

SUNDAY 2 JUNE 2019
The Blind Man
Confessor and Patriarch Nikiphóros of Constantinople C9
6th Sunday after Pascha - Tone 5 & Eothinón 8

Lord I have cried

Tone 5

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;

O Lord, listen to me.

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;

Note the voice of my plea when I cry to you.

O Lord, listen to me.

² Let my prayer prosper before you like incense,
the raising of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

O Lord, listen to me.

S10: Lead my soul from prison
that I may acknowledge your name.

O Christ, you have put the Devil to shame by your precious cross. You have blunted the sting of sin and saved us from the gates of death by your resurrection. We glorify you, only begotten *Lord*.

S9: The just will wait for me,
until you reward me.

Christ was led like a sheep to the slaughter in order to grant resurrection to the human race. The princes of Hades were frightened by this, for the gates of sorrow were raised. Christ the King of glory had entered. He said to those in chains, "Go out," and to those in darkness, "Come to the light."

S8: O Lord, I have cried to you from the depths;
O Lord listen to my voice.

O great wonder! The Creator of invisible matter suffered in the flesh in his love for the human race and rose again as immortal *Lord*. O families of nations, come and worship him. We have been rescued from error by his compassion and have learnt to sing about one God in three persons.

S7: Let your ears note
the voice of my plea.

O unfading Light, we offer you our evening worship. You shone on the world in the flesh in these last days as though in a glass. You even descended to Hades to banish its darkness. You have revealed the light of the resurrection to the nations. Glory to you, O Lord, Giver of light, glory to you!

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?

But there is forgiveness with you.

We glorify the Author of our salvation. The world was saved from deceit by his resurrection from the dead. The choir of angels rejoices as the error of demons takes flight. Fallen Adam rises as the Devil is overthrown.

S5: O Lord, I have waited for you for your name's sake;

my soul has waited for your word,

my soul has hoped in the Lord.

The guards were instructed by the lawless people, "Hide the resurrection of Christ; take money and say, 'The body was stolen from the tomb while we were asleep.' But who has heard of a body being stolen, a body anointed and naked, with its grave clothes left behind in the tomb? O Jews, do not be deceived, study the words of the prophets and understand that he is truly the Redeemer of the world and all-powerful.

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord

from morning watch until night,

from morning watch.

O Lord our Saviour, you have captured Hades and trampled on death; you have enlightened the world by your precious cross; have mercy on us.

Tone 2

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord

and abundant redemption with him.

He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

S2: Every nation, praise the Lord;

every people, acclaim him!

The man who was blind from birth asked himself, "Was I born blind because of sins of my parents or am I a living sign of the faithlessness of the people? I am not content to continue asking whether it is night or day. My feet can no longer endure tripping on the stones. O Christ our God, I

can see nothing: neither the shining sun or the image of my Maker, but I plead with you, "Observe me and have mercy on me." X2

S1: For his mercy is strengthened over us
and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.

When Jesus passed beside the Temple, he met a man who had been blind from birth. He had compassion on him, put spittle on his eyes and said, "Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam." He washed himself and then gave glory to God. His neighbours asked him, "Who opened your eyes which no one before could heal?" "A man called Jesus said to me, 'Wash in Siloam.' and now I see that he is truly Christ the Messiah whom Moses foretold in the Law. He is the Saviour of our souls."

Glory: Tone 2

O Lord, when you passed along the way, you met a man who had been blind from birth. Your disciples were puzzled and asked, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, so that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned or his parents, but that the works of God might be revealed in him. I must work the works of him who sent me, which no one else can do." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle. He anointed the man's eyes with the clay and said to him, "Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam." He went and washed. He was made whole and cried, "O Lord, I believe." He worshipped you, and we cry, "Have mercy on us."

Both now: Tone 5

In the Red Sea of old, a type of the virgin Bride was prefigured. There Moses divided the waters; here Gabriel assisted in the miracle. There Israel crossed the sea without getting wet, here the Virgin gave birth to Christ without seed. After Israel's passage, the sea remained impassable; after Emmanuel's birth, the spotless *Lady* remained a virgin. O eternally-existing God, Lord appearing as man, have mercy on us.

Phos Ilarón

P/D: Wisdom! Stand upright!

O Jesus Christ, joyful light of the holy glory
of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father,
when we come to the setting of the sun
and see the light of evening,

we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For it is right at all times to worship you
with voices of praise,
O Son of God *and* Giver of life.
Therefore the world glorifies you.

Prokeímenenon Ps 92 Tone 6

P/D: The Evening Prokeimenon

R: The Lord reigns
and is clothed with beauty.

S1: The Lord is covered
and surrounded with power.

S2: He founded the world
which will not be moved.

Ektení

Prayer

O Lord, allow us this night to be guarded from sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers! Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be on us, for we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. Blessed are you, O Master; make me understand your statutes. Blessed are you, O Holy *One*; enlighten me with your statutes. O Lord, your mercy lasts for ever; do not overlook the work of your hands. To you belongs worship, to you belongs praise, to you belongs glory, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Plirotiká

Prayer

P: Peace be with you all. R: And with your spirit

D: Bow down your heads to the Lord. R: To you, O Lord.

P: For blessed and glorified is the power of your Kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

Apósticha

Tone 5

O Christ, incarnate Saviour, you were not parted from the heavens. We glorify you with songs of praise, for you accepted the cross and death for the sake of our race. O Lord, Lover of the human race, you overthrew the gates of Hades and rose on the third day to save our souls.

The Paschal Sticherá

S1: Let God rise and let his enemies be scattered;

let those who hate him flee from his presence. Ps 67

A sacred Pascha has been revealed to us today; a new and holy Pascha, a mystical Pascha, a Pascha revered by all, a Pascha that is Christ the Redeemer, a spotless Pascha, a great Pascha, a Pascha of the faithful, a Pascha that has opened for us the gates of Paradise, a Pascha that sanctifies all the faithful.

S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,
as wax melts before fire.

O women, bearers of good tidings, come from that scene and say to Sion, "Receive from us the joyful good news of Christ's Resurrection. O Jerusalem, leap for joy, dance and be glad, for you have seen Christ the King like a bridegroom come from the grave.

S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;
let the just be festive.

The myrrh-bearing women came to the grave of the Giver of life before dawn. They found an Angel sitting on the stone who cried out to them and said, "Why do you seek the Living *Lord* among the dead? Why do you mourn the Incorruptible One as though he were in corruption? Go and proclaim *the news* to his Disciples.

S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Pascha of delight! O Pascha, the Lord's Pascha! A Pascha revered by all has dawned for us. O Pascha! Let us embrace one another with joy. O Pascha, deliverance from sorrow! For today Christ shone out from a tomb as though from a bridal chamber and filled the women with joy, saying, "Proclaim *the news* to the Apostles."

Glory: Tone 8

O Christ God, Sun of justice, you enlightened everyone by your touch. Now give sight to our spiritual eyes and reveal us as sons of the day. O Lover of the human race, your ineffable goodness towards us is great; glory to you!

Both now:

It is the day of Resurrection! Let us be resplendent in the festival! Let us embrace one another and say, "Brothers!" even to those who hate us. Let us forgive everything in the Resurrection and so we can cry, "Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs."

Song of Simeon

B/P: O Master, now let your servant depart in peace
according to your word,
² for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared before all peoples,
³ a light of revelation for *the* nations
and *the* glory of your people Israel.

Triságion Prayers

Apolytíkiá

Tone 5

O faithful, let us praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit. He was born from the Virgin for our salvation; for he determined to ascend the cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Hail, O gate of the Lord which no one can pass! Hail, O rampart and shelter of those who come to you! Hail, O undisturbed haven who never knew man! Since you gave birth in the flesh to your Maker and God, continually intercede for those who sing a hymn of praise to your Son and worship him.

Dismissal

ORTHROS

God is the Lord Ps 117

R: God is the Lord, and has appeared to us.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. *Ps 117*

S1: Thank the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy endures for ever.

S2: All the nations surrounded me,
but I resisted them in the name of the Lord.

S3: This *is* the Lord's doing
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

Apolytikia

Tone 5

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Small Litany

P: For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kathisma 1

Tone 5

Let us celebrate the cross of the Lord, honour his sacred tomb with song and glorify the resurrection. For as God, he raised the dead from the tomb, stripped death of its power and the Devil of his strength; he illuminated those in Hades.

Glory:

O Lord, you were called dead, but put death to death. You were laid you in a tomb, but emptied the tomb. The soldiers guarded the sepulchre

above, while you were raising the dead from all the ages below. Glory to you, almighty and incomprehensible Lord!

Both now:

Hail, O sacred mountain, where God has walked! Hail, O living bush which was not consumed by fire! Hail, only bridge between the world and God leading the dead to eternal life! Hail, O undefiled Maiden, for you gave birth to the Salvation of our souls without knowing a man!

Kathísma 2

Tone 5

O Lord, after your resurrection on the third day when the Apostles had worshipped you, Peter called out to you, “The women boldly ventured out, while I was a coward. The Thief acknowledges God, while I denied him. Will you continue to call me a disciple? Will you not make me again a fisherman of the sea? But, O God, accept me as a penitent and save me.”

Glory:

O merciful Lord, the lawless ones nailed you between those who were condemned and pierced your side with a spear. You accepted the tomb, demolished the gates of Hades and rose on the third day. The women ran to see you and announced your resurrection to the Apostles. O Lord, highly exalted Saviour, the angels sing your praises; glory to you!

Both now:

Unwedded Bride, you gave birth to God *and* have turned Eve’s grief to joy. The faithful sing your praises and venerate you because you have led us away from the ancient curse. O honourable *and* all-holy *Lady*, pray continually that we may be saved.

Evlogitária

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The assembly of angels was amazed when it saw you among the dead. O Saviour, by destroying the power of death, you raised Adam with you and freed everyone from Hades.

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The radiant angel cried to the Myrrhbearers from the tomb, "Why do you women mingle myrrh with your tears? Look at the tomb and understand. The Saviour has risen from the tomb."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
The Myrrhbearers ran sorrowfully to your tomb very early in the morning, but an angel came to them and said, "The time for sorrow has come to an end. Do not weep, but announce the resurrection to the apostles."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
The Myrrhbearers were sorrowful as they approached your tomb, but the angel said to them, "Why do you number the Living among the dead? As God he has risen from the tomb."

Glory:

We worship the Father, his Son and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, one in Being. We cry with the Seraphim, "Holy, Holy, Holy are you, O Lord."

Both now:

O Virgin, because you gave birth to the Giver of Life, you rescued Adam from his sin. You gave Eve joy instead of sadness. The Divine Man who was born from you has restored to life those who had fallen from it.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (X3)

O our God and our hope, glory to you.

Small Litany

P: For blessed is your name, and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Ypakói

The sight of the angel dazzled the minds of the myrrhbearing women and their spirits were enlightened by your divine Resurrection. They preached the good news to the Apostles, "Announce to the nations the Lord's Resurrection. He has worked wonders and grants us great mercy!"

Anaváthmi

Antíphon 1

My Saviour, I sing to you like David in my trouble;
save my soul from crafty speech. Ps 131

The life of those who live in the desert is blessed;
they are supported by divine passion.

Glory: Both now:

Everything seen and unseen is preserved by the Holy Spirit,
for he has power in himself as truly one of the Trinity.

Antíphone 2

My soul, let us ascend the mountains;
come to the place where help is found. Ps 120

O Christ, let your right hand rush
to guard me from everything sinister.

Glory: both now:

As we speak about divine matters through the Holy Spirit,
we say, "You are God, life, desire, light and mind.
You are goodness and reign for ever.

Antíphon 3

I offer my prayer for those who said to me,
"Let us go to the courts of the Lord,
filled with great joy." Ps 121

Fearful things will be done to the house of David,
for a fire there will consume every shameful thought.

Glory: Both now:

The government of life belongs to the Holy Spirit
and every creature is given the breath of life through him
as also in the Father and the Word.

Prokeímenon Ps 9

R: O Lord my God, rise, for you reign for ever.

S: O Lord, I will thank you with all my heart.

Small Litany

For you are the King of Peace and Saviour of our souls, and we send up
glory to you, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, always, now and
for ever, and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kontákion

Tone 4

O Christ, I am blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, but come to you and address you in repentance, “You are the most radiant light of those who are in darkness.”

Íkos

O Christ, light of those in darkness and guide for those who stray, grant me a stream of ineffable wisdom and knowledge from above, so that I may tell what the divine book of the Gospel of Peace teaches - the miracle of the blind man. For, although he was blind from birth, he receives both physical eyes and eyes of the soul, as he cries, “You are the most radiant light of those who are in darkness.”

Synaxáron

Today we remember our father among the saints Nikiphóros the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople who lived in the Ninth Century. His years in office were greatly troubled by the iconoclastic controversy and he died in exile. On the Second Nikiphóros fulfilled his destiny and feasted at the banquet of Paradise in Eden.

Together with him we also remember:

Archbishop Odo of Canterbury C10

Great Martyr John of Sochi and Belgrade C14

New Martyr Constantine of Athos C19

Ypómнима

Today is the sixth Sunday after Pascha. We celebrate the miracle of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ for the man who was blind from birth. Jesus was leaving the Temple one day when he met a man blind from birth. Desiring to heal him, he made clay to anoint his eyes, then sent him to wash in the Pool of Siloam. This was fed from a streams flowing around the East of Jerusalem. It was not that this pool had any special healing properties, but that Jesus wanted to test the faith of the man in sending him to it. Although the man was derided by the authorities, he returned to Jesus and worshipped him with the words, “O Lord, I believe.” O Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us in your great mercy. Amen.

Katavasías

Tone 1

1: It is the day of Resurrection; O people, let us be radiant. It is Pascha, the Pascha of the Lord, for Christ our God has made us pass from death to life and from earth to heaven. We sing the triumphal song. "Christ is risen from the tomb."

3: Come and drink a new drink, not one miraculously produced from a barren rock, but from the Spring of incorruption which pours out from the tomb of Christ in whom we are made firm

4: Let the Prophet Habakkuk, who was inspired by God, stand with us in the divine guard. Let him point out the radiant Angel, who announces with resounding voice, "To-day there is salvation for the world, for Christ has risen as the almighty *Lord*."

5: Let us rise before the dawn and offer praise to the Master instead of myrrh. We shall see Christ, the Sun of justice, who makes life dawn for everyone.

6: O Christ, you descended into the deepest parts of the earth and shattered the eternal shackles of those that those who were chained. On the third day you rose from the tomb like Jonah from the whale.

7: The one who set free the children from the furnace, becomes man and suffers as a mortal. The one who is the only blessed and most glorious God of our fathers clothes the mortal through suffering with the splendour of incorruption.

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord.

This is the chosen and holy day, the first of Sabbaths, the Queen and Lady, the Feast of Feasts, and the Festival of Festivals, on which we bless Christ for ever.

Gospel Dialogue

P/D: Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*

P: For you, O God, are holy *and* rest in the Holy Place. We send up glory to you, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*.

R: Let everything with breath praise the Lord. *X3*

Praise God in his saints;

praise him in the firmament of his power. Ps 50

P/D: And that we may be counted worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord our God. *Lord have mercy X3*

P/D: Wisdom. Stand up. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be with you all. *And with your spirit*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

P/D: Let us attend

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Eothinón Gospel 8

From the Holy Gospel according to John (20:11-18)

At that time Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³

They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Resurrection Ode

P/R: Now that we have seen the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. O Christ, we venerate your cross, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for you are our God, and we know no one else apart from you. We address your name. All you faithful, come and venerate Christ's holy resurrection. For see, joy has come into the entire world through the cross.. Let us always bless the Lord

and praise his resurrection. For he has destroyed death by death by enduring the cross for us.

Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy
and wipe out my offence through your great pity.

⁴ Wash me thoroughly from my lawless act
and cleanse me from my sin,

⁵ for I know my lawlessness
and my sin is always before me.

⁶ I have sinned against you alone
and done what is evil before you

^{6b} so that you might be right in your words
and overcome when you are judged,

⁷ for see, I was conceived in lawlessness
and my mother desired me in sin,

⁸ for see, you have loved truth
and shown me the mysteries and secrets of your wisdom.

⁹ You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be clean;
you will wash me and I will become whiter than snow.

¹⁰ You will make me hear about joy and gladness;
humbled bones will rejoice.

¹¹ Turn your face from my sins
and wipe out all my lawlessness.

¹² O God, create a pure heart within me
and renew an upright spirit within me.

¹³ Do not banish me from your presence
or remove your Holy Spirit from me.

¹⁴ Restore your saving joy to me
and strengthen me with your directing Spirit.

¹⁵ I will teach the lawless your ways
and the ungodly will return to you.

¹⁶ O God, God of my salvation, free me from bloodshed,
then my tongue will rejoice in your justice.

¹⁷ O Lord, you will open my lips
and my mouth will announce your praise,

¹⁸ for if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it;
you will not be pleased with burnt offerings.

¹⁹ Sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;

God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.

²⁰ O Lord, be good to Zion in your pleasure
and let the walls of Jerusalem be built,

²¹ then you will be pleased with a just sacrifice,
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;
then they will offer calves on your altar.

Glory: Tone 6

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of the apostles.

Both now:

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of the Theotokos.

Have mercy:

Jesus has risen from the tomb as he foretold
and grants us eternal life and great mercy.

Intercession

Short Form

P/D: O God, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Visit your world with mercy and compassion; exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians and send down on them your rich mercy, through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the honourable and life-giving cross, through the protection of the honourable bodiless powers of heaven, through the prayers of the honourable, glorious, prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, of the holy, glorious, all-praised apostles, of the holy, all-praised and victorious martyrs, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of the holy and just forebears of God, Ioachim and Anna, of our father among the saints Nikiphóros, and of all the saints. We ask you, only merciful Lord, "Listen to us sinners as we pray to you, and have mercy on us."

Lord have mercy. X12

Through the mercy, compassion and love for the human race of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with the all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

The Magnificat is not sung.

Ode 9

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned on you. O Sion, dance now and rejoice and you, O pure Theotokos, also rejoice at the resurrection of him whom you bore.

How divine! How beloved! O your sweetest voice! O Christ, you have truly promised to be with us until the end of time. We, the faithful, rejoice, since we have this as an anchor of hope.

O great and most sacred Pascha! O Christ! O Wisdom, Word and Power of God! Grant that we may partake of you fully in the day that has no evening of your Kingdom.

O Christ *our* God, you were nailed to the cross, conquered the powers of the enemies and wiped out the ancestral curse. Therefore, O Lord, we praise you.

O Word, when Hades saw you descend to its depths, it was seized with fear and freed all the dead who recognised the strength of your divine power. We join with them to praise you.

The people were filled with jealousy when they saw him perform miracles and wonderful signs. They put to death the *Lord* who plundered Hades by his resurrection and who raised all the dead by his power.

O Giver of life, you rose from the dead in accordance with your word and appeared to your disciples after your resurrection. You performed miracles and gave sight to the blind. Together with them we praise you throughout the ages.

Glory:

The Father is light, the Son also is light and the Spirit of truth is light. O indivisible Light in which three flames are united, I praise and glorify the divine King of all creation.

Both now:

O holy Virgin, you have appeared as more spacious than the heavens, for you bore the God whom no flesh could contain. You gave birth to him for the redemption of all the faithful who praise you.

We glorify the Mother of God who gave birth in time beyond reason and understanding to the timeless *Lord*.

9: The Angel cried to her who is full of grace, “Rejoice, O pure Virgin, rejoice!” And again I say, “Rejoice!” for your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day.

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned on you. O Sion, dance now and rejoice and you, O pure Theotokos, also rejoice at the resurrection of him whom you bore.

Small Litany

P: For all the powers of heaven praise you, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Holy is the Lord

Holy is the Lord our God. *X3*

Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool.
for he is holy.

Exaposteilária

O King and Lord, when you had fallen asleep in the flesh as a mortal, you arose again on the third day. O Pascha of incorruption and salvation of the world, you raised Adam from corruption and abolished death.

O Lord, enlighten my eyes which have become dark through sin. Anoint them with humility and wash them with tears of repentance.

As Jesus the Lord, who saves us, went on his way, he met a man afflicted with blindness from his birth. Christ moistened the dust of the earth with his spittle and made some mud to anoint the eyes of the blind man. Then he sent him to Siloam to wash in the pool. O Christ, after he had washed the blind man returned and saw the brilliance of your light.

Praises

Tone 5

Let everything with breath
praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.
To you, O God, is due a song.

Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his powers.
To you, O God, is due a song.

S6: Praise him for his mighty *deeds*;
praise him for the abundance of his majesty.
O Lord, you came out from the grave, which had been sealed by lawless men, just as you were born from the Theotokos. Your bodiless angels did not know how you were incarnate; the soldiers did not see the moment of your resurrection. These two marvels were concealed from curious minds, but were revealed to those who worshipped with faith the mystery about which we sing. Grant us joy and great mercy as we offer you praise.

S5: Praise him with the trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp.
O Lord, you demolished the eternal bars and broke apart the chains of the grave. You rose from the tomb and left your wrappings in the grave as a witness to your three-day burial. You left the guards watching at the tomb and went before your disciples to Galilee. O incomprehensible Saviour, great is your mercy; have mercy on us!

S4: Praise him with cymbal and dance;
praise him with strings and flute.
O Lord Christ, you suffered for us and the women hurried to your tomb to see you. When they approached with fear, they saw an angel sitting on the stone which had been rolled away. He cried to them “The Lord is risen. Go and tell the disciples that the Saviour of our souls has risen from the dead.”

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;
praise him with joyful cymbals.
Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

O Lord, you came into the midst of your disciples, although the doors were shut, just as you came from the sealed tomb. O long-suffering Saviour, you revealed the sufferings of the body which you had accepted, for you endured wounds as the Seed of David, but saved the world as Son of God. O incomprehensible Saviour, your mercy is great; have mercy on us.

The Paschal Sticherá

S1: Let God rise and let his enemies be scattered;

let those who hate him flee from his presence. Ps 67

A sacred Pascha has been revealed to us today; a new and holy Pascha, a mystical Pascha, a Pascha revered by all, a Pascha that is Christ the Redeemer, a spotless Pascha, a great Pascha, a Pascha of the faithful, a Pascha that has opened for us the gates of Paradise, a Pascha that sanctifies all the faithful.

S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,
as wax melts before fire.

O women, bearers of good tidings, come from that scene and say to Sion, “Receive from us the joyful good news of Christ’s Resurrection. O Jerusalem, leap for joy, dance and be glad, for you have seen Christ the King like a bridegroom come from the grave.

S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;

let the just be festive.

The myrrh-bearing women came to the grave of the Giver of life before dawn. They found an Angel sitting on the stone who cried out to them and said, “Why do you seek the Living *Lord* among the dead? Why do you mourn the Incorruptible One as though he were in corruption? Go and proclaim *the news* to his Disciples.

S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Pascha of delight! O Pascha, the Lord’s Pascha! A Pascha revered by all has dawned for us. O Pascha! Let us embrace one another with joy. O Pascha, deliverance from sorrow! For today Christ shone out from a tomb as though from a bridal chamber and filled the women with joy, saying, “Proclaim *the news* to the Apostles.”

Glory:

O Christ, who can speak about your powers or who recount your miracles? The gracious *Lord* was seen on earth granting gifts to the human race. Not only did you open the physical eyes of the blind man, but also the eyes of his soul. Therefore he acknowledged you as the true God who grants great mercy to all.

Both now:

It is the day of Resurrection! Let us be resplendent in the festival! Let us embrace one another and say, "Brothers!" even to those who hate us. Let us forgive everything in the Resurrection and so we can cry, "Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death and granted life to those in the tombs."

Great Doxology

Glory to you who have shown us the light!

glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

² We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory,

³ O Lord King, heavenly God, almighty Father,
O Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,
and you, O Holy Spirit!

⁴ O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us,

for you take away the sin of the world.

⁵ Receive our prayer,
for you sit on the right of the Father,
and have mercy on us.

⁶ For only you are holy, only you are Lord,
O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

⁷ I will bless you every day
and praise your name for ever
and to the ages of ages. Ps 144.2

⁸ O Lord, allow us this day
to be kept from sin.

⁹ Blessed are you, O Lord God of our fathers!
Praised and glorified is your name for ever. Amen Dan 3

¹⁰ O Lord, let your mercy *be* on us,

for we have hoped in you. Ps 32.22

¹⁶ Blessed are you, O Lord!

Teach me your statutes. X3 Ps 118.12

¹² O Lord, you have been our refuge

from generation to generation. Ps 89.1

I said, "Lord, have mercy on me;

heal my soul, for I have sinned against you." Ps 40.5

¹⁴ O Lord, I have fled to you;

teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Ps 142:10

¹⁵ For with you is the source of life

and in your light we will see light. Ps 35.10

¹⁶ Extend your mercy

to those who know you. Ps 35.11

Triságion

Resurrection Tropáron

Today salvation has come to the world. Let us sing to the one who rose from the dead, the Author of our life. When he destroyed death by death, he gave us victory and great mercy.

LITURGY

Antíphon 1 Ps 65 Tone 2

S1: All the earth, shout with joy to the Lord.

R: At the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us.

S2: Make music to his name *and* give glory in his praise.

S3: Say to God, "How fearful are your works!"

S4: Let all the earth worship you and make music to you.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Antíphon 2 Ps 66 Own Tone

S1: May God pity us and bless us;

may he make his face shine on us and be merciful to us.

R: Save us, O Son of God.

You arose from the dead.

We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

S2: May we know your way on earth,
your salvation among all the nations.

S3: O God, let the peoples thank you;
let all the peoples thank you.

S4: May God bless us
and all the ends of the earth fear him.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Monogenes

Antiphon 3 Ps 67 & 117 Tone 8

S1: Let God rise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee from his presence.

R: Christ is risen from the dead!
He has trampled down death by death
and granted life to those in the tombs.

S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,
as wax melts before fire.

S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;
let the just be festive.

S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Entrance Ps 67

Bless God, in *the* assemblies,
the Lord from the springs of Israel.

Save us, O Son of God.

You arose from the dead.

We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

Apolytikia

Tone 5

O faithful, let us praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father
and the Spirit. He was born from the Virgin for our salvation; for he

determined to ascend the cross in the flesh, to endure death and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Of the Church

Kontákion

Tone 8

O immortal *Lord*, although you descended into the grave, yet you overthrew the power of Hades; O Christ *our* God, you rose as conqueror. You greeted the women bearing myrrh, saying, "Rejoice!" As you grant resurrection to the fallen, you give peace to your apostles.

Prokeímenon Ps 11 Tone 5

R: O Lord, you will guard us *and* keep us.

S: O Lord, save me, for the devout man has failed.

Apóstolos

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (16:16-34)

In those days as we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸ And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. ¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; ²⁰ and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. ²¹ They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵ But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke and saw that the

prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰ and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. ³⁴ Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Alleluia Ps 88 Tone 5

S1: O Lord, I will sing about your mercies for ever

S2: For you have said, "Mercy will be built up for ever."

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to John (9:1-38)

At that time Jesus saw a man blind from his birth. ² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Silo'am" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸ The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." ¹⁰ They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶ Some of the

Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. ¹⁷ So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." ²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. ³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

Especially

The Angel cried to her that is full of grace, “O Pure Virgin, rejoice! And again I say, ‘Rejoice!’ For your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day.

Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Dance now and be glad, O Sion, and you too rejoice, pure Mother of God, at the arising of him to whom you gave birth.

Communion

Receive the Body of Christ;
partake from the Fountain of immortality. Alleluia!