

BYZANTINE NOTATION VERSION

**HOLY WEEK - EASTER HYMNAL
IN GREEK AND ENGLISH**

VOLUME 13

**THE VESPERS OF GREAT & HOLY PASCHA
(The Agape Service)**

Sung on the Sunday of Pascha

A Companion to the Service Book
ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΕΒΔΟΜΑΣ - ΠΑΣΧΑ

HOLY WEEK - EASTER

A New English Translation
by Father George L. Papadeas

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Δ Let my prayer rise up as _____ in _____ cense be - fore _____ You;
 let the lift - ing up _____ of my hands be an eve - ning sac - ri -
 fice. Hear _____ me _____ O _____ Lord.

STICHERA

$\text{H}\chi\omicron\varsigma \Delta\iota$

1st Sticheron. 2nd Tone. $\Delta\iota$.

Δ If You, O Lord, will mark the wrongs, O Lord, who will be able to stand? For with You, there
 is mer - cy.
 Δ Come, _____ let us wor - ship Him, _____ Who was be - got - ten of the
 Fa - ther be - fore all Ag - es, _____ God the Word, in - car - nate of the
 Vir - gin. Mar - y. _____ For of His own _____ will He en - dured
 _____ the Cross, _____ and was com - mit - ted to _____ the _____ grave; _____ and hav -
 ing ris - en _____ from the _____ dead, _____ He saved _____ me, _____ the
 err - ing per - son.

2nd Sticheron



(Δ↓)



F or Your Name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord; my soul has waited for Your word; my soul

has hoped in the Lord.

C hrist our Sav - ior an - nulled the writ that was a - gainst us,

nail - ing it to the Cross, and a - bol - ish - ed the

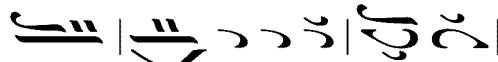
do - min - ion of Death. We wor - ship His Ris - ur - rec - tion on

the third day.

3rd Sticheron



(Δ↓)



F rom the morning watch until night; from the morning watch, let Is - ra - el hope in

the Lord.

W ith the Arch - an - gels let us praise the Res - ur - rec -

- tion of Christ; for He is the Re - deem - er

and Sav - ior of our souls. And in awe - some glo - ry

and sov' - reign pow - er, He shall come a - gain to Judge

the world He fash - ioned.

4th Sticheron

^Δ For with the Lord there is mercy; and with Him is plenteous redemption. And He shall re - deem
 Is - ra - el from all his in - i - qui - ties.
^{Δ↓}
^Δ You, Who were cru - ci - fied and bur - ied, the An - gel pro - claimed,
 Mas - ter, to the wom - en, say - ing: "Come, see where the
 Mas - ter lay; for as the Al - might - y, He
 has ris - sen as He said." There fore, we wor - ship You,
 the on - ly Im - mor - tal One; O Life - giv - ing Christ,
 have mer - cy on us.

5th Sticheron

^Δ Praise the Lord all the Nations, praise Him all you peo - ples.
^{Δ↓}
^Δ On Your Cross, You an - nulled the curse of the Wood; in Your
 Bur - i - al, You de - stroyed the do - min - ion of
 Death; and in Your Res - ur - rec - tion, You shed light to the hu - man
 race. There - fore, we cry out to You, O Christ, our God
 and Ben - e - fac - tor, glo - ry to You.

6th Sticheron

(Δ↓)

F or His merciful kindness is ever more on us, and the truth of the Lord en - dures for -
 ev - er.
T he gates of Death have o - pened to You from fear, O
 Lord, and the gate - keep - ers of Ha - des were strick - en when they saw -
 You. For You have shat - tered the gates of
 brass, and the i - ron bars You have bro - ken. You have led
 us out of dark - ness and the shad - ow of
 death, hav - ing bro - ken our shack - les.

Doxasticon

(Δ↓)

G lo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the
 Ho - ly Spir - it.
S ing - ing with prais - es the hymn of sal - va - tion, come, let us
 bow down in the house of the Lord, say - ing: "Par -
 don our sins, You, Who were cru - ci - fied on the Cross and a - rose from
 the dead, and Who are in the bos - om of the Fa - ther."

Theotokion

^Δ Now and ev - er, and to the Ag - es of Ag - es. A - men.

^Δ The shad - ow of the Law has passed a - way with

the com - ing of Grace; for just as the bush was in flames yet

did not burn, thus as a Vir - gin you gave birth, and a Vir -

gin you re - mained. In - stead of the pil - lar of fire

the Sun of Right - eous - ness has dawned; in - stead of

Mo - ses, Christ, the sal - va - tion of our souls.

(P. 489. The Entrance with the Book of the Gospels.)

All chant the evening hymn and Prokeimenon with the priest.)



O RESPLENDENT LIGHT

The Evening Hymn. 2nd Tone. Δι.

Ἦχος $\overline{\Delta\iota}$ Δι

^(Δ↓)
 $\overline{\Delta}$ **O** Re - splen - dent - Light of the ho - ly Glo - ry of the heav -
 en - ly, ho - ly, im - mor - tal, and bless - ed Fa - ther, O Je -
 sus _____ Christ, hav - ing come to the set - ting of the sun, and see -
 - ing the light of _____ eve - ning, we praise _____ God, the Fa - ther and Son and
 Ho - ly Spir - rit in One. It is fit - ting that at all times You
 should be _____ praised by joy - ous voi - ces, O Son _____ of God, Who gave _____
 _____ Life, for which cause the world glor - i - fies _____ You.

PROKEIMENON

Grave Tone. Γα.

Ἦχος βαρύς $\overline{\Gamma\alpha}$ Γα

$\overline{\Gamma}$ **W** ho is so great _____ a _____ god as _____ our _____ God? _____
 You are the God who a - lone _____ works won - ders. _____

Verses. (Repeat the above refrain after each.)

1. $\overline{\Gamma}$ **Y** ou have made known Your power to _____ all peo - ple. _____

2. $\overline{\Gamma}$ **I** remember the wondrous works of the Lord _____ and was glad. _____

(P. 490. Intone short responses. The Gospel is read in several languages.)

APOSTICHA

2nd Tone. Δι.

Ἦχος Δι

^(Δ↓)
 Δ **O** Christ our Sav - ior, Your Res - ur - rec - tion il - lu - mi - nat - ed
 the u - ni - verse, and re - called Your own cre - a -
 tion. Al - might - ty Lord, glo - ry to You.

1st Plagal Tone. Πα.

Ἦχος λ π κ ε

^(κ)
 ρ **L** et God arise, and His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from His presence.

^(κ)
 ρ **A** sa - cred Pas - cha is shown to us to - day; a new and Ho - ly
 Pas - cha; a my - stic Pas - cha; an all - ven - er - a - ble Pas - cha;
 a Pas - cha; which is Christ the Re - deem - er; a spot - less Pas - cha; a
 great Pas - cha; a Pas - cha of the faith - ful; a Pas - cha, which has
 o - pened to us the gates of Pa - ra - dise; a Pas - cha sanc ti - fy - ing all the
 faith - ful.

^x_q **A** s the smoke vanishes, let them vanish as ^(K) wax melts be - fore the fire. ^x_q

^x_q **C** ome from the scene, O Wom - en bear - ers of good tid - ings and say to

^(Δ) ^(K) ^x_q Zi - on: "Re - ceive from us the tid - ings of joy of the Res - ur - rec - tion

of Christ. ^x_q De - light, dance — and be glad, O Je - ru - sa - lem, ^(M) ^x_q for you have be -

^(K) held Christ — the King as a Bride - groom com - ing forth — from the Tomb." ^(Δ) ^(K) ^x_q

^x_q **S** o shall the sinners perish from the presence of God; and the right - eous shall re - joice. ^(K) ^x_q

^x_q **T** he myrrh - bear - ing Wom - en, at ear - ly dawn, ^(K) ^(M) ^(K) ^x_q drew near to — the

Tomb of the Give - er of Life, ^x_q and found an An - gel sit - ting on the

stone. And speak - ing to them, he said: ^x_q "Why do — you seek the Liv - ing a - mong ^(M)

the dead? ^(K) ^x_q Why do — you mourn the In - cor - rupt - i - ble One, a - mid cor - rup - ^(M) ^(K)

tion? ^x_q Go, and pro - claim — it to His A - pos - tles." ^x_q

^x_q **T** his is the day, which the Lord has made, we shall re - joice and be glad in it. ^(K) ^x_q

^κ
^q A Pas - cha of de - light; a Pas - cha, the Lord's Pas - cha; ^q an all -
 ven - er - a - ble Pas - cha has dawned for us; ^q a Pas - cha on which, let us
 em - brace one an - oth - ther with joy! ^ν Oh! Pas - cha, re - demp - tion from
 sor - row! ^π For from the tomb to - day, ^q as from a brid - al cham - ber, ^q
 Christ ^κ has shone forth and filled the Wom - en with joy, say - ing: ^q "Pro - claim it
 to the A - pos - tles."

Doxasticon. 1st Plagal Tone. Πα.

Ἦχος λ̣ π̣ ᾠ Πα

^π
^q G lo - - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son
 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; ^q now and
 ev - er, ^q and to the Ag - es of Ag - es. A - men. ^q
^π
^q I t is the Day of Res - ur - rec - tion! ^κ Let us shine
 forth in splen - dor for the Fes - ti - val,
 and em - brace one an - oth - er.

Let us say "O brethren, even to those who do not

love us; let us for give all things

in the Resurrection, and thus, let

us exclaim: (All join in the chanting of the Paschal troparion.)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down

death, by death and up on those in the tombs, be

stowing life. Christ is risen from the dead, trampling

down death, by death and up on those in the tombs,

bestowing life. Christ is risen from the dead,

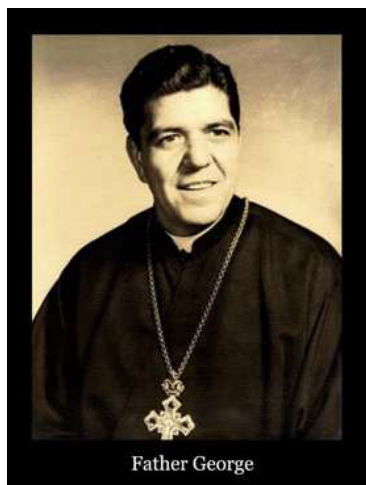
trampling down death, by death and up on those

in the tombs, bestowing life.

(P. 501. Intone short responses.)

END OF SERVICE

A Note from the Translator



Until I compiled the first ever complete Greek-English Holy Week-Easter Book almost four decades ago, it was almost impossible for the average parishioner to follow the profound and moving services of Holy Week and Easter. There was no book, either in Greek or English, spelling out the services. All the service books were full of cross references, so that by the time one referred to a given page, it was impossible to find one's place again, as the priest or chanter had continued to read while the search was on. Even in the Orthodox country of Greece, there was no comparable book.

As pastor of one of the largest parishes in America, St. Paul Church in Hempstead, New York, I saw this as a basic need for my parishioners. Painstakingly, I compiled the services completely, so that everyone could easily follow. The book was very well received internationally. Since then, another generation has come to be, and conditions have changed. There has been a growing outcry from various sources for modernizing the English. Having conducted a survey among our clergy, the overwhelming response was that the English should indeed be modern, despite the fact that so many preferred the original.

This new translation will, we hope, please the present and future generations by presenting to them a more understandable text.

In consideration for the owners of the original editions, I have meticulously strived to keep the same format, page for page, so that they may continue to use their books, despite the hymns being worded differently in many instances.

Yes, to remain contemporary there is always a price! It is my sincere hope that this book will serve you as well as the original version enlightened your parents and grandparents.

Fr. George L. Papadeas, 1996



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