

Saturday 16 April 2022



# THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

## THE LITURGY OF LIGHT

### **THE BLESSING OF THE NEW FIRE**

Unlit candles are distributed in the darkened church. All then proceed to the courtyard where fire is kindled. After the blessing of the new fire, the Paschal candle is traced with a cross, the Greek letters Alpha and Omega, and the numbers of the year. Grains of incense are inserted symbolising Christ's wounds. The celebrant then lights the candle from the new fire.

### **THE PROCESSION OF LIGHT**

The deacon, bearing the Paschal candle, leads the procession into church. The deacon halts just inside the church, in the middle of the nave, and again before the altar. Each time, he lifts the candle high and sings:

The light of Christ.

All genuflect and respond:

**Thanks be to God.**

At the second station, after the response, all light their candles.

### **THE PASCHAL PROCLAMATION**

The Paschal candle is placed in its stand and censed; the Exsultet is sung; then all sit.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Each reading is followed by a psalm or canticle and a collect. At the end altar candles are lit.

### **FIRST PROPHECY**

Genesis 1.1–2.4 • Psalm 104.1–7



Praise thou the Lord, O my soul • O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding glorious; thou art clothed with majesty and honour. Thou deckest thyself with light as it were with a garment • and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain. Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters • and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind. He maketh his angels spirits • and his ministers a flaming<sup>^</sup>fire. He laid the foundations of the earth • that it never should move at any<sup>^</sup>time. Thou coveredst it with the deep like as with a garment • the waters stand in the hills. At thy re<sup>^</sup>buke they flee • at the voice of thy thunder they are afraid.

## SECOND PROPHECY

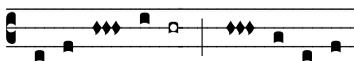
Genesis 22.1–18 • Psalm 16.16–end



The Lord himself is the portion of mine inheritance, and of my cup • thou shalt maintain my lot. The lot is fallen unto me in a fair ground • yea, I have a goodly heri<sup>^</sup>tage. I will thank the Lord for giving me warning • my reins also chasten me in the night-season. I have set **God** always before me • for he is on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall. Wherefore my heart was glad, and my glory rejoiced • my flesh also shall rest in hope. For why? thou shalt not leave my soul in hell • neither shalt thou suffer thy Holy One to see corruption. Thou shalt shew me the path of life; in thy presence is the fullness of joy • and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

## THIRD PROPHECY

Exodus 14.15–15.1 • Canticle from Exodus 15



I will sing unto the Lord, for he has triumphed glorious<sup>^</sup>ly • the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation • this is my God and I will praise him; my father's God, and I will exalt him. The Lord is a man of war • the Lord is his name. Pharaoh's chariots and his host he has cast into the sea • and his chosen officers are sunk in the Red Sea. The floods cover<sup>^</sup>them • they went down into the depths like a stone. Thy right hand, O Lord, is glorious in power • thy right hand, O Lord, shatters the e<sup>^</sup>nemy. Thou wilt bring in thy people and plant them on this own mountain • the place, O Lord, which thou hast made for thine abode; the sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established. The Lord will reign • for ever and ever.

## FOURTH PROPHECY

Isaiah 55.1–11 • Canticle from Isaiah 12



Behold, God is my salvation • I will trust and will not be afraid. For the Lord God is my strength and my song • and he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water • from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day • Give thanks to Lord, call upon his<sup>^</sup>name. Make known his deeds among the nations • proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing

praises to the Lord, for he has done glorious<sup>ly</sup> • let this be known in all the<sup>e</sup>arth. Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Sion • for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

### **FIFTH PROPHECY**

*Ezekiel 37.1–14 • Psalm 126*



When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion • then were we like unto them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter • and our tongue with joy. Then said they among the heathen • The Lord hath done great things for them. Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already • whereof we rejoice. Turn our captivity, O Lord • as the rivers in the south. They that sow in tears • shall reap in joy. He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed • shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

### **GLORIA**

*Bells are rung.*

### **COLLECT**

**G**rant, O Lord, that as we are baptised into the death of thy blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections we may be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection;

### **EPISTLE**

*Romans 6.3–11*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*The celebrant sings and all repeat: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*



A- lle- lu- ia!

### **GOSPEL**

*St Luke 24.1–12*

*After the Gospel the people's candles are extinguished.*

## **THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM**

*The Litany of the Saints is sung as clergy proceed to the font, with the responses:*

**Have mercy upon us. Pray for us.**

**Good Lord, deliver us. Lord, hear our prayer.**

