**MAY 4**

 **Bright Saturday**

 **Virgin-martyr Pelagia of Tarsus**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 8**

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 8** *(for the Resurrection)*

We offer to Thee, O Christ,

our evening song and reasonable service,

for Thou didst will to have mercy on us//

by Thy Resurrection.

*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.*

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Thy face!

For Thou didst will to have mercy on us//

by the Resurrection.

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

Rejoice, O holy Zion,

mother of the churches, the abode of God!

For thou wast the first to receive remission of sins//

by the Resurrection.

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

*(Resurrection sticheron by Anatolios)*

The Word of God the Father,

begotten before the ages,

in the latter times willed to be incarnate of the Virgin

and endured crucifixion unto death.

He has saved mortal man//

by His Resurrection.

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

We glorify Thy Resurrection from the dead, O Christ,

by which Thou hast freed Adam’s race from the tortures of hell//

and as God hast granted to the world eternal life and great mercy.

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

Glory to Thee, O Savior Christ,

only-begotten Son of God, nailed to the Cross//

and resurrected from the tomb on the third day!

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

We glorify Thee, O Lord,

for Thou didst voluntarily endure the Cross for our sake.

We fall down in worship before Thee, O almighty Savior.

Do not cast us away from Thy face,

but hear us and save us, O Lover of man,//

by Thy Resurrection.

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

**Tone 8**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven,

because of His love for man,

appeared on earth and dwelt with men.

He took flesh from the pure Virgin

and after assuming it, He came forth from her.

The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.

Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,

we confess Christ our God!//

Entreat him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls!

**Tone 8 Great Prokeimenon**

O Lord, Thou hast given an inheritance \* to those who fear Thy name.

 *(Ps 60/61:5)*

 *v: From the end of the earth I call to Thee.* *(Ps 60/61:2)*

 *v: I will take shelter under the shadow of Thy wings. (Ps 60/61:4)*

 *v: So will I ever sing praises to Thy name. (Ps 60/61:8)*

**Bright Saturday**

**Aposticha**

**Tone 8**  *(for the Resurrection)*

Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,

the Eternal Life has come for death

to raise those who are fallen;

to enlighten those in darkness.//

Jesus, our Savior and Illuminator, glory to Thee!

(*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 shown 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 Saturday**

***(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 Thine 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 3 Prokeimenon**

The Lord is my Light and my Savior, Whom shall I fear? *(Ps 26/27:1)*

*v: The Lord is the defender of my life! Of whom shall I be afraid?*

*(Ps 26/27:1b)*

**Epistle**

 Acts 3:11-16

 **Tone 5**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty! (Ps 92/93:1)*

*v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

 *(Ps 92/93:1b)*

**Gospel**

 John 3:22-33

 ***(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!

***Note: After the prayer “Behind the Ambo,” the prayer is read for the distribution of the Artos.***

*(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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