

Holy Trinity
Headington Quarry



Easter Vigil and
First Eucharist of Easter

Introduction

The oldest feature of the celebration of Easter is a vigil of watching and waiting, which in early times the church kept throughout the night, meditating on the mighty acts of God in the scriptures, and praying until dawn, when Christ's resurrection was acclaimed.

We begin the service outside the church by lighting the new fire, from which we light the new Easter candle. We all follow the deacon into the totally dark church proclaiming "The Light of Christ". The dramatic experience of seeing the single flame light up a dark church is very moving in the way it signifies how the light of Christ can conquer all darkness.

The "Exsultet", the ancient proclamation of Easter is sung by the deacon and we then take part in the vigil of readings and sung responses, this year exploring the theme of celebrating baptism.

Finally "Christ is risen!" is proclaimed and the church erupts in sound and light as we joyfully sing the Gloria once again. After hearing the Easter gospel reading, we gather round the font, renew our baptismal vows and are sprinkled with water from the font.

Finally we celebrate our first Easter Eucharist with a sense of so much greater joy, having walked with Christ through all the stages of his passion through the week.

*For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;
Christ is risen from the dead and his flame of love still burns
within us!
Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!*

Picturing the Passion: Holy Week through our Church Building

Our focus for prayer and reflection at this service is the Organ, restored to our use this evening. The organ was built and installed in the 90s by the masterful Kenneth Tickell, with angels adorning the top of the organ pipes designed by then curate Elias Polomski: the angelic trumpets appear to ring with each note. On this night when we sing again the Easter song, our organ is a symbol of, not only the many gifts of our resident musicians, but also our call to join in the heavenly worship and to proclaim: 'we are an Easter people, and alleluia is our song!'

The Service of Light

The ministers go in silence to the main entrance, the deacon carrying the unlit Easter Candle.

All stand and face the ministers. The presiding minister says:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
on this most holy night,
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,
the Church invites her children throughout the world
to come together in vigil and prayer.
This is the Passover of the Lord.
We remember his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries,
confident that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever in God.

Blessing of the fire

Let us pray.

Eternal God,
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light,
+ make this new fire holy
set us aflame with the fire of your love,
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Marking of the Paschal Candle

The Paschal candle is blessed

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

Amen

The candle is lowered to touching height and the five 'nails' are inserted

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

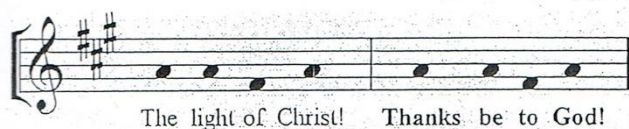
The president lights the Easter candle, saying

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

The congregation enter the building and take their place, turning to face the entrance. All lights are turned off.

The deacon enters the building carrying the candle, followed by the other ministers, and they pause at the start of the aisle.

The deacon raises the candle and sings:



The procession of the Easter Candle moves to the centre of the building and then stops. The versicle and response are repeated, and the candles of those around are lit from the Easter Candle.

The procession continues to the front of the building and stops once more. The versicle and response are again repeated, the Easter Candle is placed on a stand by the lectern and all other candles are lit.

We sit or stand as the deacon or another minister sings the ancient Easter hymn of praise, the Exsultet.

The Exsultet

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
O Universe, dance around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory,
revealing the splendour of your creation
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!
Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!
Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

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 thanks and praise.

It is right and good that with hearts and minds and voices
we should praise you,
Father almighty, the unseen God,
through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who has saved us by his death,
paid the price of Adam's sin,
and reconciled us once again to you.

For this is the Passover feast,
when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain,
whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

This is the night when you first saved our ancestors,
freeing Israel from her slavery
and leading her safely through the sea.

This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell,
broke the chains of death
and rose triumphant from the grave.

This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin,
restored to grace and holiness,
and share the victory of Christ.

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost;
beyond our deepest dreams
you made even our sin a happy fault.

Most blessed of all nights
Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away,
lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

Night truly blessed, when hatred is cast out,
peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth
and all creation reconciled to you.

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering.
Grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light.

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;
Christ is risen from the dead and his flame of love still burns
within us!

Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!

Amen.

The Vigil

The president introduces the Vigil

As we await the risen Christ let us recall how he saved his people in ages past and in the fullness of time sent his Son to be our redeemer; and let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work that he has begun.

Reading: Genesis 7:1-5, 17-18; 8:13-14; 9:8, 11-13

Then the LORD said to Noah, 'Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.' And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

The flood continued for forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters.

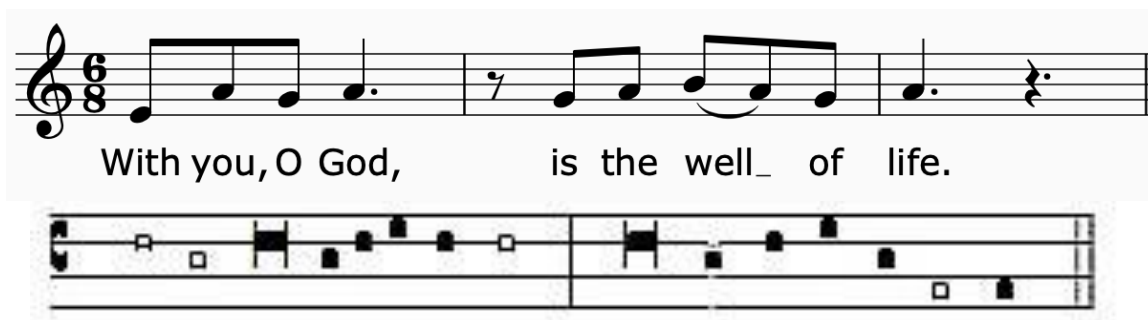
In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

A Song of God's Sovereignty



Refrain: With you, O God...

1 Sin whis- | pers to the wicked, in the depths of their heart :
there is no fear of God be-fore their^eyes.

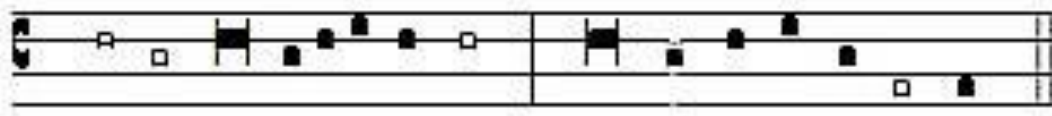
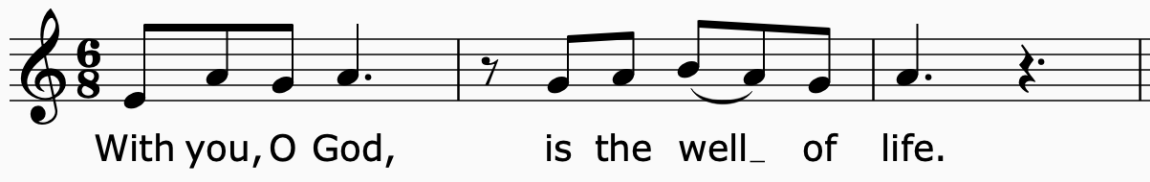
2 They flatter themselves in their own eyes :
that their abominable sin will not be found out.

3 The words of their mouth are unrighteous and full of deceit :
they have ceased to act wise-ly and to do good.

4 They think out mischief upon their beds *
and have set themselves in no good way :
nor do they abhor that which is ev-il.

Refrain: With you, O God...

5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heav-ens :
and your faith-ful-ness tō the clouds.



6 Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains, *
 your justice like the great deep :
 you, Lord, shall save both män and beast.

Refrain: With you, O God...

7 How precious is your loving mer-cy, O God! :
 All mortal flesh shall take refuge
 under the sha-dow of your^wings.

8 They shall be satisfied with the abundance of your house :
 they shall drink from the ri-ver of your de-lights.

9 For with you is the well of life :
 and in your light shall we see light.

Refrain: With you, O God...

Psalm 36.1-9

Collect

Grant Lord that we
 who are baptized into the death
 of your son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
 may continually put to death our evil desires
 and be buried with him;
 and that through the grave and gate of death
 we may pass to our joyful resurrection;
 through his merits,
 who died and was buried and rose again for us,
 your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit

Reading: Exodus 14:10-15:1a

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What

have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.' But Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.'

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the

sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:
 'I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
 horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The Song of Moses and Miriam

The Lord is my strength and my song: and has be come my sal-va - tion.

Refrain: The Lord is my strength...

1 I will | sing to the Lord, who has triumphed glor-ious[^]ly :
 the horse and his rider he has thrown in-to[^]the sea.

2 The Lord is my strength and my song :
 and has become my sal-va-tion.

3 This is my God whom I will praise :
 the God of my forebears whom I will[^]ex-alt.

Refrain: The Lord is my strength...

4 The Lord is a war-ri[^]or :
 the Lord is his name.

5 Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in po-wer :
 your right hand, O Lord, shatters the en[^]e-my.

6 At the blast of your nostrils, the sea cov-ered^them :
they sank as lead in the might-y waters.

Refrain: The Lord is my strength...

7 In your unfailing love, O Lord :
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.

8 And by your invincible strength :
you will guide them to your ho-ly dwelling.

9 You will bring them in and plant them, O Lord :
in the sanctuary which your hands have est-ab-lished.

Refrain: The Lord is my strength...

Exodus 15.1b-3,6,10,13,17

Collect

Lord God our redeemer
Who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to
lead them out of slavery: free us from the tyranny of sin and
death and, by the leading of your Spirit,
bring us to our promised land.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please sit

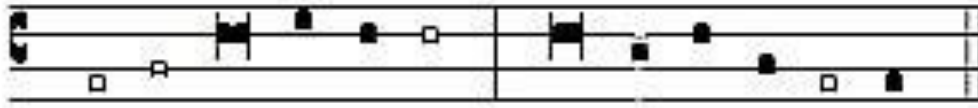
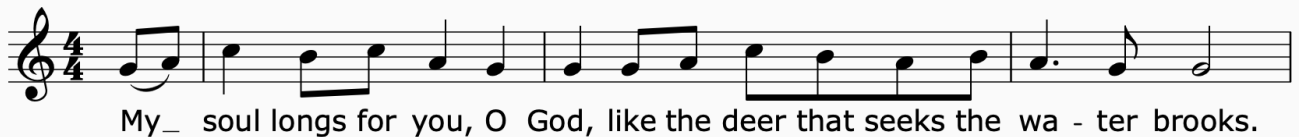
Reading – Ezekiel 36:24-28

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.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

Please stand

A Song of Trust in God



Refrain: My soul longs for you...

- 1 As the | deer longs for the wa-ter^brooks, :
so longs my soul for you, O^God.
- 2 My soul is athirst for God, even for the liv-ing^God :
when shall I come before the pre-sence of God?
- 3 My tears have been my bread day and night, :
while all day long they say to me, 'Where is now your^God?'

Refrain: My soul longs for you...

- 4 Now when I think on these things, I pour out my soul :
how I went with the multitude
and led the procession to the house of^God,
- 5 With the voice of praise and thanks-giv-ing, :
among those who kept ho-ly^day.

Refrain: My soul longs for you...

- 6 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, :
and why are you so dis-qui-et-ed within me?
- 7 O put your trust in God :
for I will yet give him thanks, *
who is the help of my coun-te-nance, and my God.

Refrain: My soul longs for you...

Psalm 42.1-7

Collect

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you gave to your faithful people new life
in the water of baptism.

Guide and strengthen us by the same spirit,
that we who are born from above
may serve you in faith and love,
and grow into the full stature of your son, Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
now and forever. **Amen.**

Please sit

Reading: Jonah 1:1-7, 10-17

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, 'Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.' But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. The captain came and said to him, 'What are you doing sound asleep? Get up, call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish.'

The sailors said to one another, 'Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.' So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.

Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, 'What is this that you have done!' For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them so.

Then they said to him, 'What shall we do to you, that the sea may quieten down for us?' For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. He said to them, 'Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quieten down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you.' Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. Then they cried out to the LORD, 'Please, O LORD, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.' So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the

sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made VOWS.

But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights.

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

A Song of Jonah

My prayer came to you in your ho-ly tem-ple, and you brought up my life from the depths.

The image shows a musical score for a song. The top part is a vocal line in 6/8 time, with six numbered measures. The lyrics are: "My prayer came to you in your ho-ly tem-ple, and you brought up my life from the depths." Below the vocal line is a piano accompaniment line with a few notes and rests.

Refrain: My prayer came to you...

1 I called | to you, O God, out of my distress
and you an-swered^me :
out of the belly of Sheol I cried, *
and you heard my voice.

2 You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, :
and the flood surrounded me, *
all your waves and billows passed ov-er me.

Refrain: My prayer came to you...

3 Then I said, I am driven away from your sight :
how shall I ever look again upon your ho-ly temple?

4 The waters closed in over me, *
the deep was round ab-out me :
weeds were wrapped around my head
at the roots of the moun-tains.

5 I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me
for ev-er, :
yet you brought up my life from the depths, O God.

Refrain: My prayer came to you...

6 As my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, O God, :
and my prayer came to you, into your ho-ly tem-ple.

7 With the voice of thanksgiving, I will sacrifice to you :
what I have vowed I will pay;
deliverance belongs to the Lord!

Refrain: My prayer came to you...

Jonah 2.2-7,9

Collect

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens
and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved son:
by the power of your spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Easter Acclamation

The president says

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A joyful fanfare may be played, bells rung, cymbals clashed, noise made! The Gloria in Excelsis is sung, during which the lights are switched on and the stone of the tomb is rolled away.

The people's candles are extinguished.

Firmly (♩ = 108)

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on

6 earth. Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and

10 Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your

14 *mf*
 glo-ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the
 20
 Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
 25 *p* *cresc.*
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are sea - ted at the
 29 *f*
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For
 33
 you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 37
 you a - lone are the most high, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 41 *ff*
 Spi - rit, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - - - men.

The Collect

God of glory,
 by the raising of your Son
 you have broken the chains of death and hell.
 Fill your Church with faith and hope;
 for a new day has dawned,
 and the way to life stands open
 in our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Please remain standing for the Easter gospel

Gospel Reading John 20:1-9

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

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
 I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you O Lord

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Please sit

Homily

Homily read at Easter Midnight in the Orthodox Church

If any be a devout lover of God, let them partake with gladness from this fair and radiant feast.

If any be a faithful servant, let them enter rejoicing into the joy of their Lord.

If any have wearied themselves with fasting, let them now enjoy their reward.

If any have laboured from the first hour, let them receive today their rightful due. If any have come after the third, let them celebrate the feast with thankfulness. If any have arrived after the sixth, let them not be in doubt, for they will suffer no loss.

If any have delayed until the ninth, let them not hesitate but draw near. If any have arrived only at the eleventh, let them not be afraid because they come so late.

For the Master is generous and accepts the last even as the first. He gives rest to them who come at the eleventh hour in the same way as to those who have laboured from the first. He accepts the deed, and commends the intention.

Enter then, all of you, into the joy of our Lord. First and last, receive alike your reward. Rich and poor, dance together. You who have fasted and you who have not fasted, rejoice today. The table is fully laden: let all enjoy it. The calf is fatted: let none go away hungry.

Let none lament their poverty; for the universal Kingdom is revealed. Let none bewail their transgressions; for the light of forgiveness has risen from the tomb. Let none fear death; for the death of the Saviour has set us free.

He has destroyed death by undergoing death.

He has despoiled hell by descending into hell.

Hell was filled with bitterness when it met thee face-to-face below:

filled with bitterness, for it was brought to nothing;

filled with bitterness, for it was mocked;

filled with bitterness, for it was overthrown;

filled with bitterness, for it was put in chains.

It received a body, and encountered God.

It received earth, and confronted heaven.

O death, where is thy sting? O hell, where is thy victory?

Christ is risen, and thou art cast down.

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen.

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice.

Christ is risen, and life reigns in freedom.

Christ is risen, and there is none left dead in the tomb.

For Christ, being raised from the dead, has become the first-fruits of those that slept. To him be glory and Dominion to the ages of ages. Amen.

Attributed to St John Chrysostom

from Every, G., Harries, R., and Ware, K. (eds), Seasons of the Spirit (London: SPCK, 1984). Translation slightly altered in the interests of gender inclusivity.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

We gather round the font as we sing:

Theme A

The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in
God I trust, in God I trust. The

The President says

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the Easter mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life within the family of his church. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask.

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

May almighty God
who has given you the desire to follow Christ
give you the strength to continue in the way.

Prayer over the Water

Water is poured into the font.

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ
was baptized in the river Jordan.
we thank you for the gift of water
to cleanse us and revive us.
Saving God: **give us life.**

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea
you led your people out of slavery
to freedom in the promised land.
Saving God: **give us life.**

We thank you that through the deep waters
of death you brought your Son,
and raised him to life in triumph.
Saving God: **give us life.**

+Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it
may be made one with Christ in his death
and in his resurrection,
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.
Saving God: **give us life.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon them,
bring them to new birth in the household of faith,
and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;
for all might, majesty, authority, and power are yours,
now and for ever.
Saving God: **give us life.**

Affirmation of Faith

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his son Jesus Christ?
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit
**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. Amen**

Water is sprinkled from the font. We sing a hymn.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.
Melt us, mould us, fill us, use us,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

Daniel Iverson, © 1935, Birdwing Music

The president says

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you!' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may share the peace as we return to our seats.

Hymn 211

Now is eternal life,
if ris'n with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
and held within his hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.

Man long in bondage lay,
brooding o'er life's brief span;
was it, O God, for naught,
for naught, thou madest man?
Thou art our hope, our vital breath;
shall hope undying in death?

And God, the living God,
stooped down to man's estate;
by death destroying death,
Christ opened wide life's gate.
He lives, who died; he reigns on high;
who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine,
reign thou within my heart;
from thee nor depth nor height,
nor life nor death can part;
my life is hid in God with thee,
now and through all eternity.

George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and on this night of our redemption
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers
of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

Easily (♩ = 100) *mp* UPPER VOICES ONLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly_ Lord,

mf ALL *cresc.*

God of power and might, God of power and might,

f

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

ff

san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Quiet and reflective ($\text{♩} = 100$)

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
 As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
 you embraced a people as your own.
 When they turned away and rebelled
 your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
 to be the living bread,
 in whom all our hungers are satisfied.
 He offered his life for sinners,
 and with a love stronger than death
 he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
 he came to supper with his friends
 and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
 He broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
 do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
 he gave you thanks, 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.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

Firmly **CONGREGATION**
f legato

Lord, by your cross and re - sur - rec - tion you have set us
free. You are the Sa - viour of the world.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us
at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with the Blessed Virgin Mary
and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

Conclusion: (Prayers A, D & G)

Firmly **CONGREGATION**
f legato

Bles - sing and hon - our and glo - ry and power be
yours for e - ver and e - ver. A - men.

Please sit or kneel

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
as our saviour taught us, so we pray
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen**

Breaking of the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Agnus Dei

Gently flowing ($\text{♩} = 63$)

mf CONGREGATION

Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world: have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

p Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
a little slower

Grant us, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell.
Fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned,
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hymn 203

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

The Lord of life is risen for ay:
bring flowers of song to strew his way;
let all the earth rejoice and say

Praise we in songs of victory
that Love, that Life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high

Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing to-day with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:

Cyril Argentine Alington (1872-1955)

The Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life.
Amen.

God the Son,
Who, in bursting from the grave,
has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.