

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025

TONE 2

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pascha / Holy Myrrhbearing Women

*After Blessed is our God... the priest sings Christ is risen once from the altar. Then the chanters sing Christ is risen two times. Immediately after this we chant Psalm 103 (without Come, let us worship...)*

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!  
Hear me, O Lord!  
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!  
Receive the voice of my prayer,  
when I call upon You!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise  
in Your sight as incense,  
and let the lifting up of my hands  
be an evening sacrifice!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

**Reader reads the rest of Psalm 140 and Psalm 141 in the pew book, then STICHERA:**

*v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name! Tone 2*

Come, let us worship the Word of God  
begotten of the Father before all ages,  
and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!  
Having endured the Cross,  
He was buried as He Himself desired.//  
And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

*v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

Christ our Savior  
nailed to the Cross the bond against us,  
He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//  
We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

*v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

With the Archangels  
let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!  
He is our Savior, our Redeemer.  
He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//  
to judge the world which He made.

*v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

The Angel proclaimed You, / the crucified and buried Master. / He told the women: "Come, see the place where He lay! / He is risen as He said, / for He is almighty." / We worship You, O only immortal One.// Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

By Your Cross, You destroyed the curse of the tree.  
By Your burial You destroyed the dominion of death.  
By Your rising, You enlightened the race of man.//  
O Benefactor, Christ our God, glory to You!

*v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

The gates of death opened to You from fear, O Lord.  
When the guards of hell saw You they were afraid,  
for You demolished the gates of brass and smashed the iron chains.//  
You have led us from the darkness and shadows of death, and have broken our bonds.

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

Let us come and worship in the house of the Lord,  
singing the hymn of salvation:  
Cleanse our sins, for You were crucified and raised from the dead,//  
and are in the bosom of the Father!

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities. **Tone 2** (from the Pentecostarion, by Anatolius)*

Early in the morning, / the myrrhbearing women brought spices to the tomb of the Lord. / They found the stone unexpectedly rolled away, / and they asked among themselves: / "Where are the seals of the tomb? / Where are Pilate's guards?" / The radiant Angel came to the wondering women and proclaimed to them: / "Why do you seek with tears the Life Who gives life to the human race? / Christ our God has risen from the dead as almighty,// granting us incorruption, life, enlightenment, and great mercy!"

*v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

O women disciples, / why do you mingle myrrh with your tears? / The stone is gone; the tomb is empty. / Behold, corruption destroyed by life! / The seals witness that the guards of the godless have watched in vain. / Mortal nature has been saved by the flesh of God. / Hell is wailing.  
Go with joy, and proclaim to the Apostles: / "Christ has slain death as the first-born of the dead.//  
He awaits you in Galilee!"

*v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

The Myrrhbearers came early to Your tomb, O Christ,  
seeking You to anoint Your most pure Body.  
Enlightened by the Angel's words,  
they proclaimed joyous tidings to the Apostles:  
"The Leader of our salvation has been raised;  
He has captured death,// granting the world eternal life and great mercy!"

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 6 (from the Pentecostarion)*

The myrrhbearing women reached Your tomb / and saw the seals of the tomb broken. / Not finding Your most pure Body, they lamented, saying: / “Who has stolen our hope? / Who has taken the dead One, naked and anointed, / the sole consolation of His Mother? / How can the Life of the dead have died? / How can the Capturer of hell have been buried?// But arise in three days as You said, O Savior, and save our souls!”

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 2 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came; / as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed, / so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin. / The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.// Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

## APOSTICHA

**Tone 2** Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, / has enlightened the whole universe, / recalling Your creation.//Glory to You, O almighty Lord!

*(Then the Paschal Stichera with their verses from Psalm 67)*

**V.** *Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; [let those who hate Him flee from before His face!] (Ps. 67:1)*

**Tone 5** 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.

**V.** *As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; [as wax melts before the fire!] (Ps. 67:2a)*

Come from that scene, O women bearers of glad tidings, / and say to Sion: / “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!”

**V.** *So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad! (Ps. 67:2b-3a)*

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!”

**V.** *This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Ps. 117:24)*

Pascha of beauty, / the Pascha of the Lord, / A Pascha worthy of all honor has dawned for us./ O Pascha! / Let us embrace each other joyously! / Pascha, ransom from affliction! / For today, as from a bridal chamber, / Christ has shone forth from the tomb, / and filled the women with joy saying: // “Proclaim the glad tidings to the Apostles!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 5 (from the Pentecostarion)*  
Joseph, together with Nicodemus, / took You down from the Tree, / Who clothe Yourself with light  
as with a garment. / He gazed on Your body – dead, naked, and unburied, / and, in grief and  
tender compassion, he lamented: / “Woe is me, my sweetest Jesus! / A short while ago, the sun  
beheld You hanging on the Cross, / and it hid itself in darkness. / The earth quaked in fear at the  
sight. / The veil of the Temple was torn in two. / Lo, now I see You willingly submit to death for  
our sake. / How shall I bury You, O my God? / How can I wrap You in a shroud? / How can I  
touch Your most pure Body with my hands? / What songs can I sing for Your exodus, O  
compassionate One? / I magnify Your Passion. / I glorify Your burial, / and Your holy  
Resurrection, // crying, ‘O Lord, glory to You!’”

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

This is the day of resurrection!  
Let us be illuminated 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 bestowing life!” (*once*)

## TROPARIA

**Tone 2** When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,  
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.  
And when from the depths You raised the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Tone 2 Troparion (Pentecostarion)*  
The noble Joseph,  
when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the Tree,  
wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices,  
and placed it in a new tomb.  
But You rose on the third day, O Lord, //  
granting the world great mercy.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 2 Troparion (Pentecostarion)*  
The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said:  
“Myrrh is fitting for the dead;  
but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!  
So proclaim: ‘The Lord is risen, //  
granting the world great mercy.’”