

Vesper Propers, April 23, 2023

Sunday of the Myrrhbearers

Third Paschal Sunday

All page numbers refer to the Paschal Vespers Book.

THE HOLY AND VICTORIOUS GREAT MARTYR GEORGE THE WONDERWORKER whose glorious contest at Lydda in Palestine all the Churches from East to West have celebrated since antiquity. (303)

Psalm 140 - Tone 2

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 excuse for the 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 2) Bring my soul out of this prison
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.



Come, let us a - dore God the Word, who was born of the Father be - fore

2



be - stow - ing great mer - cy up - on the world.

The service continues with the Blessing of Bread, page 29.



be - stow - ing great mer - cy up - on the world.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Troparion of the holy apostle and evangelist John - 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 prayers, O ho - ly one, you obtain for - give - ness of sins for all.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Now and ever...

Troparion of the Myrrh-bearers - Tone 2



The an - gel standing by the tomb cried out to the myrrh - bear - ing wo - men:



Myrrh is fit - ting for the dead, but Christ has shown himself not



sub - ject to cor - rup - tion. So now cry out: The Lord is ris - en,



all ag - es, and was in - car - nate from the Vir - gin Mar - y. For he en - dured

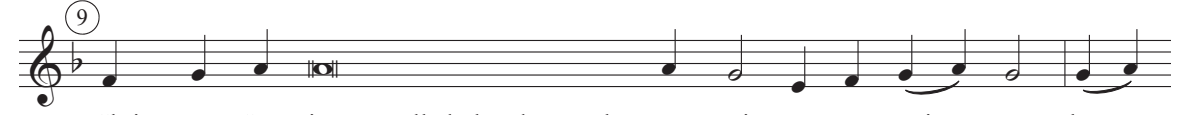


the cross of his own will, and was con - signed to the grave; and by



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

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



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



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

Ear - ly at dawn, the myrrh - bear - ing wom - en a - rose, and car - rying

spic - es, came to the tomb of the Lord; and not find - ing what they ex - pect - ed,

the pi - ous wom - en pondered the re - mov - al of the stone. They spoke to

one an - oth - er, say - ing, Where are the seals of the grave? where are the guards

which Pi - late sent with great care? And be - hold, a ra - diant angel appeared

and pro - claimed to them: Why do you tear - ful - ly seek the living One who

gives life to all mor - tal flesh? Christ our God has ris - en from the dead. He

is the Al - might - y One who grants to all enlightenment, eter - nal life and

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

The service continues on page 19.

Troparia

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 2

When you de - scended to death, O Im - mor - tal Life, you de - stroyed

Ha - des by the brilliance of your di - vin - i - ty; and when you raised the dead

from the depths of the earth, all the heav - en - ly pow - ers cried out:

O Giv - er of Life, Christ our God, glo - - - ry to you.

The no - ble Joseph took down your most pure bod - y from the cross.

He wrapped it in a clean shroud, and with fra - grant spices laid it in bur - ial

in a new tomb. But you, O Lord, a - rose on the third day,

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.

Celebrant: Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Doxastikon of Pascha

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!

great mer - cy.

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 Why do you sprin - kle your myrrh with tears, O wom - en dis - ci - ples? The stone is rolled away and the tomb is emp - ty; be - hold, Life has triumphed o - ver death. The seals give bril - liant wit - ness that the guards of the god - less have watched in vain, that mor - tal na - ture has been saved by the flesh of God, and that Ha - des is in mourn - ing. Has - ten in joy, pro-claim-ing to the a - pos - tles that Christ, the conqueror of death, is the first-born of the dead. He shall go be - fore you in - to Ga - li - lee.

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 myrrh-bearing women, O Christ, rose up early and hastened to your tomb,
 seeking to anoint your most pure body. But when the glad tidings
 were brought to them by the words of the angel, they hastened to the apostles
 as heralds of joy. The Leader of our salvation has risen and
 conquered death. He grants the world eternal life and great mercy.

Cantor: (Tone 1) Let the watchman count on daybreak
 and Israel on the Lord.

Tone 1 podobn: Nebesnych činov

4

Having gathered together today, we praise you, O George, as a
 valiant martyr. 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.

All:

Pasch so delightful, Pasch of the Lord, is the Pasch –
 most honored Pasch now dawned on us. It is the Pasch! Therefore, let us
 joyfully embrace one another. O Pass-over, save us from sorrow;
 For today, Christ has shown forth from the tomb as from a bridal
 chamber and filled the women with joy by saying: Announce
 the good news to the Apostles.

Tone 4


Celebrant:

Glorify to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
 Spirit.


Doxastikon of the holy and glorious great-martyr George - Tone 4

Let us spiritually praise the great-martyr George, the living steel of endurance.

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.

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 firm - ness of mind, O glo - rious one, you will - ing - ly



persevered to martyrdom like a li - on. Scorn - ing the body as something



that would with - er, you were wise - ly concerned with your in - cor - rupt - i - ble soul.




Cov - ered with wounds by various forms of tor - ture, O George,




like gold you were pu - ri - fied sev - en - fold.


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



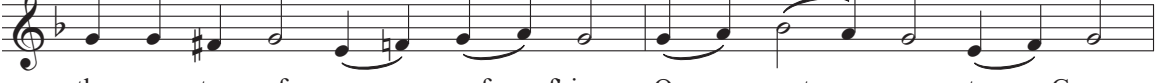
You suf - fered mar - tyr - dom in behalf of the Sav - ior, O glo - rious one,



by a death similar to his vol - un - tar - y death. You reign glo - rious - ly with him,



clothed with the re - splen - dent pur - ple robes of your blood, and you are adorned with



the scep - ter 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 ar - mor and grace as your shield, with the cross as your
spear, you waged war. You were in - vin - ci - ble in fac - ing 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...

Doxastikon - Tone 6

The myrrh - bearing women, O Savior, came to your grave, and they saw that

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

Aposticha

① 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.

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

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,

it was emp - ty but did not find your most pure bod - y. There - fore they
cried out with tears and said: Who has robbed us of our hope? Who has
tak - en away a na - ked and a - noint - ed corpse, the on - ly consolation to
his Moth - er? How could they bury the One who tram - pled Ha - des down?
But in your own pow - er, O Lord, a - rise after three days as you said,
and grant great mer - cy to our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon - Tone 2

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 on page 12.

Readings	Isaiah 43: 9-1	EOT 303
	Wisdom 3:1-9	EOT 315
	Wisdom 4: 7-15	EOT 308

Litija Hymns

Tone 1 Bolhar

Why have you come to the tomb, O myrrh - bear - ing wom - en?
 Why do you seek the Liv - ing One a - mong the dead? Have faith, for the
 Lord is ris - en, said the an - - - gel.

Cantor: *(Tone 4) Glory...*

Doxastikon

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 - joice, O most splen - did and rich one!
 O most bless - ed one, on our behalf, im - plore 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.

The Litany of the Litija is found in the Appendix on page 26.