

# The Great Vigil of Easter

## The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

Celebrant:

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 following is repeated three times.

Celebrant: The Light of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

## 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

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

Celebrant:

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. Amen.

### The Liturgy of the Word

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 story of Creation: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

In the beginning when God created<sup>[a]</sup> the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God<sup>[b]</sup> swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” <sup>7</sup> So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” <sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make humankind<sup>[c]</sup> in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,<sup>[d]</sup> and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created humankind<sup>[e]</sup> in his image, in the image of God he created them;<sup>[f]</sup> male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” <sup>29</sup> God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Psalm 33:1-11

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous;\*  
it is good for the just to sing praises.  
Praise the Lord with the harp;\*  
play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.  
Sing for him a new song;\*  
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.  
For the word of the Lord is right,\*  
and all his works are sure.  
He loves righteousness and justice;\*  
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.  
By the word of the Lord were the heavens made,\*  
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.  
He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin\*  
and stores up the depths of the sea.  
Let all the earth fear the Lord;\*  
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.  
For he spoke, and it came to pass;\*  
he commanded, and it stood fast.  
The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught;\*  
he thwarts the designs of the peoples.  
But the Lord's will stands fast for ever,\*  
and the designs of his heart from age to age.

Celebrant: Let us pray (Silence)

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.

## Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac: Genesis 22:1-18

### The Command to Sacrifice Isaac

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” 2 He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.” 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. 5 Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.” 6 Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. 7 Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” 8 Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together.

9 When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill[a] his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” 12 He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy

or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” 13 And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide”;<sup>[b]</sup> as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”<sup>[c]</sup>

15 The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, 16 and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, 18 and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

### Psalm 33:12-22

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!\*

    happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

The Lord looks down from heaven,\*

    and beholds all the people in the world.

From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze\*

    on all who dwell on the earth.

He fashions all the hearts of them\*

    and understands all their works.

There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army;\*

    a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.

The horse is a vain hope for deliverance;\*



for all its strength it cannot save.  
Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him,\*  
on those who wait upon his love.  
To pluck their lives from death,\*  
and to feed them in time of famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord;\*  
he is our help and our shield.  
Indeed, our heart rejoices in him,\*  
for in his holy Name we put our trust.  
Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us,\*  
as we have put our trust in you.

Celebrant: Let us pray. (Silence)

God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea:  
Exodus 14:10-15:20-21

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[a] 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.

### Canticle 8, The Song of Moses

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.

Celebrant: Let us pray. (Silence)

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 Valley of Dry Bones Ezekiel 37:1-14

37 The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2 He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3 He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” 4 Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath[a] to enter you, and you shall live. 6 I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath[b] in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8 I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9 Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath:[c] Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath,[d] and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” 10 I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11 Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ 12 Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your

graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13 And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14 I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

### Psalm 30

I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up\*  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.  
O Lord my God, I cried out to you,\*  
and you restored me to health.  
You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;\*  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.  
Sing to the Lord, you servants of his;\*  
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.  
For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye,\*  
his favor for a lifetime.  
Weeping may spend the night,\*  
but joy comes in the morning.  
While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.\*  
You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the  
mountains."  
Then you hid your face,\*  
and I was filled with fear.  
I cried to you, O Lord;\*  
I pleaded with the Lord, saying,  
"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit?\*"  
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?  
Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me;\*  
O Lord, be my helper."

You have turned my wailing into dancing;\*  
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with  
joy.

Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;\*

O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Celebrant: Let us pray. (Silence)

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of  
sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are  
sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all  
the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All Stand.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Bells are rung.

Glory to God

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.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: 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.

Epistle: Romans 6:3-11

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.



Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

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[a] lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead,[b] 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 worshiped 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.”

Homily: The Rev. Don C. Youse, Jr.

Baptismal Covenant

All Stand

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: 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.

### The Prayers of the People

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.  
(The people add their own petitions.)  
We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by  
the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

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

Celebrant:

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.

Sprinkling with Holy Water

Celebrant: May you always walk in your baptismal promises.

The Passing of the Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Anointing for Service

Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving	BCP 361
Holy, Holy, Holy	BCP 362
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
Communion	
Post Communion Prayer	BCP 365
Blessing	
Dismissal	BCP 366

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