

THE PASCHAL VIGIL AND FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Thomasville, Georgia
April 4, 2026

THE BLESSING OF THE NEW FIRE

¶ We warmly welcome visitors to All Saints' Church.

¶ Those not familiar with our service will see that we use two books, the Book of Common Prayer, 1928, and the Hymnal. Hymn numbers are preceded by the symbol # and page numbers in The Book of Common Prayer are indicated by BCP.

¶ Fire is kindled.

Priest: Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church doth bid 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.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Answer: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

O GOD, who by thy Son, the Cornerstone, hast bestowed on the faithful the fire of thy brightness: sanctify this new fire struck for our use; and grant that during this Paschal festival we may be so inflamed with heavenly desires, that we may come with pure minds to the solemnity of splendor. Through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Priest: Let us pray.

O LORD God, Father Almighty, neverfailing Light, who art the author of all light: bless this light, which is blessed and sanctified by thee, who hast enlightened the whole world; that we may be kindled by thy light, and illumined with the fire of thy brightness; and as thou didst give light to Moses, when he went out of Egypt, so shine upon our hearts and senses that we may attain unto life and light eternal. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ The Paschal Candle is lit from the New Fire. The priest blesses five grains of incense to be put into the candle, saying:

Priest: Let us pray.

POUR forth, we beseech thee, O Almighty God, thine abundant blessing upon this incense; and kindle, O unseen Redeemer, this brightness of the night: that not only may the sacrifice to be offered this night shine with the secret mingling of thy glory, but also that into whatsoever place aught of this holy mystery may be brought, thence the wicked deceits of the devil may be driven forth by the power of thy majesty. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ The flame is brought into the church, stopping three times to sing:



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

O WONDROUS condescension of thy loving kindness toward us! O tenderness of love without all price, that to redeem the bondman thou didst deliver up the Son! O Surely needs must have been the sin of Adam which the death of Christ hath for ever blotted out! O happy failing to remedy which there was granted so good and so mighty a Redeemer! O night verily blessed, which alone was counted worthy to know the time and the hour at which Christ rose again from the lower parts.

FOR this is the night concerning which it is written: But the night is as clear as the day; and, Then shall my night be turned to day in my gladness. Therefore the sacredness of this holy night banisheth vice, washeth away guilt; and restoreth innocence to the fallen and joy to the sorrowful. It putteth enmities to flight, prepareth peace, and boweth down dominions.

O VERILY blissful night, which spoiled the Egyptians, and enriched the Hebrews! Night wherein earth and heaven, things human and divine are joined! We therefore pray thee, O Lord, that our faith, of which this waxen Candle consecrated in honour of thy Name is but a figure, may continue unailing to vanquish the night of all our darkness. Let it find acceptance before thee as a sweet smelling savour, and be mingled with the burning lights of heaven. Let the Bright and Morning Star find it burning when he appeareth. That Morning Star, I say, which shall never know his going down; even he, who coming forth again from the lower parts, hath shed abroad his gladsome light on all mankind.

WE therefore beseech thee, O Lord, that it may please thee to preserve us thy servants, both all the Clergy, and thy faithful people, together with our Bishop, that we, being guided governed, and preserved under thy continual protection, may have peaceful times in these our Paschal joys; through the same Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE PROPHECIES

Priest: 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.

¶ All may be seated for the Prophecies. When each Prophecy is finished, all are invited to stand as the priest says: Let us pray. A brief interval of silent prayer follows, after which the Priest reads the Collect.

The First Prophecy

Genesis 1:1-31 and 2:1-2

Priest: Let us pray.

O GOD, who hast wonderfully created man, and yet more wonderfully redeemed him: grant us, we beseech thee, such constancy and reasonableness of mind against the allurements of sin, that we may be found worthy to attain unto joys eternal. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Second Prophecy

Exodus 14:24-31; 15:1-3

Priest: Let us pray.

O GOD, whose ancient miracles we perceive to shine even upon our own age; because as by the might of thy right hand thou deliveredst one people from the pursuit of the Egyptians, so now thou workest out the salvation of all nations through the water of regeneration: grant that the whole world and the fulness thereof may pass over to the children of Abraham and the dignity of the true Israel. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Third Prophecy

Isaiah 4:1-6

Priest: Let us pray.

O GOD, who among all the children of thy Church hast declared by the mouth of thy holy prophets that in every place of thy dominion thou art the sower of good seed and the husbandman of thy chosen branches: grant unto thy people, the vineyard of thy planting and the field of thy sowing, that, being set free from the choking of thorns and briers, they may bring forth good fruit in abundance. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Fourth Prophecy

Deuteronomy 31:22-30

Priest: Let us pray.

O GOD, who dost exalt them that are of low estate, and dost establish them that stand upright: who didst likewise by thy holy servant Moses so vouchsafe to teach thy people to sing praises to thy honour, that thy law by them repeated might be profitable for our guidance: raise up, we pray thee, thy power among the fullness of the nations whom thou hast justified; that they, being delivered from the fear of thy wrath, may rejoice in the plenteous remission of all their sins, and being warned to flee from the judgment of thy vengeance may be delivered from the same unto everlasting salvation. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Please remain standing for:

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Priest: Through the Paschal mystery, dearly beloved, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Dost thou reaffirm thy renunciation of the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow, nor be led by them?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Dost thou believe in Jesus Christ, the son of the Living God?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Dost thou accept him, and desire to follow him as thy Saviour and Lord?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Dost thou believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, as contained in the Apostles' Creed?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Answer: I will, by God's help.

Priest: Let us pray.

O MERCIFUL God, grant that like as Christ died and rose again, so we thy Servants may die to sin and rise to newness of life. *Amen.*

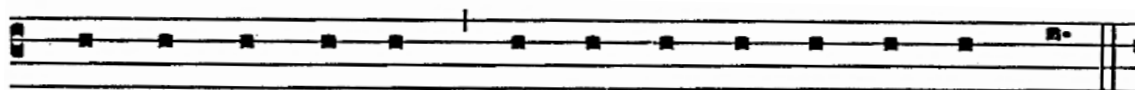
GRANT that all sinful affections may die in us, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in us. *Amen.*

GRANT that we may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph, against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

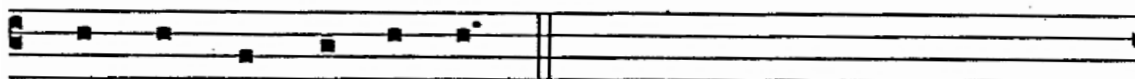
GRANT that all who have been dedicated to thee through the waters of Baptism may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

THE LITANY

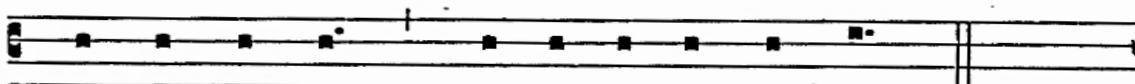
Priest: Let us beseech our God and Saviour to have mercy upon us and all mankind, that we may come to the fulness of paschal exultation, devoutly kneeling.



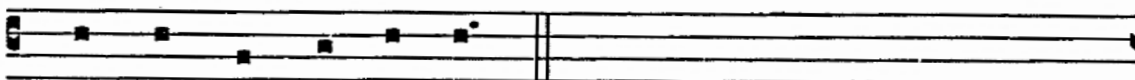
O GOD the Fa-ther, Cre - a - tor of hea - ven and earth;



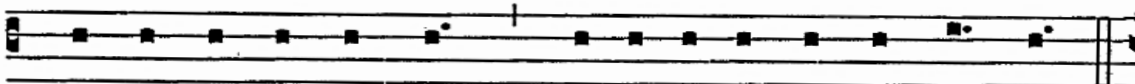
Have mer - cy up - on us.



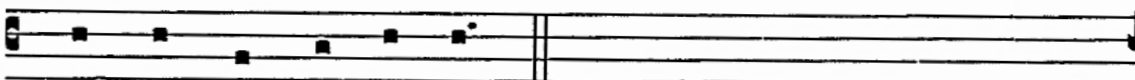
O God the Son, Re-deem-er of the world;



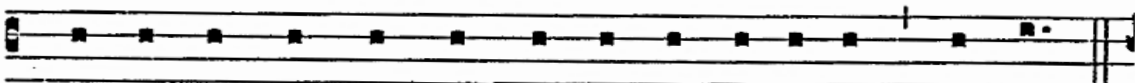
Have mer - cy up - on us.



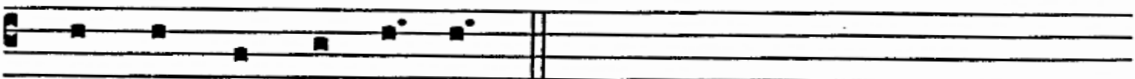
O God the Ho - ly Ghost, Sanc-ti - fi - er of the faith - ful;



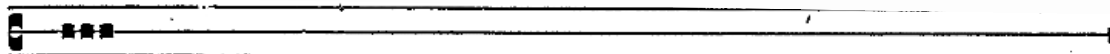
Have mer - cy up - on us.



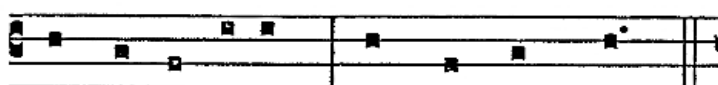
O ho - ly bless - ed, and glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty, one God;



Have mer - cy up - on us.



Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins: Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever. *Spare us, good Lord.*



From all evil and mischief;
from sin; from the crafts
and assaults of the devil;
from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation, *Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all blindness of
heart; from pride, vainglory,
and hypocrisy; from envy,
hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness, *Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all inordinate and
sinful affections; and from all
the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil, *Good Lord, etc.*

From lightning and tempest;
from earthquake, fire, and flood;
from plague, pestilence, and fam-
ine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death, *Good Lord, etc.*

From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all
false doctrine, heresy,
and schism; from
hardness of heart,
and contempt of thy Word and Commandment, *Good Lord, etc.*

By the mystery of thy
holy Incarnation; by thy
holy Nativity and Circum-
cision; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation, *Good Lord, etc.*

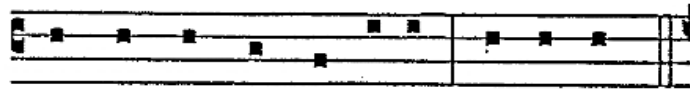
By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion;
by thy precious Death
and Burial; by thy glorious
Resurrection and Ascen-
sion; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost, *Good Lord, etc.*

In all time of
our tribulation;
in all time of
our prosperity;
in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, *Good Lord, etc.*

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it
may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal

in the right way; *We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee
so to rule the heart of thy
servant, The President of
the United States, that
he may above all things



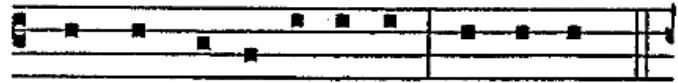
seek thy honour and glory; *We beseech, etc.*

That it may please thee
to bless and preserve
all Christian Rulers and
Magistrates, giving them
grace to execute justice,

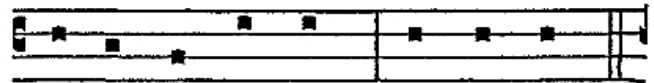


and to maintain truth; *We beseech, etc.*

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth, and show it accordingly; *We beseech, etc.*



That it may please thee
to send forth labourers



into thy harvest; *We beseech, etc.*

That it may please
thee to bless and



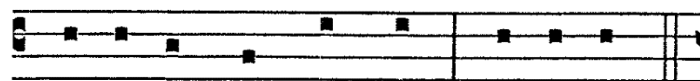
keep all thy people; *We beseech, etc.*

That it may please
thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord;



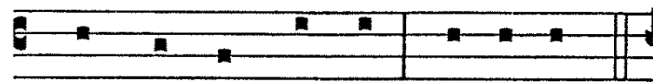
We beseech, etc.

That it may please
thee to give us an
heart to love and fear
thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments;



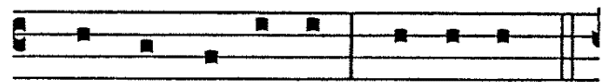
We beseech, etc.

That it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit;



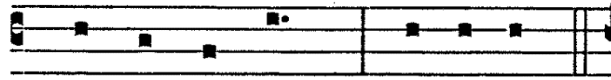
We beseech, etc.

That it may please thee
to bring into the way of
truth all such as have erred and are deceived;

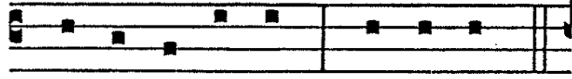


We beseech, etc.

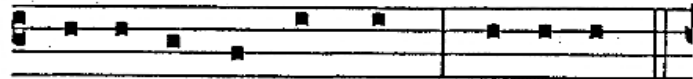
That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; and to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet; *We beseech, etc.*



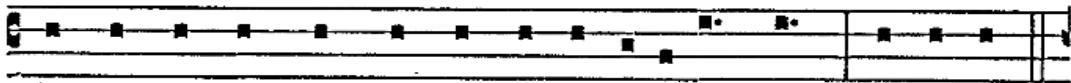
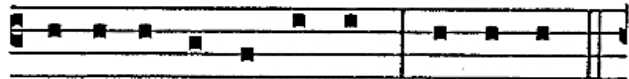
That it may please thee to succour, help, and comfort, all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; *We beseech, etc.*



That it may please thee to preserve all who travel by land, by water, or by air, all women in childbirth, all sick persons, and young children; and to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives; *We beseech, etc.*

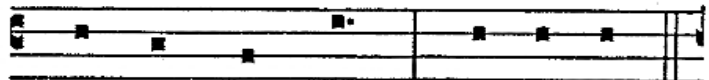


That it may please thee to defend, and provide for, the fatherless children, and widows, and all who are desolate and oppressed; *We beseech, etc.*

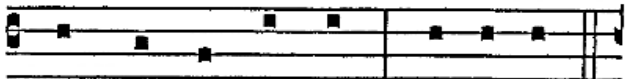


That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men; *We beseech, etc.*

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts; *We beseech, etc.*

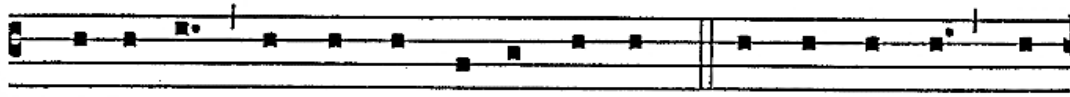


That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so that in due time we may enjoy them; *We beseech, etc.*

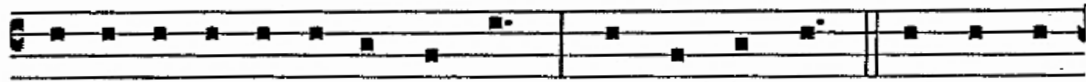


That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word; *We beseech, etc.*

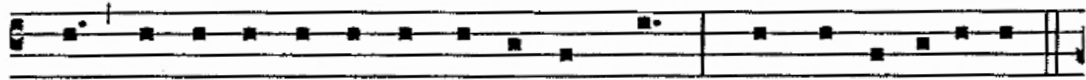




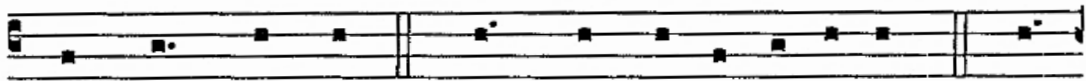
... Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us. *ij.* O Lamb of God, who



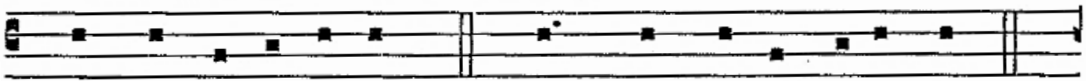
takest away the sins of the world; *Grant us thy peace.* O Lamb of



God, who takest away the sins of the world; *Have mercy upon us.*



O Christ, hear us. *ij.* Lord, have mercy upon us. *ij.* Christ,



have mercy upon us. *ij.* Lord, have mercy upon us. *ij.*

HOLY COMMUNION

¶ Please stand.

Gloria in excelsis #739

BCP 84

¶ The celebrant intones The Gloria, after which bells are rung for an interval before The Gloria continues.

Collect

O GOD, who dost enlighten this most holy night with the glory of the Lord's Resurrection: preserve in the new children of thy family the spirit of adoption which thou hast given them; that being renewed both in body and soul, they may offer unto thee a pure service. Through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

IF YE then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

The Holy Gospel

Saint John 20:1-10

THE first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, and the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together, in a place by itself. Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom

Offertory

Easter Carol

Alfred V. Fedak

*"Christ, the Lord, is ris'n today,
All creation joins to say;
Raise your songs and triumphs high;
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply.
Vain the stone, the watch, the seal:
Christ has burst the gates of hell!
Death in vain forbids him rise;
Christ has opened Paradise!
Alleluia!*

*Lives again our glorious King;
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
Where thy victory, O grave?
Soar we now where Christ has led,
Following our exalted Head;
Made like Him, like Him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies!
Alleluia!*

*Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to Thee by both be given;
Thee we greet triumphant now;
Hail, the resurrection, thou!
King of glory, Soul of bliss,
Everlasting life is this:
Thee to know, Thy pow'r to prove,
Thus to sing, and thus to love!
Alleluia!*

Presentation of Alms:

Old Hundredth

#139

Sursum Corda

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

People
It is meet and right so to do.

Preface

BCP 78

Sanctus and Benedictus #797

Willan

¶ Please kneel.

Canon

BCP 80

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 82

Agnus Dei #712

Willan

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 82

Ecce Agnus Dei

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

Answer: Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed. (Cf. Matthew 8:8)

¶ Any person Baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and who acknowledges the Presence of our Lord in this Holy Sacrament is welcome to receive Holy Communion.

¶ The Altar Guild kindly asks ladies to dab lipstick before receiving communion from the chalice.

Postcommunion

POUR down upon us, O Lord, the Spirit of thy love: that those whom thou hast satisfied with the Paschal Sacraments may, of thy goodness, be made of one heart and of one mind. Through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Priest: The Lord be with you.

Answer: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Depart in peace. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Answer:



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Blessing

Hymn #94

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise The Strain
Second Tune

St. Kevin

Postlude:

A Festive Trumpet Tune

D. E. Wagner

Litanist: Bryce Macon



ALL SAINTS'



EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

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