

Cover Art

The Resurrection c. 1410 Unknown artist Getty

The Great Vigil of Easter

March 30, 2024, 7:00 pm

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

¶ The Celebrant invites the People to gather in vigil and prayer

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. ¶ People Amen.

¶ Then the Celebrant blesses the New Fire, then blesses the Paschal Candle by cutting the Greek letters A and Ω into the wax, the year, and placing five nails in it, representing the five wounds of Christ

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End. Alpha and Omega. His are the times and ages. To him be glory and dominion through all ages of eternity. Amen.

- ¶ The Celebrant places five nails of incense into the Candle, saying
 Through his holy and glorious wounds may Christ the Lord guard and preserve us.
- ¶ The Celebrant lights the Paschal Candle from the new fire, saying
 May the light of Christ, gloriously rising, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.
- ¶ The People's candles are lighted and a procession forms and moves into the Church, pausing three times

¶ Each time the following is sung

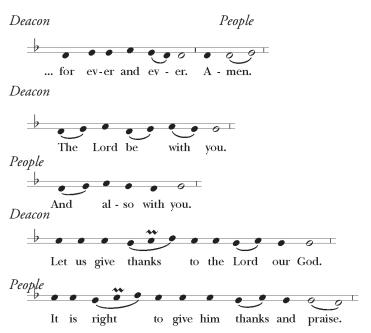
¶ The Paschal Candle is censed



- ¶ All remain standing for the singing of the Exsultet

The Exsultet

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 thy holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of thy people. All ye 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,



It is truly meet and right, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise thee, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and thine 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 thy faithful people. Now therefore, we sacrifice our Passover, in which for us the very Lamb of God is slain, by whose Blood his faithful people are made holy.

This is the night, when thou didst bring forth our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

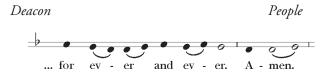
This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

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 thy mercy and loving-kindness to us thy children. Behold, what love he hath bestowed upon us who to redeem a servant, delivered up his only Son. O blessed iniquity, for whose redemption such a price was paid by such a Saviour.

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.

Therefore, O holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice of this lighted candle, which thy holy Church doth make before thee, and doth offer to thee by the hands of thy servants, the work of the bees, thy creatures. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness, as we celebrate the glad solemnity of our redemption. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning — he who doth give his light to all creation. Who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God...



¶ The People sit for the Liturgy of the Word

The Liturgy of the Word

The Flood

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13

Canticle

O praise the Lord, all ye nations: and praise and extol him, all ye peoples. For his loving kindness is ever more and more toward us; and the faithfulness of the Lord endureth for ever.

— Psalm 117

Collect ¶ All stand

Imighty 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.

¶ People Amen.

¶ All are seated

Abraham's Sacrifice of Isaac

Genesis 22:1-18

Canticle

They that trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion:

which may never be removed,

but standeth fast for ever.

Mountains stand round about Jerusalem;

so does the Lord stand round about his people,

from this time forth, and for evermore.

--- Psalm 125:1-2

Collect

¶ All stand

od 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. ¶ People Amen.

¶ All are seated

Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Canticle

I will sing to the Lord:

For he has triumphed gloriously:

The horse and its rider he hath cast into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and song,

And he has become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will praise him;

My father's God, and I will extol him.

The Lord is a warrior:

The Lord is his name!

— Exodus 15:1–3

Collect

¶ All stand

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. ¶ People Amen.

¶ All are seated

The Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Canticle

O give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

My teaching shall drop as the rain,

my speech shall distill as the dew,

as the showers upon the grass.

Because I will publish the name of the Lord:

ascribe ye greatness unto our God.

He is the Rock, his work is perfect:

for all his ways are judgement:

A God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is our God.

Collect ¶ All stand

Imighty 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. ¶ People Amen.

THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER

¶ The candles at the Altar are now lit from the Paschal Candle and the following is proclaimed

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

¶ The People may now extinguish their candles

Gloria in excelsis ¶ Sung by the Choir

Service in E by Harold Darke

lory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ¶ People Amen.

The Word of God

The Epistle Romans 6:3–11

o you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the sinful body might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For he who has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. For 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.

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

The Great Alleluia

¶ All stand

¶ Sung by the Precentor three times, each time repeated by the Choir and People



- ¶ Then all join in singing Psalm 114; The first half of each Psalm verse is sung by the Precentors; the second half is sung by all
- ¶ The People turn to face the Gospel Procession

Psalm 114



When Israel came out of Egypt, Alleluia: *

the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech, Al-leluia:

Judah became God's sanctuary, *Alleluia:* * and Israel his dominion, Al-leluia.



The sea beheld it and fled, *Alleluia:* *

Jordan turned and went back, Al-leluia.

The mountains skipped like rams, *Alleluia:* * and the little hills like young sheep, Al-**leluia.**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *Alleluia:* * O Jordan, that you turned back? Al-**leluia.**

You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *Alleluia:* * you little hills like young sheep? Al-**leluia.**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *Alleluia:* * at the presence of the God of Jacob, Al-**leluia**:

Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water, *Alleluia:* * and flintstone into a flowing spring, Al-**leluia.**

¶ Then the Alleluia is sung once again by all



The Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

Mag'dalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulchre. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. His appearance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. Lo, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Hail!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell

my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

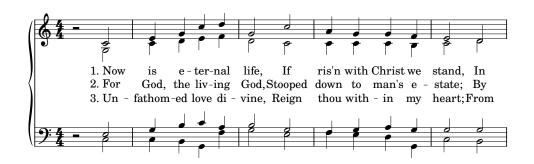
Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

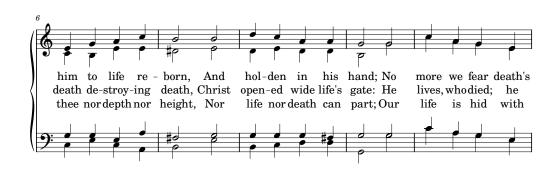
Homily

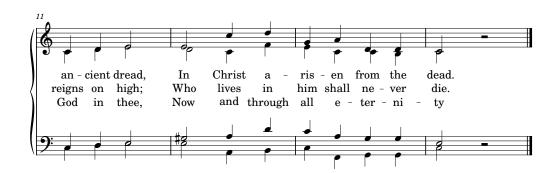
The Rev. Canon Martin Draper

¶ Following the Homily, all stand to sing the following Hymn

Hymn







The Baptismal Covenant

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.

— 13 **—**

¶ The Celebrant continues

ay 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.

¶ People Amen.

¶ As the congregation is asperged the following Hymn is sung



The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Rector's Easter Greeting

The Church of St. Michael & St. George is grateful for the generosity of all visitors and parishioners who contribute as part of the weekly offertory. If you wish, please place your contribution in the collection plate or use the QR code below to give online. These gifts are used to support our parish in addition to parishioners' annual commitments.



The Holy Communion

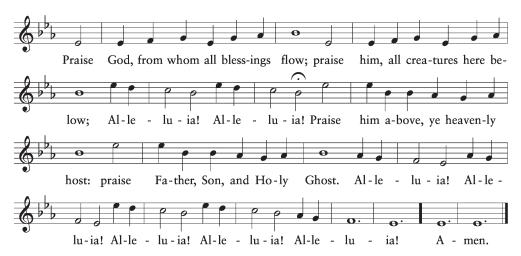
Motet at the Offertory

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day
Didst make Thy triumph over death and sin,
And having harrowed hell, didst bring away
Captivity thence captive, us to win.
This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin,
And grant that we for whom Thou diddest die,
Being with Thy dear blood clean washed from sin,
May live for ever in felicity:
And that Thy love we weighing worthily,
May like-wise love Thee for the same again;
And for Thy sake, that all like dear didst buy,
With love may one another entertain.
So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;
Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

Words: Edmund Spenser (1522-1599) Music: William Harris (1883-1973)

¶ Following the singing of the Motet, all stand to sing

Hymn at the Presentation



Words: Thomas Ken (1637–1711)

Music: Lasst uns erfreuen: Aueserlesene Kirchengesang, 1623

The Great Thanksgiving

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 him thanks and praise.

¶ Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit ¶ Sung by the Choir

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed : is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

¶ The People kneel and the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you his body and blood, the acceptable sacrifice which brings salvation to the whole world, we praise you and we bless you.

¶ Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

¶ The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend # upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

¶ The Celebrant may add petitions here

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Blessed Michael and All Angels, Blessed George, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. ¶ All AMEN.

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

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

¶ The Celebrant breaks the Bread and a period of silence is kept; then is sung

Agnus Dei ¶ Sung by the Choir

- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
- O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Communion of the People

¶ All Christians baptized with water in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Proceed to the Altar Rail when invited by the Usher. To receive the Bread, extend your palms, crossed and upward; when offered the Chalice, please assist in guiding it. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion may come forward for a blessing; please indicate this to the Priest by crossing your arms over your chest.

Easter Carols at the Communion

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days had lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead had been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.
In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain,
Thinking that never he would wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is...
Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain,
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen; Love is...
When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is...

Words: J. M. C. Crum Music: French Carol

Cheer up, friends and neighbors, Now its Eastertide; Stop from endless labours, Worries put aside: Men should rise from sadness, evil, folly, strife, When God's mighty gladness Brings the earth to life. Out from snowdrifts chilly, Roused from drowsy hours, Bluebell wakes, and lily: God calls up the flowers! Into life he raises All the sleeping buds: Meadows weave his praises And the spangled woods. All his truth and beauty, All his righteousness, Are our joy and duty, Bearing his impress: Look! The earth waits breathless After winter's strife; Easter shows man deathless, Spring leads death to life. Ours the more and less is: But, changeless all the days, God revives and blesses, Like the sunlight rays. 'All mankind is risen,' The Easter bells do ring, While from out their prison Creep the flowers of spring!

> Words: Nahum Tate Music: French Carol

The Postcommunion Prayer

¶ Said by all, kneeling

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Easter Blessing

ay Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. § People Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. ¶ People Amen.

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. ¶ People Amen.

And the blessing • of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. ¶ People Amen.

¶ All stand

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Hymn at the Retiring Procession
¶ Sung by all found on the following page



Words: Latin, 1632; tr. Robert Campbell (1814–1868) Music: SALZBURG: Jakob Hintze (1622–1702)

Organ Voluntary

Acclamations from Suite Medievale

Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

Holy Week 2024

"Love so amazing, so divine"

Holy Saturday: The Eve of Easter, March 30

7:00 PM The Great Vigil of Easter Incense will be used.

A reception with dessert will follow.

The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day, March 31

7:30 AM Holy Eucharist

8:45 AM Festival Music for Organ and Brass

9:00 AM Choral Eucharist

The nursery (0 - 3 yrs.) will be available, register online

10:45 AM Festival Music for Organ and Brass

11:00 AM Choral Eucharist

5:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Baptism (St. George's Chapel)

The Great Vigil of Easter

March 30, 2024 7:00 PM



THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

6345 Wydown Boulevard P.O. Box 11887 St. Louis, MO 63105 www.csmsg.org 314.721.1502

The Rev. Andrew John Archie Rector

The Rev. Peter James Speropulos Assistant Rector
The Rev. Thomas Roy Albinson Assistant Rector

The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem Priest Associate; Theologian in Residence

The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey Priest Associate

Mr. S. William Aitken Interim Organist and Choral Director

