

## VESPERS SUNG ON SATURDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020

✠ “LORD I CALL...”

**Tone 5**

[Music on website]

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.

Hear me, O Lord.

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.

Receive the voice of my prayer,  
when I call upon Thee.//

Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise  
in Thy sight as incense,  
and let the lifting up of my hands  
be an evening sacrifice.//  
Hear me, O Lord.

*Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!*

**Tone 5**

[Music on website]

By Thy precious Cross, O Christ,  
Thou hast put the devil to shame.

By Thy Resurrection, Thou hast blunted the sting of sin  
and saved us from the gates of death.//

We glorify Thee, O only-begotten One.

*The righteous await me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Christ was led as a sheep to the slaughter  
in order to grant Resurrection to the human race.

The princes of hell were frightened by this,  
for the gates of sorrow were lifted.

Christ the King of glory had entered,  
saying to those in chains: “Go forth!”//

And to those in darkness: “Come to the light!”

*Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

O great wonder!

The Creator of the invisible suffered in the flesh in His love for man

and rose again immortal.

Come, O sons of nations,

let us worship Him,

for delivered from error by His compassion,//

we have learned to sing of one God in three Persons!

*Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

We offer Thee our evening worship,

O never-setting Light,

Who didst come in these last days to the world in the flesh;

Who even didst descend to hell to dispel its darkness.

Who hast revealed the light of Resurrection to the nations.//

Glory to Thee, O Lord and Giver of light!

*If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquity, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

**Tone 6 (For the Dedication)**

Dedication is to be honoured,

[Music on website]

as was decreed in the Old Law;

even more should the New Law be honoured through dedication;

for as Isaiah proclaims: “The islands are dedicated to God.”

By this we understand the churches now built by the nations,  
which receive a firm foundation from God.//

Therefore let us spiritually celebrate this present feast!

*For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy Word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Be dedicated anew, O people!

[Music on website]

Putting away the old man, live in newness of life,

placing a bridle on everything from which death may come!

Let us chasten all our members,

hating every evil fruit of the tree!

Mindful of this, let us avoid our ancient errors,

that mankind may thus be restored!//

Thus this day of dedication is honoured.

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

**Tone 6**

O Christ, the pre-eternal Word, [Music on website]  
 Thou hast set up Thy Church as a tower of strength,  
 founding it upon the rock of the faith.  
 Therefore it abides in Thee, unshaken forever,  
 for, without undergoing change,  
 Thou becamest Man in these latter times for its sake.  
 Therefore we give thanks to Thee and praise Thee in hymns, saying:  
 "Thou art our King since before time began;//  
 now and forever, glory to Thee!"

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

**Tone 5 (For the Forefeast)**

Rejoice, O Life-bearing Cross, [Music on website]  
 the invincible trophy of godliness,  
 door to Paradise, firm support of the faithful,  
 a wall that encompasses the Church!  
 Through thee corruption has been destroyed and abolished.  
 The power of death has been swallowed up, and we are raised from  
 earth to Heaven.  
 Thou art a weapon that cannot be vanquished,  
 the adversary of demons,  
 the glory of the martyrs, the true adornment of saints,  
 and the haven of salvation,//  
 granting the world great mercy.

*Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

Rejoice, O Cross of the Lord, [Music on website]  
 through which mankind has been delivered from the curse!  
 Thou art a sign of true joy,  
 shattering our enemies by thine Exaltation.  
 O Cross, worthy of all honour,  
 thou art our help, thou art the strength of kings.  
 Thou art the power of the righteous.  
 Thou art the majesty of priests.  
 All who sign themselves with thee are freed from danger.  
 O rod of strength, under which we like sheep are tended,

thou art a weapon of peace round which the angels stand in fear.  
 Thou art the divine glory of Christ,//  
 Who grants the world great mercy.

*For His mercy is confirmed on us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Rejoice, O guide of the blind, [Music on website]  
 physician of the sick and resurrection of all the dead;  
 thou hast raised us up when we were fallen into mortality, O precious  
 Cross!

Through thee corruption has been destroyed,  
 and incorruption has blossomed forth.  
 We mortals are deified, and the devil is completely overthrown.  
 Today, as we see thee exalted by the hands of bishops,  
 we exalt Him Who was lifted up upon thee,  
 and we fall down in worship before thee,//  
 drawing rich streams of great mercy.

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

**Tone 6 (For the Dedication)**

[Music on website]  
 Celebrating the memory of the dedication, O Lord,  
 and glorifying Thee, the Giver of holiness,  
 we ask that Thou hallow the senses of our souls,  
 through the supplications of the glorious passion-bearers,//  
 O Thou Who art good and almighty!

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

**Tone 5 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)**

[Music on website]  
 In the Red Sea of old,  
 a type of the Virgin Bride was prefigured.  
 There Moses divided the waters;  
 here Gabriel assisted in the miracle.  
 There Israel crossed the sea without getting wet,  
 here the Virgin gave birth to Christ without seed.  
 After Israel's passage, the sea remained impassable;  
 after Emmanuel's birth, the Virgin remained a Virgin.  
 O ever-existing God Who didst appear as Man,//  
 O Lord, have mercy on us!

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## ✠ READINGS

### **The Reading from the Third Book of Kings** [8:22-23, 27-30]

Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the congregation of Israel; and he spread out his hands toward heaven, and he said: Lord God of Israel, there is no God like Thee in Heaven above, and on the earth beneath. If the heaven and heaven of heaven will not suffice Thee, how much less even this house which I have built to Thy Name? Yet Thou shalt look upon my supplication, O Lord God of Israel, to hear the supplication and prayer which Thy servant prayeth to Thee in Thy presence this day, that Thine eyes may be open toward this house, even toward the place whereof Thou didst say Thy Name shall be there, to hear the prayer which Thy servant prayeth toward this place, day and night. And Thou shalt hearken to the supplication of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, which they shall pray toward this place, and Thou shalt hear in Thy dwelling-place in Heaven; and Thou shalt do, and be merciful.

### **The Reading from the Book of Proverbs** [3:19-34]

God by wisdom founded the earth, and by understanding He prepared the heavens. By His knowledge were the depths broken up, and the clouds dropped down the dew. My son, let them not slip away from thee, but keep my counsel and understanding, that thy soul may live, and that there may be grace round thy neck; and it shall be health to thy flesh, and safety to thy bones; that thou mayest go confidently in peace in all thy ways, and that thy foot may not stumble. For if thou rest, thou shalt not be afraid; and if thou sleep, thou shalt slumber sweetly. And thou shalt not be afraid of alarm coming upon thee, neither of approaching attacks of ungodly men. For the Lord shall be over all thy ways, and shall establish thy foot that thou be not taken. Forbear not to do good to the needy, whensoever thy hand may have power to help him. Say not: Come back another time, tomorrow I will give; when thou art able to do him good; for thou knowest not what the next day will bring forth. Devise not evil against thy friend, living near thee and trusting in thee. Be not ready to quarrel with a man without a cause, lest he do thee some harm. Procure not the reproaches of bad men, neither do thou covet their ways. For every transgressor is unclean before the Lord; neither doth he sit among the righteous. The curse of the Lord is in the houses of

the ungodly; but the habitations of the just are blessed. The Lord resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

### **The Reading from the Book of Proverbs** [9:1-11]

Wisdom hath builded herself a house, and hath established seven pillars. She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also prepared her table. She hath sent forth her servants, making invitation to a feast with a loud proclamation, and saying: Whoso is foolish, let him turn aside to me; as for them that want understanding, she saith: Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine which I have mingled for you. Forsake foolishness, and ye shall live, and go in search of understanding that ye may live, and achieve understanding in knowledge. He that reproveth evil men getteth to himself shame; and he that rebuketh an ungodly man shall himself be blamed, for rebukes unto the ungodly are as wounds to him. Reprove not evil men, lest they hate thee; rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give occasion to a wise man, and he will become yet wiser; teach a just man, and he will receive more learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the counsel of Saints is understanding. For to know the Law is the property of a good mind, for in this wise thou shalt live long, and years of life shall be added to thee.

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## ✠ APOSTICHA

### **Tone 5**

[[Music on website](#)]

We magnify Thee in songs of praise,  
O incarnate Christ and Saviour.  
By accepting the Cross and death for our sake,  
as the Lord and Lover of man,  
Thou didst overthrow the gates of hell, //  
and didst arise on the third day, saving our souls.

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

By being pierced in the side, O Lover of man,  
Thou hast poured out drops of life and salvation for all.  
By accepting death in the flesh, Thou hast granted us immortality.  
Thou hast freed us by being placed in the tomb,  
and hast resurrected us with Thyself in glory, as God. //  
Glory to Thee, O Lord and Lover of man!

*v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

Thy crucifixion and descent into hell are awesome, O Lover of man.  
Thou hast captured it, releasing the ancient prisoners.  
Thou hast opened Paradise and given it to us.  
Grant us purification of sins,  
who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day!  
Make us worthy of Paradise//  
and save us, O Lover of man!

*v. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

For our sake, Thou didst accept death in the flesh,  
to rise from the dead on the third day.  
Heal us from our earthly passions,  
and restore us from our evil transgressions;//  
and save us, O Lover of man!

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

**Tone 2 (For the Dedication)** [\[Music on website\]](#)

We glorify Thee, O Lord,  
as we celebrate the dedication of the most holy temple of Thy  
Resurrection.  
Thou didst sanctify it and perfect it with Thine all-perfect grace.  
Thou delightest in the praise of the faithful,  
offered with sacrifices that are sanctifying, mystical and holy,  
receiving them bloodless and all-pure from the hands of Thy servants.  
To all those who rightly make offering,//  
Thou dost give great mercy and cleansing from sins.

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

**Tone 2 (For the Forefeast)** [\[Music on website\]](#)

The Cross of the Giver of life,  
a divine treasure hidden in the ground,  
was shown in the heavens to the pious emperor,  
spiritually revealing a decree of victory over the enemy.  
Joyfully and divinely hastening to see it on high with faith and love,  
he zealously lifted it from the bosom of the earth,//  
for the deliverance of the world and the salvation of our souls.

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✠ **TROPARIA**

**Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 5** [\[Music on website\]](#)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

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

**Troparion of the Dedication in Tone 4** [\[Music on website\]](#)

Thou hast revealed the beauty of the holy dwelling place of Thy glory on earth  
to be like the splendour of the heavenly firmament, O Lord.  
Through the prayers of the Theotokos,  
strengthen it for ever and ever  
and accept our supplication  
which we ceaselessly offer to Thee therein,//  
the life and resurrection of all!

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

**Troparion of the Forefeast in Tone 4** [\[Music on website\]](#)

We offer in supplication  
the life-creating Cross of Thy goodness, O Lord,  
which Thou hast granted to us  
although we are unworthy.//  
Through the Theotokos, save all Orthodox Christians, O only  
Lover of mankind!