**May 1**

 **Bright Wednesday**

 **Prophet Jeremiah**

 ***(Vespers celebrated on Tuesday)***

 ***(Divine Liturgy celebrated on Wednesday)***

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 4**

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 4** *(for the Resurrection)*

We glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,

by always honoring Thy life-creating Cross;

by it Thou hast renewed the corrupted nature of man,

O almighty One.

By it Thou hast renewed our entrance to heaven,//

for Thou art good and the Lover of 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.*

Thou didst loose the Tree’s verdict of disobedience, O Savior,

by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.

By descending to hell, O almighty God,

Thou didst break the bonds of death.

Therefore, we adore Thy Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://

Glory to Thee, O all powerful Lord!

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

Thou didst smash the gates of hell, O Lord,

and by Thy death Thou didst demolish the kingdom of death.

Thou didst deliver the race of men from corruption,//

granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

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

*(for the Resurrection, by Anatolios)*

Come, O people,

let us sing of the Savior’s Resurrection on the third day!

By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bonds of hell.

By it, we have received life and incorruption.

Save us by Thy Resurrection!//

O life-creating and almighty Savior, glory to Thee!

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

Angels and men sing of Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Savior.

By it, the ends of the earth have been illumined.

By it we have been delivered from bondage to the Enemy.

Save us by Thy Resurrection!//

O life-creating and almighty Savior, glory to Thee!

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

Thou hast shattered the gates of brass

and destroyed the chains of death, O Christ God.

Thou hast raised the fallen human race.//

O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to Thee!

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

O Lord, Thy begetting from the Father

is timeless and everlasting.

Thine incarnation from the Virgin is beyond words and understanding.

Thy descent into hell is terrible for the devil and his angels.

Thou hast trampled on death, rising on the third day,//

and granting men incorruption and great mercy.

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

**Tone 4**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a Father of the Lord through

 thee, O Virgin.

He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonders in thee:

“At Thy right hand stood the Queen,”

Thy Mother, the mediatrix of life,

since God was freely born of her without a father.

He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,

so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder

and brought it to His Father, joining it to the heavenly powers.//

Christ who has great and rich mercy has saved the world, O Theotokos.

**Tone 8 Great Prokeimenon**

I cried aloud with my voice to the Lord; with my voice to God, and He heard me. (*Ps 76/77:1)*

*v: In the day of my affliction I sought God, with my hands uplifted in the night before Him, and I was not deceived. (Ps 76/77:2)*

*v: My soul refused to be comforted, but I remembered God and was made glad.* *(Ps 76/77:3)*

*v: Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary. (Ps 76/77:13)*

**Bright Wednesday**

**Aposticha**

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,

Thou hast annulled our ancestral curse.

By descending to hell, Thou hast freed the eternal prisoners,

granting incorruption to the human race.//

Therefore in songs we glorify Thy life-creating and saving Resurrection.

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(*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!*

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.

Oh, 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,*

*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)*

**Bright Wednesday**

***(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 8 Hypakoe** *(Pascha)*

Before the dawn Mary and the women

came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb.

They heard the angelic voice: “Why do ye 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 man.’”

**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 6** **Prokeimenon**

I shall make Thy name to be remembered in all generations. *(Ps 44/45:17)*

*v: Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear! (Ps 44/45:10)*

 **Epistle**

 **Acts 2:22-36**

 **Tone 2 *(Song of the Theotokos)***

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*

*(Lk 1:46-47)*

*v: For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, all generations will call me blessed. (Lk 1:48)*

 **Gospel**

 **John 1:35-51**

***(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!

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). 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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