

VESPERS PROPER FOR APRIL 19TH, 2021

from the Menaion

¹Sunday Evening in the Third Week of Pascha

Our venerable father John of the ancient cave. He lived an ascetic life in the “ancient caves” or Lavra of Chariton the Great in Palestine. Constantly meditating on death and teaching himself humility, he spent his days in fasting, prayer, and vigils. (8th century)

Psalm 140 (*Tone 5*) - (p.9)

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re-ceive the voice of my pray'r when I call up-on you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like in-cense and the lift-ing up of my hands like an eve-ning sac-ri-fice. Hear me, O Lord!

Continue with Psalm 140: "O Lord, set a guard before my mouth..." (p.9).

Stichera at the Lamplighting Psalms - (p.11)

3 stichera from the Pentecostarion:

Cantor - (Tone 5):

(on 6)

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would sur-vive? But with you is found for-give-ness: for this we re-verere you.

(6) Sticheron

Having been affixed to the Tree with nails, * You annulled the curse that came to us through the tree, * and having been laid in the tomb, * by Your divine power * You restored to life the dead from all ages. * We glorify and praise Your almighty authority. * O divine Pascha, Jesus almighty, * our Life and the effulgence of the Father! * Wherefore, the things of Heaven now rejoice with the things of earth, * singing and chanting triumphal songs to You O Word, * the victorious One, O Christ almighty, ** You Who bestow great mercy upon the world.

Cantor:

(on 5)



My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word. My soul is longing for the



Lord more than watch - man for day - - break.

(5) Sticheron

Is the Life to be found amidst the dead? * Does the unfading Sun remain beneath the earth? * The assembly of myrrh-bearing women lamented. * Come then, let us hasten to behold the holy tomb. * Where they saw a radiant Angel, * filling them with amazement, * and transforming their sorrow into joy as he cried to them: * The Life-bestower has arisen; * be not amazed, O you modest ones. * He reigns over all, ** bestowing great mercy upon the world.

Cantor:

(on 4)



Let the watch-man count on day - break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

(4) Sticheron

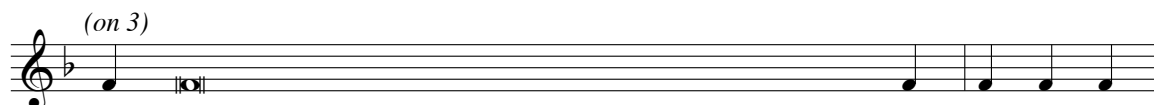
At deep dawn, before the light of day, * the women sought the Sun, Who was before the sun came to be. * Having come to the tomb, * a radiant Angel called to them saying: * The Light has dawned forth and shone upon those slumbering in darkness. * Hasten now and proclaim the tidings to His radiant disciples; * and transform their deep sorrow into sweet joy. * This is the gladsome Pascha, the salvation of all the world. * With an

undoubting heart, dance and clap your hands in joy. * For Christ has arisen, **
bestowing great mercy upon the world.


3 stichera for our venerable father John from the Menaion:

Cantor:

(on 3)



Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp - tion, Is - ra - el



in - deed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

(3) Sticheron

O venerable and right wondrous father John, * wounded by the divine desire of Christ God * Who for your sake willingly became a wanderer, * and clothed Himself in flesh from the Virgin, * you reached a strange land, and you utterly estranged yourself to all the sweet things of the world, * O wise and all-blessed father, * and lived as a stranger, * acquiring the virtues: * standing whole nights in prayer and the contemplation of death, * you restrained the passions by your abstinence, * showing yourself to be an emulator of those who fasted before you, ** and with them you have been glorified.

Cantor:

(on 2)



Praise the Lord, all you na - tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!

(2) Sticheron

O venerable and all-glorious father John, * having been trained in the fold of the godly Chariton, * you drew forth grace like a sponge * and poured it forth, emulating his divine ways; * and having spent your life in stillness, * you were made worthy of honored ordination, * becoming a worthy priest, ever offering sacrifice. * And like an unblemished lamb, purified by divine brightness * and enlightened in mind, ** you were borne up in mind to mystic visions, to excellent heavenly happiness.

Cantor:

(on 1)

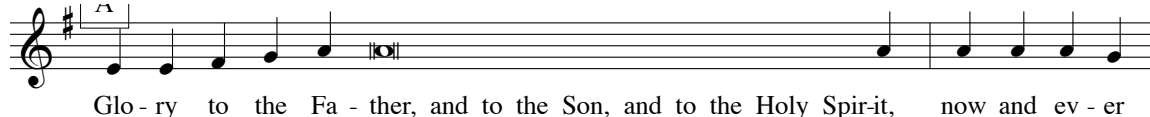


Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith-ful for-ev - er.

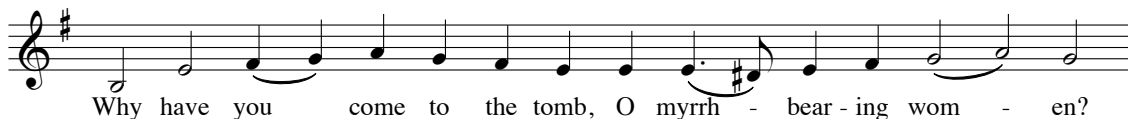
(1) Sticheron

O all-blessed father John, * strengthened by the power of the Trinity, * you avoided all the harm of heresy, * through vision and divine activity * you cleaved to and attained the divine glory * which is the ultimate of all desires, * O wise and blessed one, * and truly and worthily received it after your repose, * rejoicing, shining and standing before God with the angelic choirs. * Wherefore, be mindful of those ** who celebrate your memory as is proper, O right wondrous one.

Cantor - (Tone 1):



Doxastikon – (Tone 1 Bolhar)



Continue with "Wisdom..." and the Hymn of the Evening (p. 12)

The Prokeimenon is for the Day of the Week (pp. 13-15).

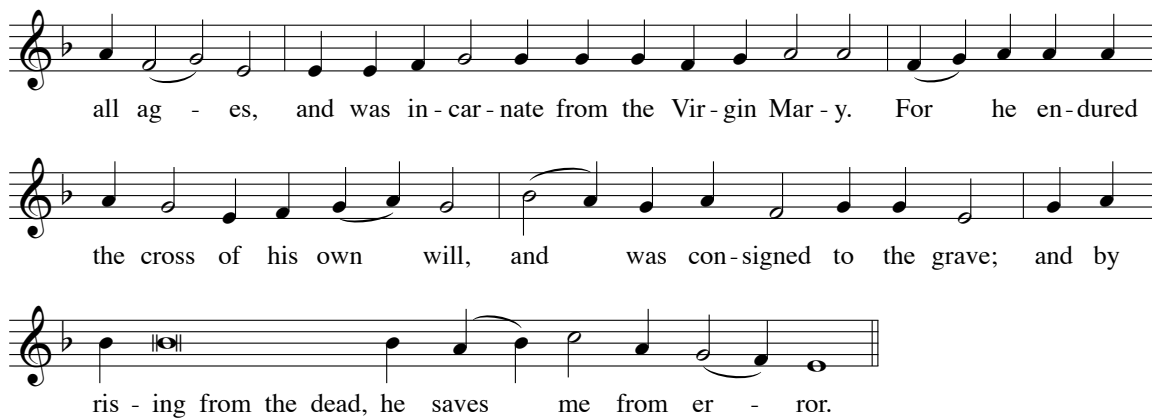
Aposticha - (p.21)

The aposticha are from the Pentecostarion:

(Tone 2)

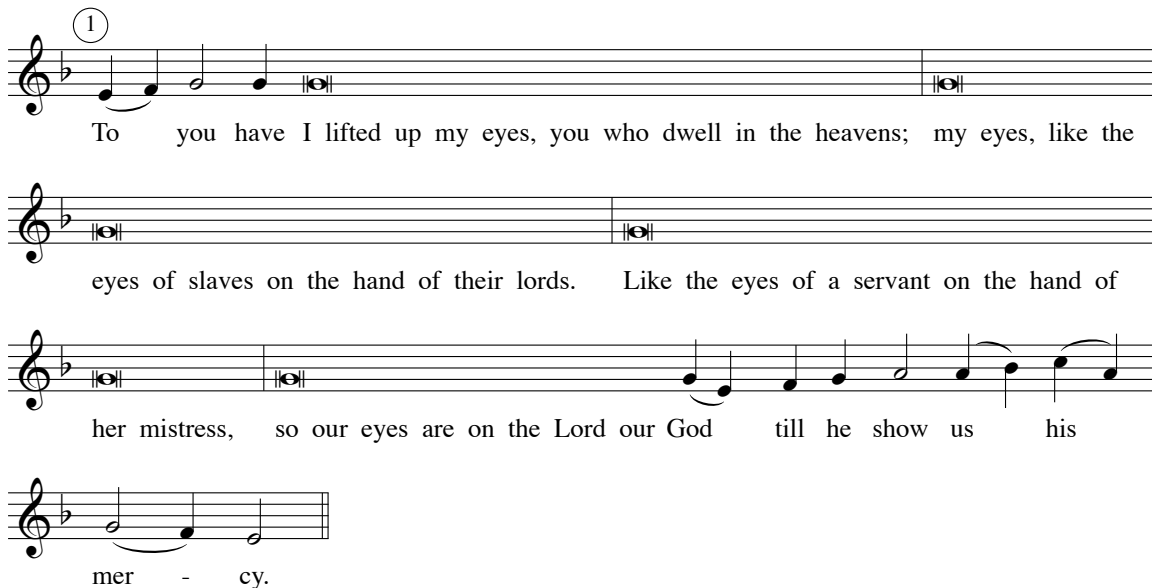
Aposticheron:





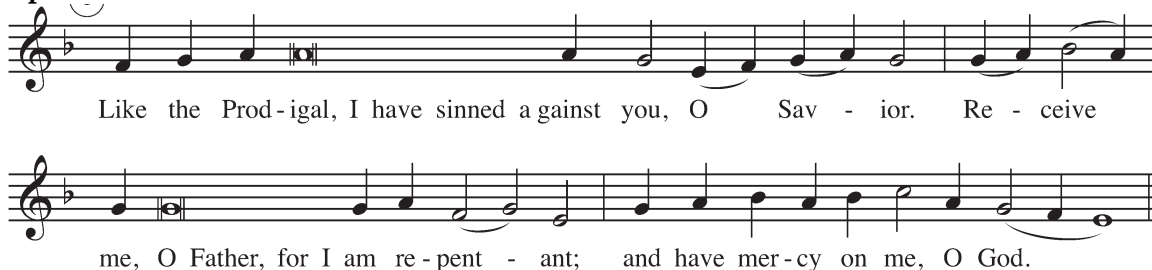
all ag - es, and was in - car - nate from the Vir - gin Mar - y. For he en - dured
the cross of his own will, and was con - signed to the grave; and by
ris - ing from the dead, he saves me from er - ror.

Cantor:



To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens; my eyes, like the
eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. Like the eyes of a servant on the hand of
her mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God till he show us his
mer - cy.

Aposticheron:



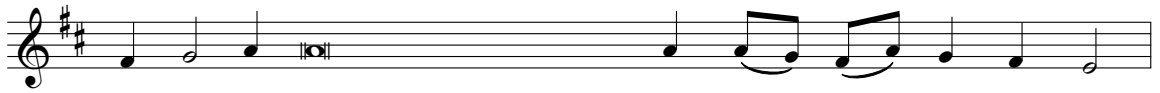
Like the Prod - igo, I have sinned a gainst you, O Sav - ior. Re - ceive
me, O Father, for I am re - pent - ant; and have mer - cy on me, O God.

Cantor:



Troparia - (p.23)

Troparion of the Myrrh-bearers - Tone 2



The no - ble Joseph took down your most pure bod - y from the cross.



He wrapped it in a clean shroud, and with fra - grant spices laid it in bur - ial



in a new tomb. But you, O Lord, a - rose on the third day,



be - stow - ing great mer - cy up - on the world.

Troparion of the Resurrection - Tone 2



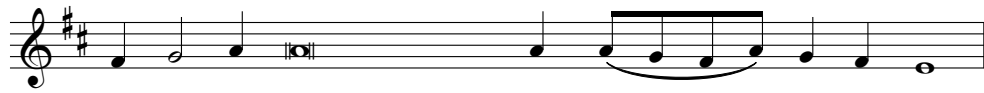
When you de - scended to death, O Im - mor - tal Life, you de - stroyed



Ha - des by the brilliance of your di - vin - i - ty; and when you raised the dead

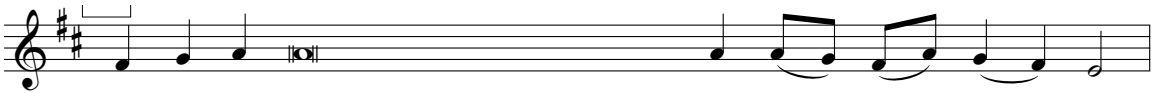


from the depths of the earth, all the heav - en - ly pow - ers cried out:



O Giv - er of Life, Christ our God, glo - - - ry to you.

Cantor (Tone 2):

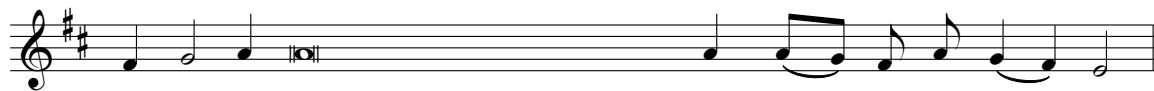


Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,



now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Second Troparion of the Myrrh-bearers - Tone 2



The an - gel standing by the tomb cried out to the myrrh - bear-ing wo - men:



Myrrh is fit - ting for the dead, but Christ has shown himself not



sub-ject to cor-rup - tion. So now cry out: The Lord is ris - en,



be - stow - ing great mer - cy up - on the world.

Continue with the Litany of Daily Vespers (p.23) and then the Dismissal (p. 24).

¹Format 24: Weekdays during the Paschal Season