

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

TONE 2

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pascha / Holy Myrrhbearing Women / Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian

*After Blessed be our God, Christ is risen is sung once from the Altar.*

**The cantors then sing *Christ is risen* two more times. Immediately after this we read the Introductory Psalm (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 on pgs 31 & 32 in the pew book, then:**

*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!*

**Tone 2** 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. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

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. (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 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!”

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

**Tone 1** The beholder of ineffable revelations,  
the interpreter of the mysteries of God on high:  
the son of Zebedee has recorded the Gospel of Christ for us,//  
teaching us to confess God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*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 1** The beholder of ineffable revelations,  
the interpreter of the mysteries of God on high:  
the son of Zebedee has recorded the Gospel of Christ for us, //  
teaching us to confess God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

Divinely inspired instrument for the songs of heaven,  
whose secrets he wrote down for us,  
singing wonderfully the song of songs,  
with words from his mouth as music from a lyre, //  
he prays for us to be saved.

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

With your tongue resounding as thunder,  
you declare the hidden Word of the Wisdom of God.  
O beloved of God, you open your mouth to cry:  
“In the beginning was the Word!” //  
Thus you illumine all mankind with the knowledge of God.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; **Tone 2** (for St John the Theologian)*

Let us give rightful praise to the Son of Thunder,  
the source of divine words, the chief theologian,  
the first to proclaim the truths of the wisdom of God:  
John the beloved and virgin.  
For, divinely inspired from within, he said:  
“In the beginning was the Word!”  
He taught that the Word is inseparable from the Father;  
equal to Him in nature,  
and revealed to us the right worship of the Trinity.  
He has also shown us the Creator,  
Who, being with the Father and bearing life, showed us the True Light.  
Awesome and fearful wonder!  
As you were filled with love, you were filled with divine speech,  
and with the glory, belief and honor  
that confirm our undivided faith, //  
through which we attain the eternal good on the Day of Judgment.

*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.  
*Then "Gladsome Light..."*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

**The reading from the first catholic epistle of John.** [3,21-24; 4,1-6]

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us we have boldness towards God. And whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment: that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he who keeps his commandments abides in him and he in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, from the Spirit of which he has given us. Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard is coming, and is now already in the world. You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us.

**The reading from the first catholic epistle of John.** [4,11-16]

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God. If we love another, God abides in us, and his love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him, and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and witness that the Father has sent the Son as Saviour of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

**The reading from the first catholic epistle of John.** [4,20-21; 5,1-5]

Beloved, if someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from him: that he who loves God must love his brother also. Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves him who has begotten loves also him who has been begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not heavy. Because whatever has been born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that has conquered the world, our faith. Who is the one who conquers the world, if not the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

*Augmented Litany and the rest*

**LITY**

**Tone 1** Rivers of theology gushed forth from your precious mouth, O Apostle.  
Watered by them, the Church of God in an Orthodox manner  
worships the Trinity, one in essence.//  
Pray now, O John the Theologian, that our souls may be saved!

**Tone 1** On this present feast, the tree of purity  
has emitted the myrrh of sweet fragrance,  
so that we may cry out to him:  
“O Apostle John, who reclined on the Master’s breast,  
and thundered forth the Word to the world,  
and guarded the Virgin as the apple of your eye;//  
entreat Christ that He grant us great mercy!”

As an eyewitness of the ineffable mysteries,  
you cried out, exclaiming:  
“In the beginning, the pre-eternal Word was with God, and He was God!”  
O Apostle John, who leaned on Christ’s breast,  
the true friend of the Trinity,  
fragrance of Ephesus, unshaken support of Patmos, and our helper;  
intercede, O most blessed Theologian,  
that the people who faithfully keep your memory//  
may be delivered from hostile enemies, both physical and spiritual!

**Tone 2** Come, O faithful,  
let us bless the foremost of the Apostles,  
the trumpet of theology, the spiritual general,  
who made the inhabited earth subject to God!  
John, praised in song by all,  
has departed from the earth, yet has not stood apart from the earth,  
but lives and awaits the Master’s fearful Second Coming;  
O mystical friend of Christ, who leaned on His breast,  
pray that we, who with love keep your memory,//  
may meet with that Coming as ones uncondemned!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 4*

Having leaned on the breast of Christ the Teacher at the Lord's Supper,  
O beloved Disciple,  
and having gained there knowledge of ineffable things,  
you also thundered forth the heavenly proclamation to all:  
"In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God:  
the True Light Who enlightens every man who comes into the world, //  
Christ God and the Savior of our souls!"

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 6 (from the Pentecostarion)*

Joseph asked for the body of Jesus  
and placed it in his own new tomb.  
It is fitting for Him to come forth from it as from a bridal chamber.  
You destroyed the dominion of death and opened the gates of Paradise to man: //  
O Lord, glory to You!

*When the singers have completed the stichera, the deacon says:*

God, save your people and bless your inheritance, watch over your world in mercy and  
compassions, lift up the horn of right-glorifying Christians and send down upon us your rich  
mercies, through the intercessions of our all-pure lady the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary,  
by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the protections of the honorable bodiless  
powers of heaven, through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and  
baptist John, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our fathers among the saints, great  
hierarchs and teachers of the world Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John the Golden-  
mouth; Athanasius, Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas of Myra and  
Spyridon the bishop of Trimythous, the wonderworkers; of the holy glorious and right-victorious  
martyrs, of the holy glorious great martyrs George the trophy-bearer, Demetrios the myrrh-  
streamer, Theodore the Recruit and Theodore the Commander, of our venerable and God-bearing  
Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, of the holy apostle and  
evangelist John the Theologian, whose remembrance we fulfill, and of all your saints, we implore  
you, only Lord full of mercy, hear us the sinners who pray to you and have mercy on us.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray for our rulers, that the Lord our God works together with them and makes  
them prosper in all.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray for our Archbishop and father (name).

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray for every Christian soul distressed and weary, in need of God's mercy and help, for the protection of this holy house and those who dwell in it, for the peace and stillness of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, for the salvation and help of our fathers and brothers who with diligence and fear of God labor and serve, for those who are absent and those who are abroad, for the healing of those who lie in infirmity, for the repose, blessed memory and remission of sins of all our right-glorifying fathers and brethren gone before us, who piously lie asleep here and everywhere, for deliverance of the imprisoned, and for our brethren who are in ministries, and for all who serve and have served in this holy house, let us say:

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray that this holy house, and every monastery, city, and countryside be kept from pestilence, famine, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, invasion of enemies, civil war, and sudden death; that our good God who loves mankind be gracious, favorable, and conciliatory, and turn away and dispel all the wrath and illness stirred up against us, and deliver us from his looming righteous threat, and have mercy on us.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray that the Lord God will hear the voice of our supplication, of the sinners, and have mercy on us.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

**Priest:** Hear us, God, our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, Master, be gracious to us, upon our sins, and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. **Choir:** Amen.

**Priest:** Peace to all.

**Choir:** And to your spirit.

**Deacon:** Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

**Choir:** To You, O Lord.

*All bow their heads as the priest says the following prayer aloud:*

Master full of mercy, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the intercessions of our all-pure Lady the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven, through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and teachers of the world Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John the Golden-mouth; Athanasius, Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas of Myra and Spyridon the bishop of Trimythous, the wonderworkers; of the holy glorious and right-victorious martyrs, of the holy glorious great martyrs George the trophy-bearer, Demetrios the myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Recruit and Theodore the Commander, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, of the holy apostle and evangelist John the Theologian, whose remembrance we fulfill, and of all your saints, make our supplication acceptable, grant us remission of our trespasses, shelter us in the shelter of your wings, drive away from us every enemy and adversary, make our life peaceful, Lord, have mercy on us and on your world and save our souls, for you are good and love mankind.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Priest:** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls. *(x1)*

**Choir:** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls. *(twice)*

*The priest takes one of the loaves from the five loaves and with it makes the sign of the cross over the loaves.*

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** Lord Jesus Christ our God, who blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and with them fed the five thousand, yourself also bless these loaves, the wheat, the wine and the oil, and multiply them in this city and in the whole world; and sanctify your faithful servants who will partake of them. For it is you who bless and sanctify all things, Christ our God, and to you we send up glory, together with your unoriginate Father and your all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**The priest takes one of the loaves and sings in Tone 7:**

**Priest:** Rich men have turned poor \* and gone hungry; \* but they that seek the Lord \* shall not be deprived of any good thing. *(once)*

**Choir:** Rich men have turned poor \* and gone hungry; \* but they that seek the Lord \* shall not be deprived of any good thing. *(twice)*

**APOSTICHA**

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

**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 Zion:

“Receive from us the glad tidings of joy,  
of Christ’s Resurrection!

Exult and be glad,  
and rejoice, O Jerusalem,  
seeing Christ the King, Who comes forth from the tomb  
like a bridegroom in procession!”

*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 6*

O Apostle of Christ,  
Evangelist and divine Teacher,  
you were an initiate of ineffable things.  
You made teachings plain to the faithful,  
as you thundered forth to us:

“In the beginning was the Word!”

Casting aside the words of heretics who said: “He was not!”

You were openly the bosom friend and beloved, / like the prophet Isaiah, and the God-seer Moses.  
As you have boldness before Him, // never cease to pray for our souls!

*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*)

### **TROPARION**

**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 (St. John)***

Beloved Apostle of Christ our God,

hasten to deliver a defenseless people!

He Who allowed you to recline on His breast,

receives you as you bow before Him.

Implore Him, O John the Theologian,

to disperse the persistent threat from the heathens//

entreating for us peace and 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.”