

Services of Great and Holy Pascha as Reader's Services



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Holy Saturday Midnight Office as a reader's service



Around 11:30 pm we begin the Midnight Office:

1st Reader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother and of all the saints, have mercy on us.

All: **Amen.**

Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

Master, pardon our transgressions.

Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

1st Reader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers,
O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

All: **Amen.**

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God, our King!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ,
our King and our God!

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself,
our King and our God!

Psalm 50 (51)

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God,
according to Thy steadfast love;
according to Thine abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions
and my sin is ever before me.

Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned,
and done that which is evil in Thy sight,
so that Thou art justified in Thy sentence
and blameless in Thy judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward being;

therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Fill me with joy and gladness;
let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice.
Hide Thy face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation
and uphold me with a willing Spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors Thy ways
and sinners will return to Thee.
Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God,
Thou God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of Thy deliverance.
O Lord, open Thou my lips,
and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.
For Thou hast no delight in sacrifice;
were I to give a burnt offering, Thou wouldst not be pleased.
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.
Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
Then wilt Thou delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on Thy altar.

And we sing the Canon of Holy Saturday:

The Canon – Tone 6

The Irmoi are by St Cassiani. The Troparia of Odes 1, 3, 4, & 5 are by St Mark the Monk, bishop of

Hydrous. The Troparia Odes 6, 7, 8, & 9 are by St Kosmas of Jerusalem.

Ode 1

Irmos: Of old Thou didst bury the pursuing tyrant
beneath the waves of the sea.
Now the children of those who were saved
bury Thee beneath the earth,
but with the maidens let us sing to the Lord,
for gloriously has He been glorified.

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Unto Thee I sing a hymn for the departed and a song of burial,
O Lord my God,
who by Thy burial hast opened for me the entrance to life
and by Thy death hast put death and hell to death.

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Beholding Thee upon the throne and on high and in the grave below,
the things of heaven and the things beneath the earth
trembled at Thy death;
for in a manner past understanding wast Thou,
the very source of life, seen dead.

Refrain: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thou didst descend to the depths of the earth to fill all with Thy glory;
for my person that is in Adam was not hidden from Thee,
and when Thou wast buried, Thou didst renew me who am corrupt,
O Lover of mankind.

Ode 3

Irmos: Thou didst suspend the earth immovably upon the waters.
Now creation beholds Thee suspended on Calvary.
It quakes with great amazement and cries:
“None is holy but Thee, O Lord.”

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

By a multitude of visions Thou didst indicate the signs of Thy burial,
O Master.

But now, as God and man,
Thou dost make clear Thy hidden things even unto those in hell, who cry:
“None is holy but Thee, O Lord.”

***Refrain:* Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.**

Thou hast stretched out Thy hands, O Savior,
and united what before had been divided;
and by clothing Thyself in a winding sheet
Thou hast saved even those held captive by the tomb, who cry:
“None is holy but Thee, O Lord.”

***Refrain:* Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

By Thy will a sealed tomb contained Thee, who cannot be contained;
for by Thy divine accomplishments Thou hast made known Thy power
unto those who sing:
“None is holy but Thee, O Lord who lovest mankind.”

Kathisma Hymn - Tone 1

***Choir:* The soldiers guarding Thy tomb, O Savior,
became as dead men at the lightening flash of the angel
who appeared announcing Thy resurrection to the women.
We glorify Thee, who cleanseest from corruption.
We fall down before Thee, who didst rise from the tomb, our only God.**

Ode 4

***Irmos:* Forseeing Thy divine humiliation on the cross,
Habakkuk cried out trembling:
“Thou didst shatter the dominion of the mighty
by joining those in hell as the almighty Lord.”**

***Refrain:* Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.**

Thou hast sanctified this, the seventh day,
 which of old Thou didst bless by rest from work;
 for Thou dost bring all things into being and renew them, O my Savior,
 while resting and reviving on the sabbath.

Refrain: **Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.**

By the overwhelming strength of Thy divine nature
 Thou didst win the victory, O Word;
 for Thy soul was parted from the flesh,
 sundering by Thy might the bonds of hell and death.

Refrain: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

When hell encountered Thee, O Word, it was embittered.
 Seeing Thee as a mortal man deified,
 marked with wounds yet having almighty power,
 it cried out at Thy awesome appearance.

Ode 5

Irmos: **Isaiah saw the never-setting light
 of Thy compassionate manifestation to us as God, O Christ.
 Rising early from the night he cried out:
 "The dead shall arise.
 Those in the tombs shall awake.
 All those on earth shall greatly rejoice."**

Refrain: **Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.**

When Thou didst become earthly, O Creator,
 Thou didst renew those born on earth,
 and the winding sheet and the grave
 revealed the mystery concerning Thee, O Word;
 for Joseph the noble counsellor,
 fulfills the counsel of Him who begot Thee
 and who wondrously renews me in Thee.

Refrain: **Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.**

Through death Thou dost transform what is mortal,
 and through burial Thou dost transform what is corruptible;
 for in a manner befitting God Thou dost make incorrupt and immortal
 the nature which Thou hast assumed,
 since Thy flesh did not see corruption
 and in a wondrous manner Thy soul was not abandoned in hell.

***Refrain:* Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Thou didst come forth from a painless birth, O my Maker,
 and Thy side was pierced.
 By this hast Thou, the new Adam, accomplished the restoration of Eve.
 Thou didst fall into a sleep surpassing nature and renewing nature,
 and, as the all-powerful One,
 Thou didst raise up life from sleep and corruption.

Ode 6

***Irmos:* Jonah was caught but not held fast
 in the belly of the whale.**

**He was a sign of Thee
 who hast suffered and accepted burial.**

**Coming forth from the beast as from a bridal chamber,
 he called out to the guard:**

“By observing vanities and lies you have forsaken your own mercy.”

***Refrain:* Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.**

Thou wast killed, O Word,
 but not separated from the flesh which Thou dost share with us;
 for even though the temple of Thy body was destroyed
 at the time of the passion,
 the person of Thy divinity and of Thy flesh was one,
 for in both dost Thou remain one Son,
 Word of God, God and man.

***Refrain:* Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.**

The fall of Adam resulted in the death of man, not God;
 for even though the earthly substance of Thy flesh suffered,
 Thy divinity remained passionless.
 In Thyself Thou hast transformed the corruptible to incorruption,
 and by Thy resurrection Thou hast revealed a fountain of incorruptible life.

***Refrain:* Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Hell rules the race of mortal men, but not eternally;
 for when Thou wast placed in the grave, O powerful One,
 Thou didst tear asunder the bars of death by Thy life-creating hand
 and didst proclaim true deliverance to those sleeping there from the ages,
 since Thou, O Savior, hast become the first-born of the dead.

Kontakion - Tone 6

**He who shut in the depths is beheld dead,
 wrapped in fine linen and spices.**

The immortal One is laid in a tomb as a mortal man.

**The women have come to anoint Him with myrrh,
 weeping bitterly and crying:**

**"This is the most blessed sabbath //
 on which Christ has fallen asleep to rise on the third day."**

Ikos

Reader: He who holds all things together has been lifted up upon the cross,
 and all of creation weeps at seeing Him hanging, naked, upon the wood.

The sun hid its rays and the stars cast aside their splendor,
 The earth shook with great fear, the sea fled,
 and the rocks were split asunder.

Many tombs were opened, and the bodies of holy men arose.

Hell groaned below

and the Jews considered how to slander the resurrection of Christ,
 but the women cried:

***Choir:* "This is the most blessed sabbath
 on which Christ has fallen asleep to rise on the third day."**

Ode 7

Irmos: Inexpressible wonder!

**In the furnace Thou didst save the holy youths from the flame.
Now Thou art placed in the grave as a lifeless corpse,
for the salvation of us who sing:
“Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”**

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Hell was wounded in heart
when it received Him whose side was pierced by a spear,
and it groans, consumed by divine fire,
unto the salvation of us who sing:
“Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Happy is the tomb!
For having received the Creator as one asleep,
it became a divine treasury of life,
for the salvation of us who sing:
“Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

In accordance with the law of the dead,
the Life of all accepts burial in the tomb,
and the tomb becomes the source of resurrection,
unto the salvation of us who sing:
“Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

Refrain: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

In hell, in the tomb and in Eden,
the divinity of Christ was one and undivided,
with the Father and the Spirit,
for the salvation of us who sing:
“Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

Ode 8

Irmos: Be amazed, O heavens!

**Be shaken, O foundations of the earth!
Behold, He that dwells in the highest
is numbered among the dead and sheltered in a lowly tomb.
Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests!
O people, exalt Him above all forever!**

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

The pure Temple has been destroyed,
yet He raises with Himself the tabernacle that had fallen;
for the second Adam, who dwells in the highest,
has descended to the first Adam,
even unto the lowest chambers of hell.
Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests!
O people, exalt Him above all forever!

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

The courage of all the disciples failed,
but Joseph of Arimathea showed valor;
for seeing the God of all dead and naked,
he sought Him and dressed Him for burial, crying:
Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests!
O people, exalt Him above all forever!

Refrain: Let us bless the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

What new wonders! What great goodness! What ineffable forbearance!
For He that dwells in the highest is willingly sealed beneath the earth,
and God is slandered as a deceiver.
Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests!
O people, exalt Him above all forever!

Ode 9

Irmos: Do not lament me, O mother,
seeing me in the tomb,
the Son conceived in the womb without seed.
For I shall arise and be glorified with eternal glory as God.
I shall exalt all who magnify thee in faith and in love.

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

“I escaped sufferings and was blessed beyond nature at Thy strange birth,
O Son who art without beginning.
But now, beholding Thee, my God, dead and without breath,
I am sorely pierced by the sword of sorrow.
But arise, that I may be magnified.”

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

“By my own will, the earth covers me, O mother,
but the gatekeepers of hell tremble
at seeing me clothed in the blood-stained garments of vengeance;
for when I have vanquished my enemies on the cross,
I shall arise as God and magnify thee.”

Refrain: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

“Let creation rejoice! Let all born on earth be glad!
For hateful hell has been despoiled.
Let the women with myrrh come to meet me;
for I am redeeming Adam and Eve and all their descendants,
and on the third day shall I arise!”

Katavasia: Do not lament me, O mother,
seeing me in the tomb,
the Son conceived in the womb without seed.
For I shall arise and be glorified with eternal glory as God.
I shall exalt all who magnify thee in faith and in love.

Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us.
 Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us.
 Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: Have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

Master, pardon our transgressions.

Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

1st Reader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers,
 O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

Troparion, Resurrection - Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
 Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
 And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
 all the powers of heaven cried out:

"O Giver of life, //

Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

For the Litany

Lord, have mercy. *12x*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Dismissal

All (choir): **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, Bless.

1st Reader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother and of all the
saints, have mercy on us. Amen.

And then at Midnight Matins.



Paschal Matins as a Reader's Service



At Midnight we light all our lamps candles and sing three times this stikheron in Tone 6:

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior
the angels in heaven sing.
Enable us on earthquake
to glorify Thee in purity of heart.

1st Reader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother and of all the saints, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

Paschal Troparion – Tone 1

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

Verses of Psalm 67 [68]: 1, 2a, 2b-3a; 117 [118]: 24

verse: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Choir: **Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*once*)**

verse: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire.

Choir: **Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon**

those in tombs bestowing life. (once)

verse: So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad.

Choir: **Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (once)**

verse: This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Choir: **Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (once)**

verse: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

Choir: **Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (once)**

verse: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: **Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (once)**

verse: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death.

People: **And upon those in the tombs bestowing life.**

And for the Great Litany:

Lord, have mercy. *12x*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Paschal Canon, the composition of St John of Damascus

We sing the Paschal Canon without the Theotokia:

Ode I

Irmos: **This is the day of resurrection.**

Let us be illumined, O people.

Pascha, the pascha of the Lord.

For from death to life and from earth to heaven

has Christ our God led us, as we sing the song of victory.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Let us purify our senses and we shall see Christ,
shining with the unapproachable light of His resurrection.
We shall clearly hear Him say: Rejoice, as we sing the song of victory.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.
Let the whole world, visible and invisible, keep the feast.
For Christ is risen, our eternal joy.

Katavasia: **This is the day of resurrection.**

**Let us be illumined, O people.
Pascha, the pascha of the Lord.
For from death to life and from earth to heaven
has Christ our God led us, as we sing the song of victory.**

Paschal Troparion - Tone 5

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Ode III

Irmos: **Come, let us drink,
not miraculous water drawn forth from a barren stone,
but a new vintage from the fount of incorruption,
springing from the tomb of Christ.
In Him we are established.**

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Now all is filled with light,
heaven and earth and the lower regions.
Let all creation celebrate the resurrection of Christ.
In Him we are established.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Yesterday I was buried with Thee O Christ.

Today I arise with Thee in Thy resurrection.

Yesterday I was crucified with Thee.

Glorify me with Thee, O Savior, in Thy kingdom.

Katavasia: Come, let us drink,

not miraculous water drawn forth from a barren stone,

but a new vintage from the fount of incorruption,

springing from the tomb of Christ.

In Him we are established.

Paschal Troparion – Tone 5

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death, and

upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Hypakoë – Tone 4

Before the dawn, Mary and the women

came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb.

They heard the angelic voice:

“Why do you seek among the dead as a man

the one who is everlasting light?¹

Behold the clothes in the grave,

go and proclaim to the world:

The Lord is risen. He has slain death,

as He is the Son of God, //

saving the race of men”.

¹ *Literally:* “Why do you seek among the dead as a mortal [man] the one who dwells in everlasting light?”. See 1 Timothy 6: 16.

Ode IV

Irmos: The inspired prophet Habakkuk
now stands with us in holy vigil.
He is like a shining angel who cries with a piercing voice:
Today salvation has come to the world,
for Christ is risen as all-powerful.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Christ our Pascha has appeared as a male child,
the son that opens a virgin womb.
He is called the Lamb as one destined to be our food,
unblemished for He has not tasted of defilement²,
and perfect for He is our true God.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Christ the crown with which we are blessed, has appeared as a yearling
lamb. Freely He has given Himself as our cleansing Paschal sacrifice.
From the tomb He has shown forth once again, our radiant sun of
righteousness.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

David the ancestor of God,
leaped and danced before the ark which prefigured Thee.
Now let us the holy people of God, seeing the fulfillment of all figures,
rejoice in piety, for Christ is risen as all-powerful.

Katavasia: The inspired prophet Habakkuk
now stands with us in holy vigil.
He is like a shining angel who cries with a piercing voice:
Today salvation has come to the world,
for Christ is risen as all-powerful.

Paschal Troparion - Tone 1

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and

² literally "corruption"

upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Ode V

Irmos: **Let us arise at the rising of the sun³
and bring to the Master a hymn instead of myrrh,
and we shall see Christ, the sun of righteousness,
who causes life to dawn for all.**

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

The souls bound in the chains of hell, O Christ,
seeing Thy compassion without measure,
pressed onward to the light with joyful steps,
praising the eternal Pascha.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Let us go with lamps in hand to meet Christ,
who comes from the tomb like a bridegroom.
And with the festive ranks of angels,
let us celebrate the saving Pascha of God.

Katavasia: **Let us arise at the rising of the sun
and bring to the Master a hymn instead of myrrh,
and we shall see Christ, the sun of righteousness,
who causes life to dawn for all.**

Paschal Troparion – Tone 5

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

³ literally “at the deep dawn”

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Ode VI

Irmos: Thou didst descend, O Christ to the depths of the earth.
 Thou didst break the everlasting bars
 which had held death's captives,
 and like Jonah from the whale on the third day,
 Thou didst arise from the grave.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Thou didst arise, O Christ, and yet the tomb remained sealed,
 as at Thy birth the Virgin's womb remained unharmed;
 and Thou hast opened for us the gates of paradise.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

O my Savior, as God Thou didst bring Thyself freely to the Father,
 a victim living and unsacrificed,
 resurrecting Adam the father of us all,
 when Thou didst arise from the grave.

Katavasia: Thou didst descend, O Christ to the depths of the earth.
 Thou didst break the everlasting bars
 which had held death's captives,
 and like Jonah from the whale on the third day,
 Thou didst arise from the grave.

Paschal Troparion - Tone 5

Christ is risen from the dead,
 trampling down death by death, and
 upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion - Tone 8

by St Romanus the Melodist

**Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,
Thou didst destroy the power of death.
In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God,
proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrhbearing women,
granting peace to Thine apostles,
and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.**

Ikos

**Before the dawn, the myrrhbearing women sought,
as those who seek the day, their sun,
who was before the sun yet had descended to the grave,
and they cried to each other:
O friends, come let us anoint with spices
His life-bearing yet buried body,
the flesh which raised fallen Adam and now lies in the tomb.
Let us assemble and, like the magi, let us hasten and let us worship.
Let us bring myrrh as a gift to Him who is wrapped now,
not in swaddling clothes, but in a winding sheet.
Let us lament and cry:
Arise, O Master, and bestow resurrection on the fallen.**

Hymn of the Resurrection - Tone 6

**Having beheld the resurrection of Christ,
let us worship the holy Lord Jesus,
the only sinless one.
We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ,
and we praise and glorify Thy holy resurrection;
for thou art our God,
and we know no other than Thee;
we call on Thy name.
Come, all you faithful,
let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection.
For behold through the Cross joy has come into all the world.**

Let us ever bless the Lord,
 praising His resurrection,
 for by enduring the cross for us, //
 He has destroyed death by death. (*thrice*)

Jesus having risen from the dead
 as He foretold,
 granting us eternal life, //
 and great mercy. (*thrice*)

Ode VII

***Irmos:* He who saved the three young men in the furnace
 became incarnate and suffered as a mortal man.
 Through His sufferings He clothed what is mortal
 in the robe of immortality⁴.
 He alone is blessed and most glorious: the God of our fathers.**

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

The godly women hastened to Thee with myrrh, O Christ.
 In tears they had sought Thee as a dead man,
 but in joy they worshipped Thee as the living God
 and proclaimed the mystical pascha to Thy disciples.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

We celebrate the death of death and the overthrow of hell,
 the beginning of another life which is eternal,
 and in exultation we sing the praises of its source.
 He alone is blessed and most glorious: the God of our fathers.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

This is the bright and saving night, sacred and supremely festal.
 It heralds the radiant day of the resurrection
 on which the timeless light shown forth bodily from the tomb for all.

***Katavasia:* He He who saved the three young men in the furnace
 became incarnate and suffered as a mortal man.**

⁴ *Literally:* "in the beauty of incorruption."

**Through His sufferings He clothed what is mortal
in the robe of immortality.**

He alone is blessed and most glorious: the God of our fathers..

Paschal Troparion - Tone 5

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Ode VIII

Irmos: **This is the chosen and holy day,
first of sabbaths, king and lord of days,
the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days.
On this day we bless Christ forevermore.**

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Come on this chosen day of the resurrection,
let us partake of the new fruit of the vine.
Let us share in the divine rejoicing of the kingdom of Christ,
praising Him as God forevermore.

refrain: Christ is risen from the dead.

Lift up thine eyes, O Zion, round about and see.
Thy children like divinely shining stars⁵ assemble
from the North, the South, the East and the West⁶,
to bless Christ in thee forevermore.

refrain: Most holy Trinity, our God, glory to Thee.

Father almighty, Word, and Spirit, one nature in three persons,
surpassing essences and divinity.

⁵ or "beacons"

⁶ *Literally:* "from the West and the North, from the sea and from the East,"

In Thee have we been baptized,
and Thee we bless forevermore.

Katavasia: **This is the chosen and holy day,
first of sabbaths, king and lord of days,
the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days.
On this day we bless Christ forevermore.**

Paschal Troparion – Tone 5

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. *3x*

Ode IX

Refrain 1: My soul magnifies Him who rose from the tomb on the third day: Christ the giver of life.

Irmos: **Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem!
the glory of the Lord has shone on thee.
Exult now and be glad O Zion.
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
in the resurrection of thy Son⁷.**

Refrain 2 (3): Christ, the new pascha, the living sacrifice,
the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

How divine! How beloved! How sweet is Thy voice, O Christ!
For Thou hast faithfully promised to be with us to the end of the world.
Having this as our anchor of hope, we the faithful rejoice.

Refrain 3 (6): Mary Magdalene hastened to the tomb, and seeing Christ,
she questioned Him as though He were the gardener.

⁷ *Literally:* “in the arising of Him whom Thou didst bear.”

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha.
O Wisdom, Word, and Power of God,
grant that we may more perfectly partake of Thee
in the never-ending day of Thy kingdom.

Refrain 4: The angel cried to the Lady full of grace:
Rejoice, O pure Virgin. Again I say: Rejoice.
Thy Son is risen from His tomb.
With Himself He has raised all the dead.
Rejoice, all ye people.

Katavasia: **Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem!**
the glory of the Lord has shone on thee.
Exult now and be glad O Zion.
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
in the resurrection of thy Son.

Paschal Troparion - Tone 5

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

And for the Little Litany:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Exapostilarion (Song of Light) - Tone 3

In the flesh Thou didst fall asleep as a mortal man,
O King and Lord.
Thou didst rise on the third day,
raising Adam from corruption and destroying death:
O Pascha of incorruption, the salvation of the world! *thrice*

The Praises -Tone 1 Psalm 148, 149, & 150

Choir: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! (*Psalm 150: 6*)
Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights!

refrain: To Thee, O God, is due a song.

Praise Him, all His angels, praise Him, all His host!

refrain: To Thee, O God, is due a song.

(It is common to skip to Psalm 150 here.)

Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!

Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord!

For He commanded and they were created.

And He established them for ever and ever;

He fixed their bounds which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling His command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted;

His glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints,

for the people of Israel who are near to Him.

Psalm 149

Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of the faithful!

Let Israel be glad in His Maker, let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King!

Let them praise His name with dancing,

making melody to Him with timbrel and lyre!

For the Lord takes pleasure in His people;

He adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

Let the high praises of God be in their throats

and two-edged swords in their hands,

to wreak vengeance on the nations and chastisement on the peoples,

to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron,

to execute on them the judgment written!

This is glory for all His faithful ones.

Psalm 150

Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament!

verse: Praise Him for His mighty deeds;

praise Him according to His exceeding greatness!

**We praise Thy saving suffering, O Christ, //
and we glorify Thy resurrection.**

verse: Praise him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!

**Thou didst endure the Cross and destroy death
by rising from the dead. Give peace to our life, //
O Lord, as the only almighty one.**

verse: Praise Him with timbrel and dance;

praise Him with strings and pipe!

**Thou didst capture hell, O Christ,
and resurrect man by Thy resurrection. //**

Enable us to praise and glorify Thee in purity of heart.

verse: Praise Him with sounding cymbals;

praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

**We glorify Thy divine condescension,
and we praise Thee, O Christ.**

Thou wast born of a virgin yet not separated from the Father.

Thou hast suffered as a man and voluntarily endured the Cross.

Thou hast risen from the tomb,

coming as from a bridal chamber to save the world. //

O Lord, glory to Thee.

The Paschal Stikhera

verse: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered.

Choir: Today, a sacred Pascha is revealed to us,
A new and holy Pascha,

**A mystical Pascha,
A Pascha worthy of veneration,
A Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer,
A blameless Pascha,
A great Pascha,
A Pascha of the faithful,
A Pascha which has opened for us the gates of Paradise,
A Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful.**

verse: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish.

Choir: **Come from that scene, O women, bearers of glad tidings,
And say to Zion:
Receive from us the glad tidings of joy, of Christ's resurrection,
Exult and be glad,
And rejoice, O Jerusalem,
Seeing Christ the King,
Who comes forth from the tomb like a bridegroom in procession.**

verse: So the sinners will perish before the face of God.
But let the righteous be glad.

Choir: **The myrrh-bearing women,
At the break of dawn,
Drew near to the tomb of the Life-giver.
There they found an angel sitting upon the stone.
He greeted them with these words:
Why do you seek the living among the dead?
Why do you mourn th incorrupt amid corruption?
Go, proclaim the glad tiddings to His disciples.**

verse: This is the day which the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Choir: **Pascha of beauty,
The Pascha of the Lord,
A Pascha worthy of all honor has dawned for us.
Pascha!
Let us embrace each other joyously.**

**O Pascha, ransom from affliction!
 For today as from a bridal chamber
 Christ has shown forth from the tomb
 and filled the women with joy saying:
 Proclaim the glad tidings to the apostles.**

verse: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: **This is the day of resurrection.
 Let us be illumined by the feast.
 Let us embrace each other.
 Let us call "Brothers" even those that hate us,
 and forgive all by the resurrection, and so let us cry:
 Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and
 upon those in tombs bestowing life.**

Paschal Troparion - Tone 1

Christ is risen from the dead,
 trampling down death by death, and
 upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)

The Sermon of St John Chrysostom

The Catechetical Sermon of St John Chrysostom is read. No one sits during the reading, but all stand and listen.

If any man be devout and loveth God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived thereof. If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the

last even as the first; he giveth rest unto him who cometh at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who hath wrought from the first hour. And he showeth mercy upon the last, and careth for the first; and to the one he giveth, and upon the other he bestoweth gifts. And he both accepteth the deeds, and welcometh the intention, and honoreth the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter ye all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away. Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. Let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shone forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions. It was embittered, for it was abolished. It was embittered, for it was mocked. It was embittered, for it was slain. It was embittered, for it was overthrown. It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains. It took a body, and met God face to face. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen. O Death, where is thy sting? O Hell, where is thy victory? Christ is risen, and thou art overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

Then the Troparion of St John Chrysostom is sung, in Tone 8:

Grace shining forth from thy lips like a beacon

has enlightened the universe.

It has shown to the world the riches of poverty.

It has revealed to us the heights of humility.
Teaching us by your words, O Father John Chrysostom,
intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

And for the Litanies:

Lord, have mercy. *40 times*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Dismissal

verse: **Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,**

Response: **and upon those in tombs bestowing life.**

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on us. Amen.

*If we are going to continue, we sing the Hours and then Typika, or if need be just
Typika, other wise we do this conclusion:*

Christ is risen. (thrice)

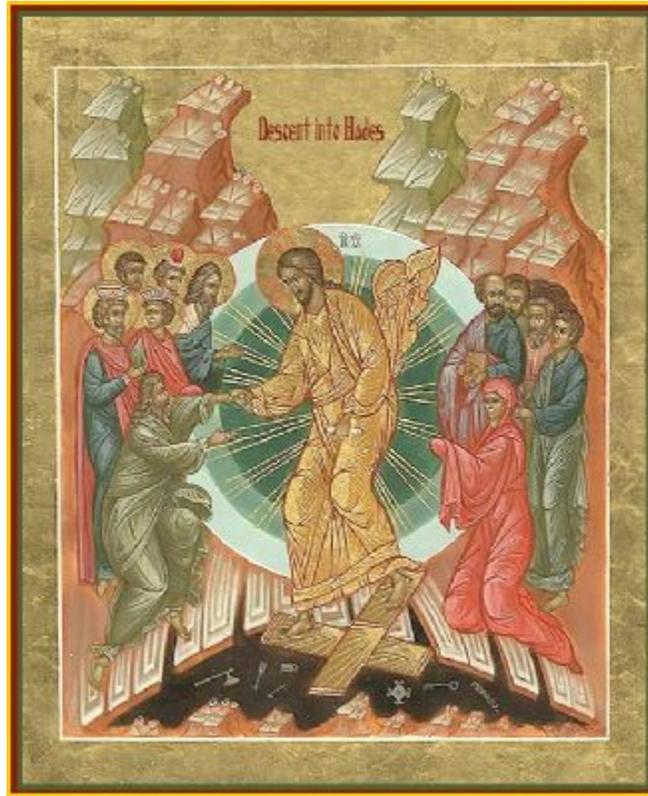
And we answer each time: **Indeed He is risen.**

And finally we sing the whole Troparion

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (thrice)**

And after the singing of the Troparion, we finish with (Tone 8):

**And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His resurrection
on the third day.**



The Hours of Pascha

The composition of St John of Damascus

Beginning with this day, the Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha, up to Saturday, Hours, Compline, and Midnight Office, as well as morning and evening prayers, are sung thus:

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: **Amen.**

(But if there is no priest the reader says: "Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.")

Then:

Troparion of Pascha - Tone 5

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (thrice)**

Hymn of the Resurrection - Tone 6

Having beheld the resurrection of Christ,
let us worship the holy Lord Jesus,
the only sinless one.

We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ,
 and we praise and glorify Thy holy resurrection;
 for thou art our God,
 and we know no other than Thee;
 we call on Thy name.
 Come, all you faithful,
 let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection.
 For behold through the Cross joy has come into all the world.
 Let us ever bless the Lord,
 praising His resurrection,
 for by enduring the cross for us, ///
 He has destroyed death by death. (*thrice*⁸)

Hypakoë - Tone 4

Before the dawn, Mary and the women
 came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb.
 They heard the angelic voice:
 "Why do you seek among the dead as a man
 the one who is everlasting light?
 Behold the clothes in the grave,
 go and proclaim to the world:
 The Lord is risen. He has slain death,
 as He is the Son of God, ///
 saving the race of men.

Kontakion of Pascha - Tone 8

**Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,
 Thou didst destroy the power of death.
 In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God,
 proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrhbearing women,
 granting peace to Thine apostles,
 and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.**

Troparia - Tone 4

In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul as God,
 in paradise with the thief

8 Or, if time is pressing, once.

and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit,
wast Thou, O boundless Christ, filling all things

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

Bearing life and and more fruitful than paradise,
brighter than any royal chamber:

Thy tomb, O Christ is the fountain of our resurrection.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion - Tone 4

Rejoice, O holy and divine abode of the most high!

For through thee, O Theotokos, joy is given to those who cry:

Blessed art thou among women, O all-undefiled Lady!

Lord, have mercy. *(40 times)*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the Cherubim,
and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim:
without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word:
true Theotokos, we magnify thee!

In the name of the Lord, Father, [*or* Master,] bless.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our
God, have mercy on us.

Choir: **Amen.**

*(But if there is no priest the reader says: "O Lord, bless! Through the prayers
of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.
Amen.")*

Troparion of Pascha - Tone 5

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in tombs bestowing life. *(thrice)***

The Dismissal

Choir: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Father, [*or* Master,] bless.

Priest: May Christ, who rose from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.

(But if there is no priest the reader says: "O Lord, bless! Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. Amen.")

And we continue with Vespers, Matins, the Divine Liturgy, or Typika. If no service is to follow, to conclude we sing again

Troparion of Pascha - Tone 5

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)**

And after the singing of the troparion, we finish with:

Tone 8

**And unto us He has given eternal life.
Let us worship His resurrection on the third day.**

Note: When a service is to follow, the dismissal of the Paschal Hours is in practice often omitted.

Typika during Bright Week

when sung in place of the Divine Liturgy

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

(But if there is no priest the reader says: "Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.")

Then:

Troparion of Pascha - Tone 5

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)**

Deacon: For our Metropolitan the Most Blessed Tikhon, for our Archbishop, the Most Reverend Benjamin, for the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this country, its President, civil authorities, armed forces, and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city (*or* village, *or* holy habitation), for every city and countryside, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For seasonable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For travelers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Exclamation:

Priest: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Hymn of the Resurrection - Tone 6

Having beheld the resurrection of Christ,
let us worship the holy Lord Jesus,
the only sinless one.
We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ,
and we praise and glorify Thy holy resurrection;
for thou art our God,
and we know no other than Thee;
we call on Thy name.
Come, all you faithful,
let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection.
For behold through the Cross joy has come into all the world.
Let us ever bless the Lord,
praising His resurrection,
for by enduring the cross for us, ///
He has destroyed death by death. (*once*)

Hypakoë - Tone 4

Before the dawn, Mary and the women
came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb.
They heard the angelic voice:
"Why do you seek among the dead as a man
the one who is everlasting light?
Behold the clothes in the grave,
go and proclaim to the world:
The Lord is risen. He has slain death,
as He is the Son of God, ///

saving the race of men.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Kontakion of Pascha - Tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,

Thou didst destroy the power of death.

In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God,

proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrhbearing women,

granting peace to Thine apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only-begotten Son

Only begotten Son and immortal Word of God,
who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate

of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary,

who without change didst become man and wast crucified,

O Christ our God, trampling down death by death,

who art one of the holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

Beatitudes

In Thy Kingdom, remember us, O Lord,

when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,
for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you,
 and shall say all manner of evil
 against you falsely for my sake.
 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prokeimenon

Epistle

Alleluia

Gospel

* * *

The Readings for Pascha:

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Reader: **And to thy spirit.**

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: **The Prokeimenon in the 8th Tone: This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!** (*Ps 117 [118]: 24*)

Choir: This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Reader, verse: **O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for his mercy endures forever.** (*Ps 117 [118]: 1*)

Choir: This is the day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Reader: **This is the day which the Lord has made!**

Choir: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Epistle

§ 1: Acts 1: 1 - 8 (*Holy Pascha*)

Deacon: Wisdom.

And the reader reads the title of the lesson:

Reader: **The reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.**

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: The former account I have made, O Theóphilus,

of all that Jesus began to do and to teach,
 until the day on which,
 giving commandments by the Holy Spirit to the apostles
 whom He had chosen, He was taken up;
 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His Passion
 by many [infallible] proofs, appearing to them for forty days
 and speaking of the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God;
 and eating together with them, He commanded them,
 that they should not depart from Jerusalem,
 but should wait for the promise of the Father,
 "which," He said, "you have heard from Me;
 for John truly baptized with water,
 but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days hence."
 They therefore who were come together, asked Him, saying,
 "Lord, wilt Thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?"
 But He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons
 which the Father hath put in His own power.
 But you shall receive power at the coming of the Holy Spirit upon you;
 and you shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem,
 and in all Judæa, and in Samária,
 and even to the uttermost parts of the earth."

Epistle text from "The Apostol" St. Tikhon's Seminary Press, 2012. 2nd Edition.

When the Epistle is finished,

Priest: Peace be to thee [that readest] .

Reader: **And to thy spirit.**

The Alleluia

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: **Alleluia in the 4th Tone.**

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reader, verse: **Thou didst arise, and have mercy on Zion.** (*Ps 101 [102]: 13*)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reader, verse: **The Lord looked down from heaven, and saw the sons of
 men.** (*Ps 101 [102]: 19*)

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel

§ 1; John 1: 1 - 17 (*Holy Pascha*)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him;

and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

And the light shines in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John.

The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light,
that all *men* through him might believe.

He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light.

That was the true Light, which lights every man that comes into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made by him,
and the world knew him not.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power

to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh,
nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,
(and we beheld his glory,

the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake,

He that comes after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

* * *

Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Troparia of Typika

The heavenly choir sings Thy praises, crying:
 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth! Heaven and
 earth are full of Thy glory!

verse: Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

The heavenly choir sings Thy praises, crying:
 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth!
 Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

verse: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

The choir of angels and archangels with all the host of heaven sings Thy
 praises, crying: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth!
 Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

verse: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
 the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages.
 Light of Light; true God of true God;
 begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father,
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,
 and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
 and became man.
 And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate,
 and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again,
 according to the Scriptures,
 and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father;
 and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead;
 whose Kingdom shall have no end.
 And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life,
 who proceeds from the Father;
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
 who spoke by the prophets.

In one Holy Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Loose, remit, and pardon, O God, our sins
both voluntary and involuntary,
in thought, word, or deed,
in knowledge or in ignorance,
committed by day or by night,
of the mind or of the intention:
forgive them all, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy spirit, now and ever, and unto ages
of ages.

Choir: **Amen.**

*(But if there is no priest the reader says: "Through the prayers of our holy
fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. Amen.")*

Then:

Kontakion of Pascha - Tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,

Thou didst destroy the power of death.

In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God,

proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrhbearing women,

granting peace to Thine apostles,

and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever

and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion - Tone 4

Rejoice, O holy and divine abode of the most high!
For through thee, O Theotokos, joy is given to those who cry:
Blessed art thou among women, O all-undefiled Lady!

Lord, have mercy. *(40 times)*

One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

In place of "Blessed be the name of the Lord, ..." we sing:

Troparion of Pascha - Tone 5

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in tombs bestowing life. *(thrice)***

Then:

Psalm 33: 1 - 10

I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the afflicted hear and be glad.
O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together!
I sought the Lord, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him,
and saved him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.
O taste and see that the Lord is good:
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.
O fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him have no want.
The rich suffer want and hunger:

but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

The Dismissal

Choir: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Father, [*or* Master,] bless.

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, who rose from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother, [of N. N. (*saints of the day*),] and all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for Thou art good and the lovest mankind.

Choir: Amen.

Christ is risen. (*thrice*)

And we answer each time: **Indeed He is risen.**

And finally we sing the whole Troparion

**Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death, and
upon those in tombs bestowing life. (*thrice*)**

And after the singing of the troparion, we finish with:

Tone 8

And unto us He has given eternal life.

Let us worship His resurrection on the third day.