
HOLY SATURDAY

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER



CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
✠ MISSOURI SYNOD ✠



Christ the King Lutheran Church

✠ MISSOURI SYNOD ✠

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Mrs. Christine Chernobieff, School Director

SUNDAY MORNING

9:00AM Divine Service

10:30AM – 11:30AM Sunday School & Adult Bible Study



TO GUEST AND VISITORS

We welcome you to our congregation in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please leave a record of your visit in our guest book near the main door. We pray that the Holy Spirit would richly bless your hearing of God's Word with a living trust in Jesus Christ who died and rose for you. **For more information regarding Baptism, instruction in the Christian faith, and communicant membership please see Pastor Smith.**

RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER AT CHRIST THE KING

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- A) who have been **baptized** in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
 - B) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the **Lutheran Confessions**, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who **now confess** the same doctrine that is taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the **Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod**;
 - C) who believe that in this sacrament the **real body and blood** of Christ are truly distributed to them and **orally received** by them, bestowing on them the **forgiveness of sins, life and salvation**;
 - D) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and **desire to receive** God's forgiveness in this holy meal
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HOLY SATURDAY

The Triduum Service - Part III

HOLY SATURDAY

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠

TRIDUUM: THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER comes to us from the earliest celebration in the Church of the death and resurrection of our Lord, known as “Pascha.” When this celebration began to be spread over several days, the Vigil of Easter was conducted as a watch through the night for signs of the rising dawn. Traditionally, the service would start at such a time as to allow the Service of Holy Communion to occur after midnight. Also, the rubrics called for the service to begin outside of the Church, preferably around a fire, from which the congregation lights candles and processes into the nave. We will conduct the candle lighting a bit differently, as noted in the Order of Service below.

The Great Vigil of Easter is comprised of four services: the **Service of Light**, the **Service of Readings**, the **Service of Baptism**, and the **Service of Holy Communion**. These are unified under the theme of the resurrection of our Lord and the restoration of creation in his new Kingdom. The vigil begins in silence and darkness.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

P: Let us rise.

[The congregation rises and turns toward the back of the nave.]

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

P: Let us pray. O God, You are like a refiner's fire, and Your Spirit enkindles the hearts of Your faithful people with the fire of Your love. Bless, we implore You, this new flame and those who keep this joyful Easter festival that, burning with desire for life with You, we may be found rightly prepared to share in the Feast of Light which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

[The Celebrant traces the cross and letters Alpha and Omega upon the Paschal Candle, saying:]

P: Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the ending, the Alpha and Omega.

C: **Amen!**

[The Celebrant traces the year upon the candle, saying:]

P: His are time and eternity; His are the glory and dominion, now and forever.

C: **Amen!**

[The Celebrant imposes the five wax nails into the candle, saying:]

P: By His wounds we have healing both now and forever.

C: **Amen!**

[The Celebrant lights the Paschal candle from the newly kindled fire, saying:]

P: May the light of Christ, who is risen in glory from the dead, scatter all the darkness of our hearts and minds.

C: **Amen!**

P: Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, pour on us Your abundant blessing that all who in true faith share this night in joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead may be filled with Your heavenly benediction. Once we were in darkness, but now we are in the Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

*[The Procession begins; the person next to the center aisle receives the light from the torch as it stops at each aisle; the light is then passed down each pew; **PLEASE DIP ONLY THE UNLIGHTED CANDLE** during this process.]*

At the entrance of the nave, the bearer of the paschal candle stops and chants:



A The light of Christ.



B Thanks be to God.

When the candle bearer reaches the middle of the nave, he chants for the second time:



A The light of Christ.



C Thanks be to God.

When the candle bearer arrives at the candle stand, he turns to face the congregation. After all have reached their places, the candle bearer lifts the candle high and chants the third time:



A The light of Christ.



C Thanks be to God.

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION – [“EXSULTET”]

Cantor: Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King; know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished. Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God’s faithful people.



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And al-so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Cantor: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places, with all our heart and mind and voice, praise You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty ever lasting God, and Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. For He is the very Paschal Lamb who offered Himself for the sin of the world, who has cleansed us by the shedding of His precious blood. 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 ground. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality. This is the night when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night. Oh, how wonderful and beyond all telling is Your mercy towards us, O God, that to redeem a slave you gave your Son. How holy is this night when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away. How holy is this night when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast. How blessed is this night when man is reconciled to God in Christ. Holy Father, accept now the evening sacrifices of our thanksgiving and praise. Let Christ, the true light and morning star, shine in our hearts, He who gives light to all creation, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

[The hand-held candles are extinguished; the congregation is seated.]

THE SERVICE OF READINGS

P: In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

THE CREATION: GENESIS 1:1-2:3

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity. Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE FLOOD: GENESIS 7:1-5,11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. O Lord, You kill and You raise to life; You brought the flood upon a wicked and perverse generation, and yet You saved faithful Noah and his family in the ark. Keep us in safety in the ark of Christ's body, the Church, that Your mercy may come to its fullness and Your salvation be preached to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE TESTING OF ABRAHAM: GENESIS 22:1-18

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. O God, since You promised faithful Abraham that he would be the father of a great multitude, You provided a substitute for his son Isaac. In the fullness of time, You sent Your Son, the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world, to lay down His life that we might live as faithful children of Abraham. Grant to all people a living trust in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA: EXODUS 14:10-15:1

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. O God, You once delivered your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

SALVATION OFFERED FREELY TO ALL: ISAIAH 55:1-11

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your Word You created and sustain all things, and by Your Spirit You renew Your creation. Grant now the water of life to all who thirst for You that they may bring forth abundant fruit in Your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

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

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, by the death and resurrection of Your Son You cleansed our hearts and put a new Spirit within us. Grant that all who are brought to newness of life in the fellowship of the body of Christ may show forth in their lives what they confess with their lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

JOB CONFESSES THE REDEEMER: JOB 19:20-27

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, our great Redeemer, in the sacrifice of Your Son You put to death our wretched flesh and in His rising restored our life. Grant that we may always cling to Christ by faith in this life that at the last we may rejoice to stand in our own flesh and see You face to face; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GATHERING OF GOD’S PEOPLE: ZEPHANIAH 3:12-20

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: Let us pray. Look in mercy, O Lord, upon Your faithful people, and by Word and Spirit bring to completion that good work which You have begun in us. Gather in Your people that all the world may see and know that what has been cast down is raised up and what has grown old is made new, until the work You have begun in us is brought to its joyful fulfillment in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN: COME, YOU FAITHFUL, RAISE THE STRAINLSB-487

BAPTISM & THE RESURRECTION

P: On this holiest of nights the whole Church of our Lord Jesus Christ recalls His death and burial, rejoicing with great joy in the Gospel of His glorious and mighty resurrection from the dead. The apostle Paul says: “Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, He cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over Him. The death He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life He lives, He lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.” [Romans 6:3-11]

[All lights are turned on; altar candles are lit as congregation sings.]

HYMN: JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAYLSB-457

THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you**

THE COLLECT

P: Let us pray. O God, creator of heaven and earth, grant that as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with Him the coming of the third day, and rise with Him to newness of life, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen!

THE HOLY GOSPEL READING

P: The Holy Gospel is written in the 28th chapter of St. Matthew, beginning at the first verse.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Response after the reading:

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN: HE IS RISEN! GLORIOUS WORD!LSB-488

THE OFFERING

THE ANCIENT ORDER OF THE COMMUNION LITURGY

THE PREFACE




P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly good, right and salutary ... evermore praising you and saying:

THE SANCTUS - *Holy, Holy, Holy*



C Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth . . . one God, now and forever.

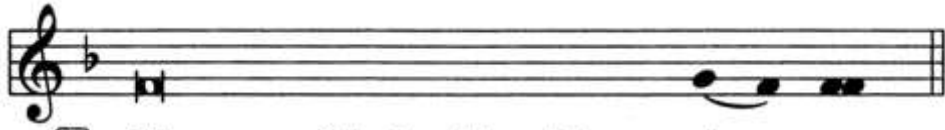
C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and thy glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PAX DOMINI – *The Peace of the Lord*



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

THE AGNUS DEI – *Lamb of God*



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

THE POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray . . .

C: Amen.

THE EASTER BENEDICTION

P: Christ is arisen!

C: He is arisen indeed!

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: In the name of the Lord.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you... give you peace.

C: Amen!

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

P: Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

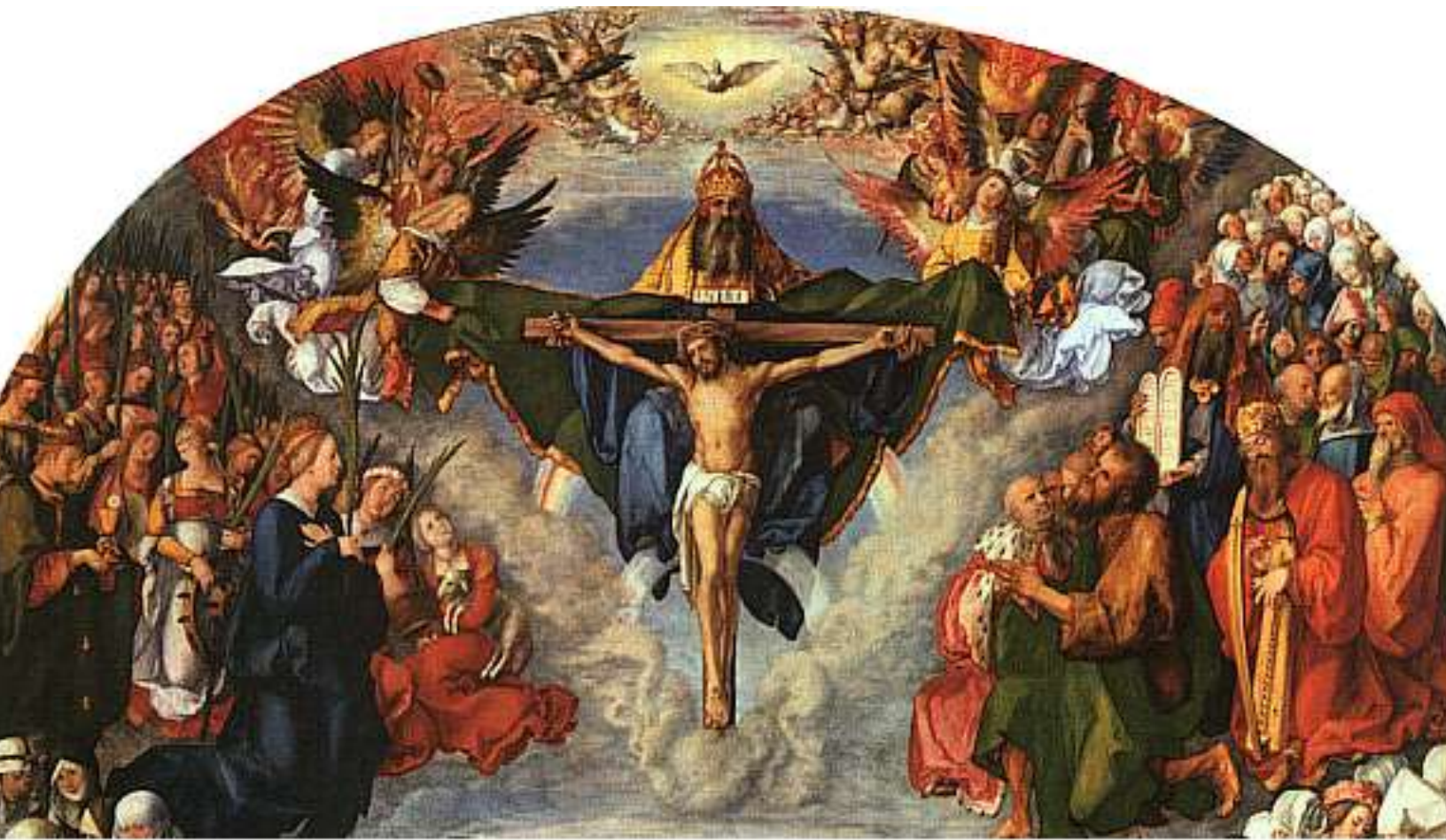
C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

RECESSIONAL HYMN: NOW ALL THE VAULTLSB-465

[During the Recessional Hymn, the congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go to live in the world in His name. When it leaves the nave, attention is redirected to the altar, the place from which God's good gifts proceed.]



CHRIST IS RISEN
ALLELUIA!



THE EVENTS OF EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

9:00AM

✠ FESTIVAL SERVICE

OF THE

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD ✠