

Vespers sung on Saturday 22nd February for Sunday 23rd February 2025

Sunday of Meatfare ♦ Sunday of the Last Judgement

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 2

[Music on website]

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 2 (For the Resurrection)

Come, let us worship the Word of God

begotten of the Father before all ages,

and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!

Having endured the Cross,

He was buried as He Himself desired.//

And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

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

Christ our Saviour

nailed to the Cross the bond against us,

He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//

We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

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

With the Archangels

let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!

He is our Saviour, our Redeemer.

He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//

to judge the world which He made.

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

The Angel proclaimed Thee,

the crucified and buried Master.

He told the women: “Come, see the place where He lay!

He is risen as He said,

for He is almighty.”

We worship Thee, O only immortal One.//

Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

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

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy the curse of the tree.

By Thy burial, Thou didst slay the dominion of death.

By Thy rising, Thou didst enlighten the race of man.//

O Benefactor, Christ our God, 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.

The gates of death opened to Thee from fear, O Lord.
When the guards of hell saw Thee they were afraid,
for Thou didst demolish the gates of brass and smash the iron chains.//
Thou hast led us from the darkness and shadows of death, and hast broken our bonds.

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

Tone 6 (From the Lenten Triodion)

O righteous Judge of all mankind,
Thou shalt come, enthroned in glory and escorted by angels,
to judge the living and the dead.
Every man will stand in fear before Thee,
trembling at the river of fire flowing past Thy throne,
as each one waits to hear the sentence he deserves.
On that awesome day have mercy on us as well, O Christ;
count us worthy of salvation,
for, worthless as we are, we turn to Thee in faith,//
O compassionate and merciful Lord!

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

The books will be opened, and the works of all men laid bare;
the vale of tears will echo with the gnashing of teeth;
the sinners will mourn in vain, as they depart to eternal damnation.
Thy judgments are just, O Lord Almighty!
We beg Thee, O Master full of goodness and compassion,//
take pity on us who sing to Thee, O most merciful One!

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

The trumpet shall sound, and the graves shall be opened;
all mankind will arise in trembling;
the righteous will rejoice, as they receive their reward,
but the wicked will depart to eternal fire with wailing and horror.
O Lord of Glory, have mercy on us!
Number us with those who love Thee,//
for Thou alone art good, O Master!

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

I weep and lament when I come to understand
what is to be for those who have sinned without measure,
who by an evil will have angered Thee, Who art supremely good.
They shall have eternal fire, outer darkness, and hell;
the fearful worm, the constant gnashing of teeth, and unceasing torment.
And I, the wretch, am one of those sinners, indeed, the first of them.//
But, O Judge, in Thy mercy save me, as Thou art compassionate.

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

Tone 8 (From the Lenten Triodion)

When the thrones are set in place and the books are opened,
then God will take His place on the judgment seat.
Oh, what a fearful sight!
The angels stand in fear, and the river of fire flows by.
What shall we do, who are already condemned by our many sins,
as we hear Christ call the righteous to His Father's Kingdom,
and send the wicked to eternal damnation?
Who among us can bear that terrible verdict?
Hasten to us, O Lover of man and King of the universe;
grant us the grace of repentance before the end,//
and have mercy on us!

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

Tone 2 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;
as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,
so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.
The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.//
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

APOSTICHA

Tone 2 (For the Resurrection)

[Music on website]

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Saviour,
has enlightened the whole universe,
recalling Thy creation.//
Glory to Thee, O almighty Lord!

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

By the Tree Thou didst destroy the curse of the Tree, O Saviour.
By Thy burial Thou didst mortify the majesty of death.
Thou hast enlightened our race by Thy Resurrection.//
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

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

When Thou wast seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,
Thou didst restore the beauty of Thy creatures.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Thy side with a spear.
The Hebrews, not knowing Thy power,
asked that Thy tomb might be sealed,
but through the mercy of Thy compassion,
Thou didst accept the tomb
and didst rise on the third day!//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

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

O Christ, the Giver of life,
for the sake of the dead Thou didst voluntarily endure death,
descending into hell as the Mighty One
to save those who awaited Thy coming,
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.
Grant also to us who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day//
cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

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

Tone 8 (From the Lenten Triodion)

Woe to thee, O my darkened soul!
Thy life is stained by depravity and laziness;
thy folly makes thee shun all thought of death.
How complacent dost thou remain!
How canst thou flee the fearful thought of Judgment Day?
When wilt thou change thy way of life?
On that day thy sins will rise against thee.
What will thine answer be then?
Thine acts will condemn thee; thy deeds will expose thee.
The time is at hand, O my soul.
Turn to the good and loving Saviour!
Beg Him to forgive thy malice and weakness, as thou criest in faith:
“I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned against Thee,
but I know Thy love for all mankind.//
O good Shepherd, call me to enjoy Thy lasting presence on Thy right hand!”

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

Tone 8 (*Theotokion*)

O unwedded Virgin,
who ineffably didst conceive God in the flesh,
O Mother of God most high,
accept the cries of thy servants, O blameless one!
Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//
Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

TROPARIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 2

[[Music on website / Green Book page 4](#)]

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendour of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

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

Tone 2

All of thy most glorious mysteries
are beyond comprehension, O Theotokos;
for, thy purity sealed and thy virginity intact,
thou art known to be a true Mother, having given birth unto God.//
Him do thou entreat, that our souls may be saved.
