

VESPERS SUNG ON SATURDAY 12th DECEMBER 2020

✕ “LORD I CALL...”

Tone 2

[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 2

[Music on website]

Come, let us worship the Word of God
begotten of the Father before all ages,
and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!
Having endured the Cross,
He was buried as He Himself desired.//
And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

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

Christ our Saviour
nailed to the Cross the bond against us,
He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//
We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

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

With the Archangels
let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!
He is our Saviour, our Redeemer.
He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//
to judge the world which He made.

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

The Angel proclaimed Thee,
the crucified and buried Master.
He told the women: “Come, see the place where He lay!
He is risen as He said,
for He is almighty.”
We worship Thee, O only immortal One.//
Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

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

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy the curse of the tree.
By Thy burial, Thou didst slay the dominion of death.
By Thy rising, Thou didst enlighten the race of man.//
O Benefactor, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

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.

The gates of death opened to Thee from fear, O Lord.
When the guards of hell saw Thee they were afraid,
for Thou didst demolish the gates of brass and smash the iron chains.//
Thou hast led us from the darkness and shadows of death, and hast
broken our bonds.

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

Tone 8 (For the Holy Forefathers)

[Music on website]

Today, as we celebrate the Forefathers’ memory,
let us the faithful praise Christ the Redeemer,
Who magnified them in all the nations!
He is the Lord Who does wondrous deeds,
for He is powerful and mighty!
Through them He has shown us the rod of His strength:
she is Mary, the only pure and Virgin Maiden of God.
From her Christ blossomed,//
bringing forth life, eternal salvation, and unending bliss for all.

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

O Master, Thou didst deliver the holy Youths from the fire,
and Daniel from the mouths of lions;
Thou didst bless Abraham, Isaac, Thy servant, and Jacob, his son;
Thou didst consent to become like us by being born of their seed,
to be crucified and buried,
in order to save our Forefathers, who fell of old.
Thus Thou didst crush the bonds of death,
And raised with Thyself all the dead of ages past, //
who worship Thee, O Christ, King of the ages.

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

Walking amidst the flames as in a gentle shower of rain,
the godly Youths exulted in the dew of the Spirit.
By this they mystically prefigured the Trinity and Christ's incarnation.
Wise through faith, they quenched the power of fire.
So also the righteous Daniel stopped the mouths of lions.
Through their intercessions we beseech Thee, O Saviour the Lover of
mankind:
Deliver us from the unquenchable and eternal fire, //
and make us worthy of Thy heavenly Kingdom!

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

Standing in a furnace of flaming fire as though in dew,
the Holy Youths mystically prefigured Thy coming from a Virgin,
by which we are illumined but not consumed.
So also the righteous Daniel, glorious among the Prophets,
clearly revealed Thy divine Second Coming when he cried out:
"I saw thrones set up, and the Judge was seated,
and the river of fire flowed before Him." //
By their intercessions save us from this fire, O Christ our Master!

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

Tone 6 *(For the Holy Forefathers)*

[\[Music on website\]](#)

Today let us the faithful acclaim
all the Fathers before the Law;
Abraham, the friend of God,
Isaac, born of the promise,
Jacob and the twelve Patriarchs,
honouring these with the gentle David,
and Daniel, the Prophet of Desires,
and the three Youths who changed the furnace into dew.
Let us ask forgiveness of Christ our God, //
Who is glorified in his saints!

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

Tone 2 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

[\[Music on website\]](#)

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;
as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,
so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.
The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame. //
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

✠ **READINGS** – No Bible readings are appointed for today.

✠ **APOSTICHA**

Tone 2

[\[Music on website\]](#)

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Saviour,
has enlightened the whole universe,
recalling Thy creation. //
Glory to Thee, O almighty Lord!

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

By the Tree Thou didst destroy the curse of the Tree, O Saviour.
By Thy burial Thou didst mortify the majesty of death.
Thou hast enlightened our race by Thy Resurrection. //
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

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

When Thou wast seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,
Thou didst restore the beauty of Thy creatures.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Thy side with
a spear.

The Hebrews, not knowing Thy power,
asked that Thy tomb might be sealed,
but through the mercy of Thy compassion,
Thou didst accept the tomb
and didst rise on the third day!//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

v. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!
O Christ, the Giver of life,
for the sake of the dead Thou didst voluntarily endure death,
descending into hell as the Mighty One
to save those who awaited Thy coming,
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.
Grant also to us who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day//
cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

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

Tone 3 (For the Holy Forefathers) [\[Music on website\]](#)

Come all who love the feast,
let us praise in psalms the assembly of the Forefathers:
Adam, our first Father,
Enoch, Noah, Melchizedek,
Abraham, Isaac and Jacob;
and those who came after the Law:
Moses, Aaron, Joshua,
Samuel and David,
Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel,
and with them the Twelve Prophets:
Elijah, Elisha, and all the rest,
Zachariah and John the Baptist:
all those who proclaimed Christ,//
the Life and Resurrection of the human race!

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

Tone 3 (Aposticha Theotokion) [\[Music on website\]](#)

By the will of the Father,
without seed, of the Holy Spirit thou didst conceive the Son of God.
He was born of the Father before eternity without a mother,
but now for our sake He didst come from thee without a father!//
Do not cease entreating Him to deliver our souls from death!

✠ **TROPARIA**

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 2 [\[Music on website\]](#)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendour of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

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

Troparion of the Holy Forefathers in Tone 2 [\[Music on website\]](#)

By faith didst Thou justify the Forefathers,
when through them Thou didst betroth Thyself aforetime
to the Church that was from among the nations.
The saints boast in glory that from their seed there is a glorious fruit,
even she that bore Thee seedlessly.//
By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

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

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 2 [\[Music on website\]](#)

All of thy mysteries, O Theotokos,
Are beyond thought and glorification.
Thou wast sealed in purity and preserved in virginity;
thou wast revealed to be the true Mother who gavest birth to the true God.
Entreat Him that our souls may be saved.