



Resurrection of Our Lord: Vigil of Easter

March 30, 2024

+ GATHERING +

The assembly gathers outside and stands around the fire.

*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Siblings 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 proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

The new fire is lighted.

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

C: Amen.

***EASTER PROCLAMATION**

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: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that with full devotion of heart and mind and voice we should praise the invisible God, and the only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; who, by his precious blood, redeemed us from bondage to the ancient sin. For this indeed is the Paschal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain, by whose blood the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

P: This is the night

C: Yes, this is the night!

P: in which, in ancient times, you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel, and led them, dry-shod, through the sea.

P: This is the night

C: Yes, this is the night!

P: in which the darkness of sin has been purged away by the rising brightness.

P: This is the night

C: Yes, this is the night!

P: in which all who believe in Christ are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin, are renewed in grace, and are restored to holiness.

P: This is the night

C: Yes, this is the night!

P: in which, breaking the chains of death, Christ arises from hell in triumph.

P: This is the night

C: Yes, this is the night!

P: That puts to flight the deeds of wickedness; washes away sin; restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn; casts out hate; brings peace; and humbles earthly pride.

P: This is the night

C: Yes, this is the night!

P: in which heaven and earth are joined—things human and things divine.

P: We, therefore, pray to you, O God, that this fire, burning to the honor of your name, will continue to vanquish the darkness of night and be mingled with the lights of heaven.

P: May Christ the Morning Star find it burning, that Morning Star who never sets, that Morning Star who, rising from the grave, faithfully sheds light on the whole human race.

P: And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve with your continual protection your whole church, giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing; through the same Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

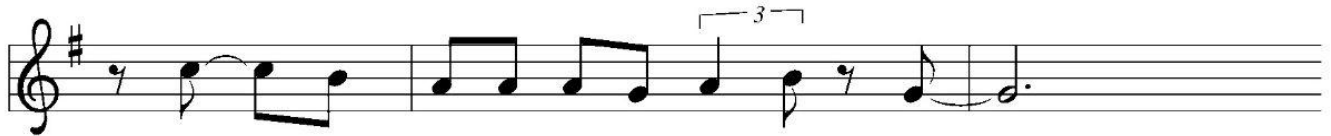
*The assembly processes into Heritage Hall while singing
"We Are Marching" ELW #866*



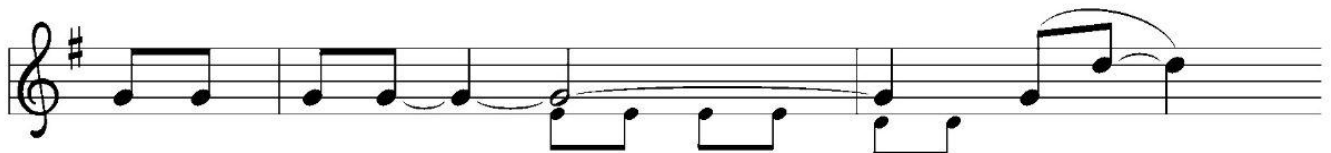
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



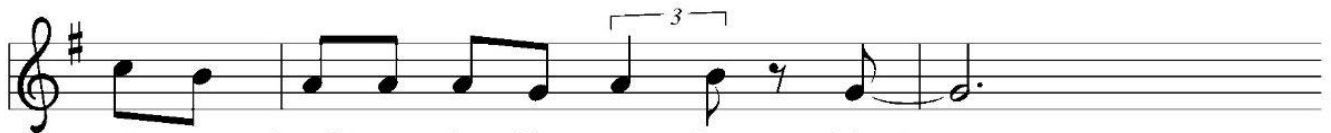
nyen' kwen - khos'. *Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



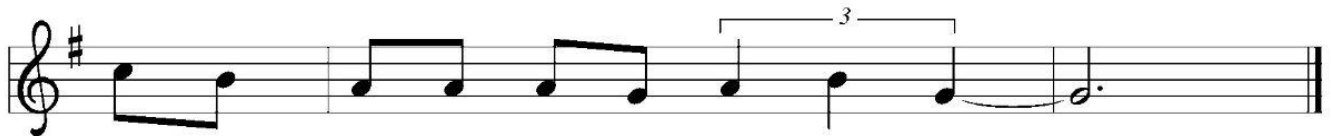
Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING

Washed by the Flood

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

Hope Meier & Claire Marsh

FIRST PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, you told Noah how to rescue people and animals from a great flood. We ask your blessing for everyone who is protecting creatures, plants, and people from floods and fires, from storms and droughts, and from all things that poison earth, air, and water. May we honor your rainbow by taking good care of your creation. We ask in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

SECOND READING

Deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Sharon Fawbush

SECOND PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, you saw the suffering of the slaves in Egypt and helped them escape. We pray for everyone everywhere who is not free: for prisoners, captives, the detained, and those who suffer because of armed conflict. Keep hope and

kindness alive in their hearts. Help us to make a path for them to reach freedom and safety, and to welcome them with open hands. We ask in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

THIRD READING

Rahab's Salvation

Joshua 2:1-14; 6:15-17, 22-23

Matt Benkert

THIRD PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, all over the world, there are families struggling with hunger, homelessness, poverty, and war. Thank you for helpers, healers, and peacemakers, wherever they are. Put our hearts and hands to work on the side of generosity and safety for every home. We ask in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

FOURTH READING

Sustenance in a Drought

1 Kings 17:8-16

Ashley Ahlbrand

FOURTH PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, you sustained Elijah, the widow of Zarephath, and her son in a time of famine and drought; help us to meet the challenges of our time by sharing what we have with our neighbors—food, water, hope, courage, laughter, music, stories, and all things that help us endure today and hope for a better tomorrow. We ask in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

FIFTH READING

Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Mike Witt

FIFTH PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, look on all those who are being destroyed even now by fear, by suffering, by harshness, and by despair. We offer to you our heartfelt longing for a just and peaceful world. Whatever small or great thing we might be able to do, give us courage to help all your people be established in a new and better world. We ask in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

SIXTH READING

Deborah Saves the People

Judges 4:1-23

Noelle Drake

SIXTH PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, because Deborah and Barak trusted you and trusted one another, they were able to defeat the army of Hazor and free the people of Israel. We pray for everyone who struggles against evil, cruelty, dishonesty, and selfishness. Show us how we can be midwives and servants of the peace and healing you are always birthing into the world. We ask in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

SEVENTH READING

Deliverance from the Fiery Furnace Daniel 3:1-29

Julianna Drake & Elaina Iversen

SEVENTH PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Holy God, you helped Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego resist Nebuchadnezzar's demand to turn away from you and fall down and worship his golden statue. When today's false gods and idols demand our obedience, help us recognize them and resist them. Make us witnesses for your justice and compassion. We ask in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

*HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together,

but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I

will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher).

Jesus said to her, “Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and she told them that Jesus had said these things to her.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

P: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

P: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

SERMON

Pr. Lecia Beck

*SONG OF CELEBRATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Silence

A: Dear God, Help bring faith to people who feel alone or afraid. Help them find who they are as they grow and learn. Let them feel they are loved even when they struggle. Show them that there will be better times. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Dear God, We thank you for the start, the end, and the uncertain. Also for every bloom and every withered one, for all the tides and currents, for the creatures big and small and for all the people in our lives. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Dear God, Please end gun violence and help victims of it. Please watch over innocent citizens of countries at war and bring peace to the Gaza strip. Please protect Ukraine in war. Help bring justice to all the nations and every person it affects. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Dear God, Please heal the sick. Bring the poor what they need. We thank you for food, water, and shelter. Let all people know peace and love.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Dear God, Thank you for water. Thank you for the everlasting springs of creation. Give joy to those who are baptized. Inspire us to share the good news. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Dear God, the empty tomb proclaims that death itself is swallowed up. As we remember those who have died, help us trust in the promise of resurrection. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Receive these prayers, loving God, for the sake of the One who loved us to the end, Jesus Christ, our redeemer.

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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: The risen Christ dwells with us here.

All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: Now may the body and blood of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

*BLESSING

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✚ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

*SENDING SONG

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia



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."

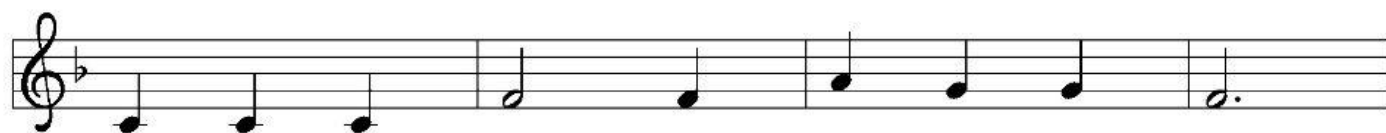
Refrain



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!

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

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: MFURAHINI, HALELUYA, Tanzanian traditional

Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Tr. © 1977 Howard S. Olson, admin. Augsburg Fortress

***DISMISSAL**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God.

Continue celebrating the Resurrection!

Join us outside after worship for
an Easter egg hunt and s'mores.

Worship with us tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. and
11 a.m. with a free brunch in between services.

The prayers for this service were written by
the Upper Elementary Sunday School Class.

Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common
Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from
the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*,
emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St.
Thomas.

copyright © 2006 by permission of Augsburg Fortress,
license #SBT005707. Hymns reprinted by permission listed
within and under OneLicense #A-724450.


Upcoming Events

A poster for a Chili Cook-Off event. The background is a gradient of orange and red, decorated with several red chili peppers. The text is centered and reads: "Chili Cook-Off", "April 7th, 2024", "12pm", "St. Thomas Lutheran Church", "3800 E. 3rd St. Bloomington, IN", and "Come eat some delicious chili and learn about campus ministry!".

Chili Cook-Off

April 7th, 2024
12pm
St. Thomas Lutheran Church
3800 E. 3rd St. Bloomington, IN

Come eat some delicious chili and
learn about campus ministry!

A poster for a Vacation Bible School event. The background is green with a large, stylized tree silhouette on the right side. The text is on the left and reads: "GATHER AROUND THE TREE OF LIFE", "Vacation Bible School at St Thomas", "May 28-30", "9am-3pm", "aftercare available", and "students entering K-6th".

GATHER AROUND THE TREE OF LIFE

Vacation Bible School
at St Thomas

May 28-30
9am-3pm
aftercare available
students entering K-6th

*The Adult Choir of St. Thomas Lutheran Church
with friends and guest musicians presents*

REQUIEM IN D MINOR, Op. 48

by Gabriel Fauré

with selections from

OTČE NÁŠ (*The Lord's Prayer*)

by Leoš Janáček

Kathryn Davidson, Choir Director
Matthew Benkert, Director of Music

4:00 p.m. Sunday, May 5, 2024

A reception will follow the concert.

St. Thomas Lutheran Church - 3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401 - www.stlconline.org

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is wheelchair accessible.
This concert is sponsored by St. Thomas Worship & The Arts.



PHOTO 71517409 © PICTURA | DREAMSTIME.COM - USED WITH PERMISSION