Reader’s Vespers on Bright Monday

April 20th, 2020

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (Thrice)

Verse 1: Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Verse 2: As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish, as wax melteth before the fire.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Verse 3: So let the sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Verse 4: This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

 Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Lord, have mercy. ***Forty Times***

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

In the 3rd Tone: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me.

Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord. \* Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; \* attend to the voice of my supplication, \* when I cry unto Thee. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth \* as incense before Thee, \* the lifting up of my hands \* as an evening sacrifice. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord.

If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

By Thy Cross, O Christ our Savior, \* the dominion of death hath been abolished, \* the devil’s deception hath been dispelled, \* while mankind, saved by faith, \*\* each evening offers hymns unto Thee.

For Thy name’s sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath patiently waited for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

By Thy Resurrection, O Lord, \* the universe hath been filled with light \* and Paradise hath been opened again, \* while all creation, singing Thy praise, \*\* each evening offers hymns unto Thee

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord.

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son, \* and I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit, \* undivided, uncreated Godhead, \* consubstantial Trinity, \*\* that reigneth from ages to ages.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

We worship Thy precious Cross, O Christ, \* and we praise and glorify Thy Resurrection, \*\* for by Thy wounds we have all been healed.

O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.

We praise the Savior who took flesh from the Virgin; \* for he was crucified for us and arose on the third day, \*\* granting unto us His great mercy.

For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

Descending down unto those in Hades, \* Christ proclaimed the good tidings, exclaiming, \* ‘Be of good cheer; for now I have conquered! \* I am the Resurrection; \* I shall raise you up, \*\* abolishing the gates of death’.

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

We who stand unworthily in Thy most pure house \* chant an evening hymn, \* crying from the depths, \* ‘O Christ God, who hath enlightened the world by Thy Resurrection on the third day, \*\* deliver Thy people from the hand of Thine enemies, O Lover of mankind’.

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

How can we, O all-honored one, \* not marvel at thine Offspring? \* who is both God and man. \* For without knowing a man, O all-immaculate One, \* without a father thou hast given birth to a Son in the flesh, \* who without a mother was begotten from the Father before all ages, \* yet in no way undergoing change, fusion or separation, \* but preserving fully the characteristics of both natures. \* Wherefore, O Sovereign Lady, and Virgin Mother, \* beseech Him to save the souls of those \*\* who with Orthodox faith confess thee to be the true Theotokos.

O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father, O Jesus Christ: Having come to the setting of the sun, having beheld the evening light, we praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: God.  Meet it is for Thee at all times to be praised with reverent voices, O Son of God, Giver of life.  Wherefore, the world doth glorify Thee.

The Great Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone:

Our God is in heaven and on earth; \* all things whatsoever He hath willed, He hath done.

Verse: When Israel went out of Egypt, and thou house of Jacob from among a barbarous people, Judea became His sanctuary, Israel His dominion.

Verse: The sea beheld and fled, Jordan turned back.

Verse: What aileth thee, O sea, that thou fleddest? And thou Jordan, that thou didst turn back?

Our God is in heaven and on earth; \* all things whatsoever He hath willed, He hath done.

Lord have mercy. ***Forty times***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin.  Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages.  Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.  Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.  Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy statutes.  Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the work of Thy hands.  To Thee is due praise, to Thee is due a song, to Thee glory is due, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.  Amen.

Lord, have mercy. ***Twelve Times***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

In the 3rd Tone:

By Thy passion, O Christ, \* Thou didst darken the sun, \* and by the light of Thy Resurrection \* Thou hast made the whole universe radiant. \* We beseech Thee to accept our evening hymn, \*\* O Lover of mankind.

In the 5th Tone:

Verse: Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered.

A Pascha sacred today hath been shown unto us; \* Pascha new and holy, \* a Pascha mystical, \* a Pascha all-venerable! \* A Pascha that is Christ the Redeemer; \* a Pascha immaculate, \* a great Pascha; \* a Pascha of the faithful; \* a Pascha that hath opened the gates of Paradise to us; \*\* a Pascha that doth sanctify all the faithful.

Verse: As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish.

Come from the vision, O ye women, bearers of good tidings, \* and say ye unto Zion: \* Receive from us the good tidings \* of the Resurrection of Christ; \* adorn thyself, exult, \* and rejoice, O Jerusalem, \* for thou hast seen Christ the King, \*\* like a bridegroom come forth from the tomb.

Verse: So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.

The myrrh-bearing women \* in the deep dawn \* stood before the tomb of the Giver of life; \* they found an angel sitting upon the stone, \* and he, speaking to them, said thus: \* Why seek ye the Living among the dead? \*Why mourn ye the Incorruptible amid corruption? \*\* Go, proclaim unto His disciples.

Verse: This is the day which the Lord hath made, let us rejoice and be glad therein.

Pascha the beautiful, \* Pascha, the Lord's Pascha, \* the Pascha all-venerable hath dawned upon us. \* Pascha, with joy let us embrace one another. \* O Pascha! \* Ransom from sorrow, \* for from the tomb today, \* as from a bridal chamber, \* hath Christ shone forth, \* and hath filled the women with joy, saying: \*\* Proclaim unto the apostles.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

It is the Day of Resurrection, \* let us be radiant for the feast, \* and let us embrace one another. \* Let us say, Brethren, even to them that hate us, \* let us forgive all things on the Resurrection, \* and thus let us cry out:

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (Thrice)

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord bless!

May Christ, risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life, our True God, through prayers of Holy Fathers and all the saints, have mercy on us. Amen.

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tomb bestowing life (3 times)

And unto us He has given eternal life; we worship His Resurrection on the third day!