

**GREAT VESPERS OF SUNDAY,
MAY 18, 2025; TONE 4
FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: SUNDAY OF THE
SAMARITAN WOMAN
& AFTER-FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST**

MARTYRS PETER, DIONYSIOS, ANDREW, PAUL, CHRISTINA,
HERAKLIOS, PAULINOS AND BENEDIMOS; STEPHEN THE NEW,
PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

(SERVED ON THE EVENING PRIOR)

Leader: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down
Death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!
(THRICE)

THE PSALM OF INTRODUCTION—PSALM 103

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.

Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back forever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.

The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.

He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, to bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.

He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad; young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. Man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

The earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there this leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.

May my words be sweet unto Him; I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)

O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (forty times)

Leader: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Choir: Amen.

“O LORD I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE FOUR

Choir: O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

Choir: Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.

- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hades.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

For the Resurrection in Tone Four

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*
 We worship untiringly Thy quickening Cross, O Christ God, and glorify Thy third-day Resurrection; for by it, O Almighty, Thou hast renewed the corrupt nature of mankind, and made plain to us the ascent to heaven; for Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind.

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

When Thou wast willingly nailed upon the Cross, O Savior, Thou didst solve the problem caused by the tree of sin. And when Thou didst descend into Hades, Thou didst break the bonds of death, since Thou art a mighty God. Wherefore, we worship Thy Resurrection from the dead, shouting with joy, O Almighty Lord, glory to Thee.

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

Thou didst demolish by Thy Death, O Lord, the gates of Hades; Thou didst dissolve the realm of death; and didst free the human race from corruption, granting the world life and incorruptibility and Great Mercy.

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

Come, ye nations, let us praise the third-day Resurrection of the Savior, by which we were delivered from the unbreakable bonds of Hades, and by which we have all received life and incorruption, crying, O Thou Who wast crucified, buried, and Who didst rise, save us by Thy Resurrection, O Thou only Lover of mankind.

For Mid-Pentecost in Tone Four (***Lord, when Thou didst ascend***)

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

There is come now the middle of those days * which commence with Christ God's saving Rising and which are sealed * by Pentecost, that divine day. * Illuminated by both the feasts and joining both, * it is radiant and in truth * is now rendered majestic, * showing and manifesting the presence of * the great glory of the Ascension of our Master, Christ.

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

Zion heard and was glad when she received * the good tidings of the Resurrection of Christ our God. * As for her right faithful

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offspring, * they rejoiced seeing Him also washing clean away, *
by the Spirit He gave to them, * all the stain of Christ's murder. *
Wherefore, Zion prepareth to celebrate * the joy-bestowing
Mid-festal day of both the feasts.

*Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning
watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

Now at hand is the ample pouring-forth * of the Holy Spirit on all
men, as the Scripture saith; * this is proclaimed by the advent * of
the mid-point of that time fixed by the sure and true * promise
Christ gave His followers * after willingly dying, * being buried,
and rising, and which made known * the coming manifestation of
the Comforter.

For the Samaritan Woman in Tone One

*Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is
abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his
iniquities.*

At the sixth hour Thou didst come to the well, O Fountain of
wonder, to ensnare the fruit of Eve; for that one, at the very same
hour, had been driven from paradise by the serpent's temptation.
Then the Samaritan woman came to draw water, and when Thou
didst see her, O Savior, Thou didst say to her: Give Me water to
drink, and I will fill thee with everlasting water. And that chaste
woman hastened at once to the city and said to the crowds: Come
and see Christ the Lord, the Savior of our souls.

Also for the Samaritan Woman in Tone Two

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.
When the compassionate Lord came to the well, the Samaritan
woman asked Him, saying: Give me the water of faith, O Giver of
life, that I may take the water of baptism for delight and for
salvation; O Lord, glory to Thee.

*Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the
Lord endureth forever.*

The Son, the Word of the Father, co-eternal and co-beginningless,
the Fountain of wonders, came to the spring, where a woman of
Samaria came to draw water. And when the Savior saw her, He
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said unto her: Give me water to drink, and go call thy husband. But she, addressing Him as Man and not as God, wished to withhold herself from Him, saying, I have no husband. And the Master replied, Thou hast said the truth that thou hast no husband; for thou hast had five husbands, and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband. And she, bewildered by these words, went to the city and shouted to the crowds, saying: Come and behold Christ, Who granteth the world the Great Mercy.

DOXASTICON FOR THE SAMARITAN WOMAN IN TONE

SIX

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

At Jacob's well, Jesus met the Samaritan woman. He Who screened the earth with clouds asked water of her. What wonder, that He Who rideth on the cherubim converseth with an adulterous woman. He asked water Who suspended the earth on the waters. He seeketh water Who caused the springs of water and their lakes to overflow. Yea, that He may draw to Him the truth ensnared by the contending enemy, and give her water to drink who was inflamed with ugly vices; for He alone is compassionate and the Lover of mankind.

THEOTOKION FOR THE RESURRECTION IN TONE FOUR

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

David the Prophet who became through thee, O Theotokos, the grandparent of God, before time sang of thee in praise, and shouted to Him who worked wonders through thee, saying, The queen did rise on Thy right; for God hath shown thee to be a Mother bringing forth life, in that He was willing to appear incarnate from thee without father, renewing the creation of His likeness, corrupt with suffering, in order to find the sheep lost in the hills, and carry it on His shoulders, and offer it to the Father, and add it, through His will, to the heavenly hosts, and to save the whole world; for He is the reigning Christ, Possessor of rich and Great Mercy.

O GLADSOME LIGHT

Choir: O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Lo now that we have come to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light,
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we hymn Thee: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be magnified by joyous voices, O Son of God and Giver of life. Wherefore the whole world doth glorify Thee.

SATURDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE SIX

Choir: The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty. (ONCE)

Verse 1. The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength. (Refrain)

Verse 2. For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved. (Refrain)

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (forty times)

Leader: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

THE EVENING PRAYER

People: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy statutes.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (forty times)

Leader: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

APOSTICHON FOR THE RESURRECTION IN TONE FOUR

When Thou wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Lord, Thou didst expunge our ancestral curse; and when Thou didst descend to Hades, Thou didst free those who were bound from eternity, granting the human race incorruptibility. Wherefore, we offer praise, glorifying Thy third-day Resurrection.

THE PASCHAL STICHERA IN TONE FIVE

Verse 1. Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.

Today, a sacred Pascha is revealed to us; a new and holy Pascha, a mystical Pascha, a Pascha worthy of all honor, a Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer; a blameless Pascha, a great Pascha, a Pascha of the faithful, a Pascha which opens for us the gates of Paradise; a Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful.

Verse 2. As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire.

Come from that scene, O women, heralds of glad tidings, and say to Zion; Receive from us the announcement of joy, of Christ's Resurrection. Exult, Leap for joy, be glad, O Jerusalem, seeing Christ the King Who comes forth from the tomb like a bridegroom in procession.

Verse 3. So the sinners will perish before the face of God, but let the righteous be glad.

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 4. This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Pascha of beauty, the Pascha of the Lord, Pascha, a Pascha worthy of all honor has dawned for us, Pascha let us embrace each other joyously. O 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.

DOXASTICON FOR THE SAMARITAN WOMAN IN TONE
EIGHT

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

When by Thine ineffable dispensation Thou didst appear on earth, O Christ, the Samaritan woman, hearing Thy philanthropic words, left off drawing water at the well and hastened, saying to those in the city: Come and behold the Knower of hearts: perchance He may be the expected Christ Whose is the Great Mercy.

DOXASTICON FOR MID-PENTECOST IN TONE EIGHT

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

When Thou wast teaching at Mid-feast, O Savior, the Jews said: How knoweth this Man letters, having never learned? For they knew not that Thou art the Wisdom that fashioned the world; glory to Thee.

THE HYMN OF ST. SIMEON THE GOD-RECEIVER

Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Leader: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying, Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION FOR MID-PENTECOST IN TONE EIGHT

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

In the midst of this Feast, O Savior, give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of true worship; for Thou didst call out to all, saying: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Christ our God, Fountain of life, glory to Thee.

THE DISMISSAL

Choir: Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

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Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious
beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who
without corruption bearest God the Word and art
truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
Amen. Lord, have mercy (thrice). Lord, bless.

Leader: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by
death, and upon those in the tombs...

People: ...bestowing life!