# HE IS RISEN



#### The Great Vigil of Easter

This is one of if not the oldest of Christian worship services. Christians have been celebrating Jesus' resurrection since the time of the apostles, although the oldest written evidence concerning Easter's observance dates to about the year 150AD. The oldest mention of the Vigil service is found in The Apostolic Tradition of Hippolytus which dates to about the year 215AD. The Vigil was originally held at night, marking the moment when Jesus Christ was resurrected in the tomb, passing from death to new life. Recall that when the women disciples went to his tomb very early on Easter morning (while it was still dark, John 20:1), they found the stone rolled away and Jesus was already alive. So the early Christians began observing that moment as the start of the yearly Easter celebration by holding a vigil overnight. The service usually involved baptisms of catechumenates (those preparing to become Christians). It also centered on a lengthy series of Scripture readings, from four to twelve, recounting the journey of Israel at Passover, interspersed with psalms and canticles, followed by Holy Communion. By the 6<sup>th</sup> century the service became more elaborate with the kindling of fire and the singing of the Exultet (a chanted hymn celebrating Jesus' resurrection, see Book of Common Prayer p. 286). It was widely observed in both the East and the West by the 7<sup>th</sup> century.



#### **Prelude** Now the Green Blade Riseth

#### **Blessing of the Pascal Candle**

The Light of Christ. Deacon Thanks be to God. People

#### Deacon begins the Exsultet

Deacon	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Deacon	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Deacon continues the Exsultet

#### Lesson Exodus 14:21-15:2

Seated

Standing

Intoned 3 times

The Great Vigil of Easter

St. Francis Memorial Garden

March 31, 2024 7:15am

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 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. The Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

People

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Collect

#### Lesson Ezekiel 37:1-14

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, "Prophesy 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, "Prophesy 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."

The Word of the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

#### Collect

Renewal of l	Renewal of Baptismal Vows Standing	
Celebrant	Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?	
People	I do.	
Celebrant People	Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.	
Celebrant People	Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? 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 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.
Celebrant People	Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? 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.
Celebrant People	Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? <b>I will, with God's help.</b>
Celebrant People	Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? <b>I will, with God's help.</b>
Celebrant People	Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? I will, with God's help.
Celebrant People	Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? I will, with God's help.
Celebrant People	Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? I will, with God's help.

#### **Concluding Prayer**

Celebrant	Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People	The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

#### **Collect for Easter Sunday**

The Gospel Mark 16:1-8

DeaconThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the

week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Seated

Standing

DeaconThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Calvin Lane

#### The Peace

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

#### Announcements

**Offering** You may make an offering after the service. The plate is located near the steps to the garden. Offering may also be given online <u>stgeorgesdayton.org</u> or mail to St. George's 5520 Far Hills Ave. Dayton, OH 45429.

#### Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving	
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.
Celebrant co	ontinues with Preface Therefore we praise you,
	A rehencels and with all the company of heaven

*Celebrant continues with Preface...* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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.

Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer ...

PeopleTherefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:<br/>Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer. At the conclusion, the people join, Amen.

#### Celebrant 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.

#### The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant	Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!
People	Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

#### **Directions for receiving Communion**

- All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive; if you have not been baptized, you are welcome to cross your arms for a blessing.
- Gluten-free wafers are available, please indicate your need when receiving.
- If you prefer to intinct (dip) your wafer instead of drinking from the chalice, a lay minister with a small intinction cup will follow the chalice. The larger chalice is only for drinking.
- If you prefer to receive only the wafer, please cross your arms when the chalice and intinction cup pass by.

#### **Communion Anthem**

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Standing

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**The Easter Blessing** 

Closing Hymn Jesus Christ is risen today

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

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!

#### Dismissal

Deacon	Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People	Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### Postlude



St. George's Episcopal Church 5520 Far Hills Avenue, Dayton, OH 45429 <u>administrator@stgeorgeohio.org</u> 937-434-1781 Office Hours: Mon - Thur 8am-3pm

*St. George's is a parish of the Diocese of Southern Ohio and a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.* 



### Easter Flowers Given to the Clory of God and...

In memory of my parents, Dr. Isaac Aikens & Mrs. Jane Anim By Mamle Anim

In memory of Sally Abbott Pomputius By Susan, Dory, William & Nicholas Ayres

> In memory of Ken Berta By Fred & Phyllis Berta

In memory of Michael Best; James & St. Claire D'Wolf By Ward & Thelma Best

In memory of William F. Cissel By Susan Cissel

> To the Glory of God By Nata Collier

In memory of our loved ones in the love of the Risen Christ By The Rev. Dr. David & Marty Cottrill

In memory of Bernadine Crouch By Eric Crouch

In memory of Rachel Trocino By Rose Crouch In memory of Adele Good By Anne, Peter, Ben & Adele Davis

> In memory of Cynthia Emmel By Jeff & Connor Emmel

In memory of David L. Friedlander and Gertrude & Bernard Shay By Elizabeth Λ. Friedlander

> In memory of our loved ones who have passed before us By Lisa & Steve Galloway

In memory of Ralph & Lois Stahl By The Gerberick Family

In memory of Janet M. Hand & Dr. Curt Lowary By Dr. David D. Hand

In memory of Melanie A. Hitch By David Hitch

In honor of our Family, past and present By The Hodges In memory of Eugene Huffman By Charlotte Huffman In memory of loved ones By Marilyn Judd

In memory of Ashford Keeton Jr./ Jomo Kwame Washington By Leanora Keeton

In memory of Patricia Knowles By Andrew Knowles

In memory of Nathaniel Chase & Neal Chase By Jane Kuhlke

> In memory of Fred Labadie By Matt Labadie

In memory of Jane Lamb By Bill & Mara Lamb

In memory of Val & Cerri Seifert, Dr. Diana Seifert & John Seifert By Anne Larkins

> To the Glory of God By Andy & Lilli Longinow

In memory of departed family By Jane McGee-Rafal

In memory of Barbara T. Butler By Alfred S. Millard In memory of Cindy Emmel By Jen Miller

In memory of our parents By mike & Joanne Mushala



In memory of Cyril Nicol Jr. & James Hawthorne Jr. By the Nicol Family

In memory of Vincent Ifekandu, Mama Nwakeze Okocha, and all our loved ones By the Okocha Family

> In memory of our parents, Eldon & Lucille Recher and Roy Combes & Jeanette Fratellio By Joe & Becky Recher

> In memory of Doris & Joe Renos By Doug & Bev Reno

> In memory of Rose & Ed Thornhill By Doug & Bev Reno

> In memory of John & Bertha Tuth, and Charles Reusing By Ginny Reusing

In memory of Christine Miller & Karen Petrus By Stephanie Rice

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In memory of John M. Rich By Sara E. Rich & Family

In memory of our parents By Marian & Clenn Rodgers

In memory of family & friends By Charles Roup & Sandy Nowacki

> In memory of Kent Scholl By Wendy Scholl

In memory of Clara M. Totten; Melville & Ruby Totten By James Totten



In memory of Danny, Marilyn, & Cindy By Marcia Treadway

In memory of all the Gentners & Tribbles who have gone before us By Elayne Tribble

> In memory of my husband, James Henry Van Tassel By Mary C. Van Tassel

In memory of Jerry Cochran By The Volkmer Family

In memory of Mary Louise Workman By John & Gayle Workman

The clergy and staff of St. George's wish you and yours a happy and blessed Eastertide.

## The Weekly Messenger

#### **PARISH EASTER BRUNCH**

Easter Sunday brunch will be held at 10am in the Undercroft. \*No education or coffee hour today



#### **Short Eucharist with Healing Prayer**

Wednesdays at Noon in Easter Season (April 3-May I5) - Given the strong turn-out we've had with our Wednesday Stations, we'll keep up the momentum with a short Eucharist (25 min max) in the Chapel; brief mediation rather than sermon. The focus will be intercessory prayer. Optional Brown Bag lunch follows.

#### HOPE SQUAD (April 2nd deadline)

We are looking for volunteers to join our Squad to help prepare casseroles on a quarterly basis for the benefit of Casseroles of Hope. Interested? Please contact Anne Larkins: ann.larkins@yahoo.com.

#### SECOND SUNDAY SUPPER—April 14, 5pm



Please join us in the Undercroft for a time of fun, food, & fellowship. We hope that you can come whether you're able to bring a dish or not!! Event Contact: Sue Simmons.

#### HYMN SING—April 14, 6:15pm

Following our Second Sunday Supper will be a Hymn Sing performed by St. George's Praise Team. This event will be held in the Undercroft.

#### FELLOWSHIP @ LOOSE ENDS BREWERY—April 18, 4-6pm

Gather with your church friends and clergy for informal fellowship. Take time for a beer or soft drink and meet us at Loose Ends— 890 S. Main Street, Centerville.



#### NORTHWEST REGIONAL GATHERING—April 28, 4pm

All are invited to a regional gathering hosted at St. George's to meet our new bishop. There will be an Evensong with light reception and presentations to follow.

#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Wed-Fri, June 26, 27, 28 (9am-Noon). See the sign up board in the Welcome Lounge to volunteer. Online enrollment begins today! Contact the Rev. Dr. Cal Lane (associate@stgeorgeohio.org) or Sharon Oldham(vbs@stgeorgeohio.org).



**SABBATICAL** This summer our rector will be on sabbatical, beginning in June. Every seven years clergy are granted time off for reflection, refreshment, study and renewal. It is also a time for parishes to reflect on where they are, where they have accomplished, and what lies ahead. Please keep Rev. Phillips and his family in prayer as they prepare for sabbatical, as well as the wardens, vestry, parish staff and lay leadership as they adjust for the rector's absence during these summer months.