

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Invocation

Lux Christi



The light of Christ.



Thanks be to God.

Exsultet (Sung as a Hymn)

Hymn

Re - joice, you choirs of an - gels, your prai - ses now pro - long, And

join with all cre - a - tion in e - ver las - ting song! This is the night of

glo - ry, the night when death lies_ dead, For by His res - ur -

rec - tion Christ crushed the ser - pent's head.

Sound forth, O royal trumpets, the triumph of the King,
 Who conquered sin and Satan, and plucked away death's sting.
 This night when chains are broken, and captives are set free,
 He raids hell's fiery furnace, declaring victory.

O sinners now delivered from everlasting night,
Receive through Word and Water your dazzling robes of white.
This night the Son of David bursts forth as King of Kings,
The Firstfruits of salvation from whom the harvest springs.

Begone, you ancient darkness that swallowed all the earth
Through Adam's condemnation that cursed us from our birth.
This night the Sun is risen, the darkness chased away,
Destroyed, forever banished by Everlasting Day.

Alive He stands before you: Behold, His hands, His side;
The Bridegroom is arisen to claim His Holy Bride!
This night the Church rejoices and echoes forth His might,
For Christ makes death our passage to everlasting Light.

Introduction to Readings

P In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

A A reading from Exodus, chapters 14 and 15.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Let us pray.

O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The Fiery Furnace

A A reading from Daniel, chapter three.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Let us pray.

O God, Your Son protected faithful Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace of the king. Grant us protection in our time of testing that we would boldly confess Your name, reject all false worship, and live and die in confidence, knowing that we are safe in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

930 All You Works of God, Bless the Lord

LSB 930



1 All you works of God, bless the Lord!
 2 Sing, you sun and you moon a - bove,
 3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold,
 4 Hills and moun - tains, now sing His worth,



All you an - gels, now bless the Lord;
 Stars of heav - en, now sing His love;
 Dews of sum - mer, your song un - fold;
 All you green things that grow on earth;



Come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,
 Dew and show - ers, you winds that blow,
 Light and dark - ness, you day and night,
 Seas and riv - ers, you springs and wells,



Praise the Lord and His maj - es - ty:
 Heat and fire, you ice and snow:
 Clouds of thun - der, you light - nings bright:
 Beasts and cat - tle, you birds and whales:

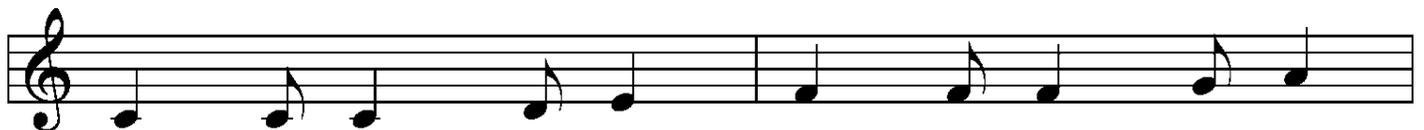
Refrain



Raise your voic - es high, praise and mag - ni - fy,



All you works of God, bless the Lord!



Raise your voic - es high, praise and mag - ni - fy,



5 Come, humanity, sing along,
Sing, you people of God, a song;
Priests and servants, your Lord now bless,
Join, you spirits and souls at rest: (Refrain)

6 Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;
All you humble, His praise impart;
God the Father and Son adore,
Bless the Spirit forevermore! (Refrain)

Litany of the Resurrection

A O Lord,

C have mercy.

A O Christ,

C have mercy.

A O Lord,

C have mercy.

A Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C hear us.

A Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,

C have mercy on us.

A Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,

C have mercy on us.

A Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,"

C have mercy on us.

A Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light,

C have mercy on us.

A Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,

C have mercy on us.

A Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,

C have mercy on us.

A Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,

C have mercy on us.

A Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,

C have mercy on us.

A Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,

C have mercy on us.

A Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,

C have mercy on us.

A Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,

C have mercy on us.

A Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,

C have mercy on us.

A By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,

C good Lord, deliver us.

A By Your victory over sin and death,

C good Lord, deliver us.

A By the majesty of Your risen body,

C good Lord, deliver us.

A We poor sinners implore You

C to hear us, Lord Jesus.

A That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the

freedom of Your forgiveness,

C grant us, good Lord.

A That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things,
serving as we have been served by You,

C grant us, good Lord.

A That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the
heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,

C grant us, good Lord.

A Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy on us.

A Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy on us.

A Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

A O Lord,

C have mercy.

A O Christ,

C have mercy.

A O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

Service of the Word

Easter Acclamation

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection. Preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Holy Gospel

John 20:1–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away 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." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had 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. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

P Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass
against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

Benediction

LSB 202