

**THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER**



**CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

Welcome to Church of the Good Shepherd. It fills us with joy that you have joined us for worship this evening. All are welcome to participate in worship, and everything you need to follow along with the service can be found in this bulletin. **The people's responses are printed in bold**, and you are invited to participate fully in the service.

Tonight is the holiest night in the Christian year, a night when we recount the work of God's saving deeds throughout history. Our service this evening allows us to enter into the saving mystery of Christ's resurrection – his passover from death to life, and his transformation of ultimate darkness into light and life. We begin in darkness, and while Christ is still buried in the tomb, light the first spark of new life in the kindling of the Easter fire. You are invited to receive this light yourself by lighting a candle from one of the altar party's candles.

And then we wait, keeping vigil as we hear again and again how God's love has redeemed God's people. We celebrate our entrance into this redeemed life by baptism. And finally, we celebrate Christ's triumph over death: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!



The Great Vigil of Easter  
March 30, 2024  
Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter: 7:00 PM  
214 Main Street; Post Office Box 412  
Nashua, New Hampshire 03061  
603-882-5352 [www.cgsnashua.org](http://www.cgsnashua.org)

*You are invited into silence to prepare for worship.*

## The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

BCP 285

*In the darkness, fire is kindled; after which the Celebrant may address the people in these or similar words*

**Celebrant:** Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, 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.

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon, bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing in monotone*

**Deacon:** The Light of Christ.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

*Candles have been distributed to members of the congregation, and they are lighted from the Paschal Candle at this time. Other candles and lamps in the church, except for those at the Altar, may also be lighted.*

*The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand. Then the Deacon, or other person appointed, standing near the Candle, says the Exsultet, as follows*

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King. Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people. All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*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 God thanks and praise.**

*The Deacon continues*

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life. This is the night when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### The Liturgy of the Word

*Here follows a testimony of God's saving works throughout time. After each Lesson, the Psalm or Canticle listed is recited. The Psalms are said antiphonally by whole verse: **those sitting on the pulpit side of the church recite the bold odd verses, and those on the eagle side recite the even verses.***



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

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures for ever.**
- 2 Give thanks to the God of gods,  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
for his mercy endures for ever.**
- 4 Who only does great wonders,  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 5 Who by wisdom made the heavens,  
for his mercy endures for ever;**
- 6 Who spread out the earth upon the waters,  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 7 Who created great lights,  
for his mercy endures for ever;**
- 8 The sun to rule the day,  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 9 The moon and the stars to govern the night,  
for his mercy endures for ever.**
- 10 Who remembered us in our low estate,  
for his mercy endures for ever;
- 11 And delivered us from our enemies,  
for his mercy endures for ever;**
- 12 Who gives food to all creatures,  
for his mercy endures for ever.
- 13 Give thanks to the God of heaven,  
for his mercy endures for ever.**

Let us pray. (*silence*)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Flood**     Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13

Psalm 46

- 1     God is our refuge and strength,  
          a very present help in trouble.**
- 2     Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
          and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;
- 3     Though its waters rage and foam,  
          and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.**
- 4     The LORD of hosts is with us;  
          the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 5     There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
          the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- 6     God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;  
          God shall help her at the break of day.
- 7     The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;  
          God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.**
- 8     The LORD of hosts is with us;  
          the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- 9     Come now and look upon the works of the LORD,  
          what awesome things he has done on earth.**
- 10    It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;  
          he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- 11    “Be still, then, and know that I am God;  
          I will be exalted among the nations;  
          I will be exalted in the earth.”**
- 12    The LORD of hosts is with us;  
          the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Let us pray.     (*silence*)

Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Abraham's Sacrifice of Isaac**      Genesis 22:1-18

Psalm 16

- 1    Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;  
      I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord,  
      my good above all other.”**
- 2    All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,  
      upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3    But those who run after other gods  
      shall have their troubles multiplied.**
- 4    Their libations of blood I will not offer,  
      nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5    O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;  
      it is you who uphold my lot.**
- 6    My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
      indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7    I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
      my heart teaches me, night after night.**
- 8    I have set the LORD always before me;  
      because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9    My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
      my body also shall rest in hope.**
- 10   For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
      nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11   You will show me the path of life;  
      in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
      and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

Let us pray.      (*Silence*)

God and Father of all believers, for the glory of your Name multiply, by the grace of the Paschal sacrament, the number of your children; that your Church may rejoice to see fulfilled your promise to our father Abraham; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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

*Canticle 8, The Song of Moses*

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted;  
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.  
The Lord is my strength and my refuge; the Lord has become my Savior.  
This is my God and I will praise him, the God of my people and I will exalt him.  
The Lord is a mighty warrior; Yahweh is his Name.  
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea;  
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.  
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might;  
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.  
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods?  
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?  
You stretched forth your right hand; the earth swallowed them up.  
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed;  
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.  
You will bring them in and plant them on the mount of your possession,  
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord,  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.  
The Lord shall reign for ever and for ever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Let us pray.     *(silence)*

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**





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

Psalm 143

- 1    **LORD, hear my prayer,  
        and in your faithfulness heed my supplications;  
        answer me in your righteousness.**
- 2    Enter not into judgment with your servant,  
        for in your sight shall no one living be justified.
- 3    **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.**
- 4    My spirit faints within me;  
        my heart within me is desolate.
- 5    **I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds;  
        I consider the works of your hands.**
- 6    I spread out my hands to you;  
        my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.
- 7    **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.**
- 8    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.
- 9    **Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD,  
        for I flee to you for refuge.**
- 10    Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;  
        let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
- 11    **Revive me, O LORD, for your Name's sake;  
        for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.**
- 12    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 gathering of God's people**    Zephaniah 3:14-20

*Psalm 98*

- 1    Sing to the LORD a new song,  
          for he has done marvelous things.**
- 2    With his right hand and his holy arm  
          has he won for himself the victory.
- 3    The LORD has made known his victory;  
          his righteousness has he openly shown in  
          the sight of the nations.**
- 4    He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to The house of Israel,  
          and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5    Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
          lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**
- 6    Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
          with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7    With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
          shout with joy before the King, the LORD.**
- 8    Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,  
          the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9    Let the rivers clap their hands,  
          and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
          when he comes to judge the earth.**
- 10   In righteousness shall he judge the world  
          and the peoples with equity.

Let us pray.    *(Silence)*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility 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.**

## **Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

*Please stand as you are able*

In the communion of the Saints, let us pray for all who are to receive the Sacrament of New Birth this day, and for ourselves as we renew our own commitment to Christ.

*Leader:* Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Send them into the world in witness to your love.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

### Thanksgiving over the Water

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

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

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

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 bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced 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 neighbor 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.**

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Holy Eucharist**

### The Proclamation of Easter

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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



The Gloria

(Robert Powell) Hymnal S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you

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

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only- begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

The Epistle Romans 6:3-11

A reading from Paul's letter 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm Psalm 114

Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech, Judah became God's sanctuary and Israel his dominion.

The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back.

The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like young sheep.

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?

You mountains, that you skipped like rams? you little hills like young sheep?

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,  
Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Sequence Hymn      *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks for the Risen Lord*      Hymnal 178

*Please stand as you are able*

The Gospel Mark 16:1-8

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you Lord Christ.**

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You Lord Christ**

The Homily

Easter Sermon by Chrysostom

Rev. Kathy Boss

The Peace

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

The Announcements

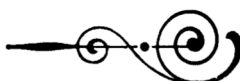
The Offertory

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture.*

Offertory Hymn

*The Strife is O'er, Victory*

Hymnal 208





The Doxology

Hymnal 380, v3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION (Eucharistic Prayer 3)

Enriching Our Worship 1

*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 thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Celebrant:* All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

(Powell) Hymnal S129

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: “Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: “Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*Celebrant and People*

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*The Celebrant continues*

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Mary, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

*Celebrant and People*

**Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Agnus Dei

(Powell) Hymnal S163

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

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

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

The Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn

*At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing*

Hymnal 174

*Please stand or kneel as you are able*

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

Enriching Our Worship 1

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

*The Day of Resurrection*

Hymnal 210

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*All are invited to stay seated and enjoy the Postlude.*

Postlude

*Alleluia from Exultate Jubilate*

W. A. Mozart



**ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP**

**Acolytes:** Graham & Simon Engle

**Ushers:** Diane Temple

**Vergers:** Howard Titus, John Rowntree

**Altar Guild:** Theresa Belanger, Mark Dennehy

**Broadcast Team:** Julia Gower, Wayne Blair, Susan Nutting, Michael Engelsen.

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**Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal)**

<b>Ministers</b>	All Baptized Parishioners
<b>Bishop of New Hampshire</b>	The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld
<b>Rector</b>	The Rev. Kathy Boss—rector@cgsnashua.org
<b>Deacon</b>	The Rev. Nancy Meyer—deacon@cgsnashua.org
<b>Senior Warden</b>	Sue Corman—cgsvestry@cgsnashua.org
<b>Junior Warden</b>	Don Yelton
<b>Vergers</b>	John Townsend, Howard Titus, John Rowntree
<b>Music Director</b>	Nick Pothier - music@cgsnashua.org
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	John Budzyna 603-882-5352
<b>Youth Ministry</b>	Nancy Madeira—youth@cgsnashua.org
<b>Sunday School</b>	Kate Engle—sundayschool@cgsnashua.org
<b>Special Projects</b>	Johanna Graves—news@cgsnashua.org

**Easter Sunday**  
**3/31/2024 - 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM**  
**[cgsnashua.org/events](http://cgsnashua.org/events)**

