

"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!

Reader: (Reads text from service book)

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

The memory of the Ancestors has been manifested to the ends of the world,
truly filling it with light

and making known the dawning of grace.

For Christ shined forth from afar, brighter than the sun,

the leading rank of stars shining with Him;

and the divine-human birth was revealed to take place in Bethlehem.

Therefore with faith let us all gather at this birth, //

rejoicing in chorus and singing the pre-festal praise!

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

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Therefore with faith let us all gather at this birth, //

rejoicing in chorus and singing the pre-festal praise!

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

Adorned with the glory of divine communion, Adam rejoices today,
as he is the foundation and the support of the wise Ancestors.

With him Abel leaps with joy, and Enoch makes glad;

Seth dances, and with him Noah;

the all-praiseworthy Patriarch Abraham sings;

Melchizedek beholds from afar the birth that is without a father.

Therefore, as we celebrate the divine memory of the Forefathers of Christ, //

we pray for the salvation of our souls.

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

Adorned with the glory of divine communion, Adam rejoices today,
as he is the foundation and the support of the wise Ancestors.

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Seth dances, and with him Noah;

the all-praiseworthy Patriarch Abraham sings;

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Therefore, as we celebrate the divine memory of the Forefathers of Christ, //

we pray for the salvation of our souls.

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

The three Youths, wise in God,
who shone with joy in the furnace,
proclaimed the birth of Christ on earth;

For just as the Lord sent down a precious dew,
He preserved from the flame her who gave birth;
He keeps her undefiled and enriches her with divine gifts.
Therefore Daniel, pleasing to God, rejoiced and was glad,
for having foreseen the Stone from the Unquarried Mountain,//
he now prays with boldness in behalf of our souls.

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

The three Youths, wise in God,
who shone with joy in the furnace,
proclaimed the birth of Christ on earth;
For just as the Lord sent down a precious dew,
He preserved from the flame her who gave birth;
He keeps her undefiled and enriches her with divine gifts.
Therefore Daniel, pleasing to God, rejoiced and was glad,
for having foreseen the Stone from the Unquarried Mountain,//
he now prays with boldness in behalf of our souls.

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

The never-setting Sun presses forward to rise,
enlightening all things under heaven.
Let us hasten with clean hands and pure deeds to meet Him;
let us prepare to be borne on high with Him in spirit!
Let us beseech Him in His compassion,
that, as He comes in His good pleasure to His own strange birth,
He may lead us, who have become strangers to the path of life in Eden,//
into Bethlehem where He comes to be born!

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

The never-setting Sun presses forward to rise,
enlightening all things under heaven.
Let us hasten with clean hands and pure deeds to meet Him;
let us prepare to be borne on high with Him in spirit!
Let us beseech Him in His compassion,
that, as He comes in His good pleasure to His own strange birth,
He may lead us, who have become strangers to the path of life in Eden,//
into Bethlehem where He comes to be born!

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

The Word of God, upborne on the shoulders of the Cherubim,
goes to dwell in a womb without blemish.
The passionless One is bound fast to the flesh;
He comes on earth as a man, born of the tribe of Judah.
A cave becomes the palace of the King of all;
the throne of fire is replaced by a manger,
where the Virgin Mary lays Him as a babe,
for He comes to restore the first-created man,//
as He is well pleased so to do.

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

O Word of God without beginning,
the Virgin lays You in a manger of dumb beasts.
You choose to begin Your life in the flesh
in a manner beyond understanding.
You have come to loose me from the fetters of evil
with which the envious serpent bound me.
O Lover of mankind, You are wrapped in swaddling clothes,
tearing to pieces the bonds of my countless sins.
Therefore I joyfully praise and worship your holy birth,//
for You came to set me free.

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

Daniel, the man of desires, beheld You, O Lord,
the Stone cut without human hands from the Mountain.
Thus, he foretold that You would take flesh without seed,
O Word of God, born of the Virgin,//
the changeless God and Savior of our souls!

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

O cave, make ready, for the Ewe Lamb comes, bearing Christ in her womb!
O manger, receive Him Who by a word has released the dwellers of earth from
lawlessness!

Shepherds, abiding in the fields, bear witness to the fearful wonder!
You magi from Persia, offer to the King gold, myrrh and frankincense,
for the Lord has appeared from a Virgin Mother!
And she, bending over Him as a handmaiden,
worshipped Him as He lay in her arms, saying to Him:
“How were You sown as seed in me?
How have You grown within me,//
my Deliverer and my God?”

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Choir: O Gladsome Light ...

Prokeimenon and Three Readings

Aposticha – Tone 2

O house of Ephratha,
the holy city,
the glory of the prophets,
beautify the house//
in which God is being born!

*v. God shall come from Teman, and the Holy One from the mountain
overshadowed by the forest.*

Bethlehem, land of Judah,
prepare the divine cavern
as a dwelling for God to be born in the flesh
from a Virgin who knew not a man//
to save the human race!

v. Lord, I have heard the report of You, and Your work, Lord, do I fear.

O, come all you faithful
and let us celebrate
the coming feast of the Nativity.

Being led by the star, together with the Magi and the shepherds let us mystically
sing://

“Salvation comes from the Virgin’s womb, summoning all the faithful.”

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

Rejoice, honored Prophets,
who laid well the foundation of the Law of the Lord,
and were revealed as firm and unshaken pillars of faith!
They became indeed the mediators of Christ’s new covenant.
Since, therefore, you have been taken up into heaven,//
intercede with Him to grant peace to the world and salvation to our souls!
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The time of our salvation draws near.

Prepare, O cave!

The Virgin draws near to bear the Christ.

Rejoice, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
for our Lord has come from you!

All you lands, know the coming of Christ

Who comes as the Lover of mankind
to save mankind whom He has made!

St. Symeon’s Prayer

Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 4

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel
the joyous message of Your Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the Apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

Christ our God is risen,//

granting the world great mercy!”

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

Troparion for the Fathers – Tone 4

Great are the accomplishments of faith,

for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of
rest;

and the Prophet Daniel appeared

a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep.//

So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

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

Troparion for the Forefeast – Tone 4

Mary was of David’s seed,

so she went with Joseph to register in Bethlehem.

She bore in her womb the Fruit not sown by man.

The time for the birth was at hand.

Since there was no room at the inn,

the cave became a beautiful palace for the Queen.//

Christ is born, raising up the image that fell of old.