**APRIL 29**

**Sunday Paschal Vespers**

**Holy Glorious Great Martyr and Wonderworker George**

*(transferred from April 23)*

*(After “Blessed is our God …” and “Amen.”:)*

*Clergy:*

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death,

and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! *(thrice)*

*Choir:*

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death,

and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! *(thrice)*

*(The clergy then chant the Paschal verses with the choir singing the Troparion “Christ is risen…” after each verse.)*

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*v: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*v: So the sinners will perish before the face of God. But let the righteous be glad!*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Choir: and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

**“Lord I Call...” Tone 2**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee!/

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Thy sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!/

Hear me, O Lord!

*v. (6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

**Tone 2**  *(for the Resurrection)*

Come, let us worship the Word of God

begotten of the Father before all ages,

and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!

Having endured the Cross, He was buried as He himself desired.//

And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

*v. (5) For Thy name’s sake have I waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Christ our Savior nailed to the Cross the bond against us,

He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//

We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning, watch let Israel hope on the Lord!*

With the Archangels let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!

He is our Savior, our Redeemer.

He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//

to judge the world which He made.

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

**Tone 4** *(from the Menaion for St George) (Automelon – Model Melody)*

As one valiant among the martyrs, O Great Martyr George,

today we gather to sing thy praise.

Thou hast harvested the wheat of virtue;

thou hast sown in tears and reaped in joy.

Thou hast finished the race and kept the faith;

thou hast received from God the crown of victory.

Pray for us to Christ our God

that He may deliver us from corruption and misfortune,//

as we celebrate thy noble memory in faith!

*v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

Thou didst trust with a steady mind

and like a lion, didst eagerly go to the battle, O glorious one.

Despising the body as a corruptible thing,

instead thou didst care for thine incorruptible soul.

Like gold purified seven times in the fire,//

thou wast burned by many torments, O wise Martyr George.

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.*

Thou hast suffered with the Savior, O glorious one,

united with His death by death.

And thou dost reign with Him in splendor,

arrayed in a robe dyed in the bright purple of thy blood,

adorned with the scepter of thy sufferings,

magnificent for eternity in the crown of victory,//

O holy great Martyr George.

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

**Tone 6** *(from the Menaion for St George)*

As a tiller of the earth thou didst deserve thy name\*, O warrior George.

By carrying on thy shoulders the Cross of Christ,

thou hast plowed the earth, barren through Satan’s snares.

The thorns of idolatry held it fast,

but thou didst plant it with the vine of true faith in Christ.

Thou hast brought healing for the faithful in every land,

and hast tended well the garden of the Trinity.

Pray for the well-being of the world//

and the salvation of our souls!

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

**Tone 2**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;

as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,

so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.

Instead of a pillar of flame, the Righteous Sun has risen.//

Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

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\* *Georgios, in Greek, means “earth-worker, tiller of the earth, farmer.*

**Sunday Paschal Vespers**

**Tone 7 Great Prokeimenon**

Who is so great a God as our God? Thou art the God Who workest wonders!

*(Ps 76/77:13b-14a)*

*v: Thou hast made known Thy power among the peoples! (Ps 76/77:14)*

*v: And I said, “Now have I begun; this is the change of the right hand of*

*the Most High.” (Ps 76/77:10)*

*v. I remembered the works of the Lord; for from the beginning will I*

*remember Thy wonders! (Ps 76/77:11)*

**Old Testament Readings**

**Isaiah 43:9-14** *(St George)*

**Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9** *(St George)*

**Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15** *(St George)*

*(And that we may be accounted worthy …. )*

**Gospel**

John 20:19-25

**Sunday Paschal Vespers**

**Aposticha**

**Tone 2**  *(for the Resurrection)*

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,

has enlightened the whole universe,

calling back Thy creation.//

Glory to Thee, O almighty Lord!

(*Then the Paschal Stichera with their verses from Psalm 67/68*)

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

**Tone 5**

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.

*v: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!*

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!”

*v: 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!”

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

Pascha of beauty,

the Pascha of the Lord,

A Pascha worthy of honor has dawned for us.

O Pascha!

Let us embrace each other joyously!

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!”

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

**Tone 4**  *(from the Menaion, by the Studite)*

Come, brethren, let us praise in spiritual songs

the ever-memorable Martyr George!

His endurance was harder than diamond;

he fervently declared himself for Christ!

He faced dangers and bore with hardships,

hardening his perishable body to suffer torment!

His love overcame earthly nature,

enabling the lover to reach his Beloved through death://

Christ our God the Savior of our souls!

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

This is the day of resurrection!

Let us be illumined 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!” *(Thrice)*

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**Bright Monday**

***(at the Divine Liturgy)***

*(After “Blessed is the Kingdom…” and “Amen.”:)*

Clergy:

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death,

and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! *(thrice)*

Choir:

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death,

and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! *(thrice)*

*(The clergy then chant the Paschal verses with the choir singing the Troparion “Christ is risen…” after each verse.)*

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*v: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*v: So the sinners will perish before the face of God. But let the righteous be glad!*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and

upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

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

Choir: and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

**The First Antiphon**

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give glory to

His praise! *(Ps 65/66:1-2)*

*Refrain:* *Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!*

Say to God: “How awesome are Thy deeds! So great is Thy power that

Thine enemies cringe before Thee!” *(Ps 65/66:3)* *(Refrain))*

Let all the earth worship Thee and praise Thee! Let it praise Thy name, O

most High! *(Ps 65/66:4) (Refrain)*

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

and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(Refrain)*

**The Second Antiphon**

God be bountiful and bless us! Show the light of Thy countenance upon

us and have mercy on us! *(Ps 65/66:1)*

*Refrain:* *O Son of God Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee:*

*Alleluia!*

That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among

all nations. *(Ps 65/66:2)* *(Refrain)*

Let the people give thanks to Thee, O God! Let all the people give thanks to

Thee! *(Ps 65/66:5)* *(Refrain)*

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

and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*(“Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God … “)*

**The** **Third Antiphon**

*v: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from*

*before His face! (Ps 67/68:1)*

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death,

and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

*v: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire! (Ps 67/68:2)*

*Troparion: “Christ is risen from the dead …”*

*v: So the sinners will perish before the face of God. But let the righteous be glad! (Ps 67/68:2b-3a)*

*Troparion: “Christ is risen from the dead …”*

***(After the Entrance)***

**Troparion** *(Pascha)*

Christ is risen from the dead,

trampling down death by death,

and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

**Tone 4 Troparion** *(St George)*

As a martyr of Christ, Thou wast bound for good deeds, O George;

by faith thou didst conquer the torturer’s godlessness.

Thou wast offered as a sacrifice pleasing to God,

thus receiving the crown of victory. //

Through thine intercessions, forgiveness of sins is granted to all.

**Tone 4 Kontakion** *(St George)*

God raised thee as His own gardener\*, O George,

for thou hast gathered for thyself the sheaves of virtue.

Having sown in tears, thou dost now reap with joy;

thou hast shed thy blood in combat and won Christ as thy crown.//

Through thine intercessions, forgiveness of sins is granted to all.

**Tone 8 Kontakion** *(Pascha)*

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal,

Thou didst destroy the power of death.

In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God,

proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women,//

granting peace to Thy Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

***(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)***

As many as have been baptized into Christ,

have put on Christ. Alleluia.

**Tone 8 Prokeimenon**

As many as have been baptized into Christ,

have put on Christ. Alleluia.

**Tone 8 Prokeimenon**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the

ends of the universe. (Ps 18/19:4)

*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. (Ps 18/19:1)*

**Tone 7** **Prokeimenon** *(St George)*

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him. *(Ps 63/64:10)*

**Epistle**

Acts 1:12-17, 21-26

Acts 12:1-11*(St George)*

**Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of the Saints. (Ps 88/89:6)*

*v: God is glorified in the council of the Saints. (Ps 88/89:8)*

**Tone 4**

*v: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. (Ps 91/92:12)*

**Gospel**

John 1:18-28

John 15:17-16:2 *(St George)*

***(Instead of “It is truly meet …,” we sing:)***

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:

“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,

thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!

With Himself He has raised all the dead.”

Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!

The glory of the Lord has shone on thee.

Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!

Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,

in the Resurrection of thy Son!

**Communion Hymn**

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil

tidings. *(Ps 111/112:6)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*(During Bright Week, instead of “Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord,” we sing the troparion “Christ is risen …” (once). Instead of “We have seen the True Light” and “Let our mouths be filled …,” we sing “Christ is risen …” (once each). Instead of “Blessed be the Name of the Lord,” we sing “Christ is risen …” (thrice). Instead of “Glory to You, O Christ our God…, “ the priest sings: “Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,” and the choir concludes: “and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.” The priest gives the Dismissal, and after the singing of “Christ is risen” (thrice), we finish with: “And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!)*

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Liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon’s Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Archimandrite Juvenaly, Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.