EASTER VIGIL
CYCLES A, B, C.

Part One: The Service of Light
All the lights in the church are put out and a fire is prepared.

Greeting and Introduction

Presider: Grace and peace from Jesus, the Christ, our brother and Savior be with you all.
All: And also with you.

Presider: My sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus, the Christ, passed from death to Life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of Jesus, the Christ: Through light and the Word, through water and the bread and wine, we recall Christ's death and resurrection, we share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and with invincible hope we await Christ's coming again.

Deacon: Hear the word of God: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Blessing of the Fire

Presider: Let us pray. Eternal God, in Jesus, the Christ, you have given the light of life to the entire world. Sanctify this new fire, and inflame us with a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through Jesus, the Christ, the Sun of Righteousness.
All: Amen.

Presider: Make this new ✚ fire holy, and inflame us with new hope. We ask this through Jesus the Christ, your Son, our brother and savior.
All: Amen.

Preparation of the Candle

1. Christ Yesterday and Today (trace vertical arm of the cross)
2. The beginning and the end (the horizontal arm)
3. Alpha (above the cross) A
4. And Omega Ω
5. All time belongs to him (2)
6. and all the ages (0)
7. to him be glory and power (2)
8. through every age and for ever. (6)

The presider will insert five grains of incense in the candle saying:

1. By his holy 1
2. and glorious wounds 4. guard us 4 2 5
3. may Christ our Lord 5. and keep us. 3

All: Amen.

The **Presider** *lights the Candle from the new fire, saying:*

Presider: The light of Christ rises in glory, overcoming the darkness of sin and death. May the darkness of our hearts and minds be dispelled.

All: Amen.

Procession

Deacon: Christ our light. **All: Thanks be to God.**
Deacon: Christ our light. **All: Thanks be to God.**
Deacon: Christ our light. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Easter Proclamation (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 splendor,
radiant in the brightness of your King!
Christ has conquered!
Glory fills you!
Darkness vanishes forever!
Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!
The risen Savior Shines upon you!
Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

Deacon: God dwells in you.
All: And also with you.

Deacon: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to God.

Deacon: Come to the table with thankful hearts.
All: We open our hearts to God and one another.

Presider: *It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and voices…*

Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead,
and shed his peaceful light on all mankind,
your Son who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
All: ***Amen.***

Part Two: Liturgy of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Deacon: Friends in Christ, let us listen attentively to the word of God, recalling God's saving deeds throughout history and how in the fullness of time, God's word became flesh and dwelt among us: Jesus the Christ, our Redeemer!
Through this Easter celebration, may God bring to perfection the saving work he has begun in us.
Please put out your candles at this time and be seated for the readings.

First Reading: **Genesis 1:1-2:2**

The beginning of the book of Genesis.

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw that the light was good. God then separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." Thus evening came, the morning followed - the first day.

Then God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters, to separate one body of water from the other." And so it happened: God made the dome, and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it. God called the dome "the sky." Evening came, and morning followed - the second day.

Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin, so that the dry land may appear." And so it happened: the water under the sky was gathered into its basin, and the dry land appeared. God called the dry land "the earth" and the basin of the water "the sea." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it." And so it happened: the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it.
And God saw that it was good. Evening came, and morning followed - the third day.

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years, and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth." And so it happened: God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night. Then, too, God made the stars, setting them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. Evening came, and morning followed - the fourth day.

Then God said, "Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky." And so it happened: God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the water teems, and all kinds of winged birds. God saw that it was good and God blessed them and said, "Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas; and let the birds multiply on the earth." Evening came, and morning followed - the fifth day.

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures: cattle, creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds." And so it happened: God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle, and all kinds of creeping things of the earth. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in Our image, after Our likeness.

Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."

Humankind was created in God's image;
in the divine image God created them:
female and male God created them.

God blessed them and said, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and be responsible for it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth." God also said, "See, I give you every seed-bearing plant on the earth, and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground, I give all the green plants for food." And so it was. God looked at all of this creation, and proclaimed it good - very good. Evening came, and morning followed - the sixth day.

Thus, the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed. Since all the work was finished, God rested on the seventh day.

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Pause for a moment of silence

Responsorial Psalm: (104)

Reader: God, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.
All: God, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Reader: Bless God, O my soul!
O you my God, you are great indeed!
You are clothed with majesty and glory,
robed in light as with a cloak.
All: God, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Reader: You fixed the earth upon its foundation,
not to be moved forever;
with the ocean, as with a garment,
you covered it;
above the mountains the waters stood.
All: God, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Reader: You send forth springs into the water courses
that wind among the mountains.
Beside them the birds of heaven dwell;
from among the branches they
send forth their song.
All: God, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Reader: You water the mountains from your palace;
the earth is replete with the fruit of your works.
You raise grass for the cattle,
and vegetation for our use;
Producing bread from the earth.
All: God, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Reader: How manifold are you works, O God!
In wisdom you have brought them all-
the earth is full of your creatures,
Bless God O my soul!

All: God, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Prayer

Presider: Let us pray: Almighty and eternal God, you created all things in wonderful beauty and order. Help us now to perceive how still more wonderful is the new creation, by which in the fullness of time you redeemed your people through the sacrifice of our Passover, Jesus, the Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

Second Reading: **Genesis 22:1-18**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

It happened some time later that God put Abraham to the test. "Abraham!" God called. "Here I am," Abraham replied. "Take your son," God said, "your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you."

Rising early the next morning, Abraham saddled his donkey and took along two workers and his child Isaac. Abraham chopped wood for the burnt offering and started on the journey to the place God had pointed out. On the third day, Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. Then Abraham said to the workers, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there; we will worship and come back to you."

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering, loaded it on Isaac, and carried in his own hands the fire and the knife. Then the two of them set out together. "Look," Isaac said to Abraham, "here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham answered, "My child, God will provide the lamb for the burnt offering." Then the two of them went on together.
When they arrived at the place God had pointed out, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he tied up his child Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill the child.

But the angel of God called to him from heaven. "Abraham, Abraham!" the angel said. "I am here," he replied. "Do not raise your hand against the boy," the angel said. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not refuse me your son, your only child." Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham called the place "God provides," as it is said to this day: On the mountain God provides.

The angel of God called Abraham a second time from heaven. "I swear by my Self - it is God who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only child, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants will possess the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth will find blessings - all this because you obeyed my command."

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Pause for a moment of silence

Responsorial Psalm: (16:5, 8/9, 10/11)

Reader: You are my inheritance, O God.
All: You are my inheritance, O God.

Reader: God is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

All: You are my inheritance, O God.

Reader: I keep God always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

All: You are my inheritance, O God.

Reader: For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

All: You are my inheritance, O God.

Prayer

Presider: Let us pray. God and Father of all who believe in you, you promised Abraham that he would become the father of all nations, and through the death and resurrection of Christ you fulfill that promise: Everywhere throughout the world you increase your chosen people. May we respond to your call by joyfully accepting your invitation to the new life of grace. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.
All: Amen.

Third Reading: Exodus 14:15 -15:1

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Then Our God said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. And you, lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea, and split the sea in two, that the Israelites may pass through it on dry land. For my part, I will make the hearts of the Egyptians so hard that they will go in after them. Then I will receive glory at the expense of Pharaoh and all the army, chariots and charioteers. The Egyptians will know that I am the Most High God, when I receive glory through Pharaoh and the chariots and charioteers."

The angel of God, who had been leading Israel's camp, now moved and went around behind them. The column of clouds also, leaving the front, took up its place behind them, so that it came between the camp of the Egyptians and that of Israel. But the cloud now became dark, and thus the night passed without the rival camps coming any closer together all night long. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and Our God swept the sea with a strong east wind throughout the night and so turned it into dry land. When the water was thus divided, the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit; all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and charioteers went after them right into the midst of the sea.
Just before dawn, Our God looked down upon the Egyptian forces from the column of fiery cloud, and threw the army into confusion and panic, clogging their chariot wheels that they could hardly drive. With that, the Egyptians sounded the retreat before the Israelites, because Our God was fighting for them against the Egyptians.

Then Our God told Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may flow back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and their charioteers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea flowed back to its normal depth. The Egyptians were fleeing head-on toward the sea, when Our God hurled them into its midst. As the water flowed back, it covered the chariots and the charioteers - Pharaoh's whole army - which had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not a single one of them escaped. But the Israelites had marched on dry land through the midst of the sea, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left. Thus, Our God saved Israel on that day from the power of the Egyptians. When Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the seashore and beheld the great power that Our God had shown against the Egyptians, the people held Our God in awe; they put their faith in Our God and in Moses, God's trusted servant.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to Our God:

"To you, Our God, I sing:
you have covered yourself in glory,
horse and rider you have thrown into the sea.
Our God is our strength and our song.
You have become our salvation."

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Pause for a moment of silence

Responsorial Psalm

Reader: Let us sing to God; who is bathed in glory.
All: Let us sing to God; who is bathed in glory.

"I will sing to God, who has triumphed gloriously;
who has thrown horse and rider into the sea.
God is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation;
this is my God, whom I will praise, my father's God, whom I will exalt.
All: Let us sing to God; who is bathed in glory.

God is a warrior; God is his name.
"Pharaoh's chariots and his army God cast into the sea;
his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea.
All: Let us sing to God; who is bathed in glory.

The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O God, glorious in power—
your right hand, O God, shattered the enemy.
All: Let us sing to God; who is bathed in glory.

You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own possession,
the place, O God, that you made your abode,
the sanctuary, O God, that your hands have established.
God will reign forever and ever."
All: Let us sing to God; who is bathed in glory.

Prayer

Presider: Let us pray. God of steadfast love, your wonderful deeds of old shine forth even in our own day. Through the waters of the sea, you once delivered your chosen people from slavery, a sign for us of the salvation of all nations through the grace of Baptism. Grant that all of the peoples of earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel: through Jesus, the Christ our brother and Savior.
All: Amen.

Fourth Reading: Isaiah 54:5-14

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

For now Your Creator will be your spouse,
whose name is Our God Most High.
Your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel,
called the God of all the earth.
For Our God calls you back from your grief –
young wife abandoned by her husband.
I did abandon you for a brief moment,
but with much tenderness I will take you back.
In an outburst of wrath, I hid my face momentarily;
but with everlasting love I will gather you,
says Our God, Your Redeemer.
I am now as I was in the days of Noah
when I swore that Noah's waters
should never flood the earth again.

So now I swear not to be angry with you,
or to make threats against you.
For the mountains may disappear and the hills may depart,
but my love will never leave you
nor my covenant of peace be shaken,
says Your God, who has mercy on you.
O afflicted one, storm-battered and unconsoled,
I will lay your pavements in carnelians,
and your foundations in sapphires.
I will make your battlements of rubies,
your gates of crystal,
and all your walls of precious stones.
Your children will all be taught by Our God;
the prosperity of your children will be great.
In justice you will be established,
far from the fear of oppression,
where destruction cannot come near you.

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Pause for a moment of silence

Responsorial Psalm

Reader: I will praise you, God, for you have rescued me.
All: I will praise you, God, for you have rescued me.

My God, my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.
Sing praises to God, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.
All: I will praise you, God, for you have rescued me.

For God's anger is but for a moment;
God's favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.
As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."
All: I will praise you, God, for you have rescued me.

You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
so that my soul may praise thee and not be silent.
All: I will praise you, God, for you have rescued me.

Prayer

Presider: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, glorify your name by increasing your chosen people as you promised long ago. In reward for their trust, may we see in the Church the fulfillment of your promise. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.
All: Amen.

Fifth Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!
You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat;
come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk!
Why spend your money for what is not bread,
your wages for what fails to satisfy?
Heed me, and you will eat well, you will delight in rich fare.
Bend your ear and come to me, listen, that you may have life.
I will make an everlasting covenant with you, the faithful mercies shown to David. See, I have made of you a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander of the nations.
See, you will summon a nation you never knew,
and a nation which does not know you will come hurrying to you -
for the sake of Your God, the Holy One of Israel,
who will glorify you.
Seek Your God while God is still to be found,
call to God, while God is still near.
Let the wicked abandon their ways,
the evil their thoughts.
Let them turn back to God, who will take pity on them,
to Our God, who will generously forgive.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says Your God.

As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are my ways above your ways
and my thoughts above your thoughts.
For just as from the heavens
the rain and snow come down
and do not return there
till they have watered the earth,
making it fertile and fruitful,
giving seed to the sower
and bread for food,
so will my word be
that goes forth from my mouth:
it shall not return to me empty,
but will carry out my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it.

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Pause for a moment of silence

Responsorial Psalm

Reader: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.
All: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for God is my strength and my might;
God has become my salvation.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
All: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to God,
call on God's name;
make known God's deeds among the nations;
proclaim that God's name is exalted.
All: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Sing praises to God, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
All: You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Prayer

Presider: Let us pray. Almighty, ever-living God, only hope of the world, by the preaching of the prophets you proclaimed the mysteries we are celebrating tonight. Help us to be your faithful people, for it is by your inspiration alone that we can grow in goodness. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.
All: Amen.

Sixth Reading: Baruch 3:9-15, 32-44

A reading from the book of the prophet Baruch.

Listen, Israel, to commands that bring life;
hear, and learn what knowledge means.
Why, Israel, why are you in the country of your enemies,
growing older and older in an alien land,
sharing defilement with the dead,
reckoned with those who go to the nether world?
- Because you have forsaken
the fountain of Wisdom!
Had you walked in the way of God,
you would have lived in peace forever.
Learn where knowledge is,
where strength, where understanding,
and so learn where length of days is, where life,
where the light of the eyes and where peace.
But who has found out where she lives,
who has entered her treasure house?

Yet the One who knows all things knows her,
by the Creator's knowledge she has been embraced –
the One who established the earth for all time,
and filled it with four-footed beasts;
the One who dismisses the light, and it departs,
calls it, and it obeys, trembling;
before whom the stars at their posts shine and rejoice;
when they are called, they answer, "Here we are!"
shining with joy for their Maker.
Such is Our God,
to whom no other is to be compared;
Our God has grasped the whole way of knowledge,
and confided it to Leah and Rachel and Jacob,
the trusted and faithful ones,
to Israel, the well-beloved.

Now Wisdom has appeared on earth,
and moves among the people.
She is the book of the precepts of God,
the Law that endures forever,
all who cling to her will live,
but those will die who forsake her.
Turn, O Israel, and receive her:
walk by her light toward splendor.
Do not give your glory to another,
your privileges to a people not your own.
Blessed are we, O Israel,
for what pleases God has been revealed to us.

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Pause for a moment of silence

Responsorial Psalm

Reader: God, you have the words of everlasting life.
All: God, you have the words of everlasting life.

the precepts of God are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of God is clear,
enlightening the eyes;

All: God, you have the words of everlasting life.

reverence of God is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of God are true
and righteous altogether.

All: God, you have the words of everlasting life.

More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.

All: God, you have the words of everlasting life.

Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

All: God, you have the words of everlasting life.

Prayer

Presider: Let us pray. Abba God, you increase your Church by continuing to call all people to salvation. Listen to our prayers and always watch over those you cleanse in baptism. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.
All: Amen.

Seventh Reading: **Ezekiel 36:16-28**

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus the word of Our God came to me: When the house of Israel lived in their land, they defiled it by their conduct and deeds. Therefore, I poured out my fury upon them, because of the blood which they poured out on the ground, and because they defiled it with idols. I scattered them among the nations, dispersing them over foreign lands; according to their conduct and deeds I judged them. But when they came among the nations, wherever they came, they served to profane my holy Name, because it was said of them, "These are the people of Our God, yet they had to leave their land." So I have relented because of my holy Name which the house of Israel profaned among the nations where they came.

Therefore, I say to the house of Israel: Thus says Our God: Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel, but for the sake of My holy Name which you profaned among the nations to which you came. I will prove the holiness of my great Name, profaned among the nations - for you are the ones who have profaned it.

Thus, the nations will know that I am the Most High," says Our Sovereign God, "because in their sight I prove my holiness through you. For I will take you away from among the nations, gather you from all the foreign lands, and bring you back to your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you and cleanse you from all your impurities; I will cleanse you from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you; I will remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh.

I will put my Spirit within you and make you live by my statutes, careful to observe my decrees. You will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be Your God."

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Pause for a moment of silence

Responsorial Psalm

Reader: Create a clean heart in me, O God.
All: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

All: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
God, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

All: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,
then you will delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

All: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Prayer

Presider: Let us pray. God of unchanging power and light, look with mercy and favor on your entire Church. Bring lasting salvation to all peoples, so that we may see the fallen lifted up, the old made new, and all things brought to perfection, through him who is their origin, Jesus, the Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
All: Amen.

Gloria

All: Glory to God in whom we live and move and have our being; and peace to God's people on earth. O God, heavenly King, wonderful Creator, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Jesus the Christ, only Son of God; O God, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of God; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Most High, Jesus the Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God.
Amen.

Presider: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
Presider: 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, the Christ, our brother and savior who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
All: Amen.

Epistle: Romans 6:3-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Do you not know that when we were baptized into Christ Jesus we were baptized in the death of Christ? We have been buried with Jesus through baptism, and we joined with Jesus in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by God's glory, we too might live a new life.

For if we have been united with Christ in the likeness of Christ's death, we will also be united with Christ in the likeness of Christ's resurrection. We must realize that our former selves have been crucified with Christ to destroy the sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin: for when people die, they have finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ, we will also live with Christ - knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again: death is now powerless over our Savior. When Christ died, Christ died to sin, once for all, so that this life now is life with God. In this way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of God. ***R/.*** *Thanks be to God.*

Presider: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
All: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
Presider: This is the day the Our God has made; let us rejoice and be glad.
All: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Deacon: Please may I have a blessing.
Presider: May the Lord be in your ✚ heart and on your ✚ lips, that you may worthily proclaim his Holy Gospel, so those who hear it may believe the good news of Jesus. In the name of God the Creator ✚**,** and of the Son**,** and of the Holy Spirit.

Deacon: God be with you.
All: And also with you.

Gospel Reading: **Matthew 28:1-10**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary of Magdala came with the other Mary to inspect the tomb. Suddenly, there was a mighty earthquake, for the angel of God descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. The angel's appearance was like lightning, with garments dazzling as snow. The guards shook with fear and fell down as though they were dead. Then the angel spoke, addressing the women, "Do not be frightened. I know you are looking for Jesus the crucified, who is no longer here. Jesus has been raised, exactly as it was foretold.

Come and see the burial place. Then go quickly and tell the disciples that Jesus has been raised from the dead, and now goes ahead of you to Galilee, where you will see Jesus. That is the message I have for you."

The women hurried away from the tomb with awe and great joy and ran to carry the good news to the disciples. Suddenly, Jesus stood before them and said, "Peace!" The women came up and embraced his feet and worshiped him. At this, Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid! Go and carry the news to the disciples that they are to go to Galilee, where they will see me."

The Good News of Salvation!
R/. *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!*

Homily

Part Three -Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, let us ask God, the Almighty Father, to bless this font, that we will be reborn in it and made one with his children in Christ.

Litany

Presider: *Kyrie Eleison* **All: *Kyrie Eleison***

Presider: *Christe Eleison* **All: *Christe Eleison***

Presider: *Kyrie Eleison* **All: *Kyrie Eleison***

After the invocation of each Saint **All: Pray, for us.**

Holy Mary Mother of God
Saint Michael
Holy Angels of God
Saint John the Baptist
Saint Joseph
Saints Peter and Paul
Saint Andrew
Saint John
Saint Mary Magdalene
Saint Stephen
Saint Ignatius
Saint Lawrence
Saints Perpetua and Felicity
Saint Agnes
Saint Gregory
Saint Augustine
Saint Athanasius
Saint Basil
Saint Martin
Saint Benedict
Saints Francis and Dominic
Saint Francis Xavier
Saint John Vianney
Saint Catherine
Saint Teresa
Saint Marguerite
All Holy Men and Women

God be merciful — **All: God Save your people.**
From all evil — ***(also for the following verses)***
From every sin
From everlasting death
By your coming as man
By your death and rising to new life
By the gifts of the Holy Spirit — **All: God Save your people.**

Be Merciful to us sinners.
All: God, hear our prayer.

By your grace bless this font where your children will be reborn.
All: God, hear our prayer.

Jesus, Son of the Living God.
All: God, hear our prayer.

Christ Hear us.
All: Christ hear us.

Christ Jesus, hear our prayer.
All: Christ Jesus, hear our prayer.

Blessing of the Water

Presider: We give you thanks, our God, for your work, your wonders with power unseen, through signs and sacraments that we can see.
All: Blessed be God.

Presider: Your holy people's scriptures speak of the water of your making in many ways, to tell us of your covenant call.
All: Blessed be God.

Presider: Yours was the Spirit sweeping over the waters when the world first came to be, that water may give birth to life.
All: Blessed be God.

Presider: You made the flood an image of new birth, a new and better race of men and woman, a cradle of the holiness you ask.
All: Blessed be God.

Presider: Your people crossed the sea untouched and water was a sign of human freedom and a dedicated people.
All: Blessed be God.

Presider: Your Son was baptized by John in the Jordan to hear your words of love, words of brotherhood and sisterhood in one human family.
All: Blessed be God.

Presider: A cleansing flood of water and of blood flowed from his side, and then he charged us. "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them…"
All: Blessed be God.

Presider: Look now upon your church with kindness and open up within it the fountain that will grace us with your Spirit, that those baptized may be born again.
All: Hear us, O God.

Presider: We pray O God, that the power of the Holy Spirit may be in this fountain and in our deed that those buried together with Christ Jesus in his death may rise together with him in new life.
All: Hear us, O God.

Presider: We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.
All: Amen.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Presider: My brothers and sisters:
On a people who lived in darkness and in deep shadow a great light has dawned. The light is the light of the Christ, a light that even the darkness of death could not overpower.
Presider: Those who lived in the darkness of ignorance and separation and who did not want to change opposed his light. However, it was welcome by all those who longed for truth, wholeness, and freedom.
Presider: We ourselves were in darkness once, but God our Father and Mother called us out of darkness into the wonderful light of the Christ. We must therefore try to live as children of the light. The effects of light are seen in goodness, right living and truth.

Presider: Now that we have successfully completed our Lenten exercises, and the light of Easter has dawned upon us, let us renew our belief in the light of Christ, our risen brother and Redeemer, and our determination to follow it faithfully. This, after all, is what we promised at Baptism when this light was first kindled in our hearts. Let us now reaffirm those baptismal promises.
Presider: Do you believe in God, our Creator, the one true God and source of all light?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you reject the many false gods the modern world offers for your adoration?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you reject the many false lights by which we are lured from the path of the Gospels: greed for material things, lust for pleasure, craving for popularity?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you believe in Christ, the light of the world?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you believe that the light of Christ shines within you and that you are called to let that light shine in the world today?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you promise then, that where the darkness of hatred reigns you will let the light of love shine?
All: We do.

Presider: That where the darkness of injury reigns you will let the light of pardon shine?
All: We do.

Presider: That where the darkness of doubt reigns you will let the light of faith shine?
All: We do.

Presider: That where the darkness of despair reigns you will let the light of hope shine? **All: We do.**

Presider: That where the darkness of falsehood reigns you will let the light of truth shine?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you believe that through his resurrection Jesus overcame the darkness of death and that we can do the same if we live in the nature of the Christ?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you believe in the holy catholic church, the community of believers in the light, brothers and sisters in Christ?
All: We do.

Presider: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, to console us in times of sorrow, to strengthen us in times of difficulty, and to bind us together in the love of Christ?
All: We do.

Presider: And now, my sisters and brothers, I say to you in the name of the Christ, our risen Savior: hold up your heads. This is our faith. We are proud to profess it. Never be ashamed of this light. Carry it with pride and honor, with joy and love. If you do this, then Christ will not be ashamed of you before his Father in heaven. May God bless you and keep you faithful. But in your human weakness should you fail and fall back into the old ways of darkness, know that you can turn to the light at any time. The example of Jesus, the Christed One, will help you to walk in the light once more.
All: Amen.

General Intercessions

Presider: My Dear friends: let us be one in prayer to God as we are one in the faith, hope, and love his Spirit gives.

Lector: For the Holy Church of God in union with our bishop and all bishops, priests and deacons, that God, who gathers us together by the Holy Spirit, may help us grow in unity of faith and love until his Son returns in glory, let us pray.
All: O God, hear our prayer.

Lector: For all people, of every race and nation, that they may acknowledge the one God and in the bond of children of God seek the kingdom, which is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit: let us pray.
All: O God, hear our prayer.

Lector:For the growth of St. Marguerite Faith Community, that we will be prayerful and vigilant, individually and as a community, in witnessing to others that their redemption is at hand. We pray.

R: O God, hear our prayer.

Lector: For all those intentions listed in our parish book of prayers and for all who suffer because of illness, injury, or age and for those who care for them-- including any you wish to mention at this time....(pause)
and for all those recently deceased to rest in the everlasting domain of Christ--including any you wish to mention at this time.....(pause) We pray:

R: O God, hear our prayer.

Lector: And for all the prayers that we hold in the quiet of our hearts. (Pause) We pray:

R: O God, hear our prayer.

Presider: Creator God, you sent your Holy Spirit upon the apostles, and through them and their successors you give the Spirit to your people. May her work begun at Pentecost continue to grow in the hearts of all who believe. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.
All: Amen.

Presider: Let us pray:

All: Loving God, we thank you for the light of grace and love which Jesus, your risen Son, brought into our world. Its brightness still overwhelms us. Help us to keep the light of Christ burning brightly in our hearts and in our lives. As others see this light, may they find their way to you. We make our prayer through the same Christ. Amen.

Presider: Remember your Baptism and be thankful. In the name of God the Creator, the ✚ Son and the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.

Part Four Liturgy of the Eucharist

PREPARATIONS

The Peace

Deacon: If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember, your sister or brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first to be reconciled to your sister or brother, and then come and offer your gift. Since God has forgiven us in Christ, through his death, resurrection and the gift of baptism let us forgive one another.

Presider: The peace of Jesus the Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.

Deacon: Let us share some sign of Christ's peace and forgiveness.

Offertory Hymn:
Offertory: At the Lamb's High Feast

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing
   Praise to our victorious King.
   He has washed us in the tide
   Flowing from his open side.
   Praise we him, whose love divine
   Gives his sacred blood for wine,
   Gives his body for the feast,
   Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

2. Where the Paschal blood is poured,
   Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;
   Israel's hosts triumphant go
   Through the wave that drowns the foe.
   Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
   Paschal victim, Paschal bread;
   With sincerity and love
   Eat we manna from above.

Presider: Blessed are you, God of the universe, you are the giver of this bread, fruit of the earth and of human labor, let it become the bread of Life.
All: Blessed be God forever.

Deacon: By the mystery of this wine and water, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity.

Presider: Blessed are you, Lord God of the universe, you are the giver of this wine, fruit of the vine and of human labor, let it become the cup of love.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Presider: Creator God, we ask You to receive us and be pleased with the sacrifice we offer You with humble and contrite hearts.

Presider: Come Holy Spirit and bless ✚ this sacrifice which we have prepared for the glory of Your Holy Name.

Washing of the Hands

Presider: Creator God, cleanse my heart, and open it to whatever You wish for me.

Presider: Pray, my brothers and sisters, that this, our sacrifice may be acceptable to our Creator God.

All: May God accept these gifts, for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good, and the good of all God's Church.

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: O God, be pleased with the gifts we bring to you. Bless + this bread and this wine and make them the sacrament of our salvation. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.
All: Amen.

DIALOGUE

Presider: God be with you.
All: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to God.

Presider: Come to the table with thankful hearts.
All: We open our hearts to God and one another.

PREFACE

Presider: It is truly right and our greatest joy …
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

SANCTUS

All: Holy, holy, holy God! God of wonder and awe; heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of Our God. Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer: (Canon)

THANKSGIVING

Presider: You are holy, O God of majesty, …as he promised.

INSTITUTIONS

With thanksgiving, we remember his words: *I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you.*
We remember how he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks and praise to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
We remember how he took the cup after supper, saying:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it:
This is the cup of my blood,
the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.
It will be shed for you and for all.
Do this in memory of me.

ACCLIMATION

All: Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus, the Christ. Accept this, our gifts of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Deacon:
Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

EPICLESIS

Presider: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the ✚ body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

COMMEMORATIONS

All: Remember, O God, 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 your Bishops, priests, deacons, and all who minister in your church.
Remember all your people, and those who seek the truth.
Remember our parishioners who could not be with us tonight and our families and friends. (Pause for silent reflection)
Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ. (Pause for silent reflection) 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 blessed Virgin Mary, with the patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, Saint Margarite and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past.

CONCLUSION

Presider: Nourished at this table, O God, may we know Christ's redemptive love and live a new life in him. Help us who recognize the Christ in the breaking of the bread to see and serve him in all whose lives are broken. Give us who are fed at his hand, grace to share our bread with the hungry and with the hungry of heart. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm because it is:

All: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever. Amen!

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: As our risen Savior Christ has taught us, please join us around the altar as we boldly pray:

All: 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.

Presider: Deliver us O God from evil and from that obstinate self-will which leads us to sin.Give us the peace and serenity that comes from seeking your will in all we do. Help us to choose you above all and grant us that we may prepare without fear and with expectant joy for the full coming among us of our Savior Jesus the Christ.

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider: This cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?

All: Because there is one Bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Lamb of God

All: Lamb of God, You call us to the Gospel of Peace,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You call us to the Gospel of Love,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You call us to the Gospel of Hope,
grant us peace.

Presider: May the union of divinity and humanity in Jesus the Christ bring us sanctification and eternal life. **All: Amen.**

Communion Prayer

All: Jesus the Christ, Son of the living God, by the will of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, Your death brought life to the world. By Your Holy Body and Blood, free me from all my sins and from every evil. Keep me faithful to Your teaching and never let me be parted from You.

Presider: I will take the Bread of heaven and call upon the name of the Christ.
All: Jesus, You have prepared us to receive you, by saying the word and healing us.

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on Him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn: **Taste and See**

Refrain: Taste and see, O taste and see,
Taste and see the goodness of God.

1. Glory, glory to our loving God;
   Glory, blessing and praise.
   With one voice, O people, rejoice in our God,
   Who hears the cry of all in need. O,

2. Who has fashioned the earth and sky,
   Who created the deep,
   Who exalts the lowly and sets captives free,
   Who opens the door to all those who seek. O,

Prayer after Communion

Presider: In peace let us pray to our wondrous God:
All: We praise you. O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy, such grace, and such hope, in the resurrection and body and blood, of Jesus, the Christ. Let all our words and actions, our love and service bear witness to you resurrection power; we ask this in the name of Jesus who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God forever. Amen.

Announcements

The Blessing

Deacon: Bow your heads and ask for God's blessing.

Bishop: *Blessed be the name of God*
All: Now and forever
Bishop: *Our help is in the name of God*
All: Who made Heaven and Earth.]

Presider: May Almighty God bless you on this solemn feast of Easter, and may God protect you against all sin. **All: Amen.**

Presider: Through the resurrection of his Son God has granted us healing. May he fulfill his promises and bless you with eternal life. **All: Amen.**

Presider: You have mourned for Christ's sufferings; now you celebrate the joy of his resurrection. May you come with joy to the feast, which lasts forever. **All: Amen.**

Presider: May almighty God the Creator, the + Son and the Holy Spirit, bless you, now and forever. **All: Amen.**

Charge

Deacon: Go forth in the name of our Creator. This is God's charge: to give our allegiance to Jesus, the Christ and to love one another as he commanded. Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia! Alleluia!
All: Thanks be to God, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Recessional Hymn:
Closing: Sing to the Mountains

Refrain: Sing to the mountains, sing to the sea.
Raise your voices, lift your hearts.
This is the day our God has made.
Let all the earth rejoice.

1. I will give thanks to you, my God,
You have answered my plea.
You have saved my soul from death.
You are my strength and my song.

3. This is the day our God has made.
Let us be glad and rejoice!
Death has lost and all is life,
Sing of the glory of God.