

**St John's Anglican Church
Halifax Street, Adelaide**



**THE PASCHAL VIGIL
AND THE EUCHARIST OF EASTER DAY**

On the Front Cover

Noli me tangere

Icon by Metochion of Simonos Petras,
Annunciation of the Theotokos Convent,
Ormylia, Chalkidiki (c. 1985)

The Icon “Noli me tangere” shows the appearance of the Resurrected Christ to Mary Magdalene as described in the Gospel of John,

Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’ (John 20.17)

The earliest works on this theme can be found in Italian religious art dating back the 14th century, though in these Mary Magdalene is always depicted with an uncovered head, her hair flowing freely. This was a sign of immodesty, related to the misidentification of Mary Magdalene with the “sinful woman” in Luke 7:36-50, which we now know to be incorrect. Accordingly, modern iconography honour Mary Magdalene, the “Apostle to the Apostles”, with her hair covered, as with other female saints.

On the Back Cover

The Eagle, the Symbol of St John

from *The Book of Kells* (c. 800 AD)

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

A blazing fire is prepared in a suitable place outside the church. When the people are gathered there, the presider approaches with the ministers, one of whom carries the paschal candle.

Then the presider greets the people and addresses them in these or similar words,

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Dear brothers and sisters,
on this most sacred night
in which our Lord Jesus Christ
passed over from death to life,
the Church calls upon her sons and daughters
scattered throughout the world,
to come together to watch and pray.
If we keep the memorial
of the Lord's paschal solemnity in this way,
listening to his words and celebrating his mysteries,
then we shall have the sure hope
of sharing his triumph over death
and living with him in God.

The presider blesses the fire.

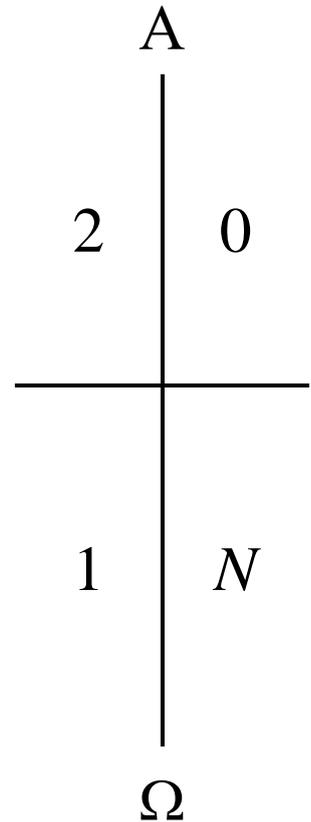
Let us pray.

O God, who through your Son
bestowed upon the faithful the fire of your glory,
sanctify ✠ this new fire, we pray,
and grant that,
by these paschal celebrations,
we may be so inflamed with heavenly desires,
that with minds made pure
we may attain festivities of unending splendour.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing of the Candle

After the blessing of the new fire, an acolyte or one of the ministers brings the Easter Candle to the presider, who cuts or traces a cross in the wax, and then 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, the presider says,

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



When the cross and other marks have been made, the presider inserts five grains of incense in the candle in the form of a cross, saying,

- 1 By his holy 1
- 2 and glorious wounds
- 3 may Christ the Lord 4 2 5
- 4 guard us
- 5 and protect us. Amen. 3

The presider lights the paschal candle from the new fire, saying,

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

The presider lights the candle, which the deacon holds aloft and sings:



The Light of Christ!
Thanks be to God!

Tapers of the sanctuary party are lit from the candle, then the procession resumes. The people's tapers are lit during the procession. Then the deacon stops and sings again, a little higher:

The light of Christ!
Thanks be to God!

The procession resumes, and on entering the sanctuary the deacon sings again, higher still:

The light of Christ!
Thanks be to God!

The Easter Proclamation of Christ's Resurrection (*Exsultet*)

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!

My dearest friends, standing with me in this holy light,
join me in asking God for mercy,
that he may give his unworthy servant
grace to sing his Easter praises.

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 ancestors:
you freed the people of Israel from their slavery
and led them dry-shod through the sea.
This is the night when the pillar of fire
Destroyed the darkness of sin!

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.

What good would life have been to us,
had Christ not come as our Redeemer?

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

O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam,
which gained for us so great a Redeemer!
Most blessed of all nights, chosen by God
to see Christ rising from the dead!
Of this night scripture says:
'The night will be as clear as day:
it will become my light, my joy.'

The power of this holy night
dispels all evil, washes guilt away,
restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy;
it casts out hatred, brings us peace,
and humbles earthly pride.

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,
a flame divided but undimmed,
a pillar of fire that glows to the honour of God.

Let it mingle with the lights of heaven
and continue bravely burning
to 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 of us,



Please extinguish your tapers.

Hymn of Praise

The Congregation sings where the music is printed or the words shown in bold type.

Glory to God, glory in the highest,
Peace to God's people, peace on earth.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high - est, Peace to God's peo - ple, peace on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high - est, Peace to God's peo - ple, peace on earth.

We worship you,



glo-ry in the high - est.

Give you thanks,



glo-ry in the high - est.

Praise you for your glory.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high - est, Peace to God's peo - ple, peace on earth.

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,



have mer - cy on us;

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Acts 10.34–43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

The Easter Anthems

Sung by the choir.

- 1 Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:
therefore let us keep the feast;
- 2 Not with the old leaven,
nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
- 3 Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more:
death hath no more dominion over him.
- 4 For in that he died, he died unto sin once:
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
- 5 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin:
but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- 6 Christ is risen from the dead:
and become the first-fruits of them that slept.
- 7 For since by man came death:
by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
- 8 For as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Second Reading – Colossians 3.1–4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

**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.**

**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.**

Common Praise 160

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia.

Now he is living, the Christ, out of the tomb he is risen.

He has conquered death — opened heaven to all believers.

Alleluia.

Gospel – John 20.1–18

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John, chapter 20, beginning at verse 1.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ which means Teacher. ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have

not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

The Blessing of Water

Dear friends, let us humbly beseech the Lord our God
to bless this water he has created
which will be sprinkled upon us as a memorial of our Baptism.
May he graciously renew us,
that we may remain faithful to the Spirit whom we have received.

After a brief pause, the presider proclaims the prayer,

Lord our God, in your mercy be present to your people
who keep vigil on this most sacred night,
and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation
and the still greater work of our redemption,
graciously bless ✠ this water.

For you created water to make the fields fruitful
and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.

You also made water the instrument of your mercy:
for through water you freed your people from slavery
and quenched their thirst in the desert;
through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant
you were to enter upon with the human race;
and last of all,
through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan,
you have renewed our corrupted nature
in the bath of regeneration.

Therefore, may this water be for us

a memorial of the baptism we have received,
and grant that we may share
in the gladness of our brothers and sisters,
who at Easter have received their Baptism.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand. Then the presider says to the people:

Dear friends,
through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in Baptism,
so that we might walk with him in newness of life.
And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,
let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism,
by which we once renounced Satan and all his works
and promised to serve God in the holy catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

Do you renounce sin,
so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

I do.

Do you renounce the lure of evil,
so that sin may have no mastery over you?

I do.

Do you renounce Satan,
the author and prince of sin?

I do.

I ask you now to reaffirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

I do.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried;
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

I do.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.

I do.

The presider concludes,

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,
keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life. **Amen.**

The presider then sprinkles the people with water.

Greeting of Peace

Christ is risen! Alleluia, alleluia!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia!

The peace of the Lord, crucified and risen, be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn

**Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour,
First-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head:
Alleluia, alleluia,
Jesu, true and living bread.**

**Here our humblest homage pay we,
Here in loving reverence bow;
Here for faith's discernment pray we,
Lest we fail to know thee now:
Alleluia, alleluia,
Thou art here, we ask not how.**

**Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
As of old in Bethlehem,
Here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and flower of Jesse's stem;
Alleluia, alleluia,
We in worship join with them.**

**Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished
Once for all when thou wast slain,
In its fullness undiminished
Shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia, alleluia,
Cleansing souls from every stain.**

**Life-imparting heavenly manna,
Stricken rock with streaming side,
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna
Worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia, alleluia,
Risen, ascended, glorified!**

Common Praise 311

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, faithful God,
always and everywhere,
for with your only begotten Son and life-giving Spirit,
you are the one true God
from everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing
a universe of beauty and splendour,
bringing light from darkness
and order from chaos.

You formed us, male and female, in your image,
and endowed us with creative power.

We turned away from you but you did not abandon us.
You called us by name and searched us out,
making a covenant of mercy,
giving the law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you,
joining with your faithful people of every time and place,
singing the eternal song:

**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.**

When the fullness of time was come,
you sent your Son to be born of Mary.

Bright image of your glory,
he learnt obedience to you in all things,
even to death on a cross,
breaking the power of evil,
freeing us from sin, and putting death to flight.

You raised him from death, exalting him to glory,
and the new day dawned.

On the night he was betrayed
your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends,
his companions on the way.

While at table he took bread,
blessed, and broke it,
and giving it to them, said:
'Take, eat; this is my body.'

He took a cup of wine,
and, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
'This is my blood of the covenant
which is poured out for many.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

All sing,

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,
we remember his life of obedience to you,
his suffering and death,
his resurrection and exaltation,
and his promise to be with us for ever.
With this bread and this cup
we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Accept, we pray,
our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
and send your Holy Spirit
upon us and our celebration
that all who eat and drink at this table
may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood
to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people,
may we proclaim the everlasting gospel
of Jesus Christ our Lord,
through whom, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, eternal God,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Or

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

The presider breaks the bread.

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Alleluia! Let us keep the feast.

All receive Holy Communion.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The presider or another minister says,

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

Then the presider says,

Heavenly Father,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness,
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,
so his continual presence in us
may raise us to eternal joy.

Father,
**we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Any notices or other announcements may be made at this point.

Hymn

**Jesus Christ is risen today, *Alleluia!*
our triumphant holy day, *Alleluia!*
Who did once, upon the cross *Alleluia!*
suffer to redeem our loss. *Alleluia!***

**Hymns of praise then let us sing
unto Christ, our heavenly king,
who endured the cross and grave
sinners to redeem and save.**

**But the pains that he endured
our salvation have procured;
now above the sky he's King,
where the angels ever sing:**

Common Praise 147

Solemn Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

May almighty God bless you
through today's Easter Solemnity
and, in his compassion,
defend you from every assault of sin. **Amen.**

May God, who restores you to eternal life
in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten,
endow you with the prize of immortality. **Amen.**

Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close,
may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal feast
come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit,
to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

