

GREAT EASTER VIGIL



This is the night of salvation! At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night we experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ. We gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

GATHERING

The service begins at nightfall. Please have a candle by you at home, ready to light, if possible. Please also have a cup of water at the ready for later in the service, if possible.

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.

The presiding minister will introduce and welcome the assembly to the vigil.

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 and through our gathering, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

PRAYER

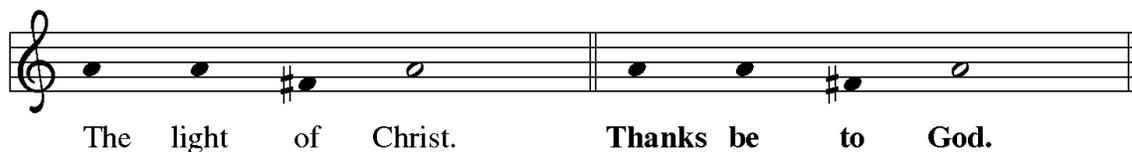
The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

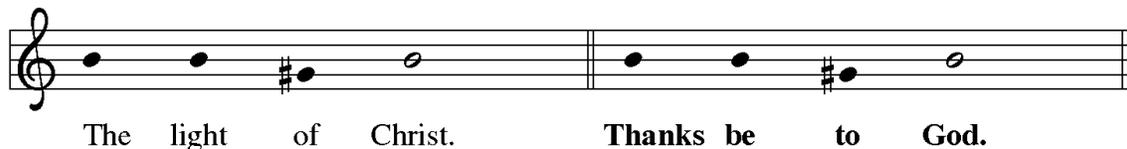
Let us pray. Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.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

Candles are lit at home, when prompted by the Pastor

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

The pastor sings and assembly responds:





The Exsultet is chanted.

EASTER PROCLAMATION

*The proclamation begins with “Rejoice, now...
...echoing the song of all God’s people...”*

The proclamation ends with ...“now and forever, Amen.”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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

Vigil Readings and Prayers

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1—2:4a

FIRST PRAYER

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Silent reflection.

SECOND READING: Genesis 7:1–5, 11–18; 8:6–18; 9:8–13

SECOND PRAYER

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

O God, strength of the powerless and light in all darkness: Look in mercy upon your church, a wonderful and sacred mystery, that it may be an ark of peace in the midst of chaos. Let the whole world come to see that what was fallen is being raised up, that what was old is being made new, and that all things are being restored to wholeness through the one from whom they first took being, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Silent reflection.

THIRD READING: Exodus 14:10–31; 15:20–21

THIRD PRAYER

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation offered to everyone by the water of baptism. Grant that all the peoples of earth may partake in the salvation of the Israelites and together dance on the safe side of the sea, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Silent reflection.

FOURTH READING: Isaiah 55:1–11

FOURTH PRAYER

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

Holy God, you created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the whole earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to all who thirst for you, that, rejoicing in your covenant of mercy, we may bring forth abundant fruit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Silent reflection.

FIFTH READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

FIFTH PRAYER

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

God of holiness and mercy, in the dying and rising of Christ you have established a new covenant of reconciliation for us all – you have given these dry bones new life. Cleanse our hearts and give us a new spirit, that by your saving grace we may live as your people, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Silent reflection.

SIXTH READING: Jonah 3:1-10

SIXTH PRAYER

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

Gracious God of second chances, as you had mercy on the people of Nineveh, so, too, have mercy on us, and guide us back to your loving embrace. Support us in building the practices to be changed people, changing the world, through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Silent reflection.

SEVENTH READING: Daniel 3:1–29

SEVENTH PRAYER

The Pastor leads the assembly in prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, the only hope of the world, by the proclamation of your prophets you declare to us the word of salvation. By the grace of your Spirit increase the devotion of all the baptized, that, strengthened by your presence, we may withstand hardship and sorrow and be united with your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism. The assembly may join in the responses.

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. Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

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?

The assembly makes affirmation:

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.

The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.

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.

I now invite you to dip your finger or thumb into the cup of water, if you have it by you, making the sign of the cross on your forehead and remembering the power of God through Christ that has claimed us all through baptism for new life.

The minister sings the Agnus Dei three times with the assembly joining in from home as they are able. There will then be a loud KNOCKING THREE TIMES, signaling our movement from the first portion of the Easter Vigil to the next. As the lights in the sanctuary come on, the Assembly joins in singing the Gospel Acclamation Hymn.

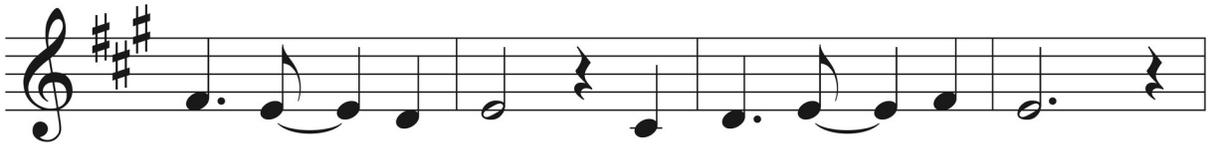
The Agnus Dei can be found on the next page.



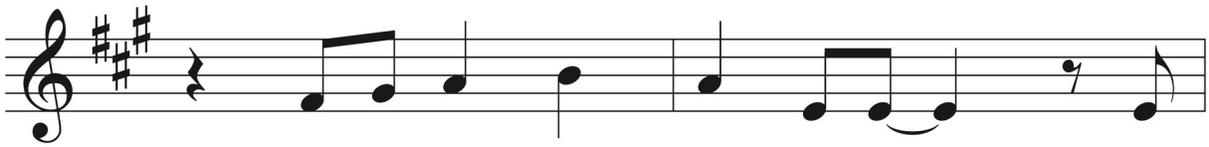
AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God you take a - way the



sin of ___ the world; have mer - cy ___ on us.



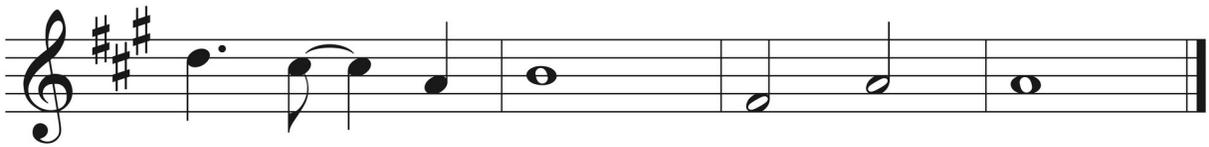
Lamb of God you take a - way _ the



sin of ___ the world; have mer - cy ___ on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of ___ the world. Grant us peace.

The service continues with the Gospel acclamation, found on the next page.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION HYMN 367

The assembly stands as they are able to welcome the gospel.



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
set heart and will on things a - bove that we
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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GOSPEL: Luke 24: 1-12

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

HOMILY

The presiding pastor proclaims...

CHRIST IS RISEN!!

HE IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA!!

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Washed and renewed in the mercy of God that endures forever, we pray this night for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

You bring us from death to life with Christ. Fill and enlighten the newly baptized (*especially*); enliven all the baptized so that your church may be a sign of resurrection in the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

At creation you brought forth order and life. Bring life anew to all creation: sky, earth, and seas; sun, moon, and stars; plants and animals. Teach us to treasure and defend what you have declared to be good. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As you delivered your people, deliver all from bondage. Bring an end to war and brutality. Raise up leaders who listen for wisdom's voice. Cause righteousness to spring up among the nations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your power extends to the depths of the grave. Bring hope and peace to all who are in the depths of sorrow or the fires of suffering. Heal all who are sick and comfort the grieving (*especially*).

Be especially with all those we name now: Jerry (1/10/21), Scott (12/24/20), Marge (8/18/19), Jean (12/18/18), Tim (12/18/18), and all our family members and friends; Give them comfort, reconciliation, and hope. Be their help and their shield. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the first light of dawn Jesus' resurrection was revealed. Guard all who keep vigil in the night: tending to the sick or ensuring public safety, working, or worrying. As they await the morning, may hope dawn upon them. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts of time, talents, and finances, which we receive from your bounty that we might as good stewards we might share them for the feeding, nurture, and healing of the world. **Your mercy is great.**

You drew the amazed, the terrified, and the weeping to the empty tomb. Gather us with your people of all times and places to wonder at your power and rejoice in your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION CONCLUSION

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who teaches us together to pray:

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

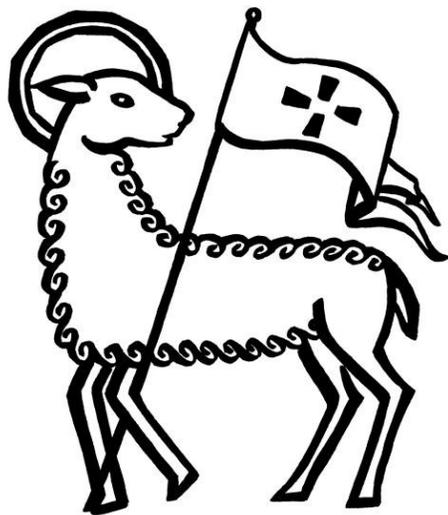
PREFACE

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

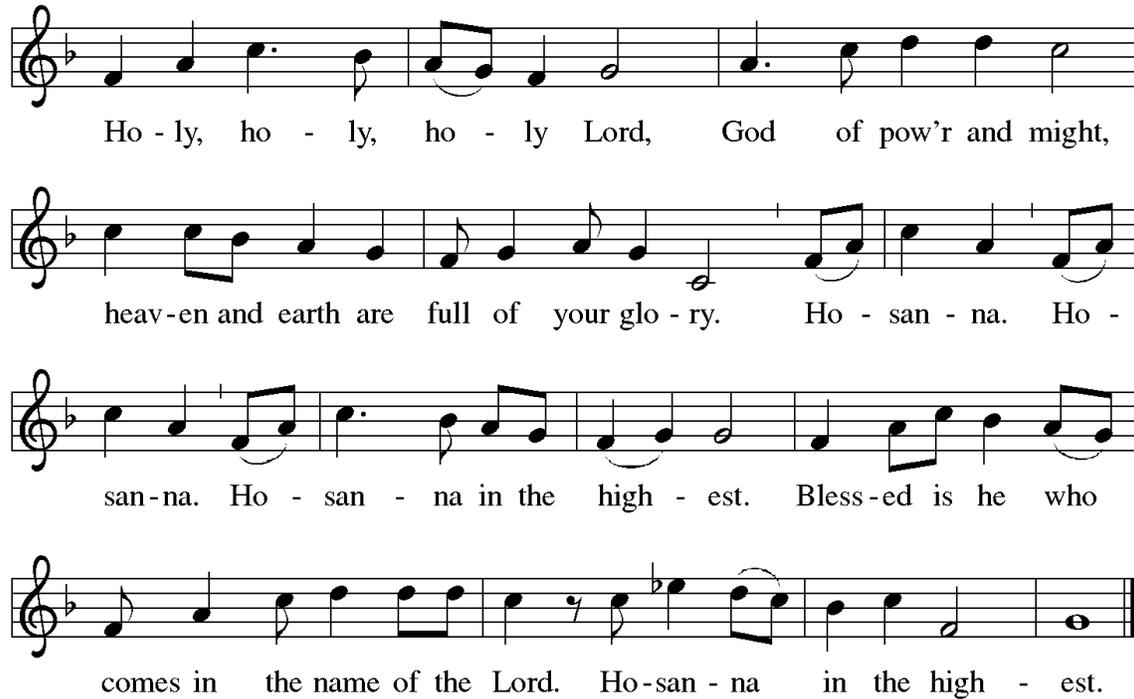
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The service continues with the Sanctus, found on the next page.



SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy” maybe sung.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

(continued on next page...)

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With [name/s and] your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
Amen.

The service continues with the Lord's Prayer, found on the next page.

LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

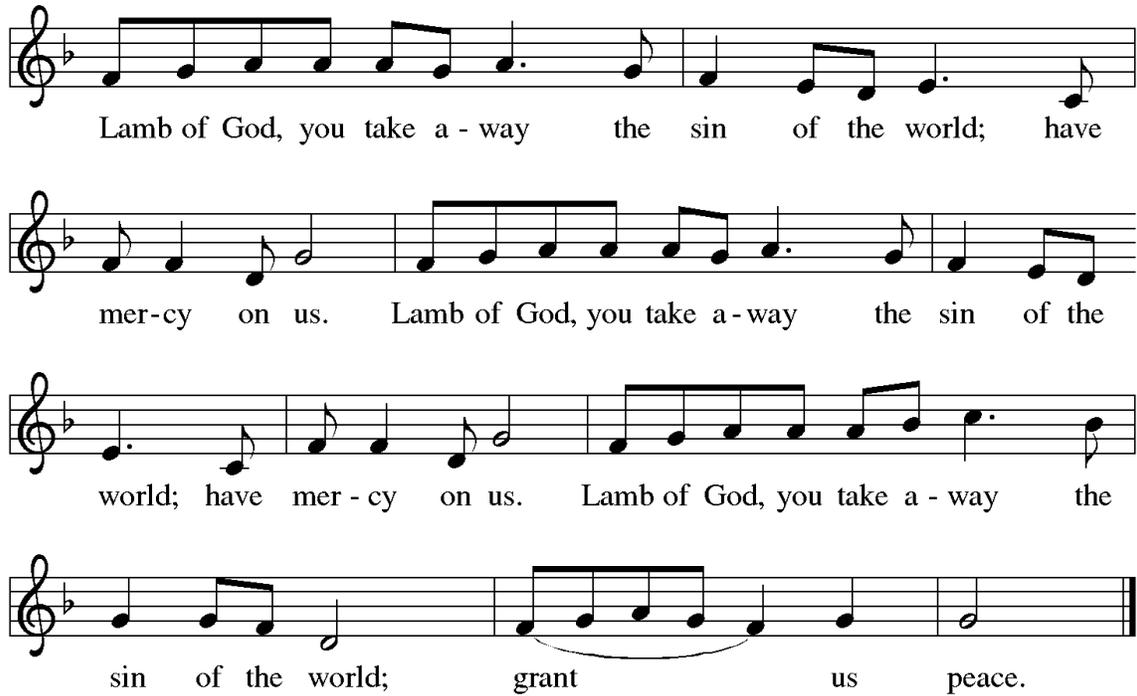
At this time, the assembly may commune receiving the bread.

*The service continues with the
Agnus Dei, found on the next page.*



AGNUS DEI

“Lamb of God” may be sung.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The presiding minister leads the following prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: 376

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
 out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939
 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

BLESSING

God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and raise you to life, both
now and forever.

Amen

DISMISSAL

The assembly is sent into mission.

Christ has risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you. Amen.



Easter Commemorations

In Loving Memory of

Peggy Fitzgerald and Reggie Brangenberg ~ Jacqueline Anderson
Carole Ann Walley ~ Evonne Falk, Paul & Tory Walley
All of my loved ones ~ Virginia LaFalce
Our daughter, Samantha,
and our parents Don, Dolores, Tom, and Herb
~ Herb & Deb Simmerly
Dolores McClaren ~ Christine & Doug Upright
Greg Upright, James, Edith & Ed Peplow ~ Shirley Upright

In Honor of

Deacon Bill Mennenga ~ The Leonard Family
Our mother, Carol, our children, and grandchildren ~ Herb & Deb Simmerly
Eliana Rose Falk ~ Evonne Falk, Paul & Tory Walley

WAYS TO FURTHER CONNECT

We are so glad that you are here with us for worship, and invite you to consider other ways to deepen faith and connect with the Redeemer community and the world around us - to which God calls us in loving service!

Worship, Holy Week and Easter: Come and Be Fed by the Mystery of Grace

Come and be fed by the Ancient and most central stories of God's acting through Christ for the saving of us and the world during HOLY WEEK. All services will be held online (<https://redeemernewpaltz.org/join-worship>).

- **TOMORROW - Easter Sunday, April 4th, 9am:** Let our voices be raised in praise with that "H" word that we avoided for all of Lent (Please especially join us if you're not sure what that "H" word is!), singing praise and glory for our risen and glorious Savior, Jesus Christ.

Easter Flower Orders

Thank you to all who purchased Easter flowers or made donations towards flowers, and helping to beautify our sanctuary for the Great Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. Flowers may be picked up on Tuesday, April 6th, from 10:15am – 12:30pm, or on Sunday, April 11th, from 1-3pm.

Easter Baskets: Pick up on Easter Sunday starting at 10:30am!

Families with kids and grandkids: please take a drive over to Redeemer, New Paltz on Easter Sunday and pick up a little Easter basket of goodies for your kids and teens. And...there may be another surprise waiting on the table for each household to enjoy as well - come and see!

April 11th - Project H.O.P.E. Food Drop-off

Thank you to all who have been helping Redeemer live our mission of “Sharing Christ’s Welcome,” and supporting of our mission focus area of fighting homelessness/hunger. The Project H.O.P.E. ministry has been helping to keep FAMILY of New Paltz’s food pantry stocked. But the need continues, and your help is greatly required.

When you do your food shopping, please consider buying a few extra cans of vegetables, shelf-stable milk, like Parmalat milk or evaporated milk, kid’s snacks, like jello packs, pudding packs, pretzel rods, fruit cups, etc., microwaveable meals, such as mac-n-cheese, spaghettiOs, mini ravioli's, etc. - individual servings are very helpful – peanut butter, jelly, and regular cereal.

Additionally, hygiene products bars of soap, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant are also needed.

Donated food items can be dropped-off April 11th from 1-3pm at Redeemer. To ensure proper social distancing guidelines are adhered to, Jackie Anderson will be there and a safe no contact drop off process will be in place.

If you'd like to provide monetary support, Redeemer has a Family of New Paltz fund that you can contribute to – 100% of all donations will be given to Family. Please consider making a donation at: <https://redeemernewpaltz.org/donate-now>.

New: Christ In Our Home Devotionals

The new edition of the much beloved devotional, *Christ in Our Home*, is available for pickup. Copies can be obtained at the church and are located on the outside of the front doors.

Supporting Christ's Mission

We are so glad that you joined us for worship today! Please consider making a one time or recurring donation in support of our mission to "Share Christ's Welcome" with the world by following this link (<https://redeemernewpaltz.org/donate-now>). It's secure, fast, and your donation will help reach others body, heart, mind, and soul. Thank you!

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