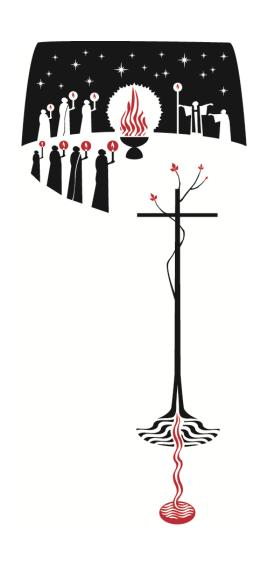




**Everyone is welcome.** As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.





We gather in the Memorial Garden for the lighting of the new fire. As at creation, light came into the darkness, so at the beginning of the celebration of the new creation a fire is kindled in the darkness. A new fire is lighted.

#### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

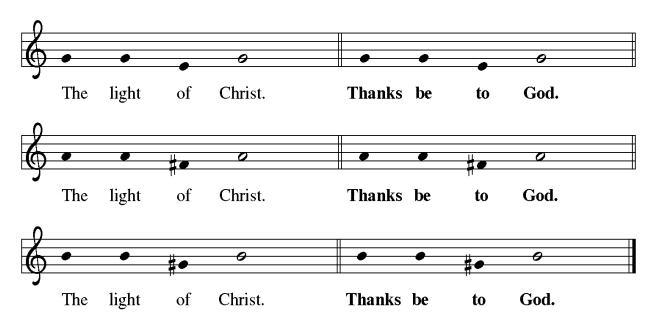
Let us pray. Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

Christ, yesterday and today, the beginning and the ending. To Christ belongs all time and all the ages; to Christ belongs glory and dominion now and forever. **Amen.** 

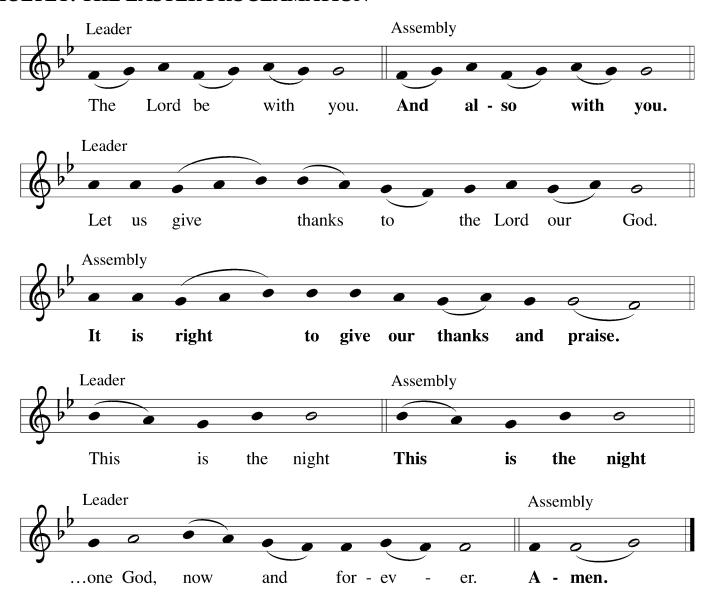
# The paschal candle is lighted. As the candle is lighted the pastor says:

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

#### **PROCESSION**



## **EXULTET: THE EASTER PROCLAMATION**



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# Word-Salvation History



Creation

## FIRST READING Genesis 1:1–2:4a

<sup>1-2</sup> In the beginning God created the Heavens and Earth—all you see, all you don't see. Earth was a soup of nothingness, a bottomless emptiness, an inky blackness. God's Spirit brooded like a bird above the watery abyss.

<sup>3-5</sup> God spoke: "Light!" And light appeared. God saw that light was good and separated light from dark. God named the light Day, God named the dark Night. It was evening, it was morning—Day One.

<sup>6-8</sup> God spoke: "Sky! In the middle of the waters; separate water from water!" God made sky. God separated the water under sky from the water above sky. And there it was: God named sky the Heavens; It was evening, it was morning—Day Two.

<sup>9-10</sup> God spoke: "Separate! Water-beneath-Heaven, gather into one place; Land, appear!" And there it was. God named the land Earth. God named the pooled water Ocean. God saw that it was good. <sup>11-13</sup> God spoke: "Earth, green up! Grow all varieties of seed-bearing plants, every sort of fruit-bearing tree." And there it was. Earth produced green seed-bearing plants, all varieties, and fruit-bearing trees of all sorts. God saw that it was good. It was evening, it was morning—Day Three.

<sup>14-15</sup> God spoke: "Lights! Come out! Shine in Heaven's sky! Separate Day from Night. Mark seasons and days and years, lights in Heaven's sky to give light to Earth." And there it was. <sup>16-19</sup> God made two big lights, the larger to take charge of Day, the smaller to be in charge of Night; and he made the stars. God placed them in the heavenly sky to light up Earth and oversee Day and Night, to separate light and dark. God saw that it was good. It was evening, it was morning—Day Four.

<sup>20-23</sup> God spoke: "Swarm, Ocean, with fish and all sea life! Birds, fly through the sky over Earth!" God created the huge whales, all the swarm of life in the waters, and every kind and species of flying birds. God saw that it was good. God blessed them: "Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Ocean! Birds, reproduce on Earth!" It was evening, it was morning—Day Five.

<sup>24-25</sup> God spoke: "Earth, generate life! Every sort and kind: cattle and reptiles and wild animals—all kinds." And there it was: wild animals of every kind, cattle of all kinds, every sort of reptile and bug. God saw that it was good. <sup>26-28</sup> God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth." God created human beings; God created them godlike, reflecting God's nature. God created them male and female. God blessed them: "Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth."

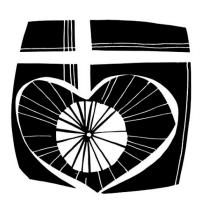
<sup>29-30</sup> Then God said, "I've given you every sort of seed-bearing plant on Earth and every kind of fruit-bearing tree, given them to you for food. To all animals and all birds, everything that moves and breathes, I give whatever grows out of the ground for food." And there it was.

<sup>31</sup> God looked over everything he had made; it was so good, so very good! It was evening, it was morning—Day Six.

<sup>1-2</sup>Heaven and Earth were finished, down to the last detail. <sup>2-4</sup>By the seventh day God had finished the work. On the seventh day God rested from all this work. God blessed the seventh day. God made it a Holy Day because on that day God rested from the work, all the creating God had done. This is the story of how it all started, of Heaven and Earth when they were created.

**MUSIC** "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" Virtual Singers

Trad. African American Spiritual





Deliverance at the Red Sea

## **SECOND READING** Exodus 14:10–31; 15:20–21

The people of Israel had been slaves in Egypt for four hundred years. God asked Moses to lead them back to the place where their ancestors had lived. Pharaoh and the Egyptians didn't want them to leave and followed them in the desert.

The people of Israel turned around and saw that the Egyptians were catching up. They were scared and cried out to God to save them. They yelled at Moses, "Why did you bring us out here, because there weren't any graves in Egypt? It would have been better to stay in Egypt as slaves than to die out here in the middle of nowhere!"

But Moses said to the people, "Get a grip! Don't be afraid. Today God will fight for us, you'll see. And those Egyptians you see chasing us? That's the last we'll ever see of them. Let God do his work."

When Moses told God that the people were complaining, God said, "Why? Tell them to put one foot in front of the other. When you reach the sea, lift up your walking stick, stretch your hand out over the water, and it will divide in two, and they'll be able to walk on dry ground to freedom. The Egyptians will follow you in, but they won't come out the other side. They'll know that I am God."

The angel of God had been leading the people of Israel, but moved to the back. A pillar of cloud that had been leading them moved behind them too, between the people of Israel and the Egyptians to keep them apart during the night.

When they got to the sea, Moses did what God told him; he lofted his walking stick and his hand over the water. And God used the wind to divide the sea and make a dry path right through the water on either side of them. The Egyptians came in after them. They started to panic and they got stuck in the mud. They tried to turn back, but they couldn't. They said to themselves, "It looks like God us on the side of the people of Israel, Let's get out of here."

God told Moses to stretch out his hand over the water again. Not a single Egyptian or his chariot got out before the sea returned back to normal. That's how God saved the people of Israel. They were amazed at what God had done for them. They believed that God was on their side and believed in his servant Moses.

Moses's sister Miriam and the women danced and sang with tambourines, "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider God has thrown into the sea."

# **HYMN** ELW 736 God the Sculptor of the Mountains



TEXT: John Thornburg, 1993, alt.

MUSIC: Amanda Husberg, 1995 Text © 1993 John Thornburg Music © 1996 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

# Valley of Dry Bones

## **THIRD READING** Ezekiel 37:1–14

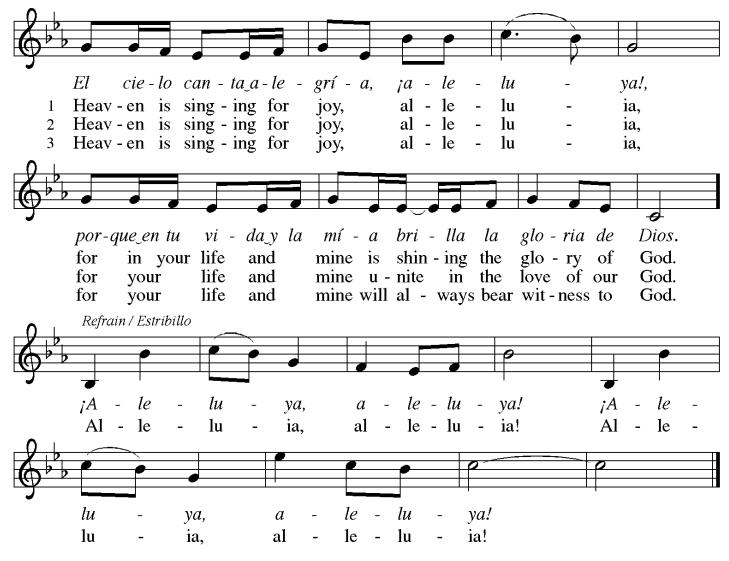
I felt the LORD's power take control of me, and God's Spirit carried me to a valley full of bones. <sup>2</sup> The LORD showed me all around, and everywhere I looked I saw bones that were dried out. <sup>3</sup> God said, "Ezekiel, son of man, can these bones come back to life?" I replied, "LORD God, only you can answer that." <sup>4</sup> God then told me to say: Dry bones, listen to what the LORD is saying to you, <sup>5</sup> "I, the LORD God, will put breath in you, and once again you will live. <sup>6</sup> I will wrap you with muscles and skin and breathe life into you. Then you will know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>I did what the LORD said, but before I finished speaking, I heard a rattling noise. The bones were coming together! <sup>8</sup>I saw muscles and skin cover the bones, but they had no life in them. <sup>9</sup>The LORD said: Ezekiel, now say to the wind, "The LORD God commands you to blow from every direction and to breathe life into these dead bodies, so they can live again." <sup>10</sup>As soon as I said this, the wind blew among the bodies, and they came back to life! They all stood up, and there were enough to make a large army.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD said: Ezekiel, the people of Israel are like dead bones. They complain that they are dried up and that they have no hope for the future. <sup>12</sup> So tell them, "I, the LORD God, promise to open your graves and set you free. I will bring you back to Israel, <sup>13</sup> and when that happens, you will realize that I am the LORD. <sup>14</sup> My Spirit will give you breath, and you will live again. I will bring you home, and you will know that I have kept my promise. I, the LORD, have spoken."



# **HYMN** ELW 664 Heaven Is Singing for Joy



Text: Pablo Sosa, b. 1933 Music: ALEGRÍA, Pablo Sosa Text and music © Pablo Sosa.

# Salvation Freely Offered to All

#### **FOURTH READING** Isaiah 55:1–11

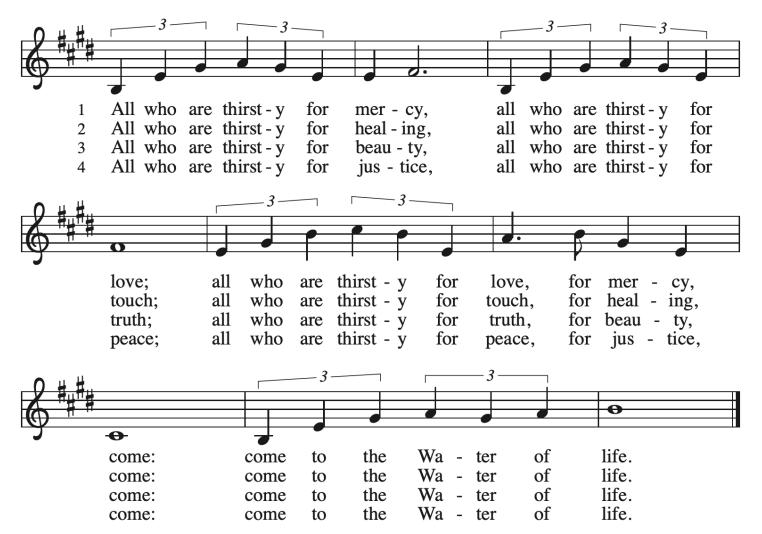
<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have

mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

## **HYMN** ACS 955 Come to the Water of Life



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: WATER OF LIFE, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1999 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress



## AFFIRMATION OF HOLY BAPTISM

#### INTRODUCTION

In baptism our gracious God frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in God's holy catholic church.

#### **PRESENTATION**

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of our baptism into Christ.

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.** 

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 in God 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.



## THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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

Water! Water! We praise you, O God, for water—the Raritan and the Rahway, the Delaware and the Hudson, the rivers and lakes and oceans, the rain that nourishes animals and plants, the water for drinking and bathing. We praise you, O God, for water.

# We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for our water stories—a flood that cleansed the earth, the sea that drowned the enemy, a river that healed leprosy. We praise you, O God, for water.

# We praise you, O God, for water.

We remember the waters of Jesus—baptized in the Jordan River, calming the Sea of Galilee, drinking from Jacob's Well, healing at the pool of Bethesda, washing the disciples' feet. We praise you, O God, for water.

# We praise you, O God, for water.

We praise you, O God, for this font, for through this water you have birthed us into the family of Christ, bathed us in forgiveness, and enlivened us in the Spirit.

We praise you, O God, for baptism.

# We praise you, O God, for baptism.

O God, you are the Ocean, sustaining this earth.

O God, you are the River, saving us from death.

O God, you are the Fountain, granting us health and well-being.

We praise you, O God, today, tomorrow, forever.

Amen, and amen.

# Amen, and amen.

#### AFFIRMATION BY THE ASSEMBLY

People of God, you have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

# I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ? We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.



#### SPRINKLING RITE

The assembly is sprinkled with water in remembrance of their baptism.



Text: International Commission on English in the Liturgy

Music: Howard Hughes, b. 1930
Text © 1969 and music © 1977 International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL). All rights reserved.

The Easter greeting is shouted three times at the doors of the sanctuary. Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!** Alleluia!



### **EPISTLE READING** Romans 6:3–11

<sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL PROCESSION HYMN ELW 385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, 1570–1615

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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# BATIZED INTO CHRISTS DEATH &

### **GOSPEL** John 20:1–18

The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup>and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples returned to their homes.

<sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; <sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>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." <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" 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." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because 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.' " <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel is proclaimed, concluding: The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.



**SERMON** Rev. Blake A. Scalet

MUSIC "Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded" Text by Delores Dufner, OSB, (b. 1939); music arr. Donna Garzinsky (b. 20<sup>th</sup> C.)

## Virtual Choir and Instrumentalists

Day of delight and beauty unbounded, tell the news, the gospel spread! Day of all wonder, day of all splendor, praise Christ risen from the dead! Sing of the sun, from darkness appearing; sing of the seed, from barren earth greening; sing of creation, alleluia! Sing of the stream, from Jesus' side flowing; sing of the saints, in water made holy; sing of salvation, alleluia!

Day of delight and beauty unbounded, tell the news, the gospel spread! Day of all wonder, day of all splendor, praise Christ risen from the dead! Sing now of mourning turned into dancing; sing now the myst'ry, hope of our glory; sing with thanksgiving, alleluia! Sing now of fasting turned into feasting; sing the Lord's favor lasting forever; sing, all things living, alleluia!

## **GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission through this congregation. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit www.stjohnssummit.org.

#### EASTER BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory over sin and death, 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 Almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.** 

#### **SENDING HYMN** ELW 382 Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!



- 1 Christ is ris-en! Al le lu ia! Ris en our vic to rious head!
- 2 Christ is ris-en! All the sad-ness of our Lent-en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris-en! All the sor-row that last eve-ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris-en! Hence-forthnev-er death or hell shall us en thrall.



his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead! Sing o - pen gates of glad-ness he through the re-turns to life once more: has found a glo-rious mor-row in the ris - ing now of to - day. We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri-umphed o - ver



Grate-ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears; death and hell be - fore him bend-ing see him rise, the vic - tor now, See the grave its first-fruits giv - ing, spring-ing up from ho - ly ground; All the doubt-ing and de - jec - tion of our trem-bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be-fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears. an - gels on his steps at - tend-ing, glo - ry round his wound-ed brow. Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found. hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

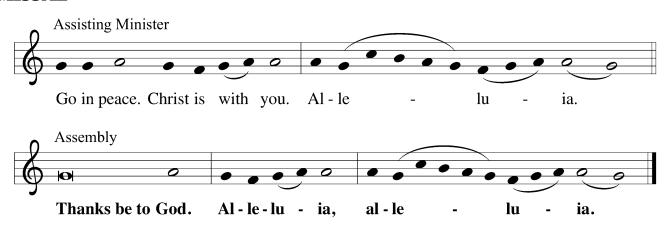


Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

## **DISMISSAL**



**POSTLUDE** Setting of the "Te Deum" By Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643–1704) Solid Brass Quartet



587 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901 www.stjohnssummit.org 908-273-3846 | Fax: 908-273-9604