

Troparion

Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling down death by death,
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Hypakoë (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 is Everlasting Light?
Behold the clothes in the grave! Go proclaim to the world:
the Lord is risen! He has slain death, //
as He is the Son of God, saving the race of man!

Glory... Now and ever... Kontakion (Tone 8)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal
Thou didst destroy the power of death.
In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God,
proclaiming: Rejoice! to the Myrrhbearing women, //
granting peace to Thine apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the
fallen.

Everyone is welcome to stay for our
festal meal following the Divine Liturgy
and the blessing of paschal baskets!

Liturgical Schedule at St Matthew

Sunday, April 20, 3:00 PM—Vespers (Agape Vespers)
Bright Wednesday, April 23, 6:00 PM—Divine Liturgy
Saturday, April 26, 5:00 PM—Great Vespers
Sunday, April 27, 8:30 AM—Matins; 9:30 AM—Divine Liturgy
Wednesday, April 30, 6:00 PM—Daily Vespers

Church Cleaner
Julian—week of 4/20 for 4/27

St. Matthew Orthodox Church

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Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the Midwest

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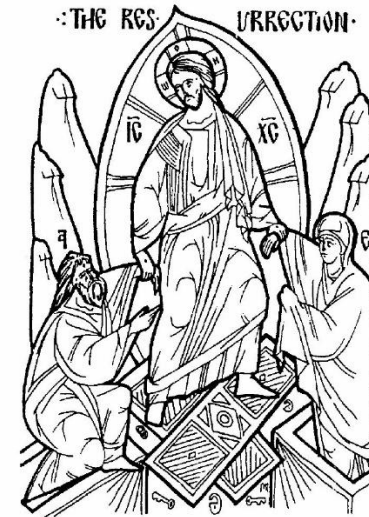
(920)-455-0744 (Church)

April 20, 2025

Great and Holy Pascha

Christ is Risen!
Indeed He is Risen!

·THE RESURRECTION·



<u>English</u> Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!	<u>Greek</u> Christos Anesti! Alithos anesti!	<u>Russian</u> Khristos voskres! Voistinu voskres!
<u>Arabic</u> El Messieh kahm! Hakken kahm!	<u>Spanish</u> Cristo ha resucitado! En verdad ha resucitado!	<u>Ukrainian</u> Khristos voskres! Voistinu voskres!
<u>Romanian</u> Hristos a inviat! Adevărat a înviat!	<u>Estonian</u> Kristus on üles tõusnud! Ta on tõesti üles tõusnud!	<u>Latin</u> Christus resurrexit! Vere resurrexit!
<u>German</u> Christus ist auferstanden! Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!	<u>Georgian</u> Kriste aghsdga! Cheshmaritad aghsdga!	<u>Polish</u> Khristus zmartwyckwstal! Zaprawde zmartwyckwstal!
<u>Hebrew</u> Ha Masheeha houh quam! Be emet quam!	<u>Italian</u> Cristo è risorto! Veramente è risorto!	<u>French</u> Le Christ est ressuscité! En verite il est ressuscité!

Archpastoral Greetings of the Most Reverend Daniel, Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest on the Bright and Joyous Feast of Pascha:

Beloved Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the God-protected Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest: **Christ is Risen!**

“You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen!” (Mark 16:6). With these words, the heavensent messenger, robed in light, addressed the Holy Myrrhbearing Women who, on that first day of the week, came looking for the tomb of Jesus. In spite of the possibility of great personal harm, their love for the Lord compelled them to come to the tomb to honor His body with a proper Jewish burial. Their deep sorrow was overpowered by their love and care for their Master. On this same “first day of the week,” we, too, come seeking the Lord and likewise hear and rejoice in those very words: “He is risen; He is not here.”

As Orthodox Christians, we believe that Jesus is not an historic figure from the past, a person whose life and deeds are to be remembered in history books. Yes, He performed wondrous works and healed the sick and suffering and raised the dead. He was betrayed by a friend, brutally beaten and crucified. He died on a cross and was buried in a borrowed tomb. But that is where mere historical facts come to an end. The tomb could not contain Him. He is risen and the tomb is empty! We believe and confess that He lives, is present among us, and walks before us and beside us as one who is alive, as one who calls us to follow Him on the path of eternal life.

Christ is risen! At Pascha we rejoice because Christ did not remain in the tomb, his body did not see corruption (How could the Author of Life be subject to corruption?) Christ belongs to the world of the living, not to the world of the dead; we rejoice because he is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Source and the Fulfillment of all life. He lives not only yesterday, but is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

Christ is risen! But somehow this great reality and wondrous mystery of Christ’s Resurrection is situated so far outside our own human experience

that, looking inwardly, we find ourselves discussing the same question asked by the disciples coming down from Mount Tabor: What exactly does this “rising from the dead” mean? What does it mean for us? What does it mean for all human history? In attempting to answer this line of questioning, we must begin by admitting that Christ’s Resurrection is something more, something different. It is a leap into a completely new order which concerns not only ourselves personally, but the whole of human history.

Christ is risen! Because of His love for us, Jesus could allow himself to die upon a cross. We must recognize, however, that by doing so he broke the seeming finality of death, because in Him the eternal finality of life was present. His death on the cross formed a new reality with life, in such a way that life is the definitive reality.

Christ is risen! In the Gospel of John, Jesus says to his disciples “I live, and you will also live (John 14:19). We will live because of our union with the Risen Lord, our Savior. We live and will continue to live through having been united to the One who is life itself. Eternal life and blessed immortality is a gift to us that is ours through our relationship with Christ, the Conqueror of Death. Eternal life comes to us because we have been loved by Him who is Life. He loves us so much that He died on the cross and rose from the dead for us and for our salvation.

Christ is risen! Thus, we can sing full of joy, together with the Church, in the words of the Paschal Troparion: “Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death. And upon those in the tombs bestowing life... And unto us He has given eternal life. Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!”

I extend my joyous best wishes to you all, asking the Risen Lord to bless you, your families, friends, and all your loved ones with His continuing, life-giving presence in your lives.

With love in the Risen Lord,

+DANIEL

Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest