Vesper Propers
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Fifth Paschal Sunday

All page numbers refer to the Paschal Vespers Book.

Psalm 140 - Tone 4

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 pray'r when I call upon you.

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

**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 ensnare 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.

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) Bring my soul out of this prison and then I shall praise your name.

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-powerful One, corrupt human nature has been renewed and you have indicated our ascent to heaven. For you alone are good and love us all.

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

O Savior, you absolved the penalty of the tree of disobedience, willingly nailing it to the tree of the cross. When you descended into Hades, O Powerful One, you broke the bonds of Death asunder, O God. Therefore, we worship your resurrection from the dead, crying out and rejoicing:

All-powerful Lord, glory to you.

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

3
O Lord, you battered down the gates of Hades and by your death you dissolved Death's dominion. You freed the human race from corruption, granting life, incorruption, and great mercy to the world.

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

Come, all you people, let us sing the praises of our Savior's third-day resurrection. For we have thereby been delivered from Hades' invincible bonds, and we have received incorruption, together with eternal life. Therefore we cry out to you after your crucifixion, burial, and resurrection:

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

Cantor: (Tone 4) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.
The midpoint of the Feast has arrived; the days which begin with the Resurrection of the Savior and are fulfilled in the divine Feast of Pentecost. Truly it unites both feasts and draws light from its double brightness, giving honor to the Lord's Ascension, which prefigures our glory.

Cantor: My soul is longing for the Lord. I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

Truly Zion heard and was glad when it received the glad tidings of Christ's Resurrection. Faithful children also rejoiced at beholding it.

Seeing the blood of Christ washed away by the Holy Spirit, the Church prepares to worthily celebrate the joyous midpoint of these
two holy feasts.

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

The overabundant outpouring of the divine Spirit over all is drawing near, as it
is written by the prophet Joel. The promise of Christ, given to his disciples
after his death, burial, and resurrection, proclaims the coming
of the Comforter.

Cantor: (Tone 1) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of the Samaritan Woman - Tone 1

At the sixth hour, you came to the well, O Fountain of Wonders, to ensnare the
fruit of Eve; for at that very hour, she had been driven from

Paradise by the guile of the serpent. When the Samaritan woman came
to draw water, you said to her, O Savior: Give me water to drink, and I will give you waters of eternal life. And the woman hastened to the city and proclaimed to the people: Come and see Christ the Lord, the Savior of our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

When the Lord came to the well of Jacob, the Samaritan woman entreated him, saying: Give me the water of faith, O Giver of life, that I may obtain the waters of baptism, joy and salvation.

O Lord, glory to you.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.
Truly the Son, Word of God, co-eternal with the Father, the Fountain of Wonders himself, came to the fountain, where a woman of Samaria came to draw water. And when the Savior saw her, he said to her:

Give me water to drink and go call your husband. But she addressed him as man and not as God; wishing to conceal the truth from him, she said, I have no husband. And the Master replied: You have said the truth, that you have no husband; for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband. Amazed by these words, she went to the town, and proclaimed to the crowds, saying: Come! See Christ, who grants the world great mercy.
Je - sus met the Samaritan woman at Ja - cob's well. The One who covers
the earth with wa-ter asks wa-ter of her. O, what a won - der!
The One who rides on the Cherubim converses with an adulter-ous wom - an.
The One who suspended the earth on the waters asks for wa-ter. The One who
caused the springs of water and their lakes to over-flow seeks wa-ter.
He tru-ly desires to save this woman from the snares of the En-e-my and to fill her
with liv-ing wa-ter, to ex-tin-guish the flames of her pas-sions
for he alone is compas-sion-ate and the Lov-er of us all.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory…

Doxastikon of the Samaritan Woman - Tone 6
O The-o-to-kos, Da-vid the prophet and ancestor of God an-nounced in song
to the one who would do great things for you: The Queen stands at your right hand.

He re-vealed you as the Mother of Life and In-ter-ces-sor. God was pleased to
become man from you with-out a fa-ther so that he might restore the image which
pas-sions had de-formed, and find the sheep stray-ing in the hills, lift it on
his shoulders, and bring it to his Fa-ther, u-nit-ing it to the heaven-ly pow-ers.

Thus Christ will save the world, for he has a-bun-dant and great mer-cy.

The service continues on page 12.
In being lifted upon the Cross, O Lord, you abolished the curse which we had inherited from our forebearers. By going down to Hades, you freed from eternal captivity those imprisoned there, and granted incorruption to the human race. We, therefore, praise your life-giving and redeeming resurrection.

The aposticha continue with the Paschal Stichera. The faithful come forward to kiss the cross as at Paschal Matins.

Celebrant: Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered,

and let those who hate him flee from before his face.

All:

Today the sacred Pasch is revealed to us, holy and new Pasch, the mystical Passover, the venerable Passover,
the Pasch which is Christ the Redeemer, spotless Pasch, great Pasch,

the Pasch of the faithful, the Pasch which is the key to the gates of Paradise,

the Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful.

Celebrant:

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,
as wax melts before a fire.

All:

O women, be the heralds of good news and tell what you saw;
tell of the vision and say to Zion: “Accept the good news of joy from us,
the news that Christ has risen.” Exult and celebrate and rejoice, O Jerusalem, seeing Christ the King,
coming forth from the tomb like a bride - groom.

Celebrant:

So let the wicked perish at the presence of God, but let the righteous ones rejoice.

All:

The myrrh-bearing women arrived just before the dawn at the tomb of the Giver of Life and found an angel seated on the stone who spoke these words to them: “Why do you seek the living among the dead? Why do you mourn the incorruptible among those subject to decay? Go announce the good news to his disciples.

Celebrant:

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice 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.

Tone 8

Celebrant:

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit.

Doxastikon of the Samaritan Woman - Tone 8

When you ap-peared in the flesh, O Christ God, to ac-com-plish your
sal-va-tion's plan, the Sa-mar-it-an woman heard the word of God's love for us.
She left the well and ran to the town and said: Come and see the One who knows the secrets of our hearts: can this be the Christ, the Messiah we await, the One who bestows great mercy?

Celebrant:

Now and ever and ever. Amen.

Doxastikon of Pascha

This is the Resurrection Day! Let us be enlightened by this Feast and let us embrace one another! Let us call "Brethren" even those who hate us, and in the Resurrection, forgive every thing and let us sing: Christ is risen from the dead!

By death he trampled death; and to those in the tombs he granted life.

The service continues on page 19.
The joyful message of the resurrection was heard by the women disciples from the angel, and being freed from the ancestral curse, they boasted to the apostles: Death is despiled; Christ our God is risen, giving great mercy to the world.

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

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 4

In the middle of the feast, quench the thirst of my soul with streams of devotion. For you, O Savior, have exclaimed to all:

Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink.

O Christ our God, Fountain of Life, glory to you!