

Vespers sung on Saturday 29th June 2024 for Sunday 30th June 2024 First Sunday after Pentecost • Sunday of All Saints

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 8

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 8 (For the Resurrection)

We offer to Thee, O Christ,
our evening song and reasonable service,
for Thou didst will to have mercy on us//
by Thy Resurrection.

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

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Thy face!
For Thou didst will to have mercy on us//
by Thy Resurrection.

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

Rejoice, O holy Zion:
Mother of the churches, the abode of God,
for thou wast the first to receive remission of sins//
by the Resurrection.

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

The Word of God the Father,
begotten before the ages,
in the latter times willed to be incarnate of the Virgin
and endured crucifixion unto death.
He has saved mortal man//
by His Resurrection.

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

We glorify Thee, O Lord,
for Thou didst voluntarily endure the Cross for our sake.
We fall down in worship before Thee, O almighty Saviour.
Do not cast us away from Thy face
but hear us and save us, O Lover of man,//
by Thy Resurrection!

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.

Glory to Thee, O Saviour Christ,
Only-begotten Son of God, who wast nailed to the Cross//
and resurrected from the tomb on the third day!

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

Tone 6 *(For All Saints)*

The Saviour's inspired Disciples became instruments of the Spirit through faith.
They were scattered to the ends of the earth,
sowing the glad tidings of the True Faith.
From their divine garden the army of martyrs blossomed in grace.
They became images of Christ's saving Passion,
enduring every kind of torture, scourging, and fire.//
Now they boldly pray for our souls.

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

The noble martyrs, burning with love of the Lord,
laughed at the fires and were consumed as burning coals.
Through Christ, they burned the withered arrogance of error.
They stilled the roaring of beasts with the voice of their prayers.
Beheaded, they decapitated the demonic hosts.//
By the shedding of their own blood they watered the Church with faith.

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

The heroic martyrs wrestled with beasts and were torn by their claws.
They were dismembered, slashed with swords, and shot with arrows;
they were consumed in the flames and pierced with lances.
All this they willingly endured,
for already they saw their unfading crowns, and the glory of Christ,//
before Whom they boldly pray for our souls.

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

Come, let us praise the heroes of our faith:
Apostles, martyrs, holy priests, and noble women!
They fought for the faith in every part of the world.
Though born of earth, they were united with the heavenly hosts.
Through their sufferings, they triumphed over evil by the grace of Christ.
As unfading lights, they illumine our hearts,//
and with boldness they pray for our souls.

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

Tone 6 *(For All Saints)*

O divine choir of martyrs,
you are the pillars of the Church and the fulfilment of the Gospel.
By your deeds you have fulfilled the Saviour's words.
You have closed the gates of hell and defended the Church.
The shedding of your blood has dried up the libations poured out to idols.
Your sacrifice has nourished the body of the faithful.
Standing crowned before God, you amazed the Angels.//
Pray unceasingly to Him that our souls may be saved!

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 8 (*Theotokion – Dogmatikon*)

The King of heaven, because of His love for man,
appeared on earth and dwelt with men.
He took flesh from the pure Virgin
and after assuming it, He came forth from her.
The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.
Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,
we confess Christ our God!//
Entreat Him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS**The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah**

Thus says the Lord: All the nations are gathered together, and the rulers shall be assembled from among them. Who will declare these things or tell us things from the beginning? Let them bring forth their witnesses, and be proven right; and let them speak the truth. "You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God, "and My Servant whom I chose, that you may know and believe, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no other God, nor shall there be after Me. I am God, and besides Me there is no one who saves. I proclaimed, and I saved. I denounced foreign gods so there were none among you. You are My witnesses, and I am a witness," says the Lord God. "Even from the beginning, there is no one who can deliver out of My hands; I will work, and who will reverse it?" Thus says the Lord God who redeems you, the Holy One of Israel. [Isaiah 43:9-14]

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torture will ever touch them. In the eyes of the undiscerning they seemed to have died, and their departure was considered to be misfortune, and their passage from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in man's view they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Though chastened in a few things, great kindness will be shown them, for God tested them and found them worthy of Himself. He tested them like gold in a furnace and accepted them as a whole burnt offering. In the time of their visitation, they will shine forth, and they will run about like sparks through straw. They will judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall reign over them unto the ages. Those who trust in Him will understand truth, and the faithful shall continue with Him in love, because grace and mercy are upon His elect and He watches over His holy ones. [Wisdom 3:1-9]

The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon

The righteous live forever, and their reward is with the Lord; and their care is by the Most High. Therefore they shall receive a kingly dwelling of dignity and a crown of beauty from the hand of the Lord, because He will shelter them with His right hand and protect them with His arm. He will take His zeal as His full armour and will turn His creation into weapons against His enemies. He will wear righteousness as a breastplate and put on impartial judgment as a helmet. He will take holiness as an unconquerable shield and sharpen His relentless wrath for a sword; and creation will fight with Him against the senseless. Well-aimed flashes of lightning will strike and leap to their object as from a well-drawn bow of clouds; and hailstones full of anger will be hurled as from an engine of war. The water of the sea will be vexed with them, and the rivers will wash over them severely. A powerful wind will oppose them, and like a storm it will winnow them away. Lawlessness will lay waste all the earth, and wrongdoing 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 take pride in yourself over a multitude of nations. For power was given to you from the Lord, and your lordship from the Most High. [Wisdom 5:15-6:3]

APOSTICHA**Tone 8** (*For the Resurrection*)

Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,
the eternal Life has come for death
to raise those who are fallen;
to enlighten those in darkness.//
O Jesus, our Saviour and illuminator, glory to Thee!

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

We glorify Christ, who rose from the dead.
He accepted the human body and soul,
and freed both from suffering.
His most pure soul descended to hell, which He spoiled.
His holy body did not see corruption in the tomb.//
He is the Redeemer of our souls.

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

In psalms and songs we glorify Thy Resurrection from the dead, O Christ.
By it, Thou hast freed us from the tortures of hell//
and as God hast granted eternal life and great mercy.

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

O Master of all, incomprehensible Creator of heaven and earth,
by Thy suffering on the Cross Thou hast gained passionlessness for me.
Accepting burial and arising in glory,
Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself by Thine almighty hand.
Glory to Thy rising on the third day!
By it Thou hast granted us eternal life and cleansing of sins//
as the only compassionate One.

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

Tone 6 *(For All Saints)*

Come, O faithful,
let us celebrate in song today,
glorifying the memory of all the Saints!
Rejoice, glorious Apostles, Prophets, Martyrs and Hierarchs!
Rejoice, O company of all the Just!
Rejoice, you ranks of holy Women!//
Pray that Christ will grant our souls great mercy!

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6 *(Aposticha 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 8

[Music on website / Green Book page 16]

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!
Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings!//
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

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

Troparion of All Saints in Tone 4

[Music on website / Green Book page 116]

As with fine porphyry and royal purple,
Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyrs' blood shed throughout all the world.
She cries to Thee, O Christ God:
"Send down Thy bounties on Thy people,//
grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls!"

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.