



Called to **serve**, **heal**, and **love** in the light of God.





THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

March 31, 2024 5:30 am • Spoken Sunrise Service

The Rev. Lester V. Mackenzie, AHCPresider & Preacher

HE IS RISEN

Welcome! We are glad you are here.

Here in the Episcopal Church, we truly welcome everyone. Please sign a visitor's card (or scan the QR code below) and introduce yourself to Fr. Lester after the service.

If you'd like more information on joining St. Mary's, membership, baptism, serving as a youth acolyte, confirmation, etc., contact the Parish Office at 949-494-3542 or email parishoffice@stmaryslb.org.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!



Our Mission: To be open to God's love and Guidance. To embrace all in the name of Christ.

Our Vision: To be an inclusive community called to serve, heal, and love our neighbors in the Light of God.

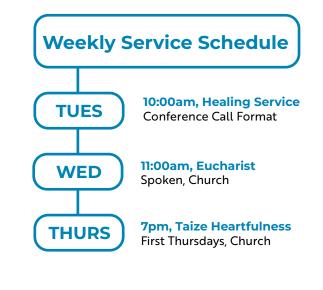




New to St. Mary's?

Candida R. TerBush leads our Welcome and Engagement ministries at St. Mary's and she would love the opportunity to connect and answer any questions you may have.

Contact her at candidarivera25@yahoo.com



Ways to Give

Gratitude for your financial support of St. Mary's. Please consider giving to help us continue our ministry here in Laguna Beach and beyond.



During the offering on Sunday





Ministry Schedule

We thank all of our ministers who help serve!

If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, or made a change to the schedule, please mark the schedule in the Narthex and also contact the Parish Office.

We can always use more volunteers to help out with our Sunday liturgies! If you would like to help with being a reader, acolyte, usher, hospitality, etc., please contact the Parish Office.

Easter Sunday, March 31, 10:00 am

First Reader Second Reader Crucifer Chalice Ushers Tom Davis Pat August Martha Davis Tammi Ford Jim van Gaasbeek, Ben Brown Julianna van den Berg & Susie Horaney Dennis, Barbara & Jim

Hospitality

Next Sunday, April 7, 10:30 am

First ReaderYouth / Family ServiceSecond ReaderYouth / Family ServiceCruciferPat AugustChaliceCandida R. TerBushUshers(No schedule at time of print)Hospitality(No schedule at time of print)

Parish Prayer List

For the departed

Nancy Guthrie, Ralph Root, Blake Franklin, Bill Ford, Jose Chavez, John Lever, Steven Perryman, ,

For healing, comfort and other requests

JoAnn, Kayla K, Mary H, Josephine, Pamela, Joe, Terry, Sara, Jerry, Terrie, Nancy, Carol, Phoebe, Ralph, Hampton, Mimi, Francesca, Grace, Josh, John P., Tanya, Daniel, Tom, Jan, Karen, Lynn, Gregory, Naomi, Bill & Sara, Nick J, Cynthia, Don, Barbara, Erin, Ashley, Kady, Beau and Erika, Mike L, Erin, Tina, Milana, Kathleen, Rev. John Mennel, John, Sandy, Linda, Kenedy, Charlie, Jill, John, Chris, Richard, Sarah, Corrie, Pat, Lauren, Judy, Jan

For all others in need

Those affected by natural & environmental disasters especially Japan, all in fear in Ukraine, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kongo, Israel and Palestine.

For our City of Laguna Beach and the Diocese of Los Angeles

Prayer cards can be found in the Narthex or scan the QR Code here:



Next Sunday's Lessons

Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31, Psalm 133

This Week at St. Mary's

Sunday, March 31: Easter Sunday

5:30AM 10:00AM The Great Vigil of Easter Service Easter Sunday Eucharist with Choir Hospitality Hour following Easter Egg Hunt following

Monday, April 1: Easter Monday

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED7PMAA Men's Group Meeting, Guild Hall

Tuesday, April 2

| 10AM | Healing Service, Conference Call Format |
|------|---|
| 7PM | AA Women's Group Meeting, Guild Hall |
| 7PM | L.B. Chamber Singers, Church |

Wednesday, April 3

| 10AM | Parish Staff Meeting |
|------|------------------------------------|
| 11AM | Weekly Wednesday Eucharist |
| 7PM | AA Men's Group Meeting, Guild Hall |

Thursday, April 4

| 8AM | Men's Bible Study, Office Library |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| 6:30PM | Toastmasters Meeting, Guild Hall |
| 7PM | VIRTUAL Taize Heartfulness Service |

Friday, April 5

1PM

Saturday. April 6

| 8AM | Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Guild Hall |
|-----|---|
| 8PM | AA Living Sober Group Meeting, Guild Hall |

Women's Bible Study, Office Library

March 31, 2024 | The Great Vigil of Easter

Your Parish Leadership

Parish Staff

The Rev. Lester V. Mackenzie, Rector Imackenzie@stmaryslb.org • 949-494-3542

The Rev. Will Crist, Assisting Clergy willcrist@mac.com • 949-355-6013

Ryan Martin, Parish Administrator parishoffice@stmaryslb.org • 949-494-3542

Bob Gunn, Music Director rmgunn@mac.com · 949-533-5055

Miriam Chavez, Childcare Martin & Christina Reyna, Sextons

Parish Office Information

The Parish Office is open Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each week.

(949) 494-3542 parishoffice@stmaryslb.org www.stmaryslagunabeach.org

Your Vestry

Tammi Ford • 2024 • Rector's Warden • tammiford2@gmail.com

Tom Davis • 2024 • People's Warden • tom@davistoftlaw.com

Shauna McFadden \cdot 2024 \cdot Peoples Warden \cdot shauna_mcfadden@yahoo.com

Claudia Mellin · Clerk · mellins7lb@aol.com

Jim van Gaasbeek • Treasurer • jvgbvg@cox.net

Mike Metzler · Class of 2024

Candida Rivera TerBush · Class of 2024

Pat August • Class of 2025

Hoyt Bacon · Class of 2025

Carrie Joyce \cdot Class of 2025

Ben Brown · Class of 2025

Janet Chisholm • Class of 2026

Glen Roske · Class of 2026

John Kilpatrick • Class of 2026

Marc Mullendore • Class of 2026

The Vestry meets the Fourth Sunday of each Month at 12:00 p.m.

A Few Reminders

WORSHIP

Follow along starting on page 9. Responses are in bold.

COMMUNION

From whatever tradition you come, you are always welcome at the Lord's table. We are currently receiving Communion at the Altar Rail.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

There will be childcare service with Mimi Chavez this morning. There are "Youth Bulletins" with crayons in the back of the church. All Youth are invited to help participate during our Family Service (Ist Sunday at 10:30am) as readers or acolytes. Contact Fr. Lester.

RESTROOMS

These facilities are located on our lower level, beneath the choir. For wheelchair access, please ask an usher for assistance.

HOSPITALITY / COFFEE HOUR

Following today's 10:30am Service, all are welcome to our Guild Hall for fellowship, coffee and light refreshments.

NEWCOMERS

Welcome to St. Mary's! Introduce yourself to Fr. Lester and complete a Newcomer Card. There is a QR code on page 3 of this bulletin to also fill out online. We are glad that you are here to join us in this faith forward journey.

You are always welcome here.



Calling all Youth to help serve as an Acolyte at Church!

If interested in being an acolyte during the 10:30am service, contact Fr. Lester.



Easter Flower Dedications

Alex & Atticus Anderson In memory of Peter (Father & Brother).

Hoyt Bacon & Vern Joens In honor of our five grandchildren.

Linda Bratcher

In memory of Dwane, Fr. Sillers, Aldine, Vi and Coop Redmayne and in honor of Alex, Erin, and Hilary, my children & their families.

Dave & Ellie Brokaw

In memory of Kim Brokaw (son) and departed family and in celebration of Ellie's birthday.

Janet Chisholm In memory of Susan and Jim Neill, dear friends.

Mark Clymer & Marc Mullendore

In celebration of the 95th Anniversary of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Laguna Beach, and the leadership of the Rev. Lester V. Mackenzie.

Christal & Jim Daehnert In memory of our parents: Ray & Virginia Daehnert, Hary & Ruth Fasse

Tom & Martha Davis In honor of our children and grandchildren, Jessie, Sarah, Chandler, Sophie and Preston

Tammi Ford

In thanksgiving for her children, for Glen Roske and his unwavering friendship and bad photos, for the D Fish and Boys and in memory of Helena Kay-Marie.

Kayla Hendrickson & Stephanie Mountain In memory of Alton Hendrickson

(Grandfather)

Katie Jones *In celebration of Easter*

Susan Jones

In honor of my family, daughters, Leslie ජ Pamela, Grandson Mark, and Granddaughters Josephine ජ Madeline.

Ed & Lora Kennedy

In memory of Joyce (Mother) and Sunny (Aunt).

Rev. Lester & Angela Mackenzie

From the Mackenzie Family for the gift and ministry of The Rt. Rev. Edward Mackenzie and Sylvia Rose Mackenzie.

Dick & Jane Swintek

In celebration of Easter.

Judy Teverbaugh *In celebration of the joy of Spring!*

Jim & Barbara van Gaasbeek *In celebration of all parishioners at St. Mary's.*

Karen Zfaty

In memory of my parents, Ray & Jeany Hammeras

*This is the compiled list at the time of printing. If any additions or revisions needed, please contact the Parish Office. 6



THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024 // 7PM Virtual - Online Only St. Mary's Facebook & YouTube





Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Clothing Collection Drive for Working Wardrobes

Donate Your Gently Used Clothing!

When:

- Date: March-April
- Location: Bring to St. Mary's

What to Donate:

- Quality Clothing: Clean and gently used items on hangers.
- Accessories: We accept accessories too!

Why Donate?

- Your donations help individuals overcome barriers to gainful employment.
- 100% of retail profits fund Working Wardrobes' career readiness services.

How to Participate:

- 1. Select and Clean: Gather your best-quality clothing and put them on hangers.
- 2. Spread the Word: Tell everyone about our need for all types of donations.

Contact Us:

• Contact Marjorie: 949 497-8549-h; 714 322-0567-c or email: marlar4@cox.net

Important Safety Guidelines:

Donated clothes must be CLEAN and ON HANGERS.

Thank you for supporting Working Wardrobes! Your contributions make a difference in the lives of those striving for meaningful employment. For more information, visit the Working Wardrobes Donation Center.

All youth and their families are invited to an



Easter Sunday, March 31 - following the 10:00am Service this morning







ON BEHALF OF FR. LESTER, FR. WILL, RYAN, BOB, MARTIN, MIMI AND THE VESTRY OF ST. MARY'S, WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A VERY BLESSED EASTER. HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

SUNRISE EASTER SERVICE • 5:30 A.M. THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

PresiderDear 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.

People Amen.

The newly lighted Paschal Candle leads the procession, pausing three times to sing:

PresiderThe Light of Christ.PeopleThanks be to God.

THE EXULTATE (Sung by Presider)

PresiderRejoice 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.

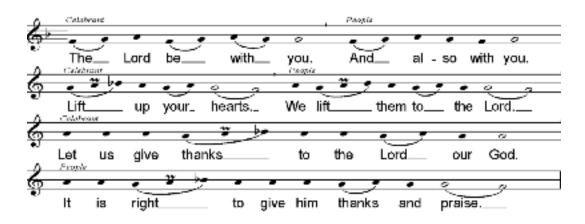
All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ, God's Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** Before the service, we speak to God. During the service, God speaks to us.

The people gather outside (WEATHER PERMITTING) the church off Park Ave. In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Presider addresses the people.

The Easter Vigil liturgy intended as the first (and arguably, the primary) celebration of Easter in the BCP (pp. 284-95). It is also known as the Great Vigil. The service begins in darkness, sometime between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter, and consists of four parts: The Service of Light (kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet); The Service of Lessons (readings from the Hebrew Scriptures interspersed with psalms, canticles, and prayers); Christian Initiation (Holy Baptism) or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows; and the Eucharist. Through this liturgy, the BCP recovers an ancient practice of keeping the Easter feast. Believers would gather in the hours of darkness ending at dawn on Easter to hear scripture and offer prayer. This night-long service of prayerful watching anticipated the baptisms that would come at first light and the Easter Eucharist. Easter was the primary baptismal occasion for the early church to the practical exclusion of all others. This practice linked the meanings of Christ's dying and rising to the understanding of baptism.

People

THE EXULTATE (Continued)



PresiderIt 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 ancestors, the children of Israel, out of bond-age 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.

Holy Lord, 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 this light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**.

People

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Presider

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how God saved people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

The Exultate is continued by the Presider.

The people sit for the Liturgy of the Word.

THE STORY OF CREATION • Genesis 1:1-2:4a

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

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." 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. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

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. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. 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. 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. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

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, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

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." 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. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

Continued on the next page.

Our lession is the story of creation. As this ancient narrative opens, the Spirit of the Lord hovers like a great mother bird over the shapeless world. God then forms the heaven and the earth and all its creatures in six days. The seventh day is set aside as a day of rest. God's ultimate creative act is human life, made in God's own image. 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. 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.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind 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, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

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." 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. 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. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 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. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 118 • Said in unison

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, who is 20 good; whose mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim,"His mercy endures for ever."
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the Lord has 24 triumphed! The right hand of the Lord is exalted!
- 17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them;I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- Presider Let us pray.
 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.
 People Amen.

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23

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA • Exodus 14:1-31,

- *Reader* 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. They said to Moses,
- People "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? 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."

- "This is the gate of the Lord; those who are righteous may enter."
- I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have be come my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
 - This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
 - On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

A Psalm in praise of a good Creator, a God of enduring mercy. March 31, 2024 | The Great Vigil of Easter

This reading is the story of the deliverance of Israel from bondage in Egypt. The people are terrified when they see the pursuing army and complain that it would have been better to live in slavery than to die in the wilderness.

Moses urges them to have courage, for they will see the salvation of the Lord, who has called them to freedom to serve the one true God. The Lord then brings them safely through the sea and destroys the arms of the Egyptians. 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. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. 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. 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. 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."

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. 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.

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.

People We went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for us on our right and on our left.

Reader The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. 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. He clogged 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."

> Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 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.

Reader

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them:

People "Sing to the LORD, for God has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider has been thrown into the sea."

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Presider Let us pray. 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**.



Crossing The Red Sea, Wilhelm Kotarbinski, 1848-1921

THE VALLEY OF THE DRY BONES • Ezekiel 37:1-14

ReaderThe 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. He led me all around them; there were very
many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me,
"Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered,

People "O Lord GOD, you know."

Reader Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them:

Continued on the next page.

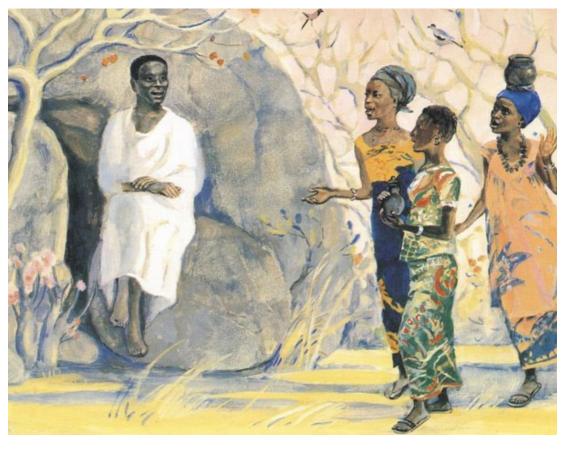
| The prophet in this reading has a vision of the bones of a dead and hopeless people being restored to new life in their homeland. | People | O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." |
|--|----------|---|
| The Lord calls upon Ezekiel as son of man to prophesy that the people who have experienced exile and many hardships will live again. The Spirit of the Lord restores their spirit and breath, and they rise from death. | Reader | 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. 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. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: |
| Although this passage can be understood to anticipate the hope of individual resurrection, Israel did not yet have this belief. | People | Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe up on these slain, that they may live." |
| | Reader | I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, |
| | People | 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' |
| | Reader | Therefore prophesy, 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. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 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. |
| | Reader | The Word of the Lord. <i>People</i> Thanks be to God. |
| | Presider | Let us pray. O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mys- tery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility 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 . |

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

PresiderAlleluia. Christ is Risen. (spoken three times)PeopleThe Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The people are invited to ring bells and keys in celebration of the Risen Lord.

The people stand as are able for the Easter Acclamation.



"Empty Tomb of Easter" by Jesus Mafa, 1973

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

| Presider People | The Lord be with you. And also with you. |
|--------------------|---|
| Presider | Let us pray. Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten |
| | Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his |
| | resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. |
| People | Amen. |

The people sit for the Word of God.

In this reading, we hear that as Christian disciples have been joined with Christ in his death through baptism, so they are to know a resurrection life like his. In union with Christ we have died to our sinful selves and have begun to experience a new way of life.

A song of praise to the Lord, who has brought the people safely out of Egypt and through the wilderness to the promised land.

THE EPISTLE • Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 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. 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. 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. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

| Reader | The Word of the Lord. |
|--------|-----------------------|
| People | Thanks be to God. |

THE PSALM • Psalm 114

- 1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary and Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like young sheep.
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?
- 6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? you little hills like young sheep?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

THE HOLY GOSPEL • Mark 16:1-8

PresiderThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

PresiderThe Good News of Jesus.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY • *The Reverend Lester V. Mackenzie*

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Presider 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. Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ? People I do. Presider Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven People and earth.

The people stand for The Holy Gospel.

Our gospel tells of Jesus' resurrection. It is about daybreak as the women come to the grave. No human eye sees Jesus rise, but there is an earthquake and an angel of the Lord rolls away the stone covering the tomb. He tells the two Marys that Jesus is going before this disciples to Galilee. With both fear and joy in their hearts, they run to tell the disciples and, on the way, are met by their risen Lord.

The people sit for the Homily. A period of silence follows.

The people stand for the Renewal of Baptismal vows. Those present will reaffirm and renew their commitment to Christ.

Continued on the next page.

March 31, 2024 | The Great Vigil of Easter

| Presider People | Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? 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. |
|--------------------|---|
| Presider People | Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? 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. |
| Presider | 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. |
| Presider | 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. |
| Presider | Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? |
| People | I will, with God's help. |
| Presider | Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? |
| People | I will, with God's help. |
| Presider | 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. |
| Presider | May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and be- stowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep you in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. |

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we remember the story of God's gracious presence with us through life and death, we lift the prayers we carry deep in our hearts on behalf of all creation praying: **Risen Christ, raise us to new life.**

Created in the image and likeness of God, we pray to see God's image in one another that our lives may proclaim the dignity of every human being. **Risen Christ, raise us to new life.**

Tested in our faith and strengthened by God's love we pray for open hearts, that wherever your im-age is still disfigured by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed, the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love and peace. **Risen Christ, raise us to new life.**

Joined with people of the earth, guide us and our leaders to use all that we are and all that we have to be agents of new life for our community, our nation and our world. **Risen Christ, raise us to new life**.

United in our hope that we and all who die will live again, we pray for family and friends who have died, in your compassion turn our separation into reunion and transform our grieving into gratitude. **Risen Christ, raise us to new life.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others: especially those for whom we now pray ... ; we pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and for John, our Bishop. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Province of the Episcopal Church in the West Indies. We especially pray for the Peace of Jerusalem. **Risen Christ, raise us to new life**.

O true God, who has glorified your Son Jesus Christ as the pledge of our freedom from sin and death, receive our praise and prayers through the Risen Christ our Lord, the great Amen and the Alleluia of our lives, now and forever. **Amen**.

ASPERGES

BAPTISMAL ANOINTING

Presider Almighty God, at our baptism you anointed us with your Spirit and adopted us as your children. Grant that this oil may be to us a sign that through your son Jesus Christ you have made us a new creation; the old has passed away, behold the new has come.People Amen.

Anointing is done with the following words:

Presider Remember that you are Christ's own forever.

People are invited to come forward to the altar rail and receive anointing on their foreheads in the sign of the cross as a reminder of their baptism.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

| In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the | Presider: <i>People:</i> Presider: <i>People:</i> Presider: <i>People:</i> | The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise. |
|--|---|--|
| | Presider: | It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of you Name: |
| Sursum corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts." | People: | Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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. |
| | Presider: | Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To |

The Words of Institution recall Jesus' words at the Last Supper (instructing the disciples to do this in remembrance of him). The words of invocation called Epiclesis is where we ask the Holy Spirit to descend up these gifts and upon us to make the bread and wine holy and to make us part of Christ's body.

> deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider:Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:People:Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Presider: Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the full-ness of time bring us, with St. Mary and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

Presider: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us in the language of your heart, we are bold to say:

People: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

| Presider: | Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; |
|-----------|---|
| People: | Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. |
| Presider: | The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Gifts for Holy People. |

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

People: Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ, and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Now send us forth to be your people in the world. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do your Good News in Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

THE EASTER BLESSING

Presider: May the living God remove the suffocating shroud that lies upon our world; may the risen Savior draw the sting of death, bringing all to life in him; May the flowing Spirit set us and all creation free and seal our hearts with faith. And the blessings of God, be with you and those whom you love this day and always. Amen.
Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

When Jesus taught his disciples this prayer it was a summary of all prayers. Placed in our liturgy at this place it again becomes the summation of our prayers to God in blessing the Bread and Wine.

Regardless of the tradition you come or where you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome to receive Communion at the Lord's Table.

When it is time for you to go forward to the altar rail, an usher will direct your row. Proceed to the altar rail and you may stand or kneel. Fold your right hand on top of your left, palms facing up, and receive the wafer. You may immediately eat the wafer or wait for the wine and take communion by intinction*. To sip the wine from the chalice, guide it to your lips with your hand on the base of the chalice. Receiving just the bread or wine alone is considered full communion.



Thank you for joining us in worship today. He is Risen! Allelvia!