



## The Great Vigil of Easter

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church  
Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm

# The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

*(The congregation gathers outside in the portico.)*

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

We remember that from the primal elements, God brought forth the human race. We now journey from Creation to Salvation.

## A Song of Creation

*Benedicite, omnia opera Domini*

*An Invocation:*

*Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

I The Cosmic Order

*Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord,*

*O heavens and all waters above the heavens.*

*Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew,*

*All winds and fire and heat.*

*Winter and summer, glorify the Lord,  
Praise him and highly exalt him forever.  
Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold,  
Drops of dew and flakes of snow.  
Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord,  
Praise him and highly exalt him forever.  
Glorify the Lord, O nights and days,  
O shining light and enfolding dark.  
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord,  
Praise him and highly exalt him forever.*

## II The Earth and its Creatures

*Let the earth glorify the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,*

*And all that grows upon the earth,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams,*

*O whales and all that move in the waters.*

*All birds of the air, glorify the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild,*

*And all you flocks and herds.*

*O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

### III The People of God

*Let the people of God glorify the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord,*

***Praise him and highly exalt him forever.***

*(The new fire is lit and blessed with incense.)*

Celebrant: Let us pray:

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

People: ***Amen.***

*(The Paschal Candle is lit and the candle bearer leads the procession into the darkened church, pausing three times saying:)*

Deacon: The Light of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*(The Paschal Candle is then placed in its stand. Each person receives a candle which is lit from the Paschal Candle, a reminder of their Baptismal Promises.)*

# EXSULTET



EASTER PROCLAMATION



The words to the  
Exsulet  
may be found on  
page 286 of the  
BCP.



## The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant: Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption. *(The congregation may be seated.)*

# Story of Creation: A Reading from the Book of Genesis

(1:1-2:2)

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: ***Thanks Be to God.***

**Psalm 36:5-10** *(Page 632 of BCP)*

*(Recited responsively by whole verse.)*

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,  
your faithfulness to the clouds.

***Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments  
are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.***

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

***They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.***

For with you is the fountain of life;  
in your light we see light.

***O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart!***

Celebrant: Standing, let us pray. *(Silence)*

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.

People: ***Amen.***

# Deliverance at the Red Sea: A Reading from the Book of Exodus

(14:10-15:11)

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: ***Thanks Be to God.***

## **Canticle 8** *(Recited responsively by whole verse.)*

I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.

***The LORD is my strength and my might, and he has become my  
salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God,  
and I will exalt him.***

The LORD is a warrior;  
the LORD is his name.

***Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;  
his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.***

The floods covered them;  
they went down into the depths like a stone.

***Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—  
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.***

Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

***You stretched out your right hand,  
the earth swallowed them.***

In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;  
you guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

***You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own  
possession, the place, O LORD, that you made your abode, the  
sanctuary, O LORD, that your hands have established.***

The LORD will reign forever and ever.

Celebrant: Standing, let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: ***Amen.***

**The Valley of Dry Bones:** A Reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

(37:1-14)

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: ***Thanks Be to God.***

***Psalm 30:1-7*** (*Recited responsively by whole verse.*)

I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up \*  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

***O Lord my God, I cried out to you, \****  
***and you restored me to health.***

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; \*  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

***Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; \****  
***give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.***

For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, \*  
his favor for a lifetime.

***Weeping may spend the night, \*  
but joy comes in the morning.***

While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed. \* You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.”

Celebrant: Standing, let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: ***Amen.***



*(The candles at the Altar are lit from the Paschal Candle. When the Church lights come on, please extinguish your candles.)*



Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*** *(Please ring your bells.)*

All: ***Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**THE GLORIA:** *(RING YOUR BELLS)*

HYMNAL S-280

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,

We worship you we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the  
Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand  
of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father,  
Amen.



## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: ***And also with you.***

CELEBRANT: Let us pray. *(Silence)*

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.

People: ***Amen.***

## THE FIRST READING

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE 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. *(Pause)*

The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

**THE RESPONSORIAL PALM 114** (Page 756 of BCP)

*(Recited responsively by whole verse.)*

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

***Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.***

The sea beheld it and fled; \*

Jordan turned and went back.

***The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.***

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*

O Jordan, that you turned back?

***You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \****

***you little hills like young sheep?***

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*

at the presence of the God of Jacob,

***Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \****

***and flint-stone into a flowing spring.***

# Hymn: The Day Of Resurrection #210



- 1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;  
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,  
our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.
- 2 Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;  
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.
- 3 Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth the song begin!  
Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein!  
Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend,  
for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.



# The Gospel

(Matt 28:1-10)

DEACON: THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW.

PEOPLE: ***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.

People: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**THE SERMON:** The Rev. Gerard Klingenberg+



**THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT** *(Page 292 of the BCP)*

Celebrant: : Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

PEOPLE: ***I believe in God, the Father, the Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

PEOPLE: ***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only 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 descend 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 life everlasting.***

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the 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 you neighbor as yourself?

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

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

People: ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant: Almighty and ever-living God, let your Fatherly hand ever be over us: your servants; let your holy Spirit ever be with us, and so lead us in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that we may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: ***Amen.***

**HALLE HALLE HALLE**

**HAL HOPSON**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(FORM VI, PAGE 392 OF THE BCP)*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *(Silence)*

For all people in their daily life and work:

***For our families, friend, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

For this community, the nation, and the world;

***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation;

***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Peter our Bishop, Gerard our Priest, and Andy our Deacon; and for all bishops and other ministers;

***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially for..., *(Pause; The people may add their own petitions.)* Hear us, Lord;

***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for the blessings of this life. *(Pause; The people may add their own thanksgivings.)* We will exalt you, O God our King;

***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, especially ..., that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *(Pause; The people may add their own remembrances),* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

***Who put their trust in you.***



We praise you for all your saints who have entered into joy, especially the Blessed Virgin Mary, Ambrose of Milan (our patron saint), Dietrich Bonhoeffer, William Law, George Selwyn, and all the saints;

***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Celebrant: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People: ***Amen.***

CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE: ***And also with you.***



***Our Easter flowers are In memorial for:***

James Gray, Adam & Clare Grishaber, Dahlia Madeira, Florena Gray, Mike Reeves, Ralph & Ethel Klingenberg, Sue Gray, Terry Johnson, Chris Gomes, and all our beloved relatives: Parents, Grandparents, Uncles & Aunts, Brothers & Sisters, Children & Grandchildren.

**BLESSING PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, &/OR TRAVELERS**

# Hymn: Christ Whose Glory Fills The Skies #007

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see;  
Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3 Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, Radiance divine, Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.



## The Doxology #380 verse 3



*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving ---Eucharistic Prayer A**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly 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:

All:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: ***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the (+) Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us (+) also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Ambrose, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, William Law, George Selwyn all your saints, into the joy of your eternal kingdom.



Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: ***AMEN !***

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

All: *Our Father, who art in heaven;  
Hallowed by thy Name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
And the power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever. Amen.*

# The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!***

Celebrant: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

People: ***Have mercy on us.***

Celebrant: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

People: ***Have mercy on us.***

Celebrant: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

People: ***Grant us your Peace.***

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Celebrant: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. ***Amen.***

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. ***Amen.***

Hymn: The Strife Is O'er, The battle Done #208

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!
2. The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions has dispersed. Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!
3. The three sad days are quickly sped; he rises glorious from the dead. All glory to our risen Head. Alleluia!
4. He closed the yawning gates of hell; the bars from heaven's high portals fell. Let hymns of praise his triumph tell. Alleluia!

5. Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free, that we may live and sing to thee. Alleluia!



Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## The Post- Communion Prayer:

Celebrant: Let us pray. *(Silence.)*

Celebrant: Eternal God,

All: ***Heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## The Blessing

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father (+), the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN: JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY #207

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise than let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!  
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!  
Praise him all ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!



## The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: ***Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***



***Don't forget to send in your donations***



***By:***

1. *Checks made out to:*

**St. Ambrose Episcopal Church**

c/o Mr. Tom Harman

3788 SW 19<sup>th</sup> St.

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

*or*

2. *Make donations thru Zelle using:*

**[StAmbroseFL@outlook.com](mailto:StAmbroseFL@outlook.com)**

**Thank you for your support!**

***Happy Easter!***