

MAY 11

Bright Saturday

Holy Equals-to-the-Apostles Cyril and Methodius, First Teachers of the Slavs

Vespers (sung on Friday)

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (sung on Saturday)

(After "Blessed is our God..." and "Amen." :)

Clergy:

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

Choir:

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

(The clergy then chant the Paschal verses with the choir singing the Troparion "Christ is risen..." after each verse.)

V. Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face! (Ps. 67:1)

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

V. As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire! (Ps. 67:2a)

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

V. So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad! (Ps. 67:2b-3a)

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

V. This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
(Ps. 117:24)

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!

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

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

Clergy: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,

Choir: and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

"Lord I Call..." Tone 8

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

V. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

Tone 8 *(for the Resurrection)*

We offer to You, O Christ,
our evening song and reasonable service,
for You willed to have mercy on us//
by Your Resurrection.

V. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Your face!
For You willed to have mercy on us//
by Your Resurrection.

V. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Rejoice, O holy Zion:

Mother of the churches, the abode of God,
for you were the first to receive remission of sins//
by the Resurrection.

*V. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption,
and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Tone 2 *(from the Menaion, for Sts. Cyril and Methodius) (With what
crowns)*

With what crowns of praise shall we adorn the divinely-wise teachers:
the voices of wisdom sounding amid clouds of darkness,
enlightening those in the shadow of death with the light of the Gospel,
the great preachers of the undivided Trinity,
who grafted barren unbelievers as branches
into the fruitful tree of the Orthodox Church,//
that they might obtain from Christ our God peace and great mercy?

V. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

With what songs of praise shall we glorify the divinely-wise teachers:
the golden-mouthed Cyril, who reached the heights of wisdom through his
sweet preaching,
humbling the fierce pride of the foolish Moslem sages;
and Methodius, the lover of solitude,
who in silence received the fruits of the Spirit?//
Through their prayers, O Christ our God, grant us great mercy!

*V. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures
forever.*

With what hymns of praise shall we magnify the divinely-wise teachers:
Cyril, who chose to live with wisdom in his youth,
and multiplied his talents to the glory of God;
and Methodius who renounced the things of this world for love of Christ?
He strove like an angel for the Kingdom of heaven.

Through them, we have come to know God, the eternal Trinity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,//
receiving from Christ our God great mercy.

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

Tone 6 *(from the Menaion, for Sts. Cyril and Methodius)*

Come, O lovers of feasts,
let us glorify the apostolic laborers with songs of praise,
the pride of hierarchs,
the enlighteners and fervent intercessors for the Slavic people!
Rejoice, Cyril, golden herald of the Word of God!
You light up the mysteries of the Holy Trinity as the sun,
closing the blaspheming mouths of the Moslem sages.
Methodius, rejoice as well!
You assisted him with prayers and miracles.
O most-blessed fathers, never cease to intercede before Christ our God//
for those who praise you with faith and love!

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

Tone 8 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven, because of His love for man,
appeared on earth and dwelt with men.
He took flesh from the pure Virgin
and after assuming it, He came forth from her.
The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.
Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,
we confess Christ our God!//
Entreat Him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

Tone 8 **Great Prokeimenon**

You have given an inheritance / to them that fear You, O Lord. *(Ps. 60:5b)*

V. From the ends of the earth I call to You. (Ps. 60:2a)

V. I will take shelter under the shadow of Your wings. (Ps. 60:4b)

V. So I will ever sing praises to Your Name. (Ps. 60:8a)

Old Testament Readings (*Sts. Cyril and Methodius*)

Composite 2

Proverbs 10:31-11:12

Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15

Aposticha

Tone 8 *(for the Resurrection)*

Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,
the eternal Life has come for death
to raise those who are fallen;
to enlighten those in darkness.//
O Jesus, our Savior and illuminator, glory to You!

(Then the Paschal Stichera with their verses from Psalm 67)

V. Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; [let those who hate Him flee from before His face!] (Ps. 67:1)

Tone 5

Today, a sacred Pascha is revealed to us:
a new and holy Pascha,
a mystical Pascha,
a Pascha worthy of veneration,
a Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer,
a blameless Pascha,
a great Pascha,
a Pascha of the faithful,
a Pascha which has opened for us the gates of Paradise,
a Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful.

V. As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; [as wax melts before the fire!] (Ps. 67:2a)

Come from that scene, O women bearers of glad tidings,
and say to Zion:
"Receive from us the glad tidings of joy,
of Christ's Resurrection!
Exult and be glad,
and rejoice, O Jerusalem,

seeing Christ the King, Who comes forth from the tomb
like a bridegroom in procession!”

*V. So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad!
(Ps. 67:2b-3a)*

The myrrh-bearing women,
at the break of dawn,
drew near to the tomb of the Life-giver.
There they found an angel
sitting upon the stone.
He greeted them with these words:
“Why do you seek the Living among the dead?
Why do you mourn the Incorrupt amid corruption?
Go, proclaim the glad tidings to His disciples!”

*V. This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
(Ps. 117:24)*

Pascha of beauty,
the Pascha of the Lord,
A Pascha worthy of all honor has dawned for us.
O Pascha!
Let us embrace each other joyously!
Pascha, ransom from affliction!
For today, as from a bridal chamber,
Christ has shone forth from the tomb,
and filled the women with joy saying:
“Proclaim the glad tidings to the Apostles!”

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

Tone 8 *(from the Menaion, for Sts. Cyril and Methodius)*

Rejoice, O blessed ones who enlightened us with the knowledge of God!
Rejoice, Cyril, living source of spiritual wisdom!
You quenched the thirst of the Slavic people.

Rejoice, Methodius, pure dwelling of prayer!
Now you stand in the glory of Christ.
Therefore never cease to pray that we may glorify Him, //
as we magnify you throughout the ages!

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

This is the day of resurrection!
Let us be illuminated by the feast!
Let us embrace each other!
Let us call Brothers even those that hate us,
and forgive all by the resurrection,
and so let us cry:

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

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

Tone 4 Troparion (*Sts. Cyril and Methodius*)

Cyril and Methodius, inspired by God,
you became Equals-to-the-Apostles by your life.
As you were teachers of the Slavs,
intercede with the Master of all,
that He may strengthen all Orthodox peoples in the true faith;
that He may grant peace to the world //
and great mercy to our souls!

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

Tone 8 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

For our sake You were born of the Virgin
and endured crucifixion, O Good One, destroying death by death.
Revealing the Resurrection as God, do not despise the work of Your hand!

Reveal Your love for man, O Merciful One, and accept the Theotokos praying for
us, //
and save the despairing people, O our Savior!

(at the Divine Liturgy, on Bright Saturday)

(After "Blessed is the Kingdom..." and "Amen." :)

Clergy:

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

Choir:

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

(The clergy then chant the Paschal verses with the choir singing the Troparion "Christ is risen..." after each verse.)

V. Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face! (Ps. 67:1)

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

V. As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire! (Ps. 67:2a)

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

V. So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad! (Ps. 67:2b-3a)

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

V. This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

(Ps. 117:24)

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!

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

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

Clergy: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,

Choir: and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

The First Antiphon

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His Name, give glory to His praise! *(Ps. 65:1)*

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Say to God: "How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You!" *(Ps. 65:2) (Refrain)*

Let all the earth worship You and praise You! Let it praise Your Name, O Most High! *(Ps. 65:3) (Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. *(Refrain)*

The Second Antiphon

God be bountiful and bless us! Show the light of Your countenance upon us and have mercy on us! *(Ps. 66:1)*

Refrain: O Son of God Who arose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations. *(Ps. 66:2) (Refrain)*

Let the people give thanks to You, O God! Let all the people give thanks to You! *(Ps. 66:3) (Refrain)*

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

(“Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God...”)

The Third Antiphon

Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face! *(Ps. 67:1)*

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

As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire! *(Ps. 67:2a)*

Troparion: “Christ is risen from the dead...”

So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad! *(Ps. 67:2b-3a)*

Troparion: “Christ is risen from the dead...”

Entrance Verse

Bless God in the churches, the Lord, O you who are of Israel's fountain! *(Ps. 67:27)*

Troparion (*Pascha*)

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

Tone 4 Troparion (*Sts. Cyril and Methodius*)

Cyril and Methodius, inspired by God,
you became Equals-to-the-Apostles by your life.
As you were teachers of the Slavs,
intercede with the Master of all,
that He may strengthen all Orthodox peoples in the true faith;
that He may grant peace to the world//
and great mercy to our souls!

Tone 3 Kontakion (*Sts. Cyril and Methodius*)

Let us praise the two godly priests who enlightened the Church;
by translating the Scriptures they pour out a fountain of the knowledge of God.
Cyril and Methodius, abundant learning has been drawn from this work.
We exalt you as you now stand before the Most High//
fervently interceding for the salvation of our souls.

Tone 8 Kontakion (*Pascha*)

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal,
You destroyed the power of death.
In victory You arose, O Christ God,
proclaiming: "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women//
granting peace to Your Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

As many as have been baptized into Christ,
have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Tone 3 Prokeimenon

The Lord is my Light and my Savior! / Whom shall I fear? *(Ps. 26:1)*

V. The Lord is the defender of my life! Of whom shall I be afraid? (Ps. 26:2)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. *(Ps. 115:6)*

Epistle

(8) Acts 3:11-16

(318) Hebrews 7:26-8:2 *(Sts. Cyril and Methodius)*

Tone 5

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty! (Ps. 92:1a)

V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved. (Ps. 92:2)

Tone 2

*V. Let Your priests be clothed in righteousness, and let Your saints shout for joy!
(Ps. 131:9)*

Gospel

(11) John 3:22-33

(11) Matthew 5:14-19 *(Sts. Cyril and Methodius)*

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:
"Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,
your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!
With Himself He has raised all the dead."
Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!

The glory of the Lord has shone on you.
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil

tidings! *(Ps. 111:6)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

(During Bright Week, instead of "Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord," we sing the troparion "Christ is risen..." (once). Instead of "We have seen the True Light..." and "Let our mouths be filled ...," we sing "Christ is risen..." (once). Instead of "Blessed be the Name of the Lord," we sing "Christ is risen..." (thrice). Instead of "Glory to You, O Christ our God...", " the priest sings: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death," and the choir concludes: "and upon those in the tombs bestowing life." The priest gives the Dismissal, and after the singing of "Christ is risen" (thrice), we finish with: "And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!")

Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.