

7 PM

SERVICE OF LIGHT

Saturday, April 11, 2020

Easter Eve



TRINITY CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

THE NEW LIGHT OF EASTER

Greeting

Kindling the New Fire

Invitation to Worship

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, that we may share in his victory over death.

Prayer

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.

Lighting of the Paschal Flame

The Light of Christ

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 our Lord,
who lives and reigns with him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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, o
ut of bondage in Egypt,
and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

Prelude

Improvisation on

'Victimae Paschali laudes'

for solo flute

*The new fire kindled tonight will
be kept—passing the lamp from
parish home, to parish home,
during our Compline services on
Friday evenings in Easter—until
we process the light into the
church on the first Sunday we
return to worshipping together in
person.*

Sung by the Trinity Choristers.

Worship at Trinity

*When the text of this worship
booklet is in **bold**, it is spoken or
sung by all.*

*Leaders of the service will also
lead these **bold responses** for
the benefit of those worshipping
from home.*

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.

Therefore, O holy Father, accept the evening sacrifice of this lighted candle,
which your holy Church makes before you,
and offers to you by the hand of your servants, the work of the bees,
your creatures.

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.

Prayer

Let us pray.

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

Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Reading Isaiah 4:2, 5-6

On that day the branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and glory of the survivors of Israel. Then the Lord will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over its places of assembly a cloud by day and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night. Indeed over all the glory there will be a canopy. It will serve as a pavilion, a shade by day from the heat, and a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 122

I was glad when they said to me, *

“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Now our feet are standing *

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city *

that is at unity with itself;

To which the tribes go up,

the tribes of the Lord, *

the assembly of Israel,

to praise the Name of the Lord.

For there are the thrones of judgment, *

the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *

“May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls *

and quietness within your towers.

For my brethren and companions' sake, *

I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, *

I will seek to do you good.”

Gospel Matthew 27:57-6

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 204 'Now the green blade riseth'

1 Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,
 wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that nev - er he would wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain,
 thy touch can call us back to life a - gain,
 love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
 quick from the dead my ris - en Lord is seen:
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Refrain
 Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring - eth green.

Homily The Rev. Patrick C. Ward, *Senior Associate Rector*

Canticle Magnificat in C minor
 George Dyson (1883-1964)

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
 and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
 For he hath regarded
 the lowliness of his handmaiden.
 For behold from henceforth
 all generations shall call me blessed.
 For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
 and holy is his Name.
 And his mercy is on them that fear him
 throughout all generations.
 He hath showed strength with his arm;
 he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
 and hath exalted the humble and meek.
 He hath filled the hungry with good things,
 and the rich he hath sent empty away.
 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
 as he promised to our forefathers,
 Abraham and his seed for ever.
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Title: Now the green blade riseth, H204.
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 medieval French carol; harm. Marcel
 Dupré (1886-1971). All Rights Reserved.
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THE PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together in the words our Savior Christ has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer *Spoken by all.*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us pray:

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; 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.

Amen.

Friends, in anticipation of the new light of morning and of Christ's resurrection, may the Lord almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. And may the blessing of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

*The service continues with our
Easter Sunday festival worship
tomorrow at 9:45 am.*

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