

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021

TONE 8

First Sunday of Great Lent / Sunday of Orthodoxy

STICHERA

*V. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name! Tone 8*

We offer to You, O Christ,  
our evening song and reasonable service,  
for You willed to have mercy on us//  
by Your Resurrection.

*V. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Your face!  
For You willed to have mercy on us//  
by Your Resurrection.

*V. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Rejoice, O holy Sion:  
Mother of the churches, the abode of God,  
for you were the first to receive remission of sins//  
by the Resurrection.

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

The Word of God the Father,  
begotten before the ages,  
in the latter times willed to be incarnate of the Virgin  
and endured crucifixion unto death.  
He has saved mortal man//  
by His Resurrection.

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

We glorify You, O Lord,  
for You voluntarily endured the Cross for our sake.  
We fall down in worship before You, O almighty Savior.  
Do not cast us away from Your face  
but hear us and save us, O Lover of man,//  
by Your Resurrection!

*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.*

Glory to You, O Savior Christ,  
Only-begotten Son of God, who was nailed to the Cross//  
and resurrected from the tomb on the third day!

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord Tone 6*

The prophets inspired by Thy Spirit, O Lord,  
Foretold that Thou, Whom nothing can contain or grasp,  
And Who hast shone forth in eternity  
Before the morning star,  
From the immaterial bodiless womb of the Father,  
Wast to become a child,

Taking flesh from the Virgin,  
Being joined to men and seen by those on earth.  
At the prayers of these Thy prophets,  
In Thy compassion  
Count us worthy of Thy light, //  
For we sing the praises of Thine ineffable and holy Resurrection.

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.*

The divinely inspired prophets,  
Preached Thee in word and honored Thee in works,  
And they received as their reward life without end.  
For they steadfastly refused, O Master,  
To worship the creation instead of Thee, the Creator;  
They renounced the whole world, for the Gospel's sake,  
And in their suffering,  
They were conformed to Thy Passion,  
Which they had foretold.  
At their intercessions,  
Count us worthy  
To pass through the period of the Fast without offence, //  
For Thou alone art rich in mercy.

*v. (2) O praise the Lord, all ye nations! Praise Him, all ye peoples!*

Thou Who art uncircumscribed, O Master,  
In Thy divine nature,  
Wast pleased in the last times  
To take flesh and be circumscribed;  
And in assuming flesh,  
Thou hast also taken on Thyself all its distinctive properties.  
Therefore we depict the likeness of Thine outward form,  
Venerating it with an honor that is relative.  
So we are exalted to the love of Thee,  
And following the holy traditions, handed down by the Apostles, //  
From Thine icon we receive the grace of healing.

*v. (1) For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us; and the truth of the Lord abideth for ever.*

As a precious adornment  
The Church of Christ has received  
The venerable and holy icons of the Savior Christ,  
Of God's Mother and of all the saints.  
Celebrating now their triumphant restoration,  
She is made bright with grace and splendor,  
And drives away all heretics.  
With great rejoicing  
She gives glory unto God Who loves mankind,  
And Who for her sake //  
Has endured His voluntary Passion.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; **Tone 2** (from the Lenten Triodion)

Grace and truth have shone forth.

The predictions of old have been clearly fulfilled.

Behold, the Church adorns herself with the form of Christ incarnate!

The icons of the new creation transcend the adornments of the old.

As the Ark of the Covenant held the presence of God,

so now the icons reveal the presence of the One we adore.

By honoring them we will never go astray.

It is our glory to fall down and worship Christ in the flesh.

Come, O faithful, venerate His image and cry out://

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Thine inheritance!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 8 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven, because of His love for man,  
appeared on earth and dwelt with men.

He took flesh from the pure Virgin

and after assuming it, He came forth from her.

The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.

Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,

we confess Christ our God!//

Entreat Him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

#### **APOSTICHA**

**Tone 8** Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,

the Eternal Life has come for death

to raise those who are fallen;

to enlighten those in darkness.//

O Jesus, our Savior and illuminator, glory to You!

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

We glorify Christ, who rose from the dead.

He accepted the human body and soul,

and freed both from suffering.

His most pure soul descended to hell, which He spoiled.

His holy body did not see corruption in the tomb.//

He is the Redeemer of our souls.

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

In psalms and songs we glorify Your Resurrection from the dead, O Christ.

By it, You have freed us from the tortures of hell//

and as God have granted eternal life and great mercy.

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

O Master of all, incomprehensible Creator of heaven and earth,

by Your suffering on the Cross You have gained passionlessness for me.

Accepting burial and arising in glory,

You resurrected Adam with Yourself by Your almighty hand.

Glory to Your rising on the third day!

By it You have granted us eternal life and cleansing of sins // as the only compassionate One.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 2 (from the Lenten Triodion)*

Advancing from false doctrine to true faith,  
illuminated with the light of knowledge,  
let us clap our hands and offer grateful praise to God in song!  
With due honor let us venerate the holy icons of Christ,  
of the all-pure Virgin, and of all the saints,  
depicted on walls or panels or sacred vessels,  
rejecting the godless teaching of the heretics!  
For as Saint Basil says:  
"The honor shown to the image passes to its prototype."  
By the prayers of Your pure Mother and of all the saints, //  
we beseech You, O Christ our God, to grant us great mercy!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 2 (Theotokion)*

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles!  
Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,  
who carried in her arms her Creator?  
This birth is the will of God!  
Since you carried Him as an infant in your arms, O most pure one,  
and since you possess motherly boldness before Him,  
do not cease praying for us who honor you, //  
that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

## TROPARIA

**Tone 8** You descended from on high, O Merciful One!  
You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! //  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Tone 2 Troparion (Sunday of Orthodoxy)*

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One;  
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God.  
Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh  
and deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy.  
Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to You:  
"You have filled all with joy, O our Savior, //  
by coming to save the world."

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 2 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion*

All beyond thought, all most glorious,  
are your mysteries, O Theotokos.  
Sealed in purity, preserved in virginity,  
you were revealed to be the true Mother who gave birth to the Tru<sup>e</sup> God. //  
Entreat Him to save our souls.