

The Great Vigil of Easter

APRIL **8,** 2023 7:30pm *Welcome to St. George's Episcopal Church* on this special day when we gather to worship God and rejoice at the baptism of these new members into God's household.

"God is love (1 John 4:16)." God loves every man, woman, and child unconditionally and forever. At baptism, God's love for us is not changed — our relationship with him is. Baptism is the way that we are united with the life, death, and Resurrection of Christ "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" (Romans 6:4). Through the power of the Holy Spirit who seals us as his own at baptism, we are adopted by God as his children, we are engrafted into the living spiritual organism that is his Church, and we are empowered to share God's royal status and his ongoing work to redeem the world.

Furthermore, at our baptism, we are not only united with Christ; we are also united with one another through Christ. "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another" (Romans 12:5). Having been adopted through baptism into a family of God's saints that is bigger than we can ever imagine, we are heirs of an experience of life that Jesus described as the kingdom of God, in which we continually grow in an awareness of the love of God that starts today and lasts forever. Our baptism into the life of Jesus Christ gives us the power to love God and to love one another the way God loves us.

Following the ancient practice of the Apostles and the early Church, we baptize infants as well as adults. The gift of salvation and of new life in Christ is a free gift, preceding and making possible our response to it. "We love God because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). In the same way that we were born into earthly life as a gift, so we too are born anew by God into heavenly life as a gift. The spiritual promises that are made on behalf of infants by their parents and godparents at baptism are affirmed when those children mature and are ready to participate in the Rite of Confirmation.

Because of our baptism, even when we feel lonely, we know that are never alone because we trust in the indwelling presence of God. Because of our baptism, even when we feel sad, we know that we can place our hope in God whom we can trust to bring all things to serve his purpose. Because of our baptism, even when we feel weary, we know that we can trust in the power of God's Spirit who will always restore and renew us and will never leave us. All of these gifts, and so many more, are made possible through the gift that God makes of himself to us and to all who receive him at baptism.

A NOTE ON INCENSE Incense is a sign (in sight and smell) of our prayers rising before God, of purification, and of blessing. It also reminds us that in worship, we are covered by and caught up in God's holy presence.

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

The people's responses are in bold.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP, p. 285)

The congregation gathers in the courtyard. In the darkness, fire is kindled, after which the Celebrant says

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

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

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega. All time belongs to him, and all ages. To Him be glory and power through every age forever. **Amen.**

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

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



At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively higher.

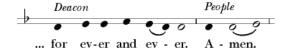
THE EXSULTET Hymnal S69

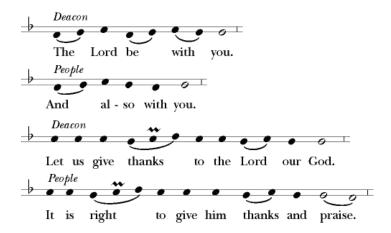
Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

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...





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.

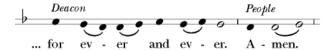
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

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...



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 be seated.

THE FIRST OLD TESTAMENT READING • The Story of Creation

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM • Salvation is created

Woosug Kang Soloist: Shelbi Matthews

Salvation is created in midst of the earth, O God, O our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Please stand, as you are able.

Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE SECOND OLD TESTAMENT READING • Abraham's Sacrifice of Isaac

Genesis 22:1-18

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 16 • Conserva me, Domine

Chant Tone VIII.1 Soloists: Mareike Sattler and Ben Petty

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.

But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

Their libations of blood I will not offer,
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night.

I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Please stand, as you are able.

Let us pray.

God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE THIRD OLD TESTAMENT READING • Salvation Offered Freely to All

Isaiah 55:1-11

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gerry Senechal

Surely, it is God who saves me;

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples;

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,

and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Please stand, as you are able.

Let us pray.

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FOURTH OLD TESTAMENT READING • A New Heart and a New Spirit

Ezekiel 36:24-28

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM • Sicut cervus

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina As the deer longs for the springs of water so my soul longs for thee, O God.

Please stand, as you are able.

Let us pray.

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.**

HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

BCP, p. 301

The congregation rises for the procession to the Baptistry.

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents & Godparents I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented, the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents:

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian

faith and life?

Parents & Godparents I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents & Godparents I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children:

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I renounce them. Answer

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God? Question

I renounce them. Answer

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior? Question

I do. Answer

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love? **Question**

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in

Christ?

People We will.

Celebrant Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal

covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

BCP, p. 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the

prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People I will, with God's help.

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

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human

being?

People I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

BCP, p. 305

Celebrant Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the

power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and

for ever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BCP, p. 306

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM BCP, p. 307

Each candidate is presented by name to the Priest, who then pours water upon the candidate, saying I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. Amen.

The Godparents are presented with a candle, and the Priest says Receive the light of Christ. Bear it faithfully in the world.

After all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER

In celebration of the resurrection, the Church is illumined and a joyful sound is made.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Repeated three times. Candles may be extinguished at this time.

The Celebrant sprinkles the congregation with the water blessed during Holy Baptism, as a reminder of our own baptisms.

HYMN • 207 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

EASTER HYMN

THE COLLECT BCP, p. 295

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE READING Romans 6:3–11

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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."

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

HOMILY The Rev. Dr. David Barr

Please stand, as you are able.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

THE OFFERTORY

Sing ye to the Lord

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.

Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall; Thou hast opened Paradise, and in Thee Thy Saints shall rise. Edward C. Bairstow Choir & Senior Choristers of St. George's

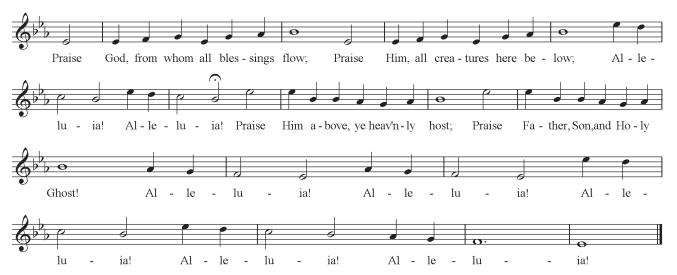
Mighty Victim from the sky, hell's fierce powers beneath Thee lie; Thou hast conquered in the fight, Thou hast brought us life and light;

Thou hast opened Paradise, and in Thee Thy Saints shall rise. Alleluia! Amen.

Please stand, as you are able.

AT THE PRESENTATION Festival Doxology

Laast uns erfreuen



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP, p. 367

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

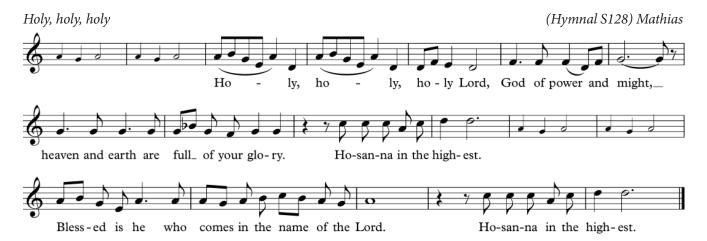
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 we are 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:



Please kneel or remain standing, as you are able.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

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

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE FRACTION ANTHEM

BCP, p. 364



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.

Notes on Receiving Communion All baptized Christians are invited to receive the sacrament, regardless of age or denomination. Those who have not been baptized are welcome to a blessing—indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available at the side station which also serves as an intinction-only station.

MUSIC DURING THE COMMUNION

Now the green blade riseth

arr. Simon Lindley Choir & Senior Choristers of St. George's Soloist: Olivia Troyer ne at Faster, like the risen grain

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green. Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain; Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain, Thinking that never he would wake again, Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, Thy touch can call us back to life again, Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.

Please kneel, as you are able.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP, p. 366

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Please stand, as you are able.

CLOSING HYMN • 205 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

Gelobt sei Gott

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Toccata

Théodore Dubois

WORSHIP NOTES

Clergy The Rev. J. Malone Gilliam, celebrant; the Rev. Dr. David Barr, preacher; the Rev. Margery Kennelly; and the Rev. Sarah Puryear Verger John Lewis

Thurifer David Weeks

Lectors Dyer Rodes, Jan Allison, Mary Jackson, Stan Graham, and Anne Morgan

Lay Eucharistic Ministers Dyer Rodes, Stan Graham, Brian Moore, and Jeff Sullivan

The aumbry candle in the Nave this week is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of George Gilman Robinson Johnson by Lucy, Caroline, George, Nathan, Grace, and David Johnson.

ART NOTE

The detail of Christ from *The Ascension* [2005] by the Rev. John Howard Walstead [1932-2014] (as seen on the cover) features him robed in gold and seated in a blue orb lifted by winged angels. The Rev. John Howard Walstead painted icons such as this work using techniques that combined the traditional with the modern. His style of iconography most closely resembles a technique from the 14th through 16th centuries featuring bold composition, large amounts of gold leaf, and the use of cinnabar, a bright reddish orange pigment made from ground mercury ore mixed with sulphur. He also made his own paints from ground mineral pigments suspended in egg yolk, which acts as a binding medium. Layers of different pigments —from dark to light—create the effects of shading, draped garments, and skin colors. The resulting image seems to radiate light from within, representing the light of God breaking through the darkness. The colors used in iconography also express specific meanings: gold represents Christ and the divine, uncreated light of God himself, and blue represents the heavenly Kingdom of God. This icon was presented to St. George's by parishioners in honor of the Rt. Rev. Bertram Nelson Herlong in 2008. It is permanently on display in the Nave. [Gouache and gilt on panel. 84 x 43 in.]

Welcome to St. George's Thank you for celebrating Easter with us. If you're new to St. George's, we invite you to share more about yourself using a Connect Card. Whether you are here for the day or a regular member of our community, we are delighted to share the feast of the resurrection with you.

A Note about Easter at St. George's Thanks for what you mean to this church and for all the ways you regularly welcome new people into the fold. We know the reality facing families today means that sometimes we arrive at church in multiple vehicles. This year we encourage you, as an act of hospitality to newcomers in our midst, to utilize the overflow parking available on Easter Sunday at Truxton Trust (4525 Harding Pike) and to arrive with just one vehicle per family. You might even decide carpool with a neighbor down the street. Regardless of how you arrive on Easter, we look forward to worshipping together with you on this special day.

Young Adults Concert Event Our young adults have purchased a block of tickets for Andrew Peterson's Resurrection Letters Tour. Space is limited for this concert event on Monday, April 10, at 7:00pm at Belmont's Fisher Center. Buy your ticket at stgeorgesnashville.org/youngadults.

Finding Jesus in Healthcare Bureaucracy, burnout, moral compromise — in contemporary health care, it can be hard to see Jesus. Join us for a free event at St. George's on Tuesday, April 11, at 7:00pm with guest speaker, Dr. Farr Curlin, Co-Director of Duke Divinity School's Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative. He will diagnose the challenges that Christian health care practitioners face and will offer surprising resources for renewing our vocations as healers. Registration is required for this free event. Visit stgeorgesnashville.org/healthcare for details.

Mission Day Serve around our city with family and friends in the spirit of Christian love on Saturday, April 22. Each Mission Day offers a selection of new opportunities to do good work and connect more deeply with our partners and each other. Details and registration are available online at stgeorgesnashville.org/outreach.

St. George's Feast Day Celebration Mark your calendars and save the date for a special fellowship event marking the feast day of St. George. We'll gather outside for food and family fun on Sunday, April 23, from 5:00-7:00pm at the church. Details coming soon – visit the website for more information.

A Gathering for Seniors Seniors are invited for a special fellowship event on Sunday, April 30, at 4:30pm in Johnson Hall prior to Gerry Senechal's organ recital. Bring an appetizer to share. RSVPS requested but not required to reserve@stgeorgesnashville.org or 615-385-2150 x 262. Questions? Contact Evonne Cain at (615) 308-9650.

Dedicatory Organ Recital Featuring Gerry Senechal Our *In Excelsis* Concert Series continues on Sunday, April 30, at 6:00pm with a recital on our new organ, Buzard Opus 48. Donations from this free concert will benefit the Choristers of St. George's in their residency at Canterbury Cathedral this July.

Wednesday Healing Service If you desire prayers for yourself or others, we invite you to our Healing Service every Wednesday at 10:00am in the Chapel. In addition to readings and Eucharist, a priest and a lay person will be present to pray with you for any need including physical, mental, or emotional healing.

Our Little Roses Mission Trip Registration is now open for our summer trip to Our Little Roses home for girls in Honduras June 18-26. Adults and youth are all invited to join us. Registration details are available at stgeorgesnashville. org/news. Contact Kate Meriwether with questions at 615-414-7136.

Youth Amazing Race Team up for a citywide scavenger hunt on Saturday, April 29. Team up with three friends to tackle challenges and solve clues. We'll have prizes for the top three teams and share dinner afterward. Details and registration are online at stgeorgesnashville.org/youth.

Vacation Bible School – Heroes Unite! Join us for another exciting summer at Vacation Bible School. Kids in Pre-K (4) through 4th graders are all invited to join us for a week of Bible stories, music, games, crafts, and much more from Tuesday, July 11, through Friday, July 14. Details and registration are online at stgeorgesnashville.org/children.

More News & Events There are many exciting opportunities to learn and grow in Christ with us at St. George's. Visit our website at stgeorgesnashville.org or contact the church office at 615-385-2150 with questions.

Your Gifts Make a Difference Thank you for supporting St. George's with your financial gifts and pledges. Donations like yours allow us to continue serving this congregation and our community by offering worship services, discipleship opportunities, and mission work. We could not do this work without you. Visit stgeorgesnashville.org/give or use the QR to donate online.

Organ Installation Update

Visible progress is being made on the left side of the organ with the installation of the red pipe shades. The pipe shades match St. George's logo, and John-Paul Buzard applied gold leaf crosses to each piece by hand. Under each pipe shade is a special piece called a sky rack, with notched areas perfectly sized for each façade pipe. Later, the façade pipes will be inserted into each slot of the sky racks.

The flowers today in the Jane Tompkins Weeks Chapel are given to the Glory of God. The Altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of the following:

Bill
Bettye & John Abernathy, Jr.
Joy Bramblett Adams
John & Marie Aden
R. Benton Adkins, Jr.
Margaret Sharp Alsobrook

Craig W. Arnold

Ms. Edith McNeill Ayers

Iris Baker

Dr. Elbert W. Baker, Jr.
Dr. Stephanie Balmer
Jennifer Beemer
Nancy Beemer
Edward M. Benson

Maxwell E. & Katharine D. Benson

Samuel W. Berger, Jr. Ruthe D. Berger Mr. & Mrs. C.D. Berry Dr. & Mrs. Geoffrey Berry

Andrew Berry

Mr. & Mrs. William Croft Bickel Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Stone Boesel

Lee C. Bowden, Jr. Linda Boyer

Monica Joy Bramblett Lynn Price Bramblett, Jr. Lynn Price Bramblett, Sr.

Marcy, Ethel, and Seawell Brandau

Kevin Briordy

Ardyth Rose Broadbent Andrea Jeannine Broadbent

John Edward Cain

Mr. & Mrs. Wentworth Caldwell, Sr.

Edna Campbell

Mary DeLacy Ferris Cate

Carolyn Bass & George H. Cate, Jr.

Merida Oman Chambers Anthony Champion John R. (Ro) Cheadle III Evans M. Clements, Jr.

Dan Cole

Elizabeth Cate Collins
William Hudson Coombs
Hudson Wyatt Coombs
Jane Phillips Coombs
Ellie & George Copeland
Robert Newman Covington
Deborah Allen Coward
Jackson Bramblett Cox
Janis Langley Cox
Edward Nelson Cox

Polly Nelson Craig Wade M. Craig, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Creagh Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Elrod, Jr. Mary MacLeod Lines Cummings

Joseph G. Cummings Mary Armistead Cummins

J. Dewey Daane

Cyril Francis Damon, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. James Davis
Mary Katherine Davis
Keith L. Davis, MD
Michael Davis, MD
Keith & Eddie DeMoss
Cynthia Hathaway Donnelly

Charlene Rice Elliott
Bonnie Reed Ewing

Jess David Ewing

Ben Farrell Lavinia Iones Fillebrown

Thomas Scott Fillebrown, Jr. Charlotte Brown Fitzgerald John David Fitzgerald, Sr.

Marta Folino Thelma Fowler Robert A. Gates Jane Gates Beverly Gates

Jennie Anne Walker Harris Mr. & Mrs. Paul Harris

Tootie Haskins

Ruth & Carl Henning Frances & Tom Herbert Sue Ellenburg Hight

Lois Holt

Helen Chelsea Howard Evelyn & Bob Huntley Mary H. Hussey Mabel Jackson Jessie Jackson

Connie & Bob Jackson

Mr. & Mrs. John R. Jackson, Jr.

Mr. John R. Jackson III The Rev. K. Logan Jackson Dr. Thomas & Mrs. Pat Jackson

June Johnson Walter Johnson John M. Tudor, Jr. Elizabeth L. Kamm

Mr. & Mrs. Hank Kennett Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Laine Birdie Lane

Mr. & Mrs. John Holliday Lewis The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Stiles B. Lines Martha Hackney Livengood

Raymond H. Livengood, LTC

Scott Hunt Livengood

Stephen Logan

Marjorie Helen Maxwell Mr. John Edward McGovern, Jr. Nancy Vaughn McGregor Dr. Alexander McLeod

Dr. Alexander McLeod
Jane Clements McMackin
David Wilson McMackin
Richard Clements McMackin
Mr. & Mrs. William Clark Menge

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Mitchiner David Whittier Morrill

Lindo & Mary Lee Nangeroni Evelene & George Neel

George Nelbach Elizabeth Nelbach

Marion Latta Cummings Nelson

Dr. Tom Nesbitt, Sr. Elizabeth Nesbitt

Marjorie & Duane Norman Merida Blanco Oman John Randall Orth Margorie W. Orth Violet Parrish G. Roger Peek George W. Peek

Joe & Virginia Pendergrass

Mike Pendergrass

Mary Knox & Fred Pilkerton

Lyle & Dorothy Pitts Ellin-Kelly Donnelly Price Jeanette & David Proctor, Jr.

Elizabeth Proctor Glyn Proctor

Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Morgan Radcliff

Emmett and Jeanne Reese Kenneth Lewis Roberts

Milly Rodes

Alice Morrill Roehl
Daisy Sargent
Cooper M. Schley

Dr. John & Mrs. Elizabeth Schweikert

Ellen & Henry Shimmin Margaret & Gordon Shivas

Colin Roy Silvester Freda May Silvester Gladys & Frederick Silvester

Glenn & Clara Sitz Harriette Skinner James A. Skinner John Elliott Sloan, Jr. John Ethan Giles Sloan Doris & David Smith Carolyn Oman Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Green W. Smitheal, Jr.

Mr. Green W. Smitheal III Martha & Dan Snyder

Dan Snyder

Louisa Keesee Sowers

Effie Speidel

Hayes Noel Springer Randall & Cleone Stewart

Frances M. Stewart Barbara Oman Sullivan Nancy H. Thomas

Mary Gordon Thompson

Gill Thompson Otis Thrasher

Mary Louise Lea & Dr. Cromwell

Tidwell, Jr.

Dorothy Johnson Townsend

Harold Doris Townsend

Lillian Dale Trabue

Lucinda Thornton Trabue

William Dunn Trabue

Caroline Gray Trabue

Laurence O'Bryan Trabue

Malone Trabue

Nelson Thornton Trabue, Sr.

Jane Carlisle Trabue John Dunn Trabue

John Milton Tudor, Sr.

Grace Ryan Tudor

Hazel Baker Tudor

Debby Tully

Jim Tygret

Mr. & Mrs. George Henry Tyne

O.T. Vandewater

Betty Vandewater

Mr. & Mrs. J.O. Walker, Jr.

Louise B. Wallace

Ed & Peg Waltemath

Terry Waltemath

Rev. Dr. Glenda Stanton Webb

Jack & Mary Whaley

W. David White

Jennifer Whittington

Jean & Wendell Wilber

William James & Dorothea

Witherspoon

Donald R. Wood

Nan & Pops

Grandmother & Grandaddy

Loved Ones Our Parents

In honor of the following:

Lavinia Ruth Barnacastle

Kim & Jimmy Holbrook

Terence Fails, Sr.

Alexandra Katherine Fitzgerald

Lillian Irene Fitzgerald

Hope M. Logan

John Bernard Murphy III

William Trabue Murphy

Thomas Hull Palmer

The Rev. Dr. Leigh Spruill

Mrs. Charlotte White

The Rev. Malone Gilliam, The Rev.

Colin Ambrose, and all of the St.

George's Clergy

Our Family

Our Grandchildren: Alys, Ford,

Emma, Milly, Henry, Jack, and Reed

In thanksgiving for the following:

Laura Jeanne, Ava, Deacon, and

Tennessee

Our Grandchildren: Mimi, Sophie, Ella

Grace, Elle, Helen, and Rye

STAFF MINISTRY TEAM

The Rev. J. Malone Gilliam, Rector
The Rev. Colin Ambrose, Vice Rector & Chief of Staff
The Rev. Dr. David Barr, Associate Rector
The Rev. Dr. Chris Jones, Associate Rector
The Rev. Margery Kennelly, Associate Rector
The Rev. Richard Kew, Priest Associate
The Ven. Dr. Martin Odidi, Priest Associate
The Rev. Sarah Puryear, Priest Associate
The Rev. Roger Senechal, Priest Assoc. for Senior Ministries
The Rev. Tim Taylor, Priest Associate

Dr. Woosug Kang, Dir. of Music Ministries
Gerry Senechal, Assoc. Dir. of Music Ministries & Organist
Becca Jordan, Music Leader for The Table
Dr. Wilma Jensen, Organist/Choirmaster Emerita
Martha Rodes, Dir. of Lay Ministry Engagement
Robin Puryear, Dir. of Pastoral Care
Agatha Nolen, Dir. of Outreach
Cate Jones, Dir. of Children's & Family Ministries
Daniel Huff, Dir. of Youth Ministries
Catherine Beemer, Dir. of Parish Giving
Rebecca Teel, Dir. of Communications
Laura Zabaski, Parish Administrative Officer

2023 VESTRY

Jan Callen, Senior Warden David Silvester, Junior Warden Stephanie Gillmor, Welcoming Commissioner Emily Walker, Fellowship Commissioner Jonathan Morphett, Outreach Commissioner

Patricia Haeberle
Amy Harwell
Kate Meriwether
Will Newman
Hudson Walker
Breck Wheeler
Greg Wilber
Bob Van Cleave, Treasurer
Leslie Ann Wilson, Clerk

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We want to know you and help you feel at home here. Scan this QR code or visit stgeorgesnashville.org/contact to tell us about you and your family.



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Podcast | Sermons from St. George's



YouTube | St. George's Nashville



If you have a "T" switch that is compatible with audio induction systems on your hearing aids, you may switch it on to hear the service better.



Using a smartphone and headphones or a Bluetooth-enabled hearing device, you can tune into the service using AudioFetch. Connect to the Wi-Fi network called

AudioFetchExpress, then open the AudioFetch app to start listening.

SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30am, 8:45am, and 11:00am | Holy Eucharist 9:00am | The Table 5:00pm | Evening Prayer with Holy Eucharist WEEKDAY SERVICES (CHAPEL) 7:00am Monday - Saturday | Holy Eucharist 10:00am Wednesday | Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer

