

# Matins in Bright Week

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*The **Priest** vests in bright phelonion.*

*The **Priest** takes the precious Cross and the three-branched candlestick in his left hand, and the censer in his right. Preceded by the **Deacon** with a candle, he does a complete censuring of the Temple (the Deacon walks in front of the Priest while the Priest censures).*

*After the censuring, the **Deacon** exits the Sanctuary, stands to the right of the Holy Doors, and says:*

*Deacon:* Arise! Bless, Master!

*The **Priest**, in front of the Altar Table, makes the Sign of the Cross with the censer and says:*

*Priest:* + Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating, and undivided Trinity always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

## Troparion of Pascha

*Clergy:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

*Then the verses:*

*Priest:* Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Priest:* As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire.

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Priest:* So the sinners shall perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad.

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Priest:* This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Priest:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Priest:* ...now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*The Deacon enters through the Holy Doors, gives up his candle, exits the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors and stands in his place.*

*Priest:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,

*People:* ...and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*The Deacon lifts his Orarion and says:*

### **The Great Litany**

*Deacon:* In peace let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* <sup>1</sup>For [his Beatitude] Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_; for [his Grace] our Bishop \_\_\_\_\_; for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For the President<sup>2</sup> and all civil authorities of this country, and for those serving in its Armed Forces, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For this city, [*if a monastery:* For this holy habitation,] for every city and countryside, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For travelers by land, by sea, and by air; the sick; the suffering; the captives; and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

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<sup>1</sup> We pray for the bishop of the temple in which we are praying. When not in a temple, we pray for the bishop of the diocese in which we are located. If outside the territory of any Orthodox Church or mission, only then do we pray for the bishop of the celebrating priest.

<sup>2</sup> We pray for the Chief of State and the civil authorities of the place in which we are praying.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and distress, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Commemorating our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*The Deacon moves to stand before the icon of Christ.*

*People:* To You, O Lord.

*Priest:* For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*The Deacon enters the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, goes to the High Place, bows, turns, bows to the Priest, and receives the blessing from the Priest for the Great Censing. He begins in the Sanctuary and exits and enters through the Holy Doors.*

*People:* Amen.

## THE CANON

### Ode I

*Tone 1 (by John of Damascus)*

*Irmos:* This is the day of resurrection.  
Let us be illumined, O people.  
Pascha, the Pascha of the Lord.  
For from death to life and from earth to heaven  
has Christ our God led us,  
as we sing the song of victory.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!  
  
Let us purify our senses and we shall see Christ  
shining in the unapproachable light of His resurrection.  
We shall clearly hear Him say: “Rejoice”,  
as we sing the song of victory.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!  
  
Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.  
Let the whole world, visible and invisible, keep the feast.  
For Christ is risen, our eternal joy.

*Refrain:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
  
You broke down the boundaries of death,  
O all-chaste Virgin.  
You gave birth to Christ the eternal Life  
Who has shone today from the grave and enlightened the world.  
  
...now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Having seen your Son and God resurrected,  
O all-chaste Theotokos,  
rejoice with the Apostles.  
O pure One, who are rich in the blessings of heaven.  
Rejoice as in the beginning  
when you received the Source of joy for all.

*Katavasia:* This is the day of resurrection...

### **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

### **Ode III**

*Irmos:* Come, let us drink, not miraculous water  
drawn forth from a barren stone,  
but a new vintage from the fount of incorruption,  
springing from the tomb of Christ.  
In Him we are established.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

Now all is filled with light:  
heaven and earth and the lower regions.  
Let all creation celebrate the rising of Christ.  
In Him we are established.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

Yesterday, I was buried with You, O Christ.  
Today, I arise with You in Your resurrection.  
Yesterday, I was crucified with You.  
Glorify me with You, O Savior, in Your kingdom.

*Refrain:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Today, I come to life incorrupt, O pure One,  
by the grace of Him Who was born of you.  
Who radiated light all about  
to the ends of the earth.

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

You gave birth to God in the flesh,  
O most pure One.  
Having seen Him arise from death, as He said,  
rejoice and exalt Him as God.

*Katavasia:* Come, let us drink...

### **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

*The Deacon, with his candle, bows to the Priest, passing the High Place, exits the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, and stands at his place on the solea, lifts his Orarion and says:*

### **The Little Litany**

*Deacon:* Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Commemorating our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady,  
the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend  
ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*The Deacon moves to stand before the icon of Christ.*

*People:* To You, O Lord.

*The Deacon enters the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, goes to the High Place, bows, turns, bows to the Priest, and receives the blessing from the Priest for the Great Censing. He begins in the Sanctuary and exits and enters through the Holy Doors.*

*Priest:* For You are our God, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

### **Sessional Hymn (Hypakoe)**

#### *Tone 4*

Before the dawn, Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: “Why do you seek among the dead as a man the one Who is everlasting light? Behold the clothes in the grave. Go and proclaim to the world: The Lord is risen. He has slain death, as He is the Son of God, saving the race of men.”

### **Ode IV**

*Irmos:* The inspired prophet Habakkuk now stands with us in holy vigil. He is like a shining angel who cries with a piercing voice: “Today salvation has come to the world, for Christ is risen as all-powerful.”

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

Christ our Pascha has appeared as a male child,  
the son that opens a virgin womb.  
He is called the Lamb as one destined to be our food,  
unblemished for He has not tasted of defilement,  
and perfect for He is our true God.



*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

Christ, the crown with which we are blessed,  
has appeared as a yearling lamb.  
Freely He has given Himself as our cleansing paschal sacrifice.  
From the tomb He has shown forth once again,  
our radiant sun of righteousness.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

David, the ancestor of God,  
leaped and danced before the ark which prefigured You.  
Now let us, the holy people of God,  
seeing the fulfillment of all figures, rejoice in piety,  
for Christ is risen as all-powerful.

*Refrain:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

He Who was made from you,  
Who made your forefather Adam, O pure One,  
today, by His own death, overthrew the dominion of Death  
and shone to all the divine brilliance of the resurrection.

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

O pure, good, beautiful,  
and chaste among women,  
seeing Christ today, Whom you bore,  
shine most beautifully from death for the salvation of all,  
rejoice with the Apostles and glorify Him.

*Katavasia:* The inspired prophet Habakkuk...

### **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

## Ode V

*Irmos:* Let us arise at the rising of the sun  
and bring to the Master a hymn instead of myrrh,  
and we shall see Christ, the sun of righteousness,  
Who causes life to dawn for all.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

The souls bound in chains of Hades, O Christ,  
seeing Your compassion without measure,  
pressed onward to the light with joyful steps,  
praising the eternal Pascha.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

Let us go with lamps in hand to meet Christ,  
Who comes from the tomb like a Bridegroom.  
And with the festive ranks of angels,  
let us celebrate the saving Pascha of God.

*Refrain:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Illumined by the divine light-bearing rays  
of the resurrection of your Son,  
O most pure Theotokos,  
the assembly of the faithful is filled with joy.

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

As You did not open the gate of virginity in the Incarnation,  
so You did not destroy the seal of the tomb, O King of Creation.  
Therefore, Your mother was joyful  
seeing You Who arose.

*Katavasia:* Let us arise at the rising of the sun...

### **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

### **Ode VI**

*Irmos:* You descended, O Christ, to the depths of the earth.  
You broke the everlasting bars which had held death's captives,  
and like Jonah from the fish on the third day,  
You arose from the grave.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

You arose, O Christ, and yet the tomb remained sealed,  
as at Your birth the Virgin's womb remained unharmed;  
and You have opened for us the gates of paradise.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

O my Savior, as God You brought Yourself freely to the Father,  
a victim living and unsacrificed  
resurrecting Adam, the father of us all,  
when You arose from the grave.

*Refrain:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

That which in ancient times was held by death and corruption  
is raised to incorruption and eternal life  
by Him Who from your most pure womb became incarnate,  
O virgin Theotokos.

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

He Who descended and indwelt in your womb, O pure One,  
and ineffably became incarnate  
and arose from the grave  
also entered into Hades, raising Adam with Himself.

*Katavasia:* You descended, O Christ...

### **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

*The Deacon, with his candle, bows to the Priest, passing the High Place, exits the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, and stands at his place on the solea, lifts his Orarion and says:*

### **The Little Litany**

*Deacon:* Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Commemorating our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady,  
the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend  
ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*The Deacon moves to stand before the icon of Christ.*

*People:* To You, O Lord.

*The Deacon enters the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, goes to the High Place, bows, turns, bows to the Priest, and receives the blessing from the Priest for the Great Censing. He begins in the Sanctuary and exits and enters through the Holy Doors.*

*Priest:* For You are the king of peace and Savior of our souls, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

### **Kontakion**

#### *Tone 8*

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal,  
You destroyed the power of death.  
In victory You arose, O Christ God,  
proclaiming “Rejoice” to the myrrh-bearing women,  
granting peace to Your apostles,  
and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

### **Ikos**

*Reader:* Before the dawn, the myrrh-bearing women sought, as those who seek the day, their sun, Who was before the sun yet had descended to the grave, and they cried to each other: O friends, come let us anoint with spices His life-bearing yet buried body, the flesh which raised fallen Adam and now lies in the tomb. Let us assemble and, like the magi, let us hasten and let us worship. Let us bring myrrh as a gift to Him Who is wrapped now, not in swaddling clothes, but in a winding-sheet. Let us lament and cry: “Arise, O Master, and bestow resurrection on the fallen.”

### **Hymn of the Resurrection**

#### *Tone 6*

*People:* Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only Sinless One. We venerate Your Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Your holy Resurrection; for You are our God, and we

know no other than You; we call upon Your name. Come all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's holy Resurrection! For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His Resurrection, for by enduring the Cross for us, He has destroyed death by death. (3x)

Jesus has risen from the tomb, as He foretold, granting us eternal life, and great mercy. (3x)

### **Ode VII**

*Irmos:* He Who saved the three young men in the furnace became incarnate and suffered as a mortal man. Through His sufferings He clothed what is mortal in the robe of immortality. He alone is blessed and most glorious: the God of our fathers.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

The godly women hastened to You with myrrh, O Christ. In tears they sought You as a dead man, but in joy they worshipped You as a living God and proclaimed the mystical Pascha to Your disciples.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

We celebrate the death of death and the overthrow of Hades, the beginning of another life which is eternal, and in exultation we sing the praises of its source. He alone is blessed and most glorious: the God of our fathers.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

This is the bright and saving night, sacred and supremely festal.  
It heralds the radiant day of the resurrection  
on which the timeless Light shown forth bodily from the tomb for all.

*Refrain:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Today, all-chaste One, your Son put Death to death  
granting to all the dead eternal life.

He Who alone is blessed and most glorified  
the God of our fathers.

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

He Who rules all creation became man and indwelt in your womb,  
O you who are rich in the blessings of Heaven,  
and having endured crucifixion and death, arose as God  
raising us, for He is all powerful.

*Katavasia:* He Who saved the three young men...

### **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

### **Ode VIII**

*Irmos:* This is the chosen and holy day, first of sabbaths,  
king and lord of days, the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days.  
On this day we bless Christ forevermore.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

Come on this chosen day of the resurrection,  
let us partake of the new fruit of the vine.  
Let us share in the divine rejoicing of the kingdom of Christ,  
praising Him as God forevermore.

*Refrain:* Christ is risen from the dead!

Lift up your eyes, O Zion, round about and see.  
Your children like divinely shining stars assemble from the North,  
the South, the East and the West  
to bless Christ in you forevermore.

*Refrain:* Most holy Trinity, our God, glory to You.

Father almighty, Word and Spirit, on nature in three persons,  
surpassing essence and divinity.  
In You have we been baptized,  
and You we bless forevermore.

*Refrain:* We bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!

The Lord came into the world through you, O virgin Theotokos  
and tore the womb of Hades  
granting resurrection to us mortals.  
Therefore, let us bless Him forever.

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

By His resurrection, O Virgin,  
your Son has destroyed the dominion of Death.  
As mighty God, He has raised us with Himself and deified us.  
Therefore, we praise Him forever.

*Refrain:* We praise, bless, and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him  
throughout all ages!

*Katavasia:* This is the chosen and holy day...



## **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

*The Deacon, with his candle, receives the blessing from the Priest for the Great Censing. He begins in the Sanctuary and exits and enters through the Holy Doors.*

## **Ode IX**

*Refrain 1:* My soul magnifies Him Who rose from the tomb on the third day:  
Christ, the Giver of life.

*Irmos:* Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem!  
The glory of the Lord has shone on you.  
Exult now and be glad, O Zion.  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the resurrection of your Son.

*Refrain 2:* My soul magnifies Him Who willingly suffered and was buried,  
and rose from the tomb on the third day.

*Irmos:* Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem!  
The glory of the Lord has shone on you.  
Exult now and be glad, O Zion.  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the resurrection of your Son.

*Refrain 3:* Christ, the new Pascha, the living sacrifice,  
the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.

How divine! How beloved! How sweet is Your voice, O Christ!  
For You have faithfully promised to be with us to the end of the world.  
Having this as our anchor of hope,  
we the faithful rejoice.

*Refrain 4:* The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: “Rejoice, O pure Virgin.  
Again I say: Rejoice.  
Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb.  
With Himself He has raised all the dead.  
Rejoice all you people.”

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha,  
O Wisdom, Word, and Power of God:  
grant that we may more perfectly partake of You  
in the never-ending day of Your Kingdom.

*Refrain 5:* After You fell asleep, Your royal voice,  
roaring like the lion of Judah, awakened the dead from all ages.  
How divine!...

*Refrain 6:* Mary Magdalene hastened to the tomb,  
and seeing Christ, she questioned Him as though He were the gardener.  
How divine!...

*Refrain 7:* An angel appeared to the women and cried:  
“Cease your tears, for Christ is risen.  
How divine!...

*Refrain 8:* Christ is risen, trampling down death and raising the dead.  
Rejoice, all you people.  
How divine!...

*Refrain 9:* Today, all creation rejoices and makes glad,  
for Christ is risen and Hades has been despoiled.  
O Christ, great and most holy Pascha...

*Refrain 10:* Today, the Master has despoiled Hades and raised the prisoners  
whom it had held from the ages in harsh captivity.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha...

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

With one voice, we faithful bless you, O Virgin.

Rejoice, O Gate of the Lord!

Rejoice, O living City!

Rejoice, O you through whom the Light of Resurrection from the dead,  
Who was born of you, has shone forth today.

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

Rejoice and be glad, O holy Gate of the Light,  
for having come into the grave, Jesus shone more brightly than the sun.  
He illumines all the faithful,  
O Lady full of divine Grace.

*Refrain 1:* My soul magnifies Him Who rose from the tomb on the third day:  
Christ, the Giver of life.

*Irmos:* Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem!  
The glory of the Lord has shone on you.  
Exult now and be glad, O Zion.  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the resurrection of your Son.

### **Troparion of Pascha**

*People:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

*The Deacon, with his candle, bows to the Priest, passing the High Place, exits the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, and stands at his place on the solea, lifts his Orarion and says:*

### **The Little Litany**

*Deacon:* Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Commemorating our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*The Deacon moves to stand before the icon of Christ:*

*People:* To You, O Lord.

*Priest:* For all the powers of heaven praise You, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

*The Deacon enters the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, goes to the High Place, bows, turns, bows to the Priest, and goes to his place at the Altar Table.*

### **Hymn of Light**

*People:* In the flesh You fell asleep as a mortal man, O King and Lord.  
You arose on the third day,  
raising Adam from corruption and destroying death:  
O Pascha of incorruption, the salvation of the world! (3x)

### **The Praises**

#### *Tone 1*

*People:* Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord from the heavens,  
Praise Him in the heights,  
To You, O God, is due a song.

Praise Him, all you angels of His,  
Praise Him, all His hosts.  
To You, O God, is due a song.

*Psalm 148:3-14*

Praise Him, sun and moon,  
praise Him, all you stars and light.

Praise Him, you heavens of heavens  
and you water that is above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for He spoke and they were born,  
He commanded and they were created.

He has fixed them forever and ever.  
He has made a law and it will not be bypassed.

Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all depths,  
fire, hail, snow, ice,  
the storm wind, all obeying His word,

all you mountains and hills,  
all you fruit trees and cedars,

you wild beasts and all cattle,  
reptiles and winged birds,

you kings of the earth and all peoples,  
all you rulers and judges of the earth;

young men and virgins,  
old men and children,

let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for His name only is exalted;  
His praise is above heaven and earth.

And He will exalt the power of His people.  
This is a song for all His saints,  
for the children of Israel,  
for people drawing near to Him.

*Psalm 149*

Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Let His praise be sung in the church of the saints.

Let Israel rejoice in Him Who made him,  
and let the children of Zion exult in their King.

Let them praise His name with dancing,  
let them sing to Him with drum and harp.

For the Lord takes pleasure in His people  
and will exalt the meek with His salvation.

The saints will exult in glory,  
and they will rejoice on their beds.

The high praises of God will be in their throat  
and two-edged swords in their hands,

to pass judgment on the nations  
and give rebukes among the peoples,

to bind their kings with chains  
and their nobles with fetters of iron,

to pass judgment on them as God has written.  
This glory will be for all His saints.

*Psalm 150*

Praise God in His saints,  
praise Him in the expanse of His power.

5. Praise Him for His mighty acts,  
praise Him for His infinite greatness.

*Tone 2*

We praise Your saving suffering, O Christ,  
and glorify Your resurrection.

4. Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet,  
praise Him with psaltery and harp.

You endured the Cross and destroyed death by rising from the dead.  
Give peace to our life, O Lord, as the only almighty One.

3. Praise Him with drum and dancing,  
praise Him with strings and bells.

You captured Hades, O Christ, and resurrect man by Your resurrection.  
Enable us to praise and glorify You in purity of heart.

2. Praise Him with well-tuned cymbals,  
praise Him with cymbals of victory!

1. Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

We glorify Your divine condescension, and we praise You, O Christ.  
You were born of a virgin yet not separated from the Father.  
You have suffered as a man and voluntarily endured the Cross.  
You have risen from the tomb,  
coming as from a bridal chamber to save the world.  
O Lord, glory to You!

## The Paschal Verses

### *Tone 5*

*Verse:* Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

*People:* 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 to us the gates of Paradise,  
a Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful.

*Verse:* As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire.

*People:* 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!”

*Verse:* So the sinners shall perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad.

*People:* 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!”

*Verse:* This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*People:* Pascha of beauty,  
the Pascha of the Lord,  
a Pascha worthy of honor has dawned for us.

Pascha!

Let us embrace each other joyously!

Pascha, ransom from affliction!

For today, as from a bridal chamber,

Christ has shown forth from the tomb,

and filled the women with joy saying:

“Proclaim the glad tidings to the Apostles!”

*Verse:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*People:* 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. (3x)

*The Deacon, with his candle, bows to the Priest, passing the High Place, exits the Sanctuary through the Holy Doors, stands at his place on the solea, lifts his Orarion and prays:*

### **The Litany of Fervent Supplication**

*Deacon:* Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we implore You, hear us and have mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for [His Beatitude] Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_, for [His Grace] our Bishop \_\_\_\_\_, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brethren in Christ.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for the (*President*) and all civil authorities of this country and for those serving in its Armed Forces.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox Patriarchs; for the blessed and ever memorable founders of this holy house; for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, [especially \_\_\_\_\_ and all those] who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God [especially \_\_\_\_\_], and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*Deacon:* Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

*People:* Lord, have mercy. (3x)

*The Deacon moves to stand before the icon of Christ.*

*Priest:* For You are a merciful God, and You 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 unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

*The Deacon moves to stand before the Holy Doors, lifts his Orarion and says:*

### **The Morning Litany**

*Deacon:* Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

*People:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Deacon:* For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Deacon:* For pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Deacon:* For all things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Deacon:* That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Deacon:* For a Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

*People:* Grant it, O Lord.

*Deacon:* Commemorating our most holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

*The Deacon moves to stand before the icon of Christ:*

*People:* To You, O Lord.

*Priest:* For You are a good God, and You 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 unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

*The Priest turns toward the people and blesses:*

*Priest:* + Peace be unto all.

*People:* And to your spirit.

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

*People:* To You, O Lord.

### **The Prayer with Heads Bowed**

*Priest:* O Holy Lord, Who dwell on high and look upon the humble, and Who with Your all-seeing eye do behold all creation: to You have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we implore You, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth Your invisible hand from Your holy dwelling place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, either willingly or unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as You are good, and You love mankind, granting us Your good things in this age and in the age to come. For Yours it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and to You we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

### **The Great Dismissal**

*Deacon:* Wisdom!

*People:* Father, bless.

*Standing in front of the Altar Table, the Priest says:*

*Priest:* + Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

Confirm, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and Orthodox Christians unto ages of ages.

*Priest:* Most holy Theotokos, save us.

*People:* More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God, the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

*Holding the Cross, standing in the Holy Doors, facing the people, in place of “Glory to You...”  
the **Priest** sings:*

*Priest:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,

*People:* ... and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*Priest:* May Christ, Who is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us for He is good and He loves mankind.

*Reader:* Amen.

*The **Priest** raises the Cross and says:*

*Priest:* Christ is risen!

*People:* Indeed He is risen!

*Priest:* Christ is risen!

*People:* Indeed He is risen!

*Priest:* Christ is risen!

*People:* Indeed He is risen!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (3x)

And unto us He has given eternal life! Let us worship his resurrection  
on the third day!

## Hours in Bright Week

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*Beginning with the Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha, up to Saturday, Hours, Compline and Midnight Office are sung thus:*

*Priest:*     + Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*Reader:*    Amen.

*People:*    Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

### *Tone 6*

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only Sinless One. We venerate Your Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Your holy Resurrection; for You are our God, and we know no other than You; we call upon Your name. Come all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's holy Resurrection! For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His Resurrection, for by enduring the Cross for us, He has destroyed death by death.

### **Hypakoe**

### *Tone 8*

Before the dawn, Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They heard the angelic voice: "Why do you seek among the dead as a man the one Who is everlasting light? Behold the clothes in the grave. Go and proclaim to the world: The Lord is risen. He has slain death, as He is the Son of God, saving the race of men."

## Kontakion

### *Tone 8*

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal,  
You destroyed the power of death.  
In victory You arose, O Christ God,  
proclaiming “Rejoice” to the myrrh-bearing women,  
granting peace to Your apostles,  
and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

### *Tone 8*

In the tomb with the body, in Hades with the soul as God, in paradise  
with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, were  
You, O boundless Christ, filling all things.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Bearing life and more fruitful than paradise, brighter than any royal  
chamber: Your tomb, O Christ, is the fountain of our resurrection.

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

### *Tone 8*

Rejoice, O holy and divine abode of the most high!  
For through you, O Theotokos, joy is given to those who cry:  
“Blessed are you among women, All-undefiled Lady!”

Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and  
ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare  
than the seraphim: without corruption you gave birth to God the Word.  
True Theotokos, we magnify you.



## **The Dismissal**

*People:* In the name of the Lord, Father, bless.

*Standing in front of the Altar Table, the Priest says:*

*Priest:* + Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

*People:* Amen.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Father, bless.

*Priest:* May Christ, Who is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us for He is good and He loves mankind.

*Reader:* Amen.