

# GREAT THANKSGIVING PRAYER AT THE EASTER VIGIL

Richard Fabian

# Great Thanksgiving Prayer at the Easter Vigil

*Richard Fabian*

*Presider* It is right and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
God our Creator and Lover.  
You make all things and call them good.  
you love us into being,  
you form us in your image  
and breathe into us the breath of life.  
When we turn away, and our love fails,  
your love remains steadfast.  
You deliver us from captivity,  
and bring us to a land flowing with milk and honey.  
You set before us the way of life.  
And so, with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name as we join their unending hymn:

***[Sanctus and Benedictus]***

*Presider:* Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
By his baptism of suffering and death  
you give your church birth into a living hope.  
Raising Jesus from the dead,  
you make a new covenant with us, by water and the Spirit,  
and deliver us into freedom.  
We who were no people are now your people,  
declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,  
who calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

***Presbyters: join in on a chord***

On the night when he gave himself up for us,  
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,  
gave it to his disciples, and said,

***—sing on one note:***

"Take, eat: this is my Body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

***—sing on chord:***

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said,

***—sing on one note:***

"Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new Covenant,  
which is shed for you and for all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me."

***—sing on chord:***

On the third day you raised him from the dead  
and revealed him to the women  
who came to the tomb to care for his body.  
On that day he was recognized by his disciples  
in the breaking of bread.

***Presbyters: Presider continues alone.***

***Presider*** And so, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice,  
and we praise you and we bless you.

***People*** We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you Lord our God.

*Presider* Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ  
that we may be for the world  
the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in loving service to all the world,  
until all feast at your heavenly banquet.  
Through your Son Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father  
now and for ever. AMEN.