's triumph over death and redemption of the world; and the word alleluia ("Praise the Lord")—which has not been spoken during the past 40 days of Lent—is proclaimed enthusiastically, and will remain in acclamations, fractions, hymns, and dismissals throughout Eastertide.

THE GREAT VIGIL of EASTER

8:00 PM

The service begins in the back of the church. Handheld candles (or flameless candles) will be given to all in attendance – these will be lighted during the beginning of the service.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

In the darkness, fire is kindled.

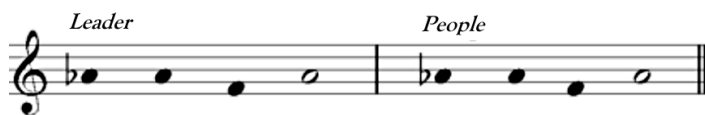
The Kindling of the New Fire

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. **Amen.**

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and a Minister bearing the Paschal Candle leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing:



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

During the procession, candles and lamps in the church, including those of the people, are lighted. The Altar remains dark. The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

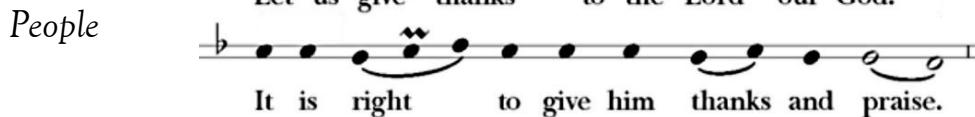
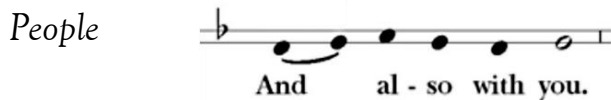
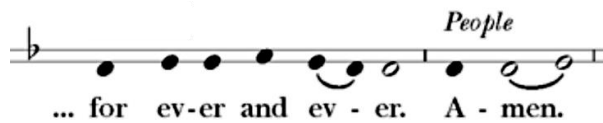
The Exsultet

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 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,



Cantor 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.

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.

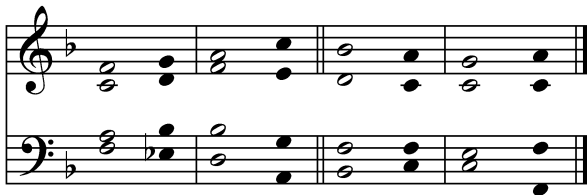
Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

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.

Psalm 33: 1-11



- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, you | *righteous*; *
it is good for the just to sing | *praises*.
- 2 Praise the Lord with the | *harp*; *
play to him upon the psaltery and | *lyre*.
- 3 Sing for him a new | *song*; *
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the | *trumpet*.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is | *right*, *
and all his works are | *sure*.
- 5 He loves righteousness and | *justice*; *
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole | *earth*.
- 6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens | *made*, *
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly | *hosts*.

- 7 He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a | *water-skin* *
and stores up the depths of the | *sea*.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the | *Lord*; *
let all who dwell in the world stand in | *awe of him*.
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to | *pass*; *
he commanded, and it stood | *fast*.
- 10 The Lord brings the will of the nations to | *naught*; *
he thwarts the designs of the | *peoples*.

Repeat the last half of the tone:

- 11 But the Lord's will stands fast for | *ever*, *
and the designs of his heart from age to | *age*.

All stand as able.

Presider Let us pray. (*A brief silence is kept.*) 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.**

All sit.

The Second Reading: Exod. 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea

Reader 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.

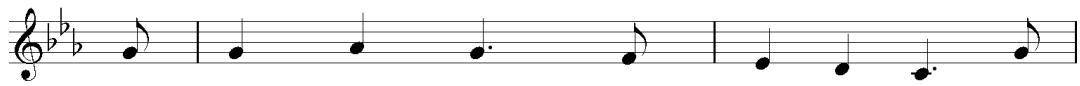
Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians 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 the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Hymn



1 Sing now with joy un - to the Lord, for
2 God is our strength, he is our song, he
3 He on - ly is the might - y Lord. He



he has tri - umphed glo - rious - ly! The horse, the rid - er,
saved us from our en - e - my. All praise and thanks to
on - ly can des - troy the foe. He on - ly is to



and the sword he cast in - to the rag - ing sea.
him be - long who came to set his peo - ple free.
be a - dored for he a - lone can strength be - stow.

All stand as able.

Celebrant 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.**

All sit.

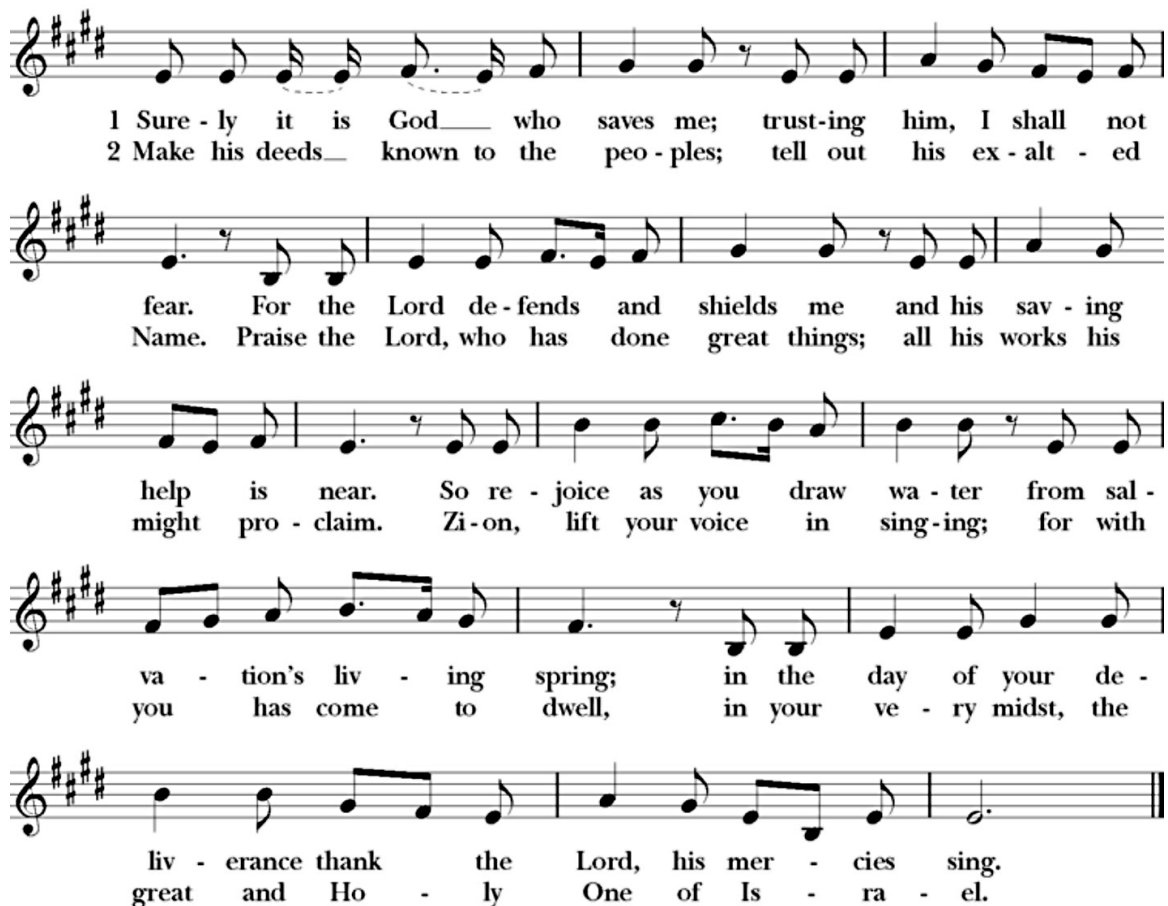
The Third Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-11

Salvation offered freely to all

Reader 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.

Canticle



1 Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed
fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his
help is near. So re - jice as you draw wa - ter from sal -
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with
va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the
liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

All stand as able.

Presider Let us pray. (*silence*) 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.**

All sit.

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.

Psalm 143

The antiphon is sung once by the choir and then by all.



The choir sings verses of Psalm 143 and all respond with the antiphon.

All stand as able.

Celebrant Let us pray. O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant 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.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant 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.**

Presider 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.**
- Presider* 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.**
- Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
- People* **I will, with God's help.**
- Presider* 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* 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.**

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

- Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.
- People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
- Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.
- People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
- Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.
- People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

At the organ fanfare, hand bells may be rung. The candles at the Altar are lit from the Paschal Candle and the lights in the church are raised.

During the singing of the Gloria, the Celebrant sprinkles the congregation with blessed water as a reminder of their baptism and commitment to the work of Christ. The sign of the cross may be made as the droplets of water fall on your head.

The Gloria

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

7. 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.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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 forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Epistle Reading: Romans 6:3-11

Mark Ritter

Reader A reading from Paul's letter to the 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.

Please stand as able.

Sequence Hymn 183

Victimae Paschali laudes

The choir sings:

Christians, to the Paschal victim offer your thankful praises!
A lamb the sheep redeemeth: Christ, who only is sinless,
reconcileth sinners to the Father.
Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous:
the Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.
Speak, Mary, declaring what thou sawest, wayfaring:
“The tomb of Christ, who is living, the glory of Jesus’ resurrection;
bright angels attesting, the shroud and napkin resting.
Yea, Christ my hope is arisen; to Galilee he goes before you.”

All sing:

8. Christ in - deed from death is ris - en, our new life ob - tain - ing,
have mer - cy, vic - tor King, ev - er reign - ing!
A - men. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Rachel Wenner Gardner

Following the sermon, all stand for the Prayers.

The Prayers of the People

Andy Gutknecht

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest.
People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
A brief silence is kept.

Presider Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The people greet one with a sign of God's Peace.

Welcome & Parish Notices

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Presider Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name.

Your financial gifts help the church to serve the community, lift up the faithful, and keep this beautiful building safe. We invite you to give a gift/pledge to the church during the Offertory. If you prefer to give electronically you can text CHT DONATE to 7325 or use the QR Code on page 3.

The Offertory Anthem

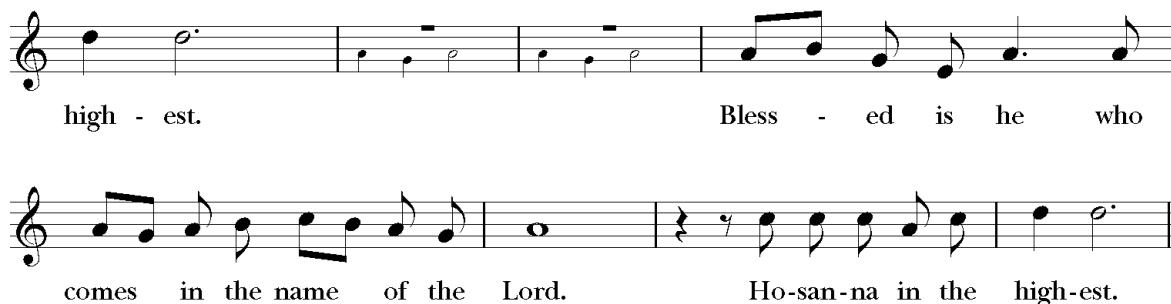
Sing Ye to the Lord

Edward Bairstow

Sing ye to the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously. Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath He cast into the sea.	Mighty Victim from the sky, hell's fierce powers beneath Thee lie; Thou hast conquered in the fight, Thou hast brought us life and light.
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Now no more can death appall,
now no more the grave enthrall;
Thou hast opened Paradise,
and in Thee Thy Saints shall rise.
Alleluia! Amen.

Please stand as able.



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

Celebrant 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:

All **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant 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 Lord's Prayer

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

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem

Cantor
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us

All
keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Celebrant 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.

Distribution of Communion

If you wish to receive communion, please follow the directions of the ushers and come to the altar rail at the front of the church. We will bring communion to those unable to come to the front or those who prefer to stay in their pew. If you need a gluten-free wafer or prefer a blessing, please let the priest know.

The Communion Hymn *(see pages 26 - 27)*

Alexandra

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **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

Celebrant The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

The Dismissal Hymn continues on the next page.



We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em-braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold;
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
 The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God.
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. Al - le -
 Bap-tized we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Christians, to the Paschal Victim

Robert Powell

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PARTICIPANTS

Quinn Gardner, *Crucifer*
 Veronica Aplenc, Margaret Dowling, Sally Griffith, & Andy Gutknecht, *Readers*
 Mark Ritter, *Lector*; Andy Gutknecht, *Intercessor*
 Margaret Dowling, *Usher*

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS 2024

In Memory of Robert & Very Ekeland
by Gretchen Ekeland

*In Memory of Kenneth & Stauffer,
Joseph & Julia Kershitsky, & Mary Ann Blosky*
by Julia Kershitsky

In Honor of Paul R. Noyes
In Memory of Margaret Noyes
& Louise and Richard Lipscomb
by Martha & Thomas Lipscomb

In Memory of Raymond & Marie McKenzie
by Donald McKenzie

In Honor of Family and Friends
& In Memory of Loved Ones
by Michael Lynagh & Peg Mertz

In Memory of Ronald & Mary Jeanne Welsh
& Quinton and Helen Otwell
by Jeannie Welsh & David Otwell

In Memory of Adam & Edna Cunningham
& Adam Cunningham Jr.
by Reaucheane Williams

The Communion Hymn

1. As new-born stars were stirred to song when all things came to
 2. In psalms that raise the sing-er's sense to un-i-vers-al
 3. When God's re-deem-ing Word took flesh to make sal-va-tion
 4. But si-lence won no vic-t'ry there; a rest was all it

be, as Mir-i-am and Mos-es sang when
 truths, in pro-phet's dark-toned o-ra-cle or
 sure, un-heed-ing hearts at-tuned to strife re-
 scored be-fore glad al-le-lu-ias rose to

Is-rael was set free, so mu-sic bursts un-bid-den
 hymn of three brave youths: the song of faith and praise en-
 fused love's o-ver-ture. Yet to the end the song went
 greet the ri-sen Lord. The church still keeps that song a-

forth when God-filled hearts re-joice, to wak-en
 dured through those God called to be a cho-sen
 on: a sup-per's part-ing hymn, a psalm in-
 live, for death has lost its sting, and with the

awe and grat-i-tude and give mute faith a
 peo-ple bearing light for all the world to see.
 toned on dy-ing lips when sun and hope grew
 gift of life re-newed the heart will ev-er

voice.
 see.
 dim.
 sing.

Return to page 23 for the Post-Communion Prayer.

Church of the Holy Trinity, Staff

The Rev. Rachel Wenner Gardner, *Rector*

The Rev. John Gardner, *Rector*

Donald R. Meineke, *Director of Music*

Fatimah Lane, *Director of Operations*

Ellen Miller, *Director of Communications*

Dr. Benjamin Leiby, *Associate Organist*

Karen Majer, *Rentals & House Manager*

Demetrius Swinson, *Assistant to the Dir of Operations*

Inaara Shiraz, *Contracts Manager*

Therese Tiger, Molly Hebert-Wilson, *Reception*

Nabayah Parker, *Child Care Worker*

Boyden Gardner & Connor Gardner, *Streaming Services*

Dr. Stephen Framil, *Musician-in-Residence*

Dr. John French, *Organist/Choirmaster emeritus*

The Choir of Holy Trinity

Gail Caruso, Stephanie DeMane, Will Dowling, Brian Felty, Franny Geller, Andrew Gutknecht, Alyson Harvey, Kate Nicole Hoffman, Samuel Keeler, Thomas Kneeland, John Miles, Titus Muzi, Mike O'Bryan, Aimee Pilgermayer, Eddie Rubeiz, Amanda Staub, & Austin Stewart

Church of the Holy Trinity, Vestry

Simson Hui, *Rector's Warden*

Greg Maughan, *Accounting Warden*

Gail Caruso, *Clerk*

Phillip Duffy, Monica Heuer, Margaret Hughes, Susan Leidy, Martha Lipscomb, Nancy Rasmussen, Ali Shott, & Emily Stromberg

**THE CHURCH OF
THE HOLY TRINITY**
RITTENHOUSE SQUARE

