



# St. Augustine's Church

A Church Family in the Heart of the City



**THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER**  
**APRIL 8, 2023**

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**EASTER EVE – APRIL 8, 2023, 7:00 PM**  
**THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE**

*In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the celebrant addresses the people in these words:*

Dear Friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her children, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

**The Blessing of the New Fire**

*The celebrant says the following prayer:*

Let us pray.

Father we share in the light of your glory through your Son, the light of the world. Sanctify this new fire and enflame us with new hope. Purify our minds by this Easter celebration and bring us one day to the feast of eternal light. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Following the blessing of the new fire, the celebrant traces a cross into the wax of the Easter candle. The Greek 'alpha' is then traced above the cross, 'omega' below and the numerals of the current year between the arms of the cross.*

Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today  
and forever, *(the vertical arm of the cross is traced)*  
the Beginning and the End *(the horizontal arm),*  
Alpha *(Alpha, above the cross).*  
and Omega *(Omega, below the cross).*  
His are the times *(the first numeral)*  
and the seasons *(the second numeral)*  
Blessing and honour, glory and power be unto Him for ever and  
ever. *(the last numeral)* Amen.

*The celebrant inserts five grains (nails) of incense into the candle to form the figure of a cross.*

<i>Celebrant:</i>	1. By his Cross	
	2. and Passion	1
	3. may Christ our Lord	4 2 5
	4. Guard us,	3
	5. And keep us. Amen	

*The celebrant lights the Easter candle from the new fire.*

*Celebrant:* May the light of Christ, rising in glory, drive away all darkness.  
*The Easter candle is carried in procession.*

*The following acclamation is sung three times:*

*Cantor:*               The Light of Christ!

*People:*               **Thanks be to God!**

*The candles which have been distributed to members of the congregation are lit from the Paschal candle at this time.*

*The Paschal candle is placed in its stand.*

*Then the cantor standing near the candle, sings the Exsultet, as follows:*

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!

Exult, all creation around God's throne!

Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour, radiant in the brightness of your King!

Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in Glory! The risen Saviour shines upon you!

Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

*Priest:*               The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest:*               Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:*               **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Cantor:*           It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and voices, we should praise the unseen God, the all-powerful Father and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

For Christ has ransomed us with his blood, and paid for us the price of Adam's sin to our eternal father!

This is our Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain, whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers. This is the night when first you saved our forebears. You freed the people of Israel from their slavery and led them dry-shod through the sea.

This is the night when Christians everywhere, washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement, are restored to grace and grow together in holiness. This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

Father, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless your merciful love! To ransom a slave you gave away your Son.

The power of this holy night dispels all evil, washes guilt away, restores

lost innocence, brings mourners joy. Night truly blessed when heaven is wedded to earth and we are reconciled with God!

Therefore, heavenly Father, in the joy of this night, receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering. Accept this Easter Candle.

May it always dispel the darkness of this night!

May the Morning Star which never sets find this flame still burning: Christ, that Morning Star, who came back from the dead, and shed his peaceful light on all creation, your son who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*The celebrant introduces the scripture readings in these words:*

Dear friends in Christ, let us now listen attentively to the word of God, recalling how He saved His people throughout history and in the fullness of time, sent His own Son to be our Redeemer. *(all seated for the readings)*

**The Creation** Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Andreas Gateman

*Reader:* Let us pray. (We observe a moment of silence while standing.)

**Almighty and eternal God, you created all things in wonderful beauty and order. Help us now to perceive how still more wonderful is the new creation, by which in the fullness of time you redeemed your people through the sacrifice of our Passover, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen**

**Hymn: Bless the Lord**

**Bless the Lord, my soul,  
And bless God's holy name.  
Bless the Lord, my soul,  
who leads me into life.**

**Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea:** Exodus 14:10-31,15:20-21

Rachel Robinson

*Reader:* Let us pray. (We observe a moment of silence while standing.)

**God of steadfast love, your 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 of 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. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Hymn #174 Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

**The Valley of Dry Bones:** Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Sara Gateman

*Reader:* Let us pray. (We observe a moment of silence while standing.)

**Living God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness, and out of death into life. Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## Hymn #649 Breathe on me Breath of God

**Be Glad and Rejoice:** Zephaniah 3:14-20

The Rev. Dr. Gillian Breckenridge

*Reader:* Let us pray. (We observe a moment of silence while standing.)

**O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery. By the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity 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**

## Hymn #362 Tell Out my Soul

*During the Old Testament readings the altar has been vested and the candles have been lit. When the large cross on the eastern wall is unveiled, all remaining lights are turned on, the congregation remains standing and the celebrant proclaims:*

Allelulia! Christ is Risen!

**All: The Lord is Risen indeed, Alleluia!**

*The congregation makes a joyful noise with bells and other instruments as the organ sounds for the first time since Maundy Thursday. All remain standing for the GLORIA.*

**All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father. We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your Glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the father, receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord. You alone are the most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray. (all kneel)

**Collect: Eternal Giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth, and shine as a light in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

**Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ: Romans 6:3-11**

Michael Larsen

**Song: The Power of the Cross**

**Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day.  
Christ on the road to Calvary.  
tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then  
nailed to the cross of wood.**

***Chorus:***

**This, the power of the cross.  
Christ became sin for us.  
Took the blame, bore the wrath.  
We stand forgiven at the cross.**

**Oh to see the pain written on your face,  
bearing the awesome weight of sin.  
Every bitter thought, every evil deed  
crowning your blood-stained brow. *Chorus.***

**Now the day light flees, now the ground beneath  
quakes as its maker bows his head.  
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life.  
“Finished!” the victory cry. *Chorus.***

**Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,  
for through your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live  
won through Your selfless love! *Chorus.***

## Offertory Hymn: #223 Christ is Risen

### The Gospel of the Resurrection

The Rev. Br. Jason Carroll

*Reader:* The Lord be with You.

*People:* **And also be with you.**

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 16-1-8

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Reader:* The Gospel of Christ.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

### Sermon

The Rev. Canon James Robinson

### The Renewal of our Baptismal Vows (*all standing*)

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant:* We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we celebrate our fellowship with him in faith.

We pray that all who have passed through the water of baptism may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

### The Baptism Covenant

*The Celebrant then says.*

Dear friends, through the paschal mystery we have been buried with Christ in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life. Now that our Lenten observance is ended, let us renew the promises we

made in baptism, when we rejected Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*People:* I do.

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Father?

*People:* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People:* **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 rose 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:* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People:* **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:* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**



*Priest:* Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Priest:* God the creator, the rock of our salvation, has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ. May he keep us faithful to our calling, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to gather at the font and to physically mark the renewal of their baptismal commitment using newly-blessed water from the font.*

*During the renewal of Baptismal vows, "By Faith" will be sung as a solo.*

**Solo** By Faith by Keith and Kristyn Getty

Karen Hudson

**THE PEACE** (all standing)

*Minister:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**Offertory: #223 Christ Is Risen**

**Prayer over the Gifts**

**God of life and health, accept the offering of your holy people, and grant that we who are baptized into Christ may be perfected in your salvation, in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen**

**Eucharistic Prayer 3.** (*please remain standing*)

The Rev. Steve Bateman

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

*All*            **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*    We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted. Our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*All*            Therefore, Father, according to his command,  
**we remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant*    and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** (all kneel)

*Celebrant*    And now as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

*All*            **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, 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!**

*Celebrant:*    The gifts of God for the people of God

*All:*            **Thanks be to God**

*Celebrant:*    The body and blood of Christ given for you.

*All:*            **Amen.**

### **The Communion**

*All baptized Christians regardless of denomination are invited to receive the Eucharist.  
All people (baptized or not) are invited to come forward for a blessing.  
If you require a gluten free wafer, please inform the person administering the bread.*

*Celebrant*    The gifts of God for the people of God.

*All*            **Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Celebrant*    Let us pray. *(All kneeling)*

*All:*            **Giver of all, we are nourished with your Easter sacraments. Fill us with the Spirit of love, and unite us in faith, that we may be witnesses to the resurrection and show your glory to all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen**

*(all stand)*

*Celebrant*    Glory to God,

*All*            **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

**Recessional Hymn: Thine Be the Glory**

**Thine be the glory risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won  
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away  
Kept the folded grave clothes Where Thy body lay**

**Thine be the glory Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won**

**Lo! Jesus meets us Risen from the tomb  
Lovingly, He greets us Scatters fear and gloom  
Let the church with gladness Hymns of triumph sing  
For her Lord now liveth Death hath lost its sting  
Thine be the glory Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won**

**No more we doubt Thee Glorious Prince of life  
Life is naught without Thee Aid us in our strife  
Make us more than conquerors Through Thy deathless love  
Bring us safe through Jordan To Thy home above  
Thine be the glory Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.**

**Dismissal**

*Priest:*       **ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!**

*People:*       **THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

### **SHARING IN MINISTRY THIS EVENING**

**EXSULTET:** The Rev. Canon James Robinson

**GOSPELLER:** The Rev. Br. Jason Carroll

**LAY ASSISTANTS:** Cathy Gillespie, Michael Larsen

**LECTORS:** The Rev. Gillian Breckenridge, Andreas Gateman, Sara Gateman, Karen Hudson, Michael Larsen, Rachel Robinson

**MUSICIANS:** Sara Gateman, Karen Hudson, Flora McKay, Mary Lee Voort

**SERVER:** Jayla Matchett

**SIDESPEOPLE:** Bob Gschaid, Juanita Loucks

**TECHNICAL CREW:** Sound: Brad Gillespie, David Hignell

Videography: Ayo Aramide, Kimoya Edwards

 403-327-3970  [office@staug.org](mailto:office@staug.org)  [www.staug.org](http://www.staug.org)

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