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# The Service of Vespers

**on Wednesday Evening  
for Thursday, May 2, 2019**

**Pentecostarion - On Wednesday of Bright Week <sup>[GOA]</sup>  
at Vespers**

**Menaion - May 2  
Memory of St. Athanasios the Great**

**Text in English**

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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**Pentecostarion**

On Wednesday of Bright Week in the Evening

**Menaion - May 2**

Memory of St. Athanasios the Great

**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. [GOA]

**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. [GOA]

**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. [GOA]

**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. [GOA]

**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. [GOA]

**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**

**Mode pl. 1.**

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]

From Pentecostarion - - -

**Resurrectional Stichera.**

**Sticheron 1. Mode pl. 1.**

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

By your precious cross you have put the devil to shame, O Christ. By your resurrection, you have annihilated the sting of sin. You have saved us from the gates of death. O only begotten Son, we glorify you. [HC]

**Sticheron 2. Mode pl. 1.**

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

He who granted the human race resurrection was led like a lamb to the slaughter. The princes of hell trembled before him and the gates of agony were opened. For Christ the King of glory entered in, declaring to those in bonds: Go forth, and to those in darkness: Show yourselves. [HC]

**Sticheron 3. Mode pl. 1.**

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

What a mighty wonder! In his love for humankind, the Creator of things invisible suffered in the flesh, and he who is immortal, rose. Come, all you nations, and let us worship him. We have learned to praise one God in three persons who in his compassion delivered us from error. [HC]

**Sticheron 4. Mode pl. 1.**

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

O Light who never fades, we offer you this evening worship, for in the fullness of time you filled the world with light, your flesh a mirror of your splendor. You descended to Hades, dispelled the darkness [there], and made manifest to all nations the light of the resurrection. O Lord, Giver of light, glory to you. [HC]

**Stichera. For the Saint.**

From Menaion - - -

**Mode 4. N/M (To a brave one.)**

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

You remained steadfast in persecutions and braved dangers, O holy Athanasius, spokesman for God, until you had banished the godless error of Arius and preserved the flock safely from his impiety, by teaching, in orthodox manner, the doctrine that the Son and the Spirit alike are of the same essence

as the Father, O most holy minister of holy things. [JR]

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

You remained steadfast in persecutions and braved dangers, O holy Athanasius, spokesman for God, until you had banished the godless error of Arius and preserved the flock safely from his impiety, by teaching, in orthodox manner, the doctrine that the Son and the Spirit alike are of the same essence as the Father, O most holy minister of holy things. [JR]

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

With lightning bolts of preaching, you illumined those in darkness and expelled all error, bravely facing dangers for the faith, O steadfast Athanasius, hymned by all. Therefore, having come together in joy, we honor you in melody as a faithful pastor and as an unshakable foundation of Christ's Church. [JR]

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

You practiced every virtue continually, O divinely-inspired father, and being anointed with holy chrism by the Spirit, you were clearly a most sacred celebrant of holy mysteries, and a true shepherd and champion defender of the Faith. Therefore, the whole Church glorifies your memory, piously celebrating it, and glorifying the Savior. [JR]

Glory. **From the Pentecostarion.**

From Pentecostarion - - -

**Mode pl. 1.**

Lord, our Savior, you have despoiled Hades, trampled down death, and enlightened the world through your holy cross. Have mercy on us. [HC]

*or:*

Glory. **For the Saint.**

From Menaion - - -

**Mode pl. 2.**

In hymns let us all praise Athanasius, the Hierarch of Christ; for he vanquished all the teachings of Arius, and to all the world he clearly proclaims the sovereign power of the Trinity, one God in three Persons, without division, with whom he also intercedes for us who with faith are keeping his memorial. [JR]

Both now.

From Pentecostarion - - -

**Mode pl. 1.**

In the Red Sea, an image of the Bride who knew not wedlock was depicted once. For there, of old, did Moses sever the water; and here is Gabriel, the server of the wonder. At that time Israel traversed the deep, without getting wet; and now, the Virgin gave birth to Christ, without seed. The sea, after the passage of Israel, remained impassable; the blameless Maid remained incorrupt after the conception of Emmanuel. O God, the One who is and ever was and appeared as man, have mercy on us.

[SD]

**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. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**DEACON**

The evening Prokeimenon.

**CHOIR**

**Prokeimenon. Grave Mode.**

Give ear to my prayer, O God, and do not despise my supplication. <sup>[SAAS]</sup>

**Verse:** *Attend to me, and hear me.*

Give ear to my prayer, O God, and do not despise my supplication.

**Verse:** *For they turned their lawlessness upon me.*

Give ear to my prayer, O God, and do not despise my supplication.

**Verse:** *But I cried out to God.*

Give ear to my prayer, O God, and do not despise my supplication.

**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 ever-memorable 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 all-venerable 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. [HC]

*(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.)*

From Pentecostarion - - -

**CHOIR**

**Aposticha.**

**Mode pl. 1.**

We lift up our voices in song to magnify you, Christ Savior, who became incarnate yet were never separated from heaven. For you, O Lord who love all, suffered the cross and death for our sake; and destroying the gates of Hades, you rose on the third day and saved our souls. [HC]

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. [SD]

**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." [SD]

**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." [SD]

Glory. **For the Saint.**

From Menaion - - -

**Mode 3.**

Again, the gold-streaming Nile and the namesake of immortality, at his anniversary memorial appears to us with good floods, flowing with currents of gold, the rivers of immortality, and providing fruit, the food of ambrosia, teaching us, with eloquence, to worship the undivided might of the Trinity. He overflows like a sea of divine teachings, watering the minds of the faithful, and he intercedes in behalf of our souls. [JR]

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." [SD]

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. (3) [GOA]

**DEACON**

Wisdom.

(Father, bless!)

**PRIEST**

Blessed are You, Christ our God, 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.

Be illumined, illumined, O New Jerusalem; \* for the glory of the Lord has arisen over you. \* Dance now for joy, O Zion, and exult. \* And you be merry, O pure Theotokos, \* at the arising of the One you bore.

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!

**PRIEST**

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, and our father among the saints Athanasios, Patriarch of Alexandria, the memory of the transfer of whose holy relics 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!