

"Lord I Call..." - Tone 6

Reader: In the Sixth Tone, Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon You!

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I call upon You, hear me;

re - ceive the voice of my prayer when I call u - pon You.

Hear me, O Lord! Let my prayer a - rise

in Your sight as in - cense, and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

Reader: (Reads text from service book)

v. (10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!*

Possessing victory over Hades, O Christ,
since You are free among the dead,
You ascended the Cross
raising with Yourself those who sat in the shades of death.//
Drawing life from Your light, O Almighty Savior, have mercy on us!

Musical notation for the first line of the hymn. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Possessing victory over Ha - des, O Christ, since You are free a-mong the dead,". The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence.

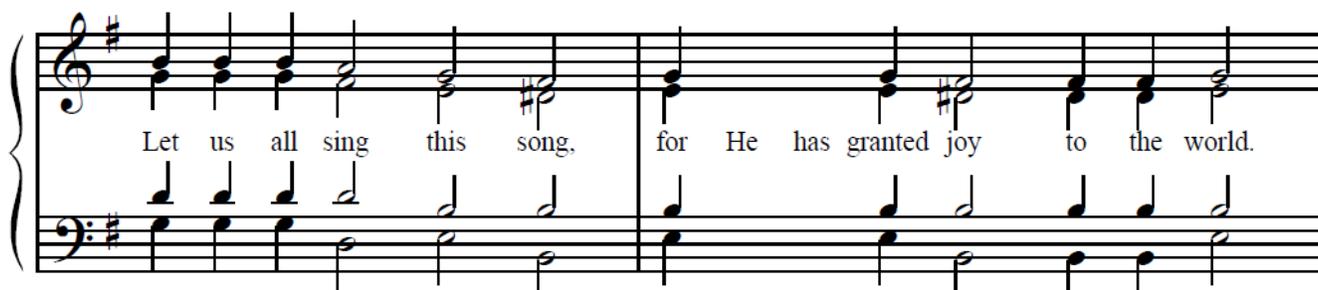
Musical notation for the second line of the hymn. The music continues in G major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "You a-scend - ed the Cross raising with Yourself those who sat in the shades of death!". The melody continues with a final cadence.

Musical notation for the third line of the hymn. The music continues in G major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Drawing life from Your light, O Almighty Saviour, have mer - cy on us!". The melody concludes with a final cadence.

v. (9) *The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*

Today Christ tramples on death,
for He is risen as He said!
Let us all sing this song,
for He has granted joy to the world:
"O Light unapproachable, O Fountain of life!//
O Savior Almighty, have mercy on us!"

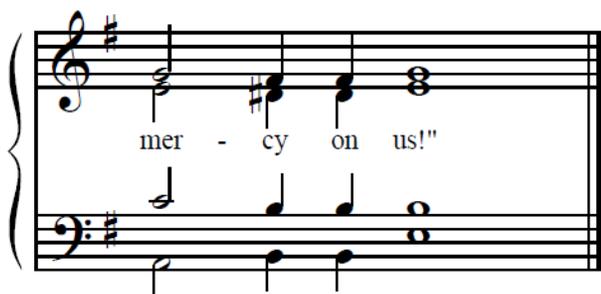
Musical notation for the first line of the second hymn. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Today Christ tram - ples on death, for He is ri - sen as He said!". The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence.



Let us all sing this song, for He has granted joy to the world.



"O Light unapproachable, O Fountain of Life! O Saviour Almighty, have



mercy on us!"

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Where shall we sinners flee from You, for You are in all creation?

In heaven You dwell!

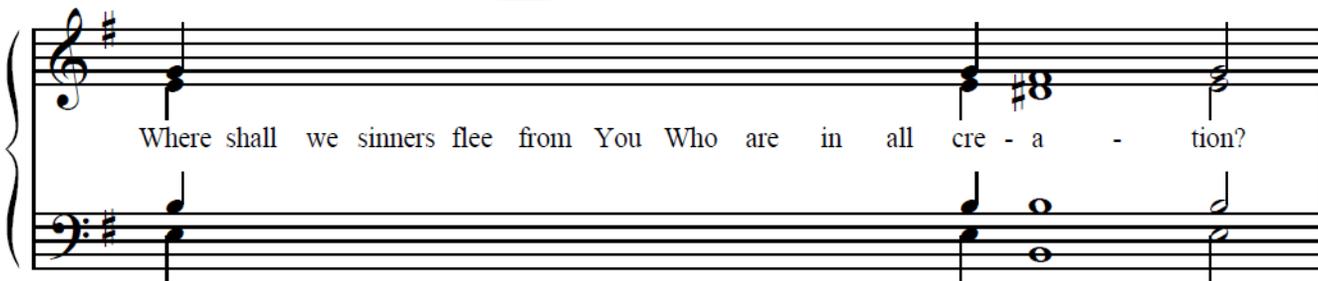
In Hades You trampled on death!

In the depths of the sea?

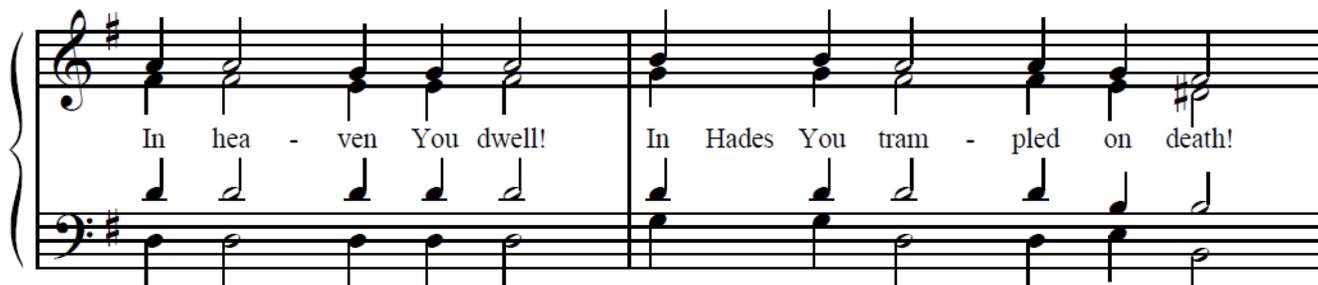
Even there is Your hand, O Master!

To You we flee, and falling before You, we pray://

"O You Who rose from the dead, have mercy on us!"



Where shall we sinners flee from You Who are in all creation?



In heaven You dwell! In Hades You trampled on death!

In the depths of the sea? Even there is Your hand, O Ma - ster!

To You we flee, and falling be - fore You, we pray:

"O You Who rose from the dead, have mer - cy on us!"

v. (7) IN the First Tone, Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Tone 1

(from the Lenten Triodion)

Rich and fertile was the earth allotted to us,
 but all we planted were the seeds of sin.
 We reaped the sheaves of evil with the sickle of laziness;
 we failed to place them on the threshing floor of sorrow.
 Now we beg You, O Lord, eternal Master of the harvest:
 "May your love become the breeze to winnow the straw of our worthless deeds!
Make us like the precious wheat to be stored in heaven,//
 and save us all!"

Rich and fert - ile was the earth al - lot - ted to us,

but all we plan - ted were the seeds of sin.

We reaped the sheaves of evil with the sic - kle of laz - i - ness;

we failed to place them on the thresh - ing floor of sor - row.

Now we beg You, O Lord, e - ter - nal Master of the har - vest:

May your love be - come the breeze to win - now the straw of our worth - less deeds!

Make us like the prec - ious wheat to be stored in hea - ven, and save us all!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

Rich and fertile was the earth allotted to us,
but all we planted were the seeds of sin.

We reaped the sheaves of evil with the sickle of laziness;
we failed to place them on the threshing floor of sorrow.

Now we beg You, O Lord, eternal Master of the harvest:

“May your love become the breeze to winnow the straw of our worthless deeds!

Make us like the precious wheat to be stored in heaven,//
and save us all!”

Rich and fert - ile was the earth al - lot - ted to us,

but all we plan - ted were the seeds of sin.

We reaped the sheaves of evil with the sic - kle of laz - i - ness;

we failed to place them on the thresh - ing floor of sor - row.

Now we beg You, O Lord, e - ter - nal Master of the har - vest:

May your love be - come the breeze to win - now the straw of our worth - less deeds!

Make us like the prec - ious wheat to be stored in hea - ven, and save us all!

v. (5) *For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Brothers, our purpose is to know the power of God's goodness.

For when the Prodigal Son abandoned his sin,
he hastened to the refuge of his father.

That good man embraced him and welcomed him;
he killed the fatted calf and celebrated with heavenly joy.

Let us learn from this example

to offer thanks to the Father, Who loves all men, //

and to the glorious Victim, the Savior of our souls!

Brot - hers, our pur - pose is to know the po - wer of Gods good - ness.

For when the Pro - di - gal Son a - ban - doned his sin,

he has - tened to the ref - uge of his fa - ther.

That good man em - braced him and wel - comed him;

he killed the fat - ted calf and ce - le - bra - ted with hea - ven - ly joy.

Let us learn from this ex - amp - - le
to of - fer thanks to the Fa - ther, Who loves all men,
and to the glo - ri - ous Vic - tim, the Sa - vior of our souls!

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Brothers, our purpose is to know the power of God's goodness.

For when the Prodigal Son abandoned his sin,

he hastened to the refuge of his father.

That good man embraced him and welcomed him;

he killed the fatted calf and celebrated with heavenly joy.

Let us learn from this example

to offer thanks to the Father, Who loves all men, //

and to the glorious Victim, the Savior of our souls!

Brot - hers, our pur - pose is to know the po - wer of Gods good - ness.
For when the Pro - di - gal Son a - ban - doned his sin,

he has - tened to the ref - uge of his fa - ther.

That good man em - braced him and wel - comed him;

he killed the fat - ted calf and ce - le - bra - ted with hea - ven - ly joy.

Let us learn from this ex - amp - - le

to of - fer thanks to the Fa - ther, Who loves all men,

and to the glo - ri - ous Vic - tim, the Sa - vior of our souls!

v. (3) *In the Fifth Tone, For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Tone 5 *(from the Menaion, for St John the Baptist) (Rejoice, precious vessel)*

Rejoice, O holy and light-bearing head,
venerated by the Angels!

Of old, you were cut off by the sword,
for you had cut through the shameful deeds with sharp reproaches.

Like a fountain refreshing the faithful with wonders,
 you declared the saving coming of the Savior,
 and perceived the coming of the Spirit,
 Who took up His abode in you,
 as you stood between the grace of the Old and New Covenants.//
 Entreat Christ God to grant our souls great mercy!

Re-joice, O holy and light bear-ing head, venerated by the An-gels!

Of old, you were cut off by the sword,

for you had cut through the shameful deeds with sharp re-proach-es.

Like a fountain refreshing the faithful with won-ders,

you de-clared the saving coming of the Sav-ior,

and per-ceived the coming of the Spir-it, Who took up His a-bode in you,

as you stood between the grace of the Old and New Co - ve - nants.

Entreat Christ God to grant our souls great mer - cy!

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

The head of the Forerunner is made manifest.
 Once it was concealed in an earthen vessel;
now it is openly given up from the depths of the earth,
 pouring forth streams of healing.
 For he washed in the waters the head of the One
 Who even now covers the chambers of the firmament with waters
 and rains down divine forgiveness for mankind.
 Then let us bless this truly praiseworthy head
 and joyfully celebrate its finding,//
 entreating Christ to grant our souls great mercy!

The head of the Forerunner is made man - i - fest.

Once it was concealed in an earthen ves - sel;

now it is openly given up from the depths of the earth,

pouring forth streams of heal-ing. For he washed in the waters the head of the One

Who even now covers the chambers of the firmament with wa - ters

and rains down divine for - give - ness for man - kind.

Then let us bless this truly praise - wor - thy head

and joy - ful - ly celebrate its find - ing,

entreating Christ to grant our souls great mer - cy!

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.

The head that proclaimed the Lamb of God Who appeared in the flesh
 declared to all the ways of saving repentance with divine precepts,
 before it had denounced the lawlessness of Herod
 and therefore was severed from its body.

It was concealed for a time

and has risen to us as a shining sun,

crying out: "Repent and with compunction of soul submit to the Lord//

Who grants the world great mercy!"

The head that proclaimed the Lamb of God Who ap - peared in the flesh

declared to all the ways of saving repentance with divine pre - cepts,
 be - fore it had denounced the lawlessness of Her - od
 and there - fore was severed from its bo - dy.
 It was con - cealed for a time and has ris - en to us as a shin - ing sun,
 crying out: "Repent and with compunction of soul sub - mit to the Lord
 Who grants the world great mer - cy!"

In the Second Tone, Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 2

(from the Lenten Triodion)

What great blessings have I forsaken, wretch that I am?
 From what kingdom have I miserably fallen?
 I have squandered the riches that were given me;
 I have transgressed the commandments.
 Woe to me when I shall be condemned to eternal fire!
 Cry out to Christ, O my soul, before the end draws nigh://
 "Receive me as the Prodigal, O God, and have mercy on me!"

What great bles - sings have I for - sa - ken, wretch that I am?

From what king - dom have I mise - rab - ly fal - len?

I have squan - dered the rich - es that were giv - en me;

I have trans - gressed the com - mand - ments.

Woe to me when I shall be con - demned to e - ter - nal fire!

Cry out to Christ, O my soul, be - fore the end draws nigh:

Re - ceive me as the Pro - di - gal, O God, and have mer - cy on me!

In the Sixth Tone, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6

(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

Who will not bless you, O most holy Virgin?
Who will not sing of your most pure childbearing?
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,
but from you He was ineffably incarnate.
God by nature yet Man for our sake,
Not two persons but One known in two natures.
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady,//
to have mercy on our souls!

Who will not bless you, O Most Holy Vir - gin? Who will not sing of your

most pure child - bear - ing? The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Fa - ther,

but from you, He was ineffably in - car - nate! God by nature, yet man for our sake!

Not two persons, but one known in two na - - - tures!

Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed La - dy, to have mer - cy on our souls!

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Choir: O Gladsome Light ... (p. 16)

Prokeimenon of the Day, Three Readings

Old Testament Readings (for St John the Baptist)

Composite 8 (Isaiah 40:1-3, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1)

Composite 9 (Malachi 3:1-3, 5-7, 12, 17-18; 4:4-6)

Composite 3 (Wisdom of Solomon 4:7, 16-17, 19-20; 5:1-7)

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9; 41:17-18; 45:8; 48:20-21; 54:1)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Thus says the Lord: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not. I the LORD will answer them; I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys. I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit. Declare this with a shout of joy, proclaim it, send it out to the end of the earth; say, "The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob!" They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts; he made water flow for them from the rock; he split the rock and the water gushed out. "Sing, O barren one, who did not bear; break forth into singing and cry aloud. For the children of the desolate one will be more than the children of her who is married."

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Malachi. (Malachi 3:1-3, 5-7, 12, 17-18; 4:4-6)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Thus says the Lord Almighty: See, I am sending my Angel, my messenger, before your face, who will prepare your way before you. And the Lord whom you seek will come to his temple. And who shall endure the day of his entrance? And who shall withstand at his appearing? Because he will enter like fire in a smelting furnace and like the lye of launderers. And he will come to you in judgement; and he will be a swift witness against the wicked and against adulteresses and against those swear falsely in his name and those who do not fear him, says the Lord Almighty. Because I am the Lord your God, and I have not changed and you, children of Jacob, have perverted the laws and not kept them. Therefore turn back to me and I will turn back to you, says the Lord Almighty. And all the nations shall call you blessed and you shall know that I am the Lord who discern between just and lawless on the day on which I make a peculiar possession of those who love me. Know then and remember the law of Moses my servant, as I gave him commandment on Horeb, to all Israel ordinances and judgements. And see, I will send you Elijah the Tishbite, before the great and manifest day of the Lord comes; he shall turn again the heart of father to son and of a man to his neighbor, lest when I come I smite the earth grievously, says the Lord Almighty, God the Holy One of Israel.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Judges of Israel. (Judges 13:2-8, 13-14, 17-18, 21)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: A righteous man if he comes to his end shall be at rest. A righteous man who dies shall condemn the ungodly who are alive; for they shall see the end of a righteous man and shall not understand what they counselled concerning him. For the Lord will break the ungodly, render them voiceless and cast them headlong, and he will shake them from the foundations and they shall be utterly wasted in sorrow, and their memory shall perish. They shall come with

fear at the accounting of their sins, and their iniquities shall convict them to their face. Then the righteous shall stand with much boldness in the face of those who afflicted him and made his toils of no account. When they see this they shall be troubled with great fear and shall be amazed at the wonder of his salvation. For they shall say as they repent and with anguish they shall groan and say: Is this he whom we fools once made a laughing stock and a byword of reproach? We reckoned his life folly and his end dishonor. How has he been numbered among the children of God and his lot with the Saints? Therefore we have erred from the way of truth and the light of righteousness has not shone on us and the sun has not dawned on us. We have been filled with paths of lawlessness and destruction and journeyed through trackless paths, but have not known the way of the Lord.

Then, the Augmented Litany (p. 18)

Aposticha

Tone 6

(for the Resurrection)

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,
 the Angels in heaven sing!
 Enable us on earth//
 to glorify You in purity of heart!

v: The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

Destroying the gates of hades,
 breaking the chains of death,
 You resurrected the fallen human race as almighty God!//
 O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

You resurrected the fallen human race as Al - migh - ty God!

O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glo - ry to You!

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

Desiring to return us to Paradise,
 Christ was nailed to the Cross and placed in a tomb.
 The Myrrhbearing Women sought Him with tears, crying,
 "Woe to us, O Savior!
 How do You deign to descend to death?
 What place can hold Your life bearing body?
 Come to us as You promised!
 Take away our wailing and tears!"
 Then the Angel appeared to them:
 "Stop your lamentations!
 Go, proclaim to the Apostles:
 'The Lord is risen,//
 granting us purification and great mercy!"

Desiring to return us to Pa - ra - dise, Christ was nailed to the Cross

and placed in a tomb. The myrrh-bearing women sought Him with tears,

cry - ing, "Woe to us, O Sav - iour! How do You deign to
 de - scend to death? What place can hold Your life-bearing Bo - dy?
 Come to us as You pro - mised! Take away our wail - ing and tears!"
 Then the angel ap - peared to them: "Stop your lamen - ta - tions!
 Go, proclaim to the a - pos - tles: The Lord is ri - sen,
 granting us purification and great mer - cy!"

v: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!

Having been crucified as You willed,
 by Your burial You captured death, O Christ,
 and rose on the third day as God in glory,//

granting the world unending life and great mercy!

Having been crucified as You willed by Your burial You captured death, O Christ,
and arose on the third day as God in glo - - - ry,
granting the world unending life and great mer - - - cy!

In the Second Tone, Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 2

(from the Menaion, for St John the Baptist)

Your head, O all-praised John,
the all-revered shrine of divine thoughts,
has shone forth today from the secret places of the earth.
From your mother's womb it clearly foresaw the mystery of Ineffable Being
and has made the whole earth fragrant,
pouring forth the sweet oil of sanctification,
spiritually preaching the way of repentance,//
and entreating the Savior of all on behalf of our souls.

Your head, O all praised John, the all-revered shrine of di-vine thoughts,
has shone forth today from the se-cret plac-es of the earth.

From your mother's womb it clearly foresaw the mystery of Ineffable Be - ing

and has made the whole earth fra-grant, pouring forth the sweet oil of sanc-ti-fi-ca-tion,

spiritually preaching the way of re - pen - tance,

and entreating the Savior of all on be - half of our souls.

In the Sixth Tone, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6

(from the Lenten Triodion)

I, a wretched man, hide my face in shame:
 I have squandered the riches my Father gave to me;
 I went to live with senseless beasts;
 I sought their food and hungered, for I had not enough to eat.
 I will arise, I will return to my compassionate Father;
 He will accept my tears, as I kneel before Him, crying://
 "In Your tender love for all men, receive me as one of Your servants and save me!"

I, a wretch - ed man, hide my face in shame:

I have squandered the riches my Father gave to me; I went to live with senseless beasts;

I sought their food and hun - gered, for I had not e - nough to eat.

I will a - rise, I will re - turn to my com - pas - sion - ate Fa - ther;

He will ac - cept my tears, as I kneel before Him, cry - ing:

In Your ten - der love for all men, re - ceive me as one of Your ser - vants and save me!

Then, St. Symeon's Prayer (p. 25)

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 6

Troparion

(Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 6)

The angelic powers were at Your tomb;
the guards became as dead men.

Mary stood by Your grave,
seeking Your most pure body.

You captured Hades,
not being tempted by it.

You came to the Virgin, granting life.//

O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

The angelic powers were at Your tomb; The guards be - came as dead men.

Ma - ry stood by Your grave, seek-ing Your most pure Bo - dy.

You cap-tured Ha - - des, not be - ing temp - ted by it.

You came to the Vir - gin, grant - ing life.

O Lord, Who rose from the dead:— Glo - ry to You!

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

Tone 4

Troparion

(for St John the Baptist)

(Troparion for St. John – Tone 6)

The head of the Forerunner has shone from the earth,
sending forth rays of incorruption and healings to the faithful.

It gathers together a multitude of Angels above
and summons the human race below//

to send up glory with one voice to Christ our God.

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

The head of the Forerunner has shone from the earth,

sending forth rays of incorruption and healings to the
 faith - ful. It gathers together a multitude of an - gels a - bove,
 and summons the human race be - low, to send up glory
 with one voice to Christ our God.

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

Tone 4 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

(Resurrection Dismissal Theotokion – Tone 4)

The mystery of all eternity,
 unknown even by Angels,
 through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:
 God incarnate by union without confusion.
 He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us,
 by which He resurrected the first-created man, //
 saving our souls from death.

Soprano
 Alto
 Tenor
 Bass

The mystery of all e - ter - ni - ty, un - known even by

an - gels, through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:

God incarnate by union without con - fu - sion. He voluntarily

accepted the Cross for us, by which He resurrected the first -

cre - a - ted man, saving our souls from death.

Then, the dismissal (p. 26)

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 6

Troparion

(Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 6)

The angelic powers were at Your tomb;
the guards became as dead men.

Mary stood by Your grave,
seeking Your most pure body.

You captured Hades,
not being tempted by it.

You came to the Virgin, granting life.//

O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

The angelic powers were at Your tomb; The guards became as dead men.

Ma - ry stood by Your grave, seek - ing Your most pure Bo - dy.

You cap - tured Ha - - des, not be - ing temp - ted by it.

You came to the Vir - gin, grant - ing life.

O Lord, Who rose from the dead: — Glo - ry to You!

Tone 4

Troparion

(for St John the Baptist)

(Troparion for St. John – Tone 6)

The head of the Forerunner has shone from the earth,
sending forth rays of incorruption and healings to the faithful.

It gathers together a multitude of Angels above
and summons the human race below//

to send up glory with one voice to Christ our God.

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

The head of the Forerunner has shone from the earth,

sending forth rays of incorruption and healings to the

faith - ful. It gathers together a multitude of an - gels a - bove,

and summons the human race be - low, to send up glory

with one voice to Christ our God.

Tone 2

Kontakion

(for St John the Baptist)

(Kontakion for the Forerunner – Tone 2)

O Prophet of God and Forerunner of Grace,
we have found your head as a sacred rose.

Therefore we always receive healings from it,
and, as in times past, now you preach repentance to the world.

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

O Pro - phet of God and Fore - run - ner of Grace,

we have found your head as a sa - cred rose. There - fore,
we always re - ceive_ heal - ings from it, and as in times_
past now you preach re - pen - tance to the world.

Tone 3

Kontakion

(from the Lenten Triodion)

(Kontakion from the Triodion – Tone 3)

I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father;
and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You gave me.
And now I cry to You as the Prodigal:
"I have sinned before You, O merciful Father;
receive me a penitent,
and make me as one of Your hired servants!"

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

I have recklessly forgotten Your glo - ry, O Fa - ther;

and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You had

giv - en me. There-fore I cry to You like the Prod-i - gal:

"I have sinned before You, O compassionate Fa - ther; receive me a

penitent and make me as one of Your hired ser-vants."

(then, p. 83)

Prokeimenon, Tone 6

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 6th Tone: O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance!

Choir: O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, your inheritance!

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your in-he-ri-tance, Your in-he - ri - tance.

Reader: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Choir: O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, your inheritance!

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your in-he-ri-tance, Your in-he - ri - tance.

Reader: In the 7th Tone, The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall put his hope in Him.

Choir: The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall put his hope in Him.



Deacon: Wisdom!

Epistle: (135) – 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 and (176) – 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 (*Forerunner*)

Reader: The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, You say: “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be brought under the power of anything. “Food is for the stomach, and the stomach is for food,” but God will bring to nothing both of these. However, the body is not for sexual immorality, but for the Lord; and the Lord is made for the body. Now God raised up the Lord, and he will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! Or do you not know that whoever is joined to a prostitute is one body? For God says, “The two will become one flesh.” But whoever who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. Flee sexual immorality! “Every sin that a person can do is outside the body,” but whoever commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit which dwells in you, and which you have from God? You are not your own! You were bought with a price! Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which belong to God.

Brothers and sisters, it is God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, and he has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

However, we have this treasure in vessels of clay, so that the amazing power may be from God and not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side, yet we are not crushed! We are perplexed, but not to the point of despair. We are persecuted yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed; and we always carry in our bodies the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. Indeed, we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus may be revealed in our mortal flesh. And so, death is at work in us, but life in you. Still, we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed, and therefore I spoke.” We believe, and therefore we also speak; knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and bring us with you into his presence. All these things are for your benefit, so that as grace is extended to many, this may also cause thanksgiving to be multiplied to the glory of God.

Priest: † Peace be to you.

Tone 6

Alleluia: Tone 6

Reader: **And to Your spirit.** In the 6th Tone: Alleluia! He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: He will say to the Lord: “My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: In the 4th Tone, The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel: (79) – Luke 15:11-32 (Page 176) and (40) – Matthew 11:2-15 *4th Monday of Matthew* (Page xxx)
(*Forerunner*)

Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. **Luke**.

Choir: Glory to You O Lord, Glory to You.

Priest: The Lord said this parable, “A certain man had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the estate that will come to me.’ So the father divided his livelihood between them. A few days later, the younger son gathered all that he had and traveled to a far country. There, he

squandered his property, living immorally. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place in that country, and he began to be in need. He went and hired himself to one of the citizens of that country who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He wanted to feed himself with the husks that the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough to spare, and I am dying with hunger! I will get up, go to my father, and tell him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son! Make me as one of your hired servants."'"

So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still at a distance, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. He ran, and embraced his son, and kissed him. Then the son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you! I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

But the father said to his slaves, 'Bring out the first robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his hand and shoes on his feet! Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this, my son, was dead, and he is alive again! He was lost and now he is found!' And they began to celebrate.

Now his elder son was in the field. As he came near to the house, he heard music and dancing. Calling one of the servants, he asked what was going on. The servant replied, 'Your brother has returned! Your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and healthy.'

However, the elder son became angry and he would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and begged him. But he answered his father, 'Look, for so many years I have served you, and I have never disobeyed a commandment of yours. Yet, you never gave me a goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this, your son, arrived, he who has devoured your living with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.'

The father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours! But it was fitting to celebrate and to rejoice, for this, your brother, was dead, and is alive again. He was lost and is found!'"

At that time, when John heard about the works of Christ from his prison, he sent two of his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who comes or should we look for another?"

Jesus replied to them, "Go and tell John about the things you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up and the poor have Good News preached to them. Blessed is he who finds no occasion for stumbling in me."

As they went their way, Jesus began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses! But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet! Indeed, he is the one of whom it is written:

Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.

Amen, I tell you: among those born of women, there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptizer! Yet the least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptizer until now, the Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John came. If you are willing to accept it, this John is Elijah who was to come. Anyone who has ears for listening should listen!

Choir: Glory to You O Lord, Glory to You.

Sermon

(then p. 89)

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

(then, p. 132)