

The Great Vigil of Easter

April 16, 2022



CP 195 'Tis Finished! The Messiah Dies

1 'Tis finished! the Messiah dies,
cut off for sins, but not his own.
Accomplished is the sacrifice,
the great redeeming work is done.

3 'Tis finished! All my guilt and pain,
I want no sacrifice beside;
for me, for me the Lamb is slain;
'tis finished! I am justified.

2 The veil is rent; in Christ alone
the living way to heaven is seen.
The middle wall is broken down,
and all the world may enter in.

4 The reign of sin and death is o'er,
and all may live from sin set free;
Satan hath lost his mortal power;
'tis swallowed up in victory.

The Service of Light

Dear friends in Christ,
on this most holy night,
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,
the Church invites her children throughout the world
to come together in vigil and prayer.
This is the Passover of the Lord.
We remember his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries;
we are confident
that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever in God.

Let us pray.

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

*The paschal candle is lighted from the new fire. The deacon
or priest takes the paschal candle, lifts it high, and sings,
The light of Christ.*

Thanks be to God.

*The paschal candle is lifted high a second time,
The light of Christ.*

Thanks be to God.

*At the altar, the candle is lifted a third time.
The light of Christ.*

Thanks be to God.

The Exsultet.

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus
Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the trumpet of
salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour, radiant in
the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered!
Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory! The risen
Saviour shines upon you! Let this place resound with
joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and
voices we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful
Father, and his only Son, our Lord Jesus
Christ. For Christ has ransomed us with his blood,
and paid for us the price of Adam's sin to our
eternal Father!

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

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

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

This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains
of death and rose triumphant from the grave.
Father, how wonderful your care for us! How
boundless your merciful love! To ransom a slave
you gave away your Son.

The power of this holy night dispels all evil, washes
guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings
mourners joy.

Night truly blessed when heaven is wedded to
earth and we are reconciled with God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night,
receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your
Church's solemn offering. Accept this Easter
candle. May it always dispel the darkness of this night!

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

The Liturgy of the Word

.Dear friends in Christ,
let us now listen attentively to the word of God,
recalling how he saved his people throughout history
and in the fullness of time,
sent his own Son to be our Redeemer.

Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16

31:1 In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

31:2 Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

31:3 You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me,

31:4 take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

31:15 My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

31:16 Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

A Reading from Job 14:1-14

14:1 "A mortal, born of woman, few of days and full of trouble,
 14:2 comes up like a flower and withers, flees like a shadow and does not last.
 14:3 Do you fix your eyes on such a one? Do you bring me into judgment with you?
 14:4 Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? No one can.
 14:5 Since their days are determined, and the number of their months is known to you, and you have appointed the bounds that they cannot pass,
 14:6 look away from them, and desist, that they may enjoy, like laborers, their days.
 14:7 "For there is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease.
 14:8 Though its root grows old in the earth, and its stump dies in the ground,
 14:9 yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth branches like a young plant.
 14:10 But mortals die, and are laid low; humans expire, and where are they?
 14:11 As waters fail from a lake, and a river wastes away and dries up,
 14:12 so mortals lie down and do not rise again; until the heavens are no more, they will not awake or be roused out of their sleep.
 14:13 Oh that you would hide me in Sheol, that you would conceal me until your wrath is past, that you would appoint me a set time, and remember me!
 14:14 If mortals die, will they live again? All the days of my service I would wait until my release should come.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from 1 Peter 4:1-8

4:1 Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin),
 4:2 so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God.
 4:3 You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry.
 4:4 They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme.
 4:5 But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead.
 4:6 For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.
 4:7 The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers.
 4:8 Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The GospelThe Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Matthew 27:57-66

27:57 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus.

27:58 He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.

27:59 So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth

27:60 and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.

27:61 Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

27:62 The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate

27:63 and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.'

27:64 Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first."

27:65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can."

27:66 So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

The Gospel of Christ **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon by the Rev. Heather LiddellCCLI 7171907 It Was Finished Upon That Cross

1 How I love the voice of Jesus
On the Cross of Calvary
He declares his work is finished
He has spoken this hope to me
Though the sun had ceased its shining
Though the war appeared as lost
Christ had triumphed over evil
It was finished upon that Cross

2 Now the curse it has been broken
Jesus paid the price for me
Full the pardon He has offered
Great the welcome that I receive
Boldly I approach my Father
Clothed in Jesus' righteousness
There is no more guilt to carry
It was finished upon that Cross

3 Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed

4 Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed
Yes He rose that we would be free indeed
Free from ev'ry plan of darkness
Free to live and free to love
Death is dead and Christ is risen
It was finished upon that Cross

Ending

Onward to eternal glory
To my Saviour and my God
I rejoice in Jesus' victory
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven.
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again
 to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Solemn Intercession

Dear people of God,
 our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world,
 not to condemn the world,
 but that the world through him might be saved,
 that all who believe in him
 might be delivered from the power of sin and death
 and become heirs with him of eternal life.

Let us pray for the one holy catholic
 and apostolic Church of Christ throughout the world:
 for its unity in witness and service,
 for all bishops and other ministers
 and the people whom they serve,
 for Stephen our bishop,
 and all the people of this diocese,
 for all Christians in this community,
 for those about to be baptized
 (particularly . . .),
 that the Lord will confirm his Church in faith,
 increase it in love,
 and preserve it in peace.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God,
by your Spirit the whole body of your faithful people
is governed and sanctified.

Receive our supplications and prayers
which we offer before you
for all members of your holy Church,
that in our vocation and ministry
we may truly and devoutly serve you;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth,
and for those in authority among them:
for Elizabeth our Queen and all the Royal Family,

for Justin, the Prime Minister
and for the government of this country,
for Jason, the premier of this province
and the members of the legislature,
for Amarjeet, the mayor of this municipality
and those who serve with him
on the city council,
for all who serve the common good,
that by God's help
they may seek justice and truth,
and live in peace and concord.

Silence

Almighty God,
kindle, we pray, in every heart
the true love of peace,
and guide with your wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth,
that justice and peace may increase,
until the earth is filled
with the knowledge of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who suffer
and are afflicted in body or in mind:
for the hungry and homeless,
the destitute and the oppressed,
and all who suffer persecution or prejudice,
for the sick, the wounded, and the handicapped,
for those in loneliness, fear, and anguish,

for those who face temptation, doubt, and despair,
 for the sorrowful and bereaved,
 for prisoners and captives
 and those in mortal danger,
 that God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them,
 and grant them the knowledge of his love,
 and stir up in us the will and patience
 to minister to their needs.

Silence

Gracious God,
 the comfort of all who sorrow,
 the strength of all who suffer,
 hear the cry of those in misery and need.
 In their afflictions show them your mercy,
 and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them,
 for the sake of him who suffered for us,
 your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all
 who have not received the gospel of Christ:
 for all who have not heard the words of salvation,
 for all who have lost their faith,
 for all whose sin has made them indifferent to Christ,
 for all who actively oppose Christ by word or deed,
 for all who are enemies of the cross of Christ,
 and persecutors of his disciples,
 for all who in the name of Christ
 have persecuted others,
 that God will open their hearts to the truth,
 and lead them to faith and obedience.

Silence

Merciful God,
 creator of the peoples of the earth and lover of souls,
 have compassion on all who do not know you
 as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ.
 Let your gospel be preached with grace and power
 to those who have not heard it,
 turn the hearts of those who resist it,
 and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray;
 that there may be one flock under one shepherd,
 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commit ourselves to God,
 and pray for the grace of a holy life,
 that with all who have departed this life
 and have died in the peace of Christ,
 and those whose faith is known to God alone,
 we may be accounted worthy
 to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord,
 and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Silence

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
 look favourably on your whole Church,
 that wonderful and sacred mystery.
 By the effectual working of your providence,
 carry out in tranquillity 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,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect

Let us pray:
 Eternal Giver of life and light,
 this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ.
 Renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,
 that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,
 and shine as a light in the world;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we celebrate our fellowship in him in faith.

We pray that all who have passed through the water of baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Dear friends,
through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,
so that we may rise with him to a new life.
Now that our Lenten observance is ended,
let us renew the promises we made in baptism,
when we rejected Satan and all his works,
and promised to serve God faithfully
in his holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil
and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

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

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all
people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's
creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of
the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

God the creator, the rock of our salvation,
has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
May he keep us faithful to our calling,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

CP 186 The Royal Banners Go Forward

1 The royal banners forward go;
the cross shines forth in mystic glow;
where he, the Life, did flesh endure,
and by that death did life procure.

2 There while he hung, his sacred side
by soldier's spear was opened wide
to cleanse us in the precious flood
of water mingled with his blood.

3 Fulfilled is all his words foretold;
then spread the banners, and unfold
love's crowning power, that all may see
he reigns and triumphs from the tree.

4 O tree of grace, the conquering sign,
which dost in royal purple shine,
gone is thy shame; for, lo, each bough
proclaims the prince of glory now.

5 For once thy favoured branches bore
the wealth that did the world restore,
the priceless treasure, freely spent
to pay for our enfranchisement.

6 Father of all, life's source and spring,
may every soul thy praises sing;
may those obey the rule of heaven,
for whom the perfect life was given.