

Fourth Sunday of Pascha: Paralytic

STICHERA

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name! Tone 3

By Your Cross, O Christ our Savior,
death's dominion has been shattered;
the devil's delusion destroyed.
The human race, being saved by faith, //
always offers You a song.

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

All has been enlightened by Your Resurrection, O Lord.
Paradise has been opened again.
All creation, praising You, //
always offers You a song.

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

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son.
I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit:
the undivided, uncreated Godhead, //
the consubstantial Trinity which reigns forever.

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

We bow down in worship before Your precious Cross, O Christ,
and we glorify and praise Your Resurrection, //
for by Your wounds we have all been healed.

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

We praise the Savior incarnate of the Virgin,
for He was crucified for our sake and resurrected on the third day, //
granting us great mercy.

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

Christ descended to hell proclaiming the glad tidings:
“Be bold! Now I have triumphed!
I am the Resurrection, I will lead you out, //
for I have shattered the gates of death!”

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

Standing unworthily in Your most pure house, O Christ God,
we offer our evening song, crying from the depths:
“You enlightened the world by Your Resurrection on the third day, //
Lover of mankind, deliver Your people from the hand of Your enemies.”

*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 1** (Idiomela, from the Pentecostarion)*

With Your pure hand, You created man;
You came to heal the sick, O compassionate Christ.
By Your word You raised the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool,
You cured the pain of the woman with the issue of blood.
You had mercy on the Canaanite woman's daughter.
You did not reject the request of the centurion.
Therefore we cry to You://
"Glory to You, O Almighty Lord!"

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

With Your pure hand, You created man;
You came to heal the sick, O compassionate Christ.
By Your word You raised the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool,
You cured the pain of the woman with the issue of blood.
You had mercy on the Canaanite woman's daughter.
You did not reject the request of the centurion.
Therefore we cry to You://
"Glory to You, O Almighty Lord!"

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

The Paralytic was like an unburied corpse.
He saw You and shouted: "Lord, have mercy on me!
My bed has become my grave! Why should I live?
What use is the Sheep's Pool to me?
I have no one to put me into the pool when the waters are stirred.
I come to You, O Fountain of healing.
Raise me up, that with all I may cry to You://
'Glory to You, O Almighty Lord!'"

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; **Tone 5** (from the Pentecostarion)*

Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
He came to the Sheep's Pool, called in Hebrew "Bethesda."
It had five porches, each filled with a multitude of the sick,
for at certain times an Angel of the Lord stirred up the water,
and granted strength to those who approached in faith.
There the Lord saw a man who for many years had been afflicted.
He said: "Do you want to be whole?"
The sick man replied to the Lord:
"I have no man to lower me into the pool when the water is stirred.
I have spent all my wealth on physicians,
but have not been granted mercy!"
The Physician of souls and bodies said to him:
"Take up your bed and walk!//
Proclaim My power and great mercy to the ends of the earth!"

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 3**

(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

How can we not wonder
at your mystical childbearing, O exalted Mother?
For without receiving the touch of man,
you gave birth to a Son in the flesh, immaculate Virgin.
The Son born of the Father before eternity
was born of you at the fullness of time, O honored Lady.
He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,
but preserved the fullness of each nature.
Entreat Him, O Lady and Virgin, and Mother,
to save the souls of those who, in the Orthodox manner, confess you//
to be the Theotokos

APOSTICHA

Tone 3 The sun was darkened by your Passion, O Christ,
but all creation was enlightened by the light of Your Resurrection.//
Accept our evening song, O Lover of mankind!

v: Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

Today, a sacred Pascha is revealed to us:
a new and holy Pascha,
a mystical Pascha,
a Pascha worthy of all veneration,
a Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer,
a blameless Pascha,
a great Pascha,
a Pascha of the faithful,
a Pascha which has opened to us the gates of Paradise,
a Pascha which sanctifies all the faithful.

v: As smoke vanishes so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire!

Come from that scene, O women bearers of glad tidings,
and say to Zion:
“Receive from us the glad tidings of joy,
of Christ’s Resurrection!
Exult and be glad,
and rejoice, O Jerusalem,
seeing Christ the King, Who comes forth from the tomb
like a bridegroom in procession!”

v: So the sinners will perish before the face of God. But let the righteous be glad!

The myrh-bearing women,
at the break of dawn,
drew near to the tomb of the Life-giver.
There they found an Angel
sitting upon the stone.
He greeted them with these words:
“Why do you seek the Living among the dead?
Why do you mourn the Incorrupt amid corruption? // Go, proclaim the glad tidings to His disciples!”

v: This is the day which the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Pascha of beauty,
the Pascha of the Lord,
A Pascha worthy of all honor has dawned for us.
Oh, Pascha!
Let us embrace each other joyously!
Pascha, ransom from affliction!
For today, as from a bridal chamber,
Christ has shown forth from the tomb,
and filled the women with joy saying:
“Proclaim the glad tidings to the Apostles!”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 8 (from the Pentecostarion)

Solomon's porch was filled with the sick.
In the middle of the feast,
Christ found a man who had been paralyzed thirty-eight years.
He shouted to him in a commanding voice: “Do you want to be healed?”
The sick man replied: “Lord, when the water is stirred,
I have no man to lower me into the pool.”
The Lord said to him:
“Pick up your bed!
Now that you are healed, see that you sin no more!”
Show to us Your great mercy, O Lord, //
through the prayers of the Theotokos!

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

This is the day of resurrection!
Let us be illuminated by the feast!
Let us embrace each other!
Let us call “Brothers” even those that hate us,
and forgive all by the resurrection,
and so let us cry:
“Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!” (*Once*)

TROPARIA

Tone 3 Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world //
great mercy.

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

Tone 3 We praise you as the mediatrix of our salvation,
Virgin Theotokos.
For your Son, our God, Who took flesh from you,
accepted the Passion on the Cross, // delivering us from corruption as the Lover of Man.