

EASTER VIGIL WORSHIP

Gathering for Fear

Songs to comfort the heart...

Prayer

Service of Light

L: May the light of Christ

C: rising in glory.

L: dispel the darkness

C: of our hearts and minds.

All: Amen

L: As the children of Israel were led by a pillar of fire from slavery to freedom in the Promised Land, so are we led from the slavery of sin and darkness to the glorious liberty of the children of God in the heavenly land of promise. Again, a pillar of fire, the candle, leads the way.

Processional

L: The light of Christ

C: Thanks be to God

L: Even though there was little light the news spread,

C: "Jesus tomb is empty..."

All: Thanks be to God!

Song of Hope

Service of Word

Prayer

L: O Lord,

C: Open our ears that we may hear your word. Amen

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1: 1-2:2

Song

Exodus 14: 10-15:1

Song

Isaiah 55: 1-11

Song

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Song

Service of Holy Baptism, and Holy Communion

Water Pouring...

Luther's Water Prayer:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

L: Holy God, Gracious Father,

C: Thank you for everything you have given us. We remember the beginning when your Spirit moved over the waters and you created the heavens and the earth.

L: You have always nourished us with the gift of water.

C: By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked, but you saved Noah and his family.

L: You led Israel through the water of the Red Sea, out of slavery and into the freedom of the Promised Land.

C: Your Son, Jesus, was baptized in the waters of the Jordan, and the Spirit came down on him like a dove, and filled him up with the power of God.

L: Later, the waters of death surrounded Jesus and he was buried into the ground. You raised him up out of the waters, and breathed new life into his lungs. Jesus emerged from death, new and alive. He opened the way of new life for us to follow, and our hearts are filled with joy.

C: Jesus made water a sign of rebirth. So, in obedience to his command we baptize all people in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

L: Lord God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us.

C: Wash away our sin, and give us your most precious gift, life everlasting. Amen!

Song

Sharing the peace of the Lord

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

God's Love Continues...

Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Meal

Song

Blessing

L: He has Risen!

C: He has Risen Indeed!