

**Vespers sung on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 for Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Glorious Prophet Obadiah  
The Holy Martyr Barlaam of Caesarea**

**“LORD I CALL ...”**

**Tone 7**

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 7 (For the Resurrection)**

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,  
Who destroyed the dominion of death!  
Let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts,  
for He enlightened the race of man!//  
O our Maker and Saviour, glory to Thee!

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

Thou didst endure the Cross and burial for our sake.  
By Thy death, Thou didst destroy death as God.  
We fall down before Thy Resurrection on the third day,//  
O Saviour, glory to Thee!

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

When the Apostles beheld the Resurrection of the Maker,  
they were amazed and sang the angelic praise.  
This is the glory of the Church.  
This is the richness of the Kingdom.//  
O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to Thee!

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

Thou wast held by lawless men, O Christ,  
but to me, Thou art God, and I am not ashamed.  
Thou wast smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny Thee.  
Thou wast nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it,  
for I glory in Thy Resurrection: Thy death is my life.//  
O almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to Thee!

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

**Tone 1 (For the Prophet Obadiah)**

As a shining vessel of the Spirit,  
thou wast illumined by Him, Obadiah.  
With most divine vision, thou wast enriched by the image of prophecy;  
foreknowledge of things to come and knowledge of the truth.//  
Pray that He may grant our souls peace and great mercy!

*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.*

The glorious and honourable Prophets  
participate through communion by grace  
in the very attributes and properties  
by which God is made known.//  
The Lord enlightens His chosen ones with His splendour.

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

Thou wast a glorious prophet:  
a divine herald of God full of unfading light.  
Thou didst behold the glory which surpasses understanding and reason  
as thou didst stand before the Master of all.//  
Entreat Him that He may grant our souls peace 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 4 (For Saint Barlaam)**

Thou wast more sturdy than a pillar,  
harder than iron, and stronger than bronze;  
for each of these, when submitted to fire, is overcome by its force;  
it melts and is quickly destroyed.  
But thy right hand did not waver when it was placed over the burning coals.//  
Unexpectedly it prevailed, O all-wise Barlaam.

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

As though thou wast a priest standing before God,  
and coming before Him, not with another's blood, but with thine own, O blessed martyr,  
thou didst offer a sacrifice of sweet fragrance,  
not to the delusion of demons,//  
but to Christ the Saviour and Master Who reigns forever.

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

A priest who offers and a lamb that is offered;  
joyfully we call thee both, O Martyr, worthy of all praise;  
as a victim, entirely unblemished,  
thou didst make thyself a whole-burnt offering to God through the fire of torments.//  
Earnestly pray that He save those who praise and honour thy memory!

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

**Tone 7 (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*)**

No tongue can speak of thy wonderful childbearing,  
 for the order of nature was overruled by God.  
 Thou wast revealed to be a Mother above nature,  
 for thou didst remain a Virgin beyond reason and understanding.  
 Thy conception was most glorious, O Theotokos!  
 The manner of thy giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin!  
 Knowing thee to be the Mother of God,  
 devoutly we pray to thee://  
 “Beseech Him to save our souls!”

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**APOSTICHA****Tone 7 (*For the Resurrection*)**

As the Saviour of the world Thou didst arise from the tomb.  
 As God Thou didst resurrect the race of man with Thy flesh.//  
 O Lord, glory to Thee!

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

Come, let us worship the One Who rose from the dead,  
 and enlightened all creation!  
 By His death, He saved us from the torments of hell.//  
 By His Resurrection He has granted us eternal life and great mercy.

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

Thou didst descend into hell, capturing death, O Christ.  
 In three days Thou didst rise again,  
 resurrecting us who glorify Thy Resurrection,//  
 O Lord and Lover of man.

*V. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

When Thou wast placed in the tomb as one asleep,  
 the sight was great and awesome.  
 But when Thou didst rise on the third day as almighty God,  
 Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself.//  
 Glory to Thy Resurrection, only Lover of man!

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

**Tone 7 (*Theotokion*)**

All the earth-born run to thy protection, O Lady!  
 Thou art our hope, O Theotokos!  
 Deliver us from our countless sins//  
 and pray that our souls may be saved.

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**TROPARIA****Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 7**

[Music on website / Green Book page14]

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.  
 To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.  
 For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,  
 and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,  
 to proclaim that Thou art risen,//  
 granting the world great mercy.

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

**Troparion of the Holy Martyr Barlaam in Tone 4**     [\[Music on website / Sheet\]](#)

Armed with youthful fervour,  
thou didst endure martyrdom in old age and glorified Christ.  
Thou didst offer thy right hand as a whole burnt offering  
and thy holy soul as a blameless sacrifice.//  
Intercede that all may be granted forgiveness, Great-martyr Barlaam.

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

**Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in 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.