

## The Midnight Office

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

**Reader:** Amen. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (3x)

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name's sake. Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

**All:** 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 evil.

**Priest:** For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Reader:** Amen. Come; let us worship God our King. Come; let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God! Come; let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

### Psalm 50 (51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy steadfast love; according to Thine abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in Thy sight, so that Thou art justified in Thy sentence and blameless in Thy judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sins did my mother conceive me. Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice. Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Thy ways, and sinners will return to Thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Thy deliverance. O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. For Thou hast no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, Thou wouldst not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise. Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Then wilt Thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on Thine altar.

## The Canon (Tone 6)

### Ode 1

**Choir:** (*Irmos*) **Of old Thou didst bury the pursuing tyrant beneath the waves of the sea. Now the children of those who were saved bury Thee beneath the earth, but like the maidens let us sing to the Lord, for gloriously has He been glorified.**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Unto Thee I sing a hymn for the departed and a song of burial, O Lord my God, Who by Thy burial hast opened for me the entrance to life and by Thy death hast put death and Hades to death.

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Beholding Thee upon the throne on high and in the grave below, the things of heaven and the things beneath the earth trembled at Thy death; for in a manner past understanding wast Thou, the very source of life, seen dead.

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

**Reader:** Thou didst descend to the depths of the earth to fill all with Thy glory; for my person that is in Adam was not hidden from Thee, and when Thou wast buried, Thou didst renew me who am corrupt, O Lover of mankind.

### Ode 3

**Choir:** (*Irmos*) **Thou didst suspend the earth immovably upon the waters. Now creation beholds Thee suspended on Calvary. It quakes with great amazement and cries: "None is holy but Thee, O Lord."**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** By a multitude of visions Thou didst indicate the signs of Thy burial, O Master. But now, as God and man, Thou dost make clear Thy hidden things even unto those in Hades, who cry: "None is holy but Thee, O Lord."

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Thou hast stretched out Thy hands, O Savior, and united what before had been divided; and by clothing Thyself in a winding-sheet Thou hast saved even those held captive by the tomb, who cry, "None is holy but Thee, O Lord."

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

**Reader:** By Thy will a sealed tomb contained Thee, who cannot be contained; for by Thy divine accomplishments Thou hast made known Thy power unto those who sing, "None is holy but Thee, O Lord Who lovest mankind."

### Kathisma Hymn (Tone 1)

**Choir:** The soldiers guarding Thy tomb, O Savior, became as dead men at the lightening flash of the angel who appeared announcing Thy resurrection to the women. We glorify Thee, Who

cleanses from corruption. We fall down before Thee, Who didst rise from the tomb, our only God.

#### Ode 4

**Choir:** *(Irmos)* **Foreseeing Thy divine humiliation on the cross, Habakkuk cried out trembling: "Thou didst shatter the dominion of the mighty by joining those in hell as the almighty Lord."**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Thou hast sanctified this, the seventh day, which of old Thou didst bless by rest from work; for Thou dost bring all things into being and renew them, O Savior, while resting and reviving on the Sabbath.

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** By the overwhelming strength of Thy divine nature Thou didst win the victory, O Word; for Thy soul was parted from the flesh, sundering by Thy might the bonds of Hades and death.

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

**Reader:** When Hades encountered Thee, O Word, it was embittered. Seeing Thee as a mortal man deified, marked with wounds yet having almighty power, it cried out at Thine awesome appearance.

#### Ode 5

**Choir:** *(Irmos)* **Isaiah saw the never-setting light of Thy compassionate manifestation to us as God, O Christ. Rising early from the night he cried out: "The dead shall arise. Those in the tombs shall awake. All those on earth shall greatly rejoice."**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** When Thou didst become earthly, O Creator, Thou didst renew those born on earth, and the winding-sheet and the grave revealed the mystery concerning Thee, O Word; for Joseph, the noble counselor, fulfills the counsel of Him Who begot Thee and Who wondrously renews me in Thee.

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Through death Thou dost transform what is mortal, and through burial Thou dost transform what is corruptible; for in a manner befitting God Thou didst make incorrupt and immortal the nature which Thou hast assumed, since Thy flesh did not see corruption and in a wondrous manner Thy soul was not abandoned in Hades.

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

**Reader:** Thou didst come forth from a painless birth, O my Maker, and Thy side was pierced. By this hast Thou, the new Adam, accomplished the restoration of Eve. Thou didst fall into a sleep surpassing nature and renewing nature, and, as the all-powerful One, Thou didst raise up life from sleep and corruption.

## Ode 6

**Choir:** *(Irmos)* **Jonah was caught but not held fast in the belly of the whale. He was a sign of Thee Who hast suffered and accepted burial. Coming forth from the beast as from a bridal chamber, he called out to the guard: "By observing vanities and lies you have forsaken your own mercy."**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Thou wast killed, O Word, but not separated from the flesh which Thou dost share with us; for even though the temple of Thy body was destroyed at the time of the passion, the person of Thy divinity and of Thy flesh was one, for in both dost Thou remain one Son, Word of God, God and man.

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** The fall of Adam resulted in the death of man, not God; for even though the earthly substance of Thy flesh suffered, Thy divinity remained passionless. In Thyself Thou hast transformed the corruptible to incorruption, and by Thy resurrection Thou hast revealed a fountain of incorruptible life.

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

**Reader:** Hades rules the race of mortal men, but not eternally; for when Thou wast placed in the grave, O powerful One, Thou didst tear asunder the bars of death by Thy lifecreating hand and didst proclaim true deliverance to those sleeping there from the ages, since Thou, O Savior, hast become the first-born of the dead.

## Kontakion (Tone 6)

**Choir:** **He Who shut in the depths is beheld dead, wrapped in fine linen and spices. The immortal One is laid in a tomb as a mortal man. The women have come to anoint Him with myrrh, weeping bitterly and crying: "This is the most blessed Sabbath on which Christ has fallen asleep to rise on the third day."**

## Ikos

**Reader:** He Who holds all things together has been lifted up upon the cross, and all of creation weeps at seeing Him hanging, naked, upon the wood. The sun hid its rays and the stars cast aside their splendor. The earth shook with great fear, the sea fled, and the rocks were split asunder. Many tombs were opened, and the bodies of holy men arose. Hades groaned below and the Jews considered how to slander the resurrection of Christ, but the women cried:

**Choir:** **This is the most blessed Sabbath on which Christ has fallen asleep to rise on the third day.**

## Ode 7

**Choir:** *(Irmos)* **Inexpressible wonder! In the furnace Thou didst save the holy youths from the flame. Now Thou art placed in the grave as a lifeless corpse, for the salvation of us who sing: "Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!"**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Hades was wounded in heart when it received Him Whose side was pierced by a spear, and it groans, consumed by divine fire, unto the salvation of us who sing: "Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!"

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** Happy is the tomb! For having received the Creator as one asleep, it became a divine treasury of life, for the salvation of us who sing: "Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!"

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** In accordance with the law of the dead, the Life of all accepts burial in the tomb, and the tomb becomes the source of resurrection, unto the salvation of us who sing, "Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!"

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

**Reader:** In Hades, in the tomb and in Eden, the divinity of Christ was one and undivided, with the Father and the Spirit, for the salvation of us who sing, "Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!"

## Ode 8

**Choir:** *(Irmos)* **Be amazed, O heavens! Be shaken, O foundations of the earth! Behold, He that dwells in the highest is numbered among the dead and sheltered in a lowly tomb. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** The pure Temple has been destroyed, yet He raises with Himself the tabernacle that had fallen; for the second Adam, who dwells in the highest, has descended to the first Adam, even unto the lowest chambers of Hades. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** The courage of all the disciples failed, but Joseph of Arimathea showed valor; for seeing the God of all dead and naked, he sought Him and dressed Him for burial, crying: Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!

***Let us bless the Lord: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.***

**Reader:** What new wonders! What great goodness! What ineffable forbearance! For He that dwells in the highest is willingly sealed beneath the earth, and God is slandered as a deceiver. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!

***We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.***

## Ode 9

**Choir:** *(Irmos)* **Do not lament Me, O mother, seeing Me in the tomb, the Son conceived in the womb without seed. For I shall arise and be glorified with eternal glory as God. I shall exalt all who magnify you in faith and in love.**

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** "I escaped sufferings and was blessed beyond nature at Thy strange birth, O Son Who art without beginning. But now, beholding Thee, my God, dead and without breath, I am sorely pierced by the sword of sorrow. But arise, that I may be magnified."

***Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.***

**Reader:** "By my own will, the earth covers me, O Mother, but the gatekeepers of Hades tremble at seeing Me clothed in the blood-stained garments of vengeance; for when I have vanquished My enemies on the Cross, I shall arise as God and magnify thee."

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

**Reader:** "Let creation rejoice! Let all born on earth be glad! For hateful Hades has been despoiled. Let the women with myrrh come to meet Me; for I am redeeming Adam and Eve and all their descendants, and on the third day shall I arise!"

**Choir:** *(Katavasia)* **Do not lament Me, O mother, seeing Me in the tomb, the Son conceived in the womb without seed. For I shall arise and be glorified with eternal glory as God. I shall exalt all who magnify you in faith and in love.**

**Reader:** Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (3x)

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

**All:** 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 evil.

**Priest:** For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Resurrectional Troparion (Tone 2)**

**Choir:** When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

**The Litany**

**Priest:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

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

**Priest:** Again we pray that He will keep this city, and this holy church, and every city and country from wrath, famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, the invasion of enemies, and from civil war, and from sudden death; that our good God, Who loves mankind, may be gracious, favorable and conciliatory, and turn away and dispel all the wrath stirred up against us, and all sickness, and may deliver us from His righteous chastisement which impends against us and have mercy on us.

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

**Priest:** Hear us, O 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, be gracious, O Master, unto us sinners and have mercy on us. For Thou art a merciful God Who lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

### The Dismissal

**Priest:** Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3x) Father, bless.

**Priest:** May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure mother, of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

**Choir:** Amen.



## Paschal Matins

**Priest:** Thy resurrection, O Christ our Savior, the angels in heaven sing. Enable us on earth to glorify Thee in purity of heart. (3x)

**Choir:** Thy resurrection, O Christ our Savior, the angels in heaven sing. Enable us on earth to glorify Thee in purity of heart.

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

**Choir:** Amen.

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

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

### Paschal Verses

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

**Choir:** Christ is risen... (1x)

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

**Choir:** Christ is risen... (1x)

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

**Choir:** Christ is risen... (1x)

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

**Choir:** Christ is risen... (1x)

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

**Choir:** Christ is risen... (1x)

**Priest:** Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**Choir:** Christ is risen... (1x)

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

**People:** And upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

### The Great Litany

**Priest:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** For His Beatitude, our Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** For our deliverance from all affliction, anger, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

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

**Priest:** For unto Thee are due 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.

**Choir:** Amen.

### **The Paschal Canon**

*The priest censes during each ode, holding the cross and three-branched candlestick in his left hand. As he censes the people, he greets them, saying: Christ is risen. The congregation answers: Indeed, He is risen.*

#### **Ode I**

**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.

*(Katavasia)* This is the day of resurrection...

*(Paschal Troparion)* 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 Thee, O Christ. Today I arise with Thee in Thy resurrection. Yesterday I was crucified with Thee. Glorify me with Thee, O Savior, in Thy kingdom.

*Each Ode concludes with the singing of the Paschal troparion thrice.*

### Hypakœ

**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 Thee. Now let us the holy people of God, seeing the fulfillment of all figures, rejoice in piety, for Christ is risen as all-powerful.

*Paschal Troparion (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 the chains of hell, O Christ, seeing Thy 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.

*Paschal Troparion (3x)*

#### Ode VI

**IRMOS: Thou didst descend, O Christ to the depths of the earth. Thou didst break the everlasting bars which had held death's captives, and like Jonah from the whale on the third day, Thou didst arise from the grave.**

REFRAIN: Christ is risen from the dead.

Thou didst arise, O Christ, and yet the tomb remained sealed, as at Thy birth the Virgin's womb remained unharmed; and Thou hast opened for us the gates of paradise.

REFRAIN: Christ is risen from the dead.

O my Savior, as God Thou didst bring Thyself freely to the Father, a victim, living and un-sacrificed, resurrecting Adam, the father of us all, when Thou didst arise from the grave.

*Paschal Troparion (3x)*

### **Kontakion** (*Tone 8*)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal. Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thine apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

### **Ikos**

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 the 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*)

Having beheld the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless One. We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Thy holy resurrection; for Thou art our God, and we know no other than Thee; we call on Thy 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.

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

## **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 Thee with myrrh, O Christ. In tears they had sought Thee as a dead man, but in joy they worshipped Thee as the living God and proclaimed the mystical pascha to Thy disciples.

REFRAIN: Christ is risen from the dead.

We celebrate the death of death and the overthrow of hell, the beginning of another life which is eternal, and in exaltation 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.

*Paschal Troparion (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 Thee.

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

*Paschal Troparion (3x)*

## Ode IX

*In parish usage, it is customary to render Ode IX of the Paschal Canon as follows:*

REFRAIN 1: My soul magnifies Him Who rose from the dead 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: 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 Thy voice, O Christ! For Thou hast faithfully promised to be with us to the end of the world. Having this as our anchor of hope, we the faithful rejoice.

REFRAIN 3: Mary Magdalene hastened to Thy tomb, and seeing Christ, she questioned Him as though He were the gardener.

O Christ, great and most holy Pascha. O Wisdom, Word, and Power of God, grant that we may more perfectly partake of Thee in the never-ending day of Thy kingdom.

REFRAIN 4: The angel cried to the Lady who is full of grace: Hail, O pure Virgin. And again I say: Hail! Thy Son is risen from His three-day sojourn in the grave, and hath raised up the dead: Rejoice, ye people.

**Katavasia: 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.**

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

## The Song of Light (Exapostilarion)

In the flesh Thou didst fall asleep as a mortal man, O King and Lord. Thou didst rise on the third day, raising Adam from corruption and destroying death: O Pascha of incorruption, the salvation of the world!

## The Praises *(Tone 1)*

- Choir:** Let every breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord in heaven. Praise Him in the highest. To Thee, O God, is due a song. Praise Him all you angels of His. Praise Him, all His hosts. To Thee, O God, is due a song.
- Verse:** Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness.
- Choir:** We praise Thy saving suffering, O Christ, and we glorify Thy resurrection.
- Verse:** Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise with lute and harp.
- Choir:** Thou didst endure the Cross and destroy death by rising Adam from the dead. Give peace to our life, O Lord, as the Almighty One.
- Verse:** Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe.
- Choir:** Thou didst capture hell, O Christ, and resurrect man by Thy resurrection. Enable us to praise and glorify Thee in purity of heart.
- Verse:** Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals. Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.
- Choir:** We glorify Thy divine condescension, and we praise Thee, O Christ. Thou wast born of a virgin yet not separated from the Father. Thou hast suffered as a man and voluntarily endured the Cross. Thou hast risen from the tomb, coming as from a bridal chamber to save the world. O Lord, glory to Thee.

## The Paschal Verses

- Verse:** Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered. [Let those who hate Him flee from before His face.]
- Choir:** Today, a sacred Pascha is revealed to us; a Pascha new and holy, a Pascha mystical. Pascha, precious Pascha, Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer! A great Pascha! A blameless Pascha! Pascha of the faithful! Pascha which opens the gates of heaven for us! Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful!
- Verse:** As smoke vanishes so let them vanish. As wax melts before the fire.
- Choir:** Come from that scene, O women bearers of glad tidings, and say to Zion: Receive from us the glad tidings of Christ's resurrection. Exult and be glad, and rejoice Jerusalem, seeing Christ the King coming from the tomb, like a bridegroom in procession!
- Verse:** So sinners will perish before the face of God. [But let the righteous be glad.]
- Choir:** The myrrh-bearing women, at early dawn, reached the tomb of the Life-giver and they found an angel, sitting upon the stone. He proclaimed to them and said: Why do you seek the living among the dead? Why mourn the incorrupt amid corruption? Go and announce to His disciples:
- Verse:** This is the day which the Lord has made! [Let us rejoice and be glad in it.]
- Choir:** Pascha of beauty! Pascha of the Lord! Pascha, precious Pascha, has shone on us! Paschal! Let us embrace each other joyously! Pascha, deliverance from affliction! For today as from a bridal chamber, Christ has shown forth from the tomb and filled the women with joy saying: Go and proclaim 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.

**Choir:** This is the day of resurrection! Be illumined by the feast! Let us embrace one another! Let us speak to those who hate us, brothers, 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 Sermon of St. John Chrysostom**

*The Catechetical Sermon of St. John Chrysostom is read by the celebrant. No one sits during the reading, but all stand and listen.*

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived thereof. If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the last even as the first; He gives rest unto him who comes at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who has wrought from the first hour.

And He shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one He gives, and upon the other He bestows gifts. And He both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away.

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions. It was embittered, for it was abolished. It was embittered, for it was mocked. It was embittered, for it was slain. It was embittered, for it was overthrown. It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains. It took a body, and met God face to face. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

**Choir:** *(Special Melody)* Grace shining forth from your lips like a beacon has enlightened the universe. It has shown to the world the riches of poverty. It has revealed to us the heights of humility. Teaching us by your words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls.

### **The Augmented Litany**

**Deacon:** Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

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

**Deacon:** Again we pray for His Beatitude, our Metropolitan \_\_\_\_, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy; and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

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

**Deacon:** Again we pray for the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

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

**Deacon:** Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house; and for all our fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

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

**Deacon:** Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God, for all those who are sick and suffering, \_\_\_\_, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

**Choir:** 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 Thy great and rich mercy.

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

**Priest:** For Thou are a merciful God, and loves mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

### **The Morning Litany**

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**Choir:** Grant it, O Lord.

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

**Choir:** Grant it, O Lord.

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

**Choir:** Grant it, O Lord.

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

**Choir:** 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.

**Choir:** Grant it, O Lord.

**Deacon:** 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.

**Choir:** Grant it, O Lord.

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

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

**Priest:** For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

### **The Prayer at the Bowing of the Heads**

**Priest:** Peace be unto all.

**Choir:** And to your spirit.

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

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

**Priest:** O most holy Lord, Who dwellest on high and lookest upon the humble, and Who with Thine all-seeing eye lookest down upon all creation: unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we pray Thee, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, either willingly or unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as Thou art good and lovest mankind, granting us Thy good things in this world and in the life that is to come.

**Priest:** For Thine it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

### **The Dismissal**

**Deacon:** Wisdom!

**Choir:** Father, bless.

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

**Choir:** Amen. Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith and Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.

**Priest:** Most holy Theotokos, save us!

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

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

**Choir:** 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 loves mankind.

**Christ is risen!** (3x)

**People:** **Indeed He is risen!** (3x)

**Choir:** 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.

