

# The Midnight Office

(Nocturn)

*After the reading of the Acts of the Holy Apostles is completed, the priest, vested in the epitrachilion, intones:*

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

*Reader:* Amen. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (thrice)

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. O Lord: cleanse us from our sins. O Master: pardon our transgressions. O Holy One: visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (thrice)

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.

*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.

*Reader:* 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 the very Christ, our King and our God.

## Psalm 50 (51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy steadfast love; according to thy 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 judgement.

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 bloodguiltiness, 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 wouldest 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; re-  
build the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices, in  
burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on  
thy altar.

### The Canon (Tone 6)

#### Ode I

*(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 like 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 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.  
*The irmos is repeated as the Katavasia at the end of each  
ode.*

#### Ode III

*(Irmos)* Thou didst suspend the earth im-  
movably 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."

*Katavasia*

### Kathisma Hymn (Tone 1)

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 cleansest from corruption. We fall down before Thee, who didst rise from the tomb, our only God.

### Ode IV

(*Irmos*) Foreseeing 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.

*Katavasia*

### Ode V

(*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.

*Katavasia*

## Ode VI

(*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.

*Katavasia*

### **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**

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

### **Ode VII**

*(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 VIII

(*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:* We 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 forebearance! 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!

We praise, bless, and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

*Katavasia*

## Ode IX

(*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 you 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 you.”

*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

It is customary for the priest, now fully vested in his paschal vestments, to open the curtain and the royal doors at the beginning of the Ninth Ode. He exits the sanctuary through the royal doors and censes around the epitaphion (winding-sheet) three times. As the Katavasia of the Ninth Ode, "Do not lament me, O mother . . .", is sung, at the words, "For I shall arise," the priest lifts the epitaphion from the tomb and carries it into the sanctuary through the royal doors and places it on the altar. The epitaphion remains on the altar until the leave-taking of Pascha. The royal doors and curtain are now closed.

*Reader:* Amen. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (*thrice*)

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. O Lord: cleanse us from our sins. O Master: pardon our transgressions. O Holy One: visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

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.

*Reader:* 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.

### Resurrectional Troparion (*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!"

*The priest comes to the ambo for the following Litany:*

*Priest:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

*Priest:* Again we pray that He will keep this city, and this holy church, and every city and country from wrath, famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, the invasion of enemies, and from civil war, and from sudden death; that our good God, who loves mankind, may be gracious, favorable and conciliatory, and turn away and dispel all the wrath stirred up against us, and all sickness, and may deliver us from His righteous chastisement which impends against us and have mercy on us.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

*Priest:* (*Exclamation*) Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, be gracious, O Master, unto us sinners and have mercy on us. For Thou art a merciful God who lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

*The lesser dismissal is pronounced from the ambo.*

*Priest:* Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

*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. (*thrice*)

Father, bless.

*Priest:* May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure mother, of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

*Choir:* Amen.



## The Matins of Pascha

*The priest vests himself in all his brightest vestments. He takes the precious Cross and the three-branched candlestick in his left hand, and the censer in his right. He censes the sanctuary and the concelebrants. The royal doors are then opened, and the priest comes out with the concelebrants singing the sticheron in tone 6:*

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

*Preceded by the Cross, the banners, the holy icons, the Gospel book, torchbearers and the choir, and followed by all the people carrying candles, the priest and all the other concelebrants go around the temple. The sticheron is sung continuously and the bells ring all the while.*

Musical notation for the sticheron "THY RESURRECTION, O CHRIST OUR SA -". The music is in G major, common time. The vocal line consists of two parts: soprano and basso continuo. The soprano part has lyrics: "THY RESURRECTION, O CHRIST OUR SA -". The basso continuo part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

Musical notation for the sticheron "VIOR, THE ANGELS IN HEA - VEN SING.". The music is in G major, common time. The vocal line consists of two parts: soprano and basso continuo. The soprano part has lyrics: "VIOR, THE ANGELS IN HEA - VEN SING.". The basso continuo part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

Musical notation for the sticheron "EN - ABLE US ON EARTH TO GLORIFY THEE" and "IN PUR - I - TY OF HEART.". The music is in G major, common time. The vocal line consists of two parts: soprano and basso continuo. The soprano part has lyrics: "EN - ABLE US ON EARTH TO GLORIFY THEE" and "IN PUR - I - TY OF HEART.". The basso continuo part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

*Coming before the principle doors of the church, all the bearers of the holy objects turn to face the west and arrange themselves in the customary manner. The celebrant censes the Gospel book, the icons and banners, the choir and all the people. Then, standing before the doors of the church and facing east, the celebrant signs the doors of the church, which remain closed, with the censer in cross form thrice. He holds the precious cross and the three-branched candlestick in his left hand. Torchbearers stand on both sides.*

*The celebrant exclaims in a loud voice:*

**Priest:** Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

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

*People: Repeat the above troparion of Pascha also thrice.*

### TROPARION OF PASCHA

CHRIST IS RI - SEN FROM THE DEAD,

TRAMP - LING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH,

AND UP - ON THOSE IN THE TOMBS

BE - STOW - ING LIFE.

*Then the verses:*

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

*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)

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

*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)

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

*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)

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

*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)

*Priest:* Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:  
*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)  
*Priest:* Now and ever, and unto ages of ages.  
Amen.  
*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)  
*Priest:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death.

*And the doors are opened. The celebrant enters with the precious Cross, two torches being carried before him, and the people sing:*

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

*Then all the bells are rung. The priest and concelebrants enter the sanctuary and the Great Litany commences.*

### The Great Litany

*Priest:* In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.  
*Priest:* For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.  
*Priest:* For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.  
*Priest:* For His Beatitude, our Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_, and for His (Eminence, Grace) our (Archbishop, Bishop) \_\_\_, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.  
*Priest:* For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.  
*Priest:* For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.  
*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.  
*Priest:* 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.  
*Priest:* 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.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* 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.

*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.

## The Canon of Pascha

*The priest begins each ode of the canon. He also does the customary censing during each ode, holding the precious cross and three-branched candlestick in his left hand. As he censes the people, he greets them, saying:*

Christ is risen.

*And we answer:* Indeed He is risen.

## 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 in 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 . . .*

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

*(thrice)*

*Then the Litany, with the exclamation:*

For Thine is the majesty, and 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.

## 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 rising 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.

*Each ode concludes with the repetition of the irmos as the katavasia, and the singing of the Paschal troparion thrice.*

*Then the Little Litany and the exclamation:*

For Thou art our God, and unto Thee we  
ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto  
ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### Hypakoe

**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."**

### 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 defile-  
ment, 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 sac-  
rifice. 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 fulfill-  
ment of all figures, rejoice in piety, for Christ is  
risen as all-powerful.

*Katavasia, and Paschal troparion thrice.*

*The exclamation at the Little Litany:*

For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind  
and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and  
ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

## Ode V

(Irmos) 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.

*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, and the Paschal troparion thrice.*

*The Little Litany, and the exclamation:*

For sanctified and glorified is Thine all-honorable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

## Ode VI

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, and the Paschal troparion, thrice.*

*The Little Litany, and the exclamation:*

For Thou art the King of peace and the Savior of our souls, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

## Kontakion (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 Thy 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 has risen from the tomb, 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 immortality. 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, and the Paschal troparion, thrice.*

*The Little Litany, and the exclamation:*

Blessed and glorified be the might of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* 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 your eyes, O Zion, round about and see.  
Your children like divinely shining stars assem-  
ble from the North, the South, the East and the  
West to bless Christ in you forevermore.

*Refrain:* Most holy Trinity, our God, glory to  
Thee.

Father almighty, Word, and Spirit, one nature  
in three persons, surpassing essence and divi-  
nity. In Thee have we been baptized, and Thee  
we bless forevermore.

*Katavasia, and the Paschal troparion, thrice.*

*The Little Litany, and the exclamation:*

For blessed is Thy name, and glorified is Thy  
kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of  
the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of  
ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### Ode IX (See also page 40)

*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 you. Exult now  
and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theo-  
tokos, in the resurrection of your Son.

*Refrain 2:* My soul magnifies Him who will-  
ingly suffered and was buried, and rose  
from the tomb on the third day.

*(Irmos)* Shine! Shine! . . .

*Refrain 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 4:* The angel cried to the Lady full of  
grace: Rejoice, O pure Virgin. Again I  
say: Rejoice. Your Son is risen from  
His three days in the tomb. With Him-  
self He has raised all the dead. Rejoice,  
all ye people.

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

*Refrain 5:* After Thou didst fall asleep, Thy  
royal voice, roaring like the lion of  
Judah, awakened the dead from all  
ages.

How divine! . . .

*Refrain 6:* Mary Magdalene hastened to the  
tomb, and seeing Christ, she ques-  
tioned Him as though He were  
the gardener.

How divine! . . .

*Refrain 7:* An angel appeared to the women and cried: Cease your tears, for Christ is risen.

How divine! . . .

*Refrain 8:* Christ is risen, trampling down death and raising the dead. Rejoice, all ye people.

How divine! . . .

*Refrain 9:* Today all creation rejoices and makes glad, for Christ is risen and hell has been despoiled.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha . . .

*Refrain 10:* Today the Master has despoiled hell and raised the prisoners whom it had held from the ages in harsh captivity.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha . . .

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

*Refrain 11:* My soul magnifies the might of the Godhead, in three Persons yet undivided.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha . . .

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

*Refrain 12:* Rejoice, O virgin rejoice! Rejoice, O blessed one! Rejoice, O glorified one! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha . . .

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

*(Irmos) Shine! Shine! . . .*

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

*In parish usage, it is customary to render Ode IX of the Paschal Canon as follows:*

*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 you. Exult now and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son.*

*Refrain 2:* 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:* Mary Magdalene hastened to the tomb, and seeing Christ, she questioned Him as though He were the gardener.

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. Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb. With Himself He has raised all the dead. Rejoice, all ye people.

(*Irmos*) **Shine! Shine!** . . .

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

*The Little Litany, and the exclamation:*

For all the powers of heaven praise Thee, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### **The Song of Light**

**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!**

### **The Praises (Tone 1)**

**Let every breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord in heaven. Praise Him in the highest. To Thee, O God, is due a song. Praise Him all you angels of His. Praise Him, all His hosts. To Thee, O God, is due a song.**

*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 Verses**

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

*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.  
[As wax melts before the fire.]

*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 the incorrupt amid corruption?  
Go, proclaim the glad tidings 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 the tombs bestow-  
ing life.** (*thrice*)

### The Sermon of St. John Chrysostom

*The Catechetical Sermon of St. John Chrysostom is read by the celebrant. 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 therefor. 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 sheweth 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 your 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.**

### **The Augmented Litany**

*Priest:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Priest:* Again we pray for His Beatitude, our Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_, and His (Eminence, Grace), our (Archbishop, Bishop) \_\_\_\_\_, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy; and for all our brethren in Christ.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Priest:* Again we pray for the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Priest:* Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house; and for all of our fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Priest:* Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, pardon and remission of sins, for all the brethren of this holy house.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Priest:* Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (3)

*Priest (Exclamation):* For Thou art a merciful God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

## The Litany of Fervent Supplication

*Priest:* Let us complete our morning prayer unto the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Priest:* An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Priest:* Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Priest:* All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant it, O Lord.

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

*Choir:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Priest:* A Christian ending to our life; painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the dread judgement seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Priest:* 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.

*Priest (Exclamation):* For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

*Priest:* Peace be unto all.

*Choir:* And to your spirit.

*Priest:* Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

*Choir:* To Thee, O Lord.

## The Prayer at the Bowing of the Heads

*Priest:* O holy Lord, who dwellest on high and lookest upon the humble, and who with Thine all-seeing eye lookest down upon all creation: unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we pray Thee, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, either willingly or unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as Thou art good and

lovest mankind, granting us Thy good things in this world and beyond this world.

For Thine it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### The Great Dismissal

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Choir:* Father, bless.

*Priest:* Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen. Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith and Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.

*Priest:* Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

*Choir:* More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

*Priest, holding the Cross, in place of "Glory to Thee, O Christ our God" . . . , sings:*

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

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

*And immediately the celebrant gives the dismissal:*

May Christ, who is risen 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.

*Then raising the Cross he says: Christ is risen. (thrice)*

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

*And finally we sing the whole troparion Christ is risen . . . (thrice)*

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

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

# The Hours of Pascha

*Beginning with this day, the Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha, up to Saturday, Hours, Compline and Midnight Office are sung thus:*

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

*Choir:* Amen.

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

*(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.*

*(Hypakoe — Tone 8) 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 — 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 Thy apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.*

*(Tone 8) In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul, in paradise with the thief 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 and to the Holy Spirit:  
Bearing life 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.

*(Tone 8) Rejoice, O holy and divine abode of the most high! For through you, O Theotokos, joy is given to those who cry: Blessed are you among women, O all-undefiled Lady!*

Lord, have mercy (40).

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 defilement  
you gave birth to God the Word. True  
Theotokos, we magnify you.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless.

*Priest:* Through the prayers of our holy  
Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of  
God, have mercy on us.

*Choir:* Amen.

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

Lord, have mercy (thrice).

Father, bless.

*Priest:* (*the dismissal*): May Christ, who is risen  
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.

## The Order of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom on the Great and Holy Sunday of Pascha

*The Divine Liturgy immediately follows the Resurrection Matins. The Fast ends with the Divine Liturgy, with our participation in the Precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. According to the Service Books, he who worthily partakes of these divine and life-creating mysteries, eats the true Pascha.*

*Priest:* Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

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

*The priest and choir now proceed with the Paschal Troparion and verses as at the beginning of Matins.*

*During the singing of the above, the priest censes the altar, the iconostasis, and the people.*

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

*And at each verse we sing: Christ is risen . . . (once)*

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

*Verse 3:* So the sinners will perish before the  
face of God; but let the righteous be  
glad.

*Verse 4:* This is the day which the Lord has  
made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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

*And then we sing:* Christ is risen . . . (once)  
Now and ever, and unto ages of ages.  
Amen.

*And we:* Christ is risen . . . (once)

*And again the celebrant:* Christ is risen from the  
dead, trampling down death by death.

*And we finish:* and upon those in the tombs be-  
stowing life.

*The Great Litany and the prayer of the First Antiphon*  
follow in the usual manner.

### **The First Paschal Antiphon**

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing  
of His name, give glory to His praise!

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
O Savior, save us.

Say to God: How awesome are Thy deeds! So  
great is Thy power that Thy enemies cringe  
before Thee!

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
O Savior, save us.

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee!  
Let it praise Thy name, O Most High!

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
O Savior, save us.

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

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
O Savior, save us.

*Little Litany and prayer of the Second Antiphon*

### **The Second Paschal Antiphon**

God be bountiful to us and bless us! Show the  
light of Thy countenance upon us and have  
mercy on us!

*Refrain:* O Son of God who arose from the dead,  
save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

That we may know Thy way upon the earth,  
and Thy salvation among all nations!

*Refrain:* O Son of God who arose from the dead,  
save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Let the people give thanks to Thee, O God! Let  
all the people give thanks to Thee!

*Refrain:* O Son of God who arose from the dead,  
save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

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

*Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God . . .*

*Little Litany and prayer of the Third Antiphon*

### **The Third Pascal Antiphon**

*Reader:* 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 the tombs bestowing life!

*Reader:* As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)

*Reader:* So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad!

*Choir:* Christ is risen . . . (once)

#### *The Introit of the Little Entrance*

*Priest:* Bless God in the churches, the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain!

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

#### **Hypakoe**

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, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

#### **Kontakion (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 myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thy apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

#### *Instead of the Trisagion*

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!

#### *Prokeimenon (Tone 8)*

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

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

#### *Epistle: Acts 1:1-8*

#### *Alleluia Verses (Tone 4)*

Thou didst arise and have mercy on Zion. The Lord looked down from heaven and saw all the sons of men.

#### *Gospel: John 1:1-17*

#### *The Hymn to the Theotokos (Replaces "It Is Truly Meet")*

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

Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now and be

glad, O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in  
the resurrection of your Son. (*Music*, pp. 62-64)

*Instead of "Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord," Christ is risen . . . (once)*

*Communion Hymn*

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain  
of immortality.

*Instead of "We have seen the true light" and "Let our mouths be filled . . .", Christ is risen . . . (once)*

*Instead of "Blessed be the name of the Lord . . ." (3),  
Christ is risen . . . (thrice)*

### **Dismissal**

*Instead of "Glory to Thee, O Christ our God . . .", the priest sings:*

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

*Choir:* **And upon those in the tombs bestow-  
ing life.**

*The celebrant gives the dismissal as at Matins. (Cf.p.52)*

May Christ, who is risen 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.

*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.**