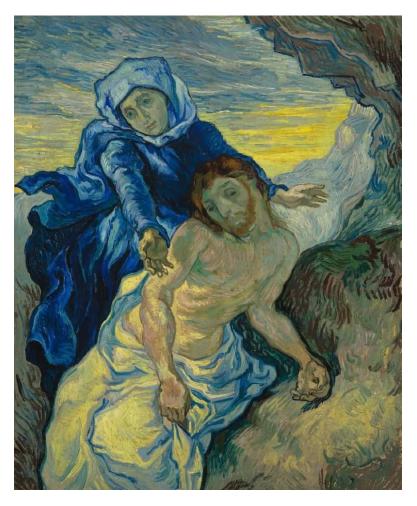
The Great Vigil of Easter

March 30, 2024-8:00 p.m.



Saint Luke's Episcopal Church Los Gatos, California

The Service of Light

The service begins in the courtyard. All will be given an unlit hand-held candle as we gather around the new Paschal Candle.

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

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

The Celebrant marks the Paschal Candle with the sign of the cross, saying,

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End,

The Celebrant then traces the Alpha and Omega into the Paschal Candle, saying,

Alpha and Omega.

The Celebrant traces the year into the Paschal Candle, saying,

His are the times and ages. To him be glory and dominion through all ages of eternity. **Amen**.

The Celebrant places five grains of incense, one each into the four points and center of the cross on the Paschal Candle, saying,

Through his holy and glorious wounds may Christ the Lord guard and preserve us.

The Celebrant lights the Paschal Candle from the New Fire, saying,

May the light of Christ gloriously rising dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

All process from the courtyard to the church via the Memorial Garden, led by the Paschal Candle, pausing three times and singing,



After filing into pews, versicle & response are sung the third time, after which the People's candles are lit.

The Exsultet is then sung.

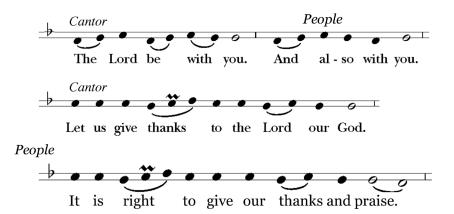
Exsultet

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.



It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our forebears, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

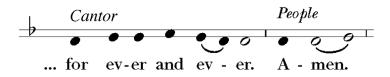
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away.

It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. it casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning-he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns...



The Liturgy of the Word

The Celebrant introduces the Scripture readings, saying,

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, 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.

Please be seated.

The First Lesson

Genesis 1:1–2:4a

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Please stand.

Hymn 107 (VF)



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Music: *The Ash Grove*, Welsh folk tune; harm. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship* (admin. Augsburg Fortress Publishers). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

Please be seated.

The Second Lesson

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Please stand.



Words: Afro-American Spiritual Music: Go Down, Moses, Afro-American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (1935-2009), Copyright © 1984, Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted, podcast and streamed with permission under One License #A-706525. All rights reserved.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 our Lord. **Amen**.

Please be seated.

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 55:1–11

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Please stand.

Hymn 679 "Surely it is God who saves me" it God_____ who 1 Sure - lv is saves me: trust-ing him, I shall not 2 Make his deeds___ his ex-altknown to the peo - ples; tell out ed fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his help So re - joice draw wa - ter from sal is near. as you lift your voice might pro - claim. Zi-on, in sing - ing; for with liv ing the va tion's spring; in day of your de has come to dwell, your ve - ry midst, the you in liv erance thank the Lord. his mer cies sing. _ great and Ho ly One of Is ra el. -

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Please be seated.

The Fourth Lesson

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Please remain seated.

Choir Anthem

Dry Bones

arr. Tom Fettke and Thomas Grassi

Dem bones dem Bones dem dry bones.

Ezekiel cried dem dry bones. Now hear the word of the Lord.

Ezekiel connected dem dry bones now hear the word of the Lord.

Well, the toe bone connected to the foot bone,

the foot bone connected to the ankle bone,

the ankle bone connected to the shin bone,

the shin bone connected to the knee bone.

Toe bone, foot bone ankle bone shin bone hear the word of the Lord.

The knee bone connected to the thigh bone,

the thigh bone connected to the hip bone,

the hip bone connected to the backbone,

backbone shoulder bone neck bone head bone hear the word of the Lord. Dem bones dem bones gonna walk around. Now hear the word of the Lord.

Walk around and around and around.

Dem bones dem bones dem dry bones. Now hear the word of the Lord.

Please stand.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Please remain standing as Altar Party processes to baptismal font, turning to the back for the Blessing of the Water and Renewal of Baptismal Vows.

The Blessing of the Water and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Cantor People The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Cantor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it 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 bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, 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, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Celebrant People	Do you reafffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ? I do.	
Celebrant People	Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.	
Celebrant People	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.	
Celebrant People	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.	

Celebrant People	Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? I will, with God's help.
Celebrant	Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People	I will, with God's help.
Celebrant	Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People	I will, with God's help.
Celebrant	Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People	I will, with God's help.
Celebrant	Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People	I will, with God's help.
Celebrant	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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Altar Party processes to altar as the congregation is asperged.

The Holy Eucharist

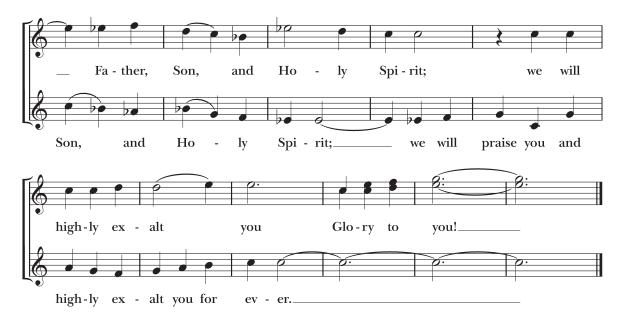
The Altar candles are lit from the Paschal Candle. The People extinguish their candles.

The organ sounds and **bells are rung** as the lights come up and all sing,

The Gloria







Music: John Rutter (b. 1945). Copyright © 1985 Oxford University Press, Inc.

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	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**.

Please be seated.

The Epistle

Romans 6:3–11

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

The Great Alleluia

The Presider chants the "Alleluia" first, followed by the People. This is done three times, each at a successively higher tone.



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The Holy Gospel

Celebrant	The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People	Glory to you, Lord Christ.
	Mark 16:1–8
Celebrant People	The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

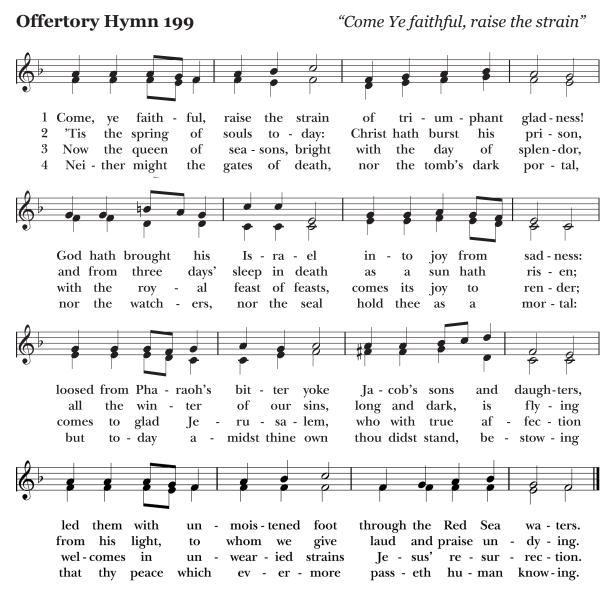
The Rev. Nayan McNeill

The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of Christ be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion



Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *St. Kevin*, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900).

Prayers Over the Gifts

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own have we given you. Amen.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven. Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the Cup of Salvation. Blessed be God for ever.

Pray friends, that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty. May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of God's Name, both to our benefit and that of all God's Holy Church. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer D Celebrant People with you. The Lord be al - so with you. And Celebrant People hearts. We lift Lift them to the Lord. your up Celebrant . Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People to give our thanks and praise. It is right

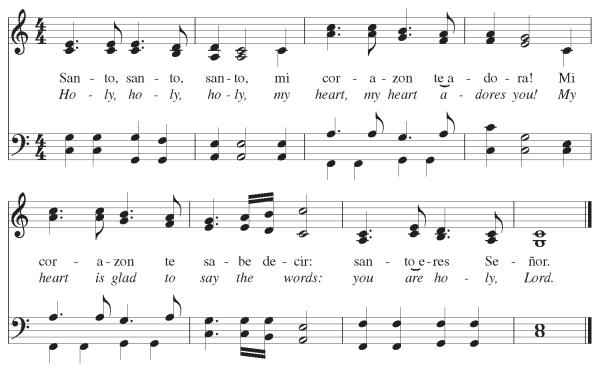
The Great Thanksgiving

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus



We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who minister in your Church. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all in any need or trouble.

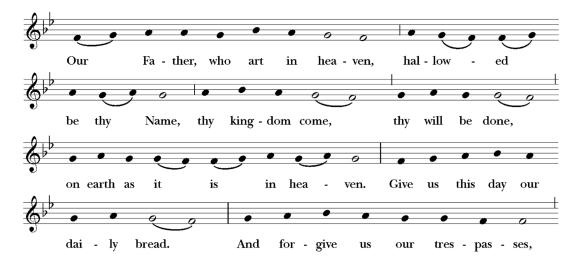
Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

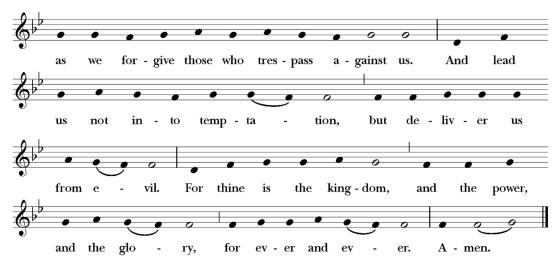
And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Blessed Luke and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,





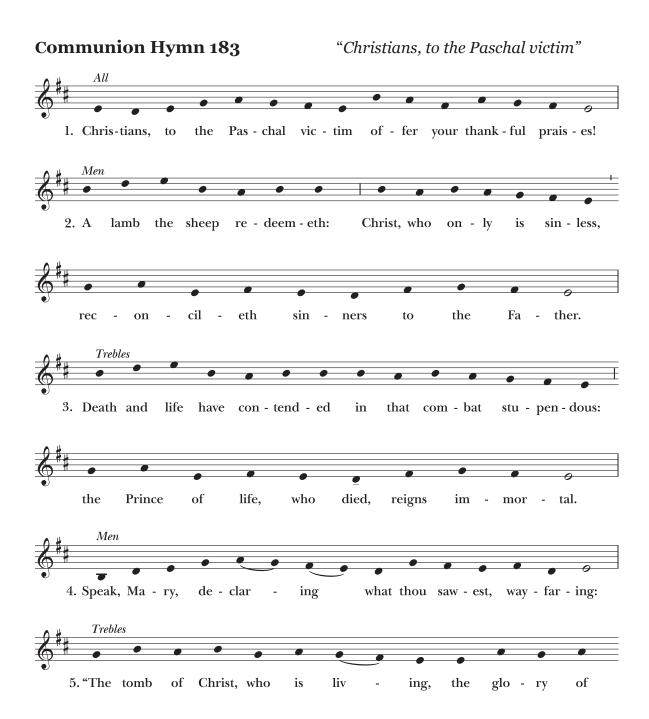
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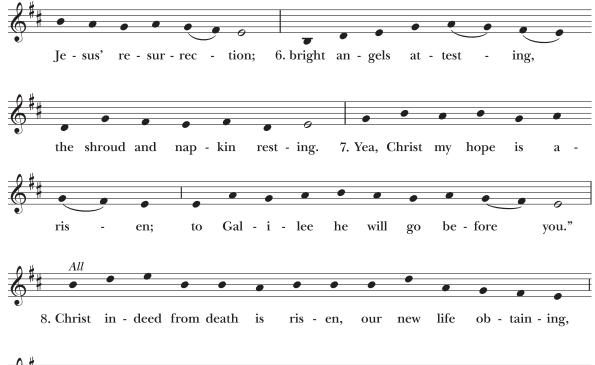
The Breaking of the Bread

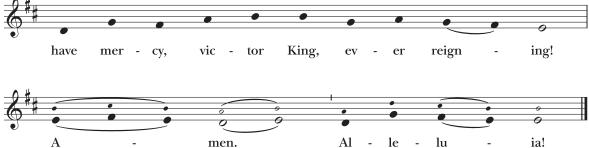
CelebrantAlleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.PeopleTherefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Those receiving Holy Communion may partake of both bread and wine or in just one kind. If partaking from the chalice, please only drink, do not dip your wafer into the cup. You may also touch the wafer to the outside of the chalice if desired. If you wish to receive a Blessing rather than Communion, come forward and stand or kneel with your arms crossed over your chest.







Words: Wigbert [Wipo of Burgundy] (d. 1050?); tr. *The Antiphoner and Grail*, 1880, alt. Music: *Victimae Paschali laudes*, plainsong, Mode 1; melody att. Wigbert [Wipo of Burgundy] (d. 1050?); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Said by all Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Easter Blessing

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. **Amen**.

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 for ever. **Amen**.

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. **Amen**.

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

Closing Hymn 208



Words: Latin, 1695; tr. Francis Pott (1832-1909), alt.

Music: Victory, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594); adapt. and arr. Willam Henry Monk (1826-1889)

The Dismissal



Postlude

Awake Thou Wintry Earth

J.S. Bach



Servers-March 30, 2024

Celebrant	The Rev. Ricardo Avila
Preacher	The Rev. Nayan McNeill
Lay Assistant	Roger Fleming
Acolyte	Pablo Alvarez
Thurifer	Warren Hackbarth
Lectors	Gene Schlesinger, Arlene McClelland,
	Lewis Pollard, Stephen Wells,
	& Ron Victor
Organist	Laura Green
Singers	St. Luke's Choir
Trumpet	Armen Krakirian
Ushers	Ron Victor & William Bonnell
Live-streaming	Art Feather & Glenn Katz
Altar Guild	The Altar Guild Team

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Cover: *Pietà (after Delacroix)* by Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890) b. Netherlands.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a place of peace, beauty, and relationship that reflects God's saving presence through our rich Tradition, our intellectual curiosity, and our work in the wider community.

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Treasurer	Mr. Art Feather
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Altar Guild Coordinator	Ms. Carol Graham
Outreach/Pantry Director	Ms. Jo Greiner
Rector Emeritus	The Rev. David R. Breuer

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Martha Sterne (Senior Warden) Paul Fait Glenn Katz (Clerk) John Cleveland Kelly Conway John Culwell

Grady Jeter Loren Schlesinger Janet Souza

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