Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!

The Risen Savior shines upon you. Let this place

© Saint Meinrad Archabbey
re-sound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God’s people. My dear-est friends,

standing with me in this holy light,

join with me in asking God for mercy that he may give his unworthy minister grace to sing his Easter praises. The Lord be with you.

and also with you. Lift up your hearts.

we lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise. It the 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 Christ broke the chains of death
and rose triumphant from the grave.

What good would life have been for 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,

Over earnest 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 all are reconciled with 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,
fashioned from the work of bees, 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 peaceful light on all, your Son,

who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.