

**Vespers sung on Saturday 17th February 2024 for Sunday 18th February
37th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday of the Canaanite Woman ♦ Saint Leo the Great, Pope of Rome**

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 4

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)

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 will surround 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 iniquities, 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 8 (For Saint Leo)

What shall we name thee, O God-inspired one?
Head of the Orthodox Church of Christ;
eye of piety, clearly seeing hearts with spiritual understanding,
pouring out the word of life to all the ends of the earth;
divinely inscribed scroll of the true faith?//
Pray that our souls may be saved!

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

What shall we now call thee, O wondrous one?
Preacher of the truth and firm foundation;
senior among the honoured council;
excellent rule of teachings, possessing the measure of correction;
the one who cut down the division of Nestorius and the confusion of Eutyches//
with divinely-wrought revelations?

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

What shall we now call thee, O marvellous one?
Prince and ruler in spiritual splendour,
exercising mastery over the passions of the body;
vessel of divine mercy; dwelling of perfect love;
loving pastor, awaiting the repentance of sinners?//
Pray that our souls may be saved!

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

Tone 4 (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*)

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.

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

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.

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 Thine own power on the third day as God,//

granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

V. Holiness befits 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;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 4 (*Theotokion*)

Look on the entreaties of thy servants, O Blameless One!
Stop all the terrible attacks against us,
freeing us from every affliction,
for we have only thee as our sure and firm anchor!
Do not let us be put to shame, O Lady,
for we call on thee for our intercession!
Hasten to pray for those who call in faith:
"Rejoice, O Lady, Help of all://
the Joy and Shelter and Salvation of our souls!"

TROPARIA**Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 4**

[Music on website / Green Book page 8]

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 our God is risen, //
granting the world great mercy!"

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

Troparion of Saint Leo the Great in Tone 3

[Music on website / Sheet]

Thou wast the Church's instrument
in strengthening the teaching of true doctrine;
thou didst shine forth from the West like a sun
dispelling the errors of the heretics. //
Righteous Leo, entreat Christ God to grant us His great mercy!

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

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 3

We hymn thee who hast mediated the salvation of our race,
O Virgin Theotokos;
for thy Son and our God,
accepting suffering on the Cross in the flesh He had received of thee,
hath delivered us from corruption, //
in that He is the Lover of mankind.