



**St. Matthew**  
**the Apostle, Oriole**  
Anglican Church

*Come. See. Journey.*

***The Great Vigil of Easter***

April 8th, 2023

**Sundays Services**

Holy Eucharist (8:00 a.m.)

Holy Eucharist (10:00 a.m.)

*followed by Coffee Hour*



**St. Matthew**  
**the Apostle, Oriole**  
Anglican Church  
*Come. See. Journey.*

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***“To Seek and Serve  
Christ in all persons”***

Priest and Pastor: The Rev. Sherri Golisky  
Archdeacon: The Venerable Kyn Barker  
Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Canon John Wilton  
Music Director & Organist: Mr. David Braund  
Lay Anointer: Mr. Clifford Wong

### **Sundays at St. Matthew**

Holy Eucharist (8:00 a.m.)

Holy Eucharist (10:00 a.m.)

We Livestream our 10:00 a.m. service  
at [www.stmatthew.ca/YouTube](http://www.stmatthew.ca/YouTube)

# The Great Vigil of Easter

## 8:30 p.m. CHORAL EUCHARIST (BAS)

### THE VIGIL

*The Vigil begins with the unfolding of Salvation for God's people. The Celebrant says:*

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, when our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her children throughout the world, to come together in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord. We remember his death and resurrection by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries; we are confident that we shall share his victory over death and live with him for ever in God.

*The Celebrant introduces the Scripture readings in these words:*

Let us now listen attentively to the word of God, recalling God's saving acts to people throughout history and in the fullness of time, Christ, who came to be our Saviour and Redeemer, and let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun.

### THE STORY OF CREATION: The Book of Genesis (1:1-2:4a)

Psalm 33 Plainsong ..... Tone II.i

Cantor: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous.\*

**All: it is good for the just to sing praises.**

**All: Praise the Lord with the harp.\*  
play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.**

Cantor: Sing for him a new song; sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

**All: For the word of the Lord is right.\*  
and all his works are sure.**

Cantor: He loves righteousness and justice.\*  
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

**All: By the word of the Lord were the heavens made.\*  
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.**

Cantor: He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin \*  
and stores up the depths of the sea.

**All: Let all the earth fear the Lord.\*  
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.**

Cantor: For he spoke, and it came to pass;\*  
he commanded, and it stood fast.

**All: The Lord brings the will of the nations to naught;\*  
he thwarts the designs of the peoples.**

Cantor: But the Lord's will stands fast for ever,  
and the designs of his heart from age to age.

**All: Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!\*  
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!**

Cantor: The Lord looks down from heaven,\*  
and beholds all the people in the world.

**All: From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze\*  
on all who dwell on the earth.**

Cantor: He fashions the hearts of them\*  
and understands their works.

**All: There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army;\*  
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.**

Cantor: The horse is a vain hope of deliverance;\*  
for all its strength it can not save.

**All: Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him,\*  
on those who wait upon his love,**

Cantor: To pluck their lives from death,\*  
and to feed them in time of famine.

**All: Our soul waits for the Lord;\*  
he is our help and our shield.**

Cantor: Indeed, our heart rejoices in him,\*  
in his holy name we put our trust.

**All: Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
as we have put our trust in you.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

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.**

**ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED Sea:** A Reading from the book of Exodus (14:10-15:1)

The Song of Moses..... Tone V.i

Cantor: I will sing to the Lord for his glorious triumph;

**All: the horse and the rider he has hurled into the sea.**

**All: The Lord has become my strength and refuge;  
the Lord himself has become my saviour.**

Cantor: He is my God and I will praise him;  
my Father's God and I will exalt him.

**All: The Lord himself is a mighty warrior;  
the Lord, the Lord is his name.**

Cantor: Your right hand, O Lord, is majestic in power;  
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

**All: Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods,  
holy, awesome, worker of wonders?**

Cantor: In steadfast love you led your people,  
you guided your redeemed with your great strength.

**All: You brought them in safety to your holy place,  
and planted them firm on your own mountain.**

Cantor: You brought them into your own house.

**All: The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

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.**

**GOD'S PRESENCE IN A RENEWED ISRAEL:** The Book of Isaiah (54:4-14)

Psalm 30..... Tone VII.ii

Cantor: I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up \*

**All: and have not let my enemies triumph over me.**

**All: O Lord, my God, I cried out to you,\*  
and you restored me to health.**

Cantor: You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;\*  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

**All: Sing to the Lord, you servants of his;\*  
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.**

Cantor: For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye,\*  
his favour for a lifetime.

**All: Weeping may spend the night,\*  
but joy comes in the morning.**

Cantor: While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.\*  
you, Lord, with your favour, made me as strong as the mountains."

**All: Then you hid your face,\*  
And I was filled with fear.**

Cantor: I cried to you, O Lord;\*  
I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

**All: "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit?\*"  
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?**

Cantor: Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me;\*  
O Lord, be my helper."

**All: You have turned my wailing into dancing;\*  
have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.**

Cantor: Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;\*

**All: O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, you led your ancient people by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we, who serve you now on earth, may come to the joy of that heavenly Jerusalem, where all tears are wiped away and where your saints for ever sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES:** The Book of Ezekiel (37:1-14)

Psalm 143 .....Tone IV.vi

Cantor: Lord, hear my prayer,  
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications;\*

**All: answer me in your righteousness.**

**All: Enter not into judgement with your servant,\*  
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.**

Cantor: For my enemy has sought my life;  
he has crushed me to the ground;\*  
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.

**All: My spirit faints within me;\*  
my heart within me is desolate.**

Cantor: I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds;\*  
I consider the works of your hands.

**All: I spread out my hands to you;\*  
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.**

Cantor: O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me;\*  
do not hide your face from me  
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

**All: Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning  
for I put my trust in you;\*  
show me the road that I must walk  
for I lift up my soul to you.**

Cantor: Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord,\*  
For I flee to you for refuge.

**All: Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;\*  
your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**

Cantor: Revive me, O Lord, for your name's sake;\*  
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

**All: Of your goodness, destroy my enemies  
and bring all my foes to naught,\*  
for truly I am your servant.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty 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 the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE**

*The building being in darkness, the ministers lead the congregation in silence out to the Welcome Room, one of them carrying the unlit Easter candle. All stand and face the minister. The presider lights a taper. In the darkness, the new fire is kindled. The presider now blesses the new fire with the following prayer.*

Celebrant: 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 inflame 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.**

*After the blessing of the new fire, a lay person or one of the ministers brings the paschal candle to the celebrant, who cuts a cross in the wax and traces the Greek letter alpha above the cross, the letter omega below, and the numerals of the current year between the arms of the cross.*

*Meanwhile he/she may say,*

- 1. Christ yesterday and today (as he/she traces the vertical arm of the cross)*
- 2. the beginning and the end (the horizontal arm)*
- 3. Alpha (alpha, above the cross)*
- 4. and Omega (omega, below the cross)*
- 5. all time belongs to him (the first numeral, in the upper left corner of the cross)*
- 6. and all the ages (the second numeral in the upper right corner)*
- 7. to him be glory and power (the third numeral in the lower left corner)*
- 8. through every age for ever. Amen. (the last numeral in the lower right corner)*

*When the cross and other marks have been made, the celebrant may insert five grains of incense into the candle. He/she does this in the form of a cross, saying,*

- 1. By his holy*
- 2. and glorious wounds*
- 3. may Christ our Lord*
- 4. guard us*
- 5. and keep us. Amen.*



*The celebrant lights the candle from the new fire, saying,*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

*The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Archdeacon bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing or saying:*

Archdeacon: The light of Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Candles have been distributed to members of the congregation. They are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time.*

*The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.*

*Then the Archdeacon, standing near the Candle, sings the Exsultet, as follows:*

Archdeacon: 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! The Lord be with you.

**Answer: And also with you.**

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

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

Archdeacon: 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 you first saved our forebears: you freed the children of Israel from 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 to 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.**

*It is customary that the Paschal Candle burn at all services from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost. The candles at the Altar may now be lighted from the Paschal Candle.*

### **THE EASTER ACCLAMATION**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*A joyful fanfare may be played, bells rung, cymbals clashed, noise be made,*

### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

*The following hymn is sung, during which all the candles in the Church are lit, lights are switched on and the people's candles extinguished.*

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.**

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Eternal Giver of life and light, this most 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.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### First Lesson

Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

*(Romans 6:3-11)*

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 114 (*choir*) Tonus Peregrinus ..... p. 862

*This acclamation heralds the Gospel reading:*

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

**Alleluia!**

He has defeated the powers of death.

**Alleluia!**

Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing.

**Alleluia!**

He has the words of eternal life.

**Alleluia!**

Archdeacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Archdeacon: After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly

there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."  
*(Matthew 28:1-10)*

Archdeacon: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reflection: The Rev. Sherri Golisky

### **THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

*During the procession to the font, at which time the following anthem is said:*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it 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 in him in faith. Now sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who have here been cleansed from sin and born again, 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 for ever. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant addresses the people in these words:*

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.

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: 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.**

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

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.**

*After the re-affirmation of Baptismal vows the congregation is sprinkled with the newly blessed water.*

**The Peace** *(Please stand)*

Celebrant: The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

**All: And also with you. Alleluia!**

*The members of the community, ministers and people, may greet one another in the name of the risen Lord.*

## **THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS**

Offertory Hymn 232 "Jesus Christ is risen from the Grave" ..... CHILDER

**Prayer Over The Gifts** *(please stand)*

Celebrant: 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.

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

**All: 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."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**All: 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 children; 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**

Celebrant: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: Lord, we died with you on the cross.

**All: Now we are raised to new life.**

Celebrant: We were buried in your tomb.

**All: Now we share in your resurrection.**

Celebrant: Live in us, that we may live in you.

### **THE COMMUNION**

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Agnus Dei (*Sung*)**

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**



**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Those not receiving communion may wish to receive a blessing instead. To indicate this to the priest, please cross your hands over your chest.*

Communion Hymn 56 "I am the bread, the bread of life" ..... PICKETT WOOD

Motet "This joyful Eastertide" ..... Dutch Carol, arr. Wood

**Prayer after Communion** *(Please stand)*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

**Doxology**

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**

Hymn 212 "The strife is o'er, the battle done" .....VICTORY

**DISMISSAL**

Archdeacon: Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude "Christ lag in Todesbanden" ..... J. S. Bach

**ASSISTING TONIGHT**

Readers:	Angela & David Braund, Cliff Wong, Veronica Edwards-Williams, Andrew Barker, Virendra Singh
Altar Guild:	Gwynne Barker
Livestreaming:	Robbie Roberts

Liturgical texts:

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## Easter Flowers



Kyn & Gwynne Barker .....In memory of Arthur & Dorothy  
Helen & Russell Bruiners.....In memory of our parents  
Jane Couchman .....In memory of Dorothy & Arthur  
Barker and loved ones  
Veronica Edwards-Williams.....In memory of Grandma, Grandpa,  
.....uncles, Vetel, Hepburn, Franklin and Aunt Lillette  
Bill Found.....In memory of Bill and Melba Found  
Huk-Danelesko.....In memory of loved ones  
Donna Lam.....In loving memory of Barbara & Alfred Lam,  
.....and Arthur & Gertrude Van Ryck deGroot  
Delores & Keith Lawrence.....In memory of loved ones  
Paul & Gordon Mount.....In memory of loved ones  
Jane & Steve O'Keefe.....In memory of our parents and brother-in-law, Bill  
Ann Padmore ..... In memory of Winnie Padmore & Barry Padmore  
The Seales Family ..... In loving memory of Trevor St. Hill and other loved ones  
Sylvia Sutherland .....In memory of loved ones  
Joy Walker.....In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Walker & family  
Diane & John Wilton..... In loving memory of loved ones  
Paul & Lindsey Yeskoo .....In loving memory of our daughter, Emily

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## Exodus

The book of Exodus recounts the story of God's people, the Israelites, enslaved by one of the great empires of the ancient world, Egypt. In the first ten chapters we hear of the oppression and genocide imposed on them by Pharaoh, Egypt's ruler. And we hear of Moses, an Israelite saved from death as an infant and raised and assimilated in Pharaoh's court. Moses' passion against injustice leads him to flee to the wilderness, where God calls him to return, to confront Pharaoh, and to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Like all rulers, Pharaoh knows how to harden his heart against the weak and suffering, and resists Moses' demands for the people's freedom, despite a series of increasingly catastrophic plagues. In chapter 11, Moses announces a final horrific plague—every firstborn creature in Egypt will die. Chapter 12 opens with the announcement of a new time and a new era for the Israelites, almost like a new creation (12:2). It sets out the directions for how they are to sacrifice and eat together a lamb. The directions make clear that the salvation God brings is not just for individuals, but is for people who know how to find the poor, lonely, isolated and invite them into community (12:3-4). It is a community called to social action. Not only is a new era about to dawn, but a new people is about to be created, one that knows how to live together in love, mercy, and generosity as a sign of God's care for the world. They are to mark their door frames with the blood to protect them when the destroyer comes into Egypt delivering death (12:7). They are to be prepared to leave Egypt in a hurry (12:11) And at the Easter Vigil, we hear the next part of the story—how when death comes to his land Pharaoh first lets the people go free, then changes his mind and pursues them and traps them at the Red Sea. The ritual with the lamb becomes the basis for the Jewish celebration of Passover, and the Gospels tells us that Jesus, a faithful Jew, celebrated the Passover with his friends on the night before he died, inviting them to to become a new creation and a community committed to social action and the works of love, mercy, hospitality and generosity.

*[Dr. Walter Deller/2023]*

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## **PRIEST-IN-CHARGE CONTACT INFORMATION**

You may reach the Rev. Sherri by email at [priest-stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:priest-stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca), or by phone at 416-494-7020 ext. 2. She is in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Sherri's day off is Monday. In case of pastoral emergencies, please call (416) 880 – 4211.

## **CHURCH ASSISTANT'S OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** The office is open to visitors by appointment only.

Please email the office at [stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:stmatthewtheapostleorile@toronto.anglican.ca) or [office@stmatthew.ca](mailto:office@stmatthew.ca) to make an appointment.

## **Parish Officers**

Rector's Warden	Valerie Seales
Peoples' Warden	Steve O'Keefe
Rector's Deputy Warden	Nigel Jansz
Peoples' Deputy Warden	Norma Walker Roberts
Office/Rentals	Donna Lam
Treasurer/Bookkeeper	Sandra Lumb <i>treasurer@stmatthew.ca</i>
Sidespeople 8:00	Trevor Evans
10:00	Valerie Seales
Music Director/Organist	David Braund
Envelope Secretary	Sandra Lumb
Synod Representative	Margaret Gordon Allen
Alternative Synod Member	Norma Walker Roberts
Church School	TBD
Nursery Director and Messy Church Facilitator	Diane Wilton
Altar Guild Chair	Gwynne Barker
Fundraising	Bonnie LaRue Sherry Jansz
Growing Healthy Stewards Chair	Delores Lawrence
Social Justice & Outreach	Anne Creighton
Hospitality	Valerie Seales Margaret Gordon Allen