

STICHERA

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!

Tone 5 By Your precious Cross, O Christ,
You have put the devil to shame.
By Your Resurrection, You have blunted the sting of sin
and saved us from the gates of death.//
We glorify You, O only begotten One.

v. (9) The righteous will surround me, for You will 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!"

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, 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!

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

We offer You our evening worship,
O never setting Light,
Who came in these last days to the world in the flesh;
Who even descended to hell to dispel its darkness.
Who has revealed the light of Resurrection to the nations.//
Glory to You, O Lord and Giver of light!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

We glorify the Leader of our salvation;
by His Resurrection from the dead,
the world was saved from deceit.
The assembly of Angels rejoices
as the deceit of demons is overthrown.// Fallen Adam rises as the devil falls.

v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

The guards were instructed by the lawless ones:

“Hide the rising of Christ, take money and say:

“The body was stolen from the tomb while we were asleep.”

But who has heard of a body being stolen,

a body embalmed and naked,

with its grave clothes left behind in the tomb?

Do not be deceived, O Jews,

study the words of the Prophets and understand://

Christ is the Redeemer of the world and all powerful!

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Tone 4 Bound to the Lord, you were imprisoned in a dungeon.

Thus you bound falsehood, O Apostle.

Therefore we honor you with love

and kiss your chains with faith.

From them we draw healing of body and salvation of our souls.

We fittingly praise you, //

O God-seer and converser with the Angels.

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Tone 4 Bound to the Lord, you were imprisoned in a dungeon.

Thus you bound falsehood, O Apostle.

Therefore we honor you with love

and kiss your chains with faith.

From them we draw healing of body and salvation of our souls.

We fittingly praise you, //

O God-seer and converser with the Angels.

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

Those who are bound by ignorance

receive understanding through you.

The peoples of the Gentiles, who at first were scattered,

were shown to you in an image of a sheet let down from on high

containing all manner of living things.

Therefore, O faithful Apostle, every generation glorifies you, //

venerating the chains which you bore for Christ.

V. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

The One Whom you denied at His condemnation,
you hymned when He rose from the dead.
You preached Him to the ends of the earth, O Apostle,
as the God and Man Who in His great goodness
entered into fellowship with mankind!
Therefore, we bless you with love, O all-glorious Peter,//
venerating the chains which you bore for Christ.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 6 (for St. Peter, by Byzas)

Today Peter, the Rock of Faith,
the foundation of the Church,
offers his precious chains for the devotion of our souls.
Come and let us kiss them,
crowning him with songs of praise as we sing:
"Rejoice, O fervent champion of the faith,
for with ardent knowledge and great boldness
you confessed Christ, the Son of God!
Rejoice, O joy of the universe,
keeper of the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven,
for you give grace to those who honor you with love
and venerate your precious chains with longing!
As you stand before the throne of Christ, the King of all,//
ever pray for us who celebrate your memory!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 5 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

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 appeared as Man,//
O Lord, have mercy on us!

APOSTICHA

Tone 5 We magnify You in songs of praise,
O incarnate Christ and Savior.
By accepting the Cross and death for our sake,
as the Lord and Lover of man,
You overthrew the gates of hell,//
and arose 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,
You have poured out drops of life and salvation for all.
By accepting death in the flesh, You have granted us immortality.
You have freed us by being placed in the tomb,
and have resurrected us with Yourself in glory, as God.//
Glory to You, O Lord and Lover of man!

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

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

V. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!

For our sake, You accepted 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 6 (for St. Peter)

Peter, the rock of faith,
the fervent intercessor,
again lifts us up together for a spiritual feast,
setting before us his precious chains
as provision for a sumptuous banquet—
that our infirmities may be healed and our sorrows consoled,
and the storm-tossed ships of our life brought to harbor.
Come, let us kiss them, and entreat Christ Who glorified him, saying://
“By his prayers, O Christ, save our souls!”

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 6 (Theotokion)

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,
was born of you, O most pure Virgin.
By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.
Unceasingly we magnify you as the Mother of God!
Rejoice, O celestial Joy!
Rejoice, O Lady://
the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

TROPARIA

Tone 5 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,

Tone 4 You came to us without leaving Rome
through the precious chains that you wore.
First-enthroned of the Apostles,
we bow down to them in faith and pray://
“Through your prayers to God grant us great mercy!”

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 4 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

The mystery hidden from all eternity,
unknown even by Angels,
through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:
God incarnate by union without confusion.
He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us,
by which He resurrected the first-created man,//
saving our souls from death.