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# The Service of Vespers

On Sunday

for Monday, April 29, 2019

Pentecostarion - Pascha - Easter Sunday at Vespers

Menaion - April 23 St. George

**Text in English** 

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#### Pentecostarion

The Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha

On Sunday at Vespers

#### Menaion

#### April 23

Memory of the Holy and Glorious Great Martyr George the Trophy-bearer

#### **VESPERS**

#### **PRIEST**

Glory to the holy and consubstantial, and life giving, and undivided Trinity, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

#### **PRIEST**

#### Mode pl. 1.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs... [GOA]

#### **CHOIR**

...He has granted life.

#### **PRIEST**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs... [GOA]

#### **CHOIR**

...He has granted life.

#### **PRIEST**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs... [GOA]

#### **CHOIR**

...He has granted life.

#### **PRIEST**

**Verse 1:** Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

#### **CHOIR**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [COA]

#### **PRIEST**

**Verse 2:** As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire.

#### **CHOIR**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [COA]

#### **PRIEST**

**Verse 3:** So shall the sinners perish from the face of God. And let the righteous be glad.

#### **CHOIR**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [COA]

#### **PRIEST**

**Verse 4:** This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.

#### **CHOIR**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

#### **PRIEST**

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

#### **CHOIR**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [COA]

#### **PRIEST**

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

#### **CHOIR**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [COA]

#### **PRIEST**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death... [GOA]

#### **CHOIR**

...and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

#### **DEACON**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For pious and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For (episcopal rank) (name), for the honorable presbyterate, for the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For our country, for the president, and for all in public service, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For those who travel by land, sea, and air, for the sick, the suffering, the captives and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

#### **PRIEST**

For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. (*Amen*.)

#### **CHOIR**

From Pentecostarion - - -

#### Mode 2.

Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Hear me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Give heed to the voice of my supplication when I cry to You. Hear me, O Lord. [SAAS]

Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord. [SAAS]

#### Resurrectional Stichera. Sticheron 1. Mode 2.

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice. [SAAS]

Come, let us adore God the Word, begotten of the Father before all ages, who took flesh from the Virgin Mary. For he willingly suffered the cross and submitted himself to burial, and he rose from the dead and saved me, the one who has gone astray.

#### Sticheron 2. Mode 2.

Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. [SAAS]

Our Savior Christ blotted out the bond that pledged us to the decree by nailing it to the cross, and he abolished the dominion of death. Let us worship his third day resurrection. [HC]

#### Sticheron 3. Mode 2.

If You, O Lord, should mark transgression, O Lord, who would stand? For there is forgiveness with You. [SAAS]

Together with the Archangels, let us praise the resurrection of Christ. He is the Deliverer and Savior of our souls. He will come again in awesome glory and mighty power to judge the world he fashioned.

#### Sticheron 4. Mode 2.

Because of Your law, O Lord, I waited for You; my soul waited for Your word. My soul hopes in the Lord. [SAAS]

The angel proclaimed you Master, crucified and buried. And he said to the women: Come and see the place where the Lord lay. For he is risen as he foretold, for he is almighty. Therefore, we worship you who alone are immortal. Have mercy on us, O Christ, Giver of life.

#### Stichera. For the Saint.

From Menaion - - - **Mode 4.** *Automelon*.

From the morning watch until night; from the morning watch until night, let Israel hope in the Lord. [SAAS]

To a brave one in martyr saints \* we pay tribute to you today \* gathered here together, victorious St. George. \* For you completed the martyr's course; \* devoutly you kept the faith; \* and from God you have received \* laurel crowns for your victory. \* Therefore supplicate \* that He free from corruption and from dangers \* those who loyally now honor \* your ever-ven'rable memory.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption; and He shall redeem Israel from all his transgressions. [SAAS]

With a valiant attitude \* as a lion you earnestly \* advanced to the contest, O glorious St. George, \* thus overlooking your physical \* body that would decompose, \* wisely caring for your soul \* which remains incorruptible. \* And when you endured \* many methods of torture, you, O Martyr, \* were refined like gold in fire \* seven times over and purified.

Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; praise Him, all you peoples. [SAAS]

Voluntarily suffering \* with the Savior, O holy one, \* emulating His death by death through martyrdom, \* you now majestically reign with Him, \* attired in the radiant \* purple garment died in blood, \* and equipped with the scepter that \* marks the champion's prize, \* and distinguished with laurel crowns of vict'ry \* unto never ending ages, \* O great and glorious Martyr George.

For His mercy rules over us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever. [SAAS]

With the breastplate of pious faith \* were you armed, and the shield of grace \* and the spear of Christ's cross, O holy Martyr George. \* And you became thus invincible \* contending against the foes. \* Therefore routing demons' ranks, \* as a model of excellence, \* now you celebrate \* with the Angels, while caring for the faithful \* whom you sanctify and rescue \* when they invoke your exalted name.

Glory.

From Menaion - - -

#### Mode pl. 2.

True to your name was the manner of your life, O George the Victorious. For taking up the cross of Christ on your shoulders, you tilled the earth parched by diabolical delusion. As you uprooted the thorny religion of the idols, you planted the vine of the Orthodox faith everywhere. Therefore you pour out healings for the faithful throughout the civilized world; and you have shown yourself to be a righteous husbandman of the Trinity. We beseech you: intercede for the peace of the world and the salvation of our souls.

Both now.

From Pentecostarion - - -

#### Mode 2.

At the coming of grace, the shadow of the law passed away. Just as the bush that burned was not consumed, so have you given birth and remained a virgin. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun of Righteousness shone forth; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls appeared.

**DEACON** (in a low voice)

Let us pray to the Lord.

**PRIEST** (in a low voice)

#### **Prayer of the Entrance**

At evening, at morning and at midday we praise, bless and give thanks, and we pray to you, Master of all things, Lord who love mankind: Direct our prayer before you like incense, and do not incline our hearts to words or thoughts of evil, but deliver us from all that hunt down our souls. For our eyes look to you, O Lord, our Lord, and we have hoped in you.

#### **DEACON**

Wisdom. Arise.

#### **CLERGY AND PEOPLE**

#### Mode 2.

Gladsome light of holy glory of the holy, blessed, heavenly, immortal Father, O Jesus Christ: arriving at the hour of sunset and having seen the evening light, we praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. It is worthy for You to be praised at all times with happy voices, O Son of God and Giver of life; \* and therefore the world glorifies You.

#### **DEACON**

The evening Prokeimenon.

#### **CHOIR**

#### Prokeimenon. Grave Mode.

Who is so great a God as our God? You alone are the God who does wonders. [SAAS]

**Verse:** You made known Your power among the peoples.

Who is so great a God as our God? You alone are the God who does wonders.

**Verse:** I said, "Now I am beginning to see; this change is by the right hand of the Most High."

Who is so great a God as our God? You alone are the God who does wonders.

**Verse:** I remembered the Lord's works, for I will remember Your wonders of old.

Who is so great a God as our God? You alone are the God who does wonders.

#### The Readings

From Menaion - - -

#### **READER**

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

#### **DEACON**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

#### **READER**

#### 43:9-14

Thus says the Lord: All the nations are gathered together, and the rulers shall be assembled from among them. Who will declare these things or tell us things from the beginning? Let them bring forth their witnesses, and be proven right; and let them speak the truth. "You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God, "and My Servant whom I chose, that you may know and believe, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no other God, nor shall there be after Me. I am God, and besides Me there is no one who saves. I proclaimed, and I saved. I denounced foreign gods so there were none among you. You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God. "Even from the beginning, there is no one who can deliver out of My hands; I will work, and who will reverse it?" Thus says the Lord God who redeems you, the Holy One of Israel. [SAAS]

#### **READER**

The reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon.

#### **DEACON**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

#### **READER**

#### 3:1-9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torture will ever touch them. In the eyes of the undiscerning they seemed to have died, and their departure was considered to be misfortune, and their passage from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in man's view they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Though chastened in a few things, great kindness

will be shown them, for God tested them and found them worthy of Himself. He tested them like gold in a furnace and accepted them as a whole burnt offering. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and they will run about like sparks through straw. They will judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall reign over them unto the ages. Those who trust in Him will understand truth, and the faithful shall continue with Him in love, because grace and mercy are upon His elect [and He watches over His holy ones]. [SAAS]

#### **READER**

The reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon.

#### **DEACON**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

#### **READER**

#### 5:15-6:3

The righteous live forever, and their reward is with the Lord; and their care is by the Most High. Therefore they shall receive a kingly dwelling of dignity and a crown of beauty from the hand of the Lord, because He will shelter them with His right hand and protect them with His arm. He will take His zeal as His full armor and will turn His creation into weapons against His enemies. He will wear righteousness as a breastplate and put on impartial judgment as a helmet. He will take holiness as an unconquerable shield and sharpen His relentless wrath for a sword; and creation will fight with Him against the senseless. Well-aimed flashes of lightning will strike and leap to their object as from a welldrawn bow of clouds; and hailstones full of anger will be hurled as from an engine of war.

The water of the sea will be vexed with them, and the rivers will wash over them severely. A powerful wind will oppose them, and like a storm it will winnow them away. Lawlessness will lay waste all the earth, and wrongdoing will overturn the thrones of rulers. Listen therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, O judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, and take pride in yourself over a multitude of nations. For power was given to you from the Lord, and your lordship from the Most High. [SAAS]

#### The Gospel

#### **DEACON**

Let us pray to the Lord our God that we may be made worthy to hear the holy Gospel.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

#### **DEACON**

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

#### **PRIEST**

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

#### **PRIEST**

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to John.

#### **DEACON**

Let us be attentive.

#### **CHOIR**

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

#### **PRIEST**

#### 20:19-25

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them,
"Peace be with you." When He had said this,
He showed them His hands and His side.
Then the disciples were glad when they saw
the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." [RSV]

#### **CHOIR**

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

#### **DEACON**

Let us all say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us all say.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, the hieromonks, the hierodeacons, the monastics, and all our brotherhood in Christ.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians residing and visiting in this city: the parishioners, the members of the parish council, the stewards, and benefactors of this holy church.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for the blessed and evermemorable founders of this holy church, and for all our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep before us, who here have been piously laid to their rest, as well as the Orthodox everywhere.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and allvenerable church, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people here present who await Your great and rich mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

#### **PRIEST**

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the

Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

#### **READER**

O Lord, keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is your name to the ages. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be upon us for we have set our hope in you. Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed are you, Master, grant me understanding of your commandments. Blessed are you, Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments. Lord, your mercy is forever. Do not despise the works of your hands. To you is due praise, to you is due song, to you is due glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

#### **DEACON**

Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

(Lord, have mercy.)

That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

For that which is good and beneficial for our souls, and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

And let us ask for a Christian end to our life, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

(To You, O Lord.)

#### **PRIEST**

For You, O God, are good and love mankind, and to You we offer glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

#### **PRIEST**

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

#### **DEACON**

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

(To You, O Lord.)

#### **PRIEST** (in a low voice)

Lord our God, who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race, look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for to you, the fearful Judge who love mankind, your servants have bowed their heads and inclined their necks, not waiting for any human help, but awaiting your mercy and looking for your salvation. Guard them at every moment, during both the present evening and the approaching night, from every foe, from every hostile operation of the devil and from vain thoughts and evil desires.

#### **PRIEST**

May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

#### **Procession and Litany.**

#### **CHOIR**

#### Idiomelon 1.

From Menaion - - -

#### Mode 1.

The illustrious and valorous George, in his glorious contest, gladdens the angelic hosts on high. And exulting now with them, he is throwing a festive celebration on earth for the faithful; and as a servant of Christ, he has come to celebrate with us who have gathered here for him. Therefore let us worthily honor him, as he unceasingly intercedes with the God of all, that great mercy be granted unto us.

### Idiomelon 2. Mode 1.

You cultivated the higher things through valor in the contests; and you offered the fruits of your labors to Christ, O all-blessed Martyr George. Through faith you started longing, through hope you drove out fear, through love you obtained the heavens, O all-lauded one. Since you have intimate access to Him, with acceptable entreaties pray for peace and

pardon of sins and great mercy for our souls.

### Idiomelon 3. Mode 1.

Soldier of the great King, rejoice, O George, and be glad. For you were pleasing to God. You disdained all things and found eternal life in heaven. Your body drives away every illness from people. For Christ himself, whom you so desired, glorifies you, O blessed one. [5D]

#### Idiomelon 4. Mode 4.

O fans of the martyrs, come let us present songful praise to Christ who is risen from the tomb. For today has the spiritual springtime opened to us, colored by the rational blossoms, namely the universal memory of George the wise Great Martyr. Reproducing his marks, we derive wellsprings of cures. Let us now entreat him t intercede unceasingly with Christ the Savior to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

### Idiomelon 5. Mode 4.

All you nations, clap your hands; let us shout with joy to God our Savior. For He was lifted on a cross, and went down into a grave, and then plundered Hades and raised the dead with himself. And they cried out to Him: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia to the resurrected Christ.

## Idiomelon 6. Mode 4.

Your head was crowned with a glorious halo, O crowned Martyr George. For you saw

the invisible enemy, about which Paul spoke, and you persevered and were victorious over its deceptive error. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, to Christ, who has risen! [50]

#### Idiomelon 7. Mode 4.

O fans of the Martyrs, let us celebrate with dance, as we offer to Christ a song of songs. For the valiant Athlete struck the tyrant foe with his heel and brought him down. Therefore, let us all with unceasing voices sing, "O Savior, glory to Your terrific resurrection, by which You saved the world!" [SD]

From Menaion - - -

Glory.

#### Mode 2.

Let your eyelids ascent to righteous things, said Solomon to mortals; and he foretold that he whose looks are gentle shall receive mercy from Christ God. Having readily heard these sayings, O great endurer George, you followed the teachings of the Master. When you were delivered over to the lawless you endured, disdaining the orgies of error as abominations. Your body, which you relinquished for the love of the Fashioner, was dismembered entirely. But it was Belial rather who was wholly put to shame and wounded, seeing you crowned and in full strength. Wherefore dwelling as you do in the courts of your Lord, together with the hosts on holy church, this city and every city and land, high, intercede with Christ, O prize-winning Saint, that our souls be saved. [50]

From Octoechos - -

#### Both now. Theotokion. Mode 2.

O Mother of God, I have committed my every hope wholly unto you. Keep me under your shelter. [SD]

#### **DEACON**

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and remission of the sins of all pious and Orthodox Christians living and visiting in this city, the parishioners, the members of the Parish Council and every Ministry of this Parish, and the donors and benefactors of this holy church, and the servants of God [names] who celebrate this holy feast.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for the protection of this from wrath, famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, foreign invasions, civil strife, and accidental death. That our good and loving God may be merciful, gracious and favorable to us by turning and keeping from us all wrath and sickness, and deliver us from His just rebuke, and have mercy on us.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray that the Lord our God may hear the prayer of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

#### **PRIEST**

Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all those who live everywhere on earth and those far out at sea or in the air. Be gracious toward our sins, Master, and have mercy on us.

For you are a merciful and loving God, and to you we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

#### **DEACON**

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

(To You, O Lord.)

#### **PRIEST**

Most merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the intercessions of our most pure Lady the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, the power of the precious and life giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless Powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable and glorious prophet, and forerunner John the Baptist, the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles, our Fathers among the Saints, the great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, Athanasios, Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas, bishop of Myra, Spyridon, bishop of Trimythous, Nektarios of Pentapolis, the

wonder-workers; the holy, glorious great
Martyrs Demetrios the Myrobletes, Theodore
the Teron, and Theodore the General, Menas
the Wonderworker, the Hieromartyrs
Haralambos and Eleftherios; the holy,
glorious, and victorious martyrs; the glorious
great Martyr and all-laudable Euphemia; the
holy and glorious Martyrs Thecla, Barbara,
Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriake, Fotene, Marina,
Paraskeve and Irene; of our holy God-bearing
Fathers; (local patron saint); the holy and
righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna,
the holy and glorious Great Martyr George the
Trophy-bearer, whose memory we celebrate,
and of all your Saints.

Accept our prayer; grant us forgiveness of our transgressions; protect us under the shelter of your wings; drive away from us every enemy and adversary; grant peace to our life; Lord have mercy on us and on your world; and save our souls as a good and loving God.

#### **PRIEST or: CHOIR**

#### Hymn to the Theotokos.

O Virgin Theotokos, rejoice, Mary full of grace. The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb; for you have borne the Savior of our souls [50]

#### **DEACON**

Let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

#### **PRIEST**

#### Blessing of the Loaves.

Lord, Jesus Christ. our God, You blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and from them five thousand men were filled. Bless now these loaves, the wheat, the wine and oil and multiply them in this holy church, this city, in the homes of those who celebrate today, and in Your whole world. And sanctify Your faithful servants who partake of them.

For You are He who blesses and sanctifies all things, Christ our God, and to You we offer up glory together with Your eternal Father and Your holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

#### **CLERGY**

Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. [SAAS]

#### **CHOIR**

Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. (2) [SAAS]

From Pentecostarion - - -

**CHOIR** 

### Aposticha. Mode 2.

Your resurrection, O Christ our Savior, has illumined the entire earth, and has recalled your creation. O almighty Lord, glory to you.

From Pentecostarion - - -

### Stichera of Pascha. Mode pl. 1.

**Verse 1:** Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Today a sacred Pascha has been revealed to us; a Pascha new and holy, a Pascha mystical, a Pascha all-venerable, Pascha, the Redeemer Christ himself; a Pascha that is blameless, a Pascha that is great, a Pascha of believers, a Pascha that has opened for us the gates of Paradise, a Pascha that sanctifies believers all. [5D]

**Verse 2:** As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire.

Come now from that sight, O you women and heralds of good news, and say to Zion, "Receive from us the joyful tidings of the Resurrection of Christ. O Jerusalem, be exultant, dance and leap for joy, for you have witnessed Christ the King coming forth as a Bridegroom from the sepulcher." [SD]

**Verse 3:** So shall the sinners perish from the face of God. And let the righteous be glad.

The myrrh-bearing women at dawn very early, standing outside the tomb of the Giver-of-Life, found an Angel who was seated upon the stone. And the Angel addressed them, and this is what he said, "Why do you seek among the dead the One who is alive? Why do you grieve as though corruptible the Incorrupt? So go back and proclaim it to His Disciples."

**Verse 4:** This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.

Pascha of delight! Pascha, the Lord's Pascha! A Pascha all venerable has risen for us. Pascha! With joy let us embrace one another. Pascha, the ransom from sorrow! Today from the sepulcher Christ emerged resplendently as from a bridal chamber, and the women He filled with joy, saying, "Proclaim this to the Apostles." [5D]

Glory. For the Saint.
From Menaion - - - Mode 4.

O brethren, let us spiritually extol that veritable diamond of endurance, George the illustrious Martyr. He was set on fire for the sake of Christ and forged by perils. Tortures trained him. Multiple martyrdoms devastated his body, which by nature was subject to decay. For love's longing overcame nature, persuading the lover to cross over, by means of death, to the loved One, Christ our God and the Savior of our souls. [5]

Both now. Of Pascha.

From Pentecostarion - -

#### Mode pl. 1.

It is the day of the Resurrection. Let us shine brightly for the festival, and also embrace one another. Brethren, let us say even to those who hate us, "Let us forgive everything for the Resurrection." And thus let us cry aloud, "Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life." [5D]

From Pentecostarion -

#### Mode pl. 1.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

For the Saint.

From Menaion - - -

#### Mode 4.

As the one renowned for setting captives free and for defending those in poverty, the physician of the sick and the champion of emperors, great and victorious Martyr George, PRIEST intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls. [5]

From Pentecostarion - -

#### Mode pl. 1.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

#### **DEACON**

Let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

#### **PRIEST**

May the blessing and the mercy of the Lord come upon you by His divine grace and love for mankind, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

Make firm, Lord our God, the holy and pure faith of the pious Orthodox Christians, together with the Holy Church and this city forever.

#### READER

Amen.

Optional:

#### **PRIEST**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.* 

#### **READER**

#### **PRIEST**

Glory to You, O Christ God, our hope. Glory to You.

#### **READER**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Lord, have mercy. (3) Father, bless!

May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, of the holy, glorious,

and triumphant martyrs, of our righteous and God-bearing fathers, (local patron saint); of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, the holy and glorious Great Martyr George the Trophy-bearer, whose memory we celebrate, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Let us forgive everything for the Resurrection, And thus let us cry aloud:

Christ is risen!

#### **PEOPLE**

Truly He is risen!

#### **PRIEST**

Christ is risen!

#### **PEOPLE**

Truly He is risen!

#### **PRIEST**

Christ is risen!

#### **PEOPLE**

Truly He is risen!

#### **PRIEST**

Glory to His holy Resurrection on the third day!

#### **PEOPLE**

We worship His Resurrection on the third day!

#### **PRIEST**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

#### **PEOPLE**

Truly the Lord is risen!