

# Vespers sung on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## Fifth Sunday of Pascha ♦ Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

*At the beginning:*

**Priest:** Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Priest:** Christ is risen from the dead ... *(3½ times: English, Greek, Church Slavonic, Romanian)*

**Choir:** ... Și celor din morminte viața dăruindu-le!

*The Reader continues the Trisagion Prayers: "Glory to the Father ..." "All Holy Trinity ..." etc.*

*The Reader continues with Psalm 103, as usual.*

---

**"LORD, I CALL ..."**

**Tone 4**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord

Let my prayer arise

in Thy sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

*Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.*

**Tone 4 (For the Resurrection)**

We glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,

by always honouring Thy life-creating Cross;

by it, Thou hast renewed the corrupted nature of man,

O almighty One.

By it, Thou hast renewed our entrance to heaven,//

for Thou art good and the Lover of man.

*The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Thou didst loose the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Saviour,

by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.

By descending to hell, O almighty God,

Thou didst break the bonds of death.

Therefore, we adore Thy Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://

"Glory to Thee, O all-powerful Lord!"

*Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Thou didst smash the gates of hell, O Lord,

and by Thy death Thou didst demolish the kingdom of death.

Thou didst deliver the race of men from corruption,//

granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

*Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

Come, O people,

let us sing of the Saviour's Resurrection on the third day!

By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bonds of hell.

By it, we have received life and incorruption.

Save us by Thy Resurrection!//

O Life-creating and almighty Saviour, glory to Thee!

*If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

**Tone 4** *(For the Midfeast)*

The middle of the days has come,  
beginning with the Saviour's Resurrection,  
and sealed by the holy Pentecost.  
The first and the last glisten with splendour.  
We rejoice in the union of both feasts,  
as we draw near to the Lord's Ascension://  
the sign of our coming glorification.

*For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Be glad, O Zion!  
Hear the announcement of Christ's Resurrection!  
Let her faithful sons rejoice!  
The filth of the daughter of Zion is washed away.  
Jerusalem, stained with the blood of God's murder, is cleansed by the Spirit.//  
With songs of joy she celebrates the middle of the feast.

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

As it is written,  
the abundant outpouring of divine gifts is drawing near.  
The chosen day of the Spirit is halfway come.  
The true promise of Christ to the Disciples  
after His death, burial, and Resurrection,//  
heralds the coming of the Comforter.

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

**Tone 1** *(For the Samaritan Woman)*

The Fountain of miracles came to the well at noon  
to ensnare the daughter of Eve.  
Once, Eve had been driven out of Paradise by the serpent's guile;  
now a woman of Samaria came to draw water.  
The Saviour saw her and said to her:  
"Give Me water to drink,  
and I will fill thee with the waters of eternal life!"  
She ran to the town and proclaimed to the crowd:  
"Come and see Christ the Lord!//  
He is the Saviour of our souls!"

*Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

**Tone 2**

The Lord of compassion came to the well  
and conversed with a woman of Samaria.  
She said: "Give me Thy water, that I may never thirst again!  
I will drink from the fountain of joy and redemption."//  
O Life-giving Lord, glory to Thee!

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

The Word of the Father,  
the co-eternal Son without beginning,  
came and sat by the well, though He is the Fountain of healing.  
A Samaritan woman came to draw water;  
when the Saviour saw her, He said to her:  
"Give Me water to drink!  
Go, call thy husband!"  
She thought she was speaking not to God, but to a man.  
Trying to evade Him, she said: "I have no husband."  
But the Teacher replied: "Thou speakest the truth,  
for thou hast had five husbands,  
and the one living with thee now is not thy husband."  
She was amazed by His words and ran back to the town.//  
She said to the crowd: "Come and see Christ, Who grants the world great mercy!"

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

**Tone 6** (*For the Samaritan Woman*)

Jesus met the Samaritan woman by Jacob's well.  
He wraps the earth in clouds,  
yet He asks for water from her.  
Oh, the wonder!  
He Who rides on the cherubim speaks with an adulterous woman.  
He Who suspended the earth on the waters asks for a drink.  
He Who causes the lakes and springs to overflow is weary with thirst.  
Truly He desires to set the woman free from the Enemy's snares,  
drowning her sins in the waters of life,//  
for He alone is the compassionate Lover of man.

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

**Tone 4** (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*)

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord  
through thee, O Virgin.  
He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in thee:  
"At Thy right hand stood the Queen,"  
Thy Mother, the mediatrix of life,  
since God was freely born of her without a father.  
He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,  
so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder  
and brought it to His Father,  
joining it to the heavenly powers.//  
Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has saved the world, O Theotokos.

---

**APOSTICHA**

**Tone 4** (*For the Resurrection*)

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,  
Thou hast annulled our ancestral curse.  
By descending to hell, Thou hast freed the eternal prisoners,  
granting incorruption to the human race.//  
Therefore in songs we glorify Thy life-creating and saving Resurrection.

*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.

*As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!*

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!"

*So the sinners will perish before the face of God; but let the righteous be glad!*

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!"

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

Pascha of beauty,  
the Pascha of the Lord,  
A Pascha worthy of all honour 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 (For the Samaritan Woman)**

In Thine inexpressible dispensation,  
Thou didst appear on earth, O Christ our God.  
When the woman of Samaria heard Thy words, O Lover of man,  
she left her jar at the well and ran to the town.  
She said: "Come and see Him Who knew every secret hidden in my heart!  
Could He be the long-awaited Messiah, //  
Who will grant us great mercy?"

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

### **Tone 5**

This is the day of resurrection!  
Let us be illumined 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!

---

### **TROPARIA**

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 4**

[Music on website / Green Book page 8]

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel  
the joyous message of Thy Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the apostles:  
“Death is overthrown!  
Christ our God is risen, //  
granting the world great mercy!”

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

#### **Troparion of the Midfeast of Pentecost in Tone 8**

[Music on website / Green Book page 93]

In the middle of the feast, O Saviour,  
fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all:  
“If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” //  
O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

---