

Vesper Propers
Sunday of the Myrrhbearers
Third Paschal Sunday

All page numbers refer to the Paschal Vespers Book.

Psalm 140 - Tone 2

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

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re-ceive the voice of my pray'r when I

call up - on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r

as-cend to you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands

like an eve-ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

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 excuse for the 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;
then 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 *un*harmed.

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 *with*in me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *en*trap 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 *dist*ress.

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

Cantor: (Tone 2) Bring my soul out of this prison
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.



all ag - es, and was in-car-nate from the Vir-gin Mar-y. For he en-dured
 the cross of his own will, and was con-signed to the grave; and by
 ris - ing from the dead, he saves me from er - ror.

Cantor: Around me the just will assemble
 (on 9) because of your goodness to me.

Christ our Sav - ior cancelled the decree that was writ - ten a - gainst us, by
 nail - ing it to the Cross; and he de-stroyed the pow - er of death.
 We bow before his res-ur - rec - tion on the third day.

Cantor: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; **Psalm 129**
 (on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

With the arch-angels, let us sing hymns to Christ's res-ur-rec - tion; for he is
 the Redeemer and Sav-ior of our souls. He is com - ing again in awesome glory

and might - y pow - er to judge the world which he has fash - ioned.

Cantor: Let your ears be attentive
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading.

Al - though you died and were bur - ied, the an - gel yet de - clared you

as Mas - ter. He said to the wo - men: Come and see where the Lord was bur - ied;

for he is ris - en as he fore - told, for he is al - might - y.

There - fore we wor - ship you the on - ly Im - mor - tal One, and we

be - seech you to have mercy on us, O Giv - - er of Life.

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 have abo - lished the curse of the tree by your Cross; you have

de - stroyed the pow - er of death by your bu - ri - al, and you en - light - ened




the human race by your res - ur - rec - tion. There - fore we cry out to you:




O God and Be - ne - fac - tor, glo - - - ry to you.


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, the gates of death opened be - fore you in fear, and the gate - keep - ers



of Hades were filled with dread at the sight of you. You smashed the gates of brass

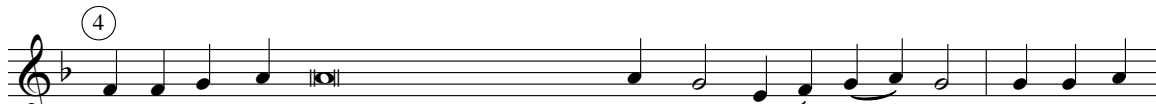


and crushed the posts of ir - on. Then you burst our chains a - sun - der,



and led us out of darkness, a - way from the shad - ow of death.

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



Let us all come and prostrate ourselves in the house of the Lord sing - ing this



hymn of sal - va - tion: O Christ, you were crucified on the tree and rose

from the dead; and now you a-bide in the bo-som of the Fa - ther. Please

cleanse us of our sins.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

③ Ear - ly at dawn, the myrrh-bear-ing wom-en a - rose, and car-rying

spic-es, came to the tomb of the Lord; and not find-ing what they ex-pect-ed,

the pi-ous wom-en pondered the re-mov-al of the stone. They spoke to

one an-oth-er, say - ing, Where are the seals of the grave? where are the guards

which Pi-late sent with great care? And be-hold, a ra - diant angel appeared

and pro-claimed to them: Why do you tear - ful - ly seek the living One who

gives life to all mor-tal flesh? Christ our God has ris-en from the dead. He

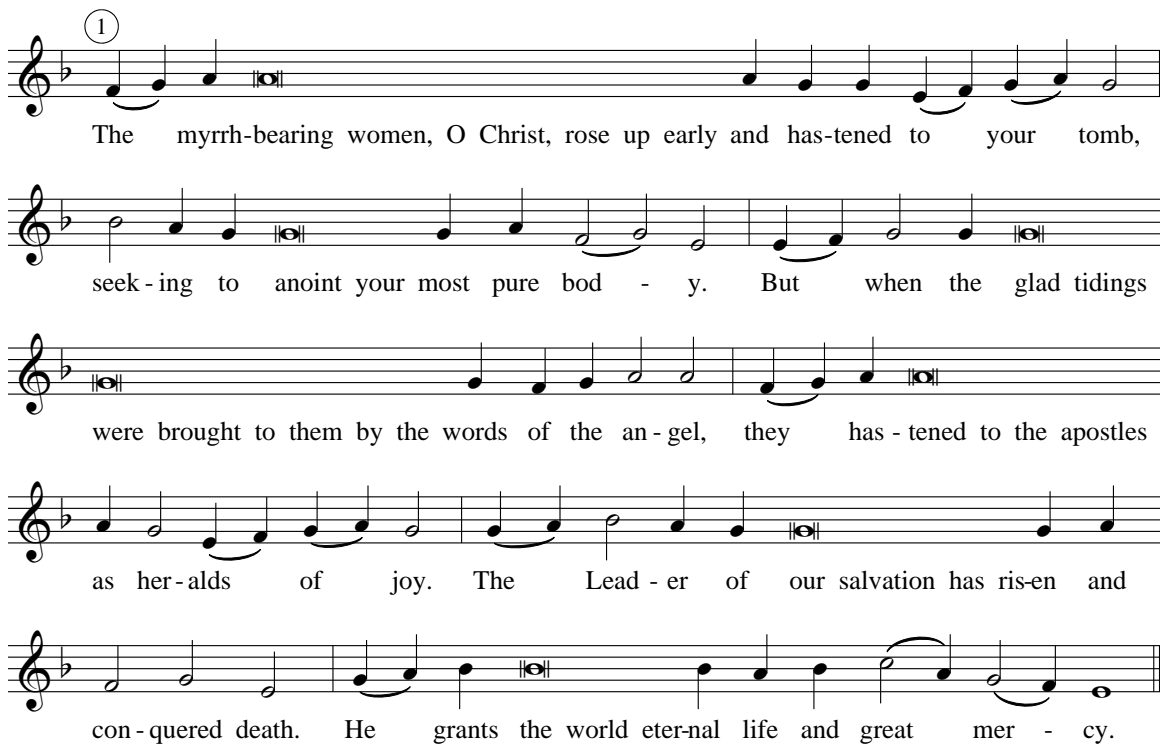
is the Al-might-y One who grants to all enlightenment, eter-nal life and
great mer - cy.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

Why do you sprin-kle your myrrh with tears, O wom-en dis - ci - ples? The
stone is rolled away and the tomb is emp - ty; be - hold, Life has triumphed
o - ver death. The seals give bril-liant wit - ness that the guards of the
god - less have watched in vain, that mor - tal na - ture has been saved by the
flesh of God, and that Ha - des is in mourn - ing. Has - ten in joy,
pro-claim-ing to the a - pos - tles that Christ, the conqueror of death, is the
first-born of the dead. He shall go be - fore you in - to Ga - li - lee.

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

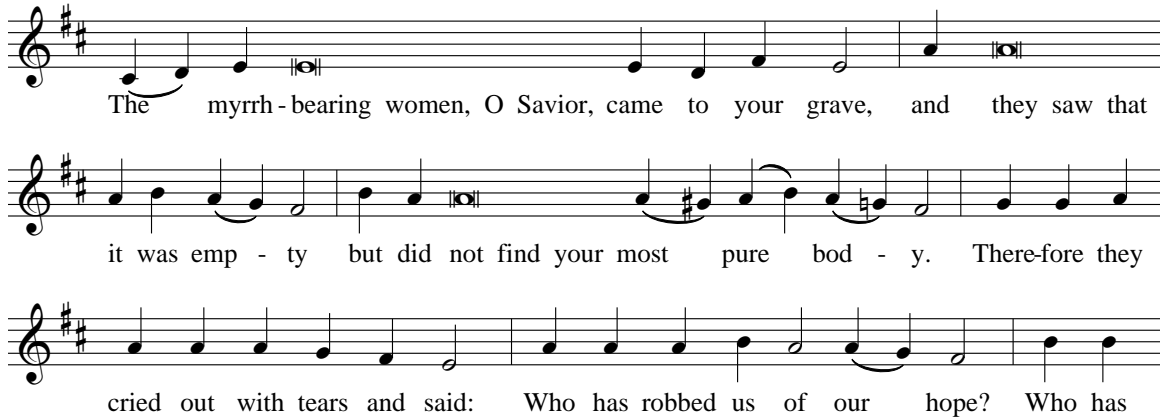
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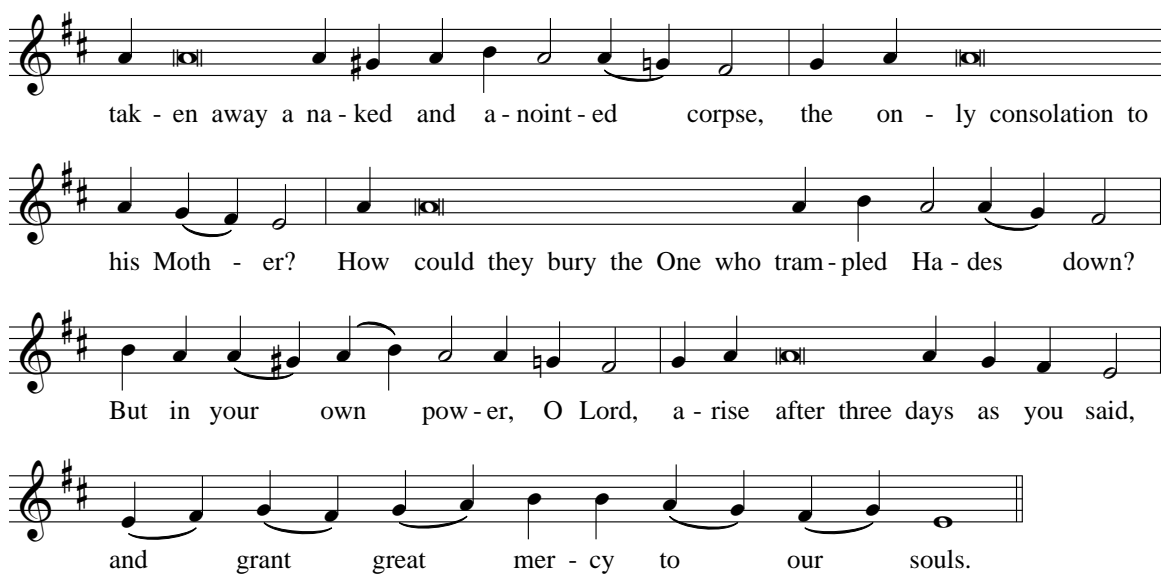
The myrrh-bearing women, O Christ, rose up early and hastened to your tomb,
seek-ing to anoint your most pure bod - y. But when the glad tidings
were brought to them by the words of the an-gel, they hastened to the apostles
as her-alds of joy. The Lead - er of our salvation has ris-en and
con- quered death. He grants the world eter-nal life and great mer - cy.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6



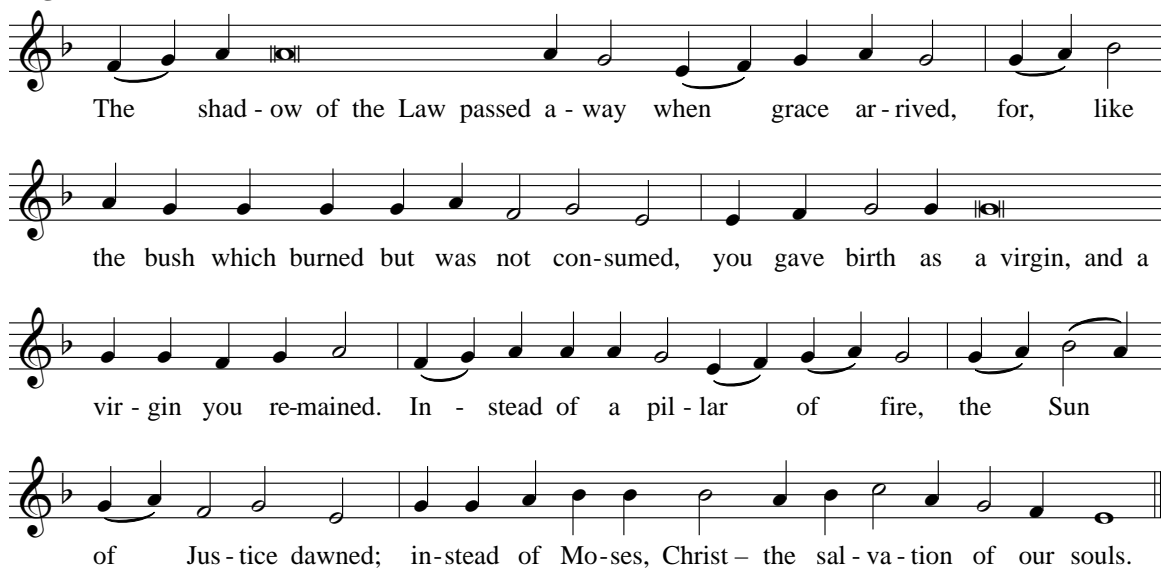
The myrrh-bearing women, O Savior, came to your grave, and they saw that
it was empty but did not find your most pure bod - y. There-fore they
cried out with tears and said: Who has robbed us of our hope? Who has



tak - en away a na - ked and a - noint - ed corpse, the on - ly consolation to
his Moth - er? How could they bury the One who tram - pled Ha - des down?
But in your own pow - er, O Lord, a - rise after three days as you said,
and grant great mer - cy to our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Now and ever...

Dogmatikon - Tone 2

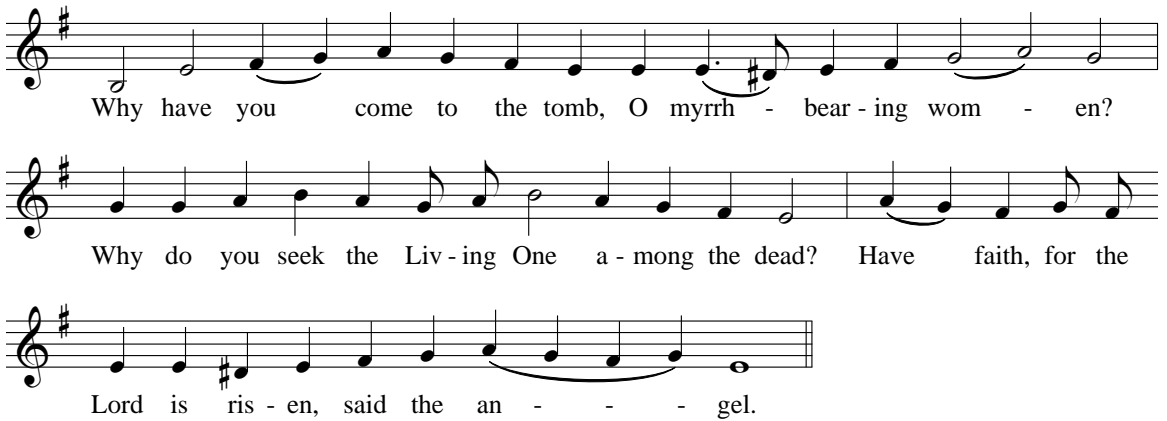


The shad - ow of the Law passed a - way when grace ar - rived, for, like
the bush which burned but was not con - sumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a
vir - gin you re - mained. In - stead of a pil - lar of fire, the Sun
of Jus - tice dawned; in - stead of Mo - ses, Christ - the sal - va - tion of our souls.

The service continues on page 12.

Litija Hymns

Tone 1 Bolhar

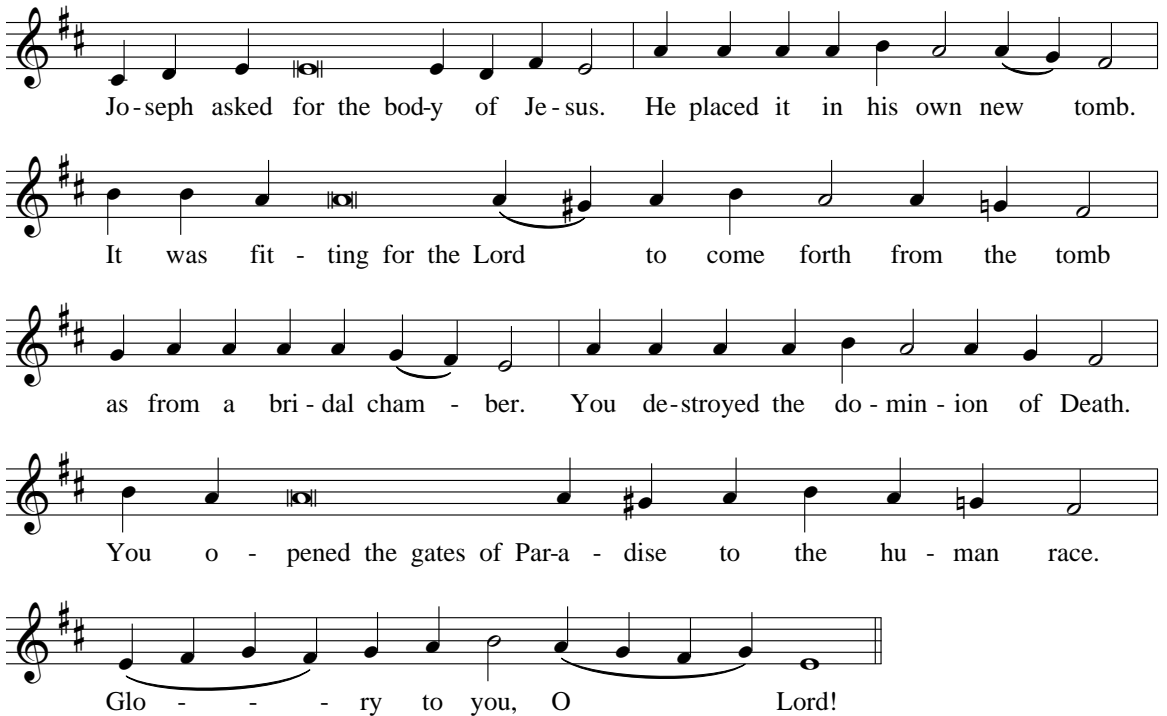


Why have you come to the tomb, O myrrh - bear - ing wom - en?
Why do you seek the Liv - ing One a - mong the dead? Have faith, for the
Lord is ris - en, said the an - - - gel.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon

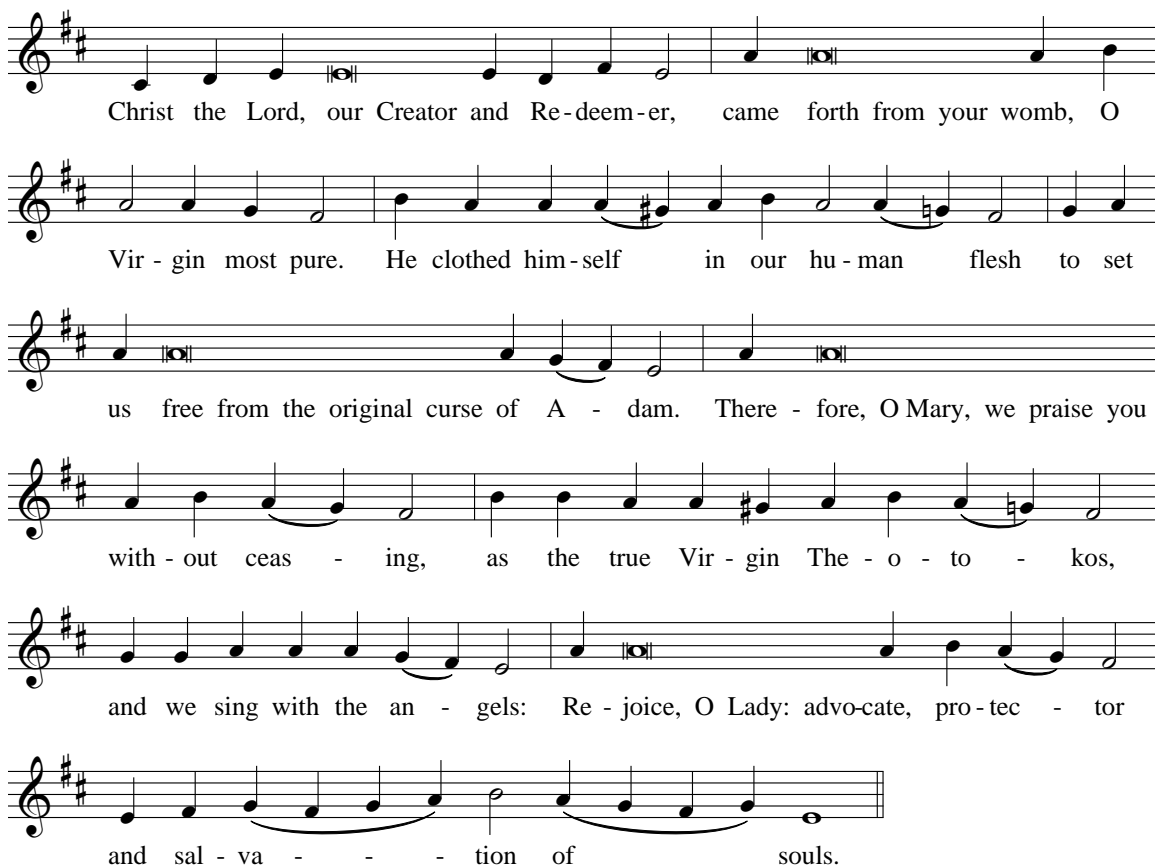
Tone 6 samohlasen



Jo - seph asked for the bod - y of Je - sus. He placed it in his own new tomb.
It was fit - ting for the Lord to come forth from the tomb
as from a bri - dal cham - ber. You de - stroyed the do - min - ion of Death.
You o - pened the gates of Par - a - dise to the hu - man race.
Glo - - - ry to you, O Lord!

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion




Christ the Lord, our Creator and Re-deem-er, came forth from your womb, O
Vir - gin most pure. He clothed him-self in our hu - man flesh to set
us free from the original curse of A - dam. There - fore, O Mary, we praise you
with - out ceas - ing, as the true Vir - gin The - o - to - kos,
and we sing with the an - gels: Re - joice, O Lady: advo-cate, pro-tec - tor
and sal - va - - - tion of souls.

The Litany of the Litija is found in the Appendix on page 26.

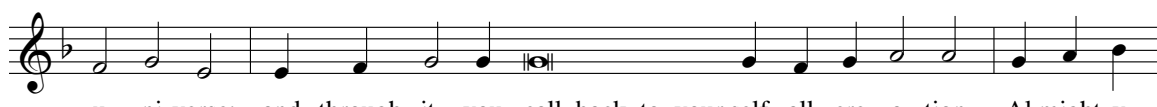
Aposticha

Tone 2

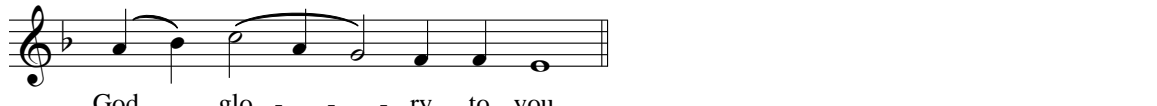
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Your Res-ur-rec-tion, O Christ our Sav - ior, has en-light-ened the whole




u - ni-verse; and through it, you call back to your-self all cre - a - tion. Al-might-y




God, glo - - - ry to you.

The aposticha continue with the Paschal Stichera. The faithful come forward to kiss the cross as at Paschal Matins.

Celebrant:




Let God a - rise and let his ene-mies be scat - tered,




and let those who hate him flee from be - fore his face.


All:



To-day the sa-cred Pasch is re-vealed to us, ho - ly and new Pasch,



the mys - ti - cal Pass - o - ver, the ven - er - a - ble Pass - o - ver,



the Pasch which is Christ the Re-deem - er, spot-less Pasch, great Pasch,

the Pasch of the faith-ful, the Pasch which is the key to the gates of Par-a-dise,
 the Pas-cha which sanc-ti-fies all the faith-ful.

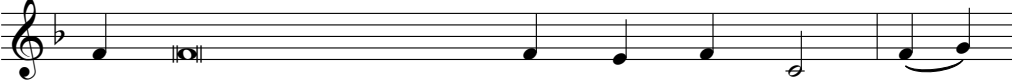
Celebrant:

As smoke van-ish-es, so let them van-ish,
 as wax melts be-fore a fire.


All:

O wo-men, be the her-alds of good news and tell what you saw;
 tell of the vision and say to Zi-on: "Ac-cept the good news of joy
 from us, the news that Christ has ri-sen." Ex-ult and cel-e-brate
 and re-joice, O Je-ru-sa-lem, see-ing Christ the King,
 com-ing forth from the tomb like a bride-groom.

Celebrant:



So let the wicked perish at the pres - ence of God, but



let the right - eous ones re - jice.

All:



The myrrh - bear - ing wo - men ar - rived just be - fore the dawn



at the tomb of the Giv - er of Life and found an an - gel seat - ed on the stone



who spoke these words to them: “Why do you seek the liv - ing a - mong the dead?




Why do you mourn the in - corruptible among those sub - ject to de - cay?




Go an - nounce the good news to his dis - ci - - - - - ples.

Celebrant:



This is the day that the Lord has made; let us be glad



and re - jice in it.

All:

Pasch so de-light-ful, Pasch of the Lord, is the Pasch -
most hon-ored Pasch now dawned on us. It is the Pasch! There-fore, let us
joy-ful-ly em-brace one an-oth-er. O Pass-o-ver, save us from sor-row;
For to-day, Christ has shown forth from the tomb as from a bri-dal
cham-ber and filled the wo-men with joy by say-ing: An-nounce
the good news to the A-pos-tles.

Tone 5

Celebrant:

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly
Spir - - - it.

Doxastikon of the Myrrhbearers - *Tone 5*

O Lord, who clothes himself with light as with a gar-ment, Jo-seph and Nicode-mus



took you down from the Cross, and see-ing you without life, without a garment, and



with-out a grave, in their com - passion they wept and la - ment - ed: Woe is me,



most sweet Je - sus. The sun was cov - ered with dark - ness when it saw



you suspended up-on the cross. The earth quaked with fear and the veil of the



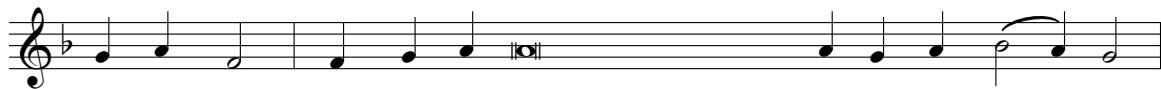
tem-ple was torn in two. I see that you willingly en-dured death for my sake.



How then shall I bury you, O my God? With what lin-ens shall I cov - er you?



With what hands shall I touch your most pure bod - y? What hymns shall I sing




at your death? There-fore, O compassionate Lord, I glo-ri - fy your pas - sion,



and I praise your burial and your resur-rec-tion, cry - ing out: O Lord,



glo - ry to you!

Celebrant: 
Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Doxastikon of Pascha


This is the Re - sur - rec - tion Day! Let us be en - light - ened by this Feast


and let us em - brace one an - oth - er! Let us call "Bre - thren"


e - ven those who hate us, and in the Re - sur - rec - tion,

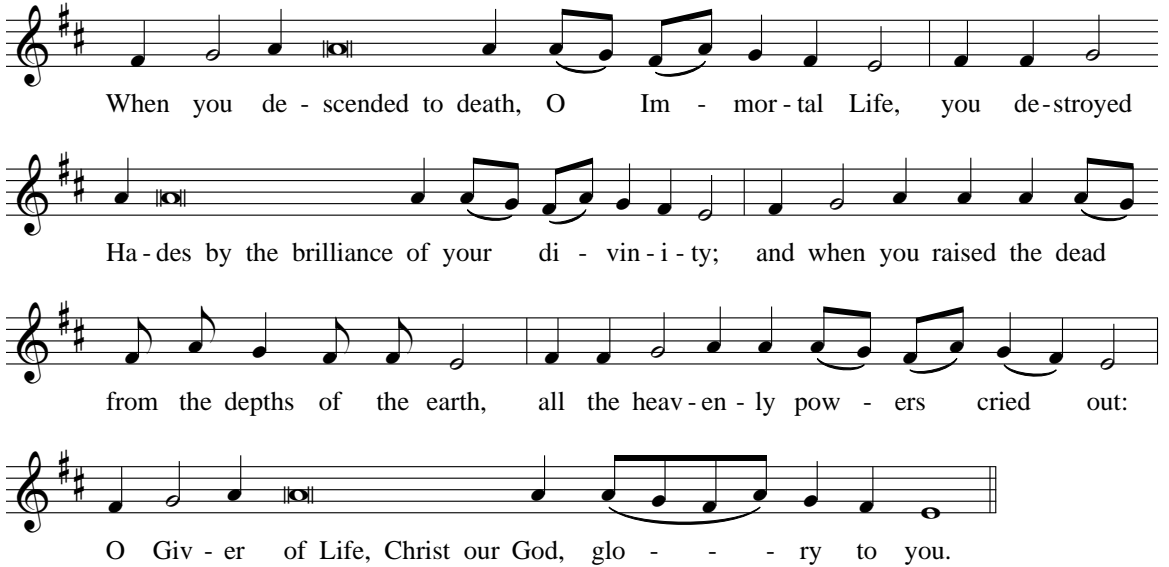

for - give ev - 'ry thing and let us sing: Christ is ris - en from the dead!


By death he tram - pled death; and to those in the tombs he grant - ed life.

The service continues on page 19.

Troparia

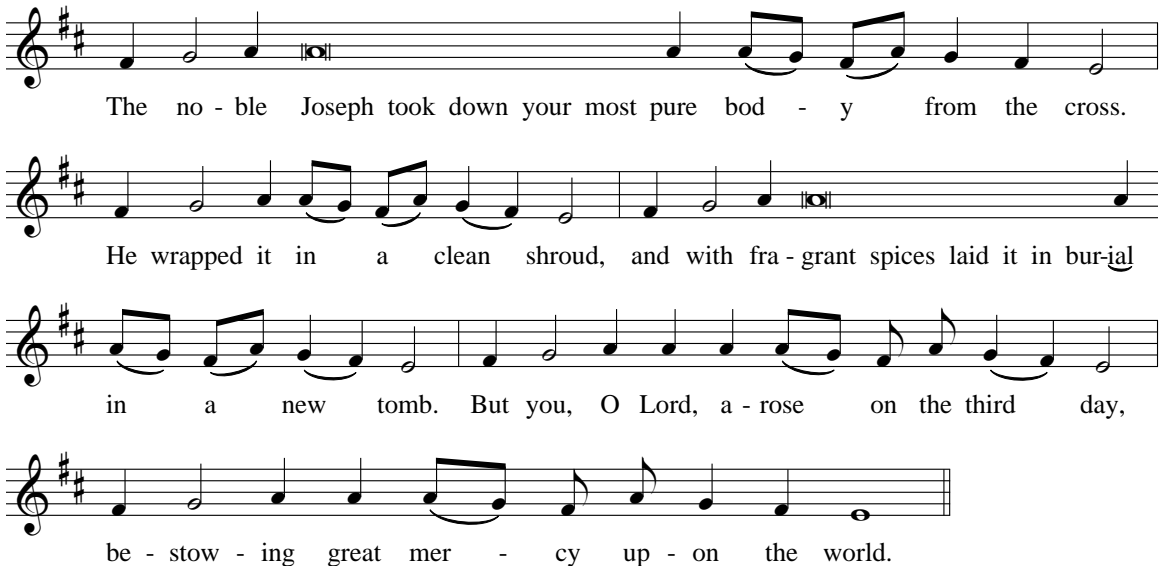
Troparion of the Resurrection - *Tone 2*



When you de - scended to death, O Im - mor - tal Life, you de - stroyed
Ha - des by the brilliance of your di - vin - i - ty; and when you raised the dead
from the depths of the earth, all the heav - en - ly pow - ers cried out:
O Giv - er of Life, Christ our God, glo - - - ry to you.

Cantor: Glory...

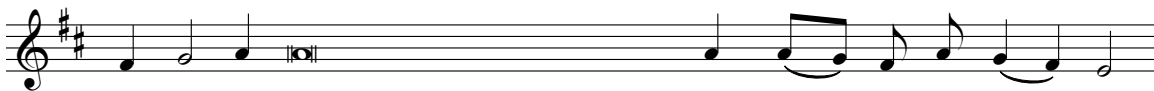
Troparion of the Myrrh-bearers - *Tone 2*



The no - ble Joseph took down your most pure bod - y from the cross.
He wrapped it in a clean shroud, and with fra - grant spices laid it in bur - ial
in a new tomb. But you, O Lord, a - rose on the third day,
be - stow - ing great mer - cy up - on the world.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Second Troparion of the Myrrh-bearers - Tone 2



The an - gel standing by the tomb cried out to the myrrh - bear - ing wo - men:



Myrrh is fit - ting for the dead, but Christ has shown himself not



sub - ject to cor - rup - tion. So now cry out: The Lord is ris - en,



be - stow - ing great mer - cy up - on the world.

The service continues with the Blessing of Bread, page 29.