# **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**

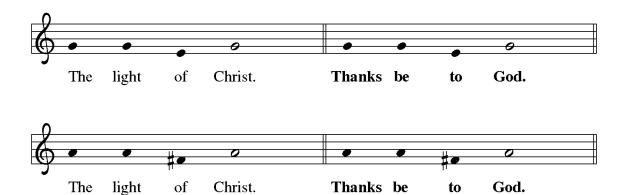
The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

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 RESPONSE: Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer (ELW 618)

*Sung by the Assembly* 



Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt. Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

#### 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.** 

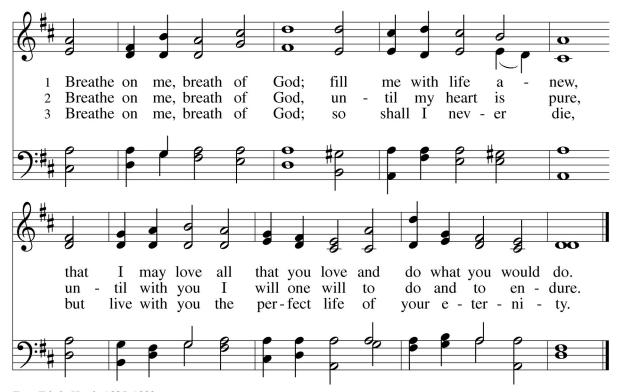
Silent reflection.

FIFTH READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14



### FIFTH RESPONSE: Breathe on Me, Breath of God (LBW 488)

*Sung By The Assembly* 



Text: Edwin Hatch, 1835–1889

Music: DURHAM, Aaron Williams, 1731-1776

#### 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.

(continued on next page).

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.

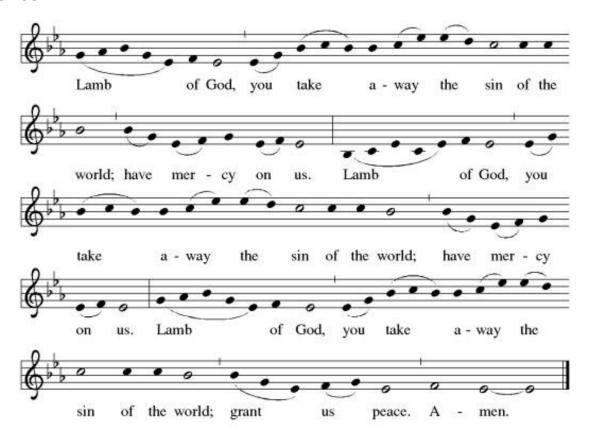
We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear 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 assembly joins the ministers in a procession outdoors to begin the final procession around the church, this is done S L O W L Y as members of the Altar Guild set up the inside of the church with flowers and light. If weather permitting proceeds through the hallway out to the parking lot and back in the main entry doors, KNOCKING THREE TIMES!!

# **AGNUS DEI**



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.* 



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.

<sup>1</sup>But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup>While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>The 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. <sup>6</sup>Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup>and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But 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!!

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

# A brief silence.

Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with branches lifted in praise and roaring waters of new life, that together we may proclaim Easter hope. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day.

Be especially with all those we name now: Simion (3/24/24), Adelina (3/24/24), Tom (3/24/24), Jerry M. (2/25/24), Jacque (1/28/24), Ann P. (1/21/24), Rich G. (1/7/24), Jack (12/10/23), Karl B (7/30/23), Kate S. (7/30/23), Pamela (5/28/23), Cindy (5/28/23), Jay (5/28/23), Lauren (5/28/23), Frieda L. (5/17/23), Paul S. (4/16/23), Gary M. (11/14/21), Tim R. (12/18/18), and all our family members and friends; Give them comfort, reconciliation, and hope. Be their help and their shield. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Loving God, we pray for this community of faith (*name/s may be spoken here*) and for your Spirit in our midst. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

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, share them for the feeding, nurture, and healing of the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death (*especially John Donne and all whose ministry in the arts inspired generations to faith*). Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

### 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.

Amen.

#### **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.

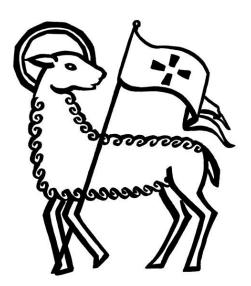
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **PREFACE**

*The presiding minister continues:* 

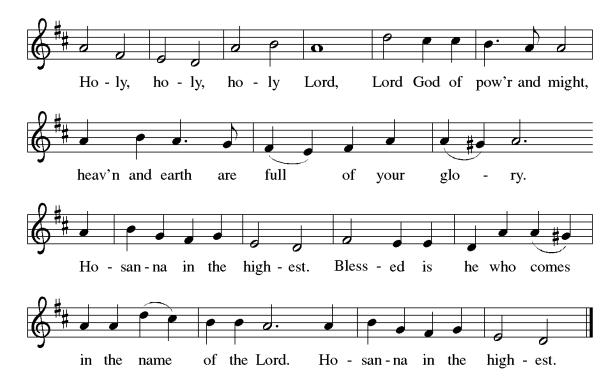
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;
who in dying has destroyed death,
and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



### 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**

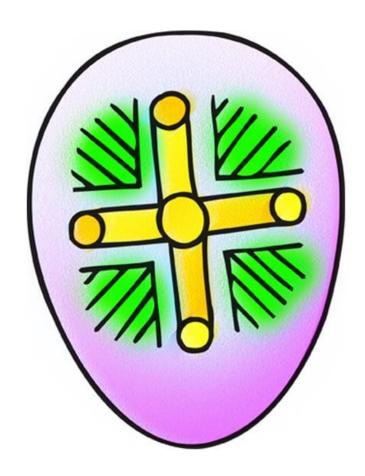
The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

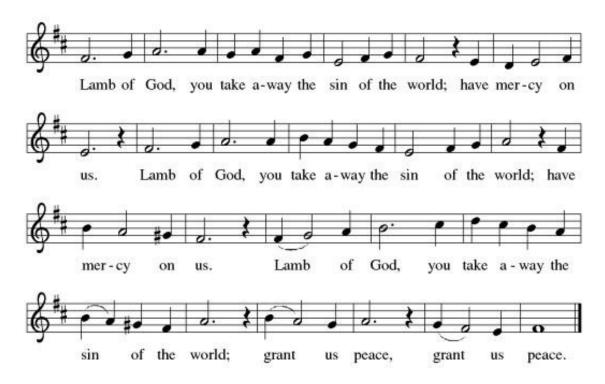
At this time, the assembly may commune receiving the bread.

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



#### **AGNUS DEI**

"Lamb of God" may be sung.



### **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**



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**

My parents, Ruth & Martin and my nephew, Joshua ~ Gwendolyn Feldt
Loved ones ~ Virginia LaFalce
My grandmothers ~ Therese Paff

Jeremy & Lisa, Evelyn & Earl, Helen & Bob, Grandparents ~ Patti & Rockey
Linda Upright & Dolores McLaren ~ Douglas & Christine Upright
Greg Upright, James, Edith, Marge & Ed Peplow ~ Shirley Upright

#### MISSION NOTES

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!

# **EarthCare: Solar Installation Complete!**

The Solar installation at Redeemer, New Paltz, undertaken in partnership with Lighthouse Solar, has been completed just in time to take advantage of peak solar gain in the spring season - thanks be to God!

Installing solar at Redeemer is in keeping with our Focus Area of EarthCare, and is projected to provide 80% or more of our current electricity use, helping us develop a more stable baseline for the cost of electricity used in running God's House at Redeemer as well.

We especially thank Council member Jerry Banach for his tireless efforts to keep this Solar project moving forward, and the other Council volunteers who got this done!

### **Game Circle**

Join us for a fun opportunity to pull generations together during Hospitality Time on the first and third Sundays of the month at Redeemer, New Paltz. Teenage hosts will help gather and lead favorite games such as "Uno," "Taco, Cat, Goat, Cheese, Pizza." Don't know what one of these games is? Come join the excitement to find out!

Launch date/time: April 7th after worship

# Mental Health First Aid Training – Saturday, April 13th, 10 am – 4 pm

Did you know that, on average, 130 people die by suicide every day? That nearly 1 in 5 people in the U.S. lives with mental illness, or that between 1999 and 2019 over 814,00 people died from drug overdoses?

That's why Redeemer is immensely proud to be able to support our community partner, New Paltz Community Werllness, in hosting this important training that helps you to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults.

Who is this training for? Employers, police officers, hospital staff, first responders, caring individuals.

Registration is required by April 4<sup>th</sup> to ensure completion of a self-paced online course prior to the in-person class. To register, please contact Phoenix Kawamoto at <a href="mailto:pkawamoto@townofnewpaltz.org">pkawamoto@townofnewpaltz.org</a>.

# **Redeemer Lutheran Church**

The Reverend Tobias V. Anderson, Pastor

90 State Route 32 South New Paltz, New York 12561-3912 (845) 255-0051 | Worship@RedeemerNewPaltz.org

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