



Easter Vigil  
Saturday, April 3, 2010  
7:00 p.m.

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church  
1615 Wauwatosa Avenue  
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin  
[www.stmattslutheran.org](http://www.stmattslutheran.org)



**EAST** This is our Passover feast, when Christ, the true Lamb, is slain; whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.

**WEST** **This is the night when you saved our fathers: you freed the people of Israel from their slavery and led them dry through the sea.**

**EAST** This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.

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

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

**WEST** **O necessary fall of Adam, which then we gained so great a Redeemer!**

**EAST** Most blessed of all nights, chosen by God to see Christ rising from the dead!

**WEST** **Of this night scriptures say: "The night will be clear as day: it will become my light, my joy."**

**EAST** 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.

**WEST** **This night is truly blessed when heaven is wedded to earth and all are reconciled with God!**

**EAST** Therefore, in the joy of this night receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering.

**WEST** **Accept this Easter candle, a flame divided but undimmed, a pillar of fire that glows to the honor of God. Let it mingle with the lights of heaven and continue burning bravely to dispel the darkness of the night!**

☐ Let us pray. Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

*[Please carefully extinguish your candles and be seated. Please hold your candle upright until the wax hardens so wax does not get on the pews or floor.]*

## Service of Readings

*The focus of the service now turns to the Word of God. We listen to readings and meditate on the meaning of the experience of Israel and of the church. We center around water, an element which threatens death but is an essential ingredient of creation. Our forebears went safely through the water to new life, but their enemies drowned in it. So we pass through the waters of Baptism to drown sin and come out washed and made new children of God. The readings present a review of the whole history of salvation.*

Lesson 1

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Prayer

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of him who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Lesson 4

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

- A** I will sing to the Lord, for he is gloriously triumphant; Horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.
- C** **My strength and my courage is the Lord, And he has been my savior. He is my God, I praise him; The God of my father, I extol him.**
- A** The Lord is a warrior, Lord is his name!
- C** **Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the sea; the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.**
- A** The flood waters covered them over; they sank into the depths like a stone.
- C** **Your right hand, O Lord, magnificent in power, your right hand, O Lord, has shattered the enemy.**
- A** You brought in the people you redeemed and planted them on the mountain of your inheritance.
- C** **The place where you made your seat, O Lord, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands established. The Lord is king of all the earth. The Lord shall reign forever and ever.**

## Prayer

**P** Let us pray. O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: by the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism. Grant that all the peoples of earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham and may rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

Lesson 5

Isaiah 55:1-11

*Read by Pastor Gary Erickson*

## Prayer

**P** Let us pray. O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Message

Pastor Christopher Manke

*[Please be seated]*

## Service of Holy Baptism

*We now turn to Baptism. The font is the womb of the church. As the Spirit once moved upon the Virgin Mary so that she conceived and bore the Son of God, so now we remember that in this font we were born again as new children of God.*

## Presentation

**P** In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your children baptized into Christ?

**Parent response: I do.**

**P** As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

- to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,
- teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments and place in their hands the holy scriptures,
- and nurture them in faith and prayer,
- so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

**Parent response: I do.**

- P** Sponsors, do you promise to nurture these persons in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

**Sponsor response: I do.**

- P** People of God, do you promise to support Anthony and his parents and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

**C** We do.

### Profession of Faith

- P** I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.
- P** Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
- C** **I renounce them.**
- P** Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
- C** **I renounce them.**
- P** Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- C** **I renounce them.**
- P** Do you believe in God the Father?
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**
- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C** **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
- P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? I believe in the Holy Spirit,

- C** the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

#### Thanksgiving at the Font

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P** 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, and 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 the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.
- Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

#### The Baptism of Anthony Rizzo

- P** We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Anthony with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.
- C** Amen.
- P** Anthony, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
- C** Amen.

#### Welcome

- P** Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

- ☒ **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

### Rite of Sprinkling

*(You are invited to make the sign of the cross as a remembrance of your own baptism.)*

#### Persons Baptized at Previous Easter Vigils:

2008: *Hannah Grace Woldt*  
 2007: *Corey Joe Suchy & Noah Ray Suchy*  
 2006: *Colin John Dugan*  
 2005: *Raney Marie Knecht Bice*  
 2004: *Lori Kay Amstadt, Carly Rae Amstadt, Abigail May Amstadt, Cecelia Marie Janisch*  
 2002: *Charles Louis Boomsma, Margaret Josephine French, Joseph Lawrence French, Sarah Renee Kirchner*  
 2001: *Tod Kirtley, Ellyn Kirtley, Alec Kirtley*  
 2000: *Jon Samuel Toy*  
 1999: *Nora Clare Murphy*  
 1998: *Tyler Jacob Fortney*  
 1997: *Stephen Mortimore*  
 1996: *Kathryn Leinberger*  
 1995: *Nora Duffy, Katherine Duffy, Meghan Murphy*  
 1994: *Reed McCoy*

### Sharing of Peace

☐ Peace be with you.

☒ **And also with you.**

*(Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbors.)*

Our services continue **E**aster Morning at 7:00, 8:30, and 11:00.  
 Please join us for these festive communion services.

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**Anthony Parker Rizzo** is the son of Todd & Kristi Rizzo, Wauwatosa, and was born August 5, 2009. Sponsors are Matthew & Sherri Quinn, St. Paul, Minnesota. Anthony's big sister is Isabella, age 3.