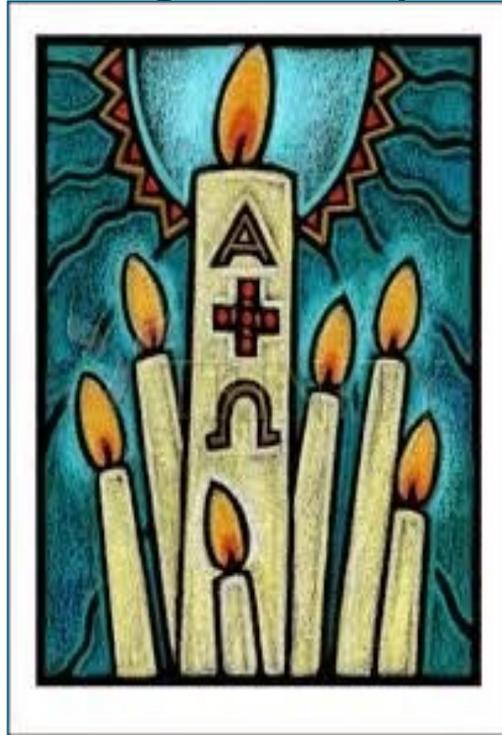


March 30th, 2024

**Easter Vigil- Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Bishop Matthew Cowden's Visitation
Live-Streaming Saturday at 7:30 P.M.**



Trinity Episcopal Church, Norborne Parish

Founded 1771

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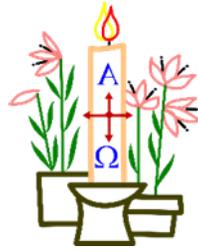
Wi-Fi: Trinity Guest-PW-Amen2020

The Very Rev. Robert E. Shives, II-Rector

The Rev. Deacon Marti Steiner-Unger-Deacon

Coty Graff-Organist and Choirmaster

Lisa Miller, Parish/Financial Administrator, Notary Public



The Great Vigil of Easter

The Great Vigil of Easter is one of the oldest liturgical celebrations that has survived. Some scholars find indication that the Jewish Passover was reinterpreted, associated with baptism, and celebrated within New Testament times. Historic liturgies from the second century are described in the Apostolic Tradition of Hippolytus (215 CE).

In the first centuries Christians fasted during the two days before the Paschal vigil in preparation for the commemoration of the death and resurrection of our Lord at the vigil.

The Jewish Passover commemorated the slaying of the first-born, the exodus from Egypt, and the entry into the Promised Land. Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of the old feast for the early church. In almost every language except English the same word is used for the Jewish Passover and the Christian Easter – **pascha**.

As the liturgies of the church became more elaborate, The Vigil began with the blessing of the new fire and the chanting of the Exsultet. Then a series of four to twelve Old Testament readings followed, interspersed with psalms, canticles, and prayers. The water of the font was exorcised and blessed with a prayer filled with biblical imagery of water. The candidates were then called to make a three-fold renunciation of Satan, followed by a three-fold confession of faith. After immersion, they were anointed and clothed in white garments, and then the Eucharist was held at which the newly baptized, regardless of age, would make their first communion.

The lessons and prayers were filled with baptismal references for the Eucharist was not only a celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, but especially a celebration for the Christian of death and resurrection in Him through baptism.

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

OPENING PRAYER

In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant may address the people in these or similar words

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. 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.

The Celebrant may say the following 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.**

OPENING VERSICLE

The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon or Celebrant bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing or saying

The light of Christ. *People*
Thanks be to God.

If candles have been distributed to members of the congregation, they are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time. Other candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the Altar, may also be lighted. The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.

EXSULTET S 69 The Exultet: Responses

Then the Deacon, or other person appointed, standing near the Candle, sings or says the Exsultet, as follows

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 his Son 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.

Answer ***And also with you.***

Deacon Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Answer ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Deacon

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, out of bondage 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. 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.

Holy Father, 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 his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

INVITATION

The Celebrant may introduce the Scripture readings in these or similar words

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.

FIRST READING: THE STORY OF CREATION: Genesis 1:1--2:4a

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷So 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. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then 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. ¹²The 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. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And 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, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So 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. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And 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. ²⁵God 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.

²⁶Then 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.” ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸God 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.” ²⁹God 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.

³⁰And 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.

³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And 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. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

FIRST RESPONSE: Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

Read aloud responsively by half verse.

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

²Give thanks to the God of gods, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

³Give thanks to the LORD of lords, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

⁴Who only does great wonders, *
for his mercy endures for ever;

⁵Who by wisdom made the heavens, *
for his mercy endures for ever;

⁶Who spread out the earth upon the waters, *
for his mercy endures for ever;

⁷Who created great lights, *
for his mercy endures for ever;

⁸The sun to rule the day, *
for his mercy endures for ever;

⁹The moon and the stars to govern the night, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

²³Who remembered us in our low estate, *
for his mercy endures for ever;

²⁴And delivered us from our enemies, *
for his mercy endures for ever;

²⁵Who gives food to all creatures, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

²⁶Give thanks to the God of heaven, *
for his mercy endures for ever.

FIRST COLLECT

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**SECOND READING: ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA: Exodus 14:10-31;
15:20-21**

¹⁰As 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. ¹¹They said to Moses, "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? ¹²Is 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." ¹³But 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. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. ¹⁶But 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. ¹⁷Then 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. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

¹⁹The 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. ²⁰It 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.

²¹Then 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. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At 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. ²⁵He 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."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel 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.

^{15:20}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. ²¹And Miriam sang to them:

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

SECOND RESPONSE: Canticle 8: The Song of Moses

S-209

Choir will do First Verse, Congregation join in on second verse

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.

This is my God, and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.

The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea;*
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red
Sea. The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in
renown, and worker of wonders?

You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.

The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.

SECOND COLLECT

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O 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.*

THIRD READING: A NEW HEART AND A NEW SPIRIT: Ezekiel 36:24-28

²⁴I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. ²⁸Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

THIRD RESPONSE: Hymn: C-548

“As the deer”

THIRD COLLECT

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who are reborn into the fellowship of Christ’s Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Celebrant says

The Candidate(s) for Confirmation/Reception and Reaffirmation will now be presented.

Presenters I present *these persons* for Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation. *The Bishop asks the candidates*

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate ***I do.***

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate ***I do, and with God’s grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.***

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in *their* life in Christ?

People ***We will.***

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with *those* who *are* committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISM VOWS

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People ***I do.***

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People

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.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? *People*

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.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? *People*

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant 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.

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES *The Celebrant says to the congregation*

Let us now pray for *these persons* who have renewed *their* commitment to Christ. *A*

Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep *them* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory, who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYERS AT CONFIRMATION

The Bishop says to the congregation

Let us now pray for *these persons* who have renewed *their* commitment to Christ.

Silence may be kept.

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit, you have bound us to your service. Renew in *these* your *servants* the covenant you made with *them* at *their* Baptism. Send *them* forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before *them*; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him/her* for your service; and sustain *him/her* all the days of *thier* life. ***Amen.***

Then the Bishop says

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over *these* your *servants*; let your Holy Spirit ever be with *them*; and so, lead *them* in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that *they* may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Hymn of Praise: H-207

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

At the Eucharist

EASTER ACCLAMATION

The candles at the Altar may now be lighted from the Paschal Candle.

The Celebrant may say to the people

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

CANTICLE FOR EASTER VIGIL S-280

Canticle 20: Glory to God

Gloria in excelsis

***Glory to God in the highest, and peace
to his people on earth. Lord God,
heavenly King, almighty God and
Father, we worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,***

*you take away the sin of the world; have
mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One, you
alone are the Lord, you alone are the
Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

COLLECT FOR EASTER VIGIL

The Celebrant then says

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you. Celebrant*

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. *Amen.*

The Lessons

EPISTLE: Romans 6:3-11

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore 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.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We 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. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

SEQUENCE HYMN: H-637

All stand.

“How Firm a Foundation”

THE GREAT ALLELUIA

Alleluia.

PSALM: Psalm 114

¹Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

²Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

³The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

⁴The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.

⁵What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

⁶You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

⁷Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

⁸Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8 *All stand.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. *People*
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But 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. ⁷But 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." ⁸So 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. And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON - The Rt. Rev. Matthew Cowden

THE PEACE *All stand.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

OFFERTORY HYMN: H 711

“Seek Ye First”

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

PROPER PREFACE

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 your Name:

SANCTUS *Celebrant and People*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

EPICLESIS *The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your

Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

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

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION *The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

COMMUNION HYMNS: H-178 “Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks” & H-335 “I Am the Bread of Life”

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have
fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his
Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in
peace, and grant us strength and courage to love
and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart; through
Christ our Lord. Amen.*

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN: H 182

“Christ is Alive”

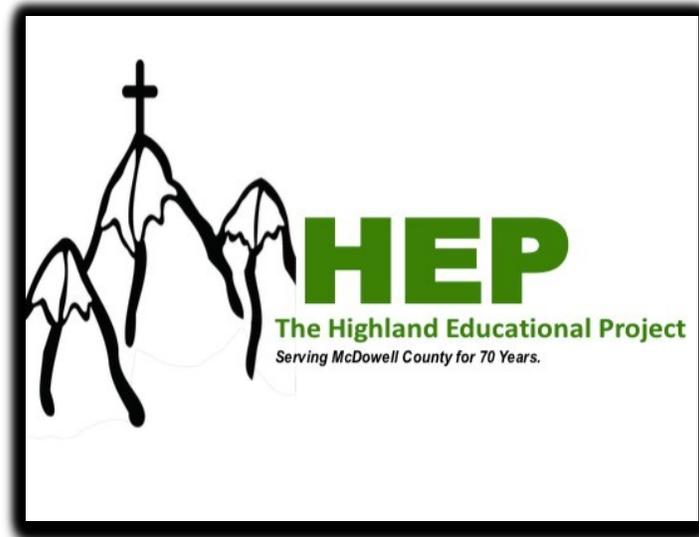
DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

All are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for a reception for The Bishop Matthew Cowden and Mrs. Melissa Cowden





The Highland Educational Project has been an outreach ministry of the Diocese of West Virginia for more than 70 years. It is located in Welch in McDowell County, in one of the most impoverished areas of the country. In the past HEP was the only full-time mission-based organization that was open to provide area residents with aid every day of the week. It offered a food pantry, clothing, help with utility bills, and other provisions for county residents. After a time of revisioning, restructuring and reimaging, HEP has reopened with the goal of becoming an even more vital outreach ministry in McDowell County. HEP also partners with service groups to help connect them to service opportunities in and around McDowell County. The Bishop's Visitation offerings support this critical ministry.