

Holy Friday Vespers

Aposticha

Kievan

Tone 2

O Christ, Life of all,

The first line of the hymn is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with a soprano line and a lower line. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Life of all,". The music consists of several measures, with some notes beamed together and others held as whole notes.

when Joseph of Ra - - - mah

The second line of the hymn continues the melody. It includes a measure rest of two measures, indicated by a '2' above the staff. The lyrics are: "when Joseph of Ra - - - mah". The musical notation shows a continuation of the melodic line with some rests and beamed notes.

Brought thee down dead from the cross,

The third line of the hymn continues the melody. It includes a measure rest of two measures, indicated by a '3' above the staff. The lyrics are: "Brought thee down dead from the cross,". The musical notation shows a continuation of the melodic line with some rests and beamed notes.

he laid thee in balms and lin - - - en,

The fourth line of the hymn continues the melody. It includes a measure rest of two measures, indicated by a '4' above the staff. The lyrics are: "he laid thee in balms and lin - - - en,". The musical notation shows a continuation of the melodic line with some rests and beamed notes.

St Romanos Monastery

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5

hast - en - ing anx - ious - ly to kiss thy lips

6

and bury thy pure body free from cor - rup - - - tion.

7

But he was rev - 'rent with fear as he cried to thee with joy,

8

"Glo - ry to thy con - de - scen - sion, O Lo - ver of _ man - kind.

9

Ha - des, made ri - di - cu - lous at see - ing thee,

10

O De - liv - - - er - er of all,

11

placed in a new tomb for the sake of all,

12

trem - - - bled with fear.

13

Its locks were shat - tered; its doors bro - ken;

14

the tombs were opened; and the dead a - woke.

15

Then A - dam cried to thee with joy and grat - i - tude,

16

"Glo - ry to thy con - de - scen - sion, O Lo - ver of_ man - kind."

17

O Christ, who in thy di - vine na - ture

18

art bound - less and in - - - fi - nite,

19

when thou was en-closed in the grave by thine own will af-ter the flesh,

20

thou didst close the chambers of death and Ha - - des,

21

and dist de - mol - ish all its king - doms.

22

Then thou preparedst this Sabbath for thy glo - - - ry,

23

thine il - lu - mi - na - tion, and thy di - vine bless - ing.

24

The an - gel - ic hosts, O Christ,

25

be - hold - ing those law - less ones

26

vic - ti - mize thee as a cri - mi - nal,

27

and seeing the tomb - stone sealed by the hands

28

of ——— those who pierced thy side,

29

were frightened at thine in - eff - a - ble long - suff - er - ing.

30

But re - joic - ing at our salvation, they cried un - to thee,

31

"Glo-ry to thy con - de - scen - sion, O Lo - ver of — man - kind.