HOLY SATURDAY VIGIL

April 19, 2025 - 10:00 PM



Looking toward the dawn - Priscilla Stuckey





ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 19

Kindle a flame to lighten the dark and take all fear away.

LET US PRAY TOGETHER

Leader: In the beginning, when it was very dark, God

said, "Let there be light".

All: And there was light.

Leader: In the beginning, when it was very quiet, the

Word was with God

All: And what God was, the Word was.

Leader: When the time was right, God sent the Son.

All: He came among us, he was one of us.

Leader: This is the time when the light has faded, the

shadows have lengthened, all sounds are

subdued.

All: We meet the night and the world continues

to sing with all the accents of creation, a love

song to its maker.

Leader: Come brother Jesus, be our guest; bring to this

place your poverty

All: For then we shall be rich.

Leader: Bring to this place your pain

All: That in sharing it, we will also share your joy.

Leader: Bring to this place your understanding of us.

All: That we may be freed to learn more about you.

Leader: Bring to this place your Holy Spirit

All: That we and all things might be made new.

READING

John 1: 1-5; 9-14

HYMN NO. 148

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom

REFLECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HYMN NO. 22

Wait for the Lord, God's day is near. Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Leader:

You never sleep, God. You are always awake, always watching, always willing the world and its people to turn in the right direction. So tonight, will you comfort those who cannot sleep because of illness, or worry, or fear; or for reasons they cannot understand. God be near them.

All: God be near them.

Leader: And tonight will you be close to those who wait

patiently or impatiently for a birth or a death, for a visit, or for the pieces of their life's jigsaw to fit

together. God be near them.

All: God be near them.

Leader: And tonight will you be close to those who

wonder, who look for inspiration, who long to know how they can best serve you. God be near

them.

All: God be near them.

Leader: And God, listen to us as we share with you

whatever joys or sorrows, discoveries or questions we are experiencing this night.

All: God be with us as the night ends and we move

into the dawn of your glorious resurrection. As we move into the future, we commit everything we have and all that we are, to you. We commit ourselves - our souls, our bodies, our minds, our futures, into your loving care. We pray

these things in your name. Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING

SCRIPTURE READING

John 6: 24-35

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & CONSECRATION

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you. Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

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

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

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and

everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God

...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and

join their unending hymn:

People: 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.

Minister: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus

Christ.... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as

we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come

again.

Minister: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,

and on these gifts of bread and wine... Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honour and glory is yours,

almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

This is not the table of the United Church alone—it is the table of Jesus Christ. If you seek him in this bread and cup we invite

you to dine with him and with us. You will receive the elements by dipping the wafer into the communion cup. Gluten-free wafers are available.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (in unison)

We have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence; we accept you into our bodies, into our lives. Together, at this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer.

CLOSING PRAYERS

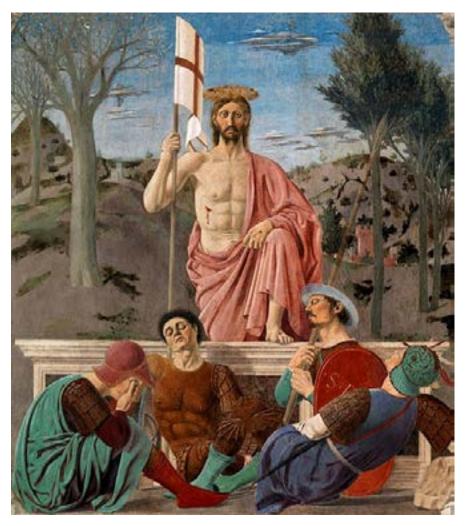
CLOSING HYMN NO. 577

I've got peace like a river in my soul I've got joy like a fountain in my soul I've got love like an ocean in my soul

BENEDICTION



EASTER SUNDAY



APRIL 20, 2025 | 9:15 & 11:00 AM

Rev. Dr. Jason Byassee preaching:

"Jesus Brings a Whole New Creation"

from First Corinthians 15:12-27

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