

**Vespers sung on Saturday 19th August 2023 for Sunday 20th August
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Dormition
The Glorious Prophet Samuel**

"LORD, I CALL ..."

Tone 2

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 2 (For the Resurrection)

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.

The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Christ our Saviour
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.

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

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

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

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

If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Tone 6 *(For the Dormition)*

Today, she who gave birth to Life, the all-undefiled Theotokos,
has passed over to everlasting life,
granting mercy to the faithful.
All creation now leaps for joy.
The angelic assembly rejoices together,
for they accompany the Queen, singing festive hymns.
Her only Son and King of All makes her abode with Himself, //
for she reigns as sovereign of all.

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.

Clouds bearing the spokesmen of God,
the Apostles who were gathered from all the ends of the earth,
came to Zion to behold the holy dormition of the Mother of the Lord,
and to offer her enlightening words,
and wondrously to perform her burial;
for having given birth to the Lord she is a secure refuge for all the faithful, //
and a mighty, divine, and invincible protection on earth.

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

With splendour let us all keep festival
on the divine dormition of her who is higher than all creatures.
Let us bring to her all the glorious, bright, and divine gifts with which she is truly adorned:
serene faith and hope and love,
chastity, purity, and truth, in which she takes delight.
May she grant us also to be fellow sharers with her, //
and to inherit the Kingdom on high.

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

Tone 4 *(For the Prophet Samuel)*

O Samuel, she who gave birth to thee,
received thee as a worthy fruit of prayer.
As she had promised, with her maternal hands
she gave thee, a rightly acceptable gift, to God her Benefactor.
Therefore the grace of the Spirit rested upon thee,
causing thee to grow in innocence, //
and adorning thee with wisdom, O glorious one.

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

Thou wast invested as a priest with sacred chrism
and wast revealed to be a prophet who didst foresee things to come.
At the command of God, thou didst foretell the future and didst anoint a king.
Thou didst judge with justice the people of Israel
who ever sinned and withdrew themselves from their God, //
O truly-wondrous Samuel, the blessed bearer of God!

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

Putting aside the gloom and weight of the flesh
thou now beholdest Him Whom thou dost desire,
not in a mirror darkly or in shadows, as before, but face to face.
Thou dost rejoice as thou goest about the heavens, O most honoured Prophet,
equal of the other Prophets of God, //
converser with the righteous and sharer in the portion of the Angels.

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

Tone 6 *(For the Dormition)*

At thy deathless falling asleep,
O Theotokos, Mother of Life,
clouds caught the Apostles up into the air,
and though they were dispersed throughout the world,
they were brought into a single choir beside thy most pure body.
As they reverently buried thee, they cried out, singing Gabriel's words:
"Rejoice, O full of grace,
Virgin Mother without bridegroom,
the Lord is with thee!" //
With them implore Him as thy Son and our God that our souls may be saved!

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

APOSTICHA

Tone 2 *(For the Resurrection)*

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Saviour,
has enlightened the whole universe,
recalling Thy creation. //
Glory to Thee, O almighty Lord!

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

By the Tree Thou didst destroy the curse of the Tree, O Saviour.
By Thy burial Thou didst mortify the majesty of death.
Thou hast enlightened our race by Thy Resurrection. //
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

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

When Thou wast seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,
Thou didst restore the beauty of Thy creatures.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Thy side with a spear.
The Hebrews, not knowing Thy power,
asked that Thy tomb might be sealed,
but through the mercy of Thy compassion,
Thou didst accept the tomb
and didst rise on the third day! //
O Lord, glory to Thee!

Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

O Christ, the Giver of life,
for the sake of the dead, Thou didst voluntarily endure death,
descending into hell as the Mighty One
to save those who awaited Thy coming,
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.
Grant also to us who glorify Thy 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;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 6 (For the Dormition)

When the Translation of thine immaculate body was being prepared,
the Apostles surrounded thy deathbed and looked on thee with trembling.
They gazed at thy body and were seized with awe,
while Peter cried out to thee with tears:
“O Virgin, I see thee, who art the life of all, lying here outstretched,
and I am struck with wonder;
for the Delight of the life to come made His dwelling in thee.
But fervently implore thy Son and God, O immaculate Lady, //
that thy people may be kept safe from harm!”

TROPARIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendour of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

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

Troparion of the Prophet Samuel in Tone 2

We celebrate the memory
of Thy prophet Samuel, O Lord;
through him we beseech Thee://
“Save our souls!”

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

Troparion of the Dormition in Tone 1

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity.
In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life, //
and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.