

SUNDAY, MAY 16      TONE 2  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pascha  
Holy Myrrhbearing Women

"Lord I Call..."    Tone 2

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!  
Hear me, O Lord!  
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!  
Receive the voice of my prayer,  
when I call upon You!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise  
in Your sight as incense,  
and let the lifting up of my hands  
be an evening sacrifice!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

*v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!*

**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. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

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. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

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. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

The Angel proclaimed You,  
the crucified and buried Master.  
He told the women: "Come, see the place where He lay!  
He is risen as He said,  
for He is almighty."  
We worship You, O only immortal One.//  
Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

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

**Tone 2** *(from the Pentecostarion, by Anatolios)*

Early in the morning,  
the myrrhbearing women brought spices to the tomb of the Lord.  
They found the stone unexpectedly rolled away,  
and they asked among themselves:  
"Where are the seals of the tomb?  
Where are Pilate's guards?"  
The radiant Angel came to the wondering women and proclaimed to them:  
"Why do you seek with tears the Life Who gives life to the human race?  
Christ our God has risen from the dead as almighty,//  
granting us incorruption, life, enlightenment, and great mercy!"

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

O women disciples,  
why do you mingle myrrh with your tears?  
The stone is gone; the tomb is empty.  
Behold, corruption destroyed by life!  
The seals witness that the guards of the godless have watched in vain.  
Mortal nature has been saved by the flesh of God.  
Hell is wailing.  
Go with joy, and proclaim to the Apostles:

“Christ has slain death as the first-born of the dead.//  
He awaits you in Galilee!”

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

The Myrrhbearers came early to Your tomb, O Christ,  
seeking You to anoint Your most pure Body.  
Enlightened by the Angel's words,  
they proclaimed joyous tidings to the Apostles:  
“The Leader of our salvation has been raised;  
He has captured death,//  
granting the world eternal life 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.*

### **Tone 1**

“O Myrrhbearing Women,  
why have you come to the grave?  
Why do you seek the Living among the dead?//  
The Lord is risen, take courage!” cried the Angel.

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

The women came with fear to the tomb,  
hastening to anoint Your body with sweet spices.  
Not finding it, they were perplexed and questioned one another,  
as they did not know of Your Resurrection.  
But an Angel appeared to them and said://  
“Christ is risen, granting us great mercy.”

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

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb, seeking the Lord.  
They saw an Angel, who shone like lightning, sitting on the stone.  
And he said to them: “Why do you seek the living among the dead?  
He is risen, as He said;  
in Galilee you will find Him.”  
Let us cry out to Him://  
“O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!”

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

### **Tone 6**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

The Myrrhbearing Women reached Your tomb  
and saw the seals of the tomb broken.  
Not finding Your most pure body, they lamented, saying:  
“Who has stolen our hope?  
Who has taken the dead One, naked and anointed,  
the sole consolation of His Mother?  
How can the Life of the dead have died?  
How can the Capturer of hell have been buried?//  
But arise in three days as You said, O Savior, and save 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.  
The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.//  
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

### **Aposticha**

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

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,  
has enlightened the whole universe,  
recalling Your creation.//  
Glory to You, O almighty Lord!

*(Then the Paschal Stichera with their verses)*

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

**Tone 5**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

Joseph, together with Nicodemus,  
took You down from the Tree,  
Who clothe Yourself with light as with a garment.  
He gazed on Your body – dead, naked, and unburied,  
and, in grief and tender compassion, he lamented:  
“Woe is me, my sweetest Jesus!  
A short while ago, the sun beheld You hanging on the Cross,  
and it hid itself in darkness.  
The earth quaked in fear at the sight.  
The veil of the Temple was torn in two.  
Lo, now I see You willingly submit to death for our sake.  
How shall I bury You, O my God?  
How can I wrap You in a shroud?  
How can I touch Your most pure body with my hands?  
What songs can I sing for Your exodus, O compassionate One?  
I magnify Your Passion.  
I glorify Your burial,  
and Your holy Resurrection,  
crying, ‘O Lord, glory to You!’”

*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!” *(once)*

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*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 2      Troparion    *(Resurrection)***

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,  
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.  
And when from the depths You raised the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

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

**Tone 2      Troparion    *(from the Pentecostarion)***

The noble Joseph,  
when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the Tree,  
wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices,  
and placed it in a new tomb.  
But You rose on the third day, O Lord, //  
granting the world great mercy.

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

**Tone 2      Troparion    *(from the Pentecostarion)***

The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said:  
“Myrrh is fitting for the dead;  
but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption!  
So proclaim: ‘The Lord is risen, //  
granting the world great mercy.’”

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

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**Tone 2      Kontakion    *(from the Pentecostarion)***

You commanded the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God.  
By Your Resurrection, You stopped the lamentation of Eve, the first mother.  
You commanded them to preach to Your Apostles://  
“The Savior is risen from the tomb!”

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

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal,  
You destroyed the power of death.  
In victory You arose, O Christ God,  
proclaiming: “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women,//  
granting peace to Your Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

**Tone 6      Prokeimenon      *(Resurrection)***

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance! *(Ps 27/28:9)*

*v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)*

**Epistle**

Acts 6:1-7

**Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: O Lord, You have been gracious to Your land; You have turned back the captivity of Jacob. (Ps 84/85:1)*

*v: Mercy and truth have met, righteousness and peace have kissed each other. (Ps 84/85:10)*

**Gospel**

Mark 15:43-16:8

*(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,  
your 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 you!  
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the Resurrection of your Son!

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, 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), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir's Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.