

APRIL 25

Bright Saturday, Holy Apostle and Evangelist Mark
Vespers (sung on Friday)

"Lord I Call..." Tone 8

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!

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

Tone 8 (for the Resurrection)

We offer to You, O Christ,

our evening song and reasonable service,

for You willed to have mercy on us//

by Your Resurrection.

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.

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Your face!

For You willed to have mercy on us//

by Your Resurrection.

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

Rejoice, O holy Zion!

Mother of the churches, the abode of God!

For you were the first to receive remission of sins//

by the Resurrection.

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

Tone 1 *(from the Menaion, for St. Mark) (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

Come, O faithful, let us sing praises to Mark!
He is the wise writer of the Gospel.
The greatest of Egypt's cities heard his inspired words.
O Apostle, by your prayers and teachings, //
guide our lives in the way of peace!

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

You became a fellow-traveler of Paul, the chosen vessel,
accompanying him through all Macedonia;
then you followed Peter to Rome,
and were welcomed as his secretary and interpreter.
But it was in Egypt, O all-wise Mark, //
that you finished your course in a manner well-pleasing to God.

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

You gave life to barren souls,
watering them with the radiant stream of your Gospel.
Because of you, O holy Mark,
Alexandria rejoices with us today, //
celebrating your blessed memory.

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

Tone 6 *(from the Menaion, for St. Mark)*

Grace is poured out upon your lips, O Apostle Mark,
for you became a shepherd of Christ's Church,
teaching the sheep whom God endowed with reason //
to believe in the consubstantial Trinity, one Godhead.

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

Tone 8 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven,
because of His love for man,
appeared on earth and dwelt with men.
He took flesh from the pure Virgin
and after assuming it, He came forth from her.
The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.
Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,
we confess Christ our God!//
Entreat him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls!

Tone 8 **Great Prokeimenon**

O Lord, You have given an inheritance / to those who fear Your name. *(Ps 60/61:5)*

v: From the end of the earth I call to You. (Ps 60/61:2)

v: I will take shelter under the shadow of Your wings. (Ps 60/61:4)

v: So I will ever sing praises to Your name. (Ps 60/61:8)

Readings

James 1:1-12 *(St. Mark)*

James 1:13-27 *(St. Mark)*

James 2:1-13 *(St. Mark)*

Aposticha

Tone 8 *(for the Resurrection)*

Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,
the Eternal Life has come for death
to raise those who are fallen;
to enlighten those in darkness.//
O Jesus, our Savior and illuminator, glory to You!

(Then the Paschal Stichera with their verses from Psalm 67/68)

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

Tone 8 *(from the Menaion, for St. Mark)*

Come, all ye faithful,
let us praise Mark in psalms and hymns!
He is the herald of heavenly mysteries and interpreter of the Gospel.
He is a river of the spiritual paradise.
He waters the earth with living streams,
that it may bear fruit for Christ our God.
Through his intercession, //
forgiveness and great mercy are granted to all.

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

(Remainder of Paschal Stichera from Psalm 67/68)

“Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!” *(Thrice)*

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

Tone 3 **Troparion*** *(St. Mark)*

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Mark,
entreat the merciful God //
to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

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

Tone 3 **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

We praise you as the mediatrix of our salvation,
O Virgin Theotokos.
For your Son, our God, Who took flesh from you,
accepted the Passion on the Cross, //
delivering us from corruption as the Lover of Man.