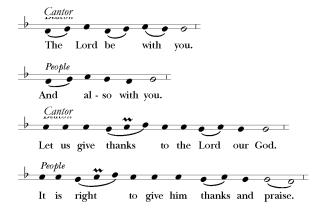
The Great Vigil of Easter

April 8, 2023 Grace Episcopal Church Nyack, NY

Jeff McDowell and Emily Nevill, Wardens

Brandon N. Beachamp, Organist and Choirmaster

The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge, *Rector* 7:30 pm



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 ancestors, 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.

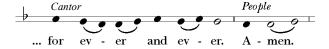
This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

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

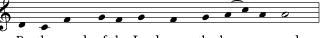
Presider: Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

(The people are seated.)

THE STORY OF CREATION Genesis 1:1-2:4a

PSALM 136: 1-9, 23-26 (The people are invited to join in singing the refrain before and after the psalm.)





By the word of the Lord were the heav- ens made,



by the breath of his mouth all the heav-en-ly hosts.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the God of gods, for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his mercy endures for ever.

Who only does great wonders, for his mercy endures for ever;

Who by wisdom made the heavens, for his mercy endures for ever;

Who spread out the earth upon the waters, for his mercy endures for ever

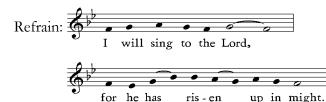
Who created great lights,

for his mercy endures for ever;
The sun to rule the day,
 for his mercy endures for ever;
The moon and the stars to govern the night,
 for his mercy endures for ever.
Who remembered us in our low estate,
 for his mercy endures for ever;
And delivered us from our enemies,
 for his mercy endures for ever;
Who gives food to all creatures,
 for his mercy endures for ever.
Give thanks to the God of heaven,
 for his mercy endures for ever.

Presider: 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.**

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA Exodus 14:10—15:1

CANTICLE 8 (The people are invited to join in singing the refrain before and after the psalm.)



I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge;

the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God and I will praise him,

the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior;

Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea;

the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them;

they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might;

your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods?

who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand;

the earth swallowed them up.

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed;

with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them

on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord,

the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign

for ever and for ever.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

Our Easter flowers are offered in thanksgiving and loving memory of those listed below by their families and friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

The Great Vigil of Easter is the most important worship service in the liturgical year and one of the oldest liturgies of Christianity. Its observation was the time when catechumens, who had been preparing by a period of study and fasting, were baptized and received into the church. In it we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus through readings from scripture and music which recount God's saving work throughout human history. The service includes four separate components: The service of light, liturgy of the word, baptism (or the renewal of baptismal vows) and the celebration of Holy Eucharist.

All gather outside the church entrance.

THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Presider may address the people.

Presider: 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 Paschal candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire. The Presider bearing the candle leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing.



At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.

The candles which have been distributed to the members of the congregation are lighted at this time. Other candles and lamps in the church may be lighted.

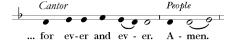
THE EXSULTET

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...



Presider: 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.**

GOD'S PRESENCE IN A RENEWED ISRAEL Isaiah 4:2-6

PSALM 122 (The people are invited to join in singing the refrain before and after the psalm.)

Refrain:



I was glad when they said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

Now our feet are standing

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city

that is at unity with itself;

To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,

the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.

For there are the thrones of judgment,

the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls

and quietness within your towers.

For my brethren and companions' sake,

I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the LORD our God,

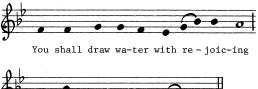
I will seek to do you good."

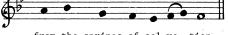
Presider: Let us pray. O God, you led your ancient people by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we, who serve you now on earth, may come to the joy of that heavenly Jerusalem, where all tears are wiped away and where your saints for ever sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SALVATION OFFERED FREELY TO ALL Isaiah 55:1-11

CANTICLE 9 (The people are invited to join in singing the refrain before and after the psalm.)

Refrain:





from the springs of sal-va-tion.

Surely, it is God who saves me;

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world.

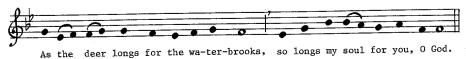
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, * for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Presider: 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.**

A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT Ezekiel 36:24-28

PSALM 42 (The people are invited to join in singing the refrain before and after the psalm.) Setting: G. da Palestrina (d. 1594)

Refrain:



Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad Te, Deus.

As the deer longs for the water-brooks, so longs my soul for you, O God.

Presider: 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.**

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS (The ministers move to the Baptismal font. The People stand, as able)

THANKSGIVING OVER WATER The Presider blesses the water, first saying:

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Presider: 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**

Presider

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.

Presider: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: I do.

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider: 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

Presider: 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.

Presider: 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.

Presider: 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.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

Presider: 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.

Presider: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and

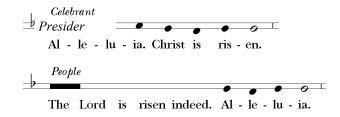
the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in

Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

THE ASPERGING OF THE CONGREGATION

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

(All stand., as able.)



The candles at the Altar are lighted from the Paschal Candle as all sing:



Presider: The Lord be with you. *People:* And also with you.

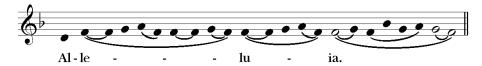
Presider: Let us pray. O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

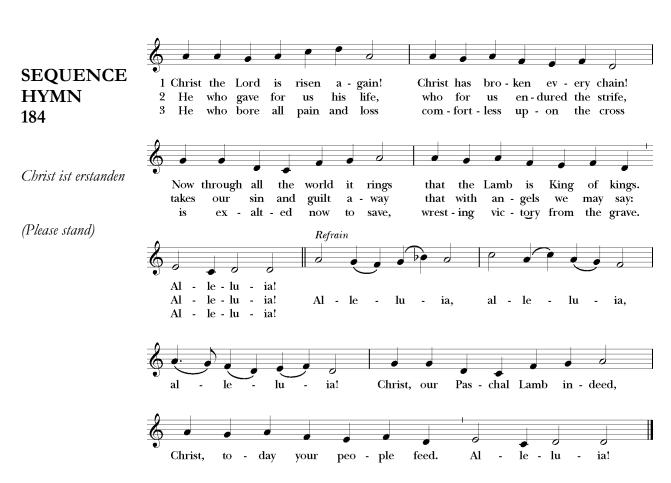
THE EPISTLE Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. *People:* Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA (Please stand, as able. Sung three times; the congregation repeats after the cantor.)





THE GOSPEL (The people stand for the Gospel reading.)

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place

28:1-10

where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Leader and People pray responsively Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

(Silence) The People may add their own petitions.

Presider

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen*.

THE PEACE

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The people are encouraged to exchange the greetings of peace with all around them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please be seated.)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Presider begins the Offertory with an Offertory Sentence.

The people's offerings are collected during the Anthem, and brought to the Altar during the Presentation Hymn.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Regina coeli laetare, Alleluia. Quia quem meruisti portare, Alleluia. Resurrexit sicut dixit, Alleluia. Ora pro nobis Deum. Alleluia.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia. He has risen, as He said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

Music: Gregor Aichinger (1564-1628)

PRESENTATION HYMN 174

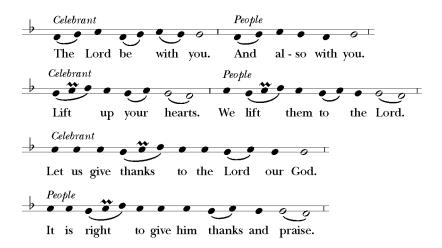
Salzburg

(Please stand, as able)



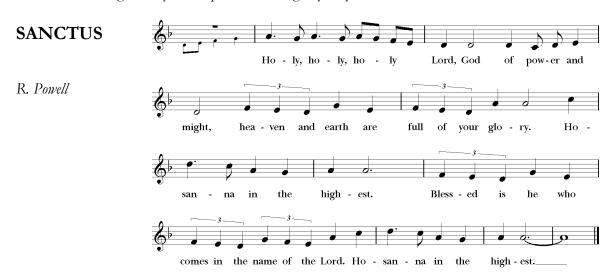
Words: Latin, 1632; tr. Robert Campbell (1814-1868), alt. Music: Salzburg, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.



The People stand or kneel.

Presider: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ 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." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

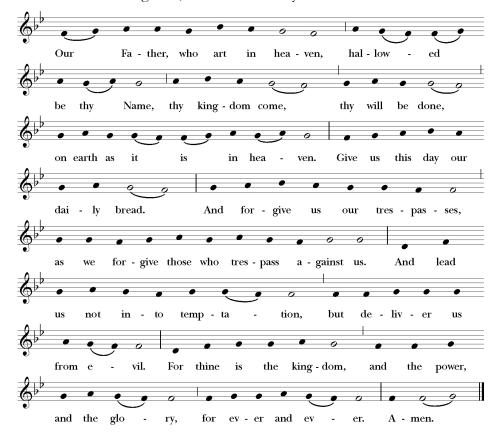


Presider: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

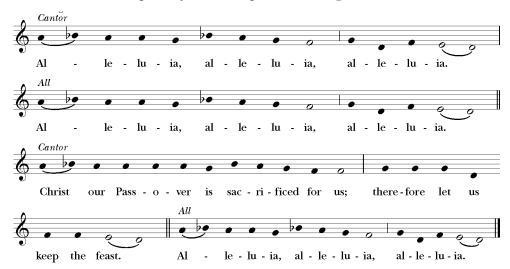
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

THE LORD'S PRAYER



The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept. Then is sung:

FRACTION ANTHEM



Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Communion at the Altar rail. Gluten-free Hosts are available by request.

To receive a priestly blessing instead, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION HYMN 199

Straf mich nicht



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

Presider: Let us pray.

(All standing, as able)

All: Almighty and everliving God,

We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood Of your son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

That we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,

To love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

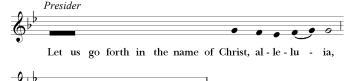
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE EASTER BLESSING

Presider

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**







HYMN IN PROCESSION 180

Unser Herrscher



VOLUNTARY

Fantasy on Victimae Paschali laudes

Craig Phillips