

## Vespers texts for Saturday 20th February 2021

✕ "LORD I CALL..."

**Tone 4**

[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 4 (For the Resurrection)**

[Music on website]

We glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,  
by always honouring Thy life-creating Cross;  
by it Thou hast renewed the corrupted nature of man,  
O almighty One.  
By it Thou hast renewed our entrance to heaven,//  
for Thou art good and the Lover of man.

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

Thou didst loose the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Saviour,  
by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.  
By descending to hell, O almighty God,  
Thou didst break the bonds of death.  
Therefore, we adore Thy Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://  
"Glory to Thee, O all-powerful Lord!"

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

Thou didst smash the gates of hell, O Lord,  
and by Thy death Thou didst demolish the kingdom of death.  
Thou didst deliver the race of men from corruption,//  
granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

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

Come, O people,  
let us sing of the Saviour's Resurrection on the third day!  
By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bonds of hell.  
By it, we have received life and incorruption.  
Save us by Thy Resurrection!//  
O Life-creating and almighty Saviour, glory to Thee!

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

Angels and men sing of Thy Resurrection  
on the third day, O Saviour.  
By it, the ends of the earth have been illumined.  
By it, we have been delivered from bondage to the enemy.  
Save us by Thy Resurrection.  
O life-creating and almighty Saviour, 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.*

Thou hast shattered the gates of brass  
and destroyed the chains of death, O Christ God.  
Thou hast raised the fallen human race.  
O Lord, risen from the Dead, glory to Thee!

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

O Lord, Thy begetting from the Father is timeless and everlasting.  
Thine Incarnation from the Virgin is beyond words and understanding.  
Thy descent into hell is terrible for the devil and his angels.  
Thou hast trampled on death,  
rising on the third day,  
and granting men incorruption and great mercy.

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

**Tone 1** *(For the Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee)* [Music on website]

Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee,  
for he who exalts himself will be humbled.  
Let us prepare to abase ourselves by fasting;  
crying aloud with the voice of the Publican://  
“O God, forgive us sinners!”

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

*Repeat:* “Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee ...”

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

The Pharisee went up to the temple with a proud and empty heart;  
the Publican bowed himself in repentance.  
They both stood before Thee, O Master:  
the one, through boasting, lost his reward,  
but the other, with tears and sighs, won Thy blessing:  
Strengthen me, O Christ our God, as I weep in Thy presence,//  
since Thou art the Lover of man!

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

**Tone 8** *(For the Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee)* [Music on website]

I know the value of tears,  
O almighty Lord:  
they delivered Hezekiah from the gates of death,  
and rescued the harlot from repeated sins.  
Tears justified the Publican instead of the Pharisee.  
I pray to Thee, O Lord://  
Number me with the former, and have mercy on me!

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

**Tone 4** *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

[Music on website]

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord  
through thee, O Virgin.  
He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in thee:  
“At Thy right hand stood the Queen,”  
Thy Mother, the mediatrix of life,  
since God was freely born of her without a father.  
He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,  
so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder  
and brought it to His Father,  
joining it to the heavenly powers.//  
Christ who has great and rich mercy has saved the world, O Theotokos.

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✘ **READINGS** – No readings are appointed for today

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✘ **APOSTICHA**

**Tone 4** *(For the Resurrection)*

[Music on website]

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,  
Thou hast annulled our ancestral curse.  
By descending to hell, Thou hast freed the eternal prisoners,  
granting incorruption to the human race.//  
Therefore in songs we glorify Thy life-creating and saving Resurrection.

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

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord,  
Thou didst shake all of creation.  
By being laid in the tomb Thou hast raised those who dwelt in the tombs,  
granting life and incorruption to the human race.//  
Therefore in songs we glorify Thy rising on the third day.

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

The lawless people, O Christ,  
handed Thee over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified,  
thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor.  
But voluntarily Thou didst endure burial,  
rising by Thy own power on the third day as God,//  
granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

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

With tears the women reached Thy tomb,  
searching for Thee, but not finding Thee.  
They wept with wailing and lamented:  
“Woe to us! Our Saviour, King of all,  
how wast Thou stolen?  
What place can hold Thy life-bearing body?”  
An Angel replied to them:  
“Do not weep, but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen, //  
granting us joy as the only compassionate One!”

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

**Tone 5** (*For the Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee*) [Music on website]

The weight of my transgressions burdens my eyes:  
I cannot lift my gaze to the heights of heaven, O Lord.  
Accept me in repentance, as Thou didst accept the Publican; //  
and have mercy on me, O Savior!

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

**Tone 5** (*Aposticha Theotokion*)

[Music on website]

O most precious Virgin.  
Thou art the Gate, the Temple,  
the Palace and the Throne of the King.  
From thee, my Redeemer, Christ the Lord  
appeared to those asleep in darkness.  
He is the Sun of Righteousness  
who desired to enlighten His image, whom He had created.  
Since thou dost possess motherly boldness before Him,  
O all-praised Lady, //  
Pray unceasingly that our souls may be saved.

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✠ **TROPARIA**

**Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 4** [Music on website]

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel  
the joyous message of Thy Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the apostles:  
“Death is overthrown!  
Christ God is risen, //  
granting the world great mercy!”

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

**Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 4** [Music on website]

The mystery which was hidden from before the ages  
and was unknown even to the angels,  
God hath revealed to those on earth  
through thee, O Theotokos.  
For he who became incarnate in unconfused union  
of his own will accepted the Cross for us,  
raising again the first-created man //  
and saving our souls from death.