

The Paschal Kanon

ODE 1

COMPOSER'S NOTE: The Typikon of Violakis as realized by the Church of Greece specifies the following: Each ode of the Kanon has six stanzas: the Heirmos is chanted twice and the two or three troparia (verses) are repeated to make a total of four more. For those four verses, the first two have the prohymnion (stichos or pre-verse), "Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord," the third is preceded by "Glory to the Father..." and the fourth is preceded by "Now and ever...." Then the Heirmos is chanted again to serve as the Katavasia (the portion of the hymn where the chanters would descend from their stations and go to the middle of the church to conclude the ode). The Katavasia can be done in a more ornate or "slow" style. Following this, "Christ is Risen" is chanted three times and "Jesus is risen from the tomb..." once. A small litany follows each ode. Here, only the first ode is mapped out completely.

Byzantine Chant

χειρ Jessica Suchy-Pilalis

Mode 1, Psalm D

Heirmos.

This is the day of resur - rec - tion. Let us be il -

lu - mined, O peo - ple. Pas - cha, the Pas - cha of the Lord!

For from death to life and from earth to heav - en has Christ

God led us, as we sing the song of vic - - to - ry.

Prohymnion (Refrain).

Glo - ry to Thy ho - ly res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

Troparion 1.



Let us pu - ri - fy our sens - es, and we shall see Christ



shin-ing in the sun - ap - proach - a ble light of His res - ur -

rec - tion. We shall clear - ly hear Him say: "Re - joice" as we



sing the song of vic - to - ry.

Repeat "Glory to Thy/Your holy resurrection, O Lord," and then "Let us purify our senses."



Glory to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the

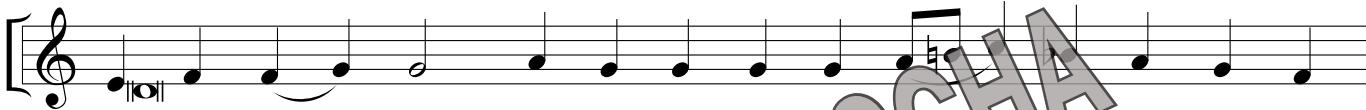


Ho - ly Spir - it.

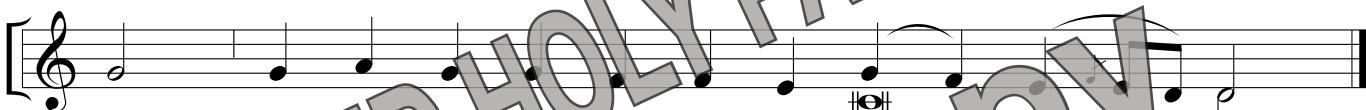
Troparion 2.



Let the heav - ens be glad, and let the earth re - joice.



Let the whole world, vis - i - ble and in - vis - i - ble, keep the



feast. For Christ is ris - en, our e - ter - nal joy.

Now and ev - er, and un - to ag - es of ag - es. A - men.

Repeat "Let the heavens be glad..."

Katavasia.



This is the day of res - ur - rec - tion. Let us be il -



lu - mined, O peo - ple. Pas - cha, the Pas - cha of the Lord!



For from death to life and from earth to heav - en has Christ



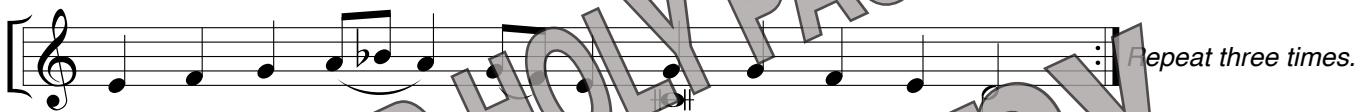
God led us, as we sing the song of vic - to - ry.

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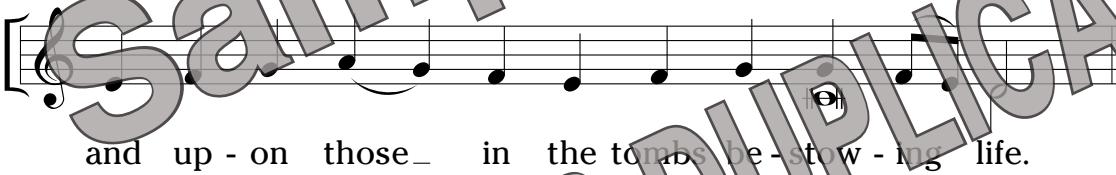
Christ is ris - en from the dead tram - pling down death by death



and up - on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.

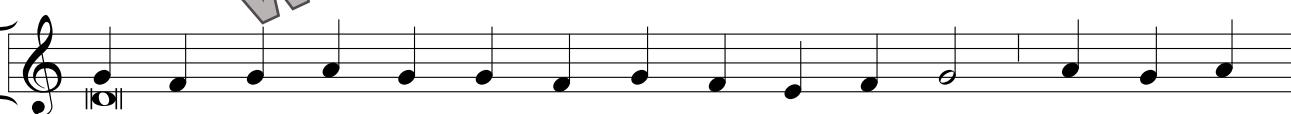
Alternate version #1

Christ is ris - en from the dead tram - pling down death by death



Alternate version #2

Christ is ris - en from the dead tram - pling down death by death



Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb as He fore-told, grant-ing us

This extended cadence may be used with all the odes.



e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy. ...mer - cy.

Paschal Kanon

ODE 3

Heirmos.

Byzantine Chant



Come, let us drink, not mi - rac - u - lous



wa - ter drawn forth forth a bar - ren stone, but a new



vin - tage from the fount of in - cor - rup - tion, spring - ing -



from the tomb of Christ in Whom we are es - tab - lished.

Prohymnion (Refrain).

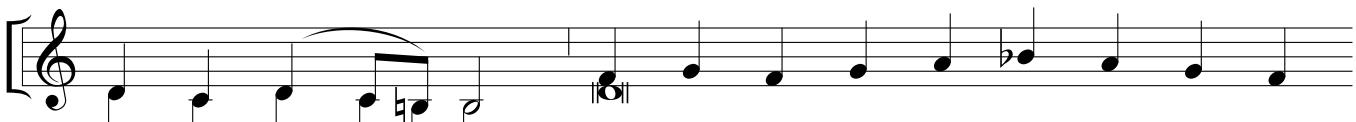


Glo - ry to Thy ho - ly res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

Troparion 1.



Now all is filled with light: heav - en and earth and the



low - er re - gions. Let all cre - a - tion cel - e - brate the

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ris - ing of Christ. In Him we are es - tab lished.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the

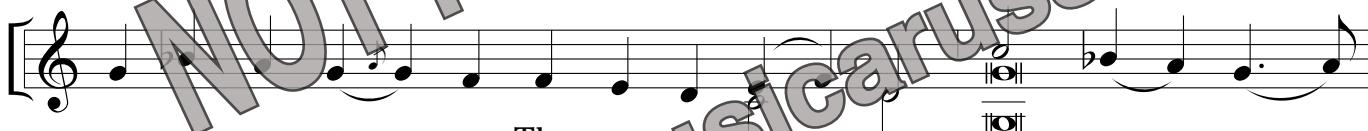


Ho - ly Spir - it

Troparion 2.



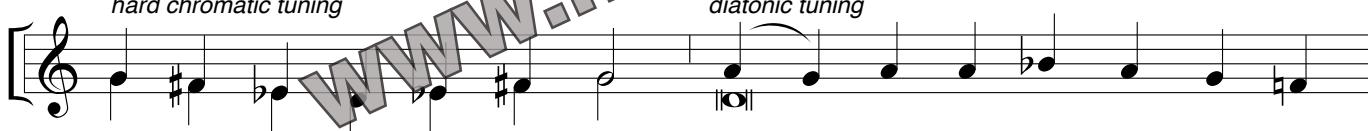
Yes - ter - day was bur - ied with Thee, O Christ. To - day I



a - rise with Thee - in Thy res - ur - rec - tion. Yes - ter - - day -

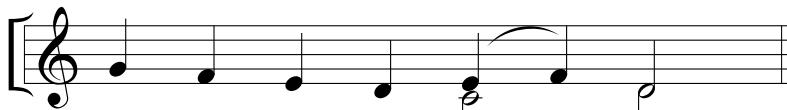
hard chromatic tuning

diatonic tuning



I was cru - ci - fied with Thee. Glo - - ri - fy me with Thee, O

You.



Sav - ior, in Thy king - dom.

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Now and ev - er, and un - to ag - es of ag - es. A - men.

Repeat: Yesterday I was buried with Thee..."

Then repeat the Heirmos as the Katavasia, followed by:



Christ is ris - en from the dead tram - pling down death by death



and upon those in - the tombs be - stow - ing life.

Repeat three times.

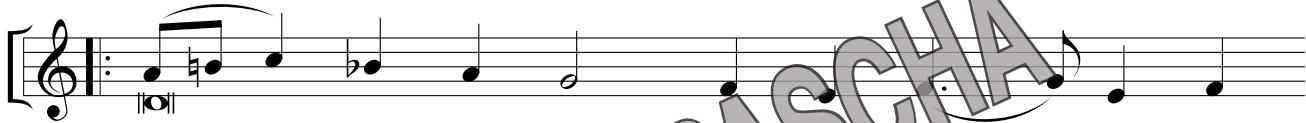


Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb as He fore - told, grant-ing us



e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy.

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Alternate version of the Megalynarion

Come, — let us drink, not mi - rac - - u - lous



wa - ter drawn forth — from a bar - ren stone, but a new

vin - tage from the fount of in - cor - rup - - tion, spring - ing



from the tomb of Christ, In Whom we are es - tab - - lished

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The Hypakoe of Pascha*

Byzantine Chant
X⁶⁰
Jessica Suchy-Pilalis
Mode 4, Vou = E

Ne. Be - fore the dawn Mar - y and the wom - en

came and found the stone rolled a - way from the tomb.

They heard the an - gel - ic voice: "Why do you seek a - mong the

dead as a man the One who is Ev - er - last - ing Light?

Be - hold the clothes in the grave Go and pro - claim to the

world: 'The Lord is ris - en! He has slain death, as He

is the Son of God, sav - ing the race of men."

*In Byzantine practice, the Hypakoe is usually read.

Paschal Kanon

ODE 4

Heirmos.

Byzantine Chant



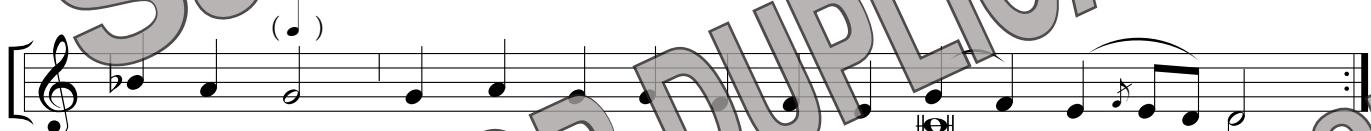
The in - spired* proph - et Ka - bok - kuk now stands with us in



ho - ly vig - il. He is like a shin - ing an - gel who



cries with a pierc-ing voice: "To - day sal - va - tion has come



to the world," for Christ is ris - en as all - pow - er - ful.

Prohymnion (Refrain).



Glo - ry to Thy ho - ly Tes - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

Troparion 1.

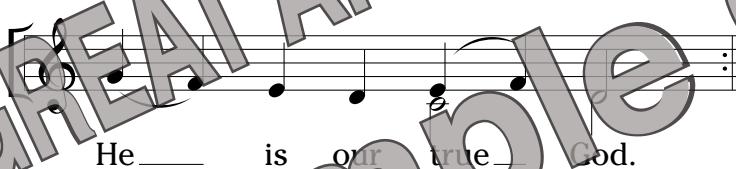


Christ our Pas - cha has ap - peared as a male* Child*,



the Son that o - pens a vir - gin womb. He is called the Lamb

*Diphthong set as two syllables.



Troparion 2.



Christ, the crown with which we are blessed, has ap - peared as a



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pas - chal sac - ri - fice. From the tomb He has shone forth once

a - gain, our ra - drant Sun of Right - eous - ness.

Now and ev - er and un - to ag - es of ag - es. A - men

Troparion 3.

Da - vid, the an - ces - tor of God, leaped and car - ed be - fore

the ark which pre - fig - ued You. Now let us, the ho - ly

peo - ple of God, see - ing the ful - fill - ment of all fig - ures,

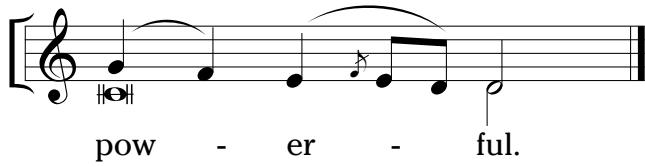
re - joice in pi - e - ty, for Christ is ris - en as all -

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Repeat the Heirmos as the Katavasia, followed by:



and up - on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.

Repeat three times.



e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy.

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Paschal Kanon

ODE 5

Heirmos.

Byzantine Chant



Let us a - rise at the rising of the sun and bring to the



Mas - ter a hymn in - stead of myrrh, and we shall see



Christ, the sun of right-eous-ness, who caus - es life to dawn



for all.

Prohymion (Refrain).

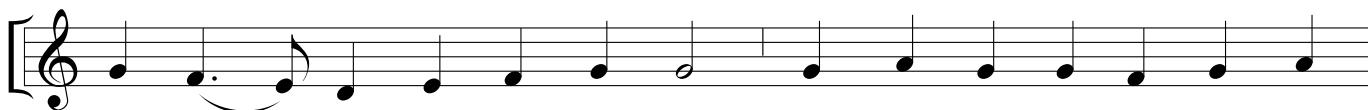


Glo - ry to Thy Your ho - ly res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

Troparion 1.



The souls bound in the chains of hell, O Christ, see - ing Thy Your



com - pas - sion with - out meas - ure, pressed on - ward to the light with

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joy - ful steps, prais - ing the e - ter - nal Pas - cha.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the



Troparion 2.



Let us go with lamps in hand to meet Christ, Who comes from



the tomb like a bride - groom. And with the fes - tive ranks of



an - gels, let us cel - e - brate the sav - ing Pas - cha of God.

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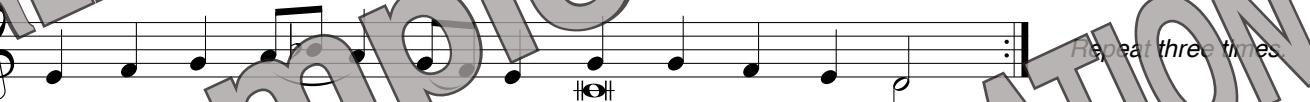


Now and ev - er, and un - to ag - es of ag - es. A - men.

*Repeat "Let us go with lamps," then repeat the Heirmos as the Katavasia,
followed by:*



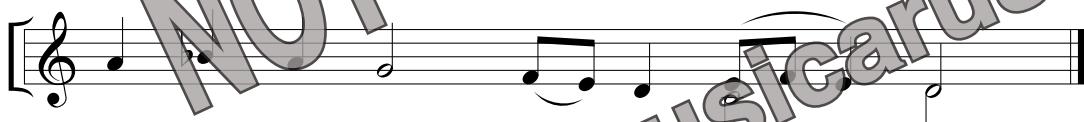
Christ is ris - en from the dead tram - pling down death by death



and up - on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.



Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb as He fore - told giv - ing us



e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy.

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Paschal Kanon**ODE 6**

(“Thou/Thy” variant)

Heirmos.

Byzantine Chant

hard chromatic tuning

Thou didst descend, O Christ, to the depths of the earth;
 Thou didst break the ever-lasting bars which had held death's
 captives, and like Jo-nah from the whale* on the third
 day, Thou didst a-rise from the grave.

ODE 6

(“You/Your” Variant)

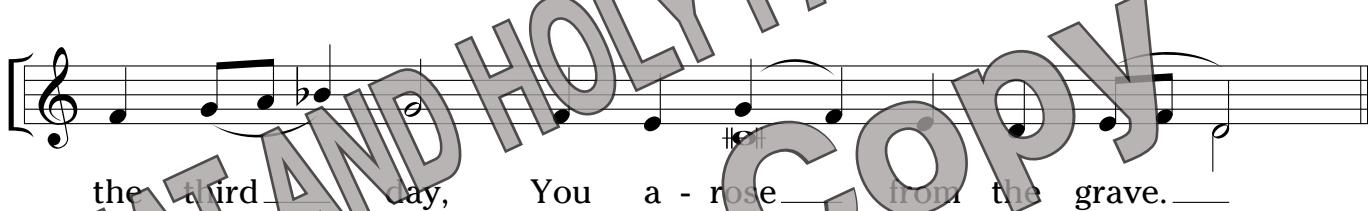
Heirmos.

hard chromatic tuning

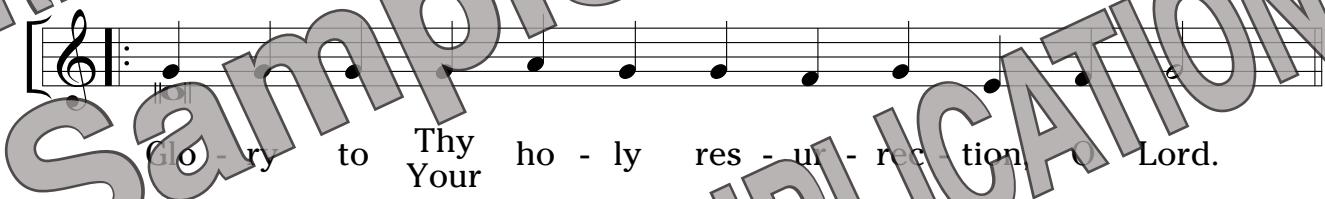
diatonic tuning

You de-scent-ed, O Christ, to the depths of the earth;
 You broke the ev-er-last-ing bars which had held death's

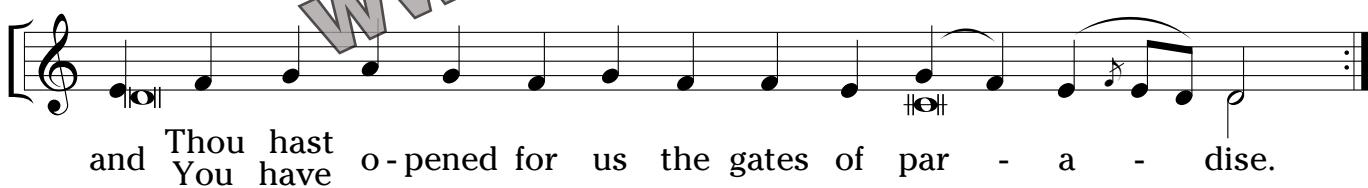
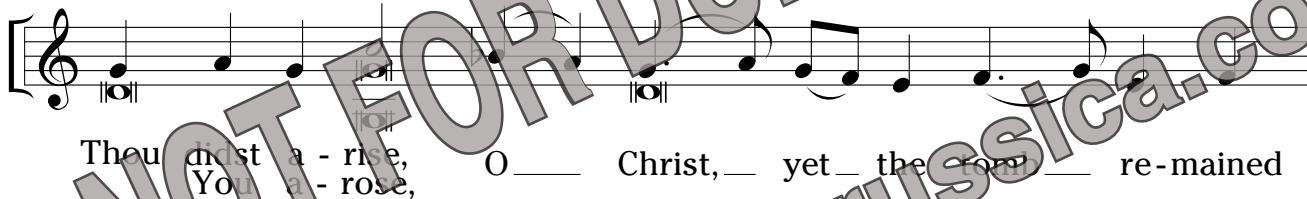
*diphthong set as two syllables



Phrymnon (Refrain).



Troparion 1.



*diphthong set as two syllables

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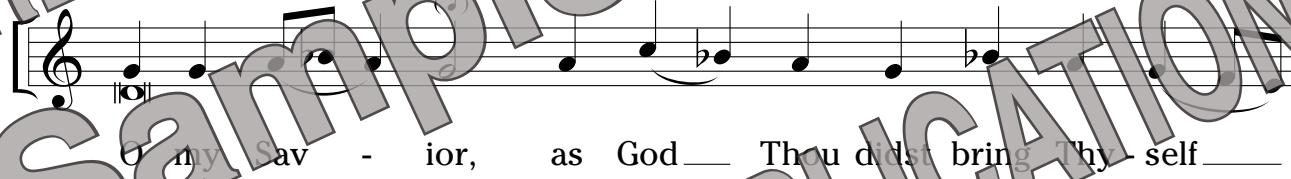


Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the



Tropion 2.

(“Thou/Thy” variant)



To my Sav - ior, as God ____ Thou didst bring Thy self ____



free - ly to the Fa - ther, a vic - tim liv - ing and un -

sac - ri - ficed, res - ur - rect ing Ad - am, the fa - ther of us



all, when Thou didst - a - rise ____ from the grave. ____

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(“You/Your” variant)

Troparion 2.

O my Sav - ior, as God You brought Your - self free - ly

to the Fa - ther, a vic - tim liv - ing and un - sac - ri - ficed,

res - ur - rect - ing Ad - am, the fa - ther of us all when

You a - rose from the grave.

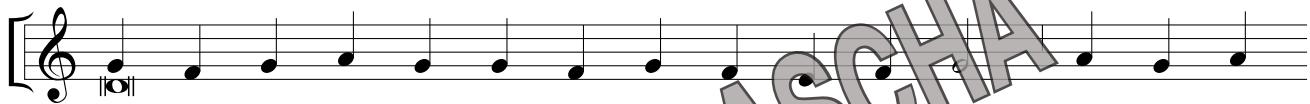
Now and ev - er, and un - to ag - es of ag - es. A - men.

Repeat “O my Savior, as God...,” then repeat the Heirmos as the Katavasia, followed by

Christ is ris - en from the dead tram - pling down death by death

and up - on those in the tombs be - stow-ing life.

Repeat three times.



Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb as He fore-told, grant-ing us



eternal life and great mer cy.

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The Kontakion of Pascha*

(“Thou/Thy” variant)

Byzantine Chant

Jessica Suchy-Pilalis

Mode 4 Plagal, Ga = F

Thou didst de - scend in - to the tomb, O Im - mor - tal,
Thou didst de - stroy the pow - er of death. In vic - to - ry didst
Thou a - rise, — O Christ God, pro - claim - ing “Re - joice” to the myrrh -
bear - ing wom - en, grant ing peace to Thine Your A - pos - toles,
and be - stow - ing res - ur - rection on the fall - en.

(“You/Your” variant)

You de - scend - ed in - to the tomb, O Im - mor - tal, You de -
stroyed the pow - er of death. In vic - to - ry You a - rose, O Christ__ God...

And the remainder as above.

*In Byzantine practice, the Kontakion is read during Matins but sung at the Divine Liturgy.

The Paschal Ikos*

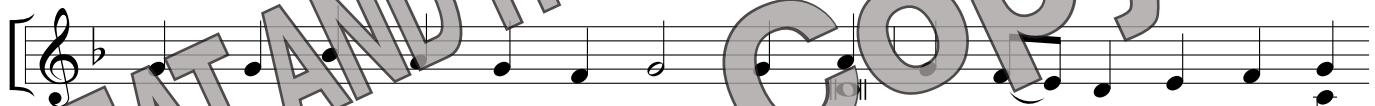
Byzantine Chant

Jessica Suchy-Pilalis

Mode 4 Plagal, Ga = F



Ne. Be - fore the dawn, the myrrh - bear - ing wom - en



sought as those who seek the day, their Sun, Who was be - fore the sun



yet had de - scend - ed to the grave, and they cried



to each oth - er "O friends, come let us a - mint with



spic - es His life - bear - ing vir - tue bur - ied bod - y, the



flesh which raised fall - en Ad - am and now lies in the tomb.



Let us as - sem - ble and, like the ma - gi, let us has - ten

*In Byzantine practice, the Ikos is usually read.

and let us wor - ship. Let us bring myrrh as a gift to

Him who is wrapped now, not in swad - db - ling clothes,
modulation to hard chromatic tuning

but in a wind - ing - sheet. Let us la - ment
remodulation to diatonic

and cry: 'A - rise, O Mas - ter, and be-stow res - ur - rec - tion

on the fall - en."

Synaxarion

The Synaxarion of the calendar day is read first, then:

On this holy and great day of Pascha, we celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Verse: Christ descended alone to struggle with Hades, and ascended bringing bountiful spoils of victory.

To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

Having Beheld the Resurrection of Christ

Byzantine Chant

Music by Jessica Suchy-Pilalis

Mode 2 Plagal

Soft Chromatic Tuning, Thi = G



Ne. Having be - held the res - ur - rec - tion of Christ,



let us wor - ship, the ho - ly Lord Je - sus, the on - ly Sin-less One!



We ven - er - ate Thy Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glo - ri - fy



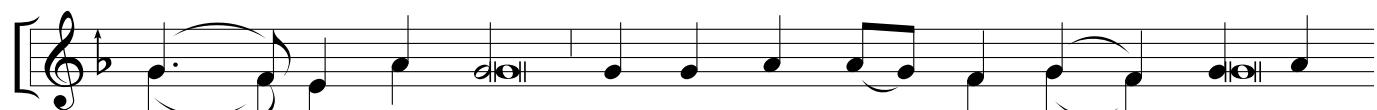
Thy ho - ly res - ur - rec - tion; for Thou art our God,



and we know no oth - er than Thee; we call on Thy name.



Come, all - you faith - ful, let us ven - er - ate Christ's Ho - ly



res - ur - rec - tion! For, be - hold, through the Cross - joy has



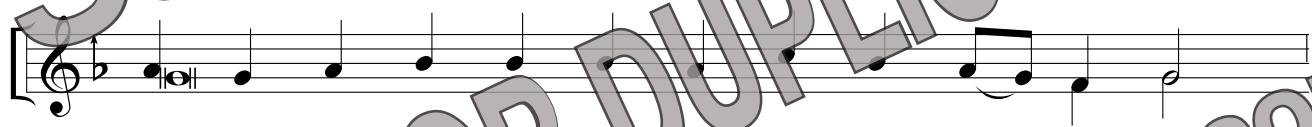
come in - to all the world. Let us ev - er bless the Lord,



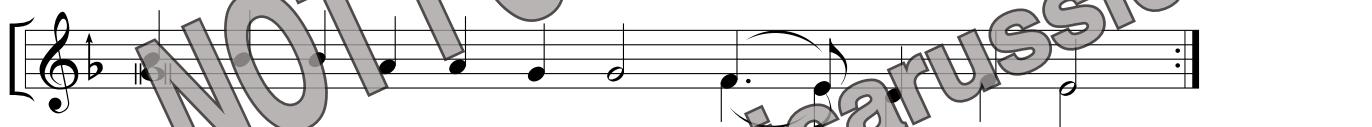
prais-ing His res - ur - rec - tion. By en - dur - ing the



Cross for us He de-stroyed death by death. *Repeat three times.*

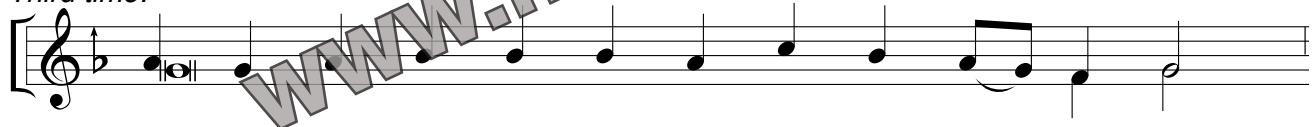


Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb, as He fore - told,

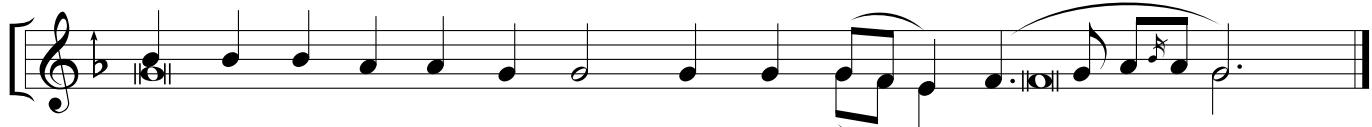


grant-ing us e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy.

Third time:



Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb, as He fore - told,



grant-ing us e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy.

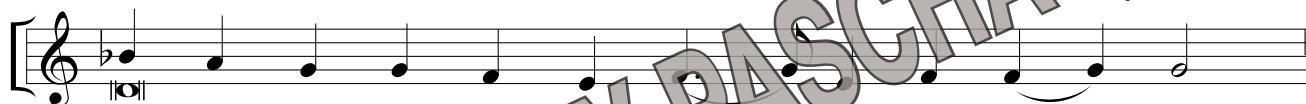
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Paschal Kanon

ODE 7

Heirmos.

Byzantine Chant



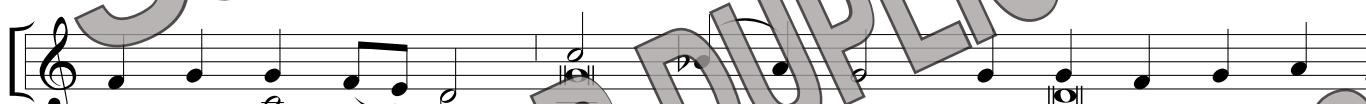
He who saved the three young men in the fur-nace



be-came in-car-nate and suf-fered as a mor-tal man. Through His



su-ferr-ing-s He clothed what is mor-tal in the robe of



im-mor-tal-i-ty. He a-lone is bless-ed and most



glo-ri-ous: the God of our fa-thers.

Prohymnion (Refrain).

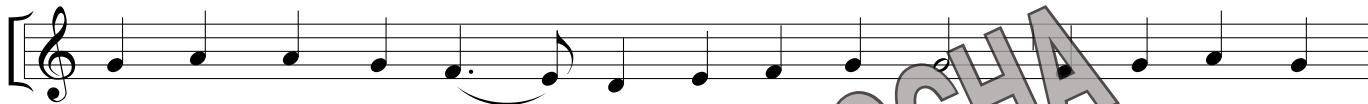


Glo-ry to Thy ho-ly res-ur-rec-tion, O Lord.

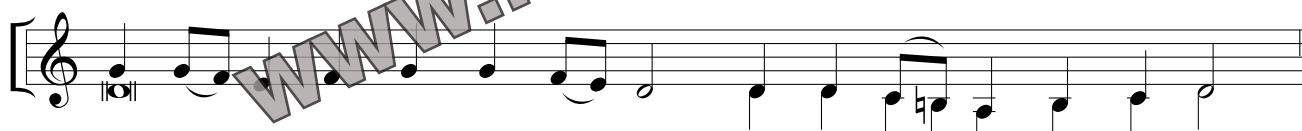
Troparion 1.



The god-ly wom-en has-tened to Thee, with myrrh, O Christ.



Troparion 2.



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God of our fa - thers.



Troparion 3



su - preme - ly fes - tal. It her - alds the ra - di - ant day





shone forth bod - i - ly from the tomb for all.

*Repeat the Heirmos as the Katavasia,
followed by:*



Christ is ris - en from the dead stran - pling down death by death



and up on those in the tombs be - stow - ing life.

Repeat three times.



Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb as He fore - told, granting us



e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy.

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Paschal Kanon

Heirmos.

ODE 8

Byzantine Chant

This is the cho - sen and ho - ly day, [the] first of

Sab - baths, [the] king and lord of days, the feast of feasts,

ho - ly day of ho - ly days. On this day we bless Christ

for - ev - er - more.

Prohymnion (Refrain).

Glo - ry to Thy ho - ly res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

Troparion 1.

Come on this cho - sen day ____ of the res - ur - rec - - tion,

let us par - take ____ of the new fruit of the vine. Let us share

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in the di - vine re - joic - ing on the King ^{to} dom of Christ,

prais - ing Him as God for - ev er more.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the
Ho - ly Spir - it.

Troparion 2.

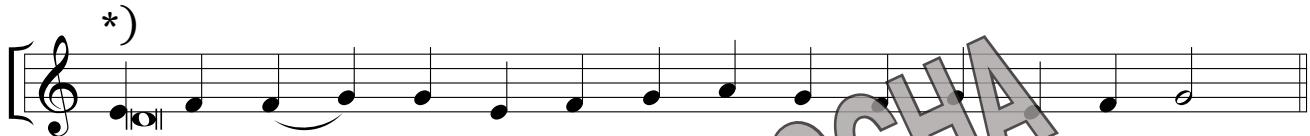
Lift up thine eyes, O Zi - on, round about and see:

Thy chil-dren like di - vine ly shin - ing stars as - sem - ble from the

North, the South, the East and the West to bless Christ in thee you for -

ev - er - more.

^{*)} In Byzantine practice, this "Glory..." may be replaced by "We bless Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Lord."



Now and ev - er, and un - to ag - es of ag - es. A - men.

Troparion 3.



Fa - ther al - might - y, Word, and Spir - it, one na - ture

in three per - sons, sun - pas - sing es - sence and di - vi - ty.

In Thee You have we been bap - tized, and Thee You we bless

for ev - e - more.

"We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord" may be inserted before repeating the Hirmos as the Katavasia.

Christ is ris - on from the dead tram - pling down death by death

Repeat three times.

and up - on those_ in_ the tombs be - stow - ing life.

*) In Byzantine practice, "Now and ever" may be followed by "Holy Trinity, [our] God, have mercy on us and save us."



Je - sus has ris - en from the tomb as He fore-told, grant-ing us



e - ter - nal life and great mer - cy

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Paschal Kanon

ODE 9

Megalynarion 1.

Byzantine Chant



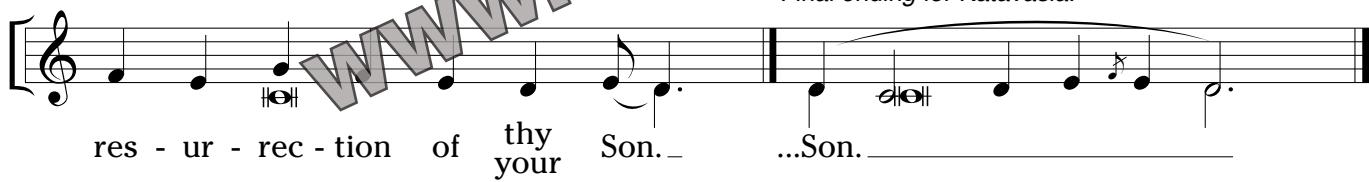
Heirmos.

Shine! Shine! O new Je - ru - sa - lem! The glo - ry of the



Be - ra - di - ant, O pure The - o - to - kos, in the

Final ending for Katavasia.



Megalynarion 2.

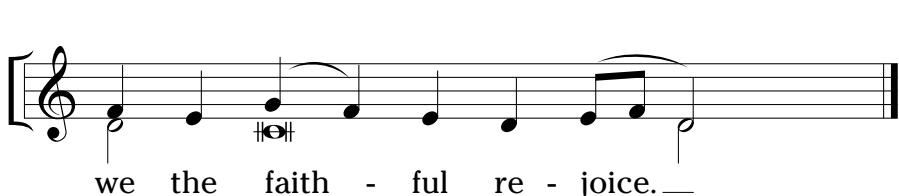




Megalynarion 3.



Troparion 1.



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Megalynarion 4.



To - day all cre - a - tion re - joices and makes glad, for Christ



is ris - en and hell has been de - spoiled."

Repeat Tropion 1, "How divine..."

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

Megalynarion 5.



Ho - ly Spir - it: My soul mag - ni - fies the might of the



God head, in three Per - sons yet un - di - vid - ed.

Tropion 2.



O Christ, great and most ho - ly Pas - cha, O Wis-dom,



Word, and Pow - er of God: grant that we may more per - fect - ly

*diphthong set as two syllables.



par-take of Thee You in the nev - er - end ing day of Thy Your King - dom.



Now and ev - er, and un - to ag - es of ag - es. A - men.

Megalynarion 6



Re - joyce, O Vir - gin re - joyce! Re - joyce, O blessed one! Re - joyce,

O glo - ri - fied one! Thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb.

Repeat Troparion 2, "O Christ, great and most holy Pascha..."

Megalynarion 7



The an - gel cried to the La - dy full of grace: "Re -



joice, O pure Vir - gin. A - gain I say: 'Re - joyce.' Thy Son is



ris - en from His three_ days in the tomb. [With Him - self He



**This last phrase is not found in many traditions.

*Repeat the Heirmos as the Katavasia,
followed by "Christ is risen..." (3 times) and
"Jesus has risen..."*

The following Megalynaria verses are used when the troparia of the final ode are chanted multiple times.

Megalynarion 7.

Af - ter Thou didst fall a - sleep, Thy Your roy - al voice, roar - ing like
the li - on of Ju - dah a - wak ened the dead

from all ag - es.

Alternate version of the Megalynarion

and the rest as shown above.
Af - ter You fell a - sleep...

Megalynarion 8.

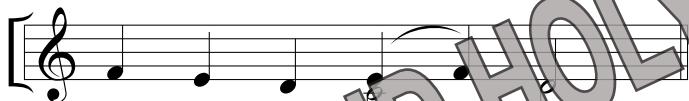
Mar - y Mag - da - lene has - tened to the tomb, and see - ing Christ,

she ques-tioned Him as though He were the gar - den - er.

Megalynarion 9.



An an - gel ap-peared to the wom-en and cried: "Cease your tears,



for Christ is ris-en."

Megalynarion 10.



Christ is ris-en trun-pling down death and rais - ing the dead.



Re-joice, all ye peo-ple.

Megalynarion 11.



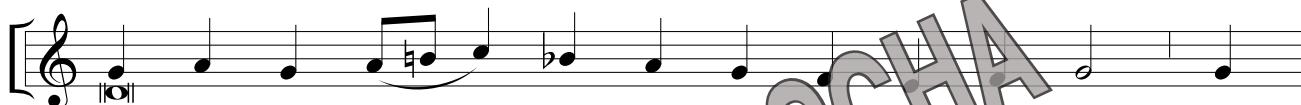
To-day the Mas-ter has de-spoiled him and raised the pris-on-ers



whom it had hid from the ag - es in harsh cap - tiv - i - ty.

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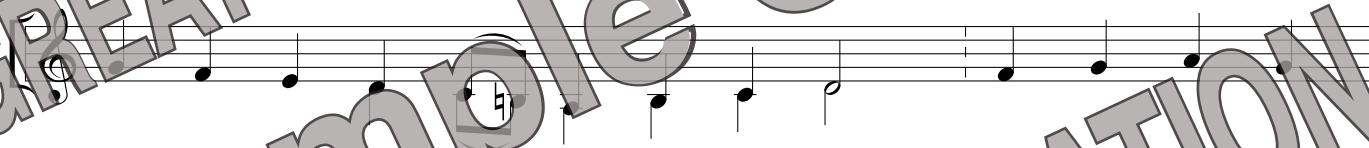
Megalynarion 12.



The an - gel cried ____ to the La - dy full of grace: "Re -



joice, O pure Vir - gin. A - gain I say: 'Re - joice.' Thy Your Son is



ris - en from His three days in the tomb. [With Him - self He

has raised all the dead." Re - joice, all ye peo - ple.]*

Alternative ending:



ris - en from His three days in the tomb. ____

*Repeat the Heirmos "Shine, shine..." as the Katavasia,
followed by "Christ is risen..." (3 times) and
"Jesus has risen from the tomb..."*

*)This last phrase is not found in many traditions, in which case the alternative ending should be used.