
Sunrise Prelude

1 message

Pastor Alex Zuber <zuber@muhlenberglutheran.org>

Sat, Feb 1, 2020 at 12:04 PM

To: Katie Freund <katie.freundin@gmail.com>

Here's the way I did a mini-Easter Vigil at the beginning of our Sunrise Service. Thanks!

SUNRISE PRELUDE

The congregation is invited to stand as you are able.

Standing in the shadow of the cross, we have faced a great and terrible darkness. We have walked with Christ. As individuals, and as a community, we have come down from the mountain and found ourselves in the Valley of the Shadow of death.

Today, as the mists of morning vanish before the glory of the rising Sun, so shall our sorrows, our pain, and our doubts vanish before the light of the Resurrection!

Christ is Risen! ALLELUIA!

Christ is Risen indeed! ALLELUIA!

The Paschal Candle is lit as a sign of Christ's rising in glory to dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

Brothers and Sisters, most truly have you seen the Light! Throughout this most Holy Week we have been present at Christ's holy table, we have been witnesses to his Passion, and we have celebrated the Light of the Resurrection [by welcoming a new sister/brother into our community by the waters of Holy Baptism]. We have walked with Christ.

Christ is Risen! ALLELUIA!

Christ is Risen indeed! ALLELUIA!

The minister leads the assembly into a Thanksgiving for Baptism.

Is our gathering today a simple remembrance of an ancient story told two thousand years ago? No! Today our beloved Lord has risen from the grave. The tomb stands empty; Jesus Christ lives today! And today we gather as we live, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALLELUIA!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters, and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

The congregation concludes:

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn 693: *Baptized in Water* (found in the Blue Hymnal)

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Pastor Alex Zuber
Associate Pastor
Muhlenberg Lutheran Church
(He/Him/His)

"...and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?"

-Micah 6:8