

EASTER SUNDAY BAPTISM

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

At the church entrance the Paschal (Easter) Candle is marked:

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end - Alpha, Omega; all times belong to him and all the ages, to him be glory and power through every age for ever. **Amen.**

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us. **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is lit:

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

The Paschal Candle is processed into the Church:

Christ our light

All Thanks be to God.

The Exsultet:

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 splendour, 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 marvellous and holy flame pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great Light; through Jesus Christ God's Son our Lord, who lives and reigns, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

ACCLAIMING GOD

The Lord is risen. Alleluia!

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

1. **Jesus Christ is risen today, *alleluia!*
our triumphant holy day, *alleluia!*
who so lately on the cross *alleluia!*
suffered to redeem our loss, *alleluia!***
2. **Hymns of praise then let us sing *alleluia!*
unto Christ, our heavenly king, *alleluia!*
who endured the cross and grave *alleluia!*
sinners to redeem and save. *alleluia!***
3. **But the pain that he endured *alleluia!*
our salvation has procured; *alleluia!*
now exalted he is king, *alleluia!*
and the angels ever sing: *alleluia!***

We continue to praise God with the Gloria:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.

The prayer of the day

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

After each reading:

Hear the word of the Lord,
All thanks be to God.

1. Now the green blade rises
From the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth
Many days has lain:
Love lives again,
That with the dead has been:
*Love has come again,
Like wheat that springs up green.*

2. In the grave they laid him,
Love whom hate had slain,
Thinking that he never
Would wake again,
Laid in the earth,
Like grain that sleeps unseen.
*Love has come again,
Like wheat that springs up green.*

3. Up he sprang at Easter,
Like the risen grain,
He who for the three days
In the grave had lain,
Raised from the dead
My living Lord is seen:
*Love has come again,
Like wheat that springs up green.*

4. When our hearts are wintry,
Grieving, or in pain,
Then your touch can call us
Back to life again -
Fields of our hearts
That dead and bare have been:
*Love has come again,
Like wheat that springs up green.*

The Lord be with you.
All And also with you.
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St ---
All Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

...

This is the Gospel of the Lord, praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love. Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring their child for baptism. Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their child in the faith and practice of the Church. In due time this child should make *her* own response to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing *this child* for baptism?

Sponsors I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of *this child*?

Sponsors I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage *this child* in the life and faith of the Christian community?

Sponsors I will, with God's help.

As *the child's* sponsors respond on behalf of *the child* in the decision to turn to Christ, so all baptised people here today are invited to join in, to renew their own baptismal promises.

Before God and this congregation, you are invited affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:

Do you turn to Christ?

All I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

All I repent of my sins.

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

All I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

All I renounce all that is evil.

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

All I will, with God's help.

You have heard each other respond to Christ. Will you support each other in this calling?

All We will.

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God, that this *person* may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in *her*. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in *her*.

God of grace,

All hear our prayer.

Give to *her* sponsors and *her* family the desire to share with *her* what you have revealed in your holy gospel.

God of grace,

All hear our prayer.

Give to those who come to affirm their baptism, strength and grace that they may faithfully serve you all their lives.

God of grace,

All hear our prayer.

May they all know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May they proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ.

God of grace,

All hear our prayer.

We pray for the world in which we live, for peace and harmony among all people. Bring healing and wholeness to the sick [*especially ...*], to those who mourn and to all in need.

God of grace,

All hear our prayer.

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Hasten that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ.

God of grace,

All hear our prayer.

BLESSING OF WATER AND BAPTISM

Dear friends, this water will be used to baptise *this child*, and also to remind each of us of our own baptism. Let us ask God to bless it and to keep us faithful to the Spirit he has given us.

Father, we give you thanks for your gift of life-giving water. Through the waters of the Red Sea you brought your people out of slavery in Egypt, and in the waters of Jordan your Son was anointed with the Holy Spirit. As he hung on the cross, water and blood flowed from his side. Through the waters of baptism you deliver us from sin and raised us to newness of life. Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that *this child* who is baptised in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May it also

remind us of our own baptism that, renewed by your Spirit, we may rejoice with *this child* who is called to new birth in your Church through these waters. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Dear friends, through the paschal mystery we have been buried with Christ in his baptism, so that we may rise with him to new life. I ask you to reaffirm as yours the faith of the Church.

**All We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips and sends God's people,
and brings all things to their true end.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.
We believe in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Name, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

After the baptism:

Name, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

As *this child* has been baptised, we are reminded of our own: God our creator, Rock of our salvation, has given us new birth by water and the Spirit, and forgiven our sins through Jesus Christ our Lord. May God keep us faithful to our calling now and for ever. **Amen**

People may be sprinkled with water as a sign of renewal.

The priest addresses the newly baptised:

Live as a disciple of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

**All Confess Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

God has brought you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

All Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

God has called you into his Church.

**All We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

In baptism, God has made us one in Christ.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

We share the peace of God with those around us.

Offertory hymn (the collection is taken)

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

1. **Jesus is Lord of all the earth; he is the king of creation.**
2. **Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.**
3. **We have been crucified with Christ; now we shall live for ever.**
4. **God has proclaimed his gracious gift: new life for all! Alleluia!**
5. **Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Saviour.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

With all our hearts we praise you, faithful God. In the beginning, you called light to shine in darkness, you made living things to grow and flourish and you created human beings in your image.

You chose us in love, guided us by your presence and blessed us with your holy law. Yet we chose our own sinful ways. We broke your commandments, persecuted your prophets, forgot your wisdom and, time after time, refused to answer your call.

So you spoke an eternal word in a human voice in Jesus of Nazareth, son of Mary, Son of God. He called and people followed, leaving every other loyalty. He set us free to praise your holy name.

But hatred and violence shouted Jesus down. Betrayed and abandoned and nailed to a cross, he laid down his life for the world he loved, and broke the chains of evil and death. Then you turned our sorrow into joy. On the third

day you raised him up to lead your people into life. So we praise you, holy God, with angels and archangels and all your faithful people, saying:

All **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.**

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered with his friends to share a meal and wash their feet, teaching one more lesson of love.

He took bread and blessed you and broke it. He gave it to them and said: "Take this and eat it. This is my body."

He took a cup of wine and blessed you and gave it to them. He said: "Take this and drink it. This is my blood, sealing God's promise to forgive your sins. Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me."

As we share these holy gifts, we remember the Lord Jesus.

For the love you taught us, the sacrifice you made for us and the hope you give us, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All **Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

And now, faithful God, send us your Spirit to feed us with the body and the blood of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Make us one body in Christ. Send us as your messengers in the world and fill us with energy, courage and love.

Now to you, most holy God, through Christ your Son and in the Spirit's power, we bring our worship and our songs of praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

All **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 AND THE COMMUNION

The bread which we break,
is the communion of the body of Christ. Alleluia!

All **Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia!**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

All are invited forward to make their communion or receive a blessing.

SENDING OUT GOD'S PEOPLE

Let us pray.

Eternal God, giver of life, in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord. May we who celebrate this holy feast walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

All Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

The blessing of the Living God, who brings light out of darkness,
be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

The blessing of the risen Christ, who sends you as apostles into all the
world, be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The blessing of the Holy Spirit, who fills the church with joy and
praise, be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

The blessing of our God, the holy and glorious Trinity, be upon you and
remain with you now, and forever. **Amen.**

1. Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you've won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes, where your body lay.
*Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you've won.*
2. See, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord is living, death has lost its sting.
refrain
3. No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without you: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through your deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to your home above.
refrain

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All hymns used by permission: CCLI licence 398022 Surfcoast Anglican Parish. A Prayer Book for Australia, material from which is included in this service, is copyright ©The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation, 1995.