



*The Great Vigil of Easter proclaims God's victory over sin and death through Christ's resurrection. Traditionally, the Easter Vigil begins at sunset on Saturday, in keeping with the ancient Jewish/Christian understanding of evening as the start of a new day. The Easter Vigil consists of four movements: the Service of Light, rejoicing in the coming of Christ as the light of the world; the Service of Readings, remembering the story of God's mighty acts through history, leading up to Jesus' resurrection; the Service of Baptism, welcoming new members of Christ's body and reaffirming God's covenant with us; and the Service of Eucharist, giving thanks for new life in Christ and anticipating the joyful feast of the realm of God.*

## Service of Light

### OPENING SENTENCES

The Reverend Todd E. Leach

John 1:1-5

*The new fire is lighted.*

### OPENING PRAYER

The Reverend Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ You have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and kindle in us the desire to shine with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of Righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### LIGHTING THE PASCHAL CANDLE

**Pastor:** The light of Christ rises in glory,

**People:** **Casting out the shadow of sin and death.**

### EXSULTET (Easter Proclamation)

**Pastor:** Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ our King is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

**People:** **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

**Pastor:** Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever!

**People:** **Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

Pastor: Rejoice, O mother Church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let all places where your Church is present resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

**People: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Jesus Christ our King is risen!**

Pastor: The Lord be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right and good that with hearts and minds and voices we should praise You, Father almighty, the unseen God, through Your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who by His precious blood, redeemed us from bondage to the ancient sin, and reconciled us once again to You.

**People: Glory to You for ever.**

Pastor: For this is the Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

**People: Glory to You for ever.**

Pastor: This is the night when You first saved our ancestors, freeing Israel from her slavery and leading her safely through the sea.

**People: Glory to You for ever.**

Pastor: This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell, broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

**People: Glory to You for ever.**

Pastor: This is the night when all who believe in Him are freed from sin, restored to grace and holiness, and share the victory of Christ.

**People: Glory to You for ever.**

Pastor: This is the night that gave us back what we had lost; beyond our deepest dreams, You made even our sin a happy fault.

**People: Glory to You for ever.**

**Pastor:** Most blessed of all nights! Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away, lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

**People:** **Glory to You for ever.**

**Pastor:** Night truly blessed, when hatred is cast out, peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth and all creation reconciled to You.

**People:** **Glory to You for ever.**

**Pastor:** Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy, accept our sacrifice of praise, Your Church's solemn offering, grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light. For Christ the morning star has risen in glory; Christ is risen from the dead and His flame of love still burns within us! Christ sheds His peaceful light on all the world! Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People:** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## PRAYER

### Service of Readings

#### THE STORY OF CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:2 (paraphrased)

Elder Carey A. Harris

#### THE GREAT FLOOD

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:8-18; 9:8-13 (paraphrased)

Deacon Nathan N. Boyle

#### DELIVERANCE AT THE SEA

Exodus 14:10-15:1 (paraphrased)

Deacon Adam D. Loucks

#### THE FREE GIFT OF SALVATION

Isaiah 55:1-11

Elder Linda G. Leach

#### A NEW HEART AND SPIRIT

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Nadia J. Leach

## THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Elder Robert B. Luthultz

Zephaniah 3:12-20

### EPISTLE READING

Romans 6:3-11

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL READING

John 20:1-18

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Service of Baptism

### SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 27

Pastor: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

People: **In the one Spirit we are all baptized into one body. We are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.**

### RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Pastor: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

People: **I renounce them.**

Pastor: Who is your Lord and Savior?

People: **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Pastor: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying Christ's word and showing Christ's love?

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

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor: Do you believe and trust in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth?

**People: I believe and trust in God.**

Pastor: Do you believe and trust in His Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world?

**People: I believe and trust in Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God?

**People: I believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: This is the faith of the Church.

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

## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Gracious God, by water and the Spirit You claimed us as Your own ...  
... in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## Service of the Eucharist

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Blessed are you, O Lord our God ...  
... Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we bless You, God  
of glory, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People:** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

**People:** **Amen.**

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

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**People:** **Amen.**

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

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People:** **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Soli Deo gloria!*

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*Thank you for worshipping with us virtually this day.*

## Easter Service of Worship Online

..... Sunday, April 12, at 11:00 a.m. Online .....

Celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord with us online in a virtual worship service! The Reverend Dr. John A. Dalles will preach a sermon titled, "Faith's Fair Vision," based on Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 and Matthew 28:1-10. Musical offerings from the Chancel Choir include virtual recordings and archival selections; brass and organ recordings also will enhance our music on this festival day.

For more information, including access instructions, visit the website: [www.shadysidepres.org/holy-week](http://www.shadysidepres.org/holy-week)

### Today from Shadyside Presbyterian Church

**We extend our thanks to Stephen M. Donnelly** for his post-production and editing work on today's video. We also gratefully acknowledge the helpful contributions of the Session's task force for online worship: Elders John E. B. Baldrige, Brigetta P. Del Re, and Victoria L. Potter, who assisted in coordinating the logistics of presenting a virtual service of worship on the Internet in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Church Staff

John A. Dalles, *Interim Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*

Todd E. Leach, *Associate Pastor for Missions*

Lynn M. Portz, *Associate Pastor for Parish Life*

Kendra L. Buckwalter Smith, *Temporary Associate Pastor*

Ellen L. Allston, *Director of Christian Education for  
Children's Ministry*

Mark A. Anderson, *Director of Music Ministry*

Peter F. Bodnar, *Director of Communications*

Jane M. Boyle, *Assistant Children's Choir Director*

Steven M. Bright, *Hospitality Coordinator*

Judy A. Brust, *Accountant*

Robert A. Coder, *Director of Finance*

Wayne W. Diggs, *Sexton*

Stephen M. Donnelly, *Associate for Children's Music  
Education*

Della L. Ellard, *Administrative Assistant*

Ruth E. Garrett, *Assistant to the Senior Pastor*

Mary E. Lang, *Director of the Nursery School*

Dennis H. Martin, *Head Sexton*

Bobby C. Pack Jr., *Sexton*

Nancy M. Shaytar, *Director of Finance Emerita*

Kaysie L. Strickland, *Assistant to the Associate Pastors*

Justin M. Wallace, *Assistant Organist*

#### A Member of the Pittsburgh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

*Shadyside Presbyterian Church seeks to reflect God's unconditional love as we proclaim, witness to, and celebrate the good news of Jesus Christ. We strive to be a worshiping, welcoming, learning, and serving community of faith that is comforted, challenged, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.*

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