

GREAT VESPERS ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024: TONE 5

SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN

TARASIOS THE CONFESSOR, ARCHBISHOP OF
CONSTANTINOPLE;
HIEROMARTYR MARKELLOS, BISHOP OF APAMEA IN SYRIA

AT “O LORD, I HAVE CRIED”

For the Resurrection

Tone 5

Verse 10. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.

With Thy noble Cross, O Christ, Thou hast put the devil to shame, and with Thy Resurrection Thou hast annihilated the thorn of death. Thou hast saved us, too, from the gates of death. Wherefore, do we glorify Thee, O only begotten One.

Verse 9. The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.

The Bestower of Resurrection to mankind was verily led like a lamb to slaughter. Therefore, the captains of Hades were terrified by Him, and its portals of agony were lifted; for Christ the King of glory hath entered it, saying to those in bonds, Come ye out! And to those in darkness, Be ye manifest!

Verse 8. Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

The wonder is verily great; for the Creator of unseen creatures hath suffered in the flesh for His love of mankind; and the deathless One hath risen up. Come ye, therefore, O tribes of the nations, let us bow to Him in worship; for by His compassion have we been liberated from disobedience and have learned how to praise the one God in three Persons.

Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

O Light that is not apprehended by eventide, we offer Thee evening worship; for Thou hast risen on the world at the completeness of time as in a mirror; and Thou didst descend to Hades and dissolved the darkness therein, revealing to the nations the light of the Resurrection. Wherefore, O Lord, Giver of light, glory to Thee.

Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Let us praise with words of glorification Christ, the Element of our salvation; for by His rising from the dead He hath saved the world from falsehood, and the ranks of angels rejoiced; and the falsehood of demons hath vanished; and Adam rose up from the fall; and the authority of Diabolus was repudiated.

Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

When the guardian soldiers were appointed by the transgressors of the law, they were instructed by them to conceal the Resurrection of Christ; for they said to them: Take ye silver and say: Behold, when we were asleep the corpse was stolen from the tomb. But who hath ever seen or heard at any time that a corpse was stolen, especially if it were naked and embalmed, leaving its wrappings in the grave? Be ye not deceived, O Jews, but learn ye the sayings of the Prophets, and understand that this One in truth is the Savior of the world, the omnipotent One.

Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

O Lord, our Savior, Who didst lead Hades captive and didst trample down Death, and didst light the world with Thy precious Cross, have mercy upon us.

For the Pharisee and the Publican in Tone One

Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee; for he who exalts himself shall be humbled. Let us humble ourselves before God, and with fasting cry aloud as the Publican: God be merciful to us sinners.

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee ... (repeat above)

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

A Pharisee, overcome with vainglory, and a Publican, bowed down in repentance, came to Thee the only Master. The one boasted and was deprived of blessings, while the other kept silent and was counted worthy of gifts. Confirm me, O Christ our God, in these his cries of sorrow, for Thou lovest mankind.

Doxasticon for the Pharisee and Publican

Tone 8

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Almighty Lord, I have known the effectiveness of tears; for they snatched Hezekiah from the doors of death, and saved the sinning woman from her chronic iniquities. And as for the Publican they justified him more than the Pharisee. Wherefore, I implore Thee to number me among them, and have mercy upon me.

Theotokion for the Resurrection

Tone 5

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The sign of the virgin bride who knew not wedlock was at one time revealed in the Red Sea; for there Moses did cleave the waters, and there

Gabriel was the minister of a miracle. At that time Israel crossed the deep and their feet were not wet, and now the Virgin hath given birth to Christ without seed. The sea remained uncrossed after the passing of Israel, and the blameless one remained incorruptible after giving birth to Emmanuel. Therefore, O eternal God, Who wast before eternity, and Who didst appear as man, have mercy upon us.

O GLADSOME LIGHT

O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun, and behold the light of evening, we praise God: The 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.

EVENING PROKEIMENON

Saturday Prokeimenon

Tone 6

Choir: The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty. (ONCE)

Verse 1. The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength. (Refrain)

Verse 2. For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved. (Refrain)

AT THE APOSTICHA

Aposticha for the Resurrection

Tone 5

O Christ Savior, Who didst become incarnate without leaving heaven, Thee do we magnify with the voices of song; for Thou didst accept the Cross and death for the sake of our human race; for Thou art the Lord, the Lover of mankind. Thou didst demolish the gates of Hades, rising on the third day, and saving our souls.

Verse 1. The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty. The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength.

Thy side being stabbed, O Giver of life, didst nevertheless overflow for all with springs of forgiveness, life, and salvation. And accepting death in the flesh, Thou didst bestow on us deathlessness. And dwelling in a tomb, Thou didst free us and raise us in glory with Thee, since Thou art God. Wherefore, do we exclaim to Thee, O Lord, Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

Verse 2. For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved. Wonderful is Thy Crucifixion and Thy descent to Hades, O Lord, Lover of mankind; for Thou didst lead it captive, since Thou art God, raising with Thee in glory those who of old had been chained. Thou didst open to them paradise and didst make them worthy to enjoy it. Grant us, therefore,

forgiveness of sins, Who glorify Thy third-day Resurrection, and prepare us for dwellings in paradise, since Thou art compassionate.

Verse 3. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore.

O Thou Who, for our sake, didst submit to sufferings in the flesh, and Who didst rise from the dead in three days, heal the sufferings of our bodies and lift us up from our heavy sins, O Lover of mankind, and save us.

Doxasticon for the Pharisee and Publican

Tone 5

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Mine eyes being weighed down because of mine iniquities, I am unable to gaze at the horizon of heaven. But Thou, O Savior, accept me penitent as the publican.

Theotokion for the Resurrection

Tone 5

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most reverend Virgin, O thou by means of whom my Savior Christ the Lord did appear to those lying in darkness, He being the Sun of justice, wishing to light those whom He had made with His own hands after His likeness, thou art the temple, the gate, the palace and the throne of the King. Wherefore, O all-praised one, thou hast attained with Him maternal privilege; intercede ceaselessly for the salvation of our souls.

THE HYMN OF ST. SIMEON THE GOD-RECEIVER

Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

DISMISSAL HYMNS

Resurrectional Apolytikion

Tone 5

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Resurrectional Theotokion

Tone 5

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Rejoice, O uncrossed gate; rejoice, O wall and protection of those who hasten unto thee; rejoice, O quiet haven, who hast not known wedlock, O thou who hast given birth in the flesh to thy Creator and God. Thou shalt continue to intercede for the sake of those who praise and worship thy birth-giving.