Melodies contained in this booklet were taken, with permission, from www.podoben.org/

The Vespers of Pascha
The celebrant vests himself in all his priestly vestments. Standing before the holy table, holding in his left hand the precious Cross and the three-branched candlestick, he traces the sign of the cross with the censer, and exclaims:

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

Choir:  Amen.

Priest:  Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

The priest reads the Pascal verses and the choir sings the troparion once between each.

APPENDIX

Alternate prokeimenon settings

Great Prokimenon
Who is so Great a God as our God?

arr. W. Shymansky

The priest reads the Pascal verses and the choir sings the troparion once between each.
Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death.

Choir: And upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Priest: May He who is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Then raising the cross, he says, Christ is risen (thrice) and we answer each time, Indeed He is risen. And finally we sing the whole troparion, Christ is risen ... (thrice) After that we conclude by singing:

Choir: And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His resurrection on the third day.

Verse 1: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered: let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Verse 2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish: as wax melts before the fire.

Verse 3: So the sinners will perish before the face of God: but let the righteous be glad.

Verse 4: This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Verse 5: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

Verse 6: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Christ is Risen.....

Choir: And upon those....

The Great Litany

Priest: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (repeat after each petition)

Priest: For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.
For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

For His Beatitude, our Metropolitan ________, and for His Grace, our Bishop ________ for the honorable priesthood, the deaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

For seasonable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

For travelers by land, by sea, and by air: for the sick and the suffering: for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.
Lord I Call

Common Chant

Tone 2

CHAMBER
CHRIST HAS SHONE FORTH FROM THE TOMB.
AND

CHAMBER
FILLED THE WOMEN WITH JOY SAYING:
PROCLAIM THE

CHAMBER
GLAD TIDINGS TO THE APOSTLES!
GLORY TO THE

CHAMBER
FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, NOW AND

CHAMBER
EVER AND UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN. THIS

CHAMBER
LORD, I CALL UPON THEE, HEAR ME. HEAR ME, O LORD. LORD, I CALL UPON THEE,

CHAMBER
THEE, HEAR ME. RECEIVE THE VOICE OF MY PRAYER. WHEN I CALL UPON THEE,

CHAMBER
HEAR ME, O LORD. LET MY PRAYER ArISE IN THY SIGHT

CHAMBER
AS INCENSE, AND LET THE LIFTING UP OF MY HANDS BE AN EVENING

CHAMBER
SACRIFICE, HEAR ME, O LORD. IF THOU, O LORD,
BE GLAD IN IT. PAS-CHA OF BEAU-TY! THE PAS-
CHA OF THE LORD! A PAS-CHA WORTHY OF ALL HO-NOR
HAS DAWNED FOR US. PAS-CHA! LET US EM-BRACE
EACH O-THER JOY-OUS-LY. PAS-CHA, RAN-SOM FROM AF-
FLIC-TION! FOR TO-DAY AS FROM A BRI-DAL

SHOULDST MARK INIQUITIES, LORD, WHO COULD STAND? BUT THERE IS FOR-GIVE-
NESS WITH THEE. COME, LET US WORSHIP THE WORD OF GOD, BEGOTTEN OF
THE FATHER BEFORE ALL AGES, AND IN-CAR-NATE OF THE VIR-GIN MA-RY.
HAV-ING EN-DURED THE CROSS, HE WAS BURIED AS HE HIM-SELF DE-SIRED AND
HAVING RISEN FROM THE DEAD, HE SAVED ME AN ERR-ING MAN. FOR
THY NAME'S SAKE I WAIT FOR THEE, O LORD. MY SOUL HAS WAITED FOR THEE.

VERSE 5

LORD, MY SOUL HAS HOPED ON THE LORD. CHRIST MY SAVIOR, NAILED TO THE CROSS AGAINST US.

TO THE CROSS THE BOND AGAINST US. HE VOID ED IT AND DESTROYED THE DOMINION OF DEATH. WE FALL DOWN BEFORE HIS RESURRECTION ON THE THIRD DAY.

CESSION. SO THE SINNERS WILL PERISH BEFORE THE
FACE OF GOD, BUT LET THE RIGHTEOUS BE GLAD.
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,
VERS.
ING WATCH, LET ISRAEL HOPE ON THE LORD.
LET US PRAISE THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST. HE IS OUR SAVIOR, OUR
REDEEMER. HE IS COMING WITH AWESOME GLORY AND MIGHTY POWER, TO
JUDGE THE WORLD WHICH HE MADE. FOR WITH THE LORD THERE IS MERCY
AND WITH HIM IS REDEMPTION, AND HE WILL DELIVER ISRAEL FROM ALL
28
9
VERSE 3

HIS INIQUITIES.
THE ANGEL PROCLAIMED THEE THE CRUCIFIED AND BURIED MASTER.

HE TOLD THE WOMEN: COME, SEE THE PLACE WHERE HE LAY
HE IS RISEN AS HE SAID, FOR HE IS ALMIGHTY.

WE WORSHIP THEE, O ONLY IM-MORTAL ONE.
HAVE MERCY ON US, O CHRIST, THE GIVER OF LIFE.

B U E R S OF GLAD T I DINGS AND SAY TO ZI-ON:
RECEIVE FROM US THE GLAD TIDINGS OF JOY OF CHRIST'S
RESURRECTION.
EXULT AND BE GLAD, AND RE-

JOICE, O J E - R U S A-LEM, SEEING CHRIST, THE KING, WHO
COMES FORTH FROM THE TOMB, LIKE A BRIDE-GROOM IN PRO-

PRAISE THE LORD ALL NATIONS, PRAISE HIM ALL PEOPLE.
Then the Paschal Stikhera, with their verses

SINGING THE HYMN OF SALVATION, CLEANSE OUR SINS, O THOU, WHO WAS
CRUCIFIED AND RAISED FROM THE DEAD, AND ART IN THE BOSOM OF THE
FATHER.
NOW AND EVER AND UNTO AGES OF AGES, AMEN.

THE SHADOW OF THE LAW PASSED WHEN GRACE CAME, AS THE BUSH BURNED,
YET WAS NOT CONSUMED, SO THE VIRGIN GAVE BIRTH, YET REMAINED A

Let God Arise

LENT GOD ARISE, LET HIS ENEMIES BE SCATTERED.
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
powers of the Devil, from vain thoughts and from evil imaginations. Blessed and glorified be the majesty of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Apostikha (Tone 2)

Priest: Wisdom. Let us attend.

Choir: O gladsome light of the holy glory of the immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun, and behold the light of evening, we praise God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise, O Son of God and Giver of Life: therefore, all the world doth glorify Thee!

This can be done in a simple Tone 6 melody; an additional melody has been provided here.
Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art a good God and Lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: O Lord our God, who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon Thy servants and Thine inheritance: for unto Thee, the awesome Judge, who yet Lovest mankind, have Thy servants bowed their heads, and submissively inclined their necks, awaiting not help from men, but asking Thy mercy, and looking confidently for Thy salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse
That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant it, O Lord. (repeat after each petition)

Priest: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

A Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless, and peaceful: and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

The priest completes the entrance by going to the High Place.

Then, facing the people, he intones:

**Priest** Let us attend. Peace be unto all. Wisdom. The Great Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone: Who is so great a God as our God: Thou art the God who doest wonders.

An alternate melody is in the Appendix at the end of this booklet.
And we sing the same once. The priest then chants the verses. And we sing at each verse: Who is so great...

Verse 1: Thou hast made known Thy power among the peoples.

Verse 2: And I said, now have I begun: this is the change of the right hand of the Most High.

Verse 3: I remembered the works of the Lord: for from the beginning will I remember Thy wonders.

Priest: Who is so great a God as our God:

Choir: Thou art the God who doest wonders.

The Reading of the Holy Gospel

Priest: And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)


Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (John 20:19-25):

The Litany of Vespers

Priest: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (repeat after each petition)

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.
Priest: On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven: if you retain the sins of any they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe."

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.
Priest:  O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray Thee, hearken al have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir:  Lord, have mercy. (3x) (repeat after each petition)

Again we pray for His Beatitude, our Metropolitan __________, and His Grace __________, our Bishop, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy: and for all our brethren in Christ.

Again we pray for the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house: and for all of our fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, pardon and remission of sins, for all the brethren of this community.

Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house: for those who labor and those who sing: and for all people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

For Thou art a merciful God, and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir:  Amen