VESPERS ON THE EVENING OF PASCHA
(also called “Agape Vespers”)

AND ON THE DAYS OF BRIGHT WEEK

Metropolitan Cantor Institute
April 2009
(revised March 2019)
During Bright Week, the week following the great feast of the Resurrection of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, the Church's liturgical services are characterized by their joy and by their brevity. For an entire week, we repeat the services of Easter Sunday, with slight variations from one day to the next. In a sense, for an entire week, it IS Pascha.

At the same time, Bright Week embraces the entire cycle of the Church's worship. For example, on the Sunday of Pascha, we sing the Resurrectional hymns at the Paschal Vigil and Paschal Matins in the first of the Eight Tones. On the following days, we progress through the eight Resurrectional Tones, singing the Sunday hymns of each tone at weekday Vespers and Matins. Thus:

- on Sunday evening and Monday morning, we sing the Sunday hymns of Tone 2;
- on Monday evening and Tuesday morning, those of Tone 3;
- on Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning, Tone 4;
- on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, Tone 5,
- on Thursday evening and Friday morning, Tone 6, and
- on Friday evening and Saturday morning, Tone 8.

In this manner, we sing seven weeks of Resurrectional hymns in seven days (tone 7 being skipped). At the Saturday evening services which signal the start of the Sunday after Pascha (Thomas Sunday), we begin again in Tone 1, and return to changing to a new tone once per week.

This booklet provides the complete service of Vespers on the afternoon or evening of Pascha, and on the Monday through Friday of Bright Week. On each day, we begin the service with a triple singing of the Paschal troparion, “Christ is risen”. At the Lamp-lighting Psalms, we sing the Resurrectional stichera in the tone of the DAY rather than the tone of the week. The aposticha consist of a single sticheron in the tone of the day, followed by the singing of the Paschal stichera. The service ends with the special Paschal dismissal.

The text and music for this service are taken almost entirely from the Metropolitan Cantor Institute's 2009 booklet for Resurrection Matins, and from the 2006 Sunday Vespers book, also by the Metropolitan Cantor Institute. The texts for the daily prokeimena of Pascha and Bright Week come from the Pentecostarion of the Sisters of Saint Basil of Uniontown, and have been set to the prokeimenon melodies as found in the Divine Liturgies book published in 2007 by the Byzantine Catholic Church sua juris of the United States of America.

Like the other publications of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, this setting of the service of Bright Week Vespers is UNOFFICIAL and subject to change or revision by the Cantor Institute, the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission, or the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Church. We hope that it provides spiritual benefit to all who use it.
The faithful STAND as the the celebrant, fully vested in bright vestments, stands before the holy table and begins.

Celebrant:  Blessed is our God always, now and ever and forever.

Response:  

Immediately the Paschal troparion is sung three times: once by the celebrant, and twice by the faithful.

The celebrant sings the following versicles, and to each one the faithful respond by singing the Paschal troparion.

Priest:  

Psalm 67:2

All:  Christ is risen…

Priest:  

Psalm 67:3

All:  Christ is risen…
So let the wicked perish at the presence of God, but let the righteous ones rejoice.

All: Christ is risen...

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All: Christ is risen...

Glorify to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and forever. Amen.

All: Christ is risen...

Litany of Peace

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

1. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

2. Lord, have mercy.
Deacon: For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our holy father, (Name), pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our most reverend metropolitan, (Name), for our God-loving bishop, (Name), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this city, [or: For this holy monastery], for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)
Deacon: That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: 

Priest: Evening, morning, and at noon we praise you, we bless you, we thank you, and we pray to you, Master of All, Lord and Lover of us all. Let our prayer rise like incense before you and do not let our hearts be turned to evil words or thoughts, but deliver us from all that might ensnare our souls. For to you, Lord, O Lord, our eyes are turned and in you we hope; let us not be put to shame, O our God.

For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship now and ever and forever.

Response: 

The Lamplighting Psalms

The Lamp-lighting Psalms and their stichera are now sung. The opening verses of Psalm 140 (text at the top of the next page) are sung according to the tone of the day:

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Psalm 140

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me:
Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me:
receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon you.
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer ascend to you like incense,
and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.
Hear me, O Lord!

The remaining verses are chanted antiphonally.

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of my lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuses for sins I commit.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.
If a just man strikes or reproves me it is kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against their malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;
them they understood that my words were kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of the grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;
in you I take refuge; spare my soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;
keep me from the snares of those who do evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way unharmed.
Psalm 141  With all my voice I cry to the Lord,  
    with all my voice I entreat the Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;  
    I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints within me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.  
    On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to entrap me.

Look on my right and see:  
    there is no one who takes my part.

I have no means of escape,  
    not one who cares for my soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.  
    I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of the living."

Listen, then, to my cry  
    for I am in the depths of distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me  
    for they are stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of this prison  
    and then I shall praise your name.

Around me the just will assemble  
    because of your goodness to me.

Psalm 129  Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;  
    Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive  
    to the voice of my pleading.
The Lamplighting stichera are now sung according to the tone of the day:

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The Hymn of the Evening

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as "O Joyful Light" is sung. The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.
The Evening Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: ✫ Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The evening prokeimenon is now sung; the deacon (or priest) chants the verses.

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On the evening of Pascha, there is also a reading from the Holy Gospel.

Litany of Fervent Supplication

Deacon: Let us all say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say:

Response:

1. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:

2. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:

3. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for our holy father, (Name), pope of Rome, and for our most reverend metropolitan, (Name), for our God-loving bishop, (Name), for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.
Response: Lord, have mercy. (three times, using response 4.)

Deacon: Again we pray for our government and for all in the service of our country.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (three times, using response 3.)

Priest: For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

Hymn of Glorification

Make us worthy, O Lord, to be kept sinless this evening.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praise-worthy

and glorious is your name for ever. Amen. May your mercy, O Lord,

be upon us who have placed our hope in you. Blessed are you O
Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

1. Lord, have mercy.

Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

2. Lord, have mercy.
Deacon: That this whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 3. Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 4. Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

Deacon: For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (4)

Deacon: That we may spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

Deacon: For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (4)

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: To you, O Lord.
Celebrant:  Great and most high God, you alone possess immortality and dwell in unapproachable light. You made all creation with wisdom, dividing light from darkness, establishing the sun to rule the day and the moon and stars to rule the night. You have allowed us sinners to approach your presence with thanksgiving in this present hour and to offer you evening praise. O Lord, Lover of us all, make our prayer ascend to you like incense and accept it as a sweet fragrance. Grant that we may spend the present evening and the coming night in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; deliver us from the fears of the night and from everything that lurks about in darkness. Grant that the sleep you have given us to refresh our fatigue may be free from all illusions of the devil. Yes, O Master of All, Giver of good things, let us feel contrition as we lie on our beds remembering your name throughout the night. Enlightened by meditation on your commands, may we rise with gladdened soul to give glory to your goodness, offering prayers and supplications to your compassion for our sins and those of all your people. Visit us with mercy through the intercession of the holy Theotokos.

For you, O God, are good and love us all, and we glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:  A - - men.

Priest:  Peace be to all!

Response:  And to your spir - it.

Deacon:  Bow your heads to the Lord!

Response:  To you, O Lord.

Priest:  Lord our God, you bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race. Look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for they have bowed their heads and bent their necks to you, the awesome Judge who love us all. They do not expect human help, but await your mercy and long for your salvation. Protect them at all times, this evening and tonight, from every enemy, from all the devil’s assaults, from vain thoughts and evil imaginings. May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.
Aposticha

On each day, a single proper sticheron is taken:

- Evening of Pascha: Tone 2 - page 27
- Monday evening: Tone 3 - page 32
- Tuesday evening: Tone 4 - page 38
- Wednesday evening: Tone 5 - page 45
- Thursday evening: Tone 6 - page 50
- Friday evening: Tone 8 - page 55

The aposticha continue with the Paschal stichera. The celebrant (or an appointed person) sings the verses and the faithful respond with the stichera. During the singing of the stichera, the faithful approach to kiss the holy cross, the gospel book, and the icon of the Resurrection. The celebrant stands outside the holy doors, holding the handcross and greeting each of the faithful as they come to kiss the cross and holy articles, saying to each:

**Celebrant:** Christ is risen!  
**Response:** Indeed he is risen!

**Celebrant:** Christos voskrese!  
**Response:** Voinstinnu voskrese!

The Paschal Stichera

**Celebrant:**
Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered,
and let those who hate him flee from before his face.

**All:**
Today the sacred Pasch is revealed to us, holy and new Pasch,
the mystical Passover, the venerable Passover,

the Pasch which is Christ the Redeemer, spotless Pasch, great Pasch,

the Pasch of the faithful, the Pasch which is the key to the gates of Paradise,

the Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful.

Celebrant:

As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,

as wax melts before a fire.

All:

O women, be the heralds of good news and tell what you saw;

tell of the vision and say to Zion: “Accept the good news of joy from us, the news that Christ has risen.” Exult and celebrate
and rejoice, O Jerusalem, seeing Christ the King, coming forth from the tomb like a bridegroom.

Celebrant: So let the wicked perish at the presence of God, but let the righteous ones rejoice.

All: The myrrh-bearing women arrived just before the dawn at the tomb of the Giver of Life and found an angel seated on the stone who spoke these words to them: “Why do you seek the living among the dead? Why do you mourn the incorruptible among those subject to decay? Go announce the good news to his disciples.”
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

Pasch so delightful, Pasch of the Lord, is the Pasch—most honored Pasch now dawned on us. It is the Pasch! Therefore, let us joyfully embrace one another. O Passover, save us from sorrow;

For today, Christ has shown forth from the tomb as from a bridal chamber and filled the women with joy by saying: Announce the good news to the Apostles.

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

This is the Resurrection Day! Let us be enlightened by this Feast and let us embrace one another! Let us call "Brethren" even those who hate us, and in the Resurrection, forgive ev'ry thing and let us sing: Christ is risen from the dead!

By death he trampled death; and to those in the tombs he granted life.

Paschal Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response: Give the blessing.

Celebrant: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen. O God, strengthen the true faith, forever and ever.

Celebrant: O most holy Theotokos, save us!
Response:

Shine in splendor, O new Je-ru-sa-lem; for the glory of the Lord is risen up on you. O Zi-on, now dance and be glad; and you, pure Theotokos, rejoice in the re-sur-re-c tion of your Son.

Celebrant: Glory to you, O Christ our God, our hope; glory to you!

Response:

Christ is ris-en from the dead! By death he tram-pled death; and to those in the tombs he grant-ed life. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.

Celebrant: May Christ our true God, risen from the dead, by death trampling death and giving life to those in the tombs, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother and all the saints; for he is gracious and loves us all.

Response:

A-men.
O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call upon you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

The recited verses begin on page 7.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Come, let us adore God the Word, who was born of the Father before all ages, and was incarnate from the Virgin Mary. For he endured the cross of his own will, and was consigned to the grave; and by
Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak, and Israel on the Lord.
(on 4) The watchman count on daybreak, and Israel on the Lord.

With the arch-angels, let us sing hymns to Christ's Resurrection; for he is the Redeemer and Savior of our souls. He is coming again in awesome glory and mighty power to judge the world which he has fashioned.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.
(on 3) Although you died and were buried, the angel yet declared you
He said to the women: Come and see where the Lord was buried; for he is risen as he foretold, for he is almighty.

Therefore we worship you the only Immortal One, and we beseech you to have mercy on us, O Giver of Life.

Cantor: Praise the Lord all you nations; Psalm 116
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples.

O Christ you have abolished the curse of the tree by your Cross; you have destroyed the power of death by your burial, and you enlightened the human race by your Resurrection. Therefore we cry out to you:

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.
O Lord, the gates of death opened before you in fear, and the gate-keepers of Hades were filled with dread at the sight of you. You smashed the gates of brass and crushed the posts of iron. Then you burst our chains asunder, and led us out of darkness, away from the shadow of death.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 2

Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord singing this hymn of salvation: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose from the dead; and now you abide in the bosom of the Father. Please cleanse us of our sins.

Cantor: Now and ever...
The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls.

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening on page 9.

Prokeimenon and Gospel (Evening of Pascha)

Great Prokeimenon of Pascha - Tone 7 (Psalm 76: 14-16, 11, 12)

Deacon: You showed your power among the peoples. Your strong arm redeemed your people.

Deacon: I said: Now I begin, and this is the will of the Most High

Deacon: I remember the deeds of the Lord. I remember your wonders of old.
Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.

Response:

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all!

Response:

Priest: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to the holy apostle and evangelist John.

Response:

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

_The priest reads John 20: 19 - 25._

Response:

_The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10._

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Aposticha

Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 2

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, has enlightened the whole universe; and through it, you call back to yourself all creation. Almighty God, glory to you.

Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.
O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call upon you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense, and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

The recited verses begin on page 7.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

By your cross, O Christ our Savior, the pow'r of Death has been vanquished and the deceit of the devil has been destroyed. The human race, saved by faith, offers you a hymn forever.
O Lord, ev’ry thing has been enlightened by your Resurrection, and Paradise is reopened; therefore all creation extols you and offers you hymns of praise forever.

I glorify the might of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I praise the Undivided Power, the Uncreated Divinity, the Trinity one in essence, who reigns forever and ever.

We adore your precious Cross, O Christ, and with hymns of praise we glorify your Resurrection, for by your wounds we have all been healed.
Let us sing the praises of the Savior, who was incarnate of
the Virgin; for our sake he was crucified, and on the third day
he arose from the dead, granting us his great mercy.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
he is faithful forever.

Christ descended into Hades and announced to those confined there: Take
courage, for today I have conquered death. I am the Resurrection, the One who
will set you free. I have shattered the gates of the realm of death.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 2

Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord singing this
hymn of salvation: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose
from the dead; and now you abide in the bosom of the Father. Please cleanse us of our sins.

Cantor: Now and ever...

The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun of Justice dowed; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls.

The service continues on page 9.

Prokeimenon (Monday evening)

Great Prokeimenon of Bright Monday - Tone 7 (Psalm 113: 11, 1-3, 5)

But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever, He does whatever He wills.
Deacon: When Israel's sons came forth from Egypt, Jacob's sons from an alien people, Judah became the Lord's temple.

Deacon: The sea fled at the sight; the Jordan turned back on its course.

Deacon: Why was it, sea, that you fled; that you turned back, Jordan, on your course?

The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.

Apostichon of the Resurrection

Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 3

O Christ, who dark-ened the sun by your pas-sion, and en-light-ened all creation by your res-ur-rec-tion, ac-cept our eve-ning pray'r; for you love us all.

Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.
O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call upon you.

Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

The recited verses begin on page 7.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

We bow constantly to your life creating Cross, O Christ our God, we glorify your resurrection on the third day; for by it, O all powerful One, corrupt human nature has been renewed, and you have indicated our ascent to
heaven. For you alone are good and love us all.

Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

O Savior, you absolved the penalty of the tree of disobedience, willingly nailing it to the tree of the cross. When you descended into Hades, O Powerful One, you broke the bonds of Death aunder, O God. Therefore we worship your resurrection from the dead, crying out and rejoicing:

All powerful Lord, glory to you!

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak, and Israel on the Lord.
(on 4)

O Lord, you battered down the gates of Hades, and by your death you dissolved Death's dominion. You freed the human race from corruption, granting life, incorruption, and great mercy to the world.
Come, all you people, let us sing the praises of our Savior's third-day resurrection. For we have thereby been delivered from Hades' invincible bonds, and we have received incorruption, together with eternal life. Therefore we cry out to you after your crucifixion, burial, and resurrection:

Save us by your resurrection, for you love all of us.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Psalm 116
Praise the Lord all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples.

O Savior, with the angels, we sing the praises of your resurrection on the third day. For the very ends of the earth have been enlightened thereby.

and we have been saved from the deceit of the enemy. Therefore to you
we cry out: Almighty Savior, Giver of Life and Lover of us all,

by your Resurrection, save us.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

O Christ, our God, you have demolished the bronze gates of Hades.

You have broken asunder the bonds of death, and lifted up the fallen human race. Therefore we cry out to you with one accord: O Lord, who arose from the dead, glory to you.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 2

Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord singing this hymn of salvation: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose
from the dead; and now you abide in the bosom of the Father. Please

Cantor: Now and ever...

The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like

the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a

virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun

of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls.

Continue on page 9.
I cry a loud to God, cry a-loud to God that he may hear me,

Deacon: In the day of my distress I sought the Lord.

Deacon: My soul refused to be consoled.

Deacon: Your ways, O God, are holy.

The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.

Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 4

In being lifted upon the Cross, O Lord, you abolished the curse which we had inherited from our fore-bears. By going down to Hades, you freed from eternal captivity those imprisoned there, and granted incorruption to the human race. We, therefore, praise your life giving and redeem ing resurrection. Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.
Psalm 140 - Tone 5 samohlasen

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I
have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call up-on you.

Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense and the lift-ing up of my hands like an evening sac-ri-fice.

Hear me, O Lord!

The recited verses begin on page 7.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

With your precious Cross O Christ, you have put the Dev-il to shame.

With your Res-urrection you have dead-ened the sting of sin and saved us from the gates of Death. We glo-ri fy you, O only be-got-ten Son.
The one who gives resurrection to the human race was led like a lamb to the slaughter. The princes of Hades trembled before him and the dismal doors were lifted up; for Christ the King of Glory has entered; saying to those in chains, Go forth from here! and to those in darkness:

Show yourselves!

What a great wonder! The Creator of invisible beings suffered in the flesh out of love for us, and rose immortal.

Come, you families of nations, let us bow before him, for by his compassion,
we have been delivered from deception, and have learned to praise one God in three persons.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

We offer to you our evening worship, O Light whom the darkness of night can never extinguish. For in these latter days your radiance has appeared to the world, shining in your flesh as light reflected from a mirror. Your brilliance has descended even to the depths of Hades and dissolved its gloom. O Lord,

Giver of Light, glory to you; for you have shown the radiance of your resurrection to all the nations. Let us glorify Christ, the Author of salvation;

Cantor: Praise the Lord all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples.

Psalm 116
for by his resurrection
from the dead, the world has been delivered from the deception of Satan.

The choirs of angels rejoice as the treachery of evil spirits vanishes.

Fallen Adam arises and the Devil is vanquished.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

Those who guarded the tomb of Christ were told by the evil men who hired them,

"Take this silver and keep silent. Tell no one of the resurrection of Christ;

rather tell everyone that while you were sleeping, his body was stolen."

But who has ever heard of a body being stolen, a body which had already been anointed? Why would anyone take a body from the grave naked,
and leave the burial shroud in the tomb? Do not deceive yourselves, O people of Judea. Study the teachings of the Prophets, and you will come to understand that Jesus Christ is God Almighty and truly the Savior of the world.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 2

Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord singing this hymn of salvation: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose from the dead; and now you abide in the bosom of the Father. Please cleanse us of our sins.

Cantor: Now and ever...
The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like
the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a
virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun
of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls.

Continue on page 9.

Prokeimenon (Wednesday evening)

Great Prokeimenon of Bright Wednesday - Tone 7 (Psalm 54: 2-4, 17-18)

O God, listen to my prayer, listen to my
prayer, do not hide from my pleading.

Deacon: Attend to me and reply.

Deacon: For they bring down evil upon me.

Deacon: As for me, I will cry to God, and the Lord will save me, evening, morning, and at noon.

The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.
Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 5

O Christ our Savior, we lift up our voices in song to glorify you.

For in your love for us all, you became incarnate without leaving heaven;

you accepted the Cross and death; you cast down the gates of Hades;

and on the third day you arose from the dead for the salvation of our souls.

Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.
On Thursday evening

Psalm 140 - Tone 6 samohlasen

The recited verses begin on page 7.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

O Christ, you are victorious over Hades. You ascended the cross to raise up with yourself those who sat in the darkness of death. You alone are free among the dead; from your own light, you well up with life, All-powerful
Savior, have mercy on us.

To day Christ has trampled death! He arose as he foretold, and bestowed rejoicing upon the world. So let us all sing this our hymn:

O Wellspring of Life, O Unapproachable Light, all-powerful Savior, have mercy on us.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak, and Israel on the Lord.

Where can we sinners flee from you, O Lord, who are present in all creation; to the heavens?—that is where you dwell; to Hades?—there you trampled death; to the depths of the sea?—even there is your hand! We flee to you and, falling before you, we beg: O Lord, risen from the dead, have mercy on us.
We exult in your Cross, O Christ, and we sing the glory of your Resurrection.

For you are our God, and we have no other Lord but you.

Praise the Lord all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples.

Glory to your might, O Lord, for you have conquered the power of death.

You have renewed us through your Cross, granting us life and incorruption.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

We forever bless the Lord and praise his resurrection, for by suffering crucifixion, he has destroyed Death by his death.
Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord singing this hymn of salvation: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose from the dead; and now you abide in the bosom of the Father. Please cleanse us of our sins.

Cantor: Now and ever...

The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls. I love you, Lord,

Continue on page 9.
Deacon: My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.

Deacon: The Lord is worthy of all praise; when I call I am saved from my foes.

Deacon: From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came to his ears.

The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.

Aposticha

Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 6

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, the angels in heaven praise with hymns; make us, on earth, also worthy with a pure heart to exalt and give glory to You.

Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.
On Friday evening

Psalm 140 - Tone 8 samohlasen

The recited verses begin on page 7.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Cantor: O Christ, we offer you an evening hymn and a spiritual sacrifice

because it pleased you to have mercy on us by your resurrection.

Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.
O Lord, O Lord, do not cast us away from your face, but let it be your pleasure to have mercy on us by your resurrection.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak, and Israel on the Lord.

Rejoice, O holy Zion, the mother of the churches and the dwelling-place of God; for you were the first to receive remission of sins by the resurrection.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Christ the Word was begotten by God the Father before all ages; yet in these latter times, he freely willed to take flesh from the Virgin who did not know man. By his death on the cross and his resurrection he saved mankind from the ancient curse of death.
Cantor: 
(on 2) 
Praise the Lord all you nations; 
acclaim him all you peoples.

Psalm 116

Cantor: 
(on 1) 
Strong is the love of the Lord for us; 
he is faithful forever.

Doxastikon - Tone 2

Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord singing this 
hymn of salvation: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose from the dead; 
and now you abide in the bosom of the Father. Please
cleanse us of our sins.

Cantor: Now and ever...

The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like

the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a

virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun

of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ, the salvation of our souls.

The service continues on page 9.
You have granted me the heritage, the heritage -- -- -- - of those who fear you.

Deacon: From the end of the earth I call: my heart is faint.

Deacon: Let me hide in the shelter of your wings.

Deacon: So I will always praise your name.

The service continues with the Litany of Fervent Supplication on page 10.

Aposticha

Apostichon of the Resurrection - Tone 8

O Jesus, you descended from heav'n so that you might ascend the Cross.

O Immortal Life, you came to die. You are the true light to those who live in darkness, and you are the resurrection of all the dead. Therefore,

O Savior of all, we glorify you.

Continue with the Paschal stichera on page 15.