

**Lord I call – 26 March 2015: Thursday in the Fifth  
Week – Leavetaking of the Annunciation and Synaxis  
of the Archangel Gabriel.**

*Lord I call Stichera on 10+1, Tone 8:*

**10** Bring forth my soul out of prison, that I may confess Thy  
name.

In my wretchedness,  
I have fallen among the thieves of my own thoughts.  
My mind has been despoiled, and cruelly have I been beaten;  
all my soul is wounded,  
and stripped of the virtues I lie naked upon the highway of life.  
Seeing me in bitter pain  
and thinking that my wounds could not be healed,  
the priest neglected me and would not look at me.  
Unable to endure my soul-destroying agony,  
the Levite when he saw me passed by on the other side.  
But Thou, O Christ my God,  
wast pleased to come, not from Samaria but incarnate from Mary:  
in Thy love for mankind,  
grant me healing and pour upon me Thy great mercy.

**9.** The righteous await me until Thou shalt reward me.

In my wretchedness,  
I have fallen among the thieves of my own thoughts.  
My mind has been despoiled, and cruelly have I been beaten;  
all my soul is wounded,  
and stripped of the virtues I lie naked upon the highway of life.  
Seeing me in bitter pain  
and thinking that my wounds could not be healed,  
the priest neglected me and would not look at me.  
Unable to endure my soul-destroying agony,  
the Levite when he saw me passed by on the other side.  
But Thou, O Christ my God,  
wast pleased to come, not from Samaria but incarnate from Mary:  
in Thy love for mankind,  
grant me healing and pour upon me Thy great mercy.

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

O Lord, Thou hast made Thy holy disciples into living heavens.  
At their intercessions deliver me from the evils of the earth,  
and through abstinence lift up my thoughts to the understanding of  
Thy Passion:  
for Thou art merciful and lovest mankind.

7. Let Thine ears give heed to the voice of my cry.

The season of the Fast  
helps all of us to perform the works of God.  
Let us weep, then, with our whole heart  
and cry to the Saviour:  
Through Thy disciples, O Lord of many mercies,  
save us who with reverent fear sing the praises of Thy great love for  
mankind.

6. If Thou shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee is propitiation.

O ye apostles, worthy of all praise,  
intercessors for the world,  
physicians of the sick,  
guardians of health,  
as we pass through the time of the Fast,  
protect us on our right hand and our left:  
by God's grace may we remain at peace with one another;  
preserve our mind untroubled by the passions,  
that all of us may sing a hymn of praise  
to the risen and triumphant Christ.

5. For Thy name's sake have I waited patiently for Thee, O Lord;  
my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word; my soul hath  
hoped in the Lord.

*Tone 4:*

During the sixth month the archangel  
was sent to the pure Virgin,  
and having pronounced a salutation to her,  
he announced that the Deliverer would come forth from her.  
Wherefore, having accepted the salutation,  
she conceived Thee, the preëternal God,  
Who wast well-pleased to become ineffably incarnate  
for the salvation of our souls.

4. From the morning watch until night; from the morning watch,  
let Israel hope in the Lord.

The Theotokos heard a tongue  
which she did not know,  
for the archangel spake to her words of annunciation.  
And accepting his salutation with Faith,  
she conceived Thee, the preëternal God.  
Wherefore, rejoicing, we cry out to Thee:  
O God Who wast immutably incarnate of her,  
grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls!

3. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous  
redemption; and He shall deliver Israel out of all his  
iniquities.

Behold, our restoration hath now been revealed to us!  
God uniteth Himself to men in manner past recounting!  
Falsehood is dispelled by the voice of the archangel!  
For the Virgin receiveth joy,  
an earthly woman hath become heaven!  
The world is released from the primal curse!  
Let creation rejoice and chant aloud:  
O Lord, our Creator and Deliverer, glory be to Thee!

2. O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.

*Tone 1:*

The great Gabriel,  
the most godly, radiant and salvific intelligence,  
who with the ranks on high beholdeth the light of the threefold Sun  
and chanteth divine and awesome hymns,  
prayeth that He grant unto our souls peace and great mercy.

1. For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth  
of the Lord remaineth forever.

The mystery which was hidden from before the ages  
and was unknown even to the angels  
was entrusted to thee alone, O Gabriel;  
having arrived in Nazareth, thou didst declare it to her who alone is  
pure.

With her do thou pray,  
that God grant unto our souls peace and great mercy.

+1. He maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of  
fire.

Ever full of light,  
doing the will of the Almighty  
and carrying out His commands,  
O chief among the angels,  
most excellent Gabriel,  
save those who honour thee with love,  
ever asking that God grant unto our souls peace and great mercy.

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

*Tone 4:*

The Archangel Gabriel was sent from heaven  
to announce the conception to the Virgin.

And, arriving in Nazareth, he pondered within himself,  
marvelling at the wonder:

“How is it that He is born of the Virgin  
Who in the highest is unapproachable;  
that He Who hath heaven for His throne  
and the earth For His Footstool  
is contained within the Virgin’s womb;  
that He upon Whom the six-winged and many-eyed beings cannot  
gaze

hath been well pleased to become incarnate of her by His word alone?  
This is God’s word.

Why, therefore, do I stand and not say to the Virgin:

‘Rejoice, O thou who art full of grace!

The Lord is with thee!

Rejoice, O pure Virgin!

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!

Rejoice, O Mother of Life!

Blessed is the Fruit of thy womb!?”