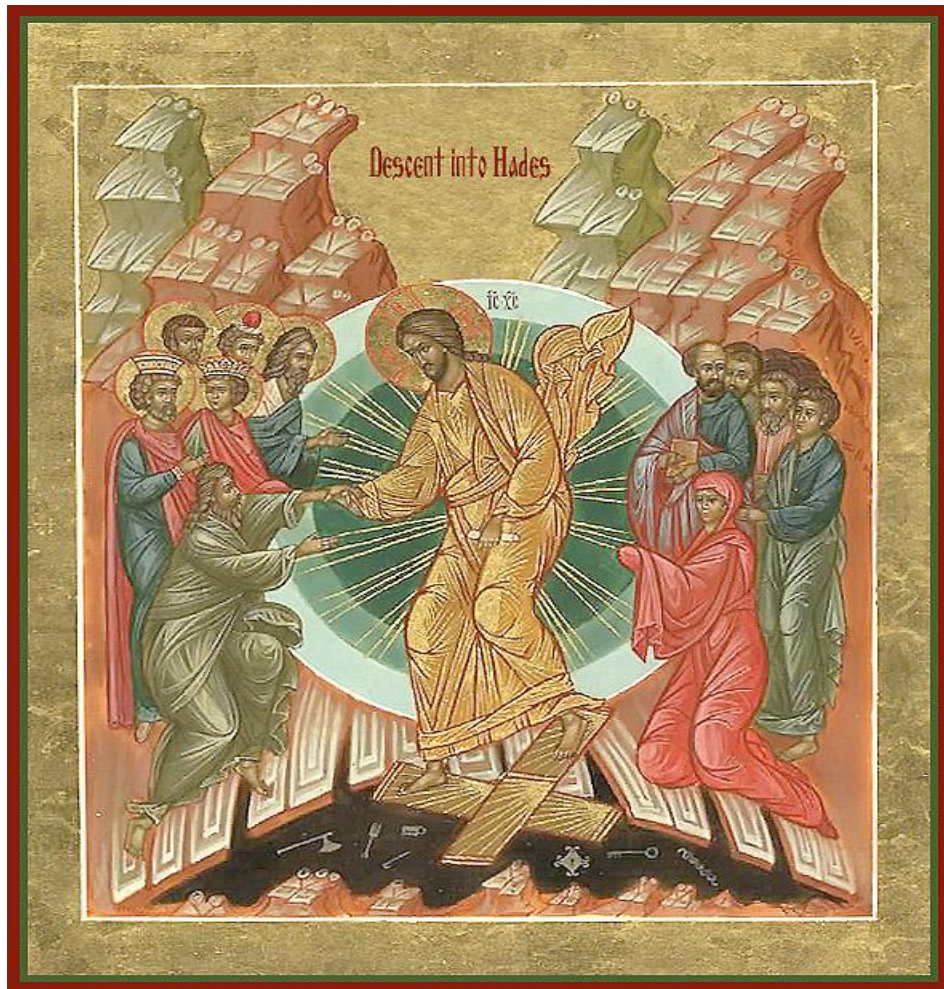


THE GREAT VIGIL
OF
THE RESURRECTION OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



**The Fraternity of Saint Gregory the Great
The Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia**

The Great Vigil, when observed, is the first service of Easter Day.

It is celebrated at a convenient time between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Morning. In ancient times the service began at sundown and went through the night. In the midst of the night the Christian Community took a break for sustenance. As early as 125 AD fragments of blessings are found for different foods. The Christian Community would then resume and celebrate the Eucharist so that upon its conclusion all would see the dawning of a new day in the rising Son. In time, The Western Church shortened the service and created the First Mass of Easter for the Vigil and The Principle Mass of Easter for the day.

The Great Vigil service consists of five parts:

- 1. The Service of Light.*
- 2. The Service of Lessons.*
- 3. Christian Initiation, or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows.*
- 4. The Holy Eucharist.*
- 5. Lauds of Easter*

It is customary for all the clergy present, together with lay readers, singers, and other persons, to take active parts in the service.

The bishop, when present, is the main celebrant, presides at Baptism and Chrismation and normally preaches the sermon.

The priests who are present share among them the reading of the Collects which follow each Lesson, and assist at Baptism and the Eucharist. In the absence of a bishop, a priest presides at the service.

It is the prerogative of a deacon to carry the Paschal Candle to its place, and to chant the Exsultet and read the Gospel. Deacons likewise assist at Baptism and the Eucharist according to their order.

Lay persons read the Lessons and the Epistle, and assist in other ways. It is desirable that each Lesson be read by a different reader.

All is in darkness as fire is kindled outside the church. The Sacred Ministers wear purple vestments except for the Deacon who wears white. Charcoal for the thurible is placed upon the grill to ignite it; The Deacon steps into the church, reads the following, and returns to the fire.

Deacon: Dear friends in Christ:

On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, the Church dispersed throughout the world, gathers in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Mysteries, we share in his victory over death.

The priest sprinkles the fire three times saying nothing. Charcoal is placed in the thurible, incense is set and blessed, and the fire censed three times.

V.: The Lord be with you.

R.: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, through your Son, the cornerstone, you have bestowed upon your faithful people the fire of your glory and the illumination of your Light:

Sanctify this new fire, ✠ struck from flint and destined for our use. Grant that through these Paschal Mysteries we may so burn with heavenly aspirations, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People : Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The priest traces the candle with a stylus or his thumb as he says

Christ yesterday and today
The beginning and the end
Alpha and Omega
All time belongs to him
And all the ages
To him be glory and power
Through every age for ever. *Amen*

If incensed nails are put into the candle the following is used:

1	(1) By his holy		
	(2) and glorious wounds		
4	2	5	(3) may Christ our Lord
			(4) guard us
	3		(5) and preserve us. <i>Amen</i>

The deacon gives the priest a small candle which has been lighted from the new fire. The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the fire as the Priest says

Lord God, Father almighty, light unfailing and the Creator of all lights, bless ✠ this light, which has been sanctified and blessed by you who enlightens the whole world, that we may be kindled by that light and enlightened by the fire of your brightness; and as you lit the way for Moses when he went forth out of Egypt, so now may the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds, that we may be worthy to come to the light eternal. Through Christ our Lord. *R. Amen.*

Then the priest blesses the lighted candle saying:

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

Priest Let us pray:

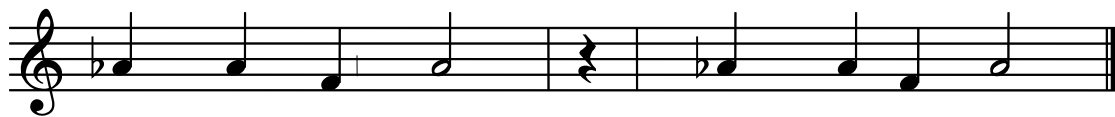
Almighty God, pour out your abundant blessing ✠ upon this lighted candle. O invisible renewer of life, look with favor upon this lamp of night so that the sacrifice offered this evening may marvelously reflect your own light, and let the power of your majesty drive out the deceits of Satan and remain wherever this blessed holy fire may be taken; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

THE SOLEMN PROCESSION AND PASCHAL PRECONIUM

The procession enters the church in this order: Thurifer, Crucifer, Deacon bearing the Candle, Celebrant, followed by the other ministers. The Deacon pausing at the door, the nave and the at the altar (facing the people) and each time singing in a higher key:

Deacon:

People:



The Light of Christ!

Thanks be to God!

Each time the people genuflect toward the Light then light their candles from the Paschal Candle. Other candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the Altar, are also lighted.

When the procession reaches the Sanctuary the Paschal Candle is placed in its stand and is incensed by the Priest.

THE PASCHAL PRECONIUM

Incense is set by the Priest then the Deacon, wearing a white dalmatic asks a blessing of the Priest:

Deacon: Father (Master) Bless!

Priest: The Lord be in your heart and on your lips, so you may with dignity and competence proclaim the Paschal Proclamation; in the name of the Father, and of the Son
✠ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen


The Deacon goes to the lectern which is covered by a white veil, places the book on it, and incenses it.

He then incenses the Paschal Candle while walking around it, and, standing South of the Candle, sings the Exsultet:


Exultet



Re-joyce now, hea-ven-ly hosts and choirs of an-gels,



Re-joyce di-vine mys-te-ries in the hea-vens



Je-sus Christ our Lord is ri-sen



let your trump-ets shout Sal-va-tion at his vic-to-ry!



Re-joyce too, O Earth;




you are made brill-iant by such splen-dor,



Re-joyce for you have been il-lu-mined.



Dark - ness has been des - troyed for - ev - er,




Christ has con - quered! Glo - ry fills you!



Re - jice and ex - ult, O Ho - ly Mo - ther Church,



Re - jice in the brill - iance of so great a light




and let this tem - ple re - sound with thun - der - ous praise,



and the joy - ful voi - ces of your peo - ple.



There - fore my dear breth - ren



stand - ing in the awe - some bright - ness of this ho - ly light,

join with me in prayer to Al - migh - ty God,

ask - ing that he show us mer - cy;

through Je - sus Christ his Son our Lord,

who lives and reigns with him, and the Ho-ly Spir - it,

one God, for all a - ges of a-ges.



A-men

People:





Deacon:

The Lord be with you.



People:

And with your spir - it.



Deacon:

Lift up your hearts.



People:

We lift them to the Lord.



Deacon:

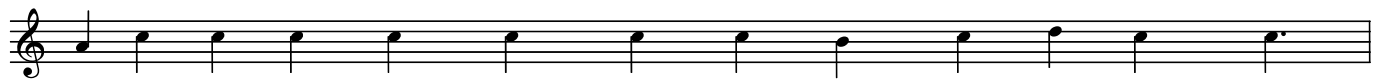
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



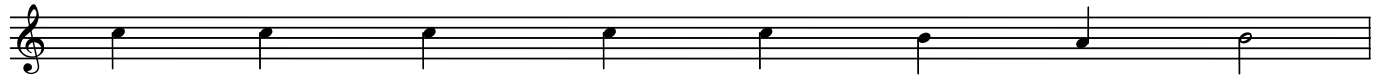
People:

It is meet and right so to do.

The Deacon continues:



It is tru-ly right and good, al-ways and ev-ery-where,



with our whole heart and mind and voice,



to praise you, the in-vis-i-ble, al-migh-ty, and e-ter-nal God,



and your on-ly be-got-ten Son, Je-sus Christ our Lord;



for he is the true Pasch - al Lamb,



who at the feast of the Pass - o - ver




broke the bonds of sin and death from the time of A-dam,



and by his blood de-liv-ered your faith-ful peo-ple




from the chains of the an-cest-ral curse.



This is the Pas-chal Feast in which the true Lamb was slain;



whose blood a-noints the door-posts of the faith-ful be-lie-vers.




This is the night, when you brought our fa-thers,




the child-ren of Is-ra-el, out of bond-age in E-gypt,




and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.




O tru-ly bless-ed night which des-poiled the E-gypt-ians



and saved the He - brews. This is the night



on which the light of the pill - ar of fi - re



des - troyed the dark - ness of sin. This is the night,




when all who be - lieve in Christ are washed clean of sin,



and freed from all de - file - ment



are re - stored to grace and grow in ho - li - ness of life.



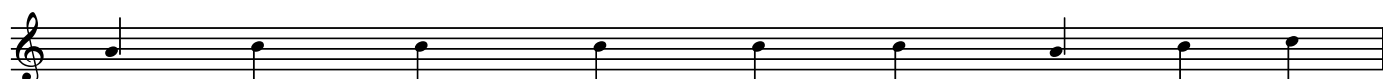
For this is the night,



when Christ broke the chains of death that bound us,



and rose vic - to - ri - ous from the grave.



For what good would life have been to us,



had we not have been re - deemed?




O wond-rous con-de-scen-sion of your mer-cy towards us!



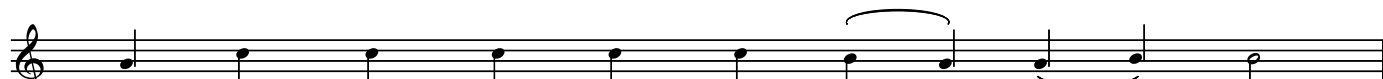
How far be - yond our un - der - stand - ing



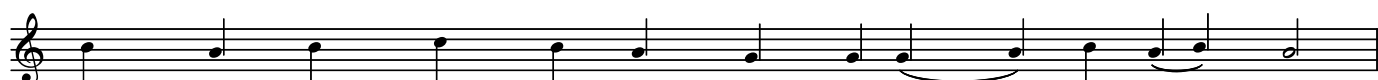
is your bound - less love toward us



that to re-deem a slave you gave your Son. O Hap - py fault,



O ne - ces - sa - ry sin of A - dam,



which was des-troyed by the death of Christ our Sa-viour!




O tru - ly bless-ed night which a-lone was wor - thy,



to know the time and hour when Christ a-rose from the grave!




It is of this night that scrip - ture says:




"And the night shall be as bright as day.



And the night shall light up my joy!"



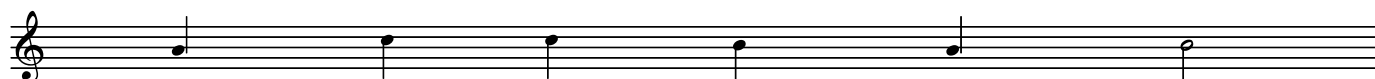
How ho - ly is this night, when wick-ed-ness is put to flight,




and sin is washed a - way.




It re - stores in - no - cence to the fall - en,



brings joy to those who mourn;



It casts out hat - red and hum - bles pride



and brings peace and con-cord. How bless-ed is this night,



when earth and hea - ven are joined to - ge - ther



and Man is re-con-ciled to God. O Ho - ly Fa - ther,



ac-cept on this night the ev-en-ing sac-ri-fice of fire




which your ho - ly Church pre - sents to you



by the hands of her min - is - ters




in the sol-ern of-fer-ing of this can-dle of wax made by bees.



For now we see the splen - dor of this pill - ar




which the shin-ing flame en - kin-dles to the glo-ry of God:




A fi - re in - to man - y flames di - vid - ed,



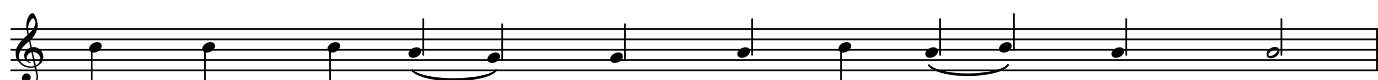
yet ne - ver dimmed by the shar - ing of its light,



be - cause it is nour - ished by the melt - ing wax




pro - duced by the mo - ther bee



to form the sub - stance of this pre - cious lamp.



O night on which hea - ven comes down to earth



and earth is raised to God!




There - fore O Lord, we pray that this can - dle




con - se - cra - ted to the hon - or of your name,




may end-less-ly con-tin-ue to scat-ter the dark-ness of night.



May it be re - ceived as a sweet fra - grance




and min - gle with the lights of hea - ven.



May Christ the Morn - ing Star which nev - er sets:




He who came back from the grave



and shed his se - rene light up - on us,



find its flame still burn - ing. Grant us, your ser - vants O Lord,




and all your cler - gy and faith - ful peo - ple,



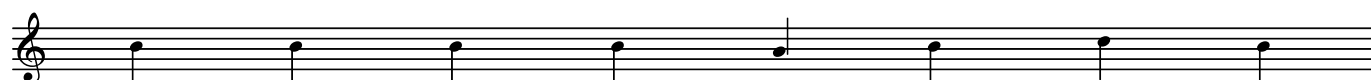
to - ge - ther with our Pa - tri - arch Ky - ril



and our Me - tro - po - li - tan and Bish - op Hi - la - ri - on,




a sea - son of peace dur - ing this time of Pasch - al joy;



and gov - ern, rule and pre - serve us



with your con - stant pro - tec - tion.



Al - so look up - on those who gov - ern us



and, in your in - ef - fa - ble good - ness and mer - cy,



guide their thoughts towards just - ice and peace



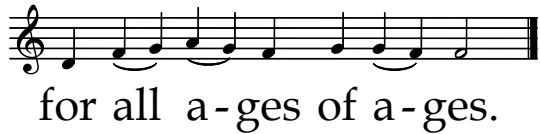
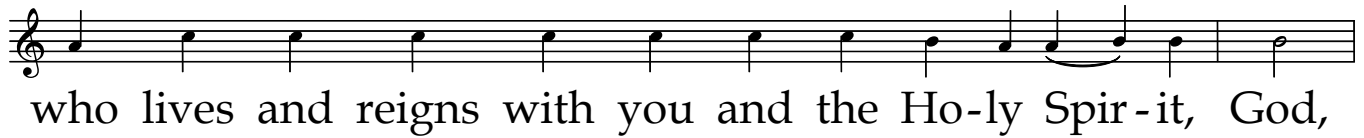
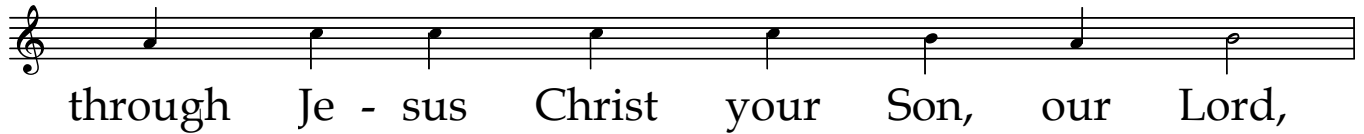
so that, with all your peo - ple,



they may one day ar - rive in our hea - ven - ly king - dom,



leav - ing be - hind them the cares of this world;



A-men

People:

Traditionally the Paschal Candle burns at all services from Pascha until after the gospel of the Ascension Day Liturgy.

The Deacon changes into a purple dalmatic.

THE TWELVE PROPHECIES

Priest: Let us now listen attentively to the word of God, recalling how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

I

The First Prophecy: **Genesis 1:1-2:2**

The Creation of the World

Man created after the Image of God and His likeness had dominion over all living creatures.

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. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night... and the stars. God set them in the dome of

the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make Man in our image, according to our likeness; and let him have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created Man in his image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree

with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

Lector: The Word of The Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: 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, that by discipline of spirit, we may stand firm against the allurements of sin and be found worthy to attain everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ you Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

II

The Second Prophecy: **Genesis 5: 32-8:21** The Deluge

The ark is the prefiguration of the true Church, which is the Ark of Salvation.

After Noah was five hundred years old, Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth. When people began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that they were fair; and they took wives for themselves of all that they chose. Then the LORD said, "My spirit shall not abide in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall be one hundred twenty years." The Nephilim (giants) were on the earth in those days – and also afterward – when the sons of God went in to the daughters of humans, who bore children to them. These were the heroes that were of old, warriors of renown.

The LORD saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that he had made humankind on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the LORD said, "I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created – people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the sight of the LORD. These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God. And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw that the earth was corrupt; for all flesh

had corrupted its ways upon the earth. And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above; and put the door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them." Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

All the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind — every bird, every winged creature.

And the waters increased, and bore up the ark. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred fifty days. But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and all the domestic animals that were with him in the ark.

And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided; the fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, and the waters gradually receded from the earth. At the end of one hundred fifty days the waters had abated; At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him anymore.

Then God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh – birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth – so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families.

Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the LORD smelled the pleasing odor.

Lector: The Word of The Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ **SILENT REFLECTION** ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God of unchangeable power and eternal light:
Look favorably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery;
by the effectual working of your providence,
carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation;
let the whole world see and know
that things which were cast down are being raised up,
and things which had grown old are being made new,
and that all things are being brought to their perfection

by him through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages

People: Amen.

III

The Third Prophecy: **Genesis 2:1-18**

Faith & Obedience of Abraham

The offering of Abraham is a figure of the Sacrifice of the Cross.

In those days God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.

On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son."

So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the

place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Lector: The Word of The Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen

IV

The Fourth Prophecy: **Exodus 14:24-15:1** The Deliverance at the Red Sea

*As Moses freed the Israelites from the captivity of Egypt,
so Christ by baptism reserves the catechumens from the yoke of Satan.*

In those days, at the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD.....

THE SONG OF MOSES *Cantemus Domino*

TONE VII



Cantor: I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and up-lift-ed; *

All: the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my re-fuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty war-ri-or; *
Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army,
has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor,
have been drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has over-whelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone..



Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness,
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up..

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety,
to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign *
for ever and forever.

Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, ↓ and to the Ho-ly Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever,
for all ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be 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 rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

V

The Fifth Prophecy: **ISAIAH 54:17, 55:1-11**

Salvation Freely Offered to All

Through Baptism, we are incorporated into the new nation: the Church, which with God enters into a covenant superior to the covenant of Sinai.

This is the inheritance of the servants of the Lord, and their justice with Me, says the Lord. All you who thirst, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Lector: The Word of The Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O Almighty, eternal God, for the honor of your name multiply what you promised to the faith of the fathers, and increase by holy adoption the sons of promise, that, what the saints of old did not doubt would be, your Church may know to have been already in great part fulfilled; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

VI

The Sixth Prophecy: Baruch 3:9-39

We shall enjoy everlasting peace in heaven, if we observe the lessons of life and wisdom which the prophet (the Church) teaches us.

Hear, O Israel the commandments of life: give ear, and learn wisdom! Why is it, O Israel, why is it that you are in the land of your enemies, that you are growing old in a foreign country, that you are defiled with the dead, that you are counted among those in Hades? You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom. If you had walked in the way of God, you would be living in peace forever. Learn where there is wisdom, where there is strength, where there is understanding, so that you may at the same time discern where there is length of days, and life, where there is light for the eyes, and peace. Who has found her place? And who has entered her storehouses?

Where are the rulers of the nations, and those who lorded it over the animals on earth; those who made sport of the birds of the air, and who hoarded up silver and gold in which people trust, and there is no end to their getting; those who schemed to get silver, and were anxious, but there is no trace of their works? They have vanished and gone down to Hades, and others have arisen in their place.

Later generations have seen the light of day, and have lived upon the earth; but they have not learned the way to knowledge, nor understood her paths, nor laid hold of her. Their descendants have strayed far from her way. She has not been heard of in Canaan, or seen in Teman; the descendants of Hagar, who seek for understanding on the earth, the merchants of Merran and Teman,

the story-tellers and the seekers for understanding, have not learned the way to wisdom, or given thought to her paths.

O Israel, how great is the house of God, how vast the territory that he possesses! It is great and has no bounds; it is high and immeasurable. The giants were born there, who were famous of old, great in stature, expert in war. God did not choose them, or give them the way to knowledge; so they perished because they had no wisdom, they perished through their folly. Who has gone up into heaven, and taken her, and brought her down from the clouds? Who has gone over the sea, and found her, and will buy her for pure gold? No one knows the way to her, or is concerned about the path to her. But the one who knows all things knows her, he found her by his understanding.

The one who prepared the earth for all time filled it with four-footed creatures; the one who sends forth the light, and it goes; he called it, and it obeyed him, trembling; the stars shone in their watches, and were glad; he called them, and they said, "Here we are!" They shone with gladness for him who made them. This is our God; no other can be compared to him. He found the whole way to knowledge, and gave it to his servant Jacob and to Israel, whom he loved. Afterward he appeared on earth and lived with humankind.

Lector: The Word of The Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God, you continue to multiply your Church by the calling of the nations, mercifully grant that those whom you wash with the water of baptism may be guarded by your continual protection; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

VII

The Seventh Prophecy: EZEKIEL 37:1-14

The Valley of Dry Bones

The prophet tells us of the resurrection of men.

The Sacrament of Baptism infuses new life into our souls.

In those days the hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Man, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, O man, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four

winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.

Lector: The Word of The Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God, who instructs us in the pages of both testaments how to celebrate the paschal mysteries, grant us to understand your mercy, that by the reception of the present gifts, our expectation of those to come may be confirmed; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

VIII

The Eighth Prophecy: Isaiah 4:1-6

*Our Lord Jesus Christ, after cleansing our souls in Baptism,
will take us under His protection.*

In that day, Seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, "We will eat our own bread and wear our own clothes; just let us be called by your name; take away our disgrace."

On that day the branch of the LORD shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and glory of the survivors of Israel. Whoever is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem, once the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and cleansed the bloodstains of Jerusalem from its midst by a spirit of judgment and by a spirit of burning. Then the LORD will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over its places of assembly a cloud by day and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night. Indeed over all the glory there will be a canopy. It will serve as a pavilion, a shade by day from the heat, and a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.

Lector: The Word of The Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

The Tract: **Vinea Facta est** Isaiah 5:1,2 **TONE VIII**



My beloved had a vineyard*
on a very fertile hillside.

He dug it and cleared it of stones,*
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,*
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts*
is the house of Israel.

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ **SILENT REFLECTION** ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God, by the voice of your holy prophets you made clear to all the children of your Church that you are the sower of good seed and the cultivator of select branches throughout your entire kingdom. Grant that your children, whom you termed the vine and harvest, may root out all thorns and briars, and bring forth good fruit in abundance; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

IX

The Ninth Prophecy: Exodus 12:1-11

*The children of Israel are to sacrifice the Paschal Lamb;
the Lamb of God will be put to death on the Cross.*

In those days the LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it

shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD.

Lector: The Word of The Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: Almighty and eternal God, you are wonderful in the ordering of all your works, let those whom you have redeemed understand that to have made the world in the beginning was no greater work, than in the end of the ages to have sacrificed Christ our Passover Lamb, Who with you lives and reigns, with the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

X

The Tenth Prophecy: Jonah 3:1-10

Pardon granted to the Ninivites, who, moved by the exhortations of Jonah, fasted and covered themselves with ashes for forty days.

In those days the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent

and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish." When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Lector: The Word of The Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God, who has joined together the diversity of the peoples in the confession of your name, grant us both to desire what you command and the power to perform it, that there may be one faith in the hearts, and one holiness in the deeds, of the people called to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

XI

The Eleventh Prophecy: Deuteronomy 31: 22-30

We who have been baptized must, like the Israelites led by Moses, recall to mind the precepts of God and His munificence.

In those days Moses wrote this song and taught it to the Israelites. Then the LORD commissioned Joshua son of Nun and said, "Be strong and bold, for you shall bring the Israelites into the land that I

promised them; I will be with you." When Moses had finished writing down in a book the words of this law to the very end, Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying, "Take this book of the law and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God; let it remain there as a witness against you. For I know well how rebellious and stubborn you are. If you already have been so rebellious toward the LORD while I am still alive among you, how much more after my death! Assemble to me all the elders of your tribes and your officials, so that I may recite these words in their hearing and call heaven and earth to witness against them. For I know that after my death you will surely act corruptly, turning aside from the way that I have commanded you. In time to come trouble will befall you, because you will do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger through the work of your hands." Then Moses recited the words of this song, to the very end, in the hearing of the whole assembly of Israel:

The Tract: *Atténde coelum* Deuteronomy 32: 1-4 TONE III



Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak;*
let the earth hear the words of my mouth.

May my teaching drop like the rain, *
my speech condense like the dew;

like gentle rain on grass, *
like showers on new growth.

For I will proclaim the name of the LORD; *
ascribe greatness to our God!

The Rock, his work is perfect*,
and all his ways are just.

A faithful God, without deceit, *
just and holy is he;

Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son,↓
and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever,
for all ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ **SILENT REFLECTION** ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: O God, the exaltation of the lowly and the strength of the just, you were pleased to teach your people, through Moses, your holy servant, by the chanting of your sacred hymn, that this repetition of the law might become our instruction also; put forth your power upon the whole body of the justified nations, and give them joy by allaying their fear, so that all their sins being wiped out by your forgiveness, that which was proclaimed for vengeance may turn into salvation; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

XI

The Twelfth Prophecy: Daniel 3: 1-24

*We are, after Baptism, protected by God in the midst of all adversities,
as were the three young men in the furnace.*

In those days King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue whose height was sixty cubits and whose width was six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent for the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to assemble and come to the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. So the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, assembled for the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. When they were standing before the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up, the herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you are to fall down and worship the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire." Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and denounced the Jews. They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the sound of the

horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue, and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire. There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These pay no heed to you, O king. They do not serve your gods and they do not worship the golden statue that you have set up." Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in; so they brought those men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?" Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up." Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary, and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and their other

garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. Because the king's command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire. And they walked in the midst of the flame, praising God, and blessing the Lord.

Lector: The Word of The Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

Priest: Let us pray

Deacon: Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Deacon: Arise!

Priest: Almighty and eternal God, the only hope of the world, by the mouth of your prophets you have shown forth the mysteries of the present time, be pleased to give increase to the desires of your people, for in none of the faithful do any virtues bear fruit but by your inspiration; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

BLESSING OF THE BAPTISMAL FONT

If there is a baptismal font in the church it is now blessed. The clergy, bearing the paschal candle, go to the baptistry. The following is sung. If there is no Baptistry and it is desired to bless Baptismal water, a vessel is placed in the sanctuary (traditionally on the Epistle side) so that the priest may stand behind it facing the congregation. The oil of catechumens and

the holy chrism is placed on a table nearby as well as a towel. The priest may also do the blessing as of Easter Water thereby stopping on page 56, not adding the holy oils, and continuing with the Renewal of Baptismal promises on page 59.

Tract: Psalm 42 **Quemadmodum**

TONE III



Ant. As the deer longs for run-ning streams, *
so longs my soul for you, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, ↓ athirst for the liv-ing God; *
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God? **Ant.**

My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all day long they say to me,
"Where now is your God?" **Ant.**

I pour out my soul when I think on these things: *
how I went with the multitude
and led them into the house of God, **Ant.**

With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
among those who keep holy-day. **Ant.**

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me? **Ant.**

Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God. **Ant.**

One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; *
all your rapids and floods have gone over me. *Ant.*

The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; *
in the night season his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life. *Ant.*

Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God. *Ant.*

Drawing near the font all pause, and the priest prays as follows:

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us pray

Almighty and eternal God, favorably regard the devotion of your people, who are to be born again in you, and who, even as the deer, seeks after the fountain of your waters, grant propitiously that the thirst of faith itself may, by the mystery of baptism, sanctify soul and body; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us pray:

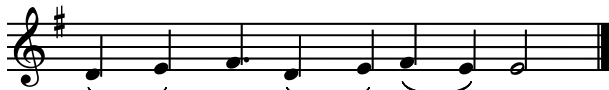
Almighty and eternal God, show us your wonderful fidelity in these sacramental mysteries. Send forth the spirit of adoption to regenerate the new people who are born at the font of Baptism, so that the rite to be performed through our humble ministry may be effective by the operation of your power; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen

The priest stands behind the vessel of water to be blessed, hands joined:



Priest: The Lord be with you.



People: And with your spir - it.



Priest: Lift up your hearts.



People: We lift them to the Lord.



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



People: It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly right and just, proper and helpful toward salvation, that we always and everywhere give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father almighty and eternal God, who by your unseen power wondrously bring about the effect of your holy mysteries. Although we are unworthy to perform so great a rite, you are not one to withdraw the gift of your grace; and you are also ready to hear our prayers. O God, in the very beginning of the world your Spirit moved over the waters and gave the element of water the power to sanctify.

O God, by water you also washed away the sinfulness of a guilty world. By the deluge of rain you prefigured the regeneration where, in a mysterious manner, one and the same element make an end of sin and initiates virtue. May you, O Lord, who fill your city with joy by the flowing torrent of your grace, look mercifully upon your Church and multiply your acts of regeneration within her. Open the fonts of baptism all over the world for the renewal of the nations, so that under your majestic dominion they may receive for the Holy Spirit the grace of your only begotten Son.

The priest divides the water in the form of a cross with his extended hand. Then dries his hand with a cloth, saying:

May the water, prepared of the regeneration of man, be made fruitful by the unseen outpouring of his divine power, so that a heavenly offspring, conceived in holiness and reborn into a new creature, may come forth from the spotless womb of this divine font; and may all, regardless of distinction or sex, be brought forth into the same infancy by the motherhood of grace. Therefore, O Lord, may all unclean spirits depart from here at your command; may all wickedness and satanic deceit be banished. May no power of the enemy remain here to fly about and lay snares, nor creep in by stealth and corrupt by its poison.

The priest touches the water with his hand.

May this holy and innocent creature be free from all the enemy's assaults and cleansed by the removal of all his wickedness. May it be a font of life, a water of new birth, a stream of purification, so that all who are washed in the bath of salvation, may obtain, through the working of the Holy Spirit in them, the grace of perfect cleansing.

The priest makes the sign of the cross above the water saying:

Therefore, O water, created by the Almighty, I bless ✠ you by the living God, by the true God, by the holy God, by the God who through his word in the beginning separated you from the dry land and whose Spirit moved over you.

The priest divides the water with his hand, and sprinkles it toward the four corners of the world, saying:

He also made you flow from a fountain in paradise and bade you water the whole earth with your four rivers; in the desert he changed your bitterness to sweetness so that you were fit to drink, and caused you to spring forth from a rock to quench the thirsts of his people. I also bless you by our Lord Jesus Christ, his only Son, who by his power miraculously changed you into wine at Cana of Galilee and who walked upon your surface and was baptized in your Jordan stream by John. He also caused you, together with blood, to flow from his own side, and commanded his disciples to baptize believers in you, saying, "Go, teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Almighty God, be merciful to us who observe this command; let your gracious breath be upon us.

He breathes three times on the water, in the form of a cross saying:

With your own lips bless this pure water, so that it may have, besides its natural power of cleansing bodies, the added effect of purifying souls.

The priest lowers the candle a little way into the water, and, resuming the preface tone, he says:

May the power of the Holy spirit descend into the waters of this font.

He removes the candle from the water and lowers it again more deeply and repeats in a higher tone of voice:

May the power of the Holy Spirit descend into the waters of this font.

He removes the candle from the water and lowers it a third time to the bottom of the vessel, repeating in a still higher tone:

May the power of the Holy spirit descend into the waters of this font.

He then blows on the water three times in the form of the figure Ψ and continues:

And make the whole substance of the water fruitful for regeneration.

The candle is removed from the water and the priest continues:

Here may the stain of all sin be washed away; may human nature created in your likeness and recreated to the glory of its maker, be cleansed from all defilement of Man, so that everyone who received this sacrament of regeneration may be born again into a new infancy of true innocence. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who will come to judge the living and the dead, and the world by fire.

People: Amen.

The above suffices for Easter Water If no baptism go to page 61.

Should there be a baptism on this night the following is done:

A cleric or server takes some of the blessed water in a vessel for the sprinkling of the people after the renewal of the Baptismal promises.

The priest pours some of the oil of the catechumens into the water in the form of a cross saying:

May this font, by the oil of salvation, be sanctified ✠ and made fruitful for those who are born anew in it unto life everlasting.

All: Amen.

Then the priest pours some of the Chrism into the water in the same way, saying:

May the pouring of the chrism of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠ and of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, be made in the name of the Holy Trinity.

All: Amen.

After this the priest takes both vessels of holy oil and chrism and, pouring from both at the same time in the form of a cross, he says:

May the mixture of the chrism of sanctification, the oil of anointing and the water of baptism be made in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

When the blessing has been completed the baptismal water is carried in procession to the baptistery and poured into the font. The order of procession is the thurifer, crucifer, deacon with the blessed water and the priest.

During the procession, if the following was not chanted earlier it may be chanted now:

Tract: Psalm 42 **Quemadmodum**

TONE III



Ant. As the deer longs for run-ning streams, *
so longs my soul for you, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, ↓ athirst for the liv-ing God; *
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God? **Ant.**

My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all day long they say to me,
"Where now is your God?" **Ant.**

I pour out my soul when I think on these things: *
how I went with the multitude
and led them into the house of God, *Ant.*

With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
among those who keep holy-day. *Ant.*

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me? *Ant.*

Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God. *Ant.*

One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; *
all your rapids and floods have gone over me. *Ant.*

The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; *
in the night season his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life. *Ant.*

Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God. *Ant.*

*After the baptismal water has been poured into the font, the priest says
without inflection, with his hands joined:*

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, look mercifully on the devotion of your reborn people, who, like the deer, seek the fountain of your waters. Graciously grant that faith may sanctify body and soul through the mystery of baptism; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

He incenses the font and all return in silence to the sanctuary.

THE REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The Priest addresses the people in these words, all standing

On this most sacred night, dear brethren, holy Mother Church recalls the death and burial of our Lord Jesus Christ. In return for his great love, she keeps watch. And, celebrating his glorious resurrection she is filled with an exceeding joy. As the Apostle teaches, by baptism we have been buried with Christ into death. As Christ has risen from the dead, so we too must now walk in the newness of life. For we know that our old self has been crucified with Christ, so that we may no longer be slaves to sin. Let us, then, remember that we have died to sin but are to live for God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore, dear brethren, I call upon you, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, as well as that world which is the enemy of God, and promised to serve God faithfully in the Holy Catholic Church.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

People I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things, visible, and invisible.

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

People I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father. Through him all things were made; For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven, Was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and became Man.

Crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate,
He suffered death and was buried.
And rose again on the third day
in accordance with the scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again, in glory, to judge the
living and the dead.
His kingdom will have no end.

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
And One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and ✠ the life of the age to come

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and tradition,
in the Breaking of Bread, and in the Prayers?

People I will, with God's help.

The Priest now sprinkles the people with holy water to remind them of their baptism during which the Vidi Aquam is sung. He then concludes the Renewal of Vows with the prayer following

I saw wa - ter, com - ing forth from the right side of the tem - ple,
 al - le - lu - ia.; and all who came to that wa - ter were saved,
 and they shall say: al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu -
 - ia. O give thanks to the Lord for he is good:
 for his mer - cy en - dures for - ev - er. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son,
 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in the be - gin - ning,
 is now and ev - er, for all a - ges of a - ges. A - men I saw wa - ter,
 com - ing forth from the right side of the tem - ple, al - le - lu - ia.;
 and all who came to that wa - ter were saved, and they shall say:
 al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia.

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen*

THE LITANY OF THE SAINTS

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of heaven.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world.

God the Holy Spirit.

Holy Trinity, one God.

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

Have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us.

The Sacred Ministers now retire to the sacristy where they change into white vestments as the rest of the Litany is chanted:

Holy Mary.

Holy Mother of God.

Holy Virgin of virgins.

Saint Michael.

Saint Gabriel.

Saint Raphael.

Saint Uriel.

All you holy angels and archangels.

All you holy ranks of blessed spirits.

Saint John the Baptist.

Saint Joseph.

All you holy patriarchs and prophets.

Saint Peter.

Saint Paul.

Saint John.

All you holy apostles and evangelists.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

Pray for us.

All you holy disciples of the Lord.	Pray for us.
Saint Stephen.	Pray for us.
Saint Lawrence.	Pray for us.
Saint Vincent.	Pray for us.
All you holy martyrs.	Pray for us.
Saint Sylvester.	Pray for us.
Saint Gregory.	Pray for us.
Saint Augustine.	Pray for us.
All you holy bishops and confessors.	Pray for us.
All you holy doctors.	Pray for us.
Saint Anthony.	Pray for us.
Saint Benedict.	Pray for us.
Saints Cosmas and Damiano	Pray for us.
All you holy priests and clerics.	Pray for us.
All you holy monks and hermits.	Pray for us.
Saints Herman, Tikhon, and Innocent.	Pray for us.
Saints Raphael, Alexis, and Jacob.	Pray for us.
Saints John, Alexander and Juvenaly.	Pray for us.
Saints Peter and John Maximovitch.	Pray for us.
All you holy ones of North America.	Pray for us.
Saint Mary Magdalen.	Pray for us.
Saint Agnes.	Pray for us.
Saint Cecilia.	Pray for us.
Saint Agatha.	Pray for us.
Saint Lucy.	Pray for us.
Saint Anastasia.	Pray for us.
All you holy virgins and widows.	Pray for us.
All you holy men and women	
Saints of God.	Intercede for us.

THE FIRST LITURGY OF THE RESURRECTION

The candles at the Altar are now lighted from the Paschal Candle.

** When all are ready and in place the Priest proclaims:*

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The People Shout: Indeed He is risen! Alleluia!

Priest: Christos Anesti!

People Alithos anesti!

Priest: Christos voskrese!

People Voistenu voskrese!

Priest: Christos amviat!

People: Adevarat amviat!

The Church Bells are rung joyously proclaiming The Resurrection!

The Organ Immediately Responds with a Triumphant Fanfare!

The purple cloths are removed and the following or the Gloria is sung.

Priest:



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia.

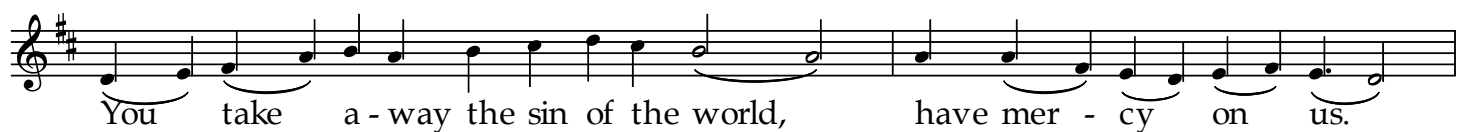
The congregation continues:

Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and
wis - dom and strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and
glo - ry are his. This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our
God. Al - le - lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
God and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to God and the
Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. This is the feast of
vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be -
- gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

OR

Gloria V Traditional

Father Anthony J Bondi, Jr



pra - yer. You sit at the right hand of God the Fa - ther,
 have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are ho - ly,
 You a - lone are Lord. You a - lone are most high,
 Je - sus Christ. With the Ho - ly Spir - it
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine
 with the glory of the Lord's resurrection:
 Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is
 given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in
 body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and
 truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and
 reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
 for all ages of ages

People Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Lector: A Reading from The Epistle to The 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.

Lector: The Word of The Lord.

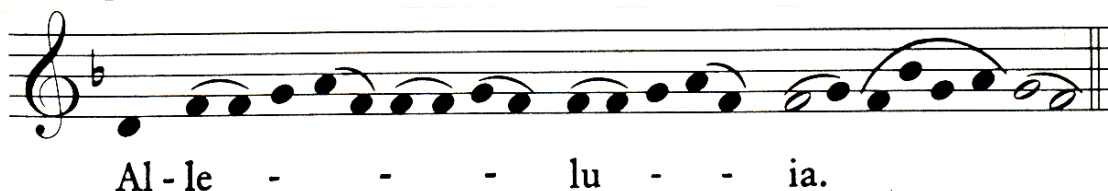
People: Thanks be to God!

THE GREAT EASTER ALLELUIA

The Deacon goes to the Priest, bows, and says:

Deacon: Father, I announce to you a great joy, which is Alleluia!

This is sung three times successively higher pitches-repeated by all



Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ!

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you."

So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Shalom!" ("Greetings!") And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ!

THE SERMON

Priest: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

1 Chronicles 29:11

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love, Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Priest: Pray, Brothers and Sisters, that our sacrifice be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

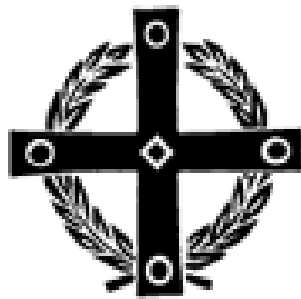
All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands to the praise and glory of his Name, for our benefit, and that of all his holy Church.

Priest: Amen

The Prayer over the gifts:


Priest: Accept, O Lord, the prayers and offerings of your people, so that what has begun with the Paschal Mysteries, may become for us an invitation to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for all ages of ages.

All: Amen.




THE PREFACE TO THE ANAPHORA

The Priest extends his hands while singing:




Priest: The Lord be with you.



People: And with your spir - it.

He lifts up his hands:



Priest: Lift up your hearts.



People: We lift them to the Lord.

He joins his hands together and bows:



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



People: It is meet and right so to do.

Again, extending his hands he sings:

Priest: It is truly right and just, our joy and helpful to salvation, that we, always and everywhere give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty and eternal God:

But chiefly are we bound to praise you on this day
 for the glorious resurrection of your Son
 Jesus Christ our Lord;
 For he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us,
 and has taken away the sin of the world.
 By his death he has destroyed death,
 and by his rising to life again
 he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with
 Angels and Archangels and with all the company of
 heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the
 glory of your Name:

*The Deacon goes up to the right and the Subdeacon to the left of the Priest
 and bow deeply for the Sanctus.*

People: Missa Soli Deo Gloria: Sanctus



Martin E. Boehling

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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.



The Anaphora of our Father among the Saints, Gregory

*Thurifer & four acolytes-torches stand facing the altar inside the altar rail.
The priest extends his hands keeping his thumbs and forefingers joined.*

To you, therefore, most gracious Father,
we humbly pray through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord

*He kisses the altar joins his hands, places his left hand on his breast, and
blesses the offering:*

that you accept ✠ and bless ✠ these pure ✠ and holy gifts
which we offer to you in sacrifice.

He stretches out his hands and continues:

We offer them on behalf of your holy catholic Church:
watch over her, gather her, guide her and grant her peace,
protection, and unity throughout the whole world
with your servants: Kyril, our Patriarch,
Hilarion our Metropolitan and Bishop, (Bishop Jerome) and
all Orthodox believers who hold the Catholic and Apostolic faith.

Remember, Lord, your faithful people,
and your servants standing here around your altar,
knowing how firmly we believe in you
and dedicate ourselves to you.

He joins his hands, prays briefly, then, with hands outstretched continues:

We offer to you this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
for ourselves and for all those who are dear to us.
We pray to you our living and true God,
for our well being and redemption
and for those whose faith and devotion are known to you alone.

In communion with the whole Church, and celebrating the most sacred night [day] of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh, we venerate first the glorious and ever-Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord and God, Jesus Christ; and also your blessed apostles and martyrs, Peter, Paul, Andrew [James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon, and Thaddaeus, Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus, Cornelius, Cyprian, Laurence, Chrysogonus, John and Paul, Cosmas and Damian,]

...and all your saints whose prayers gain for us your constant help and protection.

He extends his hands over the offering before him saying:



Father, we humbly ask that you accept this offering of our service and that of your whole family; especially those whom you have been pleased to give the new birth of water and the Holy Spirit, granting them forgiveness of all their sins. Order our days in your peace, save us from eternal damnation, and number us among those you have chosen.

He joins his hands, places his left hand on his breast, blessing the offering:

Bless ✠ and approve our offering, O Father; make it acceptable to you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, let it become for us the ✠ body and ✠ blood of Jesus Christ, your only Son, our Lord.

The Deacon removes the purificator and pall

The Priest joins his hands and prays:



On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,

He lifts the paten with the Lamb slightly.

our Lord Jesus Christ took bread into his holy and venerable hands;
and with eyes lifted up to heaven,
to you his almighty God and Father,
he gave thanks to you, *(pause)* said the blessing,
he broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, and said:

He bows and sings the following words slowly and distinctly:



"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

He pauses for a moment then replaces the paten.

After supper, in a like manner,
he took the cup into his holy and venerable hands;

He lifts the chalice slightly with both hands.

and when he again had given thanks, *(pause)* said the blessing,
he gave the cup to his disciples, and said,

He bows and sings the following words slowly:



"Take this all of you, and drink of it:
This is my Blood
which shall be shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

He pauses for a moment then replaces the chalice saying quietly.

As often as you do these things, you do them remembering me."

The Deacon steps forward and replaces the purificator and pall. The Priest stretches out his hands keeping his thumbs and forefingers joined.

Father, we celebrate the remembrance of Christ your Son:
We, your servants and your holy people,
call to mind his passion,
his resurrection from the dead,
and his ascension,
until he comes again in glory.


We offer to you, the God of glory and majesty,
from the many gifts you have given us,
this ✠ perfect and pure sacrifice:
the holy ✠ bread of life and the ✠ chalice of eternal salvation.

Look with favor upon these offerings, and accept them
as once you accepted the gifts of your just servant Abel,
the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith,
and the bread and wine offered by your priest Melchisedech.

*He joins his hands, places his left hand on his breast,
makes the sign of the cross*

Father we pray, that you send down your Holy Spirit upon us ✠
and blesses the offering. 

and upon these offerings:
make this bread the ✠ Body of your Christ,
and the wine within this cup
the precious ✠ Blood of Christ, *He signs over both,*
being changed ✠ by that same Holy Spirit.

*He crosses his arms on his chest touching his shoulders with his fingers
and bowing profoundly he prays:* 

Almighty God, we humbly pray
that these Gifts be carried by the hands of your Holy Angel,
to your altar on high in the presence of your Divine Majesty;
then, as we receive from this altar *He kisses the altar right of the gifts.*
the Sacred Body and Blood of your Son,

Placing his left hand on his breast makes the sign of the cross

✠ fill us with every grace and heavenly blessing.

He extends his hands keeping his thumbs and forefingers joined

Remember, Lord, those who have died and have gone before us
sealed with the sign of faith, and who rest in the "sleep of peace."

He joins his hands, prays briefly, then, with hands outstretched, continues

Let these, and all who rest in Christ,
find in your Presence light, refreshment, and peace.

He joins his hands, strikes his breast with his right hand saying:

To us also, *He extends his hands*, who hope in your abundant
mercies, graciously grant us to share in the fellowship of your holy
apostles and martyrs with John the Baptist, Stephen, Matthias,
Barnabas

[Ignatius, Alexander, Marcellinus, Peter, Felicity, Perpetua,
Agatha, Lucy, Agnes, Cecilia, Anastasia]

...and all your saints.

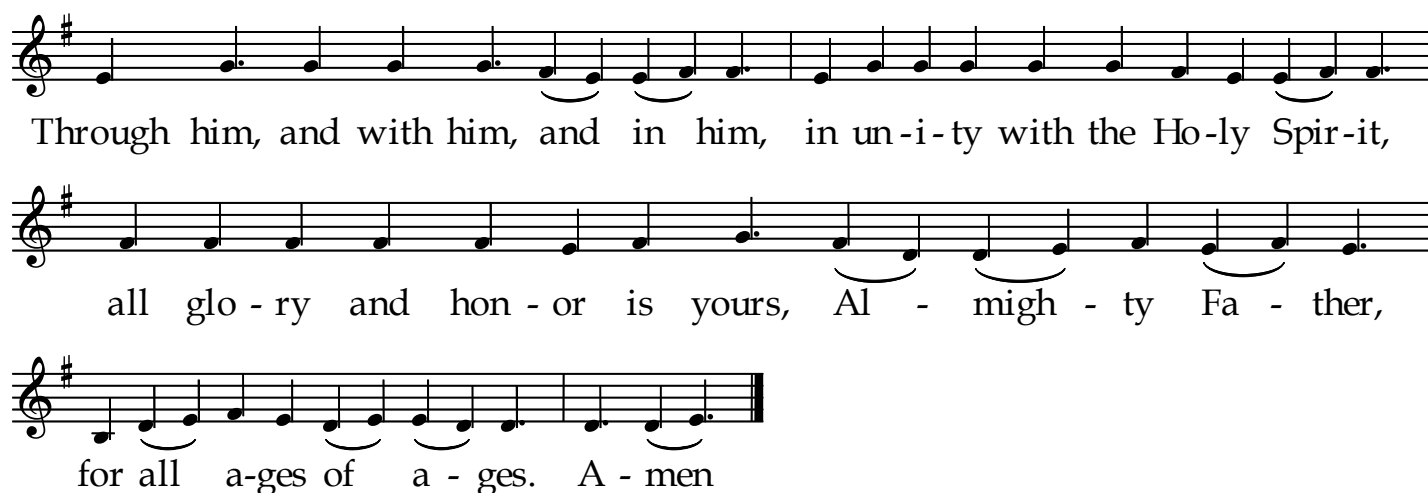
Though we are sinners, we trust in your love and mercy.
Do not consider what we truly deserve,
but grant us your forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Deacon and Subdeacon step up beside the Priest at the altar.

The Deacon removes the pall.

Through whom, O Father,
you unceasingly create all these good things;
sanctifying them, and filling them with life;
you bless them and bestow them on us.

The Priest takes the chalice and paten, crosses his arms, lifts them to his eye level and sings:

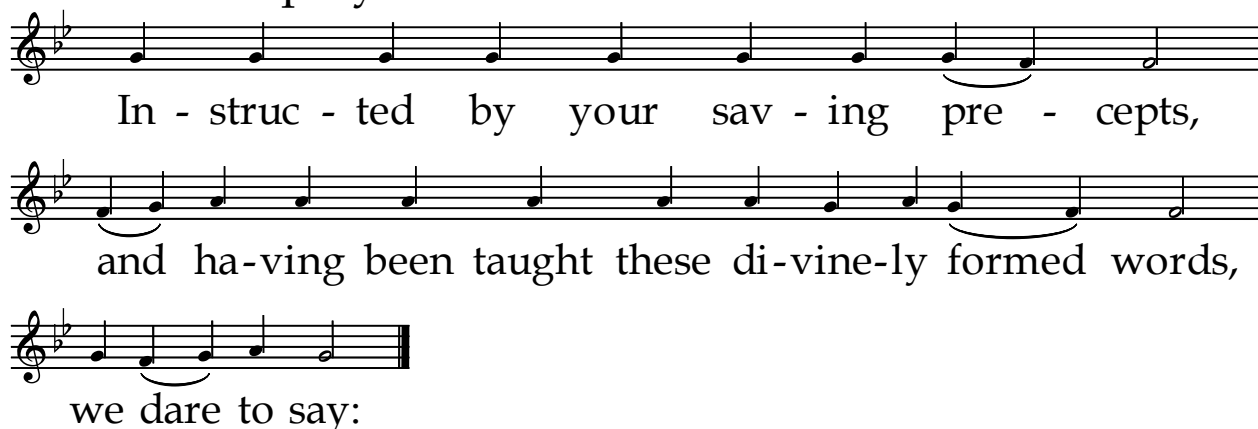


Through him, and with him, and in him, in un-i-ty with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
all glo - ry and hon - or is yours, Al - migh - ty Fa - ther,
for all a-ges of a - ges. A - men

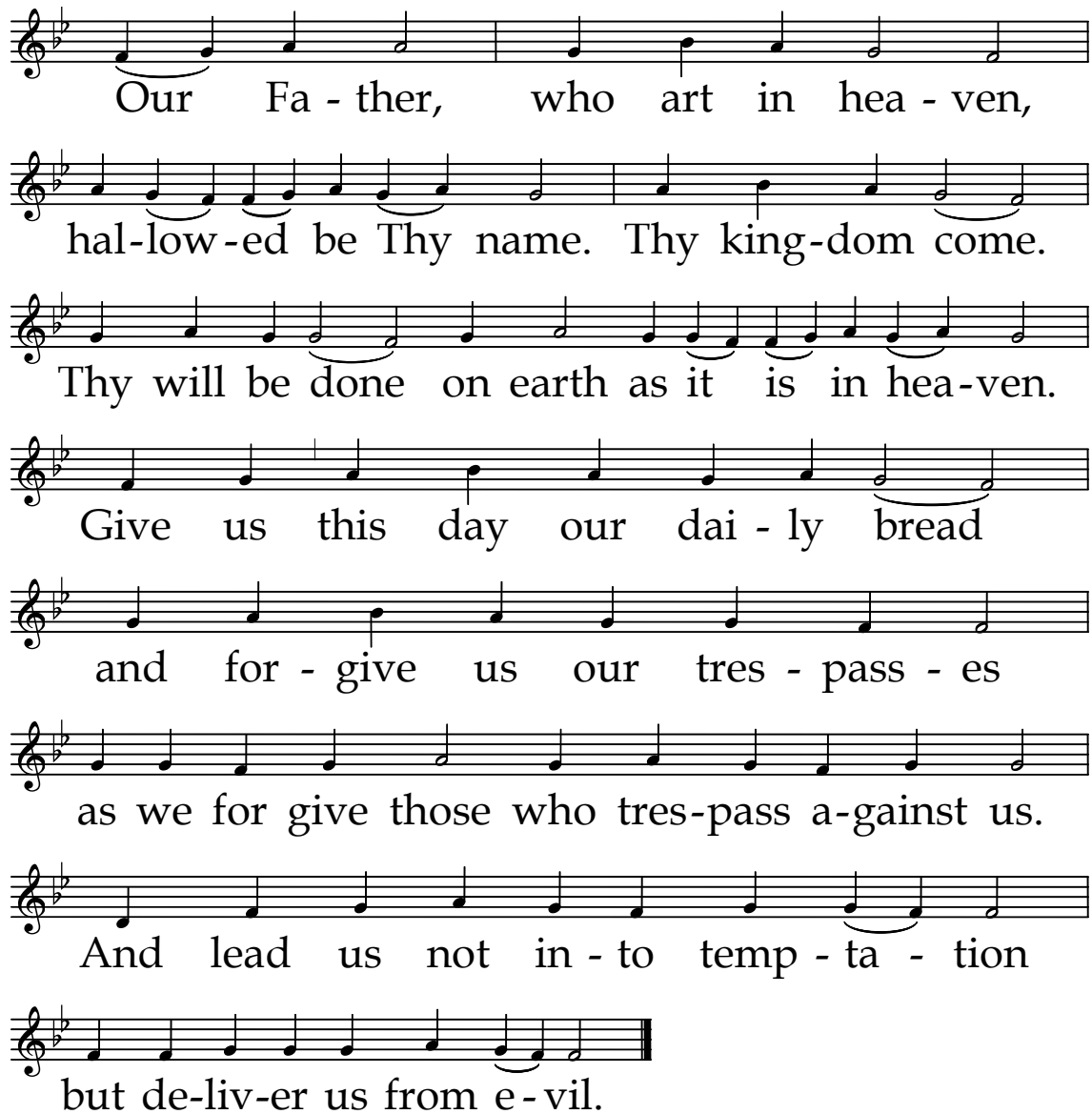
The Breaking of The Bread

He stretches out his hands, keeping his thumbs and forefingers joined.

Priest: Let us pray:



In - struc - ted by your sav - ing pre - cepts,
and ha-ving been taught these di-vine-ly formed words,
we dare to say:



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven,
hal-low-ed be Thy name. Thy king-dom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea-ven.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread
and for - give us our tres - pass - es
as we for give those who tres-pass a-gainst us.
And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion
but de-liv-er us from e - vil.

The priest joins his hands and prays:

Deliver us, ✠O God, from all evils: past, present, and to come, and by the prayers of Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Mother of God, of your blessed apostles Peter and Paul, of Andrew, and of all the saints, graciously give us peace in our days; through your merciful help keep us always free from sin and safe from all disquietude: through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for all ages of ages.

People: Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Priest breaks the Consecrated Bread.

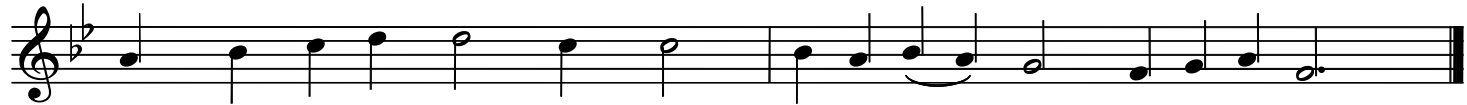
A period of silence is kept.

Priest:



Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ our Pas - cha is sa-ri-ficed for us!

People:



There-fore-let us keep the Feast! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

The Priest turns to the faithful, holds the Paten and Chalice and says:

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God!
Behold him who takes away the sin of the world!

People: Lord I am not worthy
that you should come under my roof.
Say but the word, and my soul shall be healed.

People: I believe, O Lord and I confess
that you are truly the Christ,
The Son of the living God,
who came into the world to save sinners,
of whom I am the greatest.

I believe also, that this which I am about to receive
is truly your most pure Body and life-giving Blood;

Wherefore, I pray, have mercy on me
and forgive my transgressions,
both voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed,
committed in knowledge or in ignorance;
And grant that I may partake of your Holy Mysteries
without condemnation for the forgiveness of all my
sins and for life everlasting.

O Son of God accept me this day
as a partaker of Your Mystical Supper;
for I will not reveal the Mystery to your enemies,
nor will I give you a kiss as did Judas,
but like the thief, will I say: ✠ Remember me, O Lord,
when you come into your kingdom.

O Lord, may the partaking of your Holy Mysteries
be not to my judgment or condemnation,
but for the healing of my soul and body.

*Inclining, he receives the Sacred Blood from the chalice. He then
communicates the Sacred Ministers, the clergy, acolytes, and people.
The Priest then communicates each person saying:*

Priest: The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ preserve
your body and soul **N.** unto life everlasting.

People: Amen.



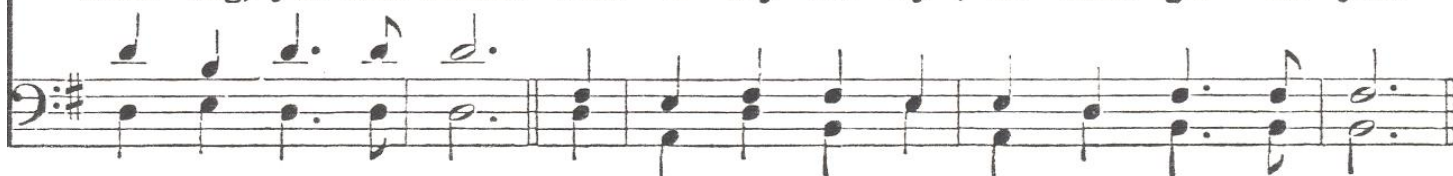
Quietly



1 Come, ris - en Lord, and deign to be our guest; Nay, let us be thy
2 We meet, as in that up - per room they met; Thou at the ta - ble,



guests; the feast is thine; Thy - self at thine own board make man - i - fest
bless - ing, yet dost stand: "This is my Bo - dy"; so thou giv - est yet:



In this our Sac - ra - ment of Bread and Wine.
Faith still re - ceives the cup as from thy hand. A - men.



3 One body we, one Body who partake,
One Church united in communion blest;
One name we bear, one Bread of life we break,
With all thy saints on earth and saints at rest.

4 One with each other, Lord, for one in thee,
Who art one Saviour and one living Head;
Then open thou our eyes, that we may see;
Be known to us in breaking of the Bread. Amen.

It is an ancient tradition to sing the Lauds of Easter on this night:

The Alleluia is sung first by the Deacon then the People




PSALM 150 *Laudate Dominum*




- 1 Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath *
praise the LORD. Alleluia!



Antiphon:



And ver - y ear - ly in the morn - ing, of the first day of the week,
they came to the tomb, at sun - rise, al-le-lu - ia!



The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Deus* Luke 1:68-79



Cantor: Bless-ed be the Lord, the God of Is-rael; *

All: he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, ↓
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy cov-en-ant.

This was the oath he swore to our father A-braham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High*
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

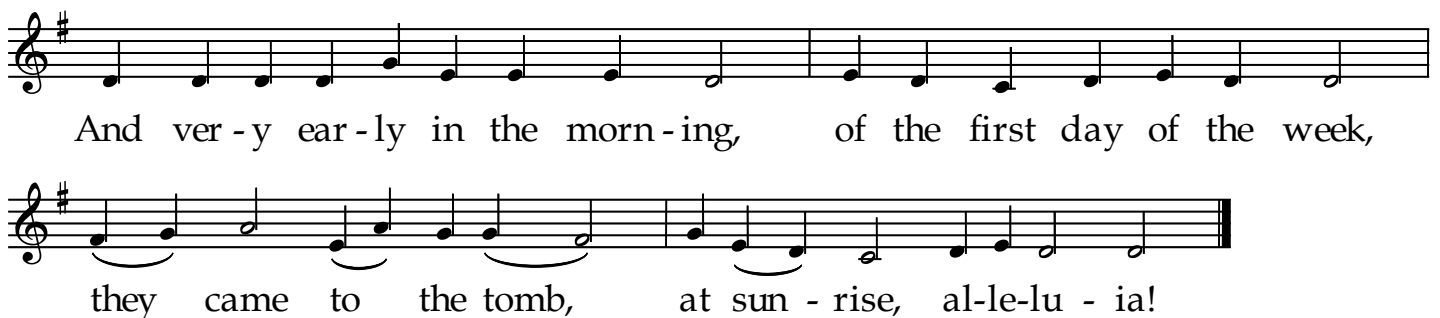
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death*
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, ↓
and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever,
for all ages of ages. Amen.

Antiphon:



And ver - y ear - ly in the morn - ing, of the first day of the week,
they came to the tomb, at sun - rise, al - le - lu - ia!

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

O Lord, infuse in us the Spirit of your love, that we who have been nourished by these Paschal Mysteries, be made one in heart through your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for all ages of ages

People Amen.

In place of the usual prayer of thanksgiving the following may be said:

Priest Let us pray.

A Song to the Lamb: **Dignus es**
Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10, 13

Splendor and honor and kingly power *
are yours by right, O Lord our God,
For you created everything that is, *
and by your will they were created and have being;

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation, *
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *
for ever and for evermore.

People: Amen!

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Bow down your heads before the Lord.

Priest May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing.

People: Amen!

Priest May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever.

People: Amen!

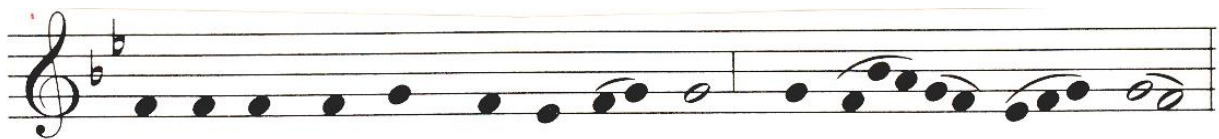
Priest May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

People: Amen!

Priest And the blessing of God Almighty, ✠the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen!*

People: Amen!

Deacon:



Let us bless the Lord, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

People:



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

As the Postlude is played the Procession forms and goes out the front doors of the Church (weather permitting) and into the Dining Room for the blessing of the foods and the Agape.

BLESSINGS OVER FOOD AT EASTER

These blessings are used over food baskets brought to the church for blessing and for the parish meal following the Easter Vigil. At the conclusion of the blessings the priest blesses the foods with Holy Water.

Over Bread

Blessed are you, O Lord our God; you bring forth bread from the earth and make the risen Lord to be for us the Bread of life: Grant that we who daily seek the bread which sustains our bodies may also hunger for the food of everlasting life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Over Wine

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator of the fruit of the vine: Grant that we who share this wine, which gladdens our hearts, may share for ever the new life of the true Vine, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Over Eggs

O Lord our God, in celebration of the Paschal feast we have prepared these eggs from your creation: Grant that they may be to us a sign of the new life and immortality promised to those who follow your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Over Lamb

Stir up our memory, O Lord, as we eat this Easter lamb that, remembering Israel of old, who in obedience to your command ate the Paschal lamb and was delivered from the bondage of slavery, we, your new Israel, may rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the true Lamb who has delivered us from the bondage of sin and death, and who lives and reigns for all ages of ages. Amen.

Over Other Foods

Blessed are you, O Lord our God; you have given us the risen Savior to be the Shepherd of your people: Lead us, by him, to springs of living waters, and feed us with the food that endures to eternal life; where with you, O Father, and with the Holy Spirit, he lives and reigns, one God, for all ages of ages. Amen

Thank You!

We take this opportunity to thank all those who helped defray the cost of the Holy Week (Palm, Plants, Paschal Candle, Congregational Candles) and food. Whether we have 10 people or 100 people many of the costs involved are the same and in a small parish your generosity is very much appreciated. The collection basket is under the candle stand.