



GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

Welcome to "Voices of Grace", our virtual worship experience that features parishioners leading worship from their own homes. We hope you join us from yours! Wherever you are, we pray for your health and well-being. God bless you!

Jonathan+

April 11, 2020 ~ The Great Vigil of Easter
Voices of Grace "Virtual" Worship

A SERVICE OF LIGHT

The Presider addresses the People.

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 we hear the Word and record of God's saving deeds in history, how God saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of salvation.

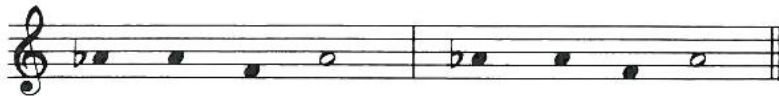
Let us pray.

O GOD, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new light, 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 ACCLAMATION OF LIGHT

Presider

People

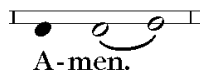


The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

THE EXULTET

The Cantor sings

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 our Lord, who lives and reigns with Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *People*



A-men.

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

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Cantor

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 fathers, 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 for ever and ever.

People

A-men.



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST PROPHECY
The Story of Creation

Read by Ben West
Genesis 1:1-2:4a

The Congregation and Cantor sing together

PSALM 46: 1-12

Deus noster refugium

Led by Nicholas Halar
Plainsong, Tone VIII.1



GOD is our refuge and /strength,*
A very present /help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the /earth be moved,*
and though the mountains be toppled into the /depths of the sea;
Though its waters /rage and foam,*
and though the mountains tremble /at its tumult.
The LORD of hosts is /with us,*
the God of Jacob /is our stronghold.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city /of God,*
the holy habitation /of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be /overthrown,*
God shall help her /at the break of day.
The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are /shaken,*
God has spoken, the /earth shall melt away.
The LORD of hosts is /with us,*
the God of Jacob /is our stronghold.
Come now and look upon the works /of the LORD,*
what awesome things /he has done on earth.
It is he who makes war to cease in /all the world;*
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear,
and /burns the shields with fire.
“Be still then, and know that /I am God;*
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be ex/alted in the earth.”
The LORD of hosts is /with us;*
the God of Jacob /is our stronghold.

THE COLLECT

Leader Let us pray.

ALmighty GOD, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



THE SECOND PROPHECY
Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Read by Kathryn and Oliver Chamberlain
Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

HYMN

1 Sing now with joy un - to the Lord, for
2 God is our strength, he is our song, he
3 He on - ly is the might - y Lord. He

he has tri - umphed glo - rious - ly! The horse, the char - iot,
saved us from our en - e - my. All praise and thanks to
on - ly can de - stroy the foe. He on - ly is to

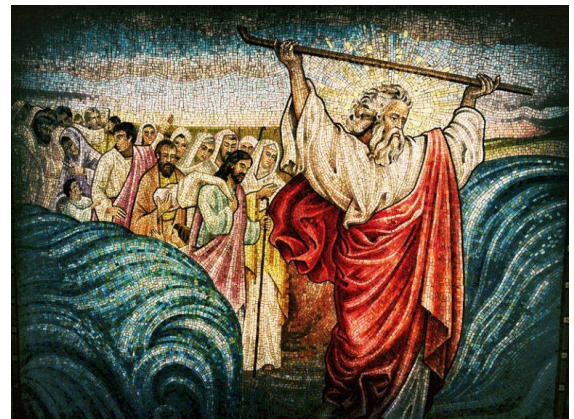
and the sword he cast in - to the rag - ing sea.
him be - long who came to set his peo - ple free.
be a - dored for he a - lone can make us whole.

Words: Anon., ca. 1976, alt.; based on Exodus 15:1-2
Music: The Eighth Tune, "Tallis' Canon", Thomas Tallis (c 1505-1585)

THE COLLECT

Leader 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.**



THE THIRD PROPHECY
A New Heart and a New Spirit

Read by Morayo Akande
Ezekiel 36:24-28

Please join in singing the following hymn.

HYMN 658

Led by Morayo Akande, Chelsea Sardoni, and Jess Huetteman

1 As longs the deer for cool - ing streams in
2 For thee, my God, the liv - ing God, my
3 Why rest - less, why cast down, my soul? Hope
4 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the

parched and bar - ren ways, so longs my soul, O
thirst - y soul doth pine: O when shall I be -
still, and thou shalt sing the praise of him who
God whom we a - dore, be glo - ry, as it

God, for thee and thy re - fresh - ing grace.
hold thy face, thou Ma - jes - ty di - vine?
is thy God, thy health's e - ter - nal spring.
was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

*Words: New Version of the Psalms of David, 1696, alt.; para. of Psalm 42:1-7
Music: Martyrdom, melody and bass Hugh Wilson (1764-1824); adapt. and harm. Robert Smith (1780-1829)*

THE COLLECT

Leader Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who are reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 the holy catholic Church.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Leader Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

People **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.**

Leader Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

Leader 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.**

Leader Will you proclaim by word and example the
Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

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

People **I will, with God's help.**

Leader 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.**

Leader 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 Christ Jesus our Lord.

People **Amen.**



~ PRAYER LIST ~

This week, we pray for: *Anne Clanton, the family of Louis Nielsen, Sarah, Diana, Ruby, Lola, Tim, Emily, Chris, Jo-Ann, James, Maria Diamante, Bob Scanlan, Robert Cramer, Bob Nelson, Kenneth Scanlan, Jerry Clifford, and those serving in the military.* We also pray for those members of our church who are homebound.



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