

**VESPERS ON THE EVENING OF PASCHA**

*(also called “Agape Vespers”)*

**AND ON THE DAYS OF BRIGHT WEEK**

**Metropolitan Cantor Institute**

**April 2009**

**(revised April 2011)**

During Bright Week, the week following the great feast of the Resurrection of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, the Church's liturgical services are characterized by their joy and by their brevity. For an entire week, we repeat the services of Easter Sunday, with slight variations from one day to the next. In a sense, for an entire week, it IS Pascha.

At the same time, Bright Week embraces the entire cycle of the Church's worship. For example, on the Sunday of Pascha, we sing the Resurrectional hymns at the Paschal Vigil and Paschal Matins in the first of the Eight Tones. On the following days, we progress through the eight Resurrectional Tones, singing the Sunday hymns of each tone at weekday Vespers and Matins. Thus:

- on Sunday evening and Monday morning, we sing the Sunday hymns of Tone 2;
- on Monday evening and Tuesday morning, those of Tone 3;
- on Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning, Tone 4;
- on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, Tone 5,
- on Thursday evening and Friday morning, Tone 6, and
- on Friday evening and Saturday morning, Tone 8.

In this manner, we sing seven weeks of Resurrectional hymns in seven days (tone 7 being skipped). At the Saturday evening services which signal the start of the Sunday after Pascha (Thomas Sunday), we begin again in Tone 1, and return to changing to a new tone once per week.

This booklet provides the complete service of Vespers on the afternoon or evening of Pascha, and on the Monday through Friday of Bright Week. On each day, we begin the service with a triple singing of the Paschal troparion, "Christ is risen". At the Lamp-lighting Psalms, we sing the Resurrectional stichera in the tone of the DAY rather than the tone of the week. The aposticha consist of a single sticheron in the tone of the day, followed by the singing of the Paschal stichera. The service ends with the special Paschal dismissal.

The text and music for this service are taken almost entirely from the Metropolitan Cantor Institute's 2009 booklet for Resurrection Matins, and from the 2006 Sunday Vespers book, also by the Metropolitan Cantor Institute. The texts for the daily prokeimena of Pascha and Bright Week come from the Pentecostarion of the Sisters of Saint Basil of Uniontown, and have been set to the prokeimenon melodies as found in the Divine Liturgies book published in 2007 by the Byzantine Catholic Church *sui juris* of the United States of America.

Like the other publications of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, this setting of the service of Bright Week Vespers is UNOFFICIAL and subject to change or revision by the Cantor Institute, the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission, or the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Church. We hope that it provides spiritual benefit to all who use it.

## Prokeimenon (Friday evening)

### Great Prokeimenon of Bright Friday - Tone 8 (Psalm 60: 6, 3, 5, 9)

You have grant - ed me the her - i - - - tage, the her - i - tage  
of those who fear you.

*Verse:* From the end of the earth I call: my heart is faint.

*Verse:* Let me hide in the shelter of your wings.

*Verse:* So I will always praise your name.

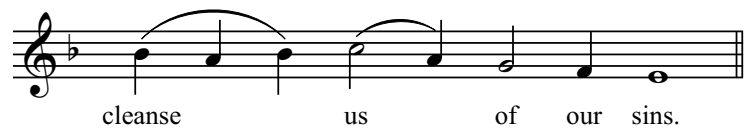
*The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.*

## Aposticha

### Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 8

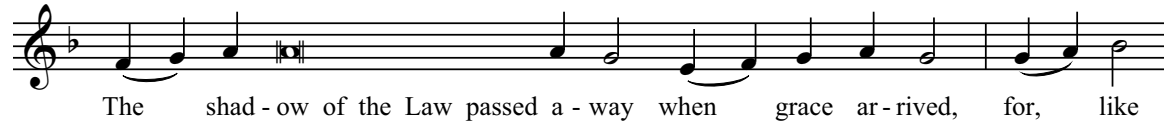
O Je-sus, you de-scend - ed from heav'n so that you might as-cend the Cross.  
O Im-mor-tal Life, you came to die. You are the true light to those who live  
in dark - - - ness, and you are the resurre-ction of all the dead. There-fore,  
O Sav - ior of all, we glo - ri - fy you.

*Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.*



cleanse us of our sins.

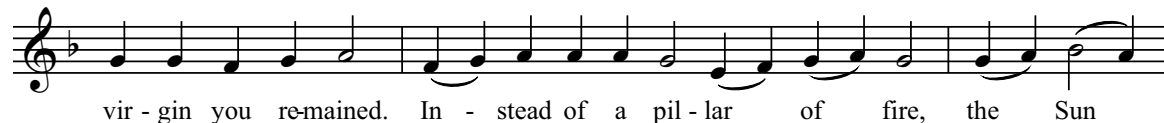
**Cantor:** Now and ever...



The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like



the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a



virgin you remained. In - stead of a pillar of fire, the Sun



of Jus-tice dawned; in-stead of Mo-ses, Christ, the sal-va-tion of our souls.

*The service continues on page 9.*

*The faithful STAND as the the celebrant, fully vested in bright vestments, stands before the holy table and begins.*

**Celebrant:** Blessed is our God always, now and ever and forever.



A - men.

*Immediately the Paschal troparion is sung three times: once by the celebrant, and twice by the faithful.*



Christ is ris - en from the dead! By death he tram - pled Death;

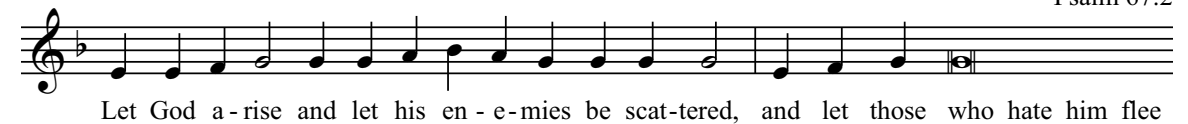


and to those in the tombs he grant - ed life.

*The celebrant sings the following versicles, and to each one the faithful respond by singing the Paschal troparion.*

*Priest:*

Psalm 67:2



Let God a-rise and let his en - e-mies be scat-tered, and let those who hate him flee



from be - fore his face!

**All:** Christ is risen...

*Priest:*

Psalm 67:3



As smoke van - ish - es, so let them van - ish, as wax melts be - fore a fire.

**All:** Christ is risen...

Priest: Psalm 67:4

Musical notation for Priest's part of Psalm 67:4. The lyrics are: So let the wick-ed perish at the pres-ence of God, but let the right-eous ones re-joyce.

All: Christ is risen...

Priest: Psalm 117:24

Musical notation for Priest's part of Psalm 117:24. The lyrics are: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us re-joyce and be glad in it.

All: Christ is risen...

Priest:

Musical notation for Priest's part of the Gloria. The lyrics are: Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; now and ev - er and for-ev - er. A - men.

All: Christ is risen...

**Litany of Peace**

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Musical notation for the first response of the Litany of Peace. The lyrics are: 1. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Musical notation for the second response of the Litany of Peace. The lyrics are: 2. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Musical notation for Cantor's part of Psalm 116. The lyrics are: O Christ, we glorify your re-sur-rec - - - tion; for by ris-ing from the dead

Musical notation for Cantor's part of Psalm 116. The lyrics are: you freed the race of Adam from Ha-des' suf-fer - ing, and as God you grant-ed

Musical notation for Cantor's part of Psalm 116. The lyrics are: e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy to the world.

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

Musical notation for Cantor's part of the Gloria. The lyrics are: Glo-ry to you, O Christ our Sav - - - ior, the on-ly-be-got-ten Son of God;

Musical notation for Cantor's part of the Gloria. The lyrics are: for you were nailed to the Cross, and then a-rose from the dead on the third day.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 2

Musical notation for the beginning of the Doxastikon. The lyrics are: Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord sing-ing this

Musical notation for the beginning of the Doxastikon. The lyrics are: hymn of sal-va - tion: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose from the dead;

Musical notation for the beginning of the Doxastikon. The lyrics are: and now you a - bide in the bos - om of the Fa - ther. Please

5

O Lord, O Lord, do not cast us a-way from your face, but let it be your pleasure  
to have mer - cy on us by your re - - - sur-rec - - - tion.

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

4

Re-joyce, O ho - ly Zi - - - - on, the moth - er of the churches and the  
dwell-ing-place of God; for you were the first to receive re-mis-sion of sins  
by the re - - - sur-rec - - - - tion.

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

3

Christ the Word was begotten by God the Fa-ther be - fore all ag - es;  
yet in these lat - ter times, he free - ly willed to take flesh from the Virgin who  
did not know man. By his death on the cross and his re - sur-rec - tion  
he saved man - kind from the an - cient curse of death.

**Deacon:** For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For our holy father, (*Name*), pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For our most reverend metropolitan, (*Name*), for our God-loving bishop, (*Name*), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** For this city, [*or*: For this holy monastery], for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

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

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

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

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

**Deacon:** That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)

**Deacon:** Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (2)

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

**Response:**   
To you, O Lord.

**Priest:** Evening, morning, and at noon we praise you, we bless you, we thank you, and we pray to you, Master of All, Lord and Lover of us all. Let our prayer rise like incense before you and do not let our hearts be turned to evil words or thoughts, but deliver us from all that might ensnare our souls. For to you, Lord, O Lord, our eyes are turned and in you we hope; let us not be put to shame, O our God.

For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship now and ever and forever.

**Response:**   
A - men.

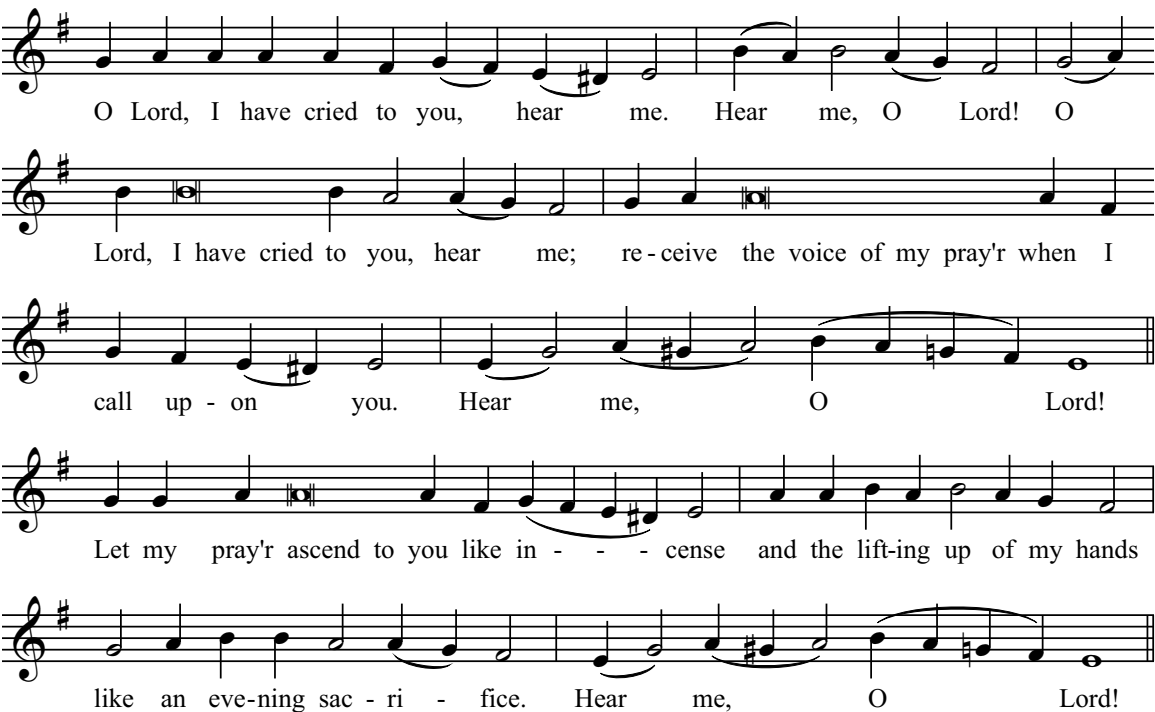
### The Lamplighting Psalms

*The Lamp-lighting Psalms and their stichera are now sung. The opening verses of Psalm 140 (text at the top of the next page) are sung according to the tone of the day:*

Evening of Pascha	Tone 2 - page 21	Wednesday evening	Tone 5 - page 39
Monday evening	Tone 3 - page 28	Thursday evening	Tone 6 - page 46
Tuesday evening	Tone 4 - page 33	Friday evening	Tone 8 - page 51

### On Friday evening

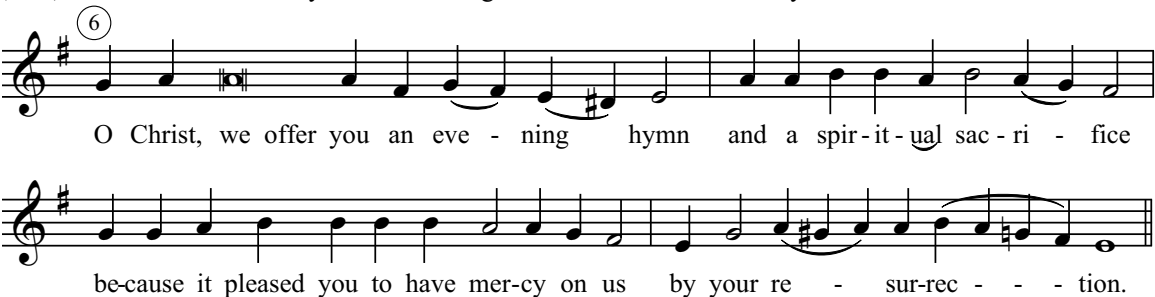
#### Psalm 140 - Tone 8 samohlasen



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 ascend to you like in - - - cense and the lift-ing up of my hands like an eve-ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

*The recited verses begin on page 7.*

**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.



O Christ, we offer you an eve - ning hymn and a spir - it - ual sac - ri - fice be-cause it pleased you to have mer-cy on us by your re - sur-rec - - - tion.

**Cantor:** 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.

## Prokeimenon (Thursday evening)

### Great Prokeimenon of Bright Thursday - Tone 7 (Psalm 17: 2-4, 7)

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my strength my  
rock, my fort-ress, my Sav - - - - ior.

**Verse:** My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.

**Verse:** The Lord is worthy of all praise; when I call I am saved from my foes.

**Verse:** From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came to his ears.

*The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.*

## Aposticha

### Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 6

Your Re - sur - rec - tion, O Christ our Sav - ior, the an - gels in heav - en  
praise with hymns; make us, on earth, al - so wor - thy with a pure heart  
to ex - tol and give glo - ry to You.

*Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.*

## Psalm 140

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

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me:  
receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon you.  
Hear me, O Lord!

Let me prayer ascend to you like incense,  
and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.  
Hear me, O Lord!

*The remaining verses are chanted antiphonally.*

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 **unharm**ed.

**Psalm 141** 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 *within* me.

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

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

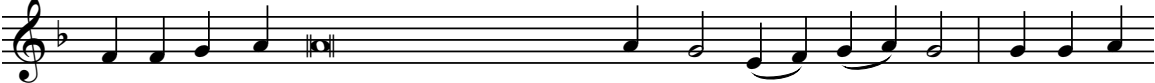
Bring my soul out of this prison  
and then I shall praise *your* name.

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


**Psalm 129** Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear *my* voice!

Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of *my* pleading.


**Doxastikon - Tone 2**




Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord sing-ing this



hymn of sal - va - tion: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose




from the dead; and now you a-bide in the bos-om of the Fa - ther. Please




cleanse us of our sins.


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




The shad - ow of the Law passed a - way when grace ar - rived, for, like



the bush which burned but was not con-sumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a



vir - gin you remained. In - stead of a pil - lar of fire, the Sun




of Jus - tice dawned; in - stead of Mo - ses, Christ, the sal - va - tion of our souls.

*Continue on page 9.*

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

③



We ex-ult in your Cross, O Christ, and we sing the glory of your Res-ur-rec - tion.




For you are our God, and we have no oth - er Lord but you.

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

②



Glo-ry to your might, O Lord, for you have con-quer-ed the pow-er of death.



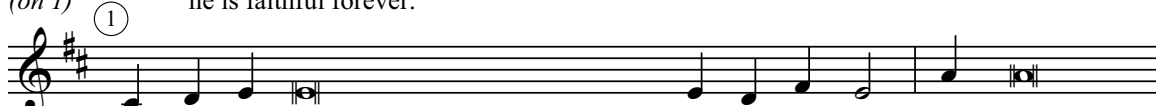
You have re-newed us through your Cross, grant-ing us life and



in - cor - rup - - - - tion.

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

①



We for - ev - er bless the Lord and praise his res - ur - rec - tion, for by suffering



cru - ci - fix - ion, he has de-stroyed Death by his death.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

*The Lamplighting stichera are now sung according to the tone of the day:*

Evening of Pascha	Tone 2 - page 21	Wednesday evening	Tone 5 - page 39
Monday evening	Tone 3 - page 28	Thursday evening	Tone 6 - page 46
Tuesday evening	Tone 4 - page 33	Friday evening	Tone 8 - page 51

### The Hymn of the Evening

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as "O Joyful Light" is sung.  
The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.*



O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,



the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have



reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise



a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the



Giv - er of Life. There - fore, the u - ni - verse sings your glo - ry.

## The Evening Prokeimenon

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

**Priest:** ☩ Peace be to all!

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The evening prokeimenon is now sung:*

Evening of Pascha	Tone 7 - page 25	Wednesday evening	Tone 7 - page 44
Monday evening	Tone 7 - page 31	Thursday evening	Tone 7 - page 50
Tuesday evening	Tone 8 - page 38	Friday evening	Tone 8 - page 55

*On the evening of Pascha, there is also a reading from the Holy Gospel.*

## Litany of Fervent Supplication

**Deacon:** Let us all say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say:

**Response:** 

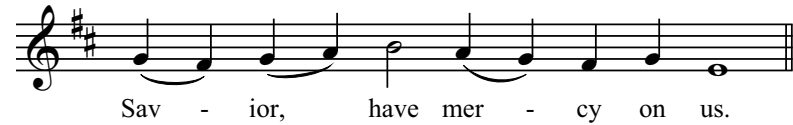
**Deacon:** O Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

**Response:** 

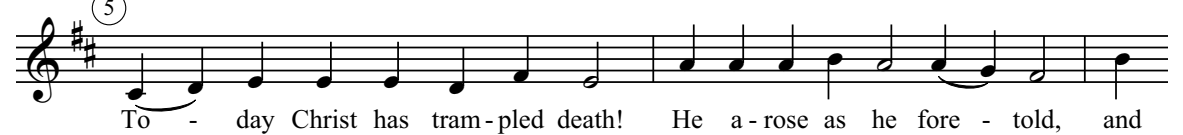
**Deacon:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

**Response:** 

**Deacon:** Again we pray for our holy father, *(Name)*, pope of Rome, and for our most reverend metropolitan, *(Name)*, for our God-loving bishop, *(Name)*, for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.



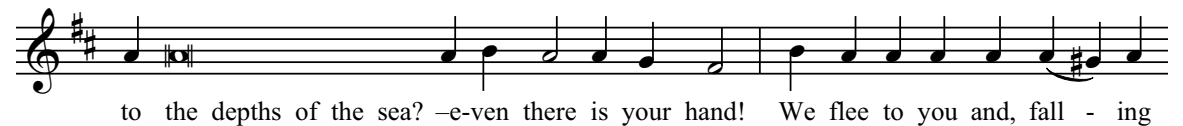
**Cantor:** My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.  
*(on 5)* My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.






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






## On Thursday evening

### Psalm 140 - Tone 6 samohlasen

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 ascend to  
you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands like an eve - ning  
sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

*The recited verses begin on page 7.*

**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.

O Christ, you are victorious o - ver Ha - des. You ascended the cross to raise up  
with your - self those who sat in the dark - ness of death. You a - lone are free  
a - mong the dead; from your own light, you well up with life, All - pow - er - ful

**Response:** 4. Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

**Deacon:** Again we pray for our government and for all in the service of our country.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (*three times, using response 4.*)

**Deacon:** Again we pray for the people here present who await your great and abundant mercy, for those who show us mercy, and for all Christians of the true faith.

**Response:** Lord, have mercy. (*three times, using response 3.*)

**Priest:** For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

**Response:** A - - men.

## Hymn of Glorification

Make us wor - thy, O Lord, to be kept sin - less this eve - ning.  
Bless - ed are you, O Lord, the God of our fa - thers, and praise - wor - thy  
and glorious is your name for ev - er. A - - men. May your mer - cy, O Lord,  
*reverence*  
be up - on us who have placed our hope in you. Bless - ed are you O

*reverence*

Lord; teach me your com - mand - ments. Bless-ed are you, O Mas - ter;

*reverence*

make me un - der-stand your com - mand - ments. Bless-ed are you, O Ho - ly One;

en - light-en me with your com-mand-ments. O Lord, your mer-cy is for-ev - er;

de - spise not the work of your hands. To you is due praise; to you

is due a hymn; to you is glo - ry due, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it,

now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

### Litany of Supplication

**Deacon:** Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

**Response:**   
1. Lord, have mer - cy.

**Deacon:** Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

**Response:**   
2. Lord, have mer - cy.

### Aposticha

#### Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 5

O Christ our Sav - ior, we lift up our voices in song to glo - ri - fy you.

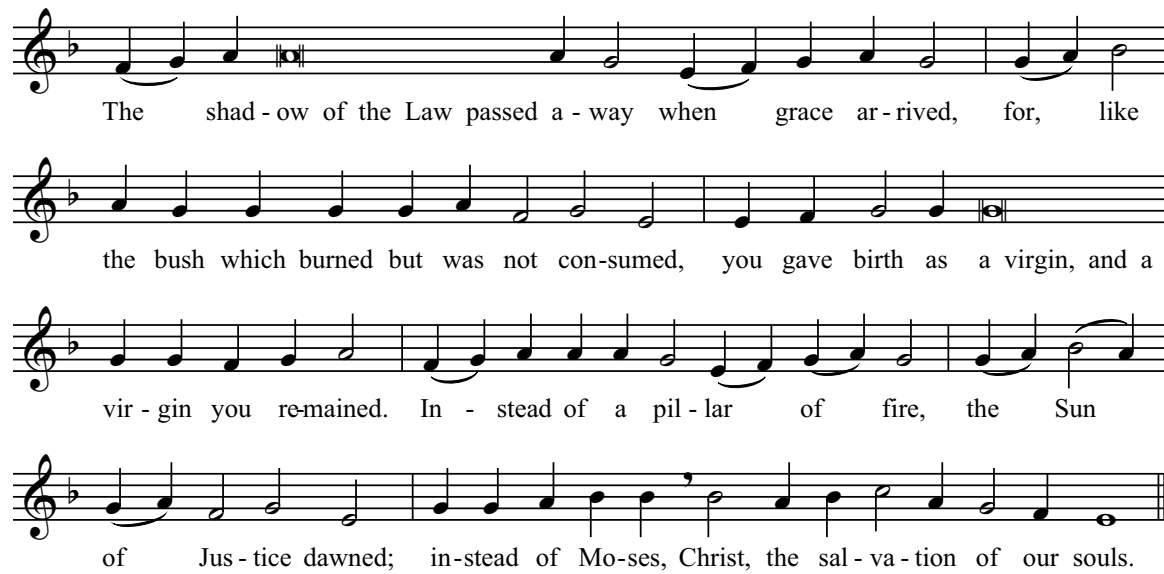
For in your love for us all, you be-came incarnate without leav-ing heav-en;

you ac-cept-ed the Cross and death; you cast down the gates of Ha - des;

and on the third day you arose from the dead

for the sal - va - tion of our souls.

*Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.*

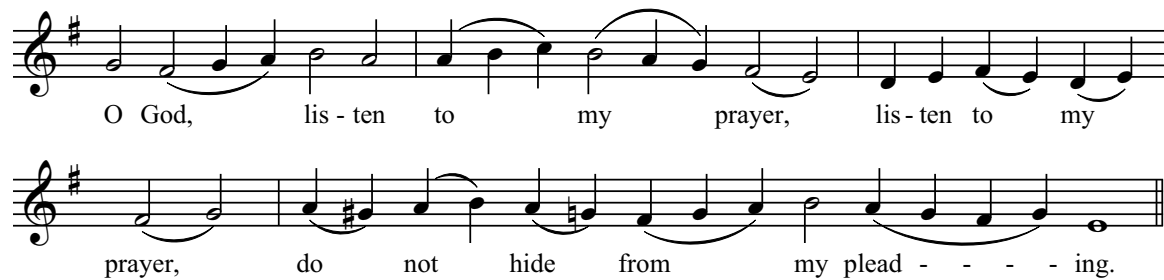


The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like  
the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a  
virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun  
of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls.

*Continue on page 9.*

### Prokeimenon (Wednesday evening)

**Great Prokeimenon of Bright Wednesday - Tone 7** (Psalm 54: 2-4, 17-18)



O God, listen to my prayer, listen to my  
prayer, do not hide from my plead - - - ing.


**Verse:** Attend to me and reply.

**Verse:** For they bring down evil upon me.

**Verse:** As for me, I will cry to God, and the Lord will save me, evening, morning, and at noon.

*The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.*

**Deacon:** That this whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:**   
3. Grant this, O Lord.

**Deacon:** For an angel of peace, a faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:**   
4. Grant this, O Lord.

**Deacon:** For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord. (3)

**Deacon:** For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world, let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord. (4)

**Deacon:** That we may spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord. (3)

**Deacon:** For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord.

**Response:** Grant this, O Lord. (4)

**Deacon:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**Response:**   
To you, O Lord.

**Celebrant:** Great and most high God, you alone possess immortality and dwell in unapproachable light. You made all creation with wisdom, dividing light from darkness, establishing the sun to rule the day and the moon and stars to rule the night. You have allowed us sinners to approach your presence with thanksgiving in this present hour and to offer you evening praise. O Lord, Lover of us all, make our prayer ascend to you like incense and accept it as a sweet fragrance. Grant that we may spend the present evening and the coming night in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; deliver us from the fears of the night and from everything that lurks about in darkness. Grant that the sleep you have given us to refresh our fatigue may be free from all illusions of the devil. Yes, O Master of All, Giver of good things, let us feel contrition as we lie on our beds remembering your name throughout the night. Enlightened by meditation on your commands, may we rise with gladdened soul to give glory to your goodness, offering prayers and supplications to your compassion for our sins and those of all your people. Visit us with mercy through the intercession of the holy Theotokos.

For you, O God, are good and love us all, and we glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

**Response:**   
A - - men.


**Priest:** ✠ Peace be to all!

**Response:**   
And to your spir - it.


**Deacon:** Bow your heads to the Lord!

**Response:**   
To you, O Lord.


**Priest:** Lord our God, you bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race. Look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for they have bowed their heads and bent their necks to you, the awesome Judge who love us all. They do not expect human help, but await your mercy and long for your salvation. Protect them at all times, this evening and tonight, from every enemy, from all the devil's assaults, from vain thoughts and evil imaginings. May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.




and leave the bur-ial shroud in the tomb? Do not de - ceive yourselves, O people



of Ju - de - a. Stud - y the teach-ings of the Proph - ets, and you



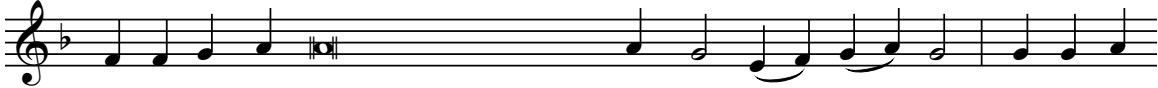
will come to understand that Jesus Christ is God Al - might - y and tru - ly the




Sav - ior of the world.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...


**Doxastikon - Tone 2**



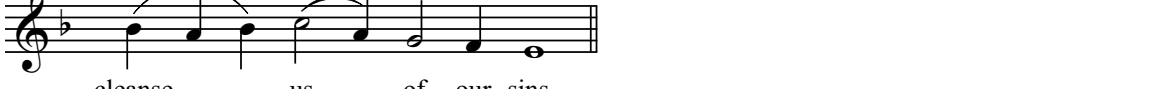
Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord sing-ing this



hymn of sal - va - tion: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose



from the dead; and now you a-bide in the bos-om of the Fa - ther. Please



cleanse us of our sins.

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

②

Let us glo - rify Christ, the Author of our sal - va - tion; for by his res - ur - rec - tion

from the dead, the world has been delivered from the de - cep - tion of Sa - tan.

The choirs of angels rejoice as the treachery of evil spir - its va - nish - es.

Fall - en Adam arises and the De - vil is van - - - quished.

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

①

Those who guard - ed the tomb of Christ were told by the e - vil men who hired them,

"Take this sil - ver and keep si - lent. Tell no one of the resurrec - tion of Christ;

rath - er tell ev - eryone that while you were sleeping, his bo - dy was stol - en."

But who has ever heard of a bod - y be - ing stol - en, a bo - dy which had already

been a - noint - ed? Why would an - y - one take a body from the grave na - ked,

**Response:**

A - men.

## Aposticha

*On each day, a single proper sticheron is taken:*

Evening of Pascha	Tone 2 - page 27	Wednesday evening	Tone 5 - page 45
Monday evening	Tone 3 - page 32	Thursday evening	Tone 6 - page 50
Tuesday evening	Tone 4 - page 38	Friday evening	Tone 8 - page 55

*The aposticha continue with the Paschal stichera. The celebrant (or an appointed person) sings the verses and the faithful respond with the stichera. During the singing of the stichera, the faithful approach to kiss the holy cross, the gospel book, and the icon of the Resurrection. The celebrant stands outside the holy doors, holding the handcross and greeting each of the faithful as they come to kiss the cross and holy articles, saying to each:*

**Celebrant:** Christ is risen!

**Celebrant:** Christos voskrese!

**Response:** Indeed he is risen!

**Response:** Voinstinnu voskrese!

## The Paschal Stichera

*Celebrant:*

Let God a - rise and let his ene - mies be scat - tered,

and let those who hate him flee from be - fore his face.

*All:*

To - day the sa - cred Pasch is re - vealed to us, ho - ly and new Pasch,

the mys - ti - cal Pass - o - ver, the ven - er - a - ble Pass - o - ver,  
 the Pasch which is Christ the Re - deem - er, spot-less Pasch, great Pasch,  
 the Pasch of the faith-ful, the Pasch which is the key to the gates of Par - a - dise,  
 the Pas - cha which sanc - ti - fies all the faith - - - ful.

*Celebrant:*

As smoke van - ish - es, so let them van - ish,  
 as wax melts be - fore a fire.

*All:*

O wo - men, be the her - alds of good news and tell what you saw;  
 tell of the vision and say to Zi - on: "Ac - cept the good news of joy  
 from us, the news that Christ has ri - sen." Ex - ult and cel - e - brate

we have been de - liv - ered from de - cep - tion, and have learned to praise  
 one God in three per - - - sons.

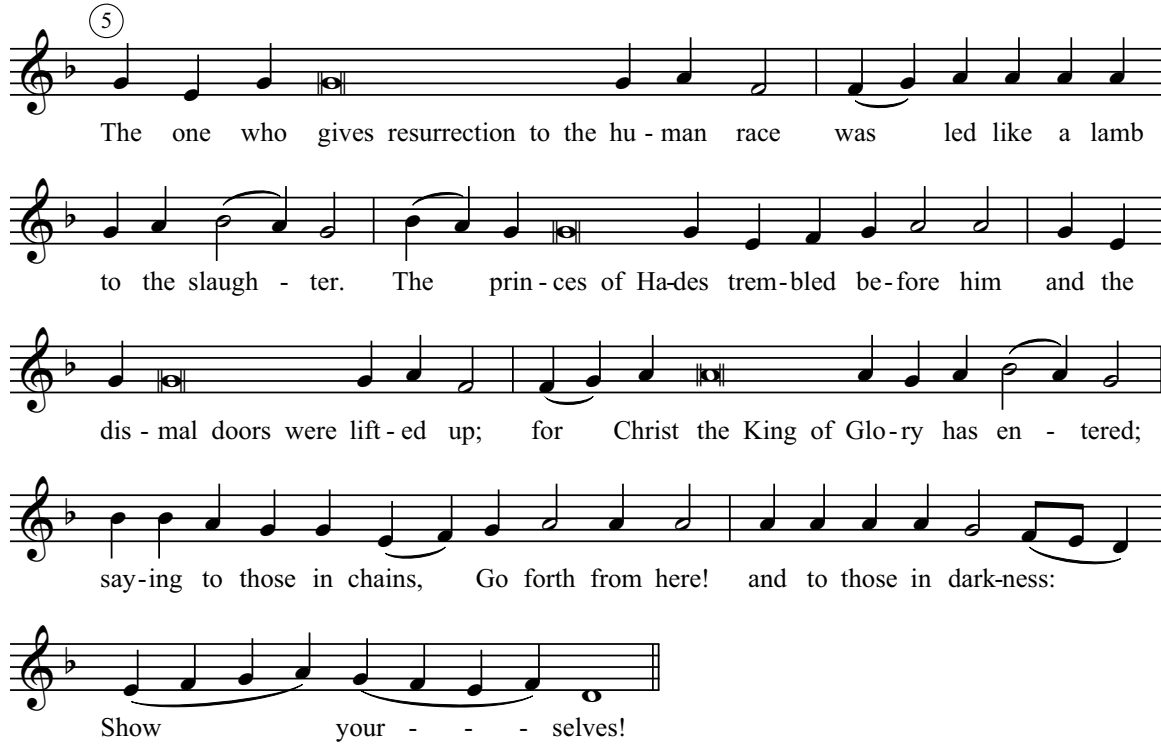
**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
*(on 3)* Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

We of - fer to you our eve - ning wor - ship, O Light whom the darkness of night can  
 nev - er ex - tin - guish. For in these lat - ter days your radiance has ap - peared to the  
 world, shin - ing in your flesh as light reflected from a mir - ror. Your bril - liance  
 has descended even to the depths of Ha - des and dis - solved its gloom. O Lord,  
 Giv - er of Light, glo - ry to you; for you have shown the radiance of your  
 res - ur - rec - tion to all the na - - - - tions.

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

**Cantor:** 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.

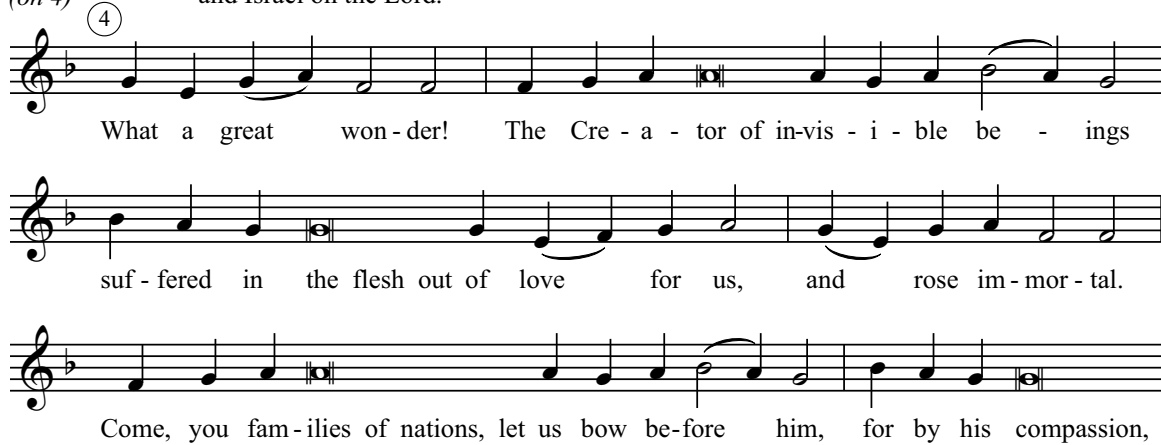
⑤



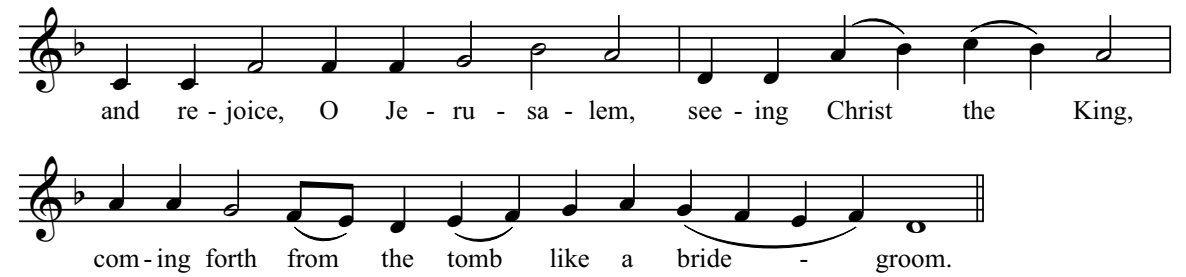
The one who gives resurrection to the hu - man race was led like a lamb  
to the slaugh - ter. The prin - ces of Ha-des trem-bled be-fore him and the  
dis - mal doors were lift - ed up; for Christ the King of Glo-ry has en - tered;  
say-ing to those in chains, Go forth from here! and to those in dark-ness:  
Show your - - - selves!

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

④

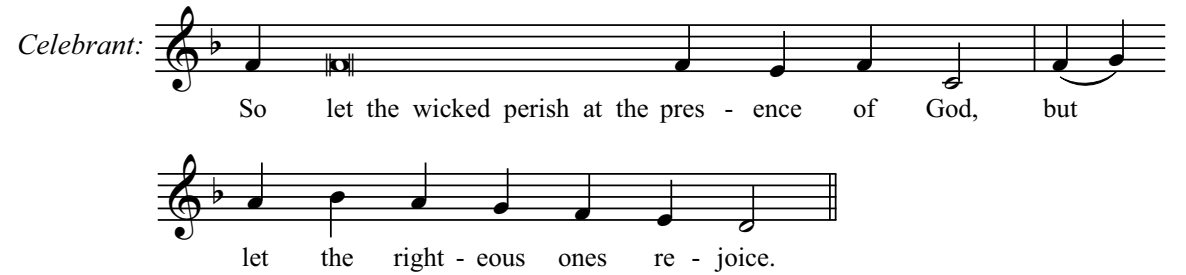


What a great won - der! The Cre - a - tor of in-vis - i - ble be - ings  
suf - fered in the flesh out of love for us, and rose im - mor - tal.  
Come, you fam - ilies of nations, let us bow be-fore him, for by his compassion,



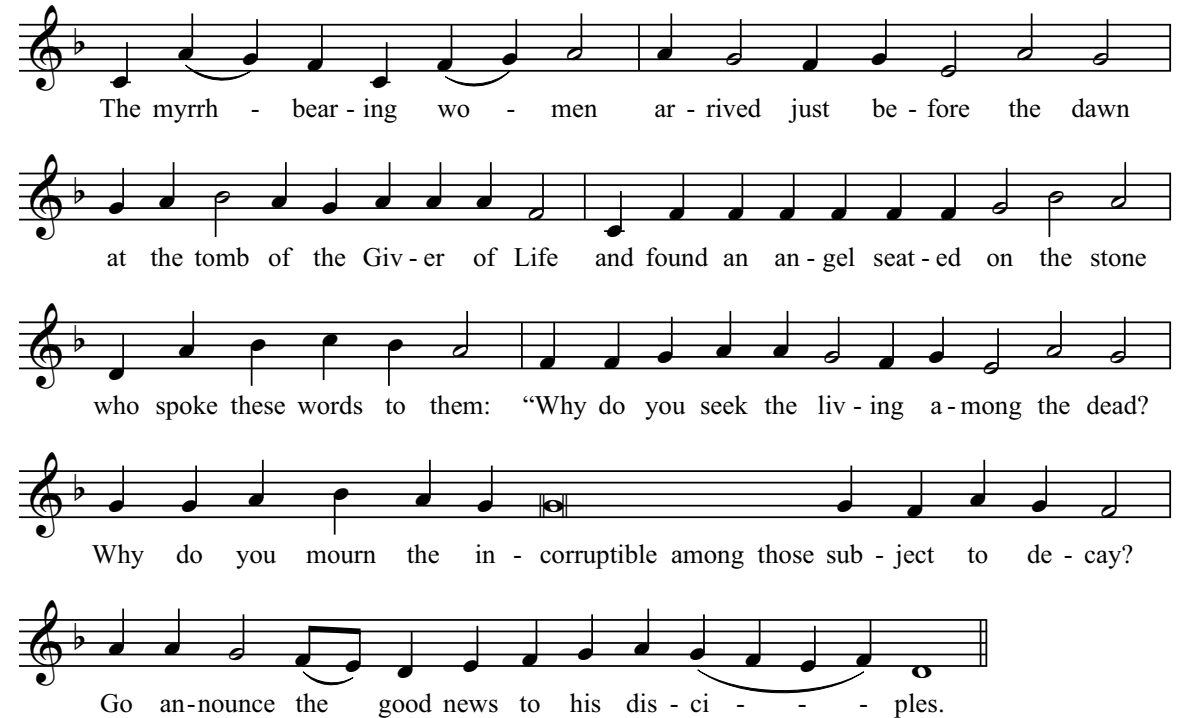
and re - joice, O Je - ru - sa - lem, see - ing Christ the King,  
com - ing forth from the tomb like a bride - groom.

*Celebrant:*



So let the wicked perish at the pres - ence of God, but  
let the right - eous ones re - joice.

*All:*



The myrrh - bear - ing wo - men ar - rived just be - fore the dawn  
at the tomb of the Giv - er of Life and found an an - gel seat - ed on the stone  
who spoke these words to them: "Why do you seek the liv - ing a - mong the dead?  
Why do you mourn the in - corruptible among those sub - ject to de - cay?  
Go an - nounce the good news to his dis - ci - - - ples.

*Celebrant:*

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us be glad  
and re-joice in it.

*All:*

Pasch so de-light-ful, Pasch of the Lord, is the Pasch -  
most hon-ored Pasch now dawned on us. It is the Pasch! There-fore, let us  
joy-ful-ly em-brace one an-oth-er. O Pass-o-ver, save us from sor-row;  
For to-day, Christ has shown forth from the tomb as from a bri-dal  
cham-ber and filled the wo-men with joy by say-ing: An-nounce  
the good news to the A-pos-tles.

*Celebrant:*

Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it,

On Wednesday evening

**Psalm 140 - Tone 5 samohlasen**

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 ascend to you  
like in-cense and the lift-ing up of my hands like an eve-ning sac-ri-fice.  
Hear me, O Lord!

*The recited verses begin on page 7.*

**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.

With your pre-cious Cross O Christ, you have put the Dev-il to shame.  
With your Res-urrection you have deadened the sting of sin and saved us from the gates  
of Death. We glo-ri-fy you, O on-ly be-got-ten Son.

## Prokeimenon (Tuesday evening)

### Great Prokeimenon of Bright Tuesday - Tone 8 (Psalm 76: 2, 3, 14)

I cry a - loud to God, cry a-loud to God that he may hear me,

**Verse:** In the day of my distress I sought the Lord.

**Verse:** My soul refused to be consoled.

**Verse:** Your ways, O God, are holy.

*The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.*

## Aposticha

### Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 4

In being lifted upon the Cross, O Lord, you abolished the curse which we had inherit-ed from our fore-bears. By go-ing down to Ha-des, you freed from eternal captivity those im-pris-oned there, and grant-ed incorruption to the hu-man race. We, therefore, praise your life-giving and re-deem - - - ing res - ur - rec - tion.

*Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.*

now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

*All:*

This is the Re - sur - rec - tion Day! Let us be en-light - ened by this Feast

and let us em - brace one an - oth - er! Let us call "Bre - - thren"

e - ven those who hate us, and in the Re - sur - rec - tion,

for-give ev - 'ry thing and let us sing: Christ is ris - en from the dead!

By death he tram - pled death; and to those in the tombs he grant-ed life.

## Paschal Dismissal

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

Give the bless - ing.

**Celebrant:** Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

A - men. O God, strengthen the true faith, for-ev - er and ev - er.

**Celebrant:** O most holy Theotokos, save us!

**Response:**

Shine in splendor, O new Je - ru - sa - lem; for the glory of the Lord is risen up - on  
 you. O Zi - on, now dance and be glad; and you, pure Theotokos, rejoice in the  
 re - sur - rec - tion of your Son.

**Celebrant:** Glory to you, O Christ our God, our hope; glory to you!

**Response:**

Christ is ris - en from the dead! By death he tram - pled death; and to those in the tombs  
 he grant - ed life. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Give the bless - ing.

**Celebrant:** May Christ our true God, risen from the dead, by death trampling death and giving life to those in the tombs, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother and all the saints; for he is gracious and loves us all.

**Response:**

A - - - - - men.

from the dead; and now you a - bide in the bos - om of the Fa - ther. Please  
 cleanse us of our sins.

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

The shad - ow of the Law passed a - way when grace ar - rived, for, like  
 the bush which burned but was not con - sumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a  
 vir - gin you remained. In - stead of a pil - lar of fire, the Sun  
 of Jus - tice dawned; in - stead of Mo - ses, Christ, the sal - va - tion of our souls.

*Continue on page 9.*

we cry out: Al - mighty Savior, Giv-er of Life and Lov-er of us all,  
by your Res - ur - rec - - - tion, save us.

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

① O Christ, our God, you have demolished the bronze gates of Ha - des.  
You have broken asunder the bonds of death, and lift - ed up the fall-en  
hu-man race. There - fore we cry out to you with one ac - cord: O Lord, who  
a - rose from the dead, glo - - - ry to you.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 2**

Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord sing-ing this  
hymn of sal - va - tion: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose

## On the evening of Pascha

**Psalm 140 - Tone 2 samohlasen**

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!

*The recited verses begin on page 7.*

**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.

⑥ Come, let us a-dore God the Word, who was born of the Father be-fore  
all ag - es, and was in-car-nate from the Vir-gin Mar-y. For he en-dured  
the cross of his own will, and was con-signed to the grave; and by

ris - ing from the dead, he saves me from er - ror.

**Cantor:** 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.

Christ our Sav - ior cancelled the decree that was writ - ten a - gainst us, by

nail - ing it to the Cross; and he de - stroyed the pow - er of death.

We bow before his Res - ur - rec - tion on the third day.

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

With the arch - angels, let us sing hymns to Christ's Res - ur - rec - tion; for he is

the Redeemer and Sav - ior of our souls. He is com - ing again in awesome glory

and might - y pow - er to judge the world which he has fash - ioned.

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

Al - though you died and were bur - ied, the an - gel yet de - clared you

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

Come, all you peo - - ple, let us sing the praises of our Savior's third - day

res - ur - rec - tion. For we have thereby been delivered from Hades' invin - ci - ble bonds,

and we have received incorruption, together with e - ter - nal life. There - fore

we cry out to you after your crucifixion, burial, and res - ur - rec - - - tion:

Save us by your resurrection, for you love all of us.

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

O Savior, with the an - gels, we sing the praises of your resurrec - tion on the

third day. For the very ends of the earth have been enlight - ened there - by.

and we have been saved from the deceit of the en - e - my. There - fore to you

heav - - - en. For you a - lone are good and love us all.

**Cantor:** 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.

O Savior, you absolved the penalty of the tree of dis-o - be - di - ence, will-ing-ly  
 nail-ing it to the tree of the cross. When you descended into Hades, O Pow-er - ful  
 One, you broke the bonds of Death a - sun - der, O God. There-fore we  
 wor - ship your resur-rec - tion from the dead, cry - ing out and re - joic - ing:  
 All - pow - er - ful Lord, glo - - - ry to you!

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

O Lord, you battered down the gates of Ha - - - des, and by your death you  
 dis-solved Death's do - min - ion. You freed the human race from cor - rup - tion,  
 grant-ing life, incorruption, and great mer - - - cy to the world.

as Mas - ter. He said to the women: Come and see where the Lord was bur-ied;

for he is ris - en as he fore-told, for he is al-might - y.

There-fore we wor - ship you the on - ly Im - mor - tal One, and we

be - seech you to have mercy on us, O Giv - - - er of Life.

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

O Christ you have abolished the curse of the tree by your Cross; you have

de-destroyed the pow - er of death by your bur - i - al, and you en - light - ened

the human race by your Res - ur - rec - tion. There-fore we cry out to you:

O God and Ben - e - fac - tor, glo - - - ry to you.

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

①

O Lord, the gates of death opened be-fore you in fear, and the gate - keep-ers  
of Hades were filled with dread at the sight of you. You smashed the gates of brass  
and crushed the posts of i - ron Then you burst our chains a - sun - der,  
and led us out of darkness, a-way from the shad - ow of death.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 2**

Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord sing-ing this  
hymn of sal - va - tion: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose  
from the dead; and now you a-bide in the bos-om of the Fa - ther. Please  
cleanse us of our sins.

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

On Tuesday evening

**Psalm 140 - Tone 4 samohlasen**

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 ascend to you like in - cense  
and the lifting up of my hands like an eve-ning sac - ri - fice. Hear  
me, O Lord!

*The recited verses begin on page 7.*

**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.

⑥

We bow constantly to your life-creating Cross, O Christ our God, we glorify your  
resurrection on the third day; for by it, O all-pow-er - ful One, cor - rupt  
hu - man nature has been re-newed, and you have indicated our ascent to

**Verse:** When Israel's sons came forth from Egypt, Jacob's sons from an alien people,  
Judah became the Lord's temple.

**Verse:** The sea fled at the sight; the Jordan turned back on its course.

**Verse:** Why was it, sea, that you fled; that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?

*The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.*

### Aposticha

#### Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 3




O Christ, who dark-ened the sun by your pas-sion, and en-light-ened all creation




by your res-ur-rec - tion, ac - cept our eve-ning pray'r; for you love us all.


*Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.*



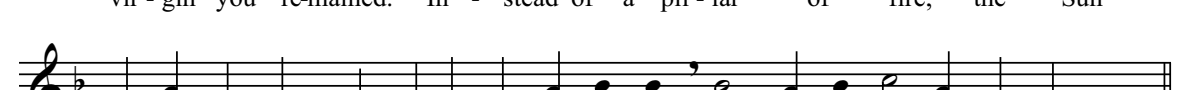
The shad - ow of the Law passed a - way when grace ar-rived, for, like



the bush which burned but was not con-sumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a



vir - gin you re-mained. In - stead of a pil - lar of fire, the Sun




of Jus-tice dawned; in-stead of Mo-ses, Christ, the sal - va - tion of our souls.


*The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening on page 9.*

### Prokeimenon and Gospel (Evening of Pascha)

#### Great Prokeimenon of Pascha - Tone 7 (Psalm 76: 14-16, 11, 12)



What God is as great, is as great as our God? You are the



God, you are the God who works won - - - ders!

**Verse:** You showed your power among the peoples. Your strong arm redeemed your people.

**Verse:** I said: Now I begin, and this is the will of the Most High

**Verse:** I remember the deeds of the Lord. I remember your wonders of old.

**Deacon:** That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.

**Response:**



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer - - - cy.

**Deacon:** Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel.

**Priest:** Peace ✠ be to all!



And to your spir - it, to your spir - - - it.

**Deacon:** A reading of the Holy Gospel according to the holy apostle and evangelist John.

**Response:**



Glo - - - ry to you, glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you.

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

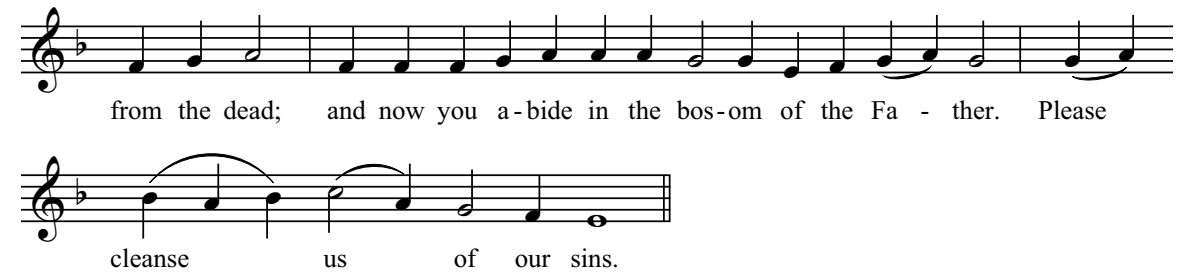
*The deacon reads John 20: 19 - 25.*

**Response:**



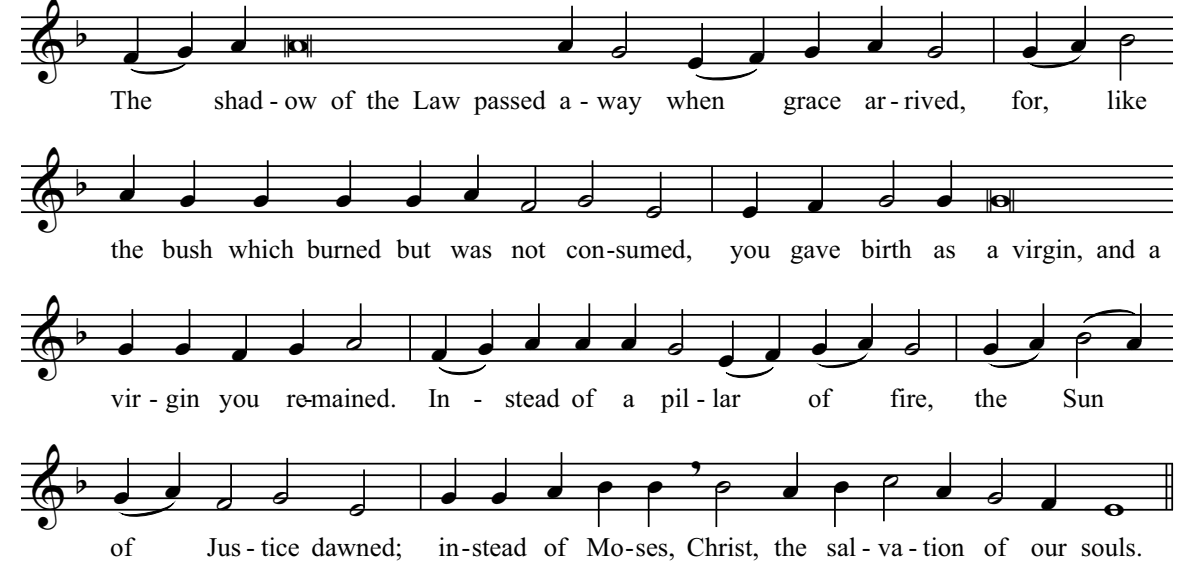
Glo - - - ry to you, glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you.

*The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.*



from the dead; and now you a-bide in the bos-om of the Fa - ther. Please  
cleanse us of our sins.

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

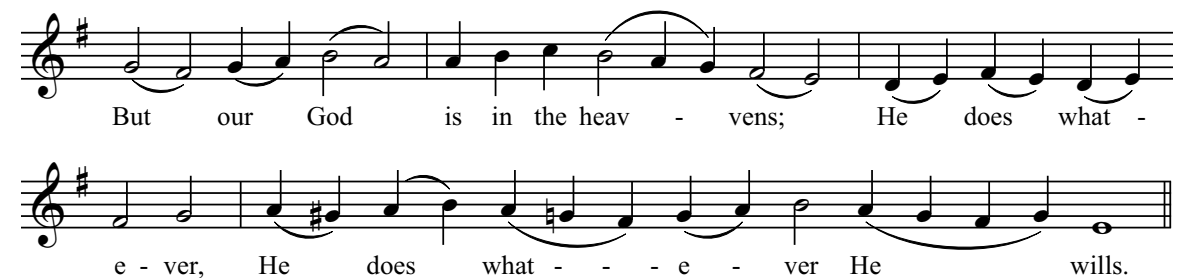


The shad - ow of the Law passed a - way when grace ar-rived, for, like  
the bush which burned but was not con-sumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a  
vir - gin you remained. In - stead of a pil - lar of fire, the Sun  
of Jus - tice dawned; in - stead of Mo - ses, Christ, the sal - va - tion of our souls.

*The service continues on page 9.*

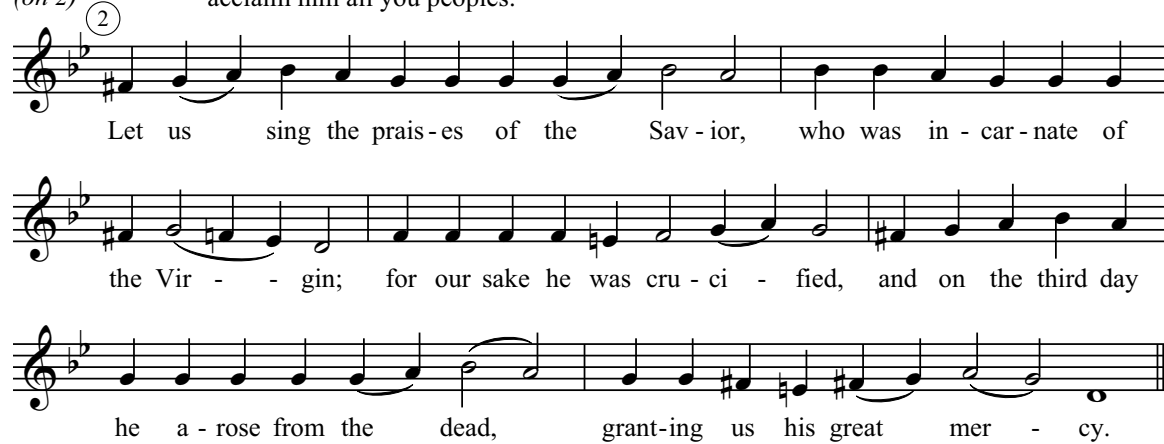
### Prokeimenon (Monday evening)

**Great Prokeimenon of Bright Monday - Tone 7** (Psalm 113: 11, 1-3, 5)



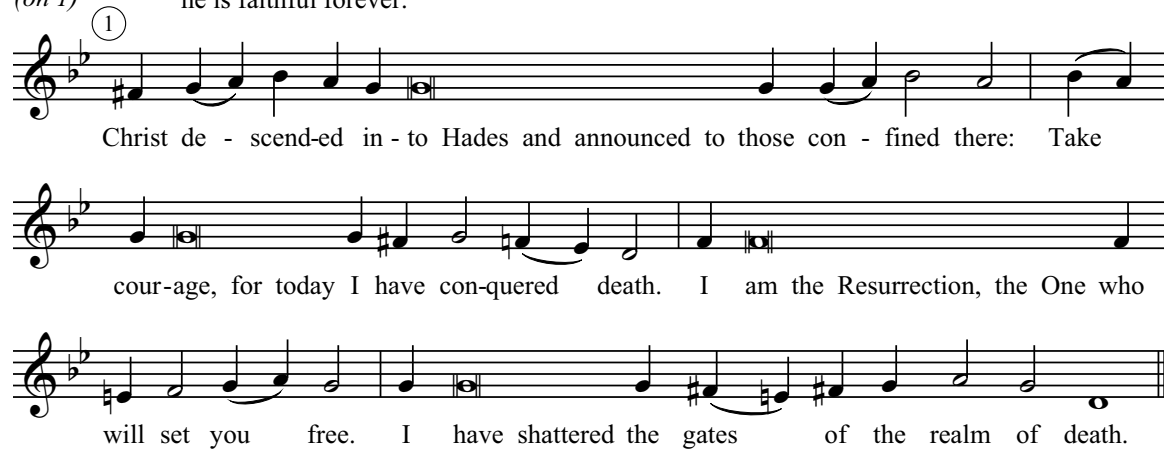
But our God is in the heav - vens; He does what -  
e - ver, He does what - - - e - ver He wills.

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



Let us sing the prais-es of the Sav-ior, who was in-car-nate of  
the Vir - - gin; for our sake he was cru-ci - fied, and on the third day  
he a-rose from the dead, grant-ing us his great mer - cy.

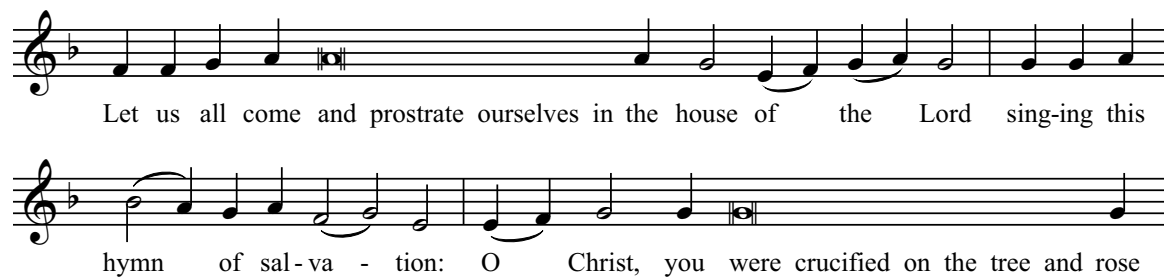
**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever.



Christ de-scend-ed in-to Hades and announced to those con-fined there: Take  
cour-age, for today I have con-quer-ed death. I am the Resurrection, the One who  
will set you free. I have shattered the gates of the realm of death.

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

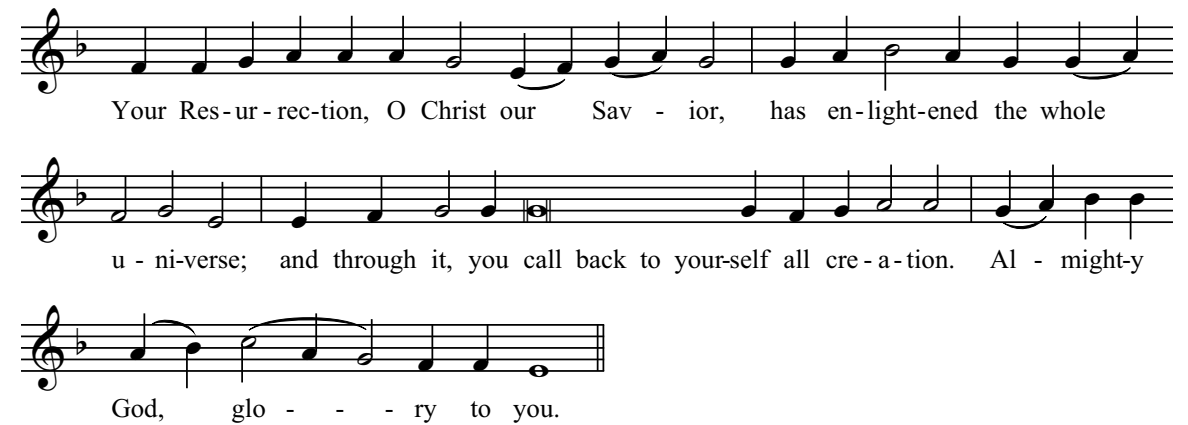
**Doxastikon - Tone 2**



Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord sing-ing this  
hymn of sal-va-tion: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose

## Aposticha

**Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 2**



Your Res-ur-rec-tion, O Christ our Sav-ior, has en-light-ened the whole  
u-ni-verse; and through it, you call back to your-self all cre-a-tion. Al-might-y  
God, glo - - - ry to you.

*Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.*

## On Monday evening

### Psalm 140 - Tone 3 samohlasen

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!

*The recited verses begin on page 7.*

**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.

By your cross, O Christ our Sav-ior, the pow'r of Death has been

van - - - quished and the deceit of the dev-il has been de - stroyed. The

hu-man race, saved by faith, of-fers you a hymn for - ev - er.

**Cantor:** 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.

O Lord, ev - 'ry thing has been enlightened by your Res - ur - rec - tion,

and Par - a - dise is re - o - - pened; there-fore all crea-tion ex-tols you

and offers you hymns of praise for - ev - - - er.

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

I glo - ri - fy the might of the Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. I praise

the Undivided Power, the Uncreated Di - vi - ni - ty, the Trinity one in

es - - - sence, who reigns for - ev - - - er and ev - - - er.

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

We a - dore your pre-cious Cross, O Christ, and with hymns of praise we

glorify your Res-ur-rec - tion, for by your wounds we have all been healed.