

Paschal Hours – Without Priest

Presiding Reader (head of household): Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Choir: Amen. *And the Paschal Troparion, Thrice:*

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

And then, in Sticheric Tone 6:

- Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, / let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, / the only sinless One. / We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, / and we praise and glorify Thy holy Resurrection; / for Thou art our God / and we know none other than Thee; / we call on Thy Name: / Come, all ye faithful, / let us venerate Christ's holy Resurrection, / for, behold, through the Cross joy is come into all the world. / Let us ever bless the Lord, / praising His Resurrection, / √√ for by enduring the Cross for us, /// **H**e has destroyed death by death. (Thrice)

In some places, we add, once, in the same tone and melody:

- Jesus, having risen from the grave / as He foretold, / has given us eternal life, /// and great mercy!

We then sing the Hypakoe of Pascha, to a special Tone 4 melody, or 'plain', in Troparic Tone 8:

- Before the dawn Mary and the women came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb; / they heard the angelic voice, "Why do you seek among the dead as a man, the One who dwells in everlasting Light? / Behold, the clothes in the grave; go and proclaim to the world: / The Lord is risen, He has slain death as He is the Son of God, /// saving the race of man."

And the Paschal Kontakion, in Troparic Tone 8:

- Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal. / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In vict'ry didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, 'Rejoice' to the myrth-bearing women, /// granting peace to Thine apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

And the following Troparia, in Troparic Tone 8:

- In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul as God, / in Paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, /// wast Thou, O Christ, filling all things, Thyself infinite.
- Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. / As giving life, as more splendid than Paradise / and more radiant than any royal chamber, O Christ, /// is shown forth Thy tomb, the fountain of our resurrection.
- Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. / Rejoice, thou hallowed, divine abode of the Most High / for through thee, O Theotokos, joy was given to those who cry aloud to thee: /// Blessed art thou among women, O Lady most pure.

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And then, to a sung pattern:

- Lord, have mercy. **(40 times)**

And then, again in Troparic Tone 8:

- Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. / More hon'orable *than* the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim; / *without* corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word: /// True Theotokos we magnify thee.

- *And then, 'straight':*

- Bless, O Lord.

Presiding Reader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us [and save us].

Choir: Amen. *And the Paschal Troparion: 'Christ is risen...' (Thrice).*

If the Paschal Hours are to be repeated, we return to the top: having sung the Paschal Troparion, thrice, we begin with Having Beheld the Resurrection, and continue with the rest.

But if we are concluding the Paschal Hours, we sing, 'straight':

- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. / Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. /// Bless, O Lord.

Presiding reader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, who art risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life: for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

Choir: Amen. *And the Paschal Troparion: 'Christ is risen...' (Thrice).*

And then, the Paschal Dismissal:

- And *unto* us He has given eternal life. //
Let *us* worship His Resurrection on the thurd day.