Reader’s Vespers on Bright Tuesday

April 21st, 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 4th 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.

Unceasingly worshiping Thy life-giving Cross, O Christ God, \* we glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day, \* for through it, O All-powerful one, \* Thou hast renewed corrupted human nature \* and shown us the way to heaven, \*\* since Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind.

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 being willingly nailed to the tree of the Cross, O Savior, \* Thou hast abolished the penalty of the tree of disobedience; \* and by descending into Hades, O All-powerful one, \* as God Thou hast torn asunder the bonds of death. \* Wherefore we worship Thy Resurrection from the dead, and we cry out with joy: \*\* O All-powerful Lord, glory be to Thee!

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

Thou hast shattered the gates of Hades, O Lord, \* and by Thy death Thou hast destroyed the dominion of death; \* delivering mankind from corruption, \* granting the world life, incorruption, \*\* and great mercy.

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

Come O ye peoples, let us hymn the Savior's Rising on the third day, \* whereby we were redeemed from the unbreakable bonds of Hades \* obtaining incorruption and life, as we cry aloud: \* 'Thou, who wast crucified and buried and rose again, \*\* save us by Thy Resurrection, O only Lover of mankind.'

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

Angels and mortals hymn thine Arising on the third day, O Savior, \* through which the ends of the inhabited world were filled with light, \* and we were all redeemed from the slavery of the enemy, as we cry aloud: \* 'O life-giving, Allpowerful Savior, \*\* save us by Thy Resurrection, only Lover of mankind.'

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

Thou hath shattered the gates of brass and smashed their bars, O Christ God, \* raising the fallen race of mankind; \* wherefore with one accord we cry unto Thee: \* 'O Lord risen from the dead, \*\* glory be to Thee!'

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

O Lord, begotten from Thy Father without time and eternal; \* Thine incarnation from a Virgin is inexpressible for man and beyond telling; \* and Thy descent into Hades is fearful for the devil and His angels; \* for having trampled upon death Thou hast arisen on the third day, \*\* granting mankind incorruption and great mercy.

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

Prophet David, the ancestor of God, \* spoke of thee in psalmody unto Him who hath accomplished great things in thee. \* For God was well pleased without father to become a man from thee, \* the Queen who standeth at His right hand, \* and He - the source of life - showed thee to be His mother, \* that he might renew his own image, corrupted by the passions. \* Having found the lost sheep wandering on the mountain \* He hath laid it upon his shoulders, \* that he may bring it to his Father; \* and in accordance with his own will \* unite it to the heavenly Powers \* and thus, O Theotokos, save the world, \* Christ, who is richly and abundantly merciful.

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 8th Tone:

With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto God, and he was attentive unto me.

Verse 1: In the day of mine affliction I sought out God, with my hands upraised by night before Him and I was not deceived

Verse 2: My soul refused to be comforted; I remembered God and I was gladdened.

Verse 3: O God in the sanctuary is Thy way. What God is as great as our God? Thou alone art God Who workest wonders.

With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto God, and he was attentive unto me.

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 4th Tone:

O Lord, by ascending the Cross \* Thou hast wiped out our ancestral curse, \* and by descending into Hades \* Thou hast set free those enchained therein from all ages, \* granting incorruption to mankind; \* wherefore with hymns we glorify \*\* Thy life-giving and saving Arising.

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!