

Role of the Spiritual Directors

Before the Weekend, Spiritual Directors

- Meet with the other Spiritual Director(s) to walk through the weekend schedule, worship services, and general responsibilities.
- Attend the three T.E.C. Team meetings prior to the retreat. Come prepared to lead an informal Eucharist. Involve youth in leadership wherever possible.
- Prepare one of the 10-15 minute “talks” (“Metanoia” and “Easter Mystery”) which will be given at a designated time on the weekend.

During the Retreat Weekend, the Spiritual Directors

- Keep an overall watch of the spiritual tone and flow of the weekend, making sure it remains on Lutheran theology.
- Serve as the weekend’s pastors and be available for individual counseling when called upon.
- Are responsible for giving the “Metanoia” and “Easter Mystery” talks.
- Are encouraged to join in and be a part of the group, helping out when and where possible.
- Work with the Wheat Team in the planning and leading of the weekend’s worship services. The worship services include:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Friday afternoon | Informal Team Eucharist |
| Friday Night | Ash Wednesday Service (with the imposition of ashes) |
| Saturday Morning | Easter Vigil Re-affirmation of Baptism and Washing of Ashes at Baptismal font Easter Service and Eucharist Service at the “close of |
| Sunday Night | Eucharist Celebration (Closing Worship) |

Following the Retreat Weekend

The Spiritual Directors are encouraged to attend the T.E.C. Weekend Reunion which will take place on a Sunday afternoon 2 to 4 weeks after the weekend.

Role of the Spiritual Directors (con’t)

Time Commitment

T.E.C. retreats run from Friday morning through Sunday evening. The T.E.C. Team arrives Friday morning at 9am. There are also team meetings on the three consecutive Sunday afternoons prior to weekend, from 1:30 – 5:30pm.

We realize that there are often extenuating circumstances making it impossible for some SD's to attend all three team meetings prior to a retreat. However, it is necessary that all SD's attend a minimum of one full team meeting. It is preferred if they are able to attend all three.

There needs to be at least one pastor at each team meeting. Coming late, or leaving Early, is permissible if circumstances present themselves.

Spiritual Directors should try to clear their schedules, making it possible to be present during the entire weekend of the retreat.

Spiritual Directors Needed for the Retreat Weekend

There are usually two SD's on each T.E.C. retreat. At least one Spiritual director must remain on site at all times.

Materials Needed for the Weekend

A white alb
A black cassock (if available)
Stoles for Lent and Easter (optional)

Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns prior to, during, or after a retreat, you may contact Pastor John H. Rogers for assistance.

Home: 952-472-7068

Cell: 612-859-5110

Note: Spiritual Directors are asked to pay the \$40 registration fee along with the rest of the team.

Teens Encounter Christ Worship Schedule

Friday Afternoon

2:30 pm Informal Team Eucharist

Friday Evening

11:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
12:00 pm Stations of the Cross
12:45 pm Burning of Sins (on cross outside)

Saturday

6:00 am Processional for Easter Vigil
6:15 am Easter Vigil
7:15 am Re-affirmation of Baptism
7:45 am Easter Eucharist Service
10:30pm Prayer at the Close of Day (short service to wrap up the day)

Sunday

7:45 am Serenade Wake-up
6:00 pm Closing Eucharist Celebration with Families

Worship themes and selected scripture passages should be followed. The order of services can be changed at the discretion of Spiritual Directors.

The Music Team leader(s) will coordinate with the Spiritual Directors in selecting music for worship.

Notes on the Distribution of Ashes

Ash Wednesday History

Lent derives from the preparation of candidates for Baptism. By the middle of the 14th century at Jerusalem, candidates for Baptism fasted for 40 days, and during this period the catechetical lectures of Cyril of Jerusalem were delivered to them. The length of the fast was suggested by several biblical prototypes: Jesus' fast at the beginning of his ministry; Moses' stay on Sinai; the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness; Elija's fast on his way to the mountain of God.

After the legalization of Christianity in 313, the period of preparation for Baptism became a general period of preparation of all Christians for Easter. The length of the fast was 36 days – six weeks, not counting Sundays, which are always feasts celebrating the resurrection – and was thought to be a tithe or tenth of the 365 days of the year.

In 6th-century Rome four days were added to the beginning of Lent to bring it to the biblical number of 40 days, and by the end of the 7th or the beginning of the 8th century, the 40-day Lent had become general in the West.

Ash Wednesday was originally a day for the expulsion of penitents from the church, the beginning of a time of temporary excommunication. In the 4th century, those undergoing church discipline had to endure several stages of excommunication and reinstatement: *weepers*, who stood outside the church door asking for the prayers of those who went in; *hearers*, who were allowed in the narthex; *kneelers*, who were required to kneel with the standing congregation but who had to leave before communion; *standers*, who stood with the congregation but who had to leave before the Communion. Several years might be spent in each of the stages. In succeeding centuries, however, this public penitence was joined to Lent; and at the beginning of Lent (Sunday) or on the Wednesday before Lent (40 days before Easter), the penitents were placed under discipline. (The time was called *quarantine*, for “forty.”) They were admonished, prayed for, given the laying-on of hands, and had to leave the church before the Eucharist.

As early as the third century Tertullian mentions ashes as an external sign of public penitence. In the 9th century the imposition of ashes together with seven penitential psalms were added to the rite of expulsion of penitents from the church during Lent, and the day came to be known as Ash Wednesday. By the 11th century, the discipline of public penitence had largely disappeared and Lent was accepted by the entire church as a time to receive ashes and undergo penitence.

Ashes are an extraordinarily rich symbol rooted in ancient customs and practices. Ashes, in a Jewish and Christian context suggest judgment and God's condemnation of sin; frailty, our total dependence upon God for life; humiliation; and repentance. We are reminded forcefully of the words of the committal in the burial service, “...earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.” For one day those words will be said over us. Moreover, ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. They were once used as a cleansing agent in the absence of soap, and on Ash Wednesday the ashes have sometimes been understood as a penitential substitute for water as a sign of Baptism. (And Baptism is a primary emphasis of Lent.) Water both stifles and refreshes, drowns and makes alive; so the ashes also tell of both death and renewal. A further example of death and renewal shown by ashes is the ancient custom of burning the fields in the spring to destroy the old and prepare for the new.

Ash Wednesday Detail

CORPORATE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Stand

1. *The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

2. *Song*

Kneel/Sit

3. *The minister says the following or another appropriate prayer.*

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (236)

C **Amen**

Sit

4. *PSALM 51*

C **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**

5. *Scripture readings.*

6. *Message (here or see #8)*

7. *The prayer of confession or another prayer prepared for the occasion is said.*

8. *Song (optional)*

P Let us [kneel and] make confession to God.

Kneel/Sit

C **Almighty God, merciful Father:
I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you
all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you
and for which I justly deserve your punishment.
But I am sorry for them, and repent of them,
and pray for your boundless mercy.
For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ,**

Ash Wednesday Detail (con't)

**be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being;
forgive my sins,
give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life,
and bring me to life everlasting. Amen**

9. *Message (here or see #6)*

10. *Explanation of Ashes/ Distribution of Ashes*

11. *Song*

**C 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 forever. Amen**

OR

**C 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,
forever and ever. Amen**

12. *The minister blesses the congregation.*

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

Burning of Sins

It's Friday ... but Sunday's Coming

It's Friday...Jesus was nailed dead on a cross

But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday...Mary crying her eyes out 'cause her baby Jesus is dead

But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday...the disciples are running in every direction like sheep without a shepherd

But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday...Pilate's strutting around washing his hands 'cause he thinks he's got all the power and victory

But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday...people are saying, "as things have been, so they shall always be. You can't change anything in this world."

But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday...Satan's doing a little jib saying, "I control the whole world"

But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday...the temple veil ripped from top to bottom - the earth shook - the rocks split and tombs opened. The centurion screamed in fear, "truly he was the Son of God!"

But Sunday's Coming!

Easter Vigil Detail

VIGIL OF EASTER

Service of Light

1. *The congregation gathers, preferably in a place other than the interior of the church itself. A large fire may have been prepared.*
2. *Each person is given a candle.*
3. *The presiding minister and the assisting ministers, vested for the Holy Communion, come and stand among the people. One of them carries the paschal candle which has been appropriately inscribed.*
4. *The presiding minister lights the paschal candle from the large fire or from a new fire which has been struck. As the candle is lighted, the minister may say:*

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

5. *The assisting minister who holds the candle lifts it high and sings:*

A The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

6. *The PROCESSION into the darkened church begins, led by the assisting minister who bears the paschal candle.*

7. *At the church door, the assisting minister lifts the candle high and sings a second time:*

A The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

All light their candles from the paschal candle, and the procession continues into the church.

8. *Having arrived before the altar, the assisting minister turns to face the congregation, and, when all have reached their places, lifts the candle high and sings a third time:*

A The light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

9. *The EASTER PROCLAMATION is sung after the paschal candle has been placed on its stand.*

Stand

A Rejoice, now, all heavenly choirs of angels,
and celebrate the divine mysteries with exultation;
and, for the victory of so great a King,

Easter Vigil Detail (con't)

sound the trumpet of salvation.
Exult, also, O earth, enlightened with such radiance;
and, made brilliant by the splendor of the eternal King,
know that the ancient darkness has been banished from all the world.
Be glad also, O mother Church, clothed with the brightness of such a light,
and let this house resound with the triumphant voices of the peoples.
Wherefore, dearly beloved, who stand in the clarity of this bright and holy light,
join with me, I ask you, in praising the lovingkindness of almighty God;
through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and rules with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

A It is indeed right and salutary
that we should with full devotion of heart and mind and voice
praise the invisible God, the Father Almighty,
and his only Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ;
who paid for us the debt of Adam to the eternal Father,
and who by his precious blood
redeemed us from the 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, from the land of Egypt;
and led them, dry-shod, through the Red Sea.
This, indeed, 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.
For it would have profited us nothing to be born
had we not also been redeemed.
Oh, how wonderful the condescension of your lovingkindness!

Easter Vigil Detail (con't)

Oh, how inestimable the goodness of your love,
that to redeem a slave you delivered up your Son!
O necessary sin of Adam that is wiped away by the death of Christ!
O happy fault that was worthy to have so great a Redeemer!
O night truly blessed which alone was worthy
to know the time and the hour wherein Christ arose again from hell!

This is the night of which it is written:
"and 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.

10. *The assisting minister may fix five grains of incense in the candle.*

A Therefore, in this night of grace, receive, O holy Father,
this evening sacrifice of praise;
which the Church lays before you in the solemn offering of the candle.

We sing the glories of this pillar of fire,

11. *Tapers are lighted from the paschal candle to light other candles and lamps in the church as the Easter Proclamation continues.*

the brightness of which is not diminished,
even when its light is divided and borrowed.

For it is fed by the melting wax which the bees, your servants,
have made for the substance of this candle.

O night truly blessed in which heaven and earth are joined--
things human and things divine.

We, therefore, pray to you, O Lord,
that this candle, burning to the honor of your name,
will continue to vanquish the darkness of this night
and be mingled with the lights of heaven.

May he who is the morning star find it burning--
that morning star which never sets,
that morning star which, rising again from the grave,
faithfully sheds light on all the human race.

And we pray, O Lord, 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.

C **Amen**

OR

Easter Vigil Detail (con't)

A Rejoice, now, all heavenly choirs of angels,
and celebrate the divine mysteries with exultation;
and, for the victory of so great a King, sound the trumpet of salvation.
Exult, also, O earth, enlightened with such radiance;
and, made brilliant by the splendor of the eternal King,
know that the ancient darkness has been banished from all the world.
Be glad also, O mother Church,
clothed with the brightness of such a light,
and let this house resound with the triumphant voices of the peoples.

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

A It is indeed right and salutary that we should with full devotion
of heart and mind and voice praise the invisible God,
the Father Almighty, and his only Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ;
who paid for us the debt of Adam to the eternal Father,
and who by his precious blood
redeemed us from the 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,
from the land of Egypt;
and led them, dry-shod, through the Red Sea.
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 holiness, by the rising brightness.
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 wherein Christ arose again from hell!
O night truly blessed in which heaven and earth are joined--
things human and things divine.
We, therefore, pray to you, O Lord,
that he, in whose honor this candle burns,
will continue to vanquish the darkness of this night
and faithfully shed light on all the human race;
through the same Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,

Easter Vigil Detail (con't)

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**

Song ()

Second Lesson: Exodus 14:10-31

¹⁰When the Israelites saw the king coming with his army, they were frightened and begged the LORD for help. ¹¹They also complained to Moses, " Wasn't there enough room in Egypt to bury us? Is that why you brought us out here to die in the desert? Why did you bring us out of Egypt anyway? ¹²While we were there, didn't we tell you to leave us alone? We had rather be slaves in Egypt than die in this desert!"

¹³But Moses answered, " Don't be afraid! Be brave, and you will see the LORD save you today. These Egyptians will never bother you again. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you won't have to do a thing."

¹⁵The LORD said to Moses, " Why do you keep calling out to me for help? Tell the Israelites to move forward. ¹⁶Then hold your walking stick over the sea. The water will open up and make a road where they can walk through on dry ground. ¹⁷I will make the Egyptians so stubborn that they will go after you. Then I will be praised because of what happens to the king and his chariots and cavalry. ¹⁸The Egyptians will know for sure that I am the LORD."

¹⁹All this time God's angel had gone ahead of Israel's army, but now he moved behind them. A large cloud had also gone ahead of them, ²⁰but now it moved between the Egyptians and the Israelites. The cloud gave light to the Israelites, but made it dark for the Egyptians, and during the night they could not come any closer.

²¹Moses stretched his arm over the sea, and the LORD sent a strong east wind that blew all night until there was dry land where the water had been. The sea opened up, ²²and the Israelites walked through on dry land with a wall of water on each side.

²³The Egyptian chariots and cavalry went after them. ²⁴But before daylight the LORD looked down at the Egyptian army from the fiery cloud and made them panic. ²⁵Their chariot wheels got stuck, and it was hard for them to move. So the Egyptians said to one another, " Let's leave these people alone! The LORD is on their side and is fighting against us." ²⁶The LORD told Moses, " Stretch your arm toward the sea--the water will cover the Egyptians and their cavalry and chariots." ²⁷Moses stretched out his arm, and at daybreak the water rushed toward the Egyptians. They tried to run away, but the LORD drowned them in the sea. ²⁸The water came and covered the chariots, the cavalry, and the whole Egyptian army that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them was left alive. ²⁹But the sea had made a wall of water on each side of the Israelites; so they walked through on dry land.

³⁰On that day, when the Israelites saw the bodies of the Egyptians washed up on the shore, they knew that the LORD had saved them. ³¹Because of the mighty power he had used against the Egyptians, the Israelites worshiped him and trusted him and his servant Moses.

This is the Word of the Lord

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

Easter Vigil Detail (con't)

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**

Song ()

Third Lesson: Isaiah 4:2-6

²The time is coming when the LORD will make his land fruitful and glorious again, and the people of Israel who survive will take great pride in what the land produces. ³Everyone who is left alive in Jerusalem will be called special, ⁴after the LORD sends a fiery judgment to clean the city and its people of their violent deeds.

⁵Then the LORD will cover the whole city and its meeting places with a thick cloud each day and with a flaming fire each night. God's own glory will be like a huge tent that covers everything. ⁶It will provide shade from the heat of the sun and a place of shelter and protection from storms and rain.

This is the Word of the Lord.

P Let us pray.

O God, by the word of the prophets you are known in the Church as the sower of the good seed, the keeper of the chosen vineyard. Grant to your people, who are called your vine and your harvest, that, cleansed of all thorns and briars, they may abundantly bring forth good fruit; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Song ()

Fourth Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹Some time later, I felt the LORD's power take control of me, and his Spirit carried me to a valley full of bones. ²The LORD showed me all around, and everywhere I looked I saw bones that were dried out. ³He said, "Ezekiel, son of man, can these bones come back to life?" I replied, "LORD God, only you can answer that."

⁴He then told me to say: Dry bones, listen to what the LORD is saying to you, ⁵"I, the LORD God, will put breath in you, and once again you will live. ⁶I will wrap you with muscles and skin and breathe life into you. Then you will know that I am the LORD."

⁷I did what the LORD said, but before I finished speaking, I heard a rattling noise. The bones were coming together! ⁸I saw muscles and skin cover the bones, but they had no life in them. ⁹The LORD said: Ezekiel, now say to the wind, "The LORD God commands you to blow from every direction and to breathe life into these dead bodies, so they can live again." ¹⁰As soon as I said this, the wind blew among the bodies, and they came back to life! They all stood up, and there were enough to make a large army.

¹¹The LORD said: Ezekiel, the people of Israel are like dead bones. They complain that they are dried up and that they have no hope for the future. ¹²So tell them, "I, the LORD God, promise to open your graves and set you free. I will bring you back to Israel, ¹³and when that happens, you

Easter Vigil Detail (con't)

will realize that I am the LORD. ¹⁴My Spirit will give you breath, and you will live again. I will bring you home, and you will know that I have kept my promise. I, the LORD, have spoken."

This is the Word of the Lord.

P Let us pray.

O God, by the Passover of the Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life. Give us such an understanding of your mercy that, in receiving the gifts of Word and Sacrament now, we may learn to hope for all your gifts to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Song

Fifth Lesson: Zephaniah 3:12-20

¹²But I, the LORD, won't destroy any of your people who are truly humble and turn to me for safety. ¹³The people of Israel who survive will live right and refuse to tell lies. They will eat and rest with nothing to fear.

¹⁴Everyone in Jerusalem and Judah, celebrate and shout with all your heart! ¹⁵Zion, your punishment is over. The LORD has forced your enemies to turn and retreat. Your LORD is King of Israel and stands at your side; you don't have to worry about any more troubles. ¹⁶Jerusalem, the time is coming, when it will be said to you:

"Don't be discouraged or grow weak from fear! ¹⁷The LORD your God wins victory after victory and is always with you. He celebrates and sings because of you, and he will refresh your life with his love."

¹⁸The LORD has promised: Your sorrow has ended, and you can celebrate. ¹⁹I will punish those who mistreat you. I will bring together the lame and the outcasts, then they will be praised, instead of despised, in every country on earth. ²⁰I will lead you home, and with your own eyes you will see me bless you with all you once owned. Then you will be famous everywhere on this earth. I, the LORD, have spoken! This is the Word of the Lord.

P Let us Pray.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery. By the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation. Let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by Him through which all things were made, Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Song ()

(Everyone go to the Narthex for Affirmation of Baptism)

Affirmation of Baptism

(Remind the youth that they are NOT being re-baptized but merely affirming what was said at their original baptism)

1. *Three services, related to the Baptism of the candidates, are presented as one.*
2. *A hymn is sung as the candidates gather before the congregation.*

CONFIRMATION

3. *Confirmation marks the completion of the congregation's program of confirmation ministry, a period of instruction in the Christian faith as confessed in the teachings of the Lutheran Church. Those who have completed this program were made members of the Church in Baptism. Confirmation includes a public profession of the faith into which the candidates were baptized, thus underscoring God's action in their Baptism.*

4. *A representative of the congregation presents the candidates to the minister:*

These persons have been instructed in the Christian faith and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism.

5. *Their names are read.*

P Dear friends, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world.

RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP

6. *Christians from other denominations become members of the Lutheran Church through reception into the local congregation. In Baptism they were made Christians; now they become members of the Lutheran Church.*

7. *A representative of the congregation presents the candidates to the minister:*

These persons have come to us from *other churches*, and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism.

8. *Their names are read.*

P Dear friends, we rejoice to receive you, members of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, into our fellowship in the Gospel.

12. *The minister addresses those who have been presented.*

P Brothers and sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been [nourished at his holy table and] called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

Affirmation of Baptism (con't)

R I do.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

R I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

R 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 into hell.*
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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

R 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. Amen

**Or, He descended to the dead.*

Stand

13. *THE PRAYERS are said.*

A Let us pray for those who are affirming their Baptism, and for all the baptized everywhere:

That they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death:
Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A That the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth: Lord, in your mercy,

Affirmation of Baptism (con't)

C **hear our prayer.**

A That they may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church: Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A That they may be sent into the world in witness to your love: Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A That they may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory: Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

Other prayers may be added.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (238)

C **Amen**

14. The minister addresses those making affirmation.

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:
to live among God's faithful people,
to hear his Word and share in his supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person answers in turn.

R I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Easter Eucharist

Processional Hymn: LBW #151 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Stand

1. *The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (236)

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

2. *Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

3. *The minister stands and addresses the congregation.*

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

OR

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Easter Eucharist (con't)

C **Amen**

Song: "Every Morning is Easter Morning"

*Lessons: I Corinthians 15:19-28
 Mark 16:1-8*

Message

Words of Institution:

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***Distribution** (by intinction)*

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

OR

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C **Amen**

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Worship Notes

Notes:

- The closing worship service takes place at 6:00pm on Sunday night. It is typically a simple Eucharist service using the 1st or 2nd setting of Holy Communion in the LBW.
- The parents of the weekenders will have been previously contacted, without their son or daughter's knowledge, and invited to attend this service as a surprise to their youth.
- Parents arrive around 5:15pm and spend about ½ hour with the pastors on the weekend. Using the slide show, the pastors talk about T.E.C., the weekend, and what to expect (and not expect) from their youth following a T.E.C. weekend.

Worship Notes:

- When the weekenders enter the sanctuary, all parents are standing facing the youth, singing "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" (LBW #151).
- We follow the normal Order of Worship from the LBW, and (optionally) chant the liturgy if the pastors are comfortable and someone is available to play the music.
- When the weekenders enter the sanctuary, ask them to sit with their parents and family.
- The Gospel reading is the "Transfiguration Text" – Matthew 17:1-9. Feel free to make some connections with the text and the T.E.C. weekend.

Suggestions to include in your words to the congregation:

- The T.E.C. weekend does not end here
- You didn't experience T.E.C., you experienced CHRIST
- Encourage youth and families to continue their journeys in their home congregations
- The Christ that was shared with you this weekend is meant to be shared with others
- You are EASTER PEOPLE!
- Christ is counting on YOU!