

Vespers sung on Saturday 20th July 2024 for Sunday 21st July 2024
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
The Glorious Prophet Ezekiel ♦ The Venerable Fool-for-Christ, Simeon of Emessa,
and his fellow ascetic, the Venerable John

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 3

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 3 (For the Resurrection)

By Thy Cross, O Christ our Saviour,
death's dominion has been shattered;
the devil's delusion destroyed.
The race of man, being saved by faith,//
always offers Thee a song.

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

All has been enlightened by Thy Resurrection, O Lord.
Paradise has been opened again.
All creation, praising Thee,//
always offers Thee a song.

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

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son.
I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit:
the undivided, uncreated Godhead,//
the consubstantial Trinity which reigns forever.

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

We bow down in worship before Thy precious Cross, O Christ,
and we glorify and praise Thy Resurrection,//
for by Thy wounds we have all been healed.

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

Tone 4 (for Saints Simeon and John)

Dwelling in the desert in unity of mind, O blessed ones,
you caused the unrest of the flesh to wither away
by fasting, prayer, and enlightening contemplation.
You illumined your hearts with the pleasing gifts of the Spirit,//
O Simeon and John, the confirmation of monastics.

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.

With foolish behaviour thou didst render foolish the malice of the wise, O blessed Father, performing wondrous signs, working miracles, and expelling demons, enlightening those who dwell in the darkness of sin.
In the midst of turmoil thou didst preserve clarity of mind//
and didst receive dispassion from God, O Simeon.

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

O divinely inspired one,
thou wast shown to be humble in wisdom and merciful,
compassionate and full of love for God.
Humble and meek, thou didst walk the earth like an angel,
living thy life as if in heaven.
Therefore, because of thy purity, O blessed Simeon,//
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit rested in thee as in a place of purity.

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 the Prophet Ezekiel)

O wondrous Ezekiel,
most wise and blessed by God,
having cleansed thy soul and body,
thou didst behold in the spirit through a purified mind
the ineffable, unsearchable glory of the Lord,
praised in hymns by innumerable voices,//
and borne aloft with lightning flashes by divine Seraphim.

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

O Ezekiel, dwelling place of God,
thou wast sorely tried in emulation of Christ.
Thou didst bear the cruel burden of a debt to aliens.
Thou didst desire that this be recorded beforehand for the sake of the Cross,
the God-revealed deliverance and salvation of the world.//
Pray that all who celebrate thy memory today may be granted a share in it!

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

O glorious Ezekiel, inspired by God,
thou didst receive a scroll, sweeter than honey in thy mouth from the Almighty
and wast given knowledge in things divine.
Beholding and contemplating God,
thou wast a herald of holy mysteries,//
offering the resentful assembly compassion from God.

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

Tone 3 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

How can we not wonder
at thy mystical childbearing, O exalted Mother?
For without receiving the touch of man,
thou gavest birth to a Son in the flesh, O immaculate Virgin.
The Son born of the Father before eternity [was born of thee at the fullness of time ...

was born of thee at the fullness of time, O honoured Lady.
He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,
but preserved the fullness of each nature.
Entreat Him, O Lady and Virgin and Mother,
to save the souls of those who, in the Orthodox manner, confess thee//
to be the Theotokos.

APOSTICHA

Tone 3 *(For the Resurrection)*

The sun was darkened by Thy Passion, O Christ,
but all creation was enlightened by the light of Thy Resurrection.//
Accept our evening song, O Lover of man!

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

Thy life-bearing Resurrection, O Lord,
enlightened the whole universe, recalling Thy creation.
Delivered from Adam's curse, we sing://
O Almighty Lord, glory to Thee!

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

Thou art the changeless God,
Who, suffering in the flesh, wast changed.
Creation could not endure seeing Thee on the Cross.
It was filled with fear while praising Thy patience.
By descending to hell and rising on the third day,//
Thou hast granted to the world life and great mercy.

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

Thou didst endure death, O Christ,
to deliver the race of men from death.
Thou didst rise from the dead on the third day,
raising with Thyself those who knew Thee as God//
and enlightening the world. Glory to Thee!

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

Tone 3 *(Theotokion)*

By the will of the Father,
without seed, of the Holy Spirit thou didst conceive the Son of God.
He was born of the Father before eternity without a mother,
but now for our sake He didst come from thee without a father!//
Do not cease entreating Him to deliver our souls from harm!

TROPARIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 3

[Music on website / Green Book page 6]

Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//
great mercy.

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

Troparion of Saints Simeon and John in Tone 4

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

O God of our Fathers,
always act with kindness towards us;
take not Thy mercy from us,
but guide our lives in peace//
through the prayers of Venerable Simeon and John!

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.
