

GREAT VESPERS ON SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

TONE 4 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

COMMEMORATION OF JOHN CLIMACUS, AUTHOR OF "THE LADDER"

APOSTLES ARISTARCHOS, PUDENS AND TROPHYMOS OF THE SEVENTY

AT "O LORD, I HAVE CRIED"

For the Resurrection

Tone 4

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

We worship untiringly Thy quickening Cross, O Christ God, and glorify Thy third-day Resurrection; for by it, O Almighty, Thou hast renewed the corrupt nature of mankind, and made plain to us the ascent to heaven; for Thou alone art good and the Lover of mankind.

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

When Thou wast willingly nailed upon the Cross, O Savior, Thou didst solve the problem caused by the tree of sin. And when Thou didst descend into Hades, Thou didst break the bonds of death, since Thou art a mighty God. Wherefore, we worship Thy Resurrection from the dead, shouting with joy, O Almighty Lord, glory to Thee.

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

Thou didst demolish by Thy Death, O Lord, the gates of Hades; Thou didst dissolve the realm of death; and didst free the human race from corruption, granting the world life and incorruptibility and Great Mercy.

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

Come, ye nations, let us praise the third-day Resurrection of the Savior, by which we were delivered from the unbreakable bonds of Hades, and by which we have all received life and incorruption, crying, O Thou Who wast crucified, buried, and Who didst rise, save us by Thy Resurrection, O Thou only Lover of mankind.

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

Verily, the angels and men, O Savior, praise Thy third-day Resurrection, through which the ends of the universe have been lighted, and by which Thou hast redeemed from bondage to the enemy us who cry, saying: O omnipotent Giver of life, save us by Thy Resurrection, O Lover of mankind.

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.

Thou hast demolished the brazen gates, O Christ God, and hast shattered the bars, and hast raised the fallen human race and made it to stand upright. Wherefore, do we shout to Thee in unison, O Thou rising from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

For St. John Climacus in Tone Eight (**O strange wonder**)

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

Righteous Father John, in very truth, * thou hadst the high praise of God * in thy throat every day and hour; * and with active diligence * thou didst earnestly meditate * on the divinely inspired oracles * and wast made rich in the grace that they pour forth; * through this, O man most wise, * thou becamest blessed and didst utterly * overturn the counsels of all base and godless men.

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

Righteous Father John, in very truth ... (repeat above)

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

Righteous Father John most glorious, * with streaming fountains of tears, * thou didst wash thy soul clean of stain; * standing all the night in prayer, * thou becamest a friend of God; * and thou didst soar as on wings unto His love * and His divine beauty, which thou worthily * now dost enjoy on high* with thy fellow athletes evermore in joy, * O most blest and godly-minded Saint and man of prayer.

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

Righteous Father John most glorious, * since thou hadst given thy mind * wings to soar up to God by faith, * thou didst hate the turbulence * and impermanence of the world. * For thou didst take up thy cross with ardent zeal * to follow after Him that beholdeth all; * and thou didst subjugate * the reluctant body to thy sovereign mind * by ascetic labors through the Holy Spirit's might.

Doxasticon for St. John Climacus

Tone 5

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

O righteous Father John, thou heardest the voice of the Gospel and forsook the world, riches and glory, counting them all as naught. Wherefore, thou didst cry unto all, Love God, and ye will find eternal favor. Put nothing above His love, that when He cometh in His glory ye may find rest with all the saints. Wherefore, by their intercessions, O Christ God, preserve and save our souls.

Theotokion for the Resurrection

Tone 4

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

David the Prophet who became through thee, O Theotokos, the grandparent of God, before time sang of thee in praise, and shouted to Him who worked wonders through thee, saying, The queen did rise on Thy right; for God hath shown thee to be a Mother bringing forth life, in that He was willing to appear incarnate from thee without father, renewing the creation of His likeness, corrupt with suffering, in order to find the sheep lost in the hills, and carry it on His shoulders, and offer it to the Father, and add it, through His will, to the heavenly hosts, and to save the whole world; for He is the reigning Christ, Possessor of rich and Great Mercy.

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 4

When Thou wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Lord, Thou didst expunge our ancestral curse; and when Thou didst descend to Hades, Thou didst free those who were bound from eternity, granting the human race incorruptibility. Wherefore, we offer praise, glorifying Thy third-day Resurrection.

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

O Thou Who alone art mighty, when Thou wast fastened upon a Tree, Thou didst shake the whole earth; and when Thou wast laid in the grave, Thou didst raise those who lay in the graves, granting mankind life and incorruptibility. Wherefore, we offer praise, glorifying Thy third-day Resurrection.

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

The law-transgressing people, O Christ, delivered Thee to Pilate, who condemned Thee to crucifixion. Thus the ingrate appeared before his Benefactor. But Thou sufferedst burial willingly, and didst rise on the third day by Thine own power; for Thou art God, granting us endless and Great Mercy.

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

Verily, the women reached Thy tomb seeking Thee with tears. And when they found Thee not they shouted and wailed, saying: Woe to us, O our Savior, King of all, how wast Thou stolen? And what place containeth Thy life-bearing body? And an angel answered them, saying: Weep not, but go preach that the Lord hath risen, granting us joy; for He alone is compassionate.

Doxasticon for St. John Climacus

Tone 2

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

Let us honor John, that pride of ascetics, that angel on earth, that man of God in heaven, that adornment of the world, and that bliss of virtues and good

deeds; for, planted in the house of God, he flourished with justice; and, like a cedar tree in the wilderness, he caused the flock of Christ to grow, those sheep endowed with speech, in righteousness and justice.

Theotokion for the Resurrection

Tone 2

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

O wondrous event transcending all the ancient miracles! For who hath ever heard of a mother giving birth without a man; and carrying in her arms Him who containeth all creation? Yet this is the will of the born God. Cease not, therefore, O undefiled one to pray to Him Whom thou didst carry in thine arms as a babe, and with Whom thou didst acquire motherly privilege for us who honor thee, that He may have mercy upon us and save 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 4

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

Apolytikion for St. John Climacus

Tone 8

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

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John Climacus, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

Resurrectional Theotokion

Tone 8

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

Thou Who for our sake wast born of a Virgin, and didst suffer crucifixion, O good One, and didst despoil death through death, and as God didst reveal Resurrection. Despise not those Whom Thou hast created with Thine own hand, show forth Thy love for mankind, O merciful One. Accept the intercessions of Thy mother, the Theotokos for us, and save Thy despairing people, O our Savior.