

THE EASTER VIGIL LITURGY

with the lighting of the paschal candle,
the liturgy of the word,
and the renewal of baptismal vows



The Angel and the two Marys
at the Empty Tomb, 6th century mosaic, Ravenna

**CHRIST CHURCH, VIENNA
2020**

BLESSING THE CANDLE AND LIGHTING THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The priest greets the congregation:

Dear friends in Christ, on this most holy night,
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,
the Church invites her children throughout the world
to come together in vigil and prayer.

This is the Passover of the Lord:

If we honour the memory of his death and resurrection
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries,
then we may be confident that we shall share his victory over death
and live with him for ever in God.

The candle flame is blessed.

Let us pray.

Father, we share in the light of your glory through your Son, the light
of the world. Make this new flame holy, and inflame us with new
hope. Purify our minds by this Easter celebration and bring us one
day to the feast of eternal light. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Alpha and Omega, Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
all time belongs to him, and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age for ever. **Amen.**

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord
guard us and keep us. **Amen.**

The Priest lights the candle from the candle flame, saying:

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

The Light of Christ. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Choirs of angels, stars and planets:

God's people sing and dance.

All creation, Church of God:

God's people sing and dance.

We praise you Lord of life and death:
we glorify your name:

God's people sing and dance.

This is the night you set us free,
bringing us home in love;
holy night, when you led your people
through the fearsome sea:

God's people sing and dance.

This is the night you brought your Son
through the doors of death;
O holy night, when death takes flight
and hope is born again:

God's people sing and dance.

This is the night our tears of sadness
turn to shouts of joy;
holy night, when the choirs of earth
sing the songs of heaven:

God's people sing and dance.

This is the night when Christ our Light
makes the darkness bright:

God's people sing and dance.

Christ is the life that knows no end.

Christ is the love that burns within.

Christ is the peace that floods the world.

Christ is the Lord who reigns on high.

God's people sing and dance. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Dear friends in Christ, we have begun our solemn vigil.

Let us now listen attentively to the word of God,
recalling how he saved his people throughout history
and, in the fullness of time,
sent his own Son to be our Redeemer.
Through this Easter celebration,
may God bring to perfection
the saving work he has begun in us.

The vigil readings follow. A reader leads the psalm and the people respond. The president says the collect.

1. EXODUS 14.10-END; 15.1A (THE CROSSING OF THE RED SEA)

¹⁰ As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ They said to Moses, 'Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, "Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us

to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.’¹³ But Moses said to the people, ‘Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again.’¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.’¹⁵ Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward.’¹⁶ But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground.’¹⁷ Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.’¹⁸ And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.’¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them.’²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.’²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.’²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.’²³ The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.’²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic.’²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, ‘Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.’²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.’²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned

to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.’²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.’²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.’³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.’³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.’¹ Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

Canticle: The Song of Moses and Miriam

Response: I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously.

- 1 I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously,
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.
- 2 The Lord is my strength and my song
and has become my salvation.

I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously.

- 3 This is my God whom I will praise,
the God of my forebears whom I will exalt.
- 4 The Lord is a warrior,
the Lord is his name.

I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously.

- 5 Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in power:
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.
- 6 At the blast of your nostrils, the sea covered them;
they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously.

- 7 In your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.
8 And by your invincible strength
you will guide them to your holy dwelling.
9 You will bring them in and plant them, O Lord,
in the sanctuary which your hands have established.

I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously.

Collect

2. NUMBERS 21: 4-9 (THE BRONZE SERPENT)

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm 46

Response: The Lord of hosts is with us.

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble;
2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;
3 Though the waters rage and swell,
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.

The Lord of hosts is with us.

- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High.
5 God is in the midst of her;
therefore shall she not be removed;
God shall help her at the break of day.

The Lord of hosts is with us.

- 6 The nations are in uproar and the kingdoms are shaken,
but God utters his voice and the earth shall melt away.
7 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The Lord of hosts is with us.

- 8 Come and behold the works of the Lord,
what destruction he has wrought upon the earth.
9 He makes wars to cease in all the world;
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear
and burns the chariots in the fire.

The Lord of hosts is with us.

10 'Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.'
11 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

The Lord of hosts is with us.

Collect

3. DEUTERONOMY 34 (MOSES IS SHOWN THE PROMISED LAND)

¹ Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, ² all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, ³ the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. ⁴ The LORD said to him, 'This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, "I will give it to your descendants"; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.'⁵ Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD's command. ⁶ He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. ⁷ Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. ⁸ The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. ⁹ Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses. ¹⁰ Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. ¹¹ He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the

LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, ¹² and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Psalm 33.1-9

Response: The earth is filled with the loving kindness of the Lord.

- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
for it is good for the just to sing praises.
- 2 Praise the Lord with the lyre;
on the ten-stringed harp sing his praise.
- 3 Sing for him a new song;
play skilfully, with shouts of praise.

The earth is filled with the loving kindness of the Lord.

- 4 For the word of the Lord is true
and all his works are sure.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the loving-kindness of the Lord.

The earth is filled with the loving kindness of the Lord.

- 6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.
- 7 He gathers up the waters of the sea as in a waterskin
and lays up the deep in his treasury.

The earth is filled with the loving kindness of the Lord.

- 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord;
stand in awe of him, all who dwell in the world.

9 For he spoke, and it was done;
he commanded, and it stood fast.

The earth is filled with the loving kindness of the Lord.

Collect

4. JOSHUA 3 (THE CROSSING OF THE RIVER JORDAN)

¹ Early in the morning Joshua rose and set out from Shittim with all the Israelites, and they came to the Jordan. They camped there before crossing over. ² At the end of three days the officers went through the camp ³ and commanded the people, 'When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place. Follow it, ⁴ so that you may know the way you should go, for you have not passed this way before. Yet there shall be a space between you and it, a distance of about two thousand cubits; do not come any nearer to it.' ⁵ Then Joshua said to the people, 'Sanctify yourselves; for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.' ⁶ To the priests Joshua said, 'Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass on in front of the people.' So they took up the ark of the covenant and went in front of the people. ⁷ The LORD said to Joshua, 'This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses.' ⁸ You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, "When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan." ⁹ Joshua then said to the Israelites, 'Draw near and hear the words of the LORD your God.' ¹⁰ Joshua said, 'By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: ¹¹ the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into

the Jordan. ¹² So now select twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. ¹³ When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap.' ¹⁴ When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. ¹⁵ Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, ¹⁶ the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing towards the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

Psalm 130

Response: With the Lord there is mercy.

1 Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

With the Lord there is mercy.

2 If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand?
3 But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you shall be feared.

With the Lord there is mercy.

4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;
in his word is my hope.

5 My soul waits for the Lord,
more than the night watch for the morning,
more than the night watch for the morning.

With the Lord there is mercy.

6 O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy;
7 With him is plenteous redemption
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

With the Lord there is mercy.

Collect

5. DANIEL 6.1-24 (DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN)

¹ It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, stationed throughout the whole kingdom, ²and over them three presidents, including Daniel; to these the satraps gave account, so that the king might suffer no loss. ³Soon Daniel distinguished himself above all the other presidents and satraps because an excellent spirit was in him, and the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom. ⁴So the presidents and the satraps tried to find grounds for complaint against Daniel in connection with the kingdom. But they could find no grounds for complaint or any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption could be found in him. ⁵The men said, 'We

shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.' ⁶So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, 'O King Darius, live for ever! ⁷All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counsellors and the governors, are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. ⁸Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.' ⁹Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict. ¹⁰Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open towards Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. ¹¹The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. ¹²Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, 'O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?' The king answered, 'The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.' ¹³Then they responded to the king, 'Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.' ¹⁴When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. ¹⁵Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, 'Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.' ¹⁶Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, 'May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!' ¹⁷A stone was brought and

laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸ Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. ¹⁹ Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. ²⁰ When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, 'O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?' ²¹ Daniel then said to the king, 'O king, live for ever! ²² My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.' ²³ Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. ²⁴ The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

Psalm 34:9-22

Response: I will bless the Lord at all times.

9 Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones,
for those who fear him lack nothing.
10 Lions may lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord
lack nothing that is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

11 Come, my children, and listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who is there who delights in life
and longs for days to enjoy good things?
13 Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.
14 Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous
and his ears are open to their cry.
16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
17 The righteous cry and the Lord hears them
and delivers them out of all their troubles.
18 The Lord is near to the broken-hearted
and will save those who are crushed in spirit.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous;
from them all will the Lord deliver them.
20 He keeps all their bones,
so that not one of them is broken.
21 But evil shall slay the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.
22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants
and will condemn none who seek refuge in him.

I will bless the Lord at all times.

Collect

After the last reading with its responsory and prayer, the Gloria is sung and hand bells are rung.

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new to him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

EPISTLE

Romans 6.3-11 (*Dying and Rising with Christ*)

³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

HYMN 188

(Tune: Woodlands)

**Sing choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!
Around God's throne exult in harmony.
Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave.
Salute your King in glorious symphony.**

**Sing choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!
The glory of the Lord shines radiantly.
Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death.
The night is past; the day of life is here.**

**Sing Church of God! Exult with joy outpoured!
The gospel trumpets tell of victory won.
Your Saviour lives: he's with you evermore.
Let all God's people shout the long Amen.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 28.1-10 (*The Resurrection*)

¹ After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² 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. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ 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.' ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

SERMON

Easter Sermon (John Chrysostom)

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

THE LITANY OF REDEMPTION

O give thanks to the Lord for / he is / gracious:

**Who has loved us from / all e- / ternity:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.**

Who only / does great / wonders:

**Who by his excellent wisdom/made the /heavens:
For his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

Who laid out the earth a-/bove the /waters:

**Who has / made great / lights:
For his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

The sun to / rule the /day:

**The moon and the stars to / govern · the / night:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for/ever.**

Who gives food to / all / flesh:

**Who called / Abraham · from / Haran:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

Who brought out / Israel · from / Egypt:

**With a mighty hand and a / stretched · out / arm:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.**

Who divided the Red Sea in / two / parts:

**And made Israel to go / through the /midst of it:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

Who led his people / through the / wilderness:

**Who remembered us when / we were · in / trouble:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

Who for us and for our salvation came / down from / heaven:

**And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary
and / was made / man:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.**

Who by his cross and passion has re-/deemed the /world:
**And has washed us from our sins in his /own /blood:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

Who on the third day / rose · from the / dead:
**And has given / us the / victory:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for / ever.**

Who ascended / up on / high:
**And opened wide for us the ever-/lasting / doors:
for his /mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

Who sits on the / right hand · of / God:
**And lives to make inter-/cession / for us:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for /ever.**

For the Lord our God is a / merci · ful / God:
for his / mercy · en-/dures for / ever.

And to him is due all glory * / honour · and / worship:
**to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit *
now and forever * / world with · out /end. /A-/men.**

HYMN 217

(Tune: Victory)

**The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluia.**

**Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;**

**let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
Alleluia.**

**On the third morn he rose again
Glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain:
Alleluia.**

**Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and ever sing to thee
Alleluia.**

Dear friends in Christ, let us ask God, the Almighty Father, to bless this water that those reborn in it may be made one with his adopted children in Christ.

Father, you give us grace through sacramental signs,
which tell us of the wonders of your unseen power.
In baptism we use your gift of water,
which you have made a rich symbol
of the grace you give us in this sacrament.
At the very dawn of creation
your Spirit breathed on the waters,
making them the wellspring of all holiness.
The waters of the great flood
you made a sign of the waters of baptism,
that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness.
Through the waters of the Red Sea
You led Israel out of slavery,
to be an image of God's holy people,
set free from sin by baptism.
In the waters of the Jordan

Your Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Spirit.
Your Son willed that water and blood
should flow from his side
as he hung upon the cross.
After his resurrection he told his disciples:
'Go out and teach all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'
Father, look now with love upon your Church,
and unseal for her the fountain of baptism.
By the power of the Spirit
give to the water of this font the grace of your Son.
You created man in your own likeness:
cleansing him from sin in a new birth of innocence
by water and the Spirit. We ask you, Father, with your Son
to send the Holy Spirit upon the waters of this font.
May all who are buried with Christ
in the death of baptism rise also with him to newness of life.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:
Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
I reject them.
Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
I renounce them.
Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
I repent of them.
Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ
Give you the strength to continue in the way.

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

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and,
whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, I will.

I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia.
It brought God's life and his salvation,
and the people sang in joyful praise: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptised in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The priest will soon sprinkle the people with the blessed water.

The peace follows.

THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, Peace be with you! Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.
And also with you. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace with the following greeting:

Alleluia. The Lord is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
Christos anesti! **Alithos anesti!**

HYMN 219

(Tune: Vruechten)

**This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow:**

*Had Christ, who once was slain,
not burst His three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain;*

***but now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen;
but now has Christ arisen!***

**Death's flood has lost its chill
since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver:**

**My flesh in hope shall rest
and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number:**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

A JOYFUL EASTERTIDE TO YOU AND YOURS!

‘And he departed from our sight that we might return to our heart,
and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here.’

–St Augustine of Hippo



CHRIST CHURCH

THE ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN VIENNA