

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

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The Great Vigil of Easter

April 11, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Greeting and Lighting of the Easter Fire

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

The Easter fire is lit.

Presider: Let us pray.
Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The presiding minister may trace the inscription on the paschal candle.

Presider: Christ, yesterday and today, ✠
the beginning and the ending. A Ω
To Christ belongs all time 2
and all the ages; 0
to Christ belongs glory and dominion 2
now and forever. 0

People: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD



The Introduction

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

The Story of Creation:

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Acclamation

And God saw _____ that it was good, _____ and there was
eve - ning, and morn - ing. _____

Text from the *Contemporary English Version*, © 1995, American Bible Society.
Music: Rory Cooney, © 1999, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Refrain

We praise you, O Lord, for all your works are won-der-ful.
We praise you, O Lord, for - ev - er is your love.

Words and music: © Mike Balhoff, Gary Daigle and Darryl Ducote,
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Silence follows.

The Flood:

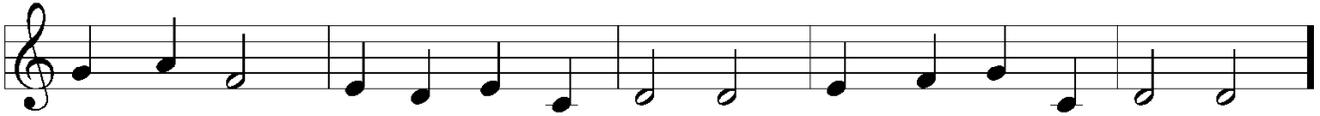
Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13

*Video Storytelling by the Rev. Jim Friedrich.
("The Electronic Campfire: New Storytelling from Scripture")*

“Shout for Joy”



1 Shout for joy loud and long, God be praised with a song! To the Lord
2 By God's word all was made, heav'n and earth, light and shade, na-ture's won -
3 Yet our pride makes us fall; so Christ came for us all— not the righ -
4 Now has Christ tru - ly ris'n, and his Spir - it is giv'n to all those



we be - long: chil-dren of our mak - er, God the great life giv - er.
ders dis-played, we to rule cre - a - tion from its first foun-da - tion.
teous to call— by his cross and pas - sion, bring - ing us sal - va - tion.
un - der heav'n who now walk be - side him, though they once de - nied him.

Refrain



Shout for joy, joy, joy! Shout for joy, joy, joy!



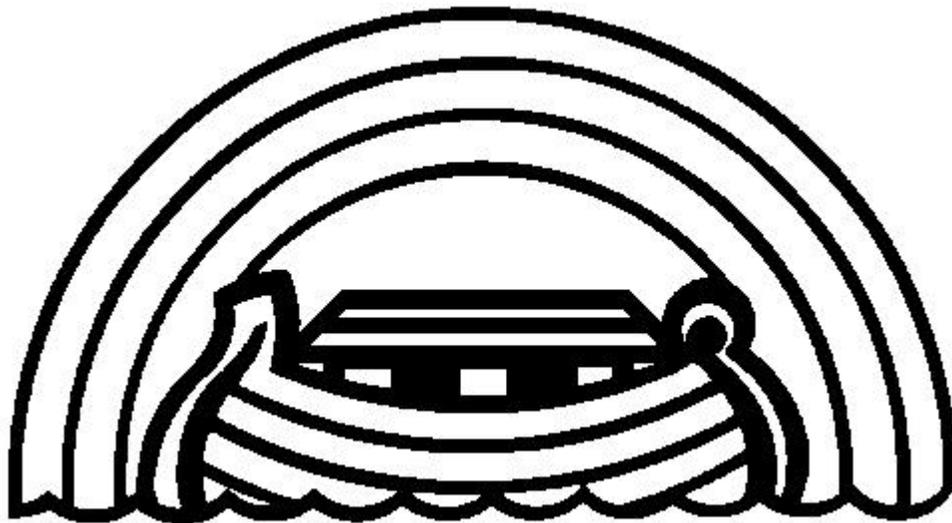
God is love, God is light, God is ev - er - last - ing!

Text: David Mowbray, b. 1938

Music: PERSONENT HODIE. *Piae cantiones*, 1582

Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

Silence follows.



"Through the Red Sea"



1. Through the Red Sea brought at__ last, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Like the cloud that o - ver - head, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. In that cloud and in that sea, Al - le - lu - ia!



E - gypt's chains be - hind we cast, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the bil - lows Is - ra - el led, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Bur - ied and bap - tized are we, Al - le - lu - ia!



Deep and wide now flows the__ tide, Al - le - lu - ia!
 By his tomb Christ makes us__ room, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Earth - ly night brought us__ the__ light, Al - le - lu - ia!



Sev - 'ring us from bond - age past, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Souls re - stor - ing from the dead, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Which is ours e - ter - nal ly, Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Ronald A. Knox (1888-1957). Music: Robert Williams (1781-1821), LLANFAIR (77. 77 with Alleluias).

Silence follows.



The Israelites after Crossing the Red Sea,

Hans Jordaens III, 1620's

The Hermitage, St. Petersburg

*Video Storytelling by the Rev. Jim Friedrich.
("The Electronic Campfire: New Storytelling from Scripture")*

"Dem Bones"

Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!"
Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!"
Ezekiel cried, "Dem dry bones!"
Oh, hear the word of the Lord!

The foot bone connected to the leg bone,
The leg bone connected to the knee bone,
The knee bone connected to the thigh bone,
The thigh bone connected to the back bone,
The back bone connected to the neck bone,
The neck bone connected to the head bone,
Oh, hear the word of the Lord!

Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk around,
Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk around,
Dem bones, dem bones gonna walk around,
Oh, hear the word of the Lord!

The head bone connected to the neck bone,
The neck bone connected to the back bone,
The back bone connected to the thigh bone,
The thigh bone connected to the knee bone,
The knee bone connected to the leg bone,
The leg bone connected to the foot bone,
Oh, hear the word of the Lord!

Silence follows.

Then he said
to me,
"Prophesy
to these
Bones &
say to them,
Dry bones,
hear the word
of the
Lord!"
.
Ezekiel 37:4

THE GOSPEL OF EASTER

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ri - sen!

Congregation

The Lord is ri - sen in - deed. Al - le - lu - ia.

Hymn of Praise: "God's Paschal Lamb"

1. God's Pas - chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us;
 2. Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain;
 3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead;

There - fore with joy we keep the Eas - ter feast; for -
 death has no more do - min - ion o - ver him; Through
 though Ad - am's sin had doomed all flesh to die, in

sak - ing sin, we share the bread of — truth. Al -
 him we die, to sin and live to — God. Al -
 Christ's new life shall all be made a - live. Al -

- le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
 - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
 - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. © 1987, Hope Publishing Co. Music: *Sine Nomine*, Ralph Vaughan Williams,
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Collect for the Vigil of Easter

Presider: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Presider: 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, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

Presider: 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, "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."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

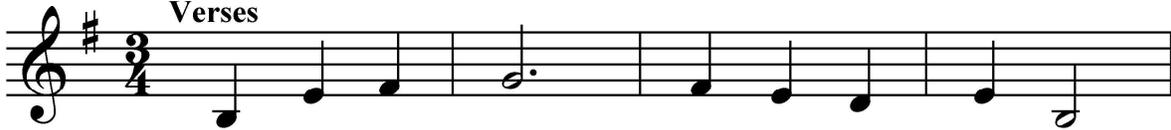


Holy Women at the Tomb, oil on canvas (1890), William-Adolphe Bouguereau

Hymn:

“Christ, Be Our Light”

Verses



1. This is the night of new be - gin - nings.
2. This is the night Christ our re - deem - er
3. Now will the fire kin - dled in dark - ness
4. Sing of the hope deep - er than dy - ing.
5. In - to this world morn - ing is break - ing.



1. This is the night when heav - en meets earth.
2. rose from the grave tri - um - phant and free,
3. burn to dis - pel the shad - ows of night.
4. Sing of the pow'r strong - er than death.
5. All of God's peo - ple, lift up your voice.



1. This is the night filled with God's glo - ry,
2. leav - ing the tomb of e - vil and dark - ness,
3. Star of the morn - ing, Je - sus our Sav - ior,
4. Sing of the love end - less as heav - en,
5. Cry out with joy, tell out the sto - ry,



1. prom - ise of our new birth!
2. emp - ty for all to see.
3. you are the world's true light!
4. dawn - ing through - out the earth.
5. all of the earth re - joice.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.



Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!



Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

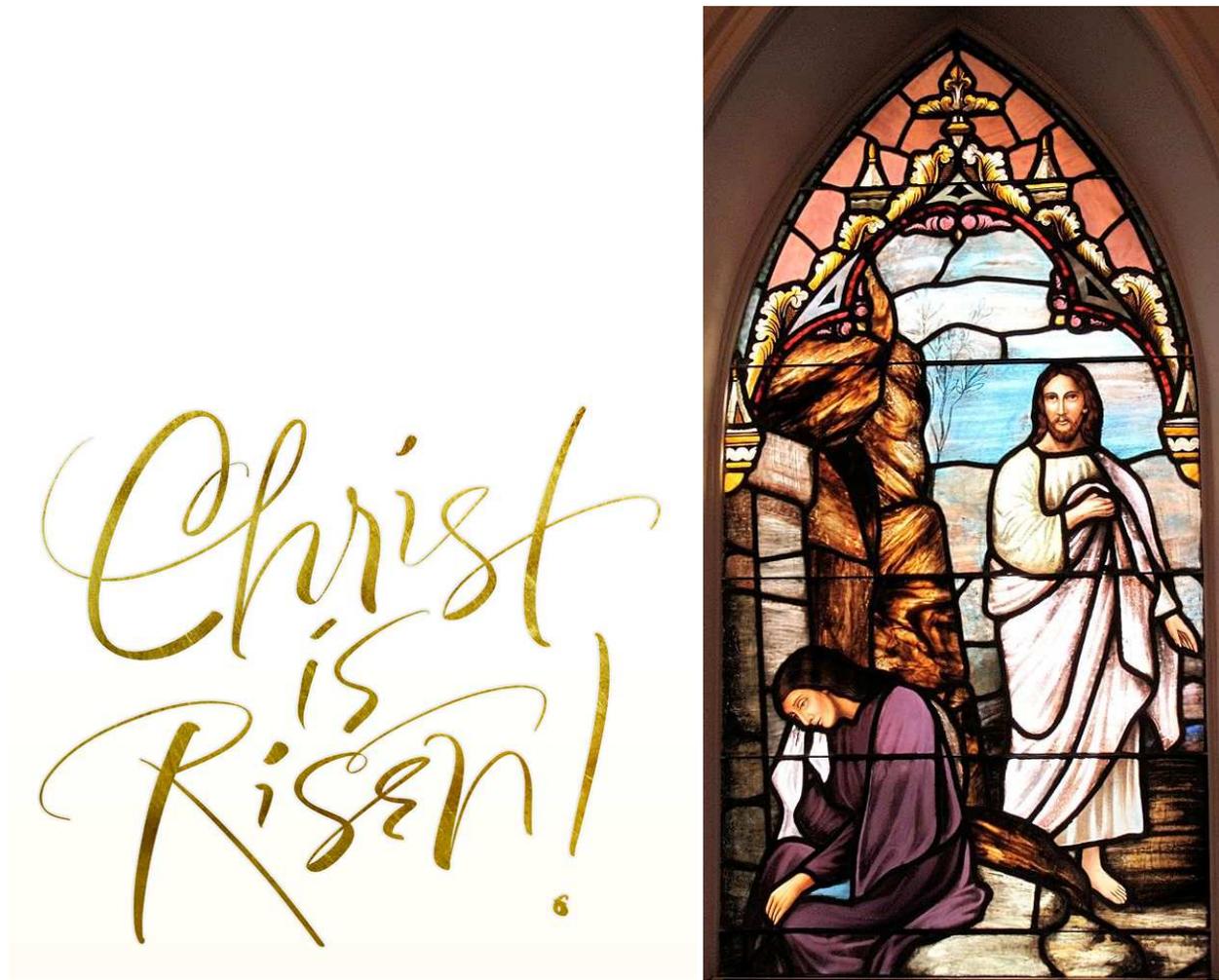
Carina McVeigh, soloist

Brett Hanley, piano

Joe Zimmerly, reader

Bill Dawson, sound technician

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Mary of Magdala at the Empty Tomb window at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Charleston, South Carolina. Attributed to the Quaker City Glass Company of Philadelphia, 1912. (Creative Commons usage, Wikimedia.org, Cadetgray, March 7, 2011)