



The Great Vigil of Easter

University Presbyterian Church

Self-Guided Worship: 2021

Exsultet Proclamation – Full Text

Rejoice, now, all heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Celebrate the divine mysteries with exultations; and for so great a victory, sound the trumpet of salvation.

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your King! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever.

Rejoice, O mother church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people.

It is right and just that with full devotion of heart and mind and voice we should praise the invisible God, the all-powerful Father, and the only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; who paid for us the price of Adam's sin and who, by his precious blood, redeemed us from bondage to the ancient sin. For this indeed is the Paschal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain, by whose blood the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

This is the night in which in ancient times, you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel, and led them, dry shod, through the sea.

This is the night in which the darkness of sin has been purged away by the rising brightness.

This is the night in which all who believe in Christ are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin, are renewed in grace, and are restored to holiness.

This is the night in which breaking the chains of death Christ arises from hell in triumph. O night truly blessed which alone was worthy to know the time and hour in which Christ rose again from hell!

This is night of which it is written: "The night is as clear as the day," and "then shall my night be turned into day." The holiness of this night puts to flight the deeds of wickedness; washes away sin; restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn; casts out hate; brings peace; and humbles earthly pride.

Therefore in this night of grace, receive, O God, this evening sacrifice of praise, which the church places before you in the solemn offering of this candle. We sing the glories of this pillar of fire, the brightness of which is not diminished even when its light is divided and borrowed. For it is fed by melting wax which the bees, your servants, have made for the substance of this candle.

This is the night in which heaven and earth are joined; things human and things divine.

Exsultet Proclamation – Full Text (continued)

We therefore pray to you, O God, that this candle, burning to the honor of your name, will continue to vanquish the darkness of night, and be mingled with the lights of heaven. May the Morning Star find it burning, that Morning Star who never sets, that Morning Star who, rising from the grave, faithfully sheds light on the whole human race.

And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve with your continual protection your whole church, giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing; through the same Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.