



Welcome to Christ Church. We're glad you're worshipping with us today.  
May the power of Jesus' Resurrection touch your life today in a new way.

### THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER



Good Morning and Happy Easter, My name is the Rev. Stephen Ayres and I am the bridge priest at Christ Church, Aspen. Thank you for joining our worship on this Easter Sunday. Our service begins with the lighting of the Paschal Candle and readings from the Easter Vigil, followed by a reading of the Easter Gospel, a sermon and prayers. At the end of the service we will say over Easter baskets and your favorite Easter foods, Easter eggs, chocolates and jelly beans.

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy morn, 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. *Amen.*

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

### The Liturgy of the Word

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.

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

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, "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." 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. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 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."

Then 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." So 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. The 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. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

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.

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

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

**Psalm 114 Page 756, BCP**  
*Said in unison*

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Christ our Passover** *Pascha nostrum*

*Said in unison*

*Alleluia.*

*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \**

*therefore let us keep the feast,*

*Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \**

*but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.*

*Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \**

*death no longer has dominion over him.*

*The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \**

*but the life he lives, he lives to God.*

*So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \**

*and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.*

*Christ has been raised from the dead, \**

*the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

*For since by a man came death, \**

*by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.*

*For as in Adam all die, \**

*so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to **Matthew** *Glory to you, Lord Christ*

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**Sermon**

## **The Apostles' Creed**

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

*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.*

*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.*

The Lord be with you

***And also with you.***

Let us pray.

*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.*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; 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; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Let us remember our friends in the Christ Church community:

### CEC MEMBERS

The Family and friends of Harriat Tschappat, Bob & Marsha, George, Margo & Keith, Veronica, BobbiAnn, John, Kim, Tom, Bob, All Those Serving Their Country, The young people and students of Aspen

### FRIENDS & FAMILY OF CEC MEMBERS

The Family & Friends of Beverly Forsmann, Noel, Susan & Mickey, Petra, Harrison, Charlie, Elizabeth, Jocelyn, Henry, Annie, Otto

### LET US PRAY FOR OUR CHRIST CHURCH RECTOR SEARCH EFFORTS

Father, we thank you for loving us and living through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you. At this time of transition for Christ Church and our search for a new Rector, we ask for your help in discerning your will in making decisions to strengthen and grow our church to your glory. Help us to be attentive to one another, respecting our individual desires for our church so that we may become unified in our mission. We pray for your guidance as we seek the leader who can help us to become the Christian community we aspire to be. We offer this prayer in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

## BLESSING OF EASTER GOODIES

O Lord our God, in celebration of the Paschal feast we have prepared these eggs from your creation: Grant that they may be to us a sign of the new life and immortality promised to those who follow your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

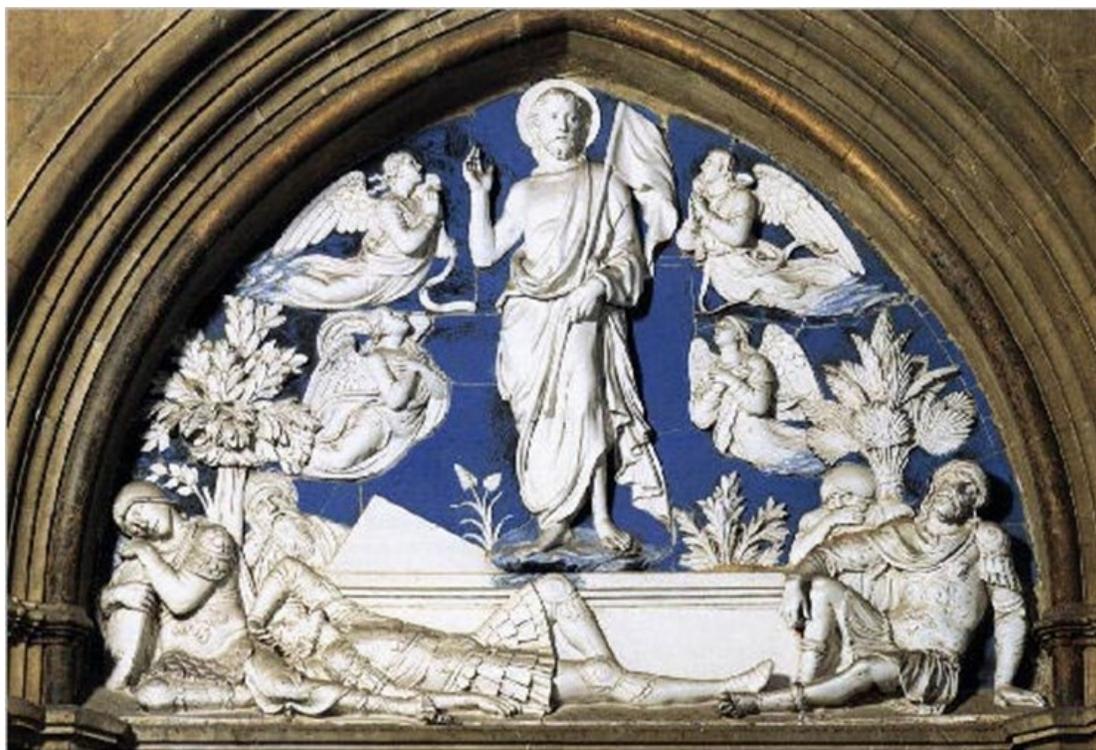
Blessed are you, O Lord our God: you have given us the risen Savior to be the Shepherd of your people and the hope of eternal life, bless these candies that they may remind us of the sweetness of Your love, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his love and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, The Lord is risen!  
*He has risen, indeed! Alleluia*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Thank you for joining with members of Christ Church, Aspen in this moment of prayer and reflection. Please like, share, or forward this web cast. If you would like to support Christ Church's ministry, you can find a donate button on [christchurchaspen.org](http://christchurchaspen.org). May you enjoy a blessed Easter and delicious feast with your household and may we all gather next year in our churches to celebrate Easter together.



*The Resurrection of Christ*

Luca della Robbia