Celebrating the Easter Vigil: What sort of theology of creation is shaped by our worship? A critical ecofeminist reading

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Title: Celebrating the Easter Vigil: What sort of theology of creation is shaped by our worship? A critical ecofeminist reading

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Abstract: This thesis explores celebration of the Easter Vigil as it shapes a theology of creation and asks whether it is liberating, life giving, for women and the earth. The exploration is firmly rooted in the centuries old adage lex orandi, lex credendi, lex vivendi. There is a dynamic relationship between praying, believing and living; to worship is to do theology and shape living. The Easter Vigil with its unique elements of Light, Word, Baptism and Eucharist is a privileged place for this exploration and offers breadth to the exploration through its temporal and cosmic dimensions, proclamation of the Word and celebration of initiation. There are two points of departure for this work: liturgical theology and ecofeminism. Aidan Kavanagh's approach to liturgical theology---in particular his attention to experience, his conviction that the church's prayer founds believing, his identification of two movements of theology (theologia prima and theologia secundo)---supports this study. (Abstract shortened by UMI.)

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For many, Easter functions as the unofficial kickoff of spring—but for Christians around the world, the holiday is the most important celebration of the year. Rooted in more than 2,000 years of ritual and rite, Easter commemorates the central event in the Christian church: the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which Christians see as fulfilling the biblical prophecy of a messiah who would rise from the dead and give eternal life in heaven to those who believe in him. (Here's what archaeology is telling us about the real Jesus.) The Episcopal Bishop of Washington, D.C. meets with Easter worshipers. … Read More Photograph by Sisse Brimberg, Nat Geo Image Collection. A convent marching band plays on Palm Sunday. Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. Learn more about the real meaning of Easter including the history and holiday symbols like Easter eggs, the bunny, and lilies. Easter is the fulfilled prophecy of the Messiah who would be persecuted, die for our sins, and rise on the third day (Isaiah 53). Remembering the resurrection of Jesus is a way to renew daily hope that we have victory over sin. Early Christians celebrating the Passover worshiped Jesus as the Paschal Lamb and Redeemer. Some of the Gentile Christians began celebrating Easter in the nearest Sunday to the Passover since Jesus actually arose on a Sunday. This especially became the case in the western part of the Roman Empire.