

Holy Trinity Parish
Hillsdale, Michigan



"The Burial of Christ"
Titian, 1559, oil on canvas, Museo del Prado, Madrid, Spain

Vigil Office of Easter
April 10, 2020

*"For he is the true Paschal Lamb, the very Lamb of God whose blood
marks the doorposts of believers and makes us holy" ~ the Exsultet*

THE VIGIL OFFICE OF EASTER

INVITATION and OPENING PRAYER (*standing*)

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church doth bid 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.

May the light of Christ, gloriously rising, dispel all darkness from our hearts and minds. **Amen.**

EXSULTET (Latin: "Rejoice") (*standing*)

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King. Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King. Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people. All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit - it.

Celebrant *People*

Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God. It is meet and right so to do.

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; who paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, the very Lamb of God whose blood marks the doorposts of believers and makes us holy.

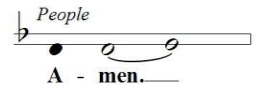
This is the night, when you brought our forefathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night when with a pillar of fire you banished the darkness of our iniquity. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from 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. Our birth would have been no gain had we not been redeemed.

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. O wonderful providence of Adam's sin destroyed completely by the death of Christ. O happy fault, which gained for us so great a glorious a Redeemer.

This is the night of which it is written: the night shall be as bright as the day. 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.

Therefore, O Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor, the gift of your most holy Church. May it mingle with the lights of heaven, and shine continually to drive away

all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning – he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



INTRODUCTION TO THE SCRIPTURE READINGS *(standing)*

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.

FIRST LESSON **The Story of Creation**

Reader: E. Fredericks

Genesis 1:1-2:3

^{1:1} In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ² And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. ⁵ And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. ⁶ And God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." ⁷ And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. ⁸ And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. ⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear," and it was so. ¹⁰ And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good. ¹¹ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth," and it was so. ¹² And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good. ¹³ And the evening and the morning were the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: ¹⁵ and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth," and it was so. ¹⁶ And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. ¹⁷ And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And the evening and the morning were the fourth day. ²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven." ²¹ And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth." ²³ And the evening and the morning were the fifth day. ²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind," and it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good. ²⁶ And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. ²⁸ And God blessed them, and God said unto them, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat," and it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. ^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

² And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. ³ And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM **136:1-9, 23-26** (*standing*) *Plainsong, Tone III A 6 and Tone I B 8, sung by Henry Brink*

- 1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is gracious: * and his mercy endureth for ever.
- 2 O give thanks unto the God of all gods: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 3 O thank the LORD of all lords: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 4 Who only doeth great wonders: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 5 Who by his excellent wisdom made the heavens: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 6 Who laid out the earth above the waters: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 7 Who hath made great lights: * for his mercy endureth for ever:
- 8 The sun to rule the day: * for his mercy endureth for ever;
- 9 The moon and the stars to govern the night: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 23 Who remembered us when we were in trouble: * for his mercy endureth for ever;
- 24 And hath delivered us from our enemies: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 25 Who giveth food to all flesh: * for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 26 O give thanks unto the God of heaven: * for his mercy endureth for ever.

COLLECT

Let us pray. (*while the People stand, a period of silence will be kept, after which the Officiant prays*)

O God, who didst wonderfully create, and yet more wonderfully restore, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

SECOND LESSON **The Fall**

Reader: C. Humphrey

Genesis 3

^{3:1} Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, “Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?” ² And the woman said unto the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: ³ but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.” ⁴ And the serpent said unto the woman, “Ye shall not surely die: ⁵ for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. ⁷ And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. ⁸ And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. ⁹ And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, “Where art thou?” ¹⁰ And he said, “I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” ¹¹ And he said, “Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?” ¹² And the man said, “The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.” ¹³ And the LORD God said unto the woman, “What is this that thou hast done?” And the woman said, “The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.” ¹⁴ And the LORD God said unto the serpent, “Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her

seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” ¹⁶ Unto the woman he said, “I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.” ¹⁷ And unto Adam he said, “Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; ¹⁸ thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; ¹⁹ In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.” ²⁰ And Adam called his wife’s name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them. ²² And the LORD God said, “Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever.” ²³ Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. ²⁴ So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 32 (*standing*)

Plainsong, Tone I A 8, sung by Rebecca Houghton

- 1 Blessed is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven, * and whose sin is covered.
- 2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth no sin, * and in whose spirit there is no guile.
- 3 For whilst I held my tongue, * my bones consumed away through my daily complaining.
- 4 For thy hand was heavy upon me day and night, * and my moisture was like the drought in summer.
- 5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee; * and mine unrighteousness have I not hid.
- 6 I said, I will confess my sins unto the LORD; * and so thou forgavest the wickedness of my sin.
- 7 For this shall every one that is godly make his prayer unto thee, in a time when thou mayest be found; * surely the great water-floods shall not come nigh him.
- 8 Thou art a place to hide me in; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; * thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.
- 9 I will inform thee, and teach thee in the way wherein thou shalt go; * and I will guide thee with mine eye.
- 10 Be ye not like to horse and mule, which have no understanding; * whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle, else they will not obey thee.
- 11 Great plagues remain for the ungodly; * but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD, mercy embraceth him on every side.
- 12 Be glad, O ye righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; * and be joyful, all ye that are true of heart.

COLLECT

Let us pray. (*while the People stand, a period of silence will be kept, after which the Officiant prays*)

O God, who didst send thy blessed Son, the seed of the woman, that he might crush the serpent’s head and make all creation new: Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure; that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THIRD LESSON The Sacrifice of Isaac

Reader: Sh. Tone

Genesis 22:1-18

^{22:1} And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, “Abraham,” and he said, “Behold, here I am.” ² And he said, “Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.” ³ And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young

men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. ⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. ⁵ And Abraham said unto his young men, “Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.” ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, “My father,” and he said, “Here am I, my son.” And he said, “Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸ And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering.” So they went both of them together. ⁹ And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, “Abraham! Abraham!” and he said, “Here am I.” ¹² And he said, “Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.” ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day: “In the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” ¹⁵ And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, ¹⁶ and said, “By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: ¹⁷ that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; ¹⁸ and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 16 (*standing*)

Plainsong, Tone VIII.5, sung by Molly Buccola

- 1 Preserve me, O God; * for in thee have I put my trust.
- 2 O my soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, * ‘Thou art my God; I have no good like unto thee.’
- 3 All my delight is upon the saints that are in the earth, * and upon such as excel in virtue.
- 4 But they that run after another god * shall have great trouble.
- 5 Their drink-offerings of blood will I not offer, * neither make mention of their names within my lips.
- 6 The LORD himself is the portion of mine inheritance, and of my cup; * thou shalt maintain my lot.
- 7 The lot is fallen unto me in a fair ground; * yea, I have a goodly heritage.
- 8 I will thank the LORD for giving me warning; * my reins also chasten me in the night season.
- 9 I have set the LORD alway before me; * for he is on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall.
- 10 Wherefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: * my flesh also shall rest in hope.
- 11 For why? thou shalt not leave my soul in hell; * neither shalt thou suffer thy Holy One to see corruption.
- 12 Thou shalt show me the path of life: in thy presence is the fulness of joy, * and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

COLLECT

Let us pray. (*while the People stand, a period of silence will be kept, after which the Officiant prays*)

Almighty God, whose servant Abraham faithfully obeyed thy call, and rejoiced to see the day of your Son: Multiply, by the grace of the Lamb who was slain, the number of thy children; that thy Church may rejoice to see fulfilled thy promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

^{14:10} And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD. ¹¹ And they said unto Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? Wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? ¹² Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness." ¹³ And Moses said unto the people, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. ¹⁴ The LORD shall fight for you, and ye have only to be silent." ¹⁵ And the LORD said unto Moses, "Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: ¹⁶ but lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. ¹⁷ And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. ¹⁸ And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen." ¹⁹ And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: ²⁰ and it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night. ²¹ And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. ²³ And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴ And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and threw the host of the Egyptians into a panic, ²⁵ and clogged their chariot wheels, that they drave heavily: so that the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel! For the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians!" ²⁶ And the LORD said unto Moses, "Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." ²⁷ And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. ²⁸ And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them. ²⁹ But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. ³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. ³¹ And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses. ^{15:1} Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, "I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE **The Song of Moses** (*standing*)

Plainsong, Tone III A 1, sung by Gianna Marchese

- 1 I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously: * the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.
- 2 The LORD is my strength and song, * and he is become my salvation
- 3 He is my God and I will prepare him an habitation; * My father's God, and I will exalt him.
- 4 The Lord is a man of war: * YAHWEH is his Name.
- 5 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea; * his chosen captains also are downed in the Red Sea.

- 6 The depths have covered them: * they sank into the bottom as a stone.
 7 Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power; * thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.
 13 Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? * who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?
 14 Thou stretched out thy right hand * and the earth swallowed them.
 15 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou has redeemed: * thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.
 20 Thou shalt bring them in * And plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance.
 21 In the place, O LORD, which thou has made for thee to dwell in; * in the sanctuary, O LORD, which thy hands have established.
 22 The LORD shall reign * forever and ever. *from Exodus 15:1-7, 13-15, 20-22a*

COLLECT

Let us pray. (*while the People stand, a period of silence will be kept, after which the Officiant prays*)

O God, who has ordained that thy mighty works of old should enlighten even this our present generation; who didst by the mighty defense of thy right hand deliver thy chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a figure for us of the salvation of all nations by the washing of regeneration: Grant, we pray thee, that the fullness of all mankind, being delivered from its present bondage, may be made children of Abraham and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIFTH LESSON **The Valley of Dry Bones**

Reader: W. Coykendall

Ezekiel 37:1-14

^{37:1} The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, ² and caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. ³ And he said unto me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, thou knowest." ⁴ Again he said unto me, "Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, 'O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: ⁶ and I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.'" ⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. ⁸ And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then said he unto me, "Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.'" ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. ¹¹ Then he said unto me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.'" ¹² Therefore prophesy and say unto them, 'Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, ¹⁴ and shall put my Spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.'"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM **143** (*standing*)

Plainsong, Tone VII.1, sung by Jonathan Meckel

- 1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and consider my desire; * hearken unto me for thy truth and righteousness' sake.

- 2 And enter not into judgment with thy servant; * for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.
- 3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground; * he hath laid me in the darkness, as the men that have been long dead.
- 4 Therefore is my spirit vexed within me, * and my heart within me is desolate.
- 5 Yet do I remember the time past; I muse upon all thy works; * yea, I exercise myself in the works of thy hands.
- 6 I stretch forth my hands unto thee; * my soul gaspeth unto thee as a thirsty land.
- 7 Hear me, O LORD, and that soon; for my spirit waxeth faint: * hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.
- 8 O let me hear thy loving-kindness betimes in the morning; for in thee is my trust: * show thou me the way that I should walk in; for I lift up my soul unto thee.
- 9 Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies; * for I flee unto thee to hide me.
- 10 Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth thee; for thou art my God: * let thy loving Spirit lead me forth into the land of righteousness.
- 11 Quicken me, O LORD, for thy Name's sake; * and for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.
- 12 And of thy goodness slay mine enemies, * and destroy all them that vex my soul; for I am thy servant.

COLLECT

Let us pray. (*while the People stand, a period of silence will be kept, after which the Officiant prays*)

Lord God of our salvation, thou spakest the word unto thy people scattered abroad, and didst raise us up from the valley of death: Breath thou thy Spirit upon thy Church, that we may evermore live and stand before thee with confidence in thy risen Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

HYMN Come thou fount of every blessing (*standing*)

Nettleton

1 Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

2 Sorrowing I shall be in spirit,
Till released from flesh and sin,
Yet from what I do inherit,
Here Thy praises I'll begin;
Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Here by Thy great help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.

3 Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood;
How His kindness yet pursues me
Mortal tongue can never tell,
Clothed in flesh, till death shall loose me
I cannot proclaim it well.

4 O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758, based on 1 Samuel 7:12; Music: John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813.

EXHORTATION (*standing*)

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 the Devil and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

BAPTISMAL VOWS

Dost thou, here in the presence of God and the Church, renew the solemn promises and vows made at thy Baptism and commit to keep them?

Answer: **I do.**

Question: Dost thou renounce the Devil and all spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: **I renounce them.**

Question: Dost thou renounce the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: **I renounce them.**

Question: Dost thou renounce all sinful desires of the flesh that draw thee from the love of God, so that thou wilt not follow, nor be led by them?

Answer: **I renounce these all; and, by God's help, will endeavour not to follow, nor be led by them.**

Question: Dost thou turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as thy Lord and Savior?

Answer: **I do.**

Question: Dost thou joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Answer: **I do.**

Question: Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Answer: **I will, by God's help.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us now reaffirm our faith in the words of the ancient baptismal confession, the Apostles' Creed.

Celebrant: Dost thou believe and trust in God the Father?

People: **I do. I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Dost thou believe and trust in Jesus Christ?

People: **I do. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

Celebrant: Dost thou believe and trust in the Holy Ghost?

People: **I do. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting.**

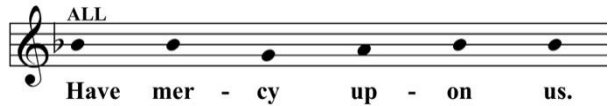
FINAL PRAYER (*standing*)

Let us pray: O Almighty God, Who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the head Cornerstone; Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LITANY

Officiant: The Lord be with you. *People:* **And with thy spirit.** *Officiant:* Let us pray. (*the People kneel*)

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth:
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world:
O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful:
O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God:



Remember not, Lord, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins: Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us forever:



From all evil and mischief; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation:



From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all want of charity: **R: Good Lord, deliver us.**

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil: **R**
From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death: **R**

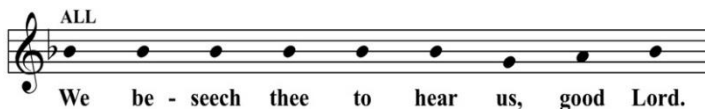
From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and Commandment: **R**

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and Circumcision; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation: **R**

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension, and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost: **R**

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment: **R**

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us,
O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way:



That it may please thee so to rule the heart of thy servant, The President of the United States, that he may above all things seek thy honor and glory: **R: We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to bless and preserve all Christian Rulers and Magistrates, giving them grace to execute justice, and maintain truth: **R**

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth, and show it accordingly: **R**

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest: **R**

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people: **R**

That it may please thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord: **R**

That it may please thee to give us an heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments: **R**

That it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit: **R**

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived: **R**

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; and to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet: **R**

That it may please thee to succor, help, and comfort, all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation: **R**

That it may please thee to preserve all who travel by land, by water, or by air; all women in childbirth, all sick persons, and young children; and to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives: **R**

That it may please thee to defend, and provide for, the fatherless children, and widows, and all who are desolate or alone: **R**

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men: **R**

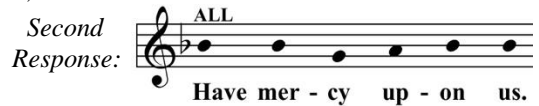
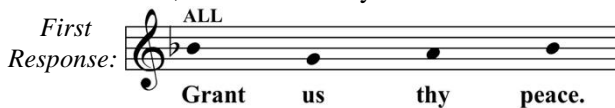
That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts: **R**

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so that in due time we may enjoy them: **R**

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Ghost to amend our lives according to thy holy Word: **R**

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us: **Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us. (repeat after Litanist)**

O Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world (2x):



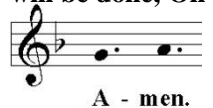
O Christ, hear us: **O Christ, hear us. (repeat chant after Litanist)**

Lord, have mercy upon us: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

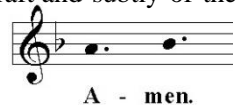
Christ, have mercy upon us: **Christ, have mercy upon us. (repeat chant after Litanist each time)**

Lord, have mercy upon us: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

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.



O God, merciful Father, who despises not the sighing of a contrite heart, nor the desire of such as are sorrowful; Mercifully assist our prayers which we make before thee in all our troubles and adversities, whensoever they oppress us; and graciously hear us, that those evils which the craft and subtly of the devil or man worketh against us, may, by thy good providence, be brought to nought; that we thy servants, being hurt by no persecutions, may evermore give thanks unto thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



SILENT EXIT (*kneeling*)

After the Ministers depart, the service is concluded. The People may depart in peace.

Join us tomorrow as we celebrate how the story ends, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, 10:30 am.