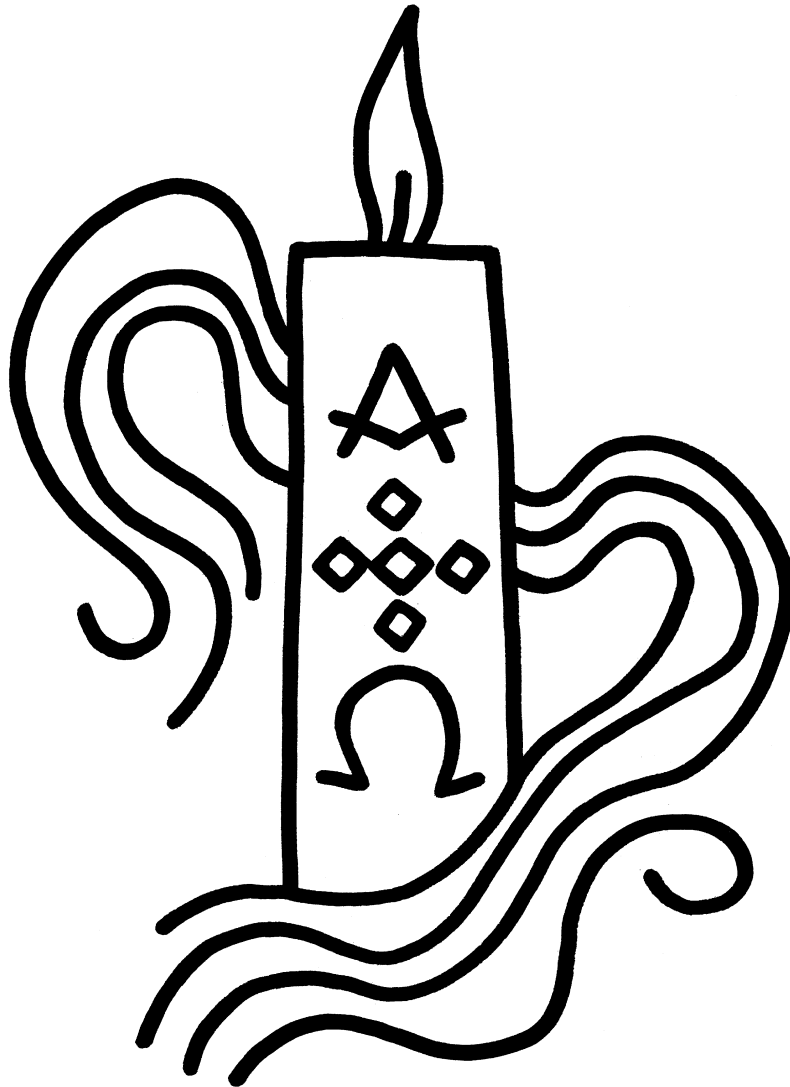


THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

30 March 2024



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
6194 Dumfries Road ▪ Warrenton VA 20187
www.oslc-warrenton.org ▪ (540)347-3224

WE GATHER OUTDOORS
THE LIGHTING OF THE NEW FIRE

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

Congregation And also with you.

THE PASTOR EXPLAINS THE VIGIL OF EASTER IN THESE OR SIMILAR WORDS.

Pastor Sisters and brothers, tonight we remember the many ways that God has set us free, and especially God's victory over death on the day that Jesus rose from the dead.

Let us pray. Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this candle, and make us shine with the brightness of Christ, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation Amen.

THE PASTOR TRACES THE INSCRIPTION ON THE PASCHAL CANDLE.

Pastor	Christ, yesterday and today, the beginning and the ending. To Christ belongs all time and all the ages; to Christ belongs glory and dominion now and forever.	<i>Trace the sign of the cross. Trace the Greek letters Alpha and Omega. Trace the first numeral at the upper left. Trace the second numeral at the upper right. Trace the third numeral at the lower left. Trace the fourth numeral at the lower right.</i>
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Congregation Amen.

THE PASTOR LIGHTS THE PASCHAL CANDLE.

Pastor May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

AS WE ENTER THE CHURCH, OUR HAND-CANDLES ARE LIT.

WHILE ENTERING, THE ASSISTANT HOLDING THE PASCAL CANDLE
MAY STOP THREE TIMES AND SAY:

Assistant The Light of Christ!

Congregation Thanks be to God!

WHEN ALL HAVE ENTERED, WE GIVE THANKS FOR GOD'S EVERLASTING LIGHT.

Assistant Rejoice now, angels in heaven! Jesus Christ is risen!

Congregation Rejoice, and blow the trumpet of salvation.

Assistant Rejoice, Earth, shining with God's glory!

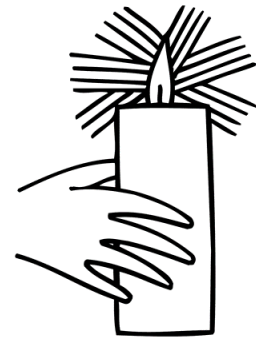
Congregation Christ has conquered! Darkness has vanished.

Assistant Rejoice, holy church! The risen Savior shines upon you!

Congregation Let this place echo as God's people sing with joy.

Song of Light

Christ, Be our Light



Refrain:

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

This is the night of new beginnings.
This is the night when heaven meets earth.
This is the night, filled with God's glory,
Promise of our new birth!

This is the night Christ our Redeemer
Rose from the grave, triumphant and free,
Leaving the tomb of evil darkness
Empty for all to see.

Now will the fire kindled in darkness
burn to dispel the shadows of night.
Star of the morning Jesus our Saviour
You are the world's true light. **(Refrain)**

Sing of the hope deeper than dying.
Sing of the power, stronger than death.
Sing of the love, endless as heaven,
dawning throughout the earth.

Into this world, morning is breaking,
All of God's people, lift up your voice.
Cry out with joy, tell out the story,
All of the world rejoice!

(Refrain)

Prayer of the Day

Pastor

Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation

Amen.

THE HAND-CANDLES ARE EXTINGUISHED.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

First Reading

Creation

Genesis 1:27-2:3

^{1:27}So 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.

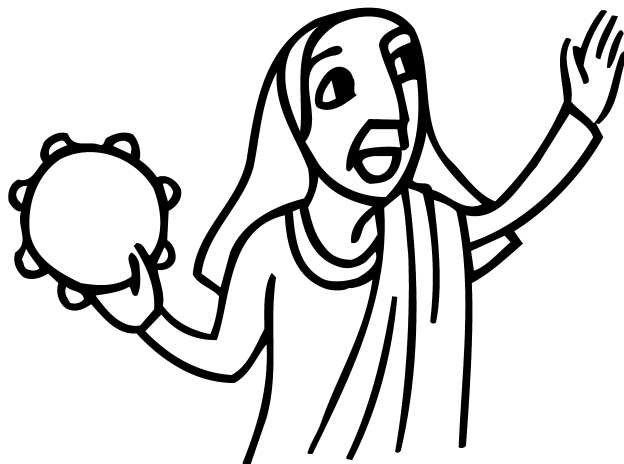
^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work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

Second Reading

Passover

Exodus 14:26-31; 15:20-21

^{14:26} The Lord told Moses, "Stretch your arm toward the sea—the water will cover the Egyptians and their cavalry and chariots." ²⁷ Moses stretched out his arm, and at daybreak the water rushed toward the Egyptians. They tried to run away, but the Lord drowned them in the sea. ²⁸ The water came and covered the chariots, the cavalry, and the whole Egyptian army that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them was left alive. ²⁹ But the sea had made a wall of water on each side of the Israelites; so they walked through on dry land.



³⁰ On that day, when the Israelites saw the bodies of the Egyptians washed up on the shore, they knew that the Lord had saved them. ³¹ Because of the mighty power he had used against the Egyptians, the Israelites worshiped him and trusted him and his servant Moses.

^{15:20} Miriam the sister of Aaron was a prophet. So she took her tambourine and led the other women out to play their tambourines and to dance. ²¹ And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Exodus Song

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

1 When Israel was in Egypt's land,
let my people go;
oppressed so hard they could not stand,
let my people go.

4 As Israel stood by the waterside,
let my people go;
at God's command it did divide,
let my people go. *Refrain*

Refrain

Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh:
Let my people go!

6 Oh, let us all from bondage flee,
let my people go;
and let us all in Christ be free,
let my people go. *Refrain*

Third Reading

Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The 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, "O Lord God, you know."

Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: 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."

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, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." 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, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' 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.



Restoration Song

Days of Elijah

These are the days of Elijah,
Declaring the Word of the Lord;
And these are the days Of Your servant, Moses,
Righteousness being restored;
And though these are days of great trials,
Of famine and darkness and sword;
Still we are the voice in the desert crying,
"Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

Chorus:

Behold He comes,
Riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call;
So lift your voice,
It's the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill Salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel,
The dry bones becoming as flesh;
And these are the days of Your servant, David,
Rebuilding a temple of praise;
And these are the days of the harvest,
The fields are as white in the world;
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard,
Declaring the Word of the Lord.

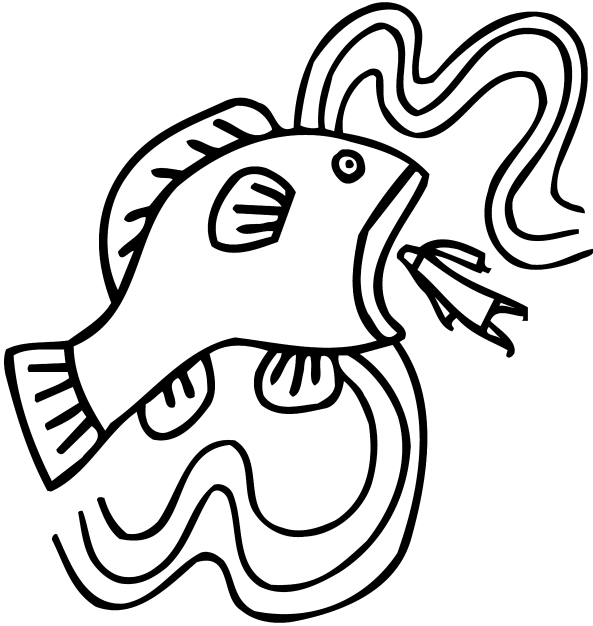
(Chorus)

There is no god like Jehovah,
There is no god like Jehovah,
There is no god like Jehovah,
There is no god like Jehovah.

(Repeat 4 times)

(Chorus 2 times)

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, "Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.



But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them.

Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. The captain came and said to him, "What are you doing sound asleep? Get up, call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish."

The sailors said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?"

"I am a Hebrew," he replied. "I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them so.

Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous.

He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you." Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them.

Then they cried out to the Lord, "Please, O Lord, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you." So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the Lord even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows. But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish. [...]Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land.

¹⁹Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary, ²⁰and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire.

²¹So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire.

²²Because the king's command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

²³But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire.

²⁴Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, "Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?" They answered the king, "True, O king." ²⁵He replied, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a god."



New Life Song

Lord Reign in Me

Over all the earth, You reign on high,
Every mountain stream, every sunset sky.
But my one request, Lord my only aim
Is that You'd reign in me again.

Refrain:

Lord, reign in me, reign in Your pow'r;
Over all my dreams, in my darkest hour.
You are the Lord of all I am,
So won't You reign in me again.

Over every thought, over every word,
May my life reflect the beauty of my Lord;
'Cause You mean more to me than any
earthly thing.

So won't You reign in me again.

(Refrain 2X)

Won't You reign in me again,
won't You reign in me again.

Handbell Trio

Prelude in C Major (BWV 846)

J.S. Bach

VEILS ARE REMOVED FROM THE CHANCEL FURNISHINGS AND LIGHTS ARE RAISED.

Hallelujah! Jesus is risen!
 All our hearts are filled with gladness.
 Hallelujah! Jesus is risen!
 All our hearts are filled with gladness.
(repeat)

Gospel Lesson**The Women Proclaim the Resurrection****MARK 16:1-8**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Congregation: Glory you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body].

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

**Gospel Acclamation****Hallelujah! Jesus is Risen!****ELW 535**

Hallelujah! Jesus is risen!
 All our hearts are filled with gladness.
 Hallelujah! Jesus is risen!
 All our hearts are filled with gladness.

Sermon

THE AFFIRMATION OF HOLY BAPTISM

A: Let us affirm the faith in which we were baptized.

P: I ask you all to profess you all to reject sin and confess your faith in God.
Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended
into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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. Amen.**

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant
God made with you in holy baptism:

- to live among God's faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

C: Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P Beloved, I ask you prayers for the church, for all manners of people, and for God's good Creation. After each category is announced, offer your own petitions aloud or in silence.

P Let us pray for the church. [**C Names**]

P Let us pray for our nation, and for the nations of the world. [**C Names**]

P Let us pray for the poor. [**C Names**]

P Let us pray for the sick. [**C Names**]

P Let us pray for others in need. [**C Names**]

P Let us pray for in thanksgiving for God's blessings. [**C Names**]

The minister concludes the prayers:

P God of life, you have made us in your image; restore that image in us when we tarnish it, and give new life to the world; through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE MEAL

WE EXCHANGE A GREETING OF PEACE.

Pastor The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Congregation And also with you.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

Assistant Let us offer to God what God has first given us: our selves, our time and our possessions – signs of God's gracious love.

Offertory

Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded

Day of delight and beauty unbounded,
Tell the news, the gospel spread!
Day of all wonder, day of all splendor,
Praise Christ risen from the dead!
Sing of the sun from darkness appearing;
Sing of the seed from barren earth greening;
Sing of creation, alleluia!
Sing of the stream from Jesus' side flowing;
Sing of the saints in water made holy;
Sing of salvation, alleluia!

Day of delight and beauty unbounded,
Tell the news, the gospel spread!
Day of all wonder, day of all splendor,
Praise Christ risen from the dead!
Sing now of mourning turned into dancing;
Sing now the myst'ry, hope of our glory;
Sing with thanksgiving, alleluia!
Sing now of fasting turned into feasting;
Sing the Lord's favor lasting forever;
Sing, all things living, alleluia

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor The Lord be with you.
Congregation And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts!
Congregation We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PASTOR GIVES THANKS FOR CHRIST'S LIFE, DEATH AND RESURRECTION,
AND FOR GOD'S CONTINUING PRESENCE AMONG US,
WHICH IS A SOURCE OF NEW LIFE FOR ALL WHO BELIEVE.

Lord's Prayer

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Sharing the Body and Blood of Christ

WE BELIEVE THAT CHRIST IS TRULY PRESENT IN THE BREAD AND WINE OF HOLY COMMUNION.
ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE THIS GIFT.
PEOPLE WHO DO NOT RECEIVE ARE INVITED TO COME FORWARD
WITH THEIR ARMS CROSSED TO RECEIVE A BLESSING.

Music During Communion

WORDS AND MUSIC TO THESE SONGS ARE NEAR THE DOOR.

Same God Living Hope

Prayer after Communion

Assistant Let us pray.
Lord, you have washed us and fed us with the gifts of new life. Fill us with your Spirit and make us one in peace and love.

Congregation Amen

Blessing

Pastor Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, give you new life now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

Sending Song

Hear Our Praises

May our homes be filled with dancing,
May our streets be filled with joy,
May injustice bow to Jesus
As the people turn and pray.

Refrain:

From the mountain to the valley,
Hear our praises rise to You!
From the heavens to the nations,
Hear our singing fill the air!

May our light shine in the darkness
As we walk before the cross.
May Your glory fill the whole earth
As the water over the seas.

(Refrain)

Hallelujah, hallelujah,
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
(Refrain)

Dismissal

Assistant Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Congregation He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Assistant Go in peace. Alleluia!
Congregation Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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