

## The Exultet

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing choirs of angels!  
Exult, all creation around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ, our King is risen!  
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 for ever!

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 truly right that with full hearts and minds and  
voices we should praise the unseen God, the all-  
powerful Father,  
and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

For Christ has ransomed us with his blood,  
and ***paid for us the price of Adam's sin***  
to our eternal Father!

This is our Passover feast,  
When Christ, the true Lamb, is slain,  
whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers.

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

This is the night, when the pillar of fire destroyed the  
darkness of sin.

This is the night,  
when Christians everywhere,  
washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement, are  
restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

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

What good would life have been to us  
had Christ not come as our Redeemer?

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

***O happy fault, O necessary sin of Adam,  
which gained for us so great a Redeemer!***

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

Of this night scripture says:  
"The night will be as clear as day:  
it will become my light, my joy."

***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.***

***Night truly blessed,  
when heaven is wedded to earth  
and we are reconciled to God!***

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

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 bravely burning  
to dispel the darkness of this night!

May the Morning Star which never sets  
find this flame still burning:  
Christ, that Morning Star,  
who came back from the dead,  
and shed his peaceful light on all mankind,  
your Son, who lives and reigns  
for ever and ever. Amen.



## Prophetic Voices

### **Amos 2:6-7**

What is Amos's attitude toward the rich?

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### **Amos 5:21, 23-24**

What does Amos say about religious formalism?

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### **Jeremiah 13:20**

From whence does Jeremiah say doom is approaching?

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### **Ezekiel 7:1-4, 26-27**

Put Ezekiel's frightening warning in your own words.

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### **Ezekiel 34:11-15 and John 10:11-18**

How do these two passages compare? Do you think Jesus had Ezekiel in mind when he was speaking?

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### **My Prophetic Voice**

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# Isaiah x 3

## 1. *Isaiah (First Isaiah): Chapters 1-39*

- Authored by Isaiah of Jerusalem who preached during the biblical golden age of prophecy (eighth century BC).
- Themes: repentance (Is 1:16–18) and warnings of approaching disaster (Is 5:1–7).
- Promises a future of peace (Is 9:5–6) and the coming of Immanuel (Is 7:14).

## 2. *Second Isaiah: Chapters 40-55*

- Written by an anonymous prophet (sometimes referred to as Isaiah of Babylon) during the time of the Babylonian Exile.
- Themes: comfort (Is 40:1–5); consolation (Is 49:15–16a); promise of a great future (Is 45:6b).
- Contains a series of four “Servant Songs” detailing the mission of the servant who not only suffers on behalf of the people but also offers them hope.
  - Is 42:1–7
  - Is 49:1–6
  - Is 50:4–9
  - Is 52:13–53:12

## 3. *Third or Trito-Isaiah: Chapters 56-66*

- Authored by a disciple(s) of Second Isaiah who depicts himself as a herald of good news—an evangelist—to the poor, bringing healing, freedom, release, favor, and vindication (Is 61:1–2).
- Themes: hope (Is 60:15) and universal salvation (Is 56:7).
- Addressed to a post-exilic people laboring to rebuild their lives—their country, their capital, and their Temple—it assures them that God is with them and so encourages them to be joyful (Is 62:2–5).



### ***“The Golden Passional”***

Martin Luther declared that the Fourth Servant Song (Is 52:13–53:12) should be written on gold and lettered in diamonds, thus rendering the passage the title “The Golden Passional.” Read and reflect on the song in its entirety. Then note three ways you feel it relates to the suffering of Jesus.

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