Fourth Sunday of Lent: St John of the Ladder (Climacus)

Repose of St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America (transferred to Monday, April 8)

#### "Lord I Call..." (Tone 4)

Reader: In the Fourth 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,

Let my <u>prayer</u> arise in Your sight as incense, and <u>let</u> the lifting <u>up</u> of my hands be an evening sacrifice!//



Reader: (Reads text from service book)

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

We glorify Your Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,

by always honoring Your life-creating Cross;

by it You have renewed the corrupted nature of man

O almighty One.

By it You have renewed our entrance to heaven,//

for You are good and the Lover of man.



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

You loosed the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Savior,

by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.

By descending to Hades, O almighty God,

You broke the bonds of death.

Therefore, we adore Your Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://

"Glory to You, O all powerful Lord!"

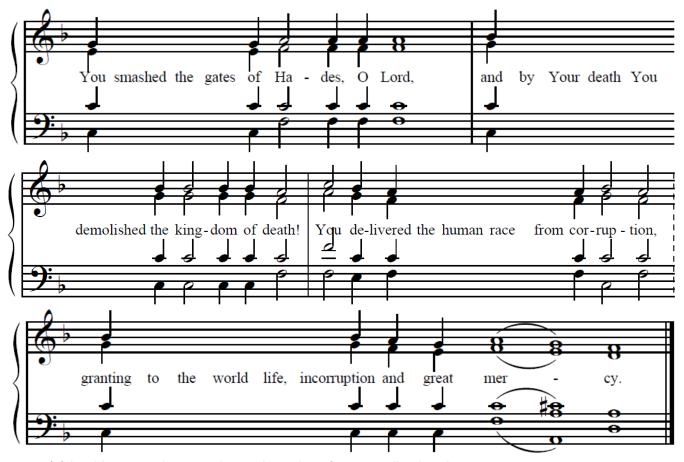


v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

You smashed the gates of <u>Ha</u>des, O Lord, and by Your death You demolished the <u>king</u>dom of death.

You delivered the human race from corruption,//

granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.



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

Come, O people,

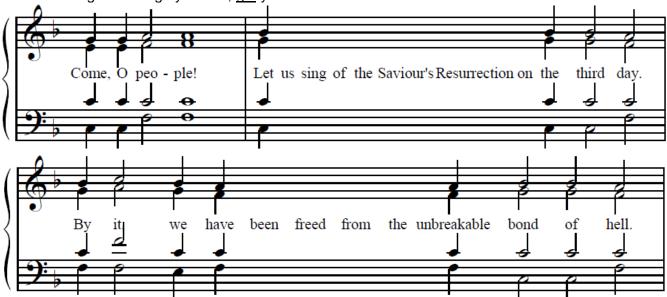
let us sing of the Savior's Resurrection on the third day!

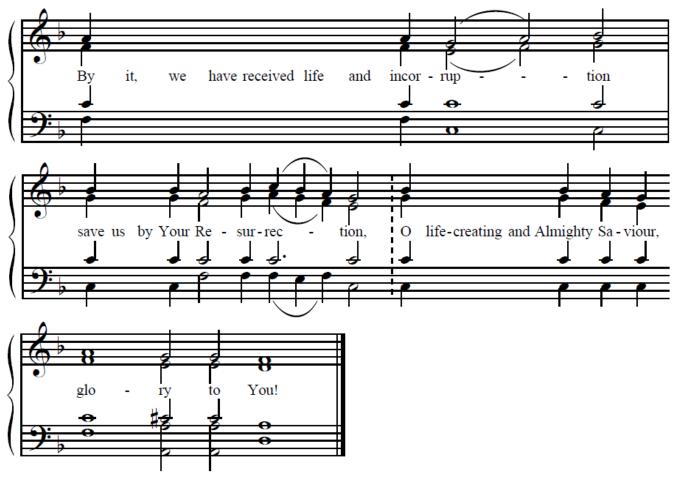
By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bond of hell.

By it, we have received life and incorruption.

Save us by Your Resurrection!//

O Life-creating and almighty Savior, glory to You!





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

Angels and men sing of Your Resurrection

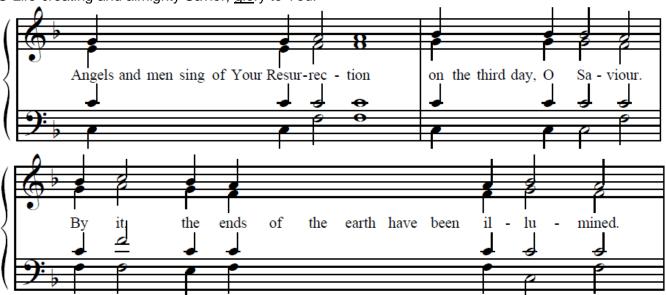
on the third day, O Savior.

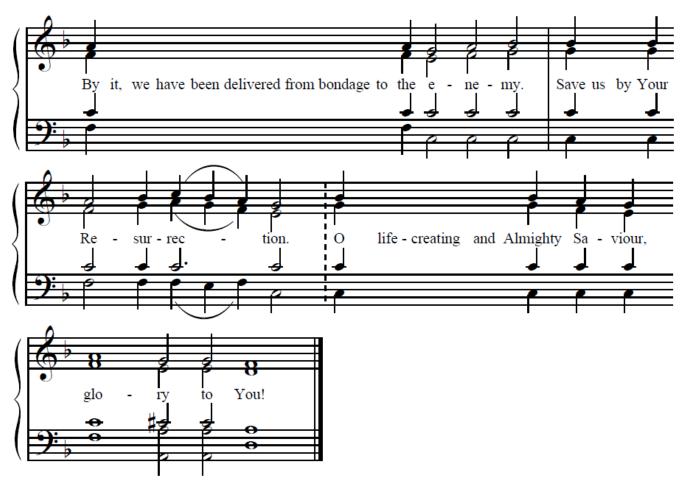
By it, the ends of the earth have been illumined.

By it we have been delivered from bondage to the **Enemy**.

Save us by Your Resurrection!//

O Life-creating and almighty Savior, glory to You!



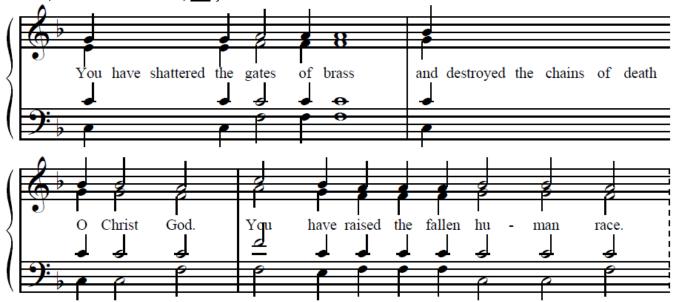


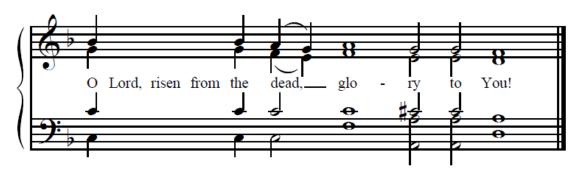
v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

You have shattered the <u>gates</u> of brass and destroyed the chains of death, O <u>Christ</u> God.

You have raised the fallen human race.//

O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!





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

O Lord, Your begetting from the Father is timeless and ever<u>lasting</u>.

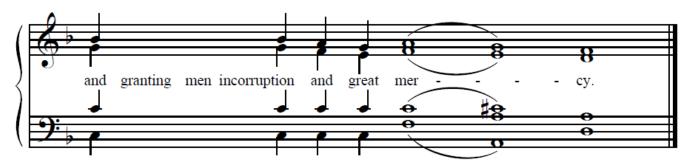
Your incarnation from the Virgin is beyond words and understanding.

Your descent into Hades is terrible for the Devil and his Angels.

You have trampled on death, rising on the third day,//

and granting men incorruption and great mercy.





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

Tone 8

(from the Lenten Triodion)

(O most glorious wonder)

The Lord's <u>praises</u> were always on your lips, O holy <u>Fa</u>ther John.

With deep wisdom you searched the Scriptures,

which teach us to deny ourselves.

You became rich in the <u>blessings</u> of grace,// overthrowing the craftiness of the devil.



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

You washed your soul in a fountain of tears, O most glorious Father John.

You kept vigil for God and gained His mercy.

Upborne on the wings of prayer, you flew to divine love and beauty.

Now, together with your fellow soldiers, O holy one,//

you dwell in His spiritual light and unending joy.



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

On the <u>wings</u> of faith you raised your mind to God, O holy <u>Fa</u>ther John.

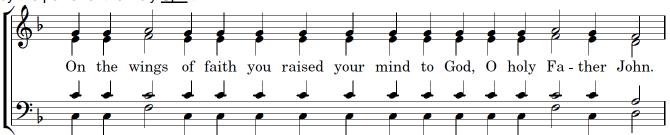
Hating the world's confusion and vanity,

you took up your cross and followed Him Who sees all things.

You submitted your rebellious flesh to His guidance,

through the discipline of self-denial,//

by the power of the Holy Spirit.





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

# Tone 5

(from the Lenten Triodion)

O holy Father,

hearing the Lord's voice in the Gospel,

you spurned the riches and glory of the world.

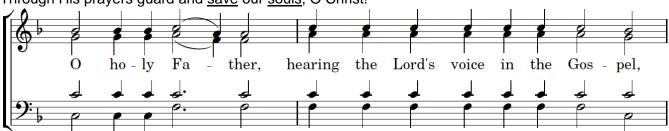
You cry out to all:

"Love God and find eternal grace!

Set nothing higher than His love;

thus, you will find rest with all the saints, when He comes in glory!"//

Through His prayers guard and save our souls, O Christ!





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

#### Tone 4 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

The Prophet David was a Father of the Lord

Through you, O Virgin.

He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in you:

"At Your right hand stood the Queen," Your 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,

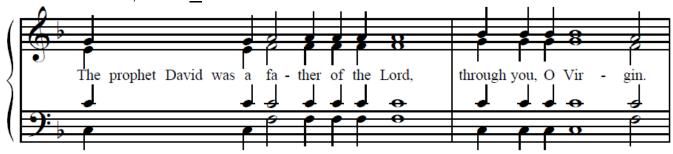
so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder

and brought it to His Father,

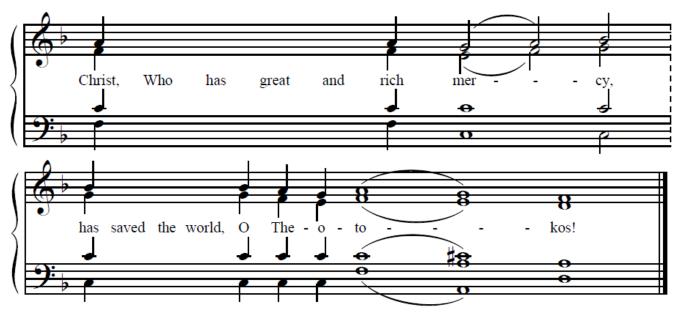
joining it to the heavenly pow'rs.

Christ who has great and rich mercy//

has saved the world, O Theotokos.







Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend!
Choir: O Gladsome Light ... (p. 16)

#### Aposticha – Tone 4

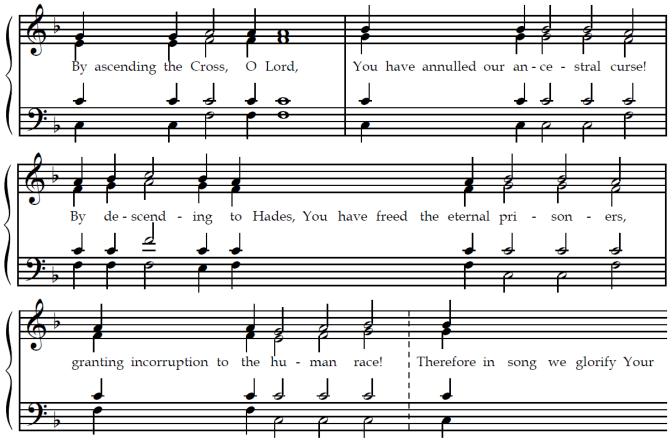
By ascending the Cross, O Lord,

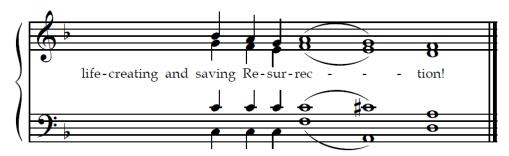
You have annulled our ancestral curse.

By descending to hell, You have freed the eternal prisoners,

granting incorruption to the human race.//

Therefore in songs we glorify Your life-creating and saving Resur<u>rec</u>tion.





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

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord,

You shook all of creation.

By being laid in the tomb You have raised those who dwelt in the tombs,

granting life and incorruption to the human race.//

Therefore in songs we glorify Your 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 You over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified,

thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor.

But voluntarily You endured burial,

rising by Your own power on the third day as God,//

granting us life everlasting and great mercy.



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

With tears the women <u>reached</u> Your tomb,

searching for You, but not <u>finding</u> You.

They wept with wailing and lamented:

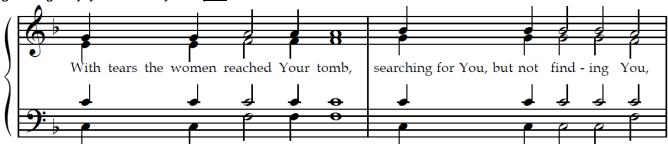
"Woe to us! Our Savior, King of all,

how were You stolen?

What place can hold Your life-bearing body?"

An Angel replied to them:

"Do not weep but go and proclaim that the <u>Lord</u> is <u>risen</u>,// granting us joy as the only compassionate One!"





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

## Tone 2

(from the Lenten Triodion)

Let us honor John!

He is an earthly angel and a heavenly man,

the adornment of the world, the joy of the virtuous,

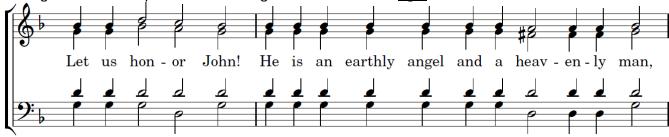
the glory of ascetics.

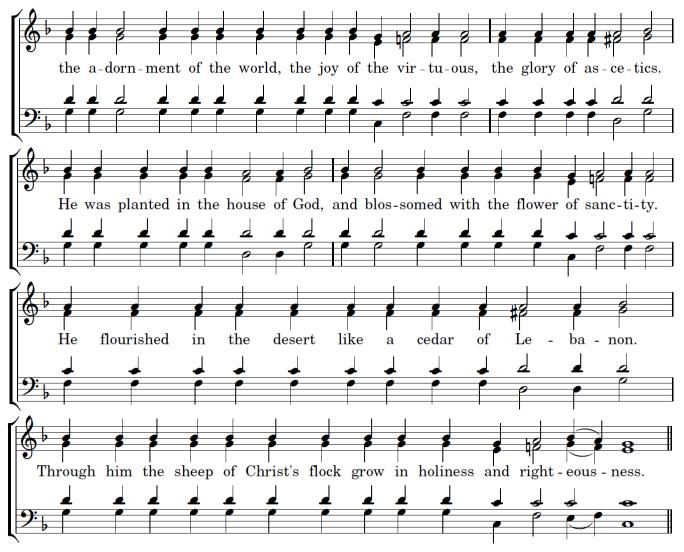
He was planted in the house of God,

and blossomed with the flower of sanctity.

He flourished in the desert like a cedar of Lebanon.//

Through him the sheep of Christ's flock grow in holiness and righteousness.





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

Tone 2 (Theotokion)

(Theotokion – Tone 2)

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles!

Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,

who carried in her arms her Creator?

This birth is the will of God!

Since you carried Him as an infant in your arms, O most pure one,

and since you possess motherly boldness before Him,

do not cease praying for us who honor you,//

that He may be bountiful and save our souls!





(at Great Vespers)

Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

(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;

Tone 1 Troparion (for St John Climacus)

(Troparion for St. John – Tone 1)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,

you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.

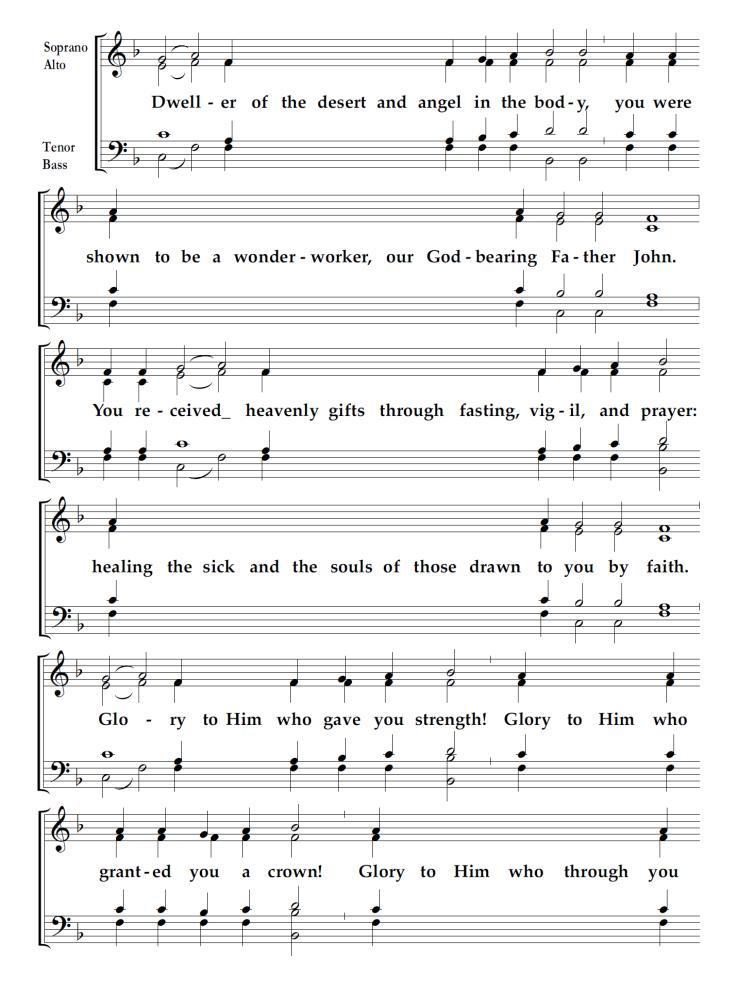
You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer,

healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.

Glory to Him Who gave you strength!

Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!//

Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!





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

#### **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion** Tone 1

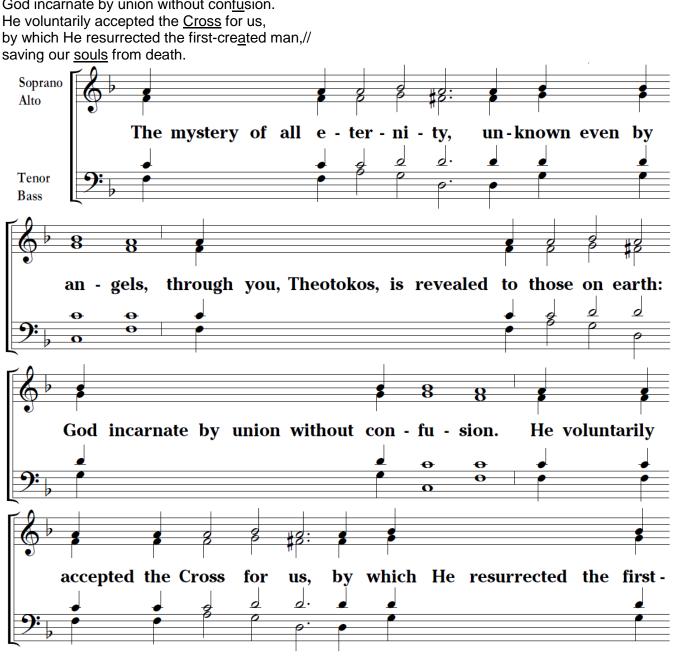
(Resurrection Dismissal Theotokion - Tone 4)

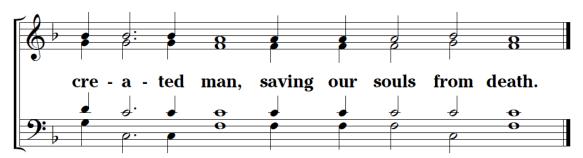
The mystery of all eternity,

unknown even by Angels,

through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:

God incarnate by union without confusion.





Then, the dismissal (p. 26)

#### (at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 4 **Troparion** (Resurrection)

(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

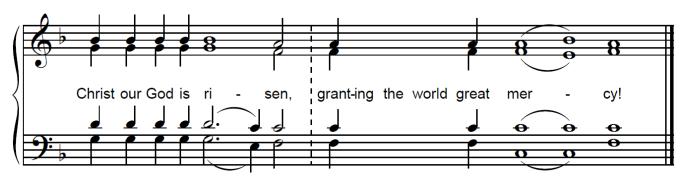
and elatedly told the Apostles:

"Death is overthrown!

Christ our God is risen,//

granting the world great mercy!"





Tone 1 **Troparion** (for St John Climacus)

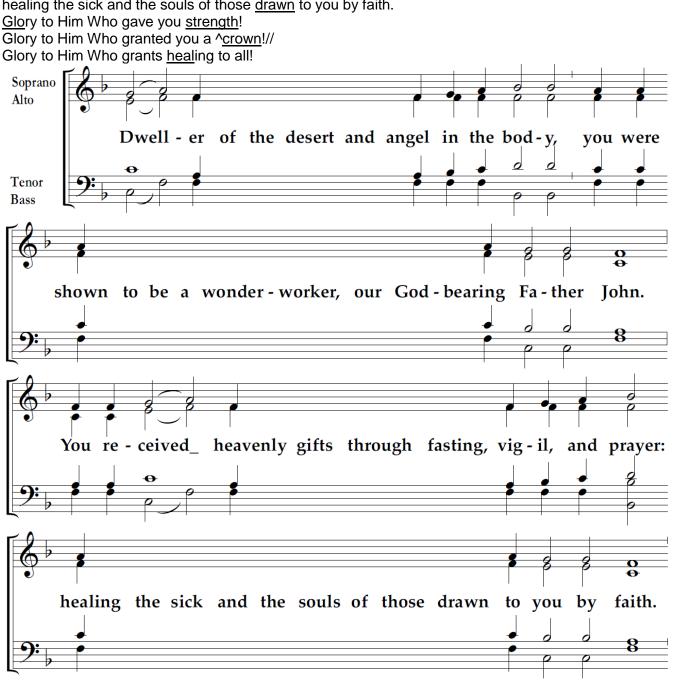
(Troparion for St. John – Tone 1)

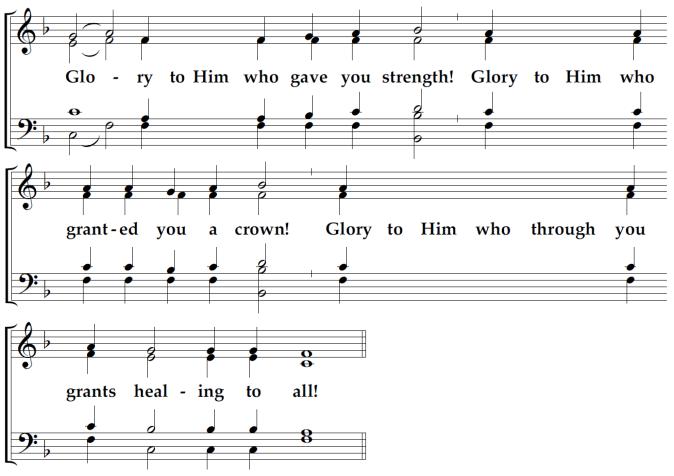
O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,

you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.

You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer.

healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.





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

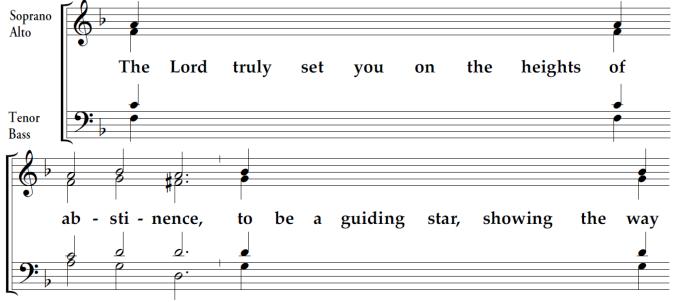
Tone 4 Kontakion (for St John Climacus)

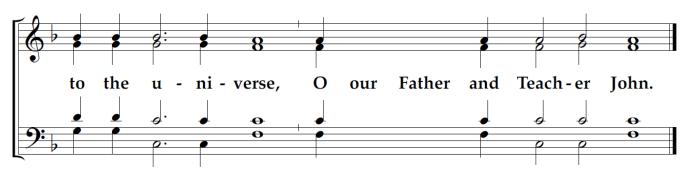
(Kontakion for St. John – Tone 4)

The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence,

to be a guiding star, showing the way to the <u>u</u>niverse,//

O our father and <u>teach</u>er John.





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

Tone 4 Kontakion (Resurrection)

(Resurrectional Kontakion – Tone 4)

My Savior and Redeemer as God

rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.

He has shattered the gates of Hades,

and as Master,//



Prokeimenon. Tone 4

Priest: Let us attend! † Peace be unto all!

Reader: And with your spirit!

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 4th Tone: O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You

made them all.

Choir: O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all.



Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great!

Choir: O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all.



Tone 7 Prokeimenon (St John Climacus)

Reader: In the 7<sup>th</sup> Tone, Let the saints be exalted in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches! *Choir:* Let the saints be exalted in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches!



Deacon: Wisdom!

**Epistle:** (314) – Hebrews 6:13-20 and (229) – Ephesians 5:9-19 (St John Climacus)

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the **Hebrews**.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brothers and sisters, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he could swear by no one greater, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless and multiply you." Thus, having patiently endured, Abraham obtained the promise.

For humans indeed swear by someone greater, and in every dispute they have, the oath is final to get things settled. In this way, being determined to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable nature of his purpose, God intervened with an oath. And so, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, may we have a strong encouragement, since we have sought refuge and taken hold of the hope set before us. We have this hope as an anchor of the soul, a hope which is both sure and solid. It reaches beyond the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Brothers and sisters, Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the Spirit is in all manner of goodness, righteousness and truth. Discern what is well-pleasing to the Lord! Have no fellowship with the vain works

of darkness, but rather, expose them for what they are. It is a shame even to speak about the things which these people do in secret! But all things are revealed when they are exposed to the light. Therefore, it is said:

Awake, you sleeper, arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Therefore, watch carefully how you live, not as unwise, but as wise people, making good use of time, because the days are evil. Do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine – this is reckless living – but be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs! Sing and chant to the Lord in your heart.

Priest: † Peace be to you.

#### Tone 4

Reader: And to Your spirit. In the 4<sup>th</sup> Tone: Alleluia! Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: In the 4th Tone, They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our

God.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Gospel:** (40) – Mark 9:17-31 and (10) – Matthew 4:25-5:12 (St John Climacus)

Page 201 and 329

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

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

*Priest:* At that time, a man came and knelt before Jesus, saying, "Teacher, I brought you my son who has a mute spirit. Wherever the spirit seizes him, it throws him to the ground and my son foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they were not able."

Jesus answered him, "Unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me."

They brought the son to him, and when he saw Jesus, the spirit immediately convulsed the boy who fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?"

"From childhood," he answered. "Often, it has thrown him both into the fire and into water, in order to destroy him. But if you are able to do anything, have compassion on us and help us!"

Jesus said to the man, "If you are able! All things are possible to the one who believes!"

Immediately the father of the child cried out with tears, "I believe! Help my unbelief!"

When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to him, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!"

The spirit cried out, convulsed greatly, and came out of the boy. He became as dead, so much that many said, "He is dead!" But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him up; and the boy stood up.

When Jesus entered into the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" He answered, "This kind can come out by nothing, except by prayer and fasting."

They left that place and passed through Galilee, and Jesus did not want anyone to know it. He was teaching his disciples and told them, "The Son of Man is to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and when he is killed, he will rise again on the third day."

At that time, great crowds from Galilee, Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and from beyond the Jordan followed him.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up to the mountain and when he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to speak and to teach them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven!

Blessed are those who mourn,

for they shall be comforted!

Blessed are the meek,

for they shall inherit the earth!

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,

for they shall be filled!

Blessed are the merciful,

for they shall obtain mercy!

Blessed are the pure in heart,

for they shall see God!

Blessed are the peacemakers,

for they shall be called children of God!

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven!

Blessed are you when people revile you, persecute you,

and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake!

Rejoice, and be extremely glad,

for great is your reward in heaven!

Indeed, this is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you!

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

**Sermon** (then p. 89)

## Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing the following:)

#### Hymn to the Theotokos

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace:

the assembly of Angels and the race of men.

O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,

the glory of virgins,

from whom God was incarnate and became a Child -

our God before the ages.

He made your body into a throne,

and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace.

Glory to you!





### **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!