

Vesper Propers, April 23, 2017

Thomas Sunday

The Holy and Victorious Great-Martyr George the Wonderworker

Supplement for *The Order of Vespers in Paschal Time, 2007*

Psalm 140 - Tone 1

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O
Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I
call up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r
as - cend to you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands like an
eve - ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 *with*in me.

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

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

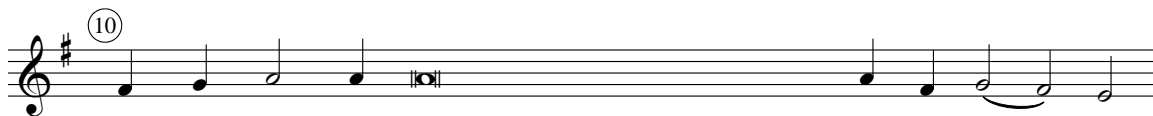
I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for *my* soul.

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

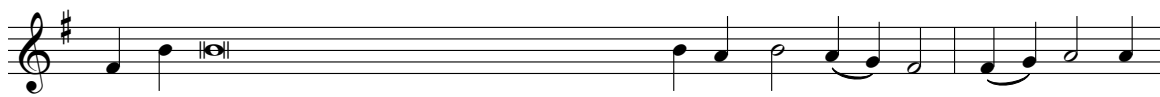
Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths of *dist*ress.

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

Cantor: (Tone 1) Bring my soul out of this prison
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.




When the doors were closed and the disciples were gathered together,



you sud-denly ap-peared in their midst, O Jesus our al-might-y God. You grant-ed



them peace and filled them with the Ho-ly Spir - it; you com-mand-ed them to wait



and not depart from Je - ru - sa - lem un - til they were clothed with pow - er




from on high. We there-fore cry to you, O Lord: Glo-ry to you, our



Light, our Res - ur - rec - tion, and our peace.

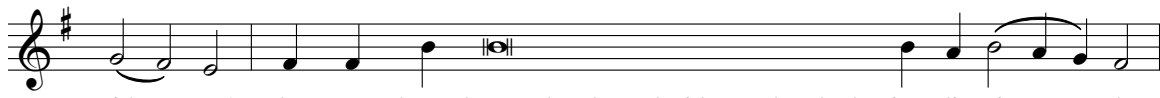
Cantor: Around me the just will assemble
(on 9) because of your goodness to me.




Eight days aft - er your re - sur-rec-tion, O Lord, you ap - peared to your disciples



in the room where they were gath - ered; you greet-ed them, saying: Peace be



with you! Then you showed your hands and side to the doubt-ing dis-ci - ple.



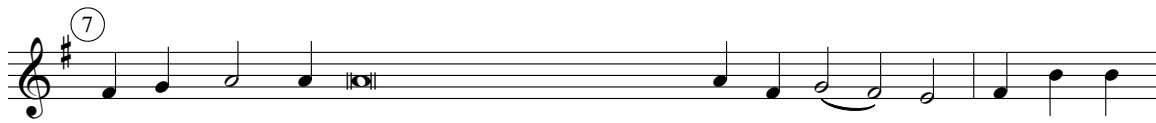
He there-fore cried out in an act of faith: My Lord and my God,

glo - - - - ry to you!

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

E - ven though the doors were closed, you came to your dis - ci - ples, O Christ,
 and Thom - as, called the Twin, was not with them. There - fore, he did not believe
 what they told him. You did not deem him unworthy for his lack of faith,
 but in your goodness, you con - firmed his faith by show - ing him your pure side
 and the wounds in your hands and feet. He touched them, and when he saw you,
 he con - fessed you to be neither an abstract God nor mere - ly hu - man; and he
 cried out to you: My Lord and my God, glo - - - - ry to you!

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



On the eighth day the Savior came to the doubt-ing dis - ci - ples. He grant-ed



them peace and said to Thom - as: O A - pos - tle, come and touch my hands



which were pierced by nails. How won - derful is this doubt of Thom - as!



It brought the hearts of believers to the knowl-edge of God. There-fore he cried out



with fear: My Lord and my God, glo - - - - ry to you!

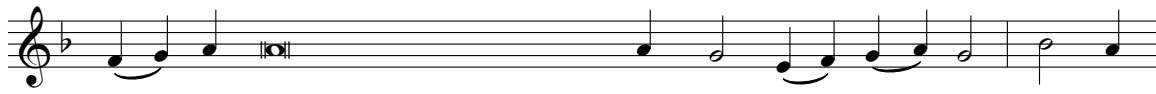
Cantor: (Tone 2) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. Tone 2



Af - ter your Res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord, you ap - peared in the midst of your



dis - ci - ples and grant-ed them peace as they gath - ered together be - hind closed doors.



And Thom - as was convinced after seeing your hands and your side; there-fore,



he confessed that you are Lord and God, and Sav - ior of those who put their

trust in you. O Lov - er of us all, glo - ry to you!

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.

Al-though the doors were closed, Jesus ap-peared to his dis-ci - ples. He took a-way

their fear and grant-ed them peace. Then he called Thom-as and said to him: Why did

you doubt my Res - ur - rec - tion from the dead? Place your hand in my side;

see my hands and my feet. Through your lack of faith everyone will come to know of

my Passion and Res - ur - rec - tion, and they will cry out with you:

My Lord and my God, glo - ry to you!

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

Stichera of the Holy Great-Martyr George - Tone 4 samohlasen

Hav - ing gathered to - geth - er to - day, we praise you, O George, as a val - iant mar - tyr.

You kept the faith and completed the course and received from God the
 crown of victory. Entreat him to deliver from tribulations and corruption
 those who faithfully observe your precious memory.

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

Draw - ing hope from your firmness of mind, O glorious one, you willingly
 persevered to martyr-dom like a lion. Scorning the body as something that
 would with - er, you were wisely concerned with your incor - rup - ti - ble soul.
 Covered with wounds by various forms of torture, O George, like gold you were
 pur - i - fied seven - fold.

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

②

You suffered martyrdom in behalf of the Savior, O glo - ri - ous one, by a death
 sim - ilar to his vol-un - tar - y death. You reign glo - rious - ly with him, clothed
 with the resplendent pur-ple robes of your blood, and you are adorned
 with the scepter of your suf - frings. O great-mar - tyr George, you are
 re-splen-dent in your crown of vic - to - ry through-out all gen-er - a - tions.

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

①

With faith as your armor and with grace as your shield, with the cross as your spear,
 you waged war. You were invincible in facing the foes, O George. Like a might-y
 war - rior, you destroyed the camps of the de - mons. Now you are dancing

joyfully with the an - gels. In - deed you defend, sanctify and save the

faith - ful who in - voke you.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Tone 6 samohlasen

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

up-on your shoul - ders. You ploughed well the land made barren by the de-ceits

of the dev il; you root-ed out the weeds of i-dol wor - ship and plant-ed

the vine of the true faith. There - fore your healing overflows to the faithful through-

- out the whole world, and you have shown yourself to be the righteous

gardener of the Trin - i - ty. Pray for peace in the world and sal - va - tion

for our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Although the doors were locked, you appeared to your disciples, O Christ; but through
prov-idence, Thom-as was not with them. For he said, I will not believe un-til
I see the Lord, un-til I see the side from which the blood and water of our
bap-tism came forth, un-til I see the wound by which he healed all people from the
great wound, and I see that he is not pure spirit, but a person made of
flesh and bones. There-fore, O Lord, who trampled Death and made Thomas firm
in his be-lief, O Lord, glo-ry to you!

The service continues on page 12

Readings: 1) Isaiah 43:9-14;
2) Wisdom 3:1-9;
3) Wisdom 4:7-15 (EOT 318).

Litija

Of Thomas Sunday - Tone 4 Bolhar

①

Man-i - fest-ing the bright-ness of your di - vin - i - ty, you ap-peared, al-though
the doors were closed, O Lord. Stand-ing in the midst of your dis-ci - ples,
you un cov-ered your side and showed them the wounds of your hands and feet,
de - liv - er - ing them from the sad-ness that had o - ver-come them. You spoke
to them clear - ly and said: As you see, my friends, I
have as-sumed flesh; I am not a pure spir - it. You spoke
to the dis-ci-ple who had doubt-ed, and asked him to touch your wounds,
say - ing: Ex-plore my wounds and doubt no long-er. The dis-ci - ple
touched you with his hand and dis - cov-ered both your di - vin - i - ty

and hu-man-i-ty; filled with fear, he cried out in faith:
My Lord and my God, glo - - - ry to you!

Of the Martyr - Tone 4 Bolhar

②
Come, O as-sem-bly of the faith - ful. Come, let us cel - e - brate
the feast. To-day is man-i - fested the glorious memo-ry of George the mar-tyr.
Spark-ling with vi-rtues, he is in vis - i - bly il - lu - min - a - ting our hearts.
There-fore, let us cry out with one mind: Re - joice, O war-rior of
Christ the great king! Re-joyce, O most splen-did and rich one!
O most bless-ed one, on our behalf, im-ple-re Christ our God the Mas-ter of all,
that we may be pre - served from the tempta-tions of the E - vil One

and that our souls may be saved.

Cantor: (Tone 5) Glory...

Of the Martyr - Tone 5 samohlasen

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cantor: (Tone 8) Now and ever...

Of Thomas Sunday - Tone 8 samohlasen

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

The service continues with the Litija Litany, page 26

Aposticha

Of Thomas Sunday - Tone 4 samohlasen

①
O mar-vel-ous won - der! The lack of faith gave birth to a cer-tain - ty of faith;
for Thomas said: Unless I see, I will not be - lieve! There-fore, when he touched
your side, he ac-knowl-edged that you were the in-car-nate Son of God, and he



knew that you truly suffered in the flesh; and thus he proclaimed your resurrection

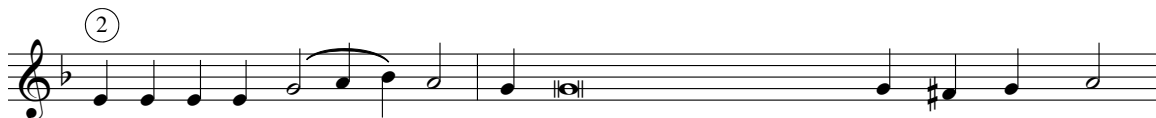


from the dead, say - ing: My Lord and my God, glo - ry to you!

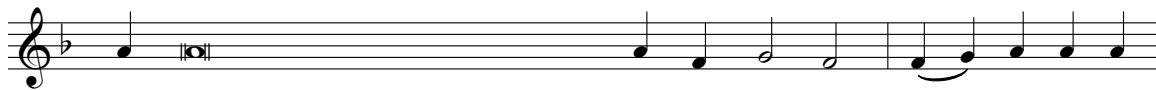
Cantor



O praise the Lord, Je - ru - sa - lem! Zi - on, praise your God!



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



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



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

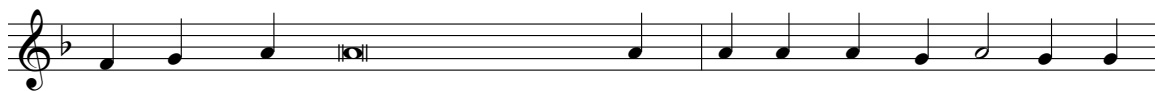


and he exclaimed from the depth of his spir - it: You are my Mas - ter and my God who



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

Cantor



He has strength - ened the bars of your gates; he has blessed the chil - dren with -



-in you.

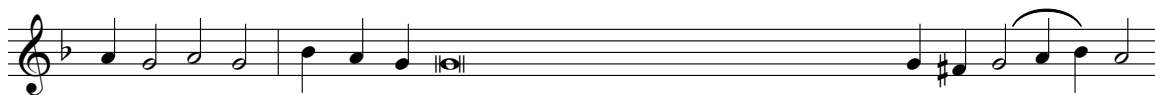
③



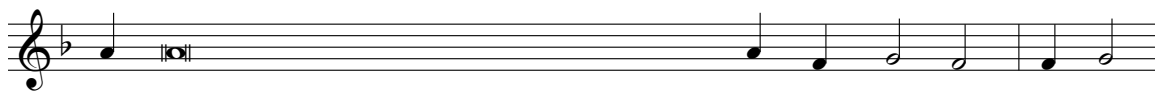
O mar - vel - ous won - der! John leaned on the bos - om of the Word,



and Thomas was made worthy to touch his side. The first discovered the depth of



the - ol - o - gy, and the oth - er was privileged to announce the plan of sal - va - tion;



for he clearly revealed the mystery of Christ's Resur - rec - tion, say - ing: My Lord



and my God, glo - ry to you!

Cantor: Glory...

Of the Martyr - Tone 4



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

He was tried by fire and brand-ing irons and sharp in - struments of torture for the
 sake of Christ. These var - ious tortures ravaged the body which is perisha-ble by
 na - ture; but love con-quer-ed na-ture, per - suad-ing the beloved to make his
 way through death to Christ our God, the Sav - ior of our souls.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Of Thomas Sunday - Tone 5

How great is your infinite compassion, O Lov-er of us all; for be-cause of your
 long - suffering you were struck by your en - e - mies; you were touched by
 an a - pos - tle and deep - ly pierced by those who de - nied you. How did you
 be - come in - car - nate? How were you cru - ci - fied, O Sin - less One?
 Teach us to cry out as Thom - as: My Lord and my God,



glo - ry to you!

The service continues on page 19 of the Vesper book.

Troparia

Troparion of Thomas Sunday - Tone 7 (sung twice)



Though the tomb had been sealed, O Life, from the grave you a - rose, O



Christ our God. Though the door had been locked, you ap-peared a - mong

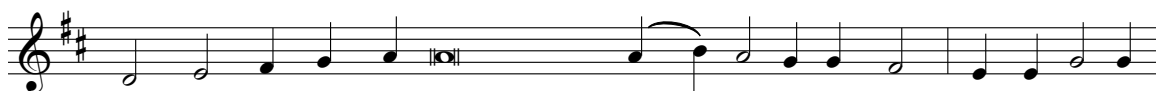


the disciples, O Resur-rec - tion of All. Through them you renewed an



upright spir-it in us ac - cord - ing to your great mer - cy.

Troparion of the Martyr - Tone 4



You fought the good fight with faith, O George, mar-tyr of Christ. You con-vict-ed



the ty-rants of their wick-ed-ness. You off - ered yourself as an accept-a - ble



sac - ri - fice to God. There - fore, you received a crown of vic - to - ry,



and through your pray'rs, O ho - ly one, you obtain for-give - ness of sins for all.

The service contines with the Blessing of Bread, found on page 29 in the Appendix.