

# The Church of the Holy Trinity

Rittenhouse Square

## The Great Vigil of Easter

8:00 PM



April 19, 2025

# Welcome! We are glad you are with us today.

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*You can find more information on the back of the bulletin.*

## Our Vivid Vision

*This was created in 2022 in collaboration with the Rectors, Wardens & Vestry and is intended to describe where we will be in 3 years.*

The church is bursting with life. Outside the building, people are talking, resting, and enjoying the weather. Inside, people are coming and going – staff and volunteers connecting and welcoming. Families, students, working professionals, retirees and neighbors mingle with each other, finding resources they need: safety and support, education, and creative outlets. Visitors and members alike find a place to make a difference and share their gifts with each other. The smell of delicious food wafts through the air as the chefs prepare the community meal for the day. Visitors from all over the world are marveling at the beautiful interior of the sanctuary. Worshipers are laughing, singing, praising, and just enjoying being together. The delicate sounds of violin mingle with the robust organ and the echoes of voices. We are more than just a place on the Square. We are an integral part of the neighborhood.

## Core Values

### **Inclusion/Welcome**

We believe that no one should feel left out or alone. We embrace our differences and respect each person within our community. This allows everyone to bring their unique and authentic gifts to further the mission of the church.

### **Innovation**

We are not afraid of trying new things or changing when necessary. If things do not work out, we are open to re-evaluate, learn from our mistakes, and try again.

### **Collaboration**

We listen to and support one another, working and evolving together. We build upon each other's strengths and lift up each other's gifts.

### **Community Mindedness**

Church is not an individual endeavor, but a community experience. We believe that we cannot each succeed or be whole, unless everyone finds success and wholeness.

## Culture

### **Joyful**

We are hopeful, optimistic, and have fun together. Being part of this community gives us joy, and our joy spreads to others and makes us want to share joy with them.

### **Fearless**

We are innovative, purposeful and adaptable. We believe that with God all things are possible and that with prayer and connection to God we will always have enough. We are not afraid of trying new things or of failing. We learn from our mistakes. We reach out to others drawing them in, not waiting for them to find us.

### **Embracing**

We love others, because God loves us. This means that we are accepting, welcoming, open, genuine, and empathetic. We speak the truth in love.

### **Engaged**

Our connection to this organization is full of energy. We give without expectation of return. We continuously learn about the community and our neighbors and adapt our connections as needed. We all contribute our time, money and skills to make our community better.

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.

**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](http://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](http://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 will be given to all in attendance – these will be lighted during the beginning of the service.*

## THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

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*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.*

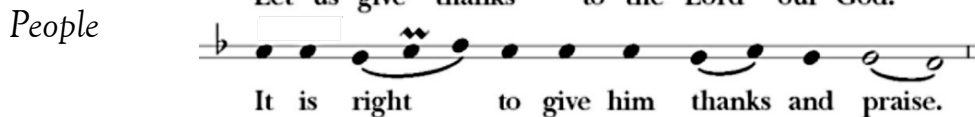
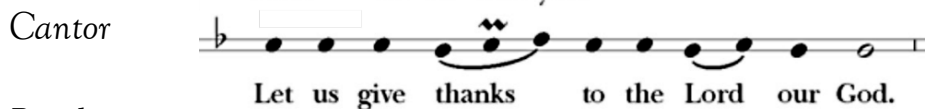
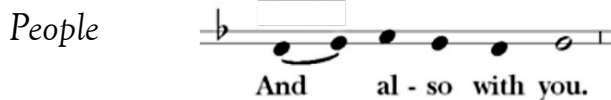
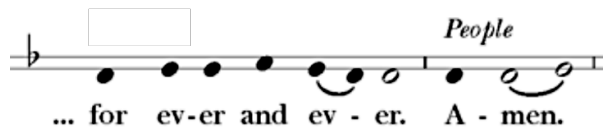
## The Exsultet

*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.

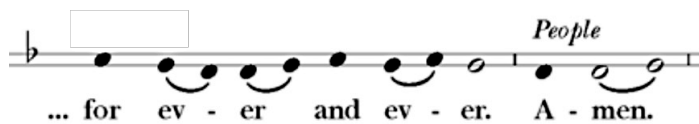
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

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



*Hand candles may be extinguished.*

*The Paschal Candle will continue to burn at all services from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost.*

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

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*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.

*Please sit for the readings.*

*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."

Canticle The Song of Moses

Halifax

1. The Lord I sing, up - lift - ed, high, and pow - er - ful to save; He  
 2. The cha - ri - ots of Pha - roah has he hurled in - to the sea; The  
 3. What gods can be com - pared with you in ho - li - ness and dread? When  
 4. And you will bring them, plant them on the moun - tain called your own, The  
 hurled the rid - er and his horse be - neath the Red Sea's wave. My  
 fin - est arms and ar - my all lie drowned while we walk free. The  
 you stretch forth your might - y arm your en - em - ies fall dead. Yet  
 sanc - tu - ar - y, rest - ing place, which you have made a - lone. For -  
 strength, my re - fuge, Sa - vior, Lord, the God whom I ac - claim, A  
 deep has o - ver - whelmed them all, they sank down like a stone; Your  
 with your con - stant love you led the peo - ple you re - deemed And  
 - ev - er now our God shall reign, the Lord whom we a - dore; All  
 war - rior strong, my peo - ple's God, and Yah - weh is his Name.  
 right hand, Lord, is glo - ri - ous, the foe is o - ver - thrown.  
 brought them safe - ly to the land of which our fa - thers dreamed.  
 glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit ev - er - more.

*All rise in body or in spirit.*

*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 Second Reading:** Isaiah 55: 1-11

*Salvation offered freely to all*

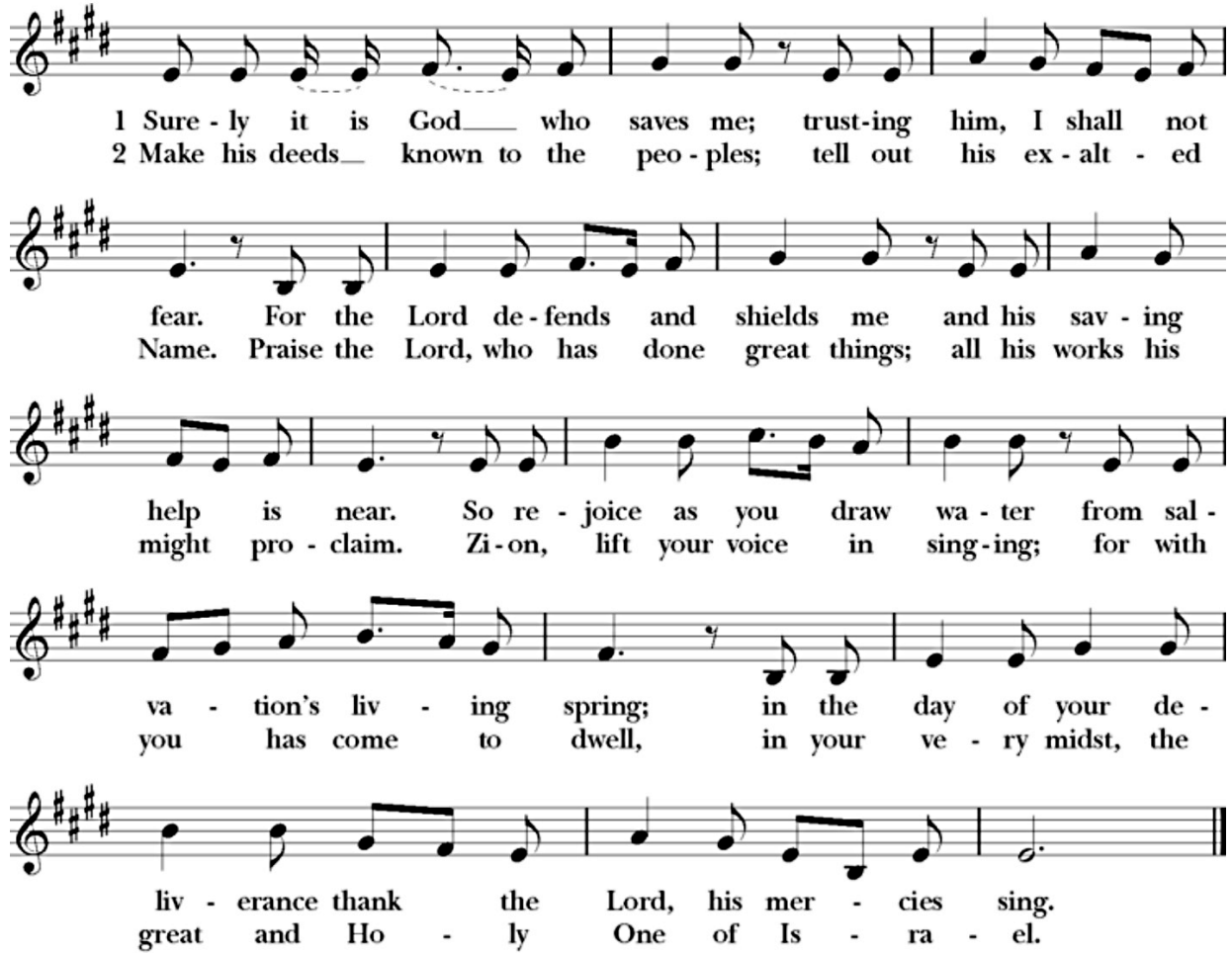
*Reader*

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 The First Song of Isaiah

Thomas Merton



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 - joice 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 rise in body or in spirit.*

*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.*

Say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Psalm 42:1-7

*Martyrdom*

1 As longs the deer for cool - ing streams in  
 2 For thee, my God, the liv - ing God, my  
 3 Why rest - less, why cast down, my soul? Hope

parched and bar - ren ways, so longs my soul, O  
 thirst - y soul doth pine: O when shall I be -  
 still, and thou shalt sing the praise of him who

God, for thee and thy re - fresh - ing grace.  
 hold thy face, thou Ma - jes - ty di - vine?  
 is thy God, thy health's e - ter - nal spring.

*All rise in body or in spirit.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray. *(silence)* Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who are reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

**The Fourth Reading:** Zephaniah 3:14-20

*The gathering of God's people*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.  
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

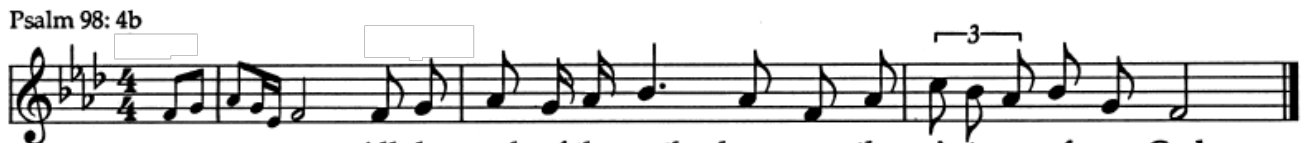
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.  
The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.  
I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.  
And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.  
At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

## Psalm 98

Ionian Psalter

The antiphon is sung once by the choir and then by all. The choir sings verses of Psalm 98 and all sing the antiphon.

Psalm 98: 4b



All the ends of the earth have seen the vic-to-ry of our God.

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

### Antiphon

- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.

### Antiphon

- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

### Antiphon

*All rise in body or in spirit.*

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

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*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.

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### Epistle Reading: Romans 6:3-11

*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.**

All rise in body or in spirit

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: Luke 24:1-12

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

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

### **The Sermon**

*The Rev. John Gardner*

*Following the sermon, all stand for the Prayers.*

### **The Prayers of the People**

*Gail Caruso*

*Leader* O God, we pray for your holy 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**

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### **Offertory Sentence**

*Presider* Radiant God, whose love endures forever, we gather today in the light of resurrection hope, offering these gifts as a response to the abundant grace we have received. In this period of spiritual renewal, may our giving reflect the joy of the empty tomb and the promise of life everlasting. Transform our offerings into acts of love that bring light to the world, just as Christ's light dawned in our hearts. **Amen.** *Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, John 20:1-18*

*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

O Night that is Brighter than the Day

David Hurd

O night that is brighter than the day,  
 O night more dazzling than the sun,  
 O night more sparkling than the snow,  
 O night more brilliant than our lamps!  
 O night that is sweeter than paradise,  
 O night delivered from darkness,  
 O night that dispels sleep,  
 O night that makes us keep vigil with the angels,  
 O night terrible for the demons,  
 O night desired by all the year,  
 O night that leads the bridal Church to her Spouse  
 O night that is mother to those enlightened!  
 O night in which the devil sleeping was despoiled,  
 O night in which the Heir brings the co-heirs to their heritage!

Please stand as able.

Offertory Hymn 187

*Straf nicht*



1 Through the Red Sea brought at last, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Like the cloud that o - ver - head, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 In that cloud and in that sea, Al - le - lu - ia!



E - gypt's chains be - hind we cast, Al - le - lu - ia! Deep and wide  
 through the bil - lows Is - rael led, Al - le - lu - ia! by his tomb  
 bur - ied and bap - tized were we, Al - le - lu - ia! Earth - ly night



flows the tide sev - ering us from bond - age past, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ makes room, souls re - stor - ing from the dead, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 brought us light which is ours e - ter - nal - ly, Al - le - lu - ia!

*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.

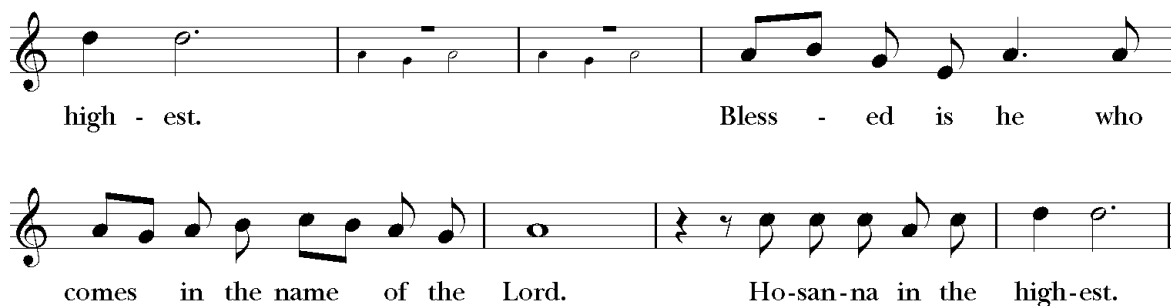
*Celebrant*      It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed 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:

The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the



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

*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

*A period of silence is kept.*

## 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 788

Alexandra



1. As new-born stars were stirred to
2. In psalms that raise the sing-er's
3. When God's re-deem-ing Word took
4. But si-lence won no vic-t'ry



song when all things came to be, as Mir-i-am and Mos-es sang when  
 sense to un-i-vers-al truths, in pro-phet's dark-toned o-ra-cle or  
 flesh to make sal-va-tion sure, un-heed-ing hearts at-tuned to strife re-  
 there; a rest was all it scored be-fore glad al-le-lu-ias rose to



Is-ra-el was set free, so mu-sic bursts un-bid-den forth when God-filled hearts re  
 hymn of three brave youths: the song of faith and praise en-dured through those God called to  
 fused love's o-ver-ture. Yet to the end the song went on: a sup-per's part-ing  
 greet the ri-sen Lord. The church still keeps that song a-live, for death has lost its



- joice, to wak-en awe and grat-i-tude and give mute faith a voice.  
 be a cho-sen peo-ple bearing light for all the world to see. see.  
 hymn, a psalm in-toned on dy-ing lips when sun and hope grew dim.  
 sting, and with the gift of life re-newed the heart will ev-er sing.

*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 blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always.

*People* Amen.

1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!  
 2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst his pri - son,  
 3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,  
 4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,

God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness;  
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;  
 with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;  
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal:

loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
 all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing  
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion  
 but to - day a - midst thine own thou didst stand, be - stow - ing

led them with un - mois - tened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
 from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
 wel - comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' re - sur - rec - tion.  
 that thy peace which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.

Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *St. Kevin*, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900).

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

Acclamations (*Suite Medievale*)

Jean Langlais

**PARTICIPANTS**

Robbin McCarthy, Margaret Dowling, Sally Griffith & Veronica Aplenc, *Readers*  
Andy Gutknecht, *Lector*  
Gail Caruso, *Intercessor*

**EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS 2025**

*In Memory of Ann T. & Charles J. Simpson*  
by Shreve Simpson

*In Memory of My Parents John & Teresa Poko*  
by Jay Poko

*In Memory of*  
*Mary Jeanne & Dr. Ronald A. Welsh*  
*Helen & Quinton Otwell*  
by Jeannie Welsh & David Otwell

*In Memory of Adam & Edna Cunningham*  
*& Adam Cunningham Jr.*  
by Reaucheann Williams

*In Memory of Bob Finn & Constance Orchard*  
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*Roy George Cromwell & Richard John Cromwell*  
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*In Memory of Margaret Noyes*  
by Paul R. Noyes

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*In Memory of Margaret Noyes, Louise Lipscomb &*  
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The Rev. Rachel Wenner Gardner, *Rector*

The Rev. John Gardner, *Rector*

Robbin McCarthy, *Deacon-in-Training*

Benjamin Leiby, *Interim Organist-Choirmaster*

Robyn Schnieders, *Director of Admin & Operations*

Inaara Shiraz, *Director of Communications & Development*

Karen Majer, *Rentals & House Manager*

Demetrius Swinson, *Assistant to the Dir of Operations*

Therese Tiger, Molly Hebert-Wilson *Reception*

Nabayah Parker, *Child Care Worker*

Boyden & Connor Gardner, *Streaming Services*

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

Dr. John French, *Organist-Choirmaster emeritus*

### **The Choir of Holy Trinity**

Gail Caruso, Patricia Conrad, Stephanie DeMane, Will Dowling, Franny Geller, Andrew Gutknecht, Samuel Keeler, Thomas Kneeland, Alex Mathews, John Miles, Mike O'Bryan, Aimee Pilgermayer, Eddie Rubeiz, Erica Rose Smith, Julianna Smith, and Amanda Staub

### **Church of the Holy Trinity, Vestry**

Brian Conroy, Phillip Duffy, Alyssa Force, Monica Heuer, Margaret Hughes, Simson Hui, Susan Leidy, Jeff McEldowney, James Otwell, Ali Shott, Daniel Tancredi, & Karen Vannasall

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