

EASTER VIGIL LITURGY

with the lighting of the paschal candle,
the liturgy of the Word, the renewal of baptismal vows,
and the first Eucharist of Easter

17 APRIL 2022



CHRIST CHURCH
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN VIENNA

Please gather in the church garden. Please bring your tapers and service sheets with you.

I. BLESSING THE FIRE AND LIGHTING THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The priest greets the congregation:

Dear friends in Christ, on this most holy night,
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,
the Church invites her children throughout the world
to come together in vigil and prayer.

This is the Passover of the Lord:

If we honour the memory of his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries,
then we may be confident that we shall share his victory over death and live
with him for ever in God.

The fire is blessed.

Let us pray.

Father, we share in the light of your glory through your Son, the light of the
world. Make this new fire holy, and inflame us with new hope. Purify our
minds by this Easter celebration and bring us one day to the feast of eternal
light. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Alpha and Omega, Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
all time belongs to him, and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age for ever.

Amen.

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

Amen.

The Priest lights the candle from the new fire, saying:

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

A JOYFUL EASTERTIDE TO YOU AND YOURS!

This is your personal copy. Please take it home with you.

‘And he departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there
find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here.’

—St Augustine of Hippo

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This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Since the beginning of the pandemic (first Austrian lockdown on 17 March 2020), we have not been taking a collection during the services in the church building. We ask those of you who would otherwise make your donations to Christ Church to consider setting up regular standing orders or some other electronic means of contributing. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference and we are thankful for them.

The candle is carried into the church as the minister sings:

The Light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

There are two further stations one in the middle of the nave and the other at the sanctuary steps. The Exsultet is then sung.

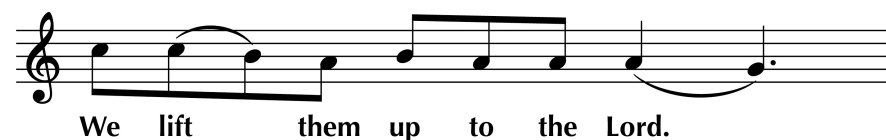
Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the trumpet of salvation!
Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour,
radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes for ever!
Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Saviour shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

My dearest friends, standing with me in this holy light,
join me in asking God for mercy,
that he may give his unworthy minister
grace to sing his Easter praises.

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly right
that with full hearts and minds and voices
we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful Father,
and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

For Christ has ransomed us with his blood,
and paid for us the price of Adam's sin
to our eternal Father!

This is our Passover feast,
when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain,
whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.

This is the night when first you saved our fathers:
you freed the people of Israel from their slavery
and led them dry-shod through the sea.

This is the night when the pillar of fire destroyed the darkness of sin!

This is the night when Christians everywhere,
washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement,
are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

This is the night when Jesus Christ
broke the chains of death
and rose triumphant from the grave.
What good would life have been to us,
had Christ not come as our Redeemer!

Father, how wonderful your care for us!
How boundless your merciful love!

IV. THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER

The service continues as normal. (Please note that by ancient custom open collections taken at Easter, including the Easter Vigil, are given to the Chaplain - The Churchwardens).

HYMN 201 (II)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A CW p.184ff.

LORD'S PRAYER CW p.178ff.

AGNUS DEI

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

HYMN 212

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER CW p.400 (Celebrant)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER CW p.182

SOLEMN BLESSING

HYMN 213 (omit * verses)

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Valet will ich Dir geben, BWV 736
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 -1750)

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, I will.

I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia.
It brought God's life and his salvation,
and the people sang in joyful praise:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household
of faith with all those who have been baptised in your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The priest sprinkles the people with the blessed water.

The peace follows.

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! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

And also with you. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace with the following greeting:

Alleluia. The Lord is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Christos anesti!

Alithos anesti!

To ransom a slave
you gave away your Son.

O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam,
which gained for us so great a Redeemer!
Most blessed of all nights, chosen by God
to see Christ rising from the dead!

Of this night scripture says:

'The night will be as clear as day:
it will become my light, my joy.'

The power of this holy night dispels all evil, washes guilt away,
restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy;
it casts out hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride.
Night truly blessed when heaven is wedded to earth
and man is reconciled with God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night,
receive our evening sacrifice of praise,
your Church's solemn offering.
Accept this Easter candle, a flame divided but undimmed,
a pillar of fire that glows to the honour of God.

Let it mingle with the lights of heaven
and continue bravely burning
to dispel the darkness of this night!

May the Morning Star which never sets
find this flame still burning:
Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead,
and shed his peaceful light on all mankind,
your Son who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

II. THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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 throughout history
and, in the fullness of time,
sent his own Son to be our Redeemer.
Through this Easter celebration,
may God bring to perfection
the saving work he has begun in us.

The vigil readings follow. The choir or a cantor leads the Psalm and the people respond. Then the priest stands and says the collect.

READINGS

1. GENESIS 1.1-5, 1.26-2.2 (*The Creation*)

Psalm 33.1-9

*Response: **The earth is filled with the loving kindness of the Lord.***

2. GENESIS 3.8-13, 22-24 (*The Fall*)

Psalm 130

*Response: **With the Lord there is mercy.***

3. GENESIS 7, 8, and 9 (*The Flood*)

Psalm 46

*Response: **The Lord of hosts is with us.***

4. GENESIS 22.1-18 (*The Binding of Isaac*)

Psalm 16.8-end

*Response: **In your presence is the fullness of joy.***

5. EXODUS 14:10–15:1a (*The Crossing of the Red Sea*)

The Song of Moses and Miriam

*Response: **Sing to the Lord, for he has won a glorious victory.***

After the last reading with its responsory and prayer, the altar lights are lit, the Gloria is sung and hand bells are rung.

in the death of baptism rise also with him to newness of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ
Give you the strength to continue in the way.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and,
whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Dear friends in Christ, let us ask God, the Almighty Father, to bless this font that those reborn in it may be made one with his adopted children in Christ.

Father, you give us grace through sacramental signs,
which tell us of the wonders of your unseen power.
In baptism we use your gift of water,
which you have made a rich symbol
of the grace you give us in this sacrament.
At the very dawn of creation
your Spirit breathed on the waters,
making them the wellspring of all holiness.
The waters of the great flood
you made a sign of the waters of baptism,
that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness.
Through the waters of the Red Sea
You led Israel out of slavery,
to be an image of God's holy people,
set free from sin by baptism.
In the waters of the Jordan
Your Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Spirit.
Your Son willed that water and blood
should flow from his side
as he hung upon the cross.
After his resurrection he told his disciples:
'Go out and teach all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'
Father, look now with love upon your Church,
and unseal for her the fountain of baptism.
By the power of the Spirit
give to the water of this font the grace of your Son.
You created man in your own likeness:
cleanse him from sin in a new birth of innocence
by water and the Spirit. We ask you, Father, with your Son
to send the Holy Spirit upon the waters of this font.
May all who are buried with Christ

GLORIA

**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

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new to him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.
Amen.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 6.3-11

HYMN 192

GOSPEL

Luke 24.1-12

SERMON

III. RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS AT THE FONT

THE LITANY OF REDEMPTION

O give thanks to the Lord for / he is / gracious:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.
Who has loved us from / all e- / ternity:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.

Who only / does great / wonders:
For his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.
Who by his excellent wisdom/made the /heavens:
For his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.

Who laid out the earth a-/bove the /waters:
For his / mercy · en-/dures for/ever.
Who has / made great / lights:
For his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.
The sun to / rule the /day:
for his/mercy · en-/dures for / ever.
The moon and the stars to / govern · the / night:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for/ever.

Who gives food to / all / flesh:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.
Who called / Abraham · from / Haran:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.

Who brought out / Israel · from / Egypt:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.
With a mighty hand and a / stretched · out / arm:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.

Who divided the Red Sea in / two / parts:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.
And made Israel to go / through the /midst of it:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.

Who led his people / through the / wilderness:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for / ever.
Who remembered us when / we were · in / trouble:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.

Who for us and for our salvation came / down from / heaven:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever:
And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary
and / was made / man:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.

Who by his cross and passion has re-/deemed the /world:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.
And has washed us from our sins in his /own /blood:
for his / mercy · en -/dures for /ever.

Who on the third day / rose · from the / dead:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.
And has given / us the / victory:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for / ever.

Who ascended / up on / high:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.
And opened wide for us the ever-/lasting / doors:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.

Who sits on the / right hand · of / God:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.
And lives to make inter-/cession / for us:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.

For the Lord our God is a / merci · ful / God:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for / ever.
And to him is due all glory * / honour · and / worship:
to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit *
now and forever * / world with · out /end. /A-/men.