

# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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*The Rev. James W. Friedel*

EASTER VIGIL  
Sunday, April 12, 2020  
6:30 am



# Easter Vigil

MORNING PRAYER II  
THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER  
*April 12, 2020*  
6:30 am

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

*(BCP Pages 285-287)*

*Officiant says to the people*

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.

*Officiant*

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 Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire.*

*Officiant*      The light of Christ.

*People*        *Thanks be to God.*

*The Paschal Candle is place in its stand.*

*(BCP Page 286)*

*Officiant*

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.

*(Continued on next page.)*

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.*

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          *And also with you.*

*Officiant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Officiant*

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 the 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.*

*Officiant*

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.

**Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea: 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.

*(Continued on next page.)*

## Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea: Exodus 14:10-15:1

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."

### Canticle 8 The Song of Moses

*(BCP Page 85)*

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.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen*

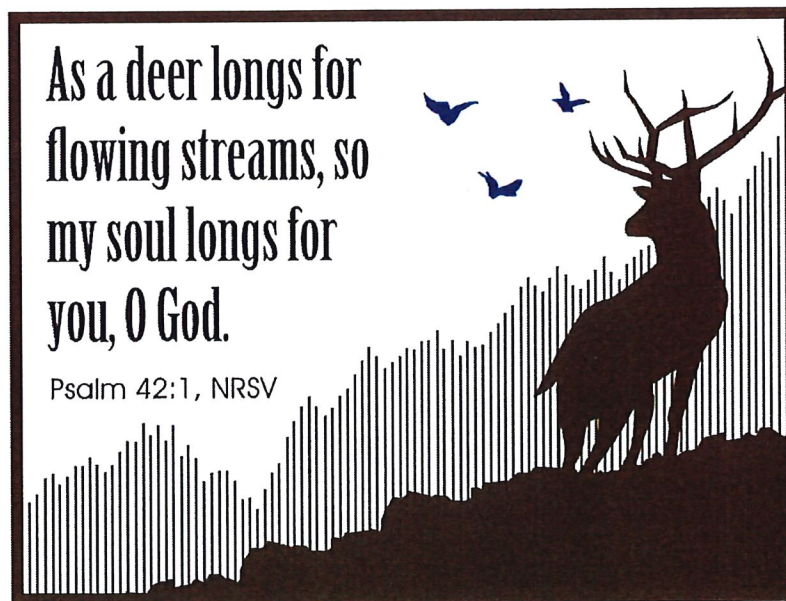
Officiant Let us pray. (Silence)

(BCP Page 289)

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.*

**Ezekiel 36:24-28 ~A new heart and a new spirit**

Say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A 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. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.



As the deer longs for the water-brooks,  
so longs my soul for you, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God;  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

My tears have been my food day and night,  
while all day long they say to me,  
"Where now is your God?"

I pour out my soul when I think on these things:  
how I went with the multitude and led them into the  
house of God,

With the voice of praise and thanksgiving,  
among those who keep holy-day.

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?  
and why are you so disquieted within me?

Put your trust in God;  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

(BCP Page 290)

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.*

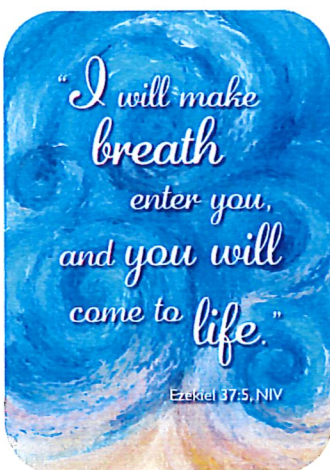
## Ezekiel 37:1-14 ~ The valley of dry bones

(BCP Page 291)

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.



Psalm 30

(BCP Pages 621-622)

I will exalt you, O LORD,  
because you have lifted me up  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

O LORD my God, I cried out to you,  
and you restored me to health.

You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

Sing to the LORD, you servants of his;  
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye,  
his favor for a lifetime.

Weeping may spend the night,  
but joy comes in the morning.

While I felt secure, I said,  
"I shall never be disturbed.  
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as  
the mountains.

Then you hid your face,  
and I was filled with fear.

I cried to you, O LORD;  
I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit?  
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

Hear O LORD, and have mercy upon me;  
O LORD, be my helper."

You have turned my wailing into dancing;  
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;  
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Officiant Let us pray. (Silence)

(BCP Page 291)

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into  
righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit  
the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with 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.

### The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

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

People *I do.*

Officiant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Officiant 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 dead.*

Officiant 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.*

Officiant 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.*

Officiant 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.*

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

People *I will, with God's help.*

(Continued on next page.)

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

(BCP Pages 292-294)

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

*People* *I will, with God's help.*

*Officiant* 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.*

*Officiant continues*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who as 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.*

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

## Christ our Passover

(BCP Page 83)

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;  
therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the 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 also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Psalm 114

(BCP Pages 756-757)

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.

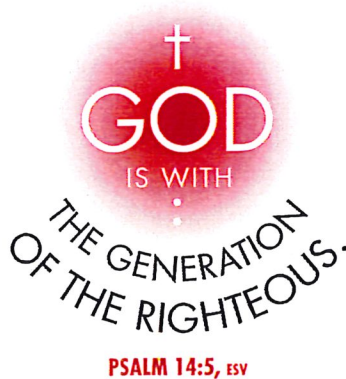
The mountains skipped like rams,  
and the little hills like young sheep.

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.



## A Lesson from 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.*

## Glory to God

(BCP Page 94)

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.*

## A Reading from Matthew 28:1-10

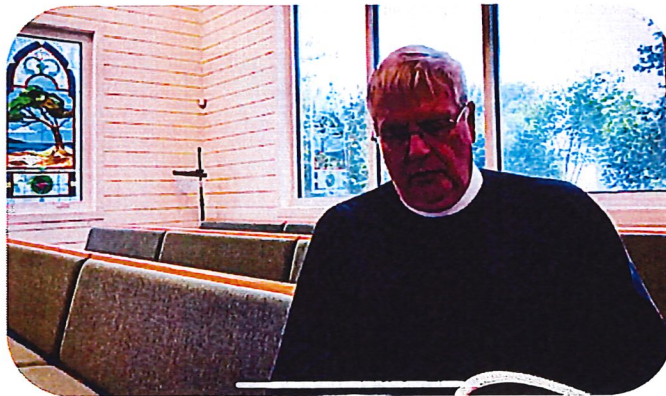
After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing 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."

Officiant     The Word of the Lord.

People        *Thanks be to God.*

## A Reflection

*The Rev. Jim Friedel*



## A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. *Amen.*

## The Prayers

(BCP Page 97)

Officiant     The Lord be with you.

People        *And also with you.*

Officiant     Let us pray.

Officiant and 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.*

## Suffrage B

(BCP Page 98)

V.     Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R.     *Govern and uphold them, now and always.*

V.     Day by day we bless you;

R.     *We praise your Name for ever.*

V.     Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R.     *Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.*

V.     Lord, show us your love and mercy.

R.     *For we put our trust in you.*

V.     In you, Lord, is our hope;

R.     *And we shall never hope in vain.*

## The Collect of the Day: Easter Vigil

(BCP Page 222)

O God, we made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## A Prayer for Mission

(BCP Page 100)

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A time of silence is offered as an opportunity for us to reflect on our petitions and thanksgiving.*

## **Hymn: Now The Green Blade Riseth**

(Hymnal #204)



1. Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain, wheat that in dark earth  
2. In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain, think - ing that nev - er  
3. Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain, he that for three days  
4. When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain, thy touch can call us



1. man - y days has lain; love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:  
2. he would wake a - gain, laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:  
3. in the grave had lain, quick from the dead my ris - en Lord is seen:  
4. back to life a - gain, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

### **Refrain**



Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring-eth green.

## Offertory ~ Ephesians 5:2

(BCP Page 376)

*Officiant*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

## The General Thanksgiving

(BCP Page 101)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

## The Blessing

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 blessing. *Amen.*

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

## The Dismissal

*Officiant* Alleluia.  
Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* *Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

