

**Vespers sung on Saturday 2nd September 2023 for Sunday 3rd September
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
The Holy Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia
Our Venerable and God-bearing Father Theoctistus**

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 4

[Music on website / Sheet]

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.

Tone 1 (For Saint Anthimus)

O divinely-wise and blessed one,
thou didst brighten thy sacred and divine vestments with the dye of thy blood.
Thou didst go forth in faith from strength to strength
and from glory to glory.//
Pray now that peace and great mercy may be granted to our souls!

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 didst offer the Bloodless Sacrifice to God
as a most obedient priest;
later, as a most true martyr,
thou didst offer thyself with blood to Christ
as an acceptable sacrifice and whole burnt offering,
O divinely eloquent and honoured one.//
Pray to Him for those who sing thy praises!

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

Thou leddest legions of martyrs to Christ, O Father Anthimus,
teaching and instructing by thy doctrines and words.
Thou didst openly present thyself as an example for them, O wise one.//
Pray with them that peace and great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

Tone 1 (For Saint Theoctistus)

O Father Theoctistus,
thy radiant memory gladdens the assemblies of monastics,
who rejoice in the beautiful works of thy life,
the riches of thy wonders and the brightness of thy spiritual gifts.//
Entreat Christ that peace and great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

O Father Theoctistus,
the enemies were terrified by the intensity of thine ascetic discipline,
and they were defeated by thine unceasing prayers, O most praised saint;
for thou didst have Christ as a helper in thy work.//
Pray to Him that peace and great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

O Father Theoctistus,
thou wast truly God's creature;
for by preserving that which was according to His image,
thou didst show by thy holy life that thou wast rightfully named, O most marvellous one.//
Entreat Christ that peace and great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

Tone 6 *(For Saint Anthimus)*

O blessed Anthimus,
 thou wast a most obedient priest;
 the ultimate call was given to thee,
 for while celebrating the divine and ineffable mysteries,
 thou didst pour out thy blood in behalf of Christ our God.
 Thou didst bring thyself as a pleasing sacrifice to Him.
 Therefore, since thou hast boldness before Him,
 pray fervently for those who keep thy memory with faith and love,
 that they may be rescued from evil, //
 and from all temptations, dangers, and afflictions!

Both 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.

V. 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;

Tone 6 (*For Saint Theoctistus*)

The sound of thy teachings has gone out into all the earth,
O venerable Father Theoctistus.
Therefore thou hast found the reward of thy labours in the heavens.
Thou didst destroy the hosts of demons
and didst reach the ranks of Angels, whose life thou didst blamelessly follow.
Since thou hast boldness before Christ our God, //
entreat peace for our souls!

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

Tone 6 (*Theotokion*)

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,
was born of thee, O most pure Virgin.
By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.
Unceasingly we magnify thee as the Mother of God!
Rejoice, O celestial Joy!
Rejoice, O Lady: //
the Protection, Intercession 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 the Hieromartyr Anthimus in Tone 4

[[Music on website / Sheet](#)]

As thou didst share in the ways of the Apostles,
and didst occupy their throne,
thou didst find thine activity to be a passage to divine vision,
O divinely-inspired one.
Wherefore, ordering the word of truth,
thou didst suffer for the Faith even to the shedding of thy blood.
O Hieromartyr Anthimus,
entreat Christ God //
that our souls be saved.

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

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

Tone 4

The mystery hidden from before the ages
and unknown even to the angels,
through thee, O Theotokos,
hath been revealed to those on earth:
God incarnate in unconfused union,
Who willingly accepted the Cross for our sake,
and thereby raising up the first-formed man, //
hath saved our souls from death.