

EASTER VIGIL



Elizabeth Wang, Code: 1-03733-04, Copyright (C) Radiant Light

APRIL 8, 2023

Peace Lutheran Church



West Seattle, Washington

Welcome to Peace – your presence here enriches our community.

P – *Presider* A – *Assisting Minister* C – *Congregation* L – *Lector*
ELW – *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal*

✝ GATHERING ✝

This Is The Night! THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

On this holy night we gather with Christians throughout the world to celebrate Christ's passover from death to life.

In the early church there was a great conviction that Christ was coming again soon—perhaps even while they kept watch on Easter Eve. So they gathered expectantly to read the stories of God's saving acts, to sing and pray, and to celebrate the great victory of Light over darkness that had taken place on this night. They ended their watch at dawn by celebrating together the first communion of Easter.

As our celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection comes to culmination, we too gather in vigil and prayer.

The Vigil begins with Striking the New Fire, representing the new creation we share in Christ. The central symbol of the Vigil is the Paschal or Easter Candle which becomes a sign for us of the presence of the risen Christ with God's people.

As the children of Israel were led by a pillar of fire from slavery to freedom, so we will be led in procession by the Paschal Candle. As we hear the Exsultet—an ancient hymn in praise of Christ our Light—our candles serve to illuminate our pilgrim way. In the second part of the Vigil, we listen to the salvation story read and acted out by the light of the Paschal Candle. Then, our Lenten observance ended, we renew the covenant made at our baptism when we were joined to Christ's dying and rising.

The Vigil concludes with the hearing of the Easter Gospel and the celebration of Holy Communion, our foretaste of the feast to come, when the mystery of Easter will be revealed in full for all.

✝ SERVICE OF LIGHT ✝

We gather in the courtyard offering the prayers from our Good Friday Service as fuel for the new fire. The Paschal Candle is lit from the fire, symbolizing Jesus, God's saving Light in the darkness of the world. We follow the Paschal Candle in procession, a pillar of fire which is for us the light of Christ's resurrection. As the light spreads among us, we hear an ancient hymn extolling the great joy and glory of this night of nights. It will burn from Easter to Ascension, symbolizing the forty days of Christ's glorified presence on Earth.

THE INVITATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Sisters and Brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

The Fire is struck

PRAYER OVER THE FIRE

P Let us pray. Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Sanctify this new fire, and inflame us with a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through Jesus Christ, the Sun of righteousness.

C Amen.

LIGHTING THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The presiding minister traces the inscription on the Paschal Candle, then, using a taper from the fire, lights the candle and sings or says:

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

A bell intones the pitch as the acolyte lifts the candle high and the cantor sings:

Cantor Assembly
The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

The PROCESSION begins, led by the acolyte and presider. At the doors of the church the acolyte lifts the candle high and the cantor sings:

Cantor Assembly
The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

The procession continues into the narthex. When all are in place, the acolyte lifts the candle high and the cantor sings:

Cantor Assembly
The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION *Exsultet*

*Led by the cantor. The assembly joins on responses below.
Light taken from the Paschal Candle is passed on to the assembly.*

A Rejoice, now, all heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels...

Cantor Assembly
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

A *It is right and just that with full devotion of heart and mind...*

This is the night **This is the night**

Sung a total of six times throughout the Exsultet.

A *...and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and*

for - ev - er. **A - men.**

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Eternal Giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, and let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

You may extinguish your candle. Later, as you enter the nave, you may place your candle in the basket.

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

P Sisters and Brothers, having begun our journey to the waters of life and the throne of God, we listen now to the Word of God, recalling how God has created, delivered, transformed, refreshed, and sustained us. May God cause us to know and to trust again this saving mystery which we receive in God's Word this night.

WORD Genesis: 21:14-20a *Hagar in the desert*

SONG God of the river, God of the creek, God of the salmon leaping
How does the creature shout Praise? How does the creature shout Save?
God of the raindrop, God of the sea, God who calls life from water
How does the creature cry Sacred! How does the creature cry Hope!

PRAYER

A Let us pray. Life-giving God, you gave water where there was none and saved Hagar and her son. Over and over again, you provided refreshing water to your thirsty people in the wilderness and to us today. As water becomes more scarce and polluted, move us to use your gift of water to restore life to all of creation through Jesus who is the Water of Life.

C Amen

WORD 1 Kings 16:30, 31b-33; 17:1-16 *Widow of Zarephath*

SONG God of the hungry, God of the sick, God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care? How does the creature say Heal?
God of the neighbor, God of the foe, God of the lonely ones
How does the creature speak Love? How does the creature speak Peace?

PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of the outsider, you showed your compassion to starving foreigners so that we may see that your care knows no bounds. As people who have received from you, grant that we might give to all neighbors everywhere through your Son who so loved the world that he gave his life for all.

C Amen

WORD Daniel 3:1-29 *Deliverance from the fiery furnace*

SONG God of the captive, God of the lost, God of the new beginnings
How does the creature cry Justice! How does the creature cry Grace!
God of the broken, God of the cross, God of the empty grave
How does the creature shout Life? How does the creature shout Thanks?

PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of deliverance, you go with us through all the situations that imprison us, including sickness, broken relationships, and financial difficulties. Keep safe and give hope to those languishing in prisons both with and without walls. Where trials cause pain, move us to bring your healing; where punishment is doled out disproportionately based on race or creed, inspire us to work for equity. We ask this through Jesus who died to set us all free.

C Amen.

✝ RENEWAL OF BAPTISM ✝

We will process into the nave following the Paschal Candle and gather in the pews around the font.

P Sisters and Brothers in Christ, just as did Israel of old, we have all at one time stood before the waters awaiting redemption. In Baptism God claimed us, delivered us, and led us to freedom. On this holy night, let us renew our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

C Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and creeks.

Honor to you for cloud and rains, for dew and snow.

P Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.

C Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

The Paschal Candle is lowered into the font.

P Breathe your Spirit into this water, and into all who are gathered here this night. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your eternal fountain, and bring to birth the body of Christ.

C Amen.

RENUNCIATION OF EVIL AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

P As we renew our baptisms, let us reject sin and profess our faith in Christ.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

P Let us affirm our trust in the one, Triune God.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *From St. Patrick's Breastplate*

*I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.
I bind this day to me for ever, by pow'r of faith, Christ's incarnation,
his baptism in the Jordan River, his cross of death for my salvation,
his bursting from the spiced tomb, his riding up the heav'nly way,
his coming at the day of doom, I bind unto myself today.*

*I bind unto myself today the virtues of the starlit heaven,
the glorious sun's life-giving ray, the whiteness of the moon at even,
the flashing of the lightning free, the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
the stable earth, the deep salt sea, around the old eternal rocks.*

*Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

*I bind unto myself the name, the strong name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three,
of whom all nature has creation, eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation: salvation is of Christ the Lord!*

AFFIRMATION IN THE ASSEMBLY

P Sisters and Brothers, do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

- To live among God's faithful people,
- To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- To serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- And to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

The assembly is sprinkled with water in remembrance of baptism as the song is sung.

SONG

Song Over the Waters

Marty Haugen

Refrain

God, you have moved up - on the wa - ters, you have sung in the
 rush of wind and flame; and in your love, you have called us sons and
 daugh - ters, make us peo - ple of the wa - ter and your name.

Verses

1. Come fill our wait - ing hearts with the
 2. Give us a thirst for love, give us a
 3. You are the breath of life, you are the
 4. Come, o - pen ev - 'ry heart, come now and
 spir - it of Je - sus, let us shine with your
 hun - ger for jus - tice, make us one with the
 hope of the hope - less, come and fill us with
 wake us to won - der, make us ves - sels of
 light and peace.
 mind of Christ.
 light and peace.
 light and peace.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 28th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord!**

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

L The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ!**

We sing as we process to the front of the sanctuary.

HYMN

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

ELW #364, v. 1-3

As the assembly sings, the Eucharistic Table is prepared.

M - fu - ra - hi - ni, ha - le - lu - ya,
 1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.
 2 For three long days the grave did its worst
 3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear.

m - ko - mbo - zi a - me - fu - fu - ka.
 Re - jice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.
 un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.
 You look for Je - sus who is not here.

A - me - fu - fu - ka, ha - le - lu - ya,
 For our re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare.

m - si - fu - ni sa - sa yu ha - i.
 e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 and in its con - quest his might did show.
 On - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."

Refrain

Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha.
 Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy.

Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni.
 Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya;
 Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i.
 Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

THE PEACE

P The peace of the risen Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

We share the peace of our risen Lord.

✝ LITURGY OF THE MEAL ✝

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should in all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb.

C He gave himself to heal our divisions and form us into one community of love. His dying has destroyed death, and his rising has brought us to eternal life.

P And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with Earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

C Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus your anointed.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

P In the night in which he shared his final meal, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

C Take and eat, this is my body, broken for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

**C This is my blood poured out for you and for all people for forgiveness and healing.
Do this for the remembrance of me.**

P With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we
proclaim the mystery of our faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of
bread and wine. Breathe new life into us, and send us forth, burning with justice, peace,
and love.

C Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones of all times and places we praise you,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Living with resurrection hope, we are bold to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come receive the risen Christ, a foretaste of the feast to come!

C Thanks be to God!

DISTRIBUTION

Today we commune at the rail, either kneeling or standing. Gluten free bread is available. Both wine (dark) and grape juice (light) are available in the ceramic cups. Place your empty cup in the box at the end of the front pew on your way back. Children are welcome to receive when their parents believe they are ready, with the support of the pastor. Any who prefer a blessing may cross their hands over their chest as they come forward.

COMMUNION HYMN

Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW #474

Refrain

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,

we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

- 1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
- 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your
- 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -
- 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your
- 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this

thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

Refrain

sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

When all have finished communing, the congregation rises.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. May the grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

C Amen

+ SENDING +

SENDING HYMN

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

ELW #364, v. 4 & 5

4 “Go spread the news: he’s not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won.”

Refrain

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king.

Refrain

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has the lyrics: "Tu - mwi - mbi - e so - te kwa fu - ra - ha. / Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy." The second staff has: "Ye - su a - me - to - ka ka - bu - ri - ni. / Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy." The third staff has: "Ka - shi - nda ki - fo, ha - le - lu - ya; / Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!" The fourth staff has: "ha - le - lu - ya, Ye - su yu ha - i. / Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!"

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P The One Triune God, Creator, + Redeemer, and Guide bless you and raise you to newness of life, now and forever.

C Amen

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the risen Christ.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE



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Alan Jarvimaki

Altar Care

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Communion Assistants

Tyler & Elizabeth Menstell Coyle

Kathleen Keyes

Production Techs

Dustin Smith, Alex Wren

OFFERING

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PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: **Sick/Recovering:** Kathy Anderson; Arlene; Vonda Cuchine; Marsha Davis; Mark Engelman; Sean Fenton; Deena Fuller; Jack Garrison; Caity Gerhardt; Nathaniel Gibson; Dawn Gringorten; Jaylin H.; Donna Heiland; Jerry Heiland; Heather Jennings; Tony Jilek; Victoria Johnson; Ken Keyes; Mike Larson; Noreen Lee; Dee Levy; Jan Madsen; Maya Marshall; Evelyn Martinez; Chloe McDonough; Eric, Erin, Finley McDonough; Ken McPherson; Jenn Mersing; Steve Metzler; Jim Meyer; Katrina Moore; Bill Morrell; Larry Nelson; Nora; Marianne Paulos; Paul Paulos; Michelle Pierce; Elaine Ross; Aaden Smith; Leon Smith; JoAnne Spangler; Kadi Sue Sprengle; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Conrad Tollefson; Wade & Karin VanSant; Wendell & Wilson; Judy Wiggins; Inge Williams; Patti Wunder; Inta Zagars.
Homebound: Jim Baker; Connie Benjamin; Lee Lamson; Dorothy Linnell

RECONCILING IN CHRIST AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, in a world that can be filled with alienation and brokenness. In faithfulness to the Gospel and to our Lutheran heritage, we answer Christ's call to be agents of healing and safety, particularly for people who have been marginalized by our society.



As a Christian community, we invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the meaning of grace for our lives. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities into the life and mission of our congregation.

PERMISSIONS

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