

**Vesper Propers, April 22, 2009**  
**The Holy and Victorious Great-Martyr George**

*All page numbers refer to the Paschal Vespers Book.*

**Psalm 140 - Tone 2**

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re-ceive the voice of my pray'r when I

call up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r

as-cend to you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands

like an eve - ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth  
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,  
nor make excuses for sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.  
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.  
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;  
then they understood that my words *were* kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,  
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;  
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;  
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set  
while I pursue my way *un*harméd.

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,  
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;  
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *with*in me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.  
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *ent*rap me.

Look on my right and see:  
there is no one who takes *my* part.

I have no means of escape,  
not one who cares for *my* soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.  
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

Listen, then, to my cry  
for I am in the depths of *dist*ress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me  
for they are stronger *than* I.

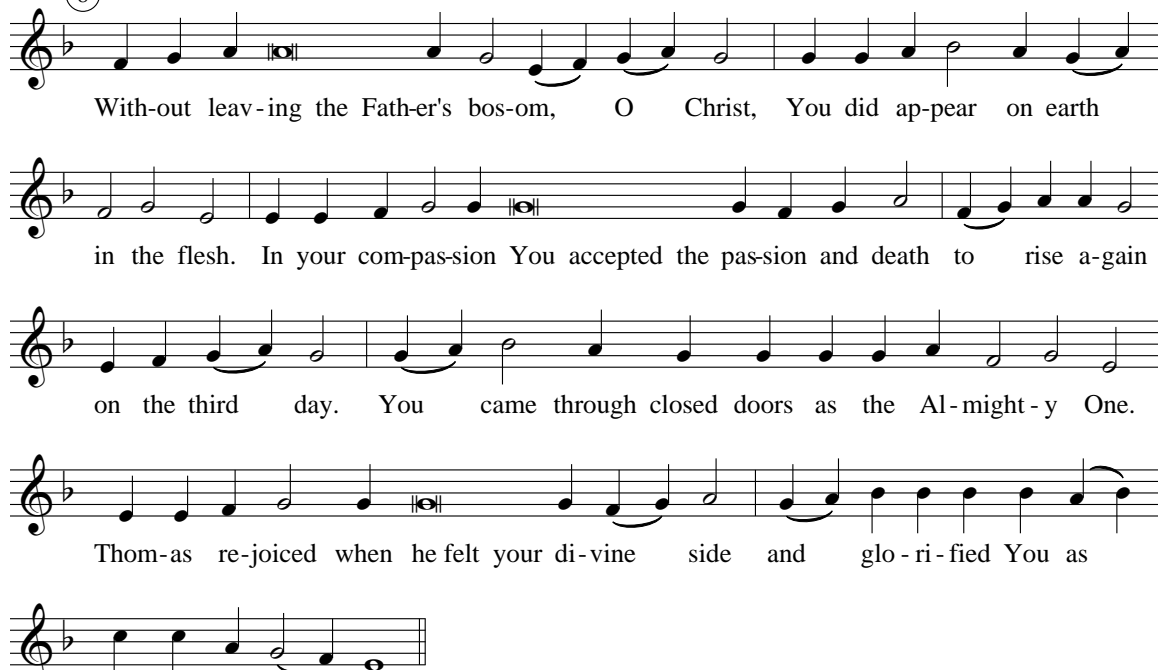
Bring my soul out of this prison \*  
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble \*  
because of your goodness *to* me.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**  
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

**Stichera for Wednesday evening in the week of Thomas - Tone 2**

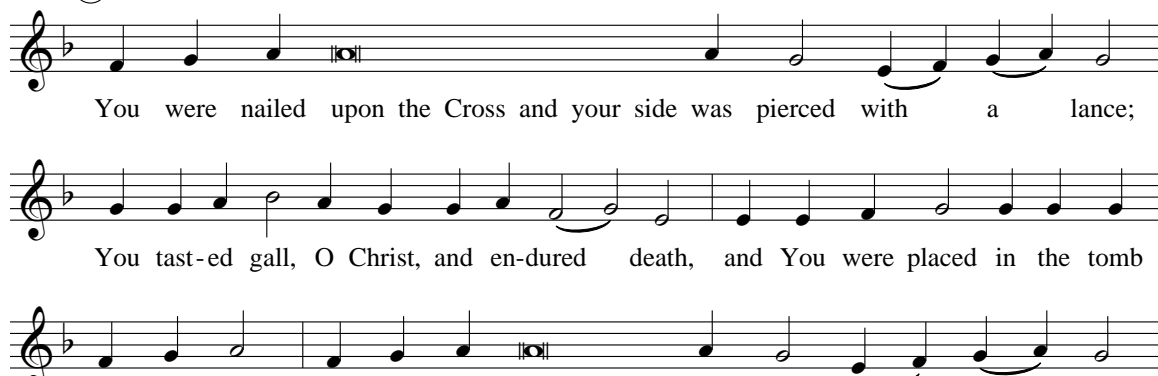
⑧



With-out leav-ing the Fath-er's bos-om, O Christ, You did ap-pear on earth  
in the flesh. In your com-pas-sion You accepted the pas-sion and death to rise a-gain  
on the third day. You came through closed doors as the Al-might-y One.  
Thom-as re-joiced when he felt your di-vine side and glo-ri-fied You as  
Lord and Cre-a - - tor.

**Cantor:** Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

⑦



You were nailed upon the Cross and your side was pierced with a lance;  
You tast-ed gall, O Christ, and en-dured death, and You were placed in the tomb  
as one dead. But as God you destroyed the bonds of Ha - des,

re - sur - rect - ing those dead from all a - ges. There - fore You ap - peared to  
 your dis - cip - les; by your wounds you con - firmed your Re - sur - rec - tion.

**Cantor:** If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?

(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

The Pass - o - ver is our pres - ent feast; a mys - ti - cal Passover, the Pass - o - ver  
 of God; a Pass - o - ver of sal - va - tion, a Pass - o - ver lead - ing us  
 to e - ter - nal life; this Pass - o - ver drives all sor - row a - way. This  
 Pass - o - ver is the disci - ples' gift of joy. There - fore Thom - as cried: You are the Lord  
 and my God, who has con - quered the king - dom of Ha - des.

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.

(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

**Stichera of the Great-Martyr and Wonderworker George - Tone 4 podobn: Jako dobl'a**

Hav - ing gath - ered to geth - er to - day, we praise you, O George, as a

val-iant mar - tyr. You kept the faith and com-plet-ed the course and re-ceived  
 from God the crown of vic - to-ry. En - treat him to deliver from trib - ul - la-tions  
 and cor-rup - tion those who faith-ful-ly ob-serve your pre-cious mem - o - ry.

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak  
 (on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

④ Draw-ing hope from your firm-ness of mind, O glo-rious one, you will-ing-ly  
 persevered to martyrdom like a li - on. Scorn - ing the body as something  
 that would with - er, you were wise-ly concerned with your in-cor-rupt-i - ble soul.  
 Cov - ered with wounds by various forms of tor - ture, O George,  
 like gold you were pu - ri - fied sev - en - fold.

**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
 (on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

3

You suf - fered mar - tyr - dom in behalf of the Sav-ior, O glo - rious one,

by a death similar to his vol-un-tar-y death. You reign glo-rious-ly with him,

clothed with the re-splen-dent pur-ple robes of your blood, and you are adorned with

the scep - ter of your suf - frings. O great mar - tyr George,

you are re-splen-dent in your crown of vic - to - ry through-out all

gen - er - a - tions.

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord all the nations; **Psalm 116**  
 (on 2) acclaim him all you people.

2

With faith as your ar-mor and grace as your shield, with the cross as your

spear, you waged war. You were in-vin-ci-ble in fac-ing the foes, O George.

Like a might-y war-rior, you destroyed the camps of the de - mons. Now

you are dancing joyfully with the an - gels. In - deed you defend, sanctify, and  
 save the faith - - ful who in - voke you.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
*(on 1)* he is faithful forever.

We re-cog-nize you as a ver - y bright star, a sun shining in the firmament  
 of the hea - vens, a ver - y pre-cious pearl, spark-ling more than a gem.  
 O George, the con-quer-or, we glo-ri-fy you as a son of the day  
 and cour-a-geous mar - tyr. We commemorate you as a defender of the  
 faith - - ful in trib - u - la - tions.

**Cantor:** *(Tone 6)* Glory...

**Doxastikon of the Great-Martyr George - Tone 6 samohlasen**

You were true to your name, O war-rior George, for you took the cross of Christ

up-on your shoul - ders. You ploughed well the land made barren by the de-ceits  
of the dev il; you root-ed out the weeds of i-dol wor - ship and plant-ed  
the vine of the true faith. There - fore your healing overflows to the faithful through-  
-out the whole world, and you have shown yourself to be the righteous  
gardener of the Trin - i - ty. Pray for peace in the world and sal - va - tion  
for our souls.

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Now and ever...

**Doxastikon of Wednesday evening in the Week of Thomas - Tone 4 samohlasen**

O mar-vel-ous won - der! The lack of faith gave birth to a cer-tain - ty of faith;  
for Thomas said: Unless I see, I will not be-lieve! There-fore, when he touched  
your side, he ac-knowl-edged that you were the in-car-nate Son of God, and he

knew that you truly suffered in the flesh; and thus he proclaimed your resurrection  
from the dead, say - ing: My Lord and my God, glo - ry to you!

*The service continues on page 12.*

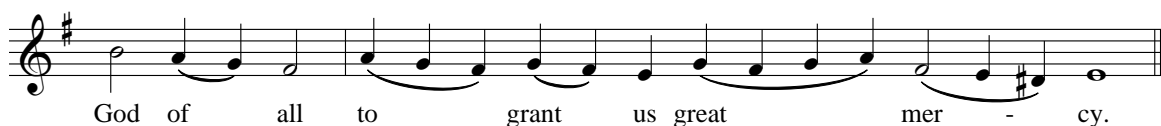
*The Prokeimenon for Wednesday evening is found on page 25.*

- Readings:**
- 1) Isaiah 43: 9-14 EOT 303
  - 2) Wisdom 3:1-9 EOT 315
  - 3) Wisdom 4: 7-15 EOT 308

## Litija

*Tone 1*

Be - cause of his glo - rious suf - fer - ing, the bril - liant warrior George rejoices  
with the pow - ers a - bove. At this time we al - so re - joice with them.  
He has in - spired the faith - ful on earth to ob - serve the fast and to cel - e - brate  
with them. Be - cause of that he was consid - ered a serv - ant of Christ.  
Let us there - fore, worth - i - ly ven - er - ate him who prays unceasingly to the

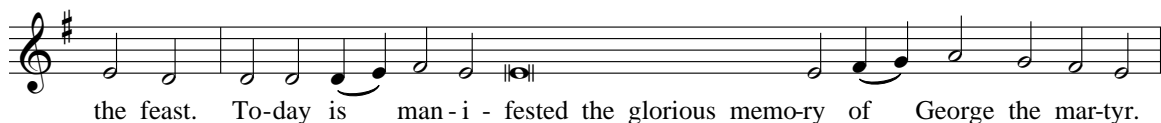


God of all to grant us great mer - cy.

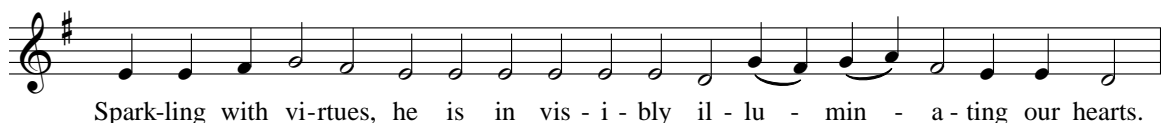
*Tone 4 Bolhar*



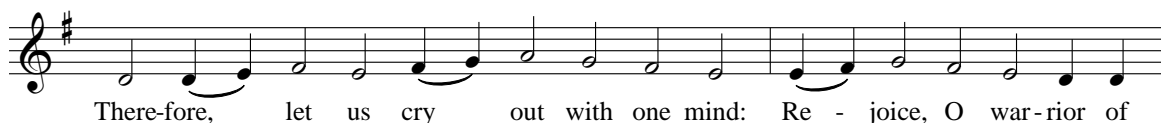
2  
Come, O as-sembly of the faith - ful. Come, let us cel - e - brate



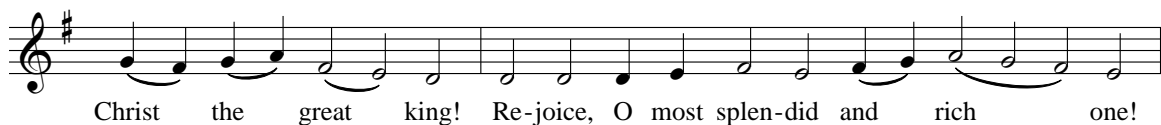
the feast. To-day is man-i - fested the glorious memo-ry of George the mar-tyr.



Spark-ling with vi-rtues, he is in vis - i - bly il - lu - min - a - ting our hearts.



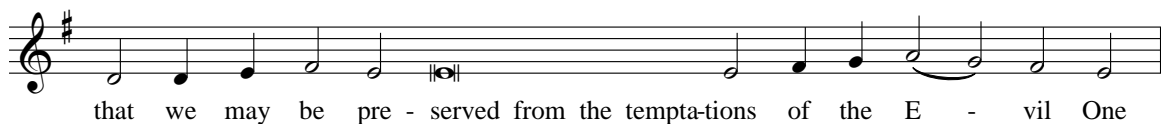
There-fore, let us cry out with one mind: Re - joice, O war-rior of



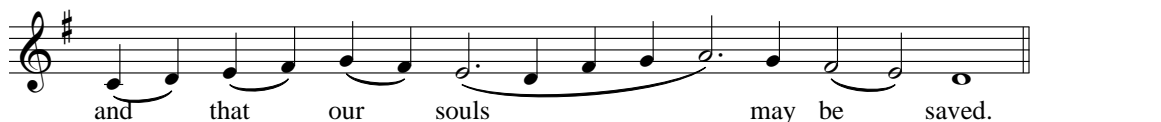
Christ the great king! Re-joyce, O most splen-did and rich one!



O most bless-ed one, on our behalf, im-plore Christ our God the Mas-ter of all,



that we may be pre - served from the tempta-tions of the E - vil One



and that our souls may be saved.

**Cantor:** (Tone 5) Glory...now and ever...

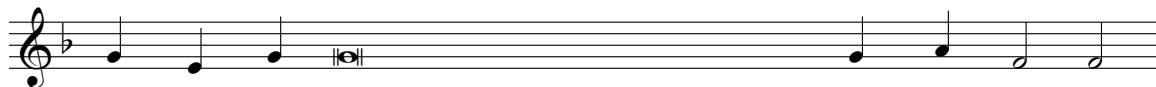
**Of the Martyr - Tone 5 samohlasen**



Come, let us be filled with de-light. Spring has come and brought forth the



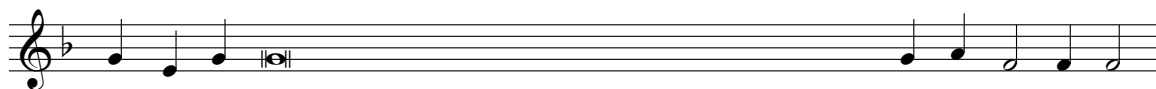
Re - sur - rec - tion of Christ. Come, let us be joy - ful.



The com - mem - oration of the martyr has arrived and illu-mined the faith - ful.



There-fore, come, O lov - ers of the feasts; let us cel - e-brate that mys-ter - y.



For, as a good soldier, he courageously overcame and confound-ed the tor - tur-ers.



He was an im - itator of the passion of Christ the Sav - ior. He did not



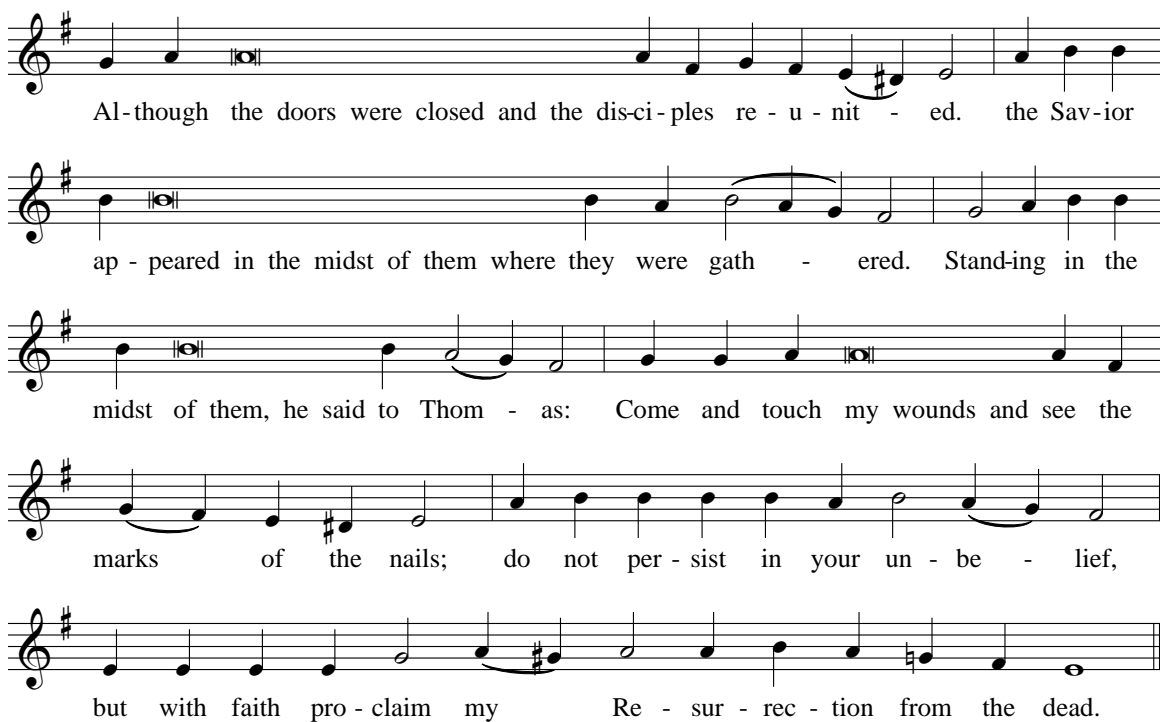
spare his earth-en ves-sel, but ex-posed it naked, allowing it to suf-fer tor-tures.



Let us cry out to him: O Mar-tyr, pray that our souls may be saved.

**Cantor:** (Tone 8) Glory...now and ever...

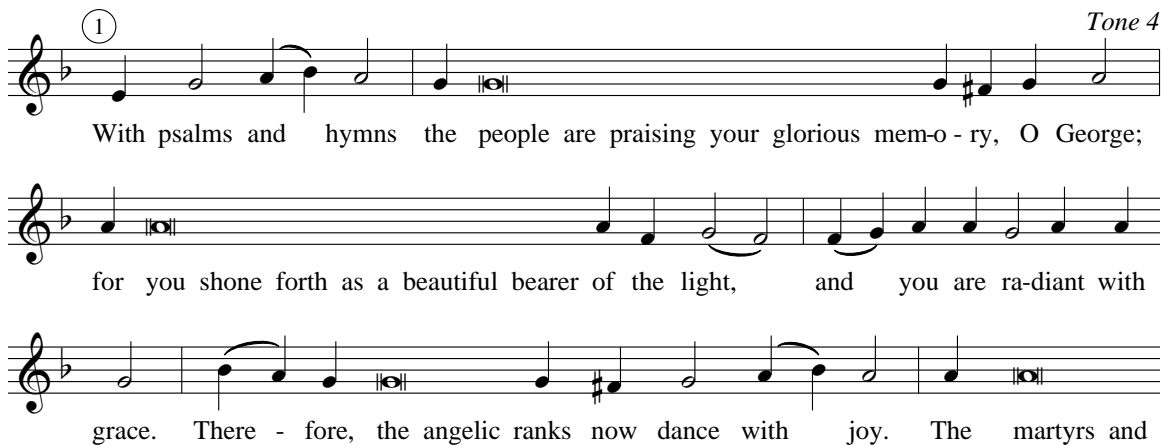
**Of Thomas Sunday - Tone 8 samohlasen**



Al-though the doors were closed and the dis-ci-ples re - u - nit - ed. the Sav-ior  
ap - peared in the midst of them where they were gath - ered. Stand-ing in the  
midst of them, he said to Thom - as: Come and touch my wounds and see the  
marks of the nails; do not per - sist in your un - be - lief,  
but with faith pro - claim my Re - sur - rec - tion from the dead.

*The Litany of the Litija is found in the Appendix on page 26.*

**Aposticha**

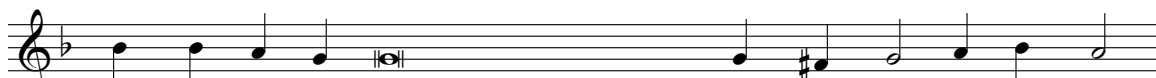


① Tone 4

With psalms and hymns the people are praising your glorious mem-o - ry, O George;  
for you shone forth as a beautiful bearer of the light, and you are ra-diant with  
grace. There - fore, the angelic ranks now dance with joy. The martyrs and



apostles are prais - ing the strug - gles of the suf - fering ones, O Mar - tyr.



They are ex - alt - ing the Savior, Christ our God, who glo - ri - fied you.



Im - plore him to save and il - lu - mine our souls.

*Cantor*

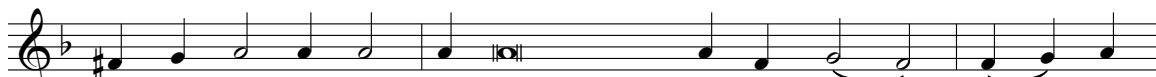


The just will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a ce-dar of Le - ba - non.

②



You have put on the shield of Christ, O George, and you were not found by those



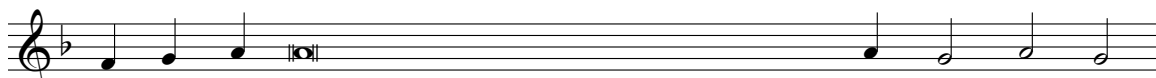
who were hunt - ing you. In - flamed with the fire of Christ, you scoffed



at the barbarity of the meaning-less i - dols. You ex - claimed to Christ, to the



warrior king, and to the trans-gres - sors: Nei-ther wild beasts nor wheels of tor-ture,



nei - ther fire nor sword shall ever separate me from the love of Christ my God.



Im - plore him now to save and en - light - en our souls.

*Cantor*

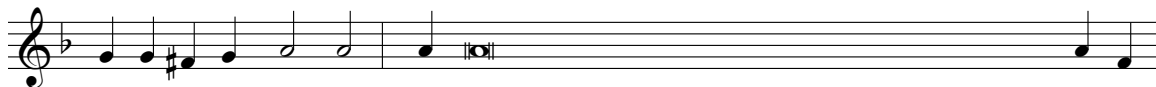


Plant-ed in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the court-yard of our God.

③



O crown-bear-er George, you scorned the various instruments of torture and the



ter-ri-fy-ing weap-ons. There-fore we crown your resplendent memory with flow-ers of



hymns, and we kiss your pre-cious rel-ics with faith. Since you stand be-fore



the throne of the Mas-ter, pray unceasingly that he save and en-light-en



our souls.

**Cantor:** Glory...

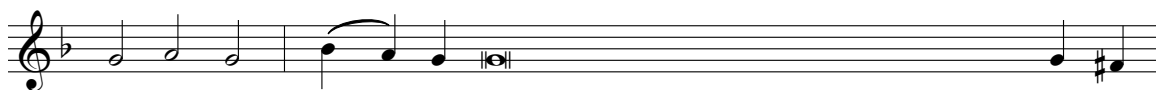
**Doxastikon of the Great-Martyr**



Let us spiritually praise the great-mar-tyr George, the liv-ing steel of en-dur-ance.



He was tried by fire and brand-ing irons and sharp in-struments of torture for the



sake of Christ. These var-ious tortures ravaged the body which is perisha-ble by



na - ture; but love con-querred na-ture, per - suad - ing the beloved to make his



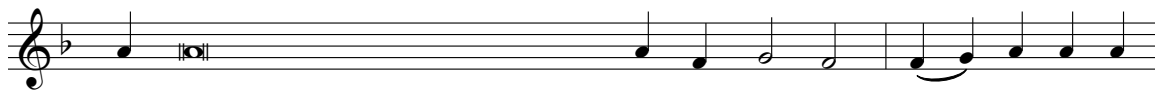
way through death to Christ our God, the Sav - ior of our souls.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

**Doxastikon of Wednesday evening in Thomas Week**



O mar-vel-ous won - der! For grass has touched the fire and was not burned.



Thom - as placed his hand into the fiery side of the Sav - ior, and he was not



con-sumed by touch-ing him. Tru-ly, his soul was changed from doubt to faith,



and he exclaimed from the depth of his spir-it: You are my Mas-ter and my God who

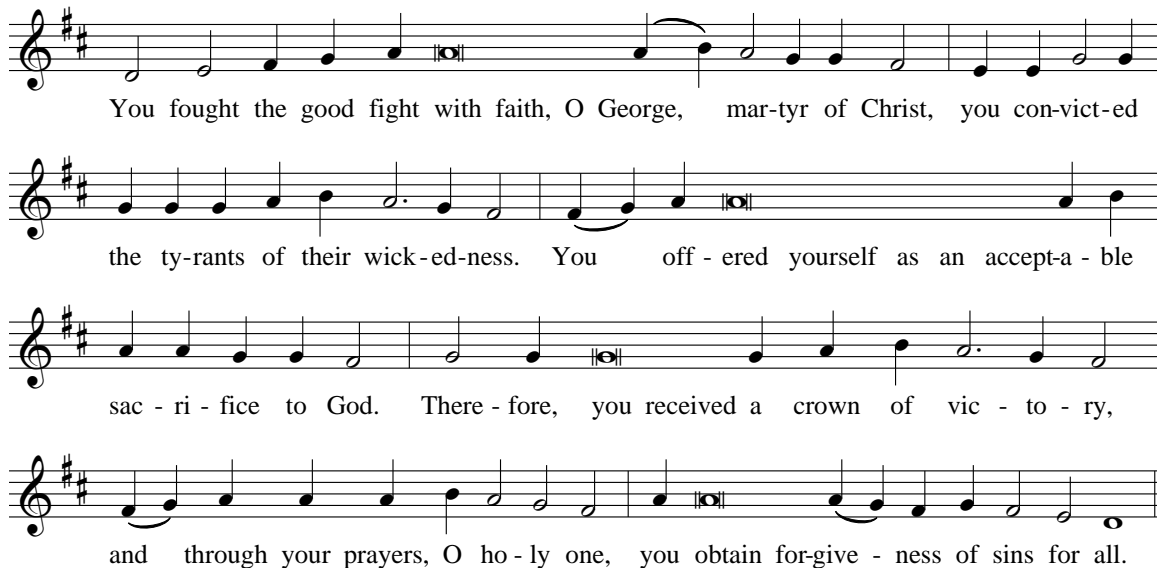


a - rose from the dead. O Lord, glo - ry to you!

*The service continues on page 19.*

## Troparia

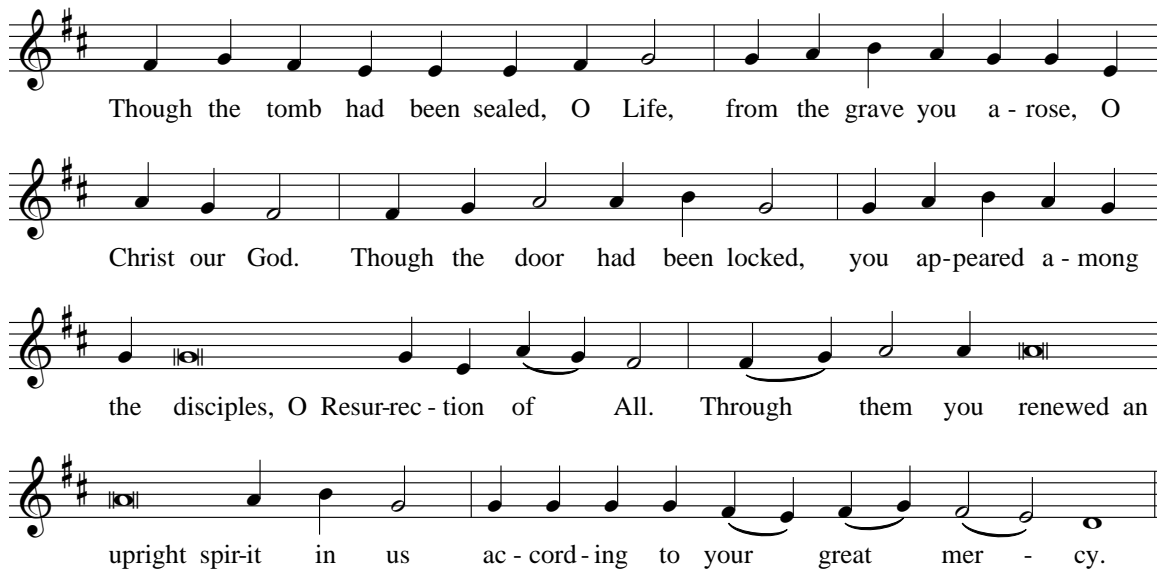
### Troparion of the Holy Great-Martyr George - *Tone 4*



You fought the good fight with faith, O George, mar-tyr of Christ, you con-vict-ed  
the ty-rants of their wick-ed-ness. You off-ered yourself as an accept-a-ble  
sac-ri-fice to God. There-fore, you received a crown of vic-to-ry,  
and through your prayers, O ho-ly one, you obtain for-give-ness of sins for all.

**Cantor:** (*Tone 7*) Now and ever...

### Troparion of Thomas Sunday - *Tone 7*



Though the tomb had been sealed, O Life, from the grave you a-rose, O  
Christ our God. Though the door had been locked, you ap-peared a-mong  
the disciples, O Resur-rec-tion of All. Through them you renewed an  
upright spir-it in us ac-cord-ing to your great mer-cy.