

Dawn Eucharist for Easter Sunday

The Vigil

All gather in silence.

The new fire may be kindled. One of these prayers may be used

Eternal God,

who made this most holy night

to shine with the brightness of your one true light:

set us aflame with the fire of your love,

and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A minister reads these verses

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the

earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the

deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.

A minister says one of these prayers

Lighten our darkness,

Lord, we pray,

and in your great mercy

defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,

for the love of your only Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The president may introduce the Vigil using these or other appropriate words

This is the night in which our Lord Jesus Christ 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 through word and sacrament we

share in his victory over death.

As we await the risen Christ, let us remember God's saving deeds

in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the

fullness of time sent his Son to be our Redeemer. Let us pray that

through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in

each of us the saving work he has begun.

*The president lights the Easter Candle, saying
May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.*

*The minister bearing the Candle enters the building, followed by the
other ministers, and they pause just inside the entrance.*

*The minister bearing the Candle raises it and says or sings
The light of Christ.*

All Thanks be to God.

*The procession of the Easter Candle moves further into the building and
then stops.*

*The versicle and response are repeated, and the candles of those
around are lit from the Easter Candle.*

*The procession continues to the centre of the building and stops once
more.*

*The versicle and response are again repeated, and the candles of those
around are lit.*

The Easter Candle is placed on a stand in the midst of the building.

The Exsultet

*The Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) may be sung or said by a
minister standing near the Candle.*

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!

O Universe, dance around God's throne!

Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation,
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!

Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!

Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!

The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!

Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Easter Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **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

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

Silence is kept.

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

All **Amen.**

New Testament Reading

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.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Either of these acclamations may herald the Gospel reading

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

All Alleluia.

He has defeated the powers of death.

All Alleluia.

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

All Alleluia.

He has the words of eternal life.

All Alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20: 1-18

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

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹² 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. ¹³ 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.” ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ 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.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ 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.’” ¹⁸ 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. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Peace

The president says

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

All and also with you. Alleluia.

These words may be added

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The president takes the bread and wine.*

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

The president praises God for God's mighty acts and all respond

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The president recalls the Last Supper

The following acclamation may be used

Great is the mystery of faith

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again

*The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology,
to which all respond boldly*

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
**All 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 them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

Giving of Communion

The president says
Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The president and people receive communion.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today

sung by St Martin's Voices

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia.
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia.
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia.
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia.
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia.
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia.
who endured the Cross and grave, Alleluia.
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia.
- 3 But the pains that he endured, Alleluia.
our salvation have procured; Alleluia.
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia.
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia.

Surrexit Christus hodie

*Anonymous Latin, Lyra Davidica (1708), Compleat Psalmodist (1749 Arnold),
Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

The Blessing

The president says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Dismissal

A minister says

With the risen life of Christ within you,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.