

"Lord I Call..." Tone 1

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!
 Receive the voice of my prayer,
 when I call upon You!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
 in Your sight as incense,
 and let the lifting up of my hands
 be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

Reader reads the rest of Psalm 140 & Psalm 141 on pgs 31 & 32 in the pew book, then STICHERA

v. (10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name! Tone 2*

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.

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

Christ our Savior / 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.

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

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

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

The Angel proclaimed You, / 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 You, O only immortal One.// Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

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

Tone 1 *(for St John of Rila)*

With words of hymnody, O faithful, / let us all praise the champion who shone forth in fasting, / the offspring of the wilderness, the lamp of hearts men, / crying out: Rejoice, O all-blessed one, // great glory who shone forth in our days!

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.

In a way pleasing to God, O father, / you wisely balanced two ways of life: / for you spurned corruptible things, / and setting your mind on Christ, Who abides forever, // your set Him as the rule of your soul, O blessed John!

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

You rejoice seeing the fulfillment of your labors, / which eye has not seen nor ear has heard; / and with the beauties of paradise as a splendid reward for your struggles, // your tomb pours forth grace, and your body remains untouched by corruption!

*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 8** (for St John of Rila) (O most glorious wonder)*

You desired, O divinely-inspired John, / those things which eye has not seen nor ear has heard, / and which have not entered into the heart of men, / which have been prepared by God for those who love Him. / You hated the confusion of the world and hastened to God alone, / ever delighting in His grace: // earnestly entreat Him that our souls may be saved!

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

Adorned with splendid understanding, / you illumined your soul with the commandments of God; / you spurned corruptible things that fade away, / and forsaking all earthly things, you desired to dwell in the wilderness. / You kept commandments of Christ, O venerable John: // entreat Him that He may save our souls!

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

You lovingly desired the Master, / observing His precepts from earliest childhood, / and you were raised more on piety than on milk; / you adorned your body with chastity and purity, / and, ever desiring to be in the house of God, you found Christ: // entreat Him, O blessed one, that He may save our souls!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **Tone 8** (Doxastikon – St John of Rila)*

The Spirit of God has been poured out, as the holy Joel prophesied; / thus moved, and having received His activity, / the venerable John manifestly reveals / the mysteries of God to us, the faithful. // He has illumined us with the light of God and with grace.

*Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 2** (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

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.
Instead of a pillar of flame, the Righteous Sun has risen. //
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon 5:15-6:3

The righteous live forever, and their reward is with the Lord; the Most High takes care of them. Therefore they will receive a glorious crown and a beautiful diadem from the hand of the Lord, because with his right hand he will cover them, and with his arm he will shield them. The Lord will take his zeal as his whole armor, and will arm all creation to repel his enemies; he will put on righteousness as a breastplate, and wear impartial justice as a helmet; he will take holiness as an invincible shield, and sharpen stern wrath for a sword, and creation will join with him to fight against the madmen. Shafts of lightning will fly with true aim, and will leap to the target as from a well-drawn bow of clouds, and hailstones full of wrath will be hurled as from a catapult; the water of the sea will rage against them, and rivers will relentlessly overwhelm them; a mighty wind will rise against them, and like a tempest it will winnow them away. Lawlessness will lay waste the whole earth, and evil-doing will overturn the thrones of rulers. Listen therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, O judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, and boast of many nations. For your might was given you from the Lord, and your power from the Most High.

The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be an affliction, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of men they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15

The righteous man, though he die early, will be at rest. For old age is not honored for length of time, nor measured by number of years; but understanding is gray hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age. There was one who pleased God and was loved by him, and while living among sinners he was taken up. He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or guile deceive his soul. For the fascination of wickedness obscures what is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. Being perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he took him quickly from the midst of wickedness. Yet the peoples saw and did not understand, nor take such a thing to heart, that God's grace and mercy are with his elect, and he watches over his holy ones.

APOSTICHA

Tone 2 Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,
has enlightened the whole universe,
recalling Your creation.//
Glory to You, O almighty Lord!

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

By the Tree You destroyed the curse of the Tree, O Savior.
By Your burial You mortified the majesty of death.
You have enlightened our race by Your Resurrection.//
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!

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

When You were seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,
You restored the beauty of Your creatures.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Your side with a spear.
The Hebrews, not knowing Your power,
asked that Your tomb might be sealed,
but through the mercy of Your compassion,
You accepted the tomb
and rose on the third day!//
O Lord, glory to You!

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

O Christ, the Giver of life, / for the sake of the dead You voluntarily endured death, / descending into hell as the Mighty One / to save those who awaited Your coming, / granting them the life of paradise instead of hell. / Grant also to us who glorify Your 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 8** (Doxastikon – St John of Rila)*
You chosen flock of Christ, you assemblies of the faithful, / you newly consecrated people, come, / let us all hasten to the honored memorial / of our venerable father John, / Who shone forth in heart and has come to us. / For, behold, his sacred body lies before us: / an honorable confirmation of our Faith, / a true adornment of the venerable. / Let the assemblies of the heretics / who believe not in the resurrection be put to shame! / For, behold, even after death he preserves his countenance: / he enables the lame to walk and the blind to see,/ and gives strength to the paralyzed; / and he strengthens our pious Orthodox Bishops against all heresies; / and, standing in spirit before the throne of the Master, //he prays that our souls may be saved.

*Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 8** (Theotokion)*
O unwedded Virgin,
who ineffably conceived God in the flesh,
O Mother of God most high,
accept the cries of your servants, O blameless One!
Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//
Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

TROPARIA

Tone 2 When You descended to death, O Life Immortal, / You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead. / And when from the depths You raised the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out://“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **Tone 1** Troparion (St John of Rila)*
Your angelic life was a foundation of repentance / and a model of compunction, / an image of consolation and spiritual perfection, / O venerable father John. / You persevered in prayer, fasting, and tears: // intercede with Christ God for our souls.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 1** Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion*
When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, saying “Rejoice!” / with that word the Master of all was incarnate in you, / the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David! / Your womb became more spacious than the heavens, / for you carried your Creator. / Glory to Him Who took abode in you! / Glory to Him Who came forth from you!//Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you!