

Vespers sung on Saturday 16th November for Sunday 17th November 2024
21st Sunday after Pentecost
Saint Gregory the Wonderworker of Neo-Caesarea

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 4

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)

[Music on website]

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.

Angels and men sing of Thy Resurrection on the third day, O Saviour.
By it, the ends of the earth have been illumined.
By it we have been delivered from bondage to the Enemy.
Save us by Thy Resurrection!//
O Life-creating and almighty Saviour, glory to Thee!

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 hast shattered the gates of brass
and destroyed the chains of death, O Christ God.
Thou hast raised the fallen human race.//
O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to Thee!

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

Tone 8 (For St. Gregory)

What shall we call thee, O Gregory?
Master, for thou didst subject the passions to thy mind?
Husbandman, for thou didst reap the fruit of wisdom?
One granted the vision of God and taught with heavenly theology,
a sacred performer of the mysteries,
and most wondrous worker of miracles?//
Pray that our souls may be saved!

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

Repeat: What shall we call thee, O Gregory ...

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

What shall we now call thee, O Gregory?
Mighty destroyer of godless impiety,
setting forth the laws of true worship?
Wise teacher and bestower of invincible peace?
Unvanquished conqueror of armies?
One who ever dwells in the mountains,
beholding those living in the cities?//
Pray that our souls may be saved!

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

What shall we now proclaim thee, O venerable one?
Thou didst follow the Apostles as a worker of miracles,
and didst restrain the river by calling on Christ,
drying up the lake which was the cause of contention between brothers.
Thou didst disperse the ungodly congregation,
increasing and enlightening Christian assemblies.//
Pray that our souls may be saved!

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

Tone 6 (For Saint Gregory)

Most wisely didst thou embark upon the depths of knowledge, O hierarch of Christ.
Thou didst acquire the vision of the Trinity,
foreseeing steadfastly in the Spirit of Christ our God.
Thou didst pour forth on us a flood of miracles,
making solid the watery nature of the sea,
changing the pagan priest's dark delusion to belief.
Thou didst persuade the persecutors truly to believe,
revealing thyself to them as a pillar of virtue.
Thou wast called a prophet through thy miracles.
Therefore we beseech thee,//
ever pray for us to the Saviour that our souls may be saved!

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 pow’rs.//

Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has saved the world, O Theotokos.

APOSTICHA**Tone 4** (*For the Resurrection*)

[Music on website]

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 Gregory*)

The watchfulness of God was given to thee, O wise one,

as it was to Daniel the Prophet;

for, as a dream was revealed to him,

so the mystery of the faith was disclosed to thee.//

Therefore, O venerable Father, pray that our souls may be saved!

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 God is risen,//
granting the world great mercy!”

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

Troparion of Saint Gregory in Tone 8

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

Thou didst become worthy of thy name through thy way of life;
through thy vigilance in prayer and thy constant works of mercy.
Therefore, O Father Gregory, beseech Christ God to enlighten our minds,//
that we may not sleep in sin, which leads to death!

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

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 8

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

For our sake Thou wast born of the Virgin
and didst endure crucifixion, O Good One, destroying death by death.
Revealing the Resurrection as God, do not despise the work of Thy hand!
Reveal Thy love for man, O Merciful One, and accept the Theotokos praying for us,//
and save the despairing people, O our Saviour!