



Holy Saturday  
Story Night Vigil  
April 11, 2020

## Beginning

*In near darkness*

*Leader* God is light; in God there is no darkness at all.  
*People* **Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord**

*Leader* The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness  
has not overcome it.  
*People* **Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord**

*Leader* You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.  
*People* **Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord**

*Leader* God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused  
his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—  
the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.  
*People* **Dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by your  
brightness we may know you to be the true God and  
eternal light, living and reigning for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*All take their candles, and the Leader continues*

How blessed is this night when earth and heaven are joined, and  
humanity is reconciled to God.

Therefore, O Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice,  
the offering of this candle in your honor,  
the work of bees and of your servants' hands,  
the gift of your most Holy Church.

*Leader and People together*

**May it mingle with the lights of heaven, and shine continually to  
drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no  
setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation,  
and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Everyone lights their candles. When all candles are lit, the Leader continues*

*Leader* Light and Peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Stories

*The People take turns telling short stories of times in their lives of darkness, doubt, despair, and deliverance.*

### Scripture Reading: Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

*Exodus 14:10—15:1*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsive Canticle Reading

*The Song of Moses*

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; \*  
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.

**The Lord is my strength and my refuge; \*  
the Lord has become my Savior.**

This is my God and I will praise him, \*  
the God of my people and I will exalt him.

**The Lord is a mighty warrior; \*  
The Lord is his Name.**

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; \*  
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

**The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; \*  
they sank into the depths like a stone.**

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; \*  
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

**Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? \*  
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown,  
and worker of wonders?**

You stretched forth your right hand; \*  
the earth swallowed them up.

**With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; \*  
you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.**

You will bring them in and plant them \*  
on the mount of your possession,

**The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, \*  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.**

The Lord shall reign \*  
for ever and for ever.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.**

*Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18*

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, 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 offered to 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.**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably 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. **Amen.**

## The Easter Acclamation

*Leader* Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Bells are rung! Noise is made!*

## The Pascha Nostrum

**Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
 therefore let us keep the feast,  
 Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
 but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.  
 Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
 death no longer has dominion over him.  
 The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
 but the life he lives, he lives to God.  
 So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
 and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.  
 Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
 the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
 For since by a man came death, \*  
 by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.  
 For as in Adam all die, \*  
 so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

## The Collect

*Leader*           The Lord be with you.

*People*           **And also with you.**

*Leader*           Let us pray.

O God, you made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Blessing

*The Priest blesses the People, saying*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the + Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**