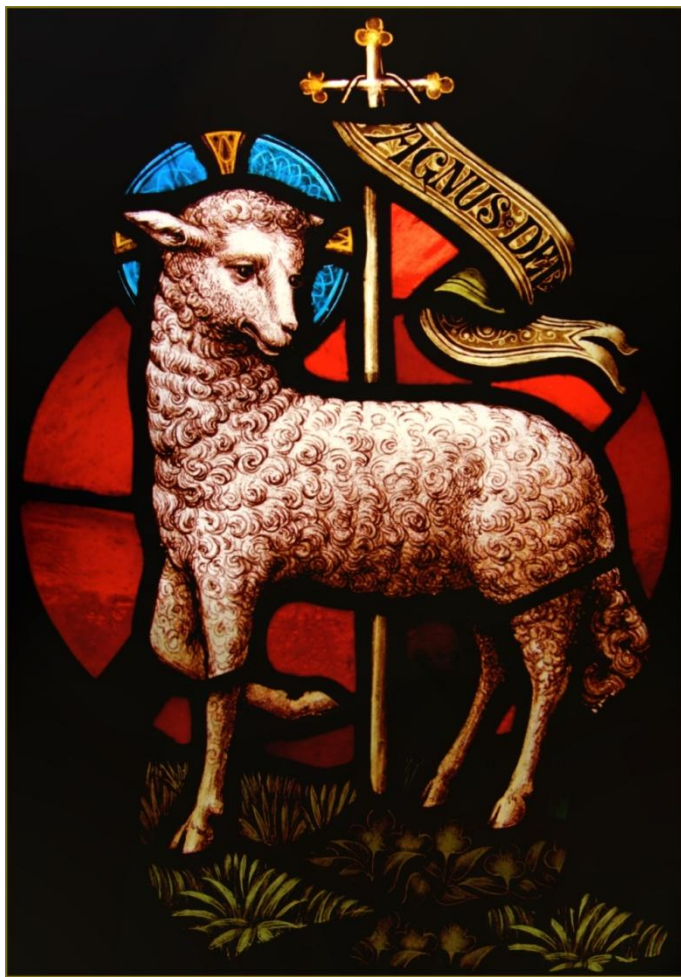


THE VIGIL OF EASTER



April 19, 2014

THE EASTER VIGIL

HOLY SATURDAY NIGHT

The Easter Vigil is the most ancient surviving Christian Liturgy, essentially reaching its present form in the sixth century. Through this Liturgy the church expresses the meaning of her Lord's Passover. Our Lord's passage from death to life is the fulfillment of Israel's passage from bondage to freedom. The Vigil is also the celebration of our own passage through the waters of Holy Baptism. Finally, the Eucharist is a testimony to the coming greater celebration of life at the Messianic Banquet before the throne of God.

The Liturgy consists of these parts:

The Liturgy of Light which centers around the Paschal candle. This includes the blessing of the light, a symbol of Christ who is the light of the world, a solemn procession in which the people of God follow the light through darkness into light, and the Easter Proclamation.

The Liturgy of the Word which involves meditation on all that God has done for his people from the beginning. The readings encompass salvation history from creation to new creation.

The Liturgy of Holy Baptism which focuses our attention on the new life in Christ. The waters of Holy Baptism are blessed, candidates are initiated into the faith by water and the Spirit, and we renew our own baptismal vows.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist during which we are called to the table Christ has prepared for his people through his death and resurrection. Through the eating of bread and wine we celebrate our participation in the salvation given to us through Christ.

THE LITURGY OF LIGHT

BLESSING OF THE FIRE

P Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night in which our Lord Jesus 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 by hearing his Word and celebrating his sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray...Father, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Bless this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

(The minister then traces the inscription on the Paschal Candle.)

P Christ, yesterday and today,
the beginning and the ending, Alpha and Omega.
His are time, and eternity;
His are glory and dominion forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

(Five incense studs, representing the five wounds of Christ are inserted into the candle in the form of a cross)

P By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard and keep us.

C **Amen.**

(The candle is lit.)

P May all the darkness of our hearts and minds be dispelled by the Light of Christ who rises this night in glory.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Bless we ask, O God, this lighted candle and those upon whom it may

shine, that all who this night shall be partakers of your Holy Mysteries, may be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction; that as we were once darkness but are now light in the Lord, we may walk as children of light; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE PROCESSION

(The people's candles are lighted as the light is passed from the Paschal Candle. The procession forms behind the candle, cross, torches, ministers, and choir. Several times the deacon will intone the following.....)

A The light of Christ!

C Thanks be to God.

(After all are in their places, the deacon sings the Easter Proclamation)

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION

A Rejoice now, ... now and forever.

C Amen.

(The responses are sung as at the Holy Communion.)

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

A It is indeed right and ... now and forever.

C Amen.

The Congregation is seated for the readings.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

P Dear friends in Christ: We have begun our solemn Vigil.

Let us now listen attentively to the word of God, recalling how he saved his people through out history, and in the fullness of time sent

his own Son to be our redeemer. Through his Easter celebration, may God bring to perfection the saving work he has begun in us.

*Following the lessons there is silence
At the invitation to pray, please stand.*

THE FIRST LESSON:

Genesis 1:1-2:2

P Let us pray ... O God, who wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE SECOND LESSON:

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

P Let us pray ... O God, strength of the powerless and light in all darkness; Look in mercy upon your Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery, that it may be an ark of peace in the midst of chaos.

Let the whole world experience and see that what was fallen is being raised up, that what is old is being made new, and that all things are being restored to wholeness through him from whom they first took being, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE THIRD LESSON:

Genesis 22:1-18

P Let us pray ... God and Father of all the faithful, you promised Abraham that he would become the father of all nations, and through this paschal mystery you increase your chosen people throughout the world. Help us respond to your call by joyfully accepting the new life of grace. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

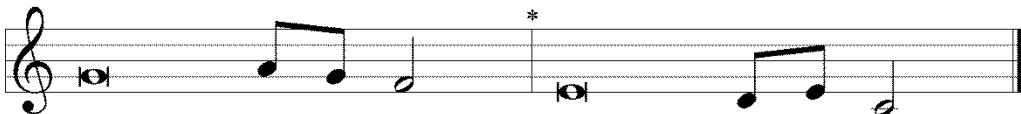
THE FOURTH LESSON:

Exodus 14:10-15:1a

CANTICLE:

Cantemus Domino: Song of Moses and Miriam

(Sung responsively by verse)



I will sing to the Lord, for he has | triumphed gloriously;*
the horse and its rider he has thrown in- | to the sea.

**The Lord is my strength | and my song,*
he has | been my Savior.**

This is my God, and | I will praise him,*
my father's God, and I | will exalt him.

**Your right hand, O Lord, glo- | rious in power,*
your right hand, O Lord, shat- | ters the enemy.**

Who among the gods is like | you, O Lord?*

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, | doing wonders?

**In your mercy you led forth the people | you set free;*
you guided them in your strength
to your holy | habitation.**

You will bring them | in and plant them*
on the mount that is | your possession,

**the place, O Lord, you have made for your dwelling,
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands | have prepared.*
The Lord shall reign forev- | er and ever.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit:*
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forev- | er.
Amen.

P Let us pray ... O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shone 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 of all nations by the water of Baptism.
Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among
the offspring of Abraham and may rejoice in the inheritance of
Israel; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

THE FIFTH LESSON:

Ezekiel 37:1-14

P Let us pray ... O God, by the Passover of the Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life. Give us such an understanding of your mercy that, in receiving the gifts of Word and Sacrament now, we may learn to hope for all your gifts to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

THE SIXTH LESSON:

Daniel 3:1-23

CANTICLE: Benedicite, Omnia Opera: All You Works of the Lord

(Sung in unison)



All you works of the Lord, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You angels of the Lord, | bless the Lord;*
you heavens, | bless the Lord;
all you powers of the Lord, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You sun and moon, | bless the Lord;*
you stars of heaven, | bless the Lord;
you showers and dew, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You winds of God, | bless the Lord;*
you fire and heat, | bless the Lord;
you winter and summer, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You dews and frost, | bless the Lord;*
you frost and cold, | bless the Lord;
you ice and snow, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You nights and days, | bless the Lord;*
you light and darkness, | bless the Lord;

you lightnings and clouds, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
Let the earth | bless the Lord:.*
you mountains and hills, | bless the Lord;
all you green things that grow on the earth, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You wells and springs, | bless the Lord;.*
you rivers and seas, | bless the Lord;
you whales and all who move in the waters, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
All you birds of the air, | bless the Lord;.*
all you beasts and cattle, | bless the Lord;
all you children of mortals, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You people of God, | bless the Lord;.*
you priests of the Lord, | bless the Lord;
you servants of the Lord, | bless the Lord--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.
You spirits and souls of the righteous, | bless the Lord:.*
you pure and humble of heart, | bless the Lord;
let us bless the Father and the Son and the | Holy Spirit--*
praise him and magnify | him forever.

THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

Pastor : God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus 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.

Pastor: Who presents Ava to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism?

Parents: We do.

Pastor (*Address to the parents*): Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Ava baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: As you present your child for baptism, you are entrusted with gifts and responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that he may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace among all people. Do you promise to help Ava grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do.

Pastor (*Address to the sponsors*): Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Ava in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: I do.

Pastor: (*Address to the assembly*): People of God, do you promise to support Ava and pray for her in his new life in Christ?

Cong.: We do.

The Congregation Stands.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

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

Cong.: **I renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Cong.: **I renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Cong.: **I renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you turn to Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Cong.: **In faith I turn to Christ.**

Pastor: With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

Cong.: **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.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

Cong.: **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**

THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong.: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Cong.: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and you created the world by your Word,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through water you led your people Israel
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land.
In the waters of the Jordan Jesus was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you delivered us from the power of sin and death
and set us free to live in you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this water
and upon *all who are* washed in it,
that *they* may be given new life.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Cong.: **Amen.**

The Congregation is seated.

BAPTISM

Pastor: Ava, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong.: **You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, wash them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Ava with 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.

Cong.: **Amen.**

SEALING WITH OIL

Pastor: Ava, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with cross of Christ forever.

CLOTHING WITH A GARMENT

The newly baptized may receive a baptismal garment.

Pastor: You have been clothed in Christ.
All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

PRESENTATION OF A CANDLE

Pastor: Walk in the faith of Christ crucified and risen.
Shine with the light of Christ.

WELCOME

Pastor: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Cong.: **We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(During the Organ Prelude the chancel appointments are set in place, and the lights are raised in celebration of our Lord's Resurrection.)

ORGAN PRELUDE

The Congregation Stands.

(As you stand for the Procession you may turn to the rear of the Nave to face the cross as it passes by.)

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Feast"

#140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Christ has risen! Alleluia!

C **He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

The Congregation is seated.

THE LESSON:

Romans 6:3-11

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore 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. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Congregation Stands.

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

(Verses 1 & 2)

#369

GOSPEL:

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

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and 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. ¹³They 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." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was

Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus 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." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus 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.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"
(Verses 3 & 4) **#369**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A With the fire of Easter in our hearts, the story of salvation in our ears, the waters of baptism on our brow, and the bread and cup of the risen Christ to nourish us, let us pray for new life in the world, in the church, and among us now.

A God of new life, on this most holy night the fire of your love for the world burns brightly. By the power of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, guide the nations of the world that wars may cease and needless human suffering be alleviated. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of new life, on this most holy night your church has heard again of your marvelous deeds, which have won salvation for the world. Empower your church to boldly proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection in all times and places. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of new life, on this most holy night the moon and stars shine in the heavens, declaring your glory. Preserve our planet by your mercy, and enable us to care for the creatures that dwell on the earth, in the sky, and beneath the seas. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of new life, on this most holy night the darkness is oppressive to those who wander homeless, to those who suffer from addictions, depression, or illness. Illumine them with resurrection's hope, for in you even the darkness is as the light. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of new life, on this most holy night we give you thanks for the gift of holy baptism and for all in this place who seek to grow in its graces. Enrich those who teach the faith and those among us who are being nurtured and shaped by your grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A God of new life, on this most holy night you hold us in communion with all who are united with Christ in life and in death (*especially*). Keep us ever mindful of our fellowship with your saints of every time and place. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Hear our prayers, God of new life, for the sake of Jesus, crucified and risen, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

DIALOGUE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P 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.

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:

**C Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

P 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.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P 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.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P 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.

C Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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

P The Lord swallows up death forever and makes a feast of rich food and wine. Eat, drink, the gift is for you.

*Jesus is truly present in the forms of bread and wine.
All Baptized Christians are invited
to the feast of our Lord.*

The Congregation is seated.

THE COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

P.146

COMMUNION HYMN "We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus" **#451**

The Congregation Stands.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Good Shepherd, lead us from the fulfillment and joy of this meal to bring joy and fulfillment to others. Guide us on paths of justice.

Teach us to live for you as servants to one another. Enfold us in your abiding love. We give thanks in the name of the risen Christ.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P May Almighty God bless you in this solemn feast of Easter,
and may he protect you against all sin.

C **Amen.**

P Through the resurrection of his Son, God has granted us
healing. May he fulfill his promises, and bless you with
eternal life.

C **Amen.**

P You have mourned for Christ's sufferings; now celebrate the
joy of his resurrection. May you come with joy to the feast
which lasts forever.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, bless you
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

#365

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2008 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted
by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24010. New Revised Standard
Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the
Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved*

WELCOME!

We acclaim the presence of the Risen Lord in our midst
as he comes to us in Word and Sacrament.

If you are visiting with us, we extend a special welcome
and invite you to share with us in
the First Eucharist of Easter.