

The Easter Vigil

and Service of Light



StMARY *with* StALBAN
PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON

THE VIGIL

The ministers enter in silence and in darkness.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the 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. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.

The light by which the readings are to be read is lit.

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of your only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

This is the night in which our Lord Jesus Christ 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 through word and sacrament we share in his victory over death.

As we await the risen Christ, let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the fullness of time sent his Son to be our Redeemer. Let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun.

THE CREATION - *Genesis 1.1–2.4a*

Psalm 104.1-7 - *Psalm response – said by all at the marking 'R':*

All **Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul.
O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!

- 2 You are clothed with majesty and honour,
wrapped in light as in a garment. **R**
- 3 You spread out the heavens like a curtain
and lay the beams of your dwelling place in the waters above.
- 4 You make the clouds your chariot
and ride on the wings of the wind.
- 5 You make the winds your messengers
and flames of fire your servants. **R**
- 6 You laid the foundations of the earth,
that it never should move at any time.
- 7 You covered it with the deep like a garment;
the waters stood high above the hills. **R**

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that we may see God's image restored.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. Your love cannot be contained and overflows in the wonder of creation. You formed the universe out of nothing and moulded us from the clay of the earth. All you have made sings of your marvellous deeds, O Lord, our maker and redeemer. **Amen.**

NOAH AND THE FLOOD - *Genesis 7.1-5,11-18; 8.6-19; 9.8-13*

Psalm 36 - *Psalm response – said by all at the marking 'R':*

All The Lord makes my darkness to be bright.

- 1 Sin whispers to the wicked, in the depths of their heart;
there is no fear of God before their eyes.
- 2 They flatter themselves in their own eyes
that their abominable sin will not be found out. **R**
- 3 The words of their mouth are unrighteous and full of deceit;
they have ceased to act wisely and to do good.
- 4 They think out mischief upon their beds
and have set themselves in no good way;
nor do they abhor that which is evil. **R**

- 5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep;
you, Lord, shall save both man and beast. **R**
- 7 How precious is your loving mercy, O God!
All mortal flesh shall take refuge
under the shadow of your wings.
- 8 They shall be satisfied with the abundance of your house;
they shall drink from the river of your delights. **R**
- 9 For with you is the well of life
and in your light shall we see light.
- 10 O continue your loving-kindness to those who know you
and your righteousness to those who are true of heart. **R**
- 11 Let not the foot of pride come against me,
nor the hand of the ungodly thrust me away.
- 12 There are they fallen, all who work wickedness.
They are cast down and shall not be able to stand.

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God will wash away all that corrupts his work and restore in us the beauty for which we were made.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. In your perfect justice you hate the world's sin. Noah and his family risked ridicule for your sake yet their obedience brought them blessing. Flood our world with the tide of your love and rid us of all that disfigures your glorious creation, O Lord, our maker and redeemer. **Amen.**

CROSSING THE RED SEA - *Exodus 14.10-end; 15.1a*

The Song of Moses and Miriam

All I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously.

1. I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously, ♦
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

2. The Lord is my strength and my song ♦
and has become my salvation.
3. This is my God whom I will praise ♦
the God of my forebears whom I will exalt.
4. The Lord is a warrior, ♦
the Lord is his name.
5. Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in power: ♦
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.
6. At the blast of your nostrils, the sea covered them; ♦
they sank as lead in the mighty waters.
7. In your unfailing love, O Lord, ♦
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.
8. And by your invincible strength ♦
you will guide them to your holy dwelling.
9. You will bring them in and plant them, O Lord, ♦
in the sanctuary which your hands have established.

All I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously.

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God will give freedom to his enslaved people.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. You heard the agony of your people as they cried out from their slavery, and you gave them Moses to lead them to a land flowing with milk and honey. Hear the cry of the enslaved and the homeless today and lead us through the turbulent sea of life to our true home with you, O Lord, our maker and redeemer. **Amen.**

SPRINKLED WITH THE WATER OF LIFE - Ezekiel 36.24-28

Psalm 42.1-7 - Psalm response – said by all at the marking ‘R’:

All My soul longs for you, O God.

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

2. My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God;
when shall I come before the presence of God? **R**
3. My tears have been my bread day and night,
while all day long they say to me, 'Where is now your God?'
4. Now when I think on these things, I pour out my soul:
how I went with the multitude
and led the procession to the house of God,
5. With the voice of praise and thanksgiving,
among those who kept holy day. **R**
6. Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul,
and why are you so disquieted within me?
- 7 O put your trust in God;
for I will yet give him thanks,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God. **R**

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God will give to the thirsting a new outpouring of his refreshing spirit.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. When we are overwhelmed by the wasting world, gather us again and renew us. Create in us a new heart and a renewed spirit, that we may be a people prepared to live in your land and walk in your ways, O Lord, our maker and redeemer. **Amen.**

THE RIVER OF LIFE - Ezekiel 47.1-12

Psalm 46.1-5 - *Psalm response – said by all at the marking 'R':*

All God is our refuge and strength

1. God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble;
2. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea; **R**
3. Though the waters rage and swell,
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.

4. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High. **R**
5. God is in the midst of her;
therefore shall she not be removed;
God shall help her at the break of day. **R**

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that God's justice will flow like rivers in the deserts of this world.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. The river of life flows from your heart and where that stream goes everything bursts into flower. May your refreshing water be a torrent of life in the deserts of this world, bringing food to eat and healing to the nations, O Lord, our maker and redeemer. **Amen.**

JONAH AND THE FISH - *Jonah 1.1– 2.10*

Psalm 130 *Psalm response – said by all at the marking 'R':*

All With the Lord there is mercy.

1. Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice;
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
2. If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss,
O Lord, who could stand? **R**
3. But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you shall be feared.
4. I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;
in his word is my hope.
5. My soul waits for the Lord,
more than the night watch for the morning,
more than the night watch for the morning. **R**
6. O Israel, wait for the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy;

7. With him is plenteous redemption
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins. **R**

Silence is kept.

Let us pray that we may share God's heart of compassion for the lost.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation. In the face of wickedness and disobedience you still looked lovingly on the people of Nineveh and your prophet Jonah. As we see your mighty salvation, turn the hearts of the wicked to the ways of your love, that the whole world might return to you, O Lord, our maker and redeemer. **Amen.**

The Vigil will lead gently into the Service of Light. In the intervening period, you are invited to remain seated in silence

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

The building being in darkness, the ministers go in silence to the main entrance, one of them carrying the unlit Easter Candle.

The new fire is lit outside at this point. That fire is then blessed as the new fire from which the Easter Candle is lit.

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: set us aflame with the fire of your love and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Easter Candle is marked

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages; to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever.

All Amen.

Nails or incense studs may be inserted into the Easter Candle.

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

All Amen.

The minister bearing the Candle raises it and says or sings (three times)

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

THE EXSULTET

The Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) is sung by a minister standing near the Candle.

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

The Gloria in Excelsis is used, during which all the candles in the church are lit from the Easter Candle, the lights are switched on and the people's candles extinguished. Bells are rung as the Gloria is sung [tune: Ode to Joy]

**All Glory be to God in heaven,
peace to those who love him well;
On the earth let all his people
speak His grace, His wonders tell.
Lord we praise you for your glory,
Mighty Father heaven's King
Hear our joyful adoration
And accept the thanks we bring
Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sins away;
Now with Him in triumph seated,
For your mercy Lord, we pray.
Jesus Christ most high and holy,
Saviour you are God alone.
In the glory of the Father,
with the Spirit three in one.**

THE COLLECT

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

A period of silent prayer is kept.

Grant, Lord, that we who are baptized into the death of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually put to death our evil desires and be

buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection; through his merits, who died and was buried and rose again for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE FIRST READING - *Romans 6.3–11, read by a member of the congregation*

Do 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.

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. 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.

This is the word of the Lord,

All Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia.
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia.
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia.
suffer 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 pains that he endured, Alleluia.
our salvation have procured; Alleluia.
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia.
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING – *John 20: 1-18*

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. **Alleluia.**
He has defeated the powers of death. **Alleluia.**
Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing. **Alleluia.**
He has the words of eternal life. **Alleluia.**

✠ Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' ¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' which means Teacher. ¹⁷Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All **I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 to the dead. 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.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All **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 LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said 'Peace be with you'. Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you. Alleluia**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace with the following greeting:

Christ is Risen

OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Jesus lives! thy terrors now
can no more, O death, appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us.
Alleluia.

2. Jesus lives! henceforth is death
but the gate of life immortal:
this shall calm our trembling breath,
when we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluia.

3. Jesus lives! for us he died;
then, alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our Saviour giving.
Alleluia.

4. Jesus lives! our hearts know well,
naught from us his love shall sever;
life nor death nor powers of hell
tear us from his keeping ever.
Alleluia.

5. Jesus lives! to him the throne
over all the world is given:
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven.
Alleluia.

Lord of life, with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise. As we are fed with the bread of heaven may we know your resurrection power; through Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation proclaim for ever the hymn of your glory:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

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

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit ✠, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in this night when he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: *Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: *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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*

Let us proclaim the miracle of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation, and as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Jesus says, I am the bread of life, whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

All Lord, our hearts hunger for you; give us this bread always.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world; grant us peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Everyone is welcome to come forward for Holy Communion or a blessing. Please note that we no longer intinct (dip the bread).

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you that you graciously feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. By this you assure us of your favour and goodness towards us: we are incorporated into the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; we are heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom, by the merits of Christ's precious death and passion. Assist us with your grace, heavenly Father, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and walk in goodness the way you have prepared for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

SENDING OUT

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

1. Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.
2. For Judah's Lion burst his chains,
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him, from death's domain
the long-imprisoned dead.
3. From hell's devouring jaws the prey
alone our leader bore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where he has gone before.
4. Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all;
earth, heaven and hell before him bow
and at his footstool fall.
5. While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.
6. All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost to thee,
while endless ages run.

Alleluia. Amen.

THE SOLEMN BLESSING OF EASTER

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.


Amen.

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The ministers and people depart.



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