The Lighting of the Paschal Candle and Processional

The Invocation

And the Congregation responds, chanting:



The Acolyte, holding the Paschal Candle, steps forward.

The Celebrant traces the vertical line of the cross with a stylus, while saying:

V: Christ yesterday and today,

He traces the transept of the cross, saying:

V: The beginning and the end.

He traces the Greek letter Alpha at the top of the cross, saying:

V: The Alpha

He traces the Greek letter Omega at the bottom of the cross, saying: V: and Omega.

He traces the first number of the year upon the Candle in the upper left corner of the cross, saying:

V: His are the seasons

He traces the second number of the year upon the Candle in the upper right corner of the cross, saying:

V: His the ages;

He traces the third number of the year upon the Candle in the lower left corner of the cross, saying:

V: To Him be glory and dominion,

He traces the last number of the year upon the Candle in the lower right corner of the cross, saying:

V: through ages eternal.

The Celebrant touches the nails, in the following order: Top of the cross, center of the cross, bottom of the cross, left transept of the cross, right transept of the cross, saying:

V: By His wounds, holy (nail one)

V: and glorious, *(nail two)*V: May He protect us *(nail three)*V: and preserve us *(nail four)*V: Who is Christ the Lord. Amen. *(nail five)*

Then receiving an unlit candle, he lights it, and then lights the Paschal Candle with this newly lit Candle, saying:

Christ rises resplendent, may His light dispel from heart and mind the evil night!

The Salutation

Then the Celebrant chants the Salutation:



The Congregation responds, chanting:



The Procession

At the entrance to the Nave, the Acolyte stops, raises the Candle up as high as he can comfortably do so, and the Celebrant chants and the congregation responds **three** times:



The Service continues with the Processional Hymn.

The Acolyte places the Paschal Candle in its stand.