

GREAT VESPERS ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024: TONE 4

LEO THE GREAT, POPE OF ROME

AGAPITOS THE CONFESSOR, BISHOP OF SYNNADE IN PHRYGIA,
AND HIS COMPANIONS

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.

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

Thy birth from Thy Father, O Lord, is eternal and timeless; and Thine Incarnation from the Virgin is inexplicable and ineffable; and Thy descent into Hades is awe-inspiring to Satan and his angels; for Thou didst trample down death and didst rise on the third day, granting mankind incorruptibility and Great Mercy.

For St. Leo in Tone One (***O all-lauded Martyrs***)

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

By wisdom and discipline of life, * O all-blessed Leo, thou didst make thy mind sovereign ruler over passions by the strength * of thy many virtues * and thy holy way of life, * portraying thus the soul's rightful image. For this cause, we pray of thee, * as a shepherd of the Savior Christ * and a teacher, * ask Him that the world find peace.

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

Made strong with the mighty strength of Christ, * O all-blessed Hierarch Leo, thou didst not fear the lion's proud and rash audacity, * but didst scorn as nothing * his unstableness of soul, * his injudicious judgment and thanklessness, the guile of all his ways, * and the truly utter godlessness * and defilement * of his wretched heresy.

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

O all-blessed priest, thou art become * an addition to the right-believing hierarchs and martyrs; for in contests thou didst stand * as a lofty tower * and defense of piety, * unbending and unbroken, invincible, while in all clarity * dogmatizing soundly and aright * on the Lord's Birth, * which is inexpressible.

Theotokion for the Resurrection

Tone 4

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

Theotokion for the Resurrection

Tone 4

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

O thou who art free from all blemish, hear the petitions of thy servants, removing from us the difficulties that rise against us, and delivering us from all sorrows; for thou alone art a safe and secure haven; and we have secured thee as an intercessor. Therefore, we who call upon thee shall never be put to shame. Hasten to fulfill the pleadings of those who cry to thee in faith: Rejoice, O Lady, the help of all, O joy, protection, and 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 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.

Resurrectional Theotokion

Tone 4

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

The Mystery which was hidden from everlasting and was unknown of the angels, O Theotokos, was revealed through thee, to those who dwell upon earth. In that God, having become incarnate—in unconfused union—of His own good will accepted the Cross for our sake. Whereby He raised again the first created, and hath saved our souls from death.