

Easter Vigil

Invocation

L In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L In this most holy night our Savior, Christ the Lord, broke the power of death and by His resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for He truly keeps His Word. The sun of righteousness has dawned upon us who have sat in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Jonah Preaches to Nineveh

Jonah 3:1–10

L A reading from Jonah, chapter three.

³Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, ²"Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

⁶The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish."

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that He had said He would do to them, and He did not do it.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L Let us pray.

O God, as the prophet Jonah spent three days in the belly of the great fish, so Your Son Jesus spent three days in the heart of the earth. Grant us repentance to embrace our death in Him through Holy Baptism and to proclaim His victory over sin and death to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Litany of the Resurrection

- L** O Lord,
- C** **have mercy.**
- L** O Christ,
- C** **have mercy.**
- L** O Lord,
- C** **have mercy.**
- L** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C** **hear us.**
- L** Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,"
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,
- C** **have mercy on us.**
- L** By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,
- C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- L** By Your victory over sin and death,
- C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- L** By the majesty of Your risen body,
- C** **good Lord, deliver us.**
- L** We poor sinners implore You
- C** **to hear us, Lord Jesus.**
- L** That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of

Your forgiveness,

C grant us, good Lord.

L That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving others as we have been served by You,

C grant us, good Lord.

L That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,

C grant us, good Lord.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy on us.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy on us.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

L O Lord,

C have mercy.

L O Christ,

C have mercy.

L O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

Concluding Collect

L Lord Jesus Christ, You fulfilled the Sabbath by resting in the tomb on Holy Saturday and then proclaimed victory over Satan during Your descent into hell. At the hour when our eyes rest in death, may we find consolation in Your perfect fulfillment of God's Law and mighty defeat of sin, death, and the devil and look forward to seeing You face to face in the resurrection; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us. **C Amen.**