

Sunday, April 4 Easter - Pascha

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life.

Third Antiphon: Let God arise and His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from His presence.

Tropar: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life. As smoke vanishes, let them vanish, as wax melts from the presence of fire.

Tropar: Christ is risen from the dead....
So let sinners perish from the presence of God but let the righteous rejoice.

Tropar: Christ is risen from the dead....

At the Little Entrance: In assemblies bless God, the Lord, you who spring from Israel.

Tropar: Christ is risen from the dead....
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and for ever and ever. Amen!

Kondak, tone 8: Though You went down to the grave, immortal Lord, * You destroyed the power of Hades * and rose victorious, Christ our God. * You who said "Rejoice" to the myrrh-bearing women, * give peace to Your apostles * and offer resurrection to the fallen.

Instead of 'Holy God ...': All you, who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokimen, tone 8: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 1: 1 - 8

In my first account, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up to heaven, having first instructed the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit. In the time after his suffering, he showed them in many convincing ways that he was alive, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking to them about the reign of God. On one occasion when he met with them he told them not to leave Jerusalem: "Wait, rather, for the fulfillment of my Father's promise, of which you have heard me speak. John baptized with water, but within a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." While they were with him, they asked, "Lord, are you going to restore the rule to Israel now?" His answer was: "The exact time it is not yours to know. The Father has reserved that to himself. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes down on

you; then you are to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, yes, even to the ends of the earth."

Alleluia Verses: Rise, take pity on Zion.

The Lord has looked down on earth from heaven.

GOSPEL: John 1: 1 - 17

In the beginning was the Word; and the Word was in God's presence, and the Word was God. He was present to God in the beginning, through him all things came into being, and apart from him nothing came to be. Whatever came to be in him, found life, life for the light of men. The light shines on in darkness, a darkness that did not overcome it. There was a man named John sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the light, so that through him all men might believe. But only to testify to the light, for he himself was not the light. The real light which gives light to every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and through him the world was made, yet the world did not know who he was. To his own he came, yet his own did not accept him. Any who did accept him he empowered to become children of God. These are they who believe in his name. Begotten not by blood, nor by carnal desire, nor by man's willing it, but by God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we have seen his glory; the glory of an only Son coming from the Father, filled with enduring love. John testified to him by proclaiming: "This is he of whom I said, The one who comes after me ranks ahead of me, for he was before me." Of his fullness we have all had a share -- love following upon love. For while the law was given through Moses, this enduring love came through Jesus Christ.

Instead of 'It is truly right ...': The angel cried out to the One full of grace: * "O chaste Virgin, rejoice! * And again, I say, rejoice! * Your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day * and raised the dead." * Let all people rejoice! * Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem, * for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! * Exalt now and be glad, O Zion! * And you, O chaste Mother of God, take delight * in the resurrection of your Son.

Communion Hymn: Receive the Body of Christ; partake of the source of immortality. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!