

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.

The Gathering of God's People

Zephaniah 3:12–20

L A reading from Zephaniah, chapter three.

¹²I will leave in your midst
a people humble and lowly.
They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD,
¹³those who are left in Israel;
they shall do no injustice
and speak no lies,
nor shall there be found in their mouth
a deceitful tongue.
For they shall graze and lie down,
and none shall make them afraid."

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
He has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.
¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
"Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
He will rejoice over you with gladness;
He will quiet you by His love;
He will exult over you with loud singing.
¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
²⁰At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes," says the LORD.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

L Let us pray.

Look in mercy, O Lord, upon Your faithful people, and by Word and Spirit bring to completion that good work which You have begun in us. Gather in Your people that all the world may see and know that what has been cast down is raised up and what has grown old is made new, until the work You have begun in us is brought to its joyful fulfillment in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.**