



# **The Three Holy Days and Easter**

*Adaptations of  
Maundy Thursday, Good Friday,  
Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday Rituals  
for Family and Household Prayer*

Adapted from the BAS and other sources listed,  
with thanks, by the Bishop of Huron  
and authorized for use in the  
Diocese of Huron, Easter 2020.

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## Introduction:

**T**hese services have been created to support our prayer “apart-but-together” through this most holy time as a Diocese across Huron.

They are designed to help deepen your relationship with God and with one another, to support you in prayer and ritual in your home, even while we pray for and serve those who have no place to call home.

These don’t have to be done “perfectly”, it may even feel awkward, but your desire to **try** — and your desire to know Christ’s presence — alone will be enough for you to enjoy all of the benefits.

Those with internet resources will have options added to link to audio and video supplements. Those without internet will be able to use these print materials alone.

I pray that God will use these times to bring us together in a new way for the sake of the world God so loves.

*Yours in Christ,*

+Todd





# Maundy Thursday

*(after sundown, Thursday April 9, 2020)*

## **Introduction:**

The Three Holy Days (Triduum Sacrum) and Easter are the high point of the Christian year. The first day begins with sundown on Thursday and continues until sundown on Friday. Maundy Thursday may be celebrated as the first part of day one, often at sundown, remembering Jesus' command to love and serve one another as he loves and serves us. The ritual of footwashing models and symbolizes this life of loving service. This connects all of our daily service with Jesus' summons to do so in love.

Even when we are unable to gather together at the church to celebrate Eucharist, we are still called to be a eucharistic people, giving thanks and praise for all that God has done, is doing, and will do in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our own table fellowship within the household, or with friends over a videoconference or phone call, is a participation in Christ's call to "do this in memory of me"—and we rejoice.

## **Preparation:**

**Meal**—prepare a simple meal to enjoy in your home and to share, where possible, with others in your household. This meal may include a bit of wine and bread.

**Washing**—for those observing footwashing set up a washbasin, a pitcher with warm water, and a few towels in a place near the table. Even if you do not observe this ritual, it may be helpful to set up the basin, water, and towels as a symbol of Jesus' action in the gospel reading and his summons to serve one another.

**Participation**—all of these services have been written so that various parts can be shared among those present. (please follow current guidelines regarding the size and nature of gatherings from government and health authorities). Where there are children, please encourage them to take a part in

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leading, in choosing a place in the home for the ritual, or in helping with the actions. The parts are divided into “One” (read by one person) or “All” (read by all). Anyone who is worshipping alone physically is nevertheless gathered by the Holy Spirit with the rest of the church in prayer. Those worshipping alone may choose to adapt by leaving out the dialogues between “One” and “All”. You may omit other texts as seems appropriate, or alter them to fit the circumstances.

## + The Gathering +

**One:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** **And also with you.**

**One:** Let us pray. *(Allow a brief time of silence before starting the prayer.)*

Holy God, source of all love,  
on the night of his betrayal,  
Jesus gave us a new commandment,  
to love one another as he loves us.  
Write this commandment in our hearts,  
and give us the will to serve others  
as he was servant of all,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**All:** **Amen.**

*“One” or another person continues,*

As we prepare to serve our meal, let us begin by washing, cleansing our hands as we were cleansed in the waters of baptism. We do this not because we are afraid, but because we are commanded to love. So we cleanse our hands as an expression of love for the vulnerable people Jesus loved. May we be instruments of God’s care. May the sacrifices we make be for the good of our human family near and far.

*Each person present then washes their hands thoroughly with soap and water.  
Once washed each should help with setting the table as they are able.*

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## + The Blessings +

*When the table has been set, all gather around the table, standing as able.  
After a time of silence, "One" offers the following blessings.*

### **Over Wine**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine; and you refresh us with the cup of salvation in the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May the time come quickly when we can share that cup again, even as you are with us now in our very thirst for you. Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Over Bread**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You bring forth bread from the earth; and you have fed us on our way with the bread of life in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ. Let us be fed again soon with that bread of life. As grain scattered upon the earth is gathered into one loaf, so gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Over the Other Foods**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our hunger. Let this food strengthen us in the fast that is before us, that following our Saviour in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## + The Meal +

*The meal is now eaten. If several are gathered, they first serve one another, then dine.*

## + The Word and the Prayers +

*At the end of the meal, someone reads John 13.1-17.*

*This scripture passage may be read from your Bible or using the copy of the passage provided as an appendix to this service.*

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*If there is to be a footwashing, it takes place immediately after the reading. Simply move to where the basin, pitcher, and towels are placed. The One starts the footwashing. Then those present may wash the feet of one another. This action should include no conversation, and be carried out in silence. When the footwashing is finished and all participating have washed their hands, people return to the table.*

*A simple hymn may be sung.*

*The following psalm is said after the footwashing/handwashing. If there is more than one participant, it may be said in unison, or the verses may be alternated, with one voice praying the odd numbered verses and everyone else saying the even number verses.*

### **Psalm 63:1-8**

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place;  
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;  
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you,  
your right hand holds me fast.

### **Prayers of the People**

**One:** I invite each and all of you to name those people and places for whom we should pray and remember this night.

*Time is allowed for people to do so.*

*“One” concludes with one of the following prayers:*

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O God of the crucified and risen One,  
from whom no trial or trouble can separate us:  
you feed us with your Word  
and soothe us with your Spirit, closer to us than breath itself.  
Make us glad this night for the life of your servant Jesus;  
Make us servants of all for the sake of Jesus;  
who for our sake gave his life for the salvation of all.  
In the Name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

*After a brief time of silence, people may say "good night" to any of those with whom they shared this time online or over the phone.*

### **Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet**

*John 13.1-17*

**13** Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him.

During supper <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup> got up from the table,<sup>[a]</sup> took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. <sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup> Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup> Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,<sup>[b]</sup> but is entirely clean. And you<sup>[c]</sup> are clean, though not all of you." <sup>11</sup> For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

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12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14 So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15 For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16 Very truly, I tell you, servants<sup>[d]</sup> are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.



# Good Friday

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## The Celebration of the Lord's Passion

(sometime BEFORE sundown, Friday April 10, 2020)

**Participation**—to prepare for this service, you will need to have a copy of the Bible, and a cross (or picture of a cross) to be placed on a table or place of honour for viewing during the Meditation on the Cross. You may also wish to use candles as part of the Meditation.

### + The Ministry of the Word +

**One:** All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have all turned to our own way.

**All:** **And the Lord has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.**

**One:** Christ the Lord became obedient unto death.

**All:** **Even death on a cross.**

**One:** Almighty God,

**All:** **we have sinned**

**in thought and word and deed;**

**we have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**We pray you of your mercy,**

**Forgive us all that is past,**

**and grant that we may serve you in newness of life**

**to the glory of your name. Amen.**

### The Collect of the Day

**One:** Almighty God, look graciously, we pray, on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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## Psalm 22.1-7, 14-19

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of  
my groaning?
- 2 My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;  
by night, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our ancestors put their trust in you,  
they trusted, and you rescued them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered;  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and not human,  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn;  
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the  
roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of death.
- 16 Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me;  
they pierce my hands and my feet.
- 17 I can count all my bones; while they stare at me and gloat.
- 18 They divide my garments among them;  
for my clothing, they cast lots.
- 19 But you, O LORD, be not far away;  
O my help, hasten to my aid.

### Passion Gospel

*John 18.1-19.42*

*In households of more than one, the reading may be divided up into sections  
and read by different individuals.*

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## + The Solemn Intercession +

*If you have a Book of Alternative Services, you may wish to use the form that begins on p. 309. The following form may be used instead, the text in bold indicating how to alter petitions if there is more than one participant:*

Confident that Jesus Christ hears our prayer, we/I offer petitions with an open heart:

For the church, for Todd our bishop,  
for N. our church leaders,  
and for all people who live their lives in service of God:

**May they know the intimacy of authentic relationship with Christ.**

For all preparing for baptism or confirmation,  
And all those who must wait for a time when the church may gather again:

**May they respond to their baptismal call with courage, opening their hearts to the invitation of God.**

For all who are sick or suffering in body, mind, or spirit:

**May they know the great compassion of God through those who care for them.**

For peace in our families, communities, nation, and world:

**May all seek resolution to disagreement and difference in ways that protect the life and dignity of all people.**

For all who are unemployed or underemployed:

**May they find opportunities to use their gifts for the service of others in ways that are sustaining and life-giving.**

For all who grieve:

**May they know the consolation of hope found in Christ.**

*Other petitions and intercessions may be added.*

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*This form concludes with the following prayer:*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,  
look favourably 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.**

## **+ Meditation on the Cross of Jesus +**

*Place a cross on a table or some other place of honour, adding candles if you wish. Be sure to allow some time in silent reflection as you gaze upon the cross and grow in relationship with Jesus.*

*Part of the beauty of the Meditation on the Cross is the time for personal prayer and reflection, as well as performing individual acts of reverence. You may wish to touch the cross, or show another suitable sign, such as a bow or kiss. Take your time with this Meditation; there is no need to rush.*

*Do not let this time be cluttered by words but bask in the power of the cross as a symbol of not only death but ultimately of Resurrection. To begin and end the time of reflection, simply proclaim and respond with the following:*

**One:** Christ our Lord became obedient unto death.

**People:** **Come let us worship.**

*You are encouraged to end your time of meditation with a favourite hymn that extols the victory of the Cross, or with this simple anthem:*

**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
Because by your holy cross you redeemed the world.**

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If we have died with him, we shall also live with him;  
If we endure, we shall also reign with him.

Thanks be to God. Amen.



# The Great Vigil of Easter



(after sundown, Saturday April 11, 2020)

**Participation**—*This is the night when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell and rose victorious from the grave. This Vigil is offered in the hopes of being the first celebration of the Great Fifty Days of Easter.*

*This service could take place after dinner, but before dessert. It is a celebration and a breaking of the Lenten fast— baked goods, celebratory beverages, treats to mark this night — should be prepared in advance for the conclusion of this service.*

*A special candle should be set aside for this service, ideally a pillar candle that can burn throughout Easter in a space of comfort and respite. Comfortable seating is encouraged for this service.*

**All:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **Amen.**

## Lighting an Easter Light

*If possible, the home should be in darkness. Perhaps the service doesn't begin until after sunset. Someone lights the designated candle.*

**One:** This is the light of Christ!

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

*Then the Exultet, the Easter Proclamation is said or sung. One person may say the whole thing, or it may be shared among leaders. If you are feeling adventurous, you can sing or chant the words!*

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!

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Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes for ever! Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory! The risen Saviour shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

**One:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

**One:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and voices we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful Father, and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. For Christ had ransomed us with his blood, and paid for us the price of Adam's sin to our eternal Father!

This is our Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.

This is the night when first you saved our forebears: you freed the people of Israel from their slavery and led them dry-shod through the sea.

This is the night when Christians everywhere, washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement, are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

Father, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless your merciful love! To ransom a slave you gave away your Son. The power of this holy night dispels all evil, washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy. Night truly blessed when heaven is wedded to earth and we are reconciled with God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night, receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering. Accept

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this Easter candle. May it always dispel the darkness of this night! May the Morning Star which never sets find this flame still burning: Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead, and shed his peaceful light on all creation, your Son who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*This candle can be burned for the remainder of the Great Fifty Days whenever a family gathers to eat or someone sits for quiet.*

## Hearing the Story of our Salvation

*The following stories are read aloud. After each story, those who have memories connected to the stories or want to share something about the reading can share. This is a night for telling stories of good news. After the story, someone says the prayer.*

### I. God creates the heavens and the earth.

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. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding

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seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

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God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

*Genesis 1.1-2.2 (NRSV)*

**One:** The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Stories about the Creation story — and stories about creation, the land, teachings, and God's work — may be shared.*

### **Prayer**

**One:** *Almighty and eternal God, you created all things in wonderful beauty and order. Help us now to perceive how more wonderful is the new creation by which in the fullness of time you redeemed your people through the sacrifice of our Passover, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **II. God saves the People by taking them through the sea.**

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

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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

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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 Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

*Exodus 14.10-15.1 (NRSV)*

**One:** The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Stories about getting away safe, God delivering the people, or unexpected blessings may be shared.*

### **Prayer**

**One:** *God of steadfast love, your wonderful deeds of old shine forth through all eternity. By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered 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.*

### **III. God Promises Us a New Heart**

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.

*Ezekiel 36:24-28 (NRSV)*

*Stories about forgiveness, reconciliation, personal encounters with God, may be shared.*

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## Prayer

**One:** *Almighty and Everlasting God, in the paschal mystery you established the new covenant of reconciliation. Grant that all who are born again in baptism may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith. Grant this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## IV. We too have passed through the waters, like Israel.

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.

*Romans 6.3-11 (NRSV)*

**One:** The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Tell the story of your own baptism, or the day of your confirmation.*

**One:** Let's hear the most important story - the story of an empty tomb.

## V. Mary Magdalene meets the Angel at the empty tomb.

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

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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."

*Matthew 28.1-10 (NRSV)*

What do you feel Jesus is saying to you through this story of the resurrection? Share what you feel the story is saying to you at this time. After the sharing, everyone can take turns proclaiming the resurrection. You are encouraged to ring bells, play instruments, drums, even pots and pans – now is the time to make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**One:** Alleluia! Christ is risen! **All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### **Prayer**

**One:** *Eternal Giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth, and shine as a light in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

### **Remembering Promises, Giving Thanks and Telling the Story**

**One:** *Let us pray for those whose baptisms are delayed because of the pandemic, let us remember those who have been preparing for confirmation and will be waiting as well. Let us hear God's acts of salvation through water and Spirit.*

**One:** *Having remembered those who will be baptized, and hearing how we have been joined to Christ in baptism, let us reaffirm our baptismal promises.*

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**All: 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.**

**With God's help, I will continue in the apostles' teaching and  
fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.**

**With God's help, I will persevere in resisting evil, and whenever  
I fall into sin, return to the Lord.**

**With God's help, I will proclaim by word and example the Good  
News of God in Christ.**

**With God's help, I will seek and serve Christ in all persons,  
loving my neighbor as myself.**

**With God's help, I will strive for justice and peace among all  
people and respect the dignity of every human being.**

**With God's help, I will strive to safeguard the integrity of God's  
creation, and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the Earth.**

*One: God the creator, the rock of our salvation, you have given  
us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed  
upon us the forgiveness of sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

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*By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to our calling, now and forever. Amen.*

### Sharing an Easter Feast

*Even though we are not able to gather together for the Eucharist, Christ is present whenever two or three are gathered in his name, and the disciples knew him in the breaking of the bread.*

**One:** Alleluia! Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us!

**All:** **Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

**One:** When we share our bread with one another

**All:** **The Lamb of God will make us one.**

*An in-home party commences. Dancing, music, hymn singing, and playlists full of alleluias are encouraged. Christ is risen and alive – so, let's celebrate!*

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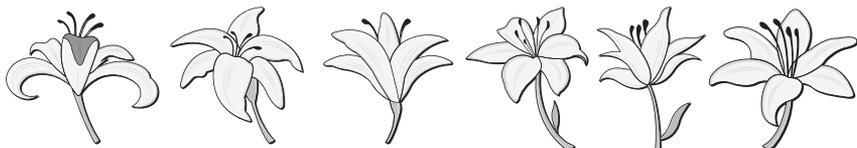
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# Easter Sunday



Please watch for the Diocese of Huron Easter Video with readings, songs, and prayers from across the diocese and a video homily from Bishop Todd.

[www.diohuron.org](http://www.diohuron.org)



*Portions of these rite have been provided by and/or adapted from The Rev. Dr. James Farwell and Dr. Lisa Kimball of Virginia Theological Seminary, The Rev. Dr. David Gartner, Diocese of Spokane, The Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Dr. Jay Koyle, Diocese of Algoma.*

*The hand washing prayers provided by The Rev. Josephine Robertson, All Saints Episcopal Church, Bellevue, WA. All used or adapted with permission.*

*The Vigil service has been adapted from an adaption by The Rev. Dr. Kara Mandryk and The Rt. Rev. William Cliff from: "Keeping Vigil for the Resurrection at Home" and the BCP (1979) by The Rev. Joseph Peters-Mathews, St. Hilda St. Patrick, Edmonds, WA. With thanks.*

*<https://www.barefoottheology.com/2020/03/19/at-home-worship/> and the Book of Alternative Services (1985), The Anglican Church of Canada.*



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