

APRIL 30

Thursday of the Second Week of Pascha

Holy Apostle James, the brother of St. John the Theologian

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2

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

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

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

**Tone 2** (from the Pentecostarion) (Joseph of Arimathea)

Without leaving the Father's bosom, O Christ,

You appeared on earth in the flesh

in Your compassion, accepting the Passion and death

to rise again on the third day!

You came through closed doors, as Almighty.

Thomas rejoiced when he felt Your divine side,//

and glorified You as Lord and Creator!

*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.*

Nailed upon the Cross, Your side was pierced by a lance.

You tasted gall, O Christ, and endured death,

and You were placed in the tomb as a dead man.

But as God, You destroyed the bonds of hell,

resurrecting those dead from all ages!

Therefore You appeared to Your disciples,//

by Your wounds confirming Your Resurrection!

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

Pascha is the present feast!  
Pascha is mystical, Pascha is divine!  
Pascha is salvation!  
Pascha leads us to immortal life!  
Pascha dispels all sorrow!  
Pascha is the gift of joy to the faithful!  
Therefore, Thomas cried aloud:  
"You are my Lord God, //  
who have carried off the spoils of the realms of hell!"

*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 4**    *(for Apostle James)*    *(As one valiant among the martyrs)*

You drew men up from the depths of vanity  
with a fisher's rod of grace.  
You obeyed the commands of the Teacher, O worthy James,  
Who enlightened all your thoughts  
and revealed you as an Apostle and holy preacher, //  
for you expounded His incomprehensible divinity, O most blessed one.

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

The illumination of the Spirit descended on you in the form of fire  
and made you a divine vessel, O blessed one,  
dispelling with power the darkness of godlessness;  
enlightening the world with the brightness of your all-wise words,  
O preacher of mysteries, leader of the Apostles, //  
James, the eye-witness of Christ.

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

You illumined those lying in the darkness of ignorance  
with the lightning flash of your preaching, O glorious James.  
You revealed them to be sons, through faith, of the Master and God  
Whose passion and death you imitated with zeal.  
You became an heir of the glory, O wise one, //  
as one speaking from God, and a most faithful disciple.

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

**Tone 8**      *(from the Menaion, for Apostle James)*

Come, let us praise James with hymns of psalms:  
the preacher of heavenly mysteries and expounder of the Gospel;  
for he was revealed as a river of the mystical Paradise,  
watering spiritual furrows with heavenly streams,  
revealing them to bear fruit to Christ God,//  
Who, by his prayers, grants cleansing, enlightenment and great mercy.

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

**Tone 4**      *(from the Pentecostarion) (O most glorious wonder)*

O most glorious wonder!  
Doubt bore certain faith!  
Thomas said: "Unless I see, I shall not believe!"  
By touching His side, he blessed the incarnate Son of God, Who had suffered in  
the flesh,  
and he proclaimed the resurrected God,//  
crying out with joy: "My Lord and my God, glory to You!"

**Readings** *(Apostle James)*

**James 1:1-12**

**James 1:13-27**

**James 1:1-13**

**Aposticha**

**Tone 8**      *(from the Menaion, for Apostle James) (O most glorious wonder)*

O blessed God-seer James,  
after listening to the voice of the Word,  
you paid no heed to the service and customs of your father,  
for you left behind the life of earthly cares  
and passed over the spiritual sea.  
You stirred its depths with the precepts of godliness  
and with your heavenly thunder,//  
O Apostle most blessed of God.

*v. Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends  
of the universe. (Ps 18/19:4).*

All-blessed James, by your deeds you served the Word,  
the Cause of life and of the future age.

Truly you deprived Israel of its first-born privilege,  
when it forsook the worship of the true God, //  
while recalling it to sonship as the new Israel.

*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His  
handiwork. (Ps 18/19:1)*

You are now appointed a prince over all the earth,  
as it is written of you, O glorious one,  
since you became a disciple of the Creator of all.  
In fervent zeal, you suffered murder by the transgressor's sword, //  
which took you from the revered company of the twelve Apostles.

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

**Tone 1**      *(from the Menaion, for Apostle James)*

You followed Christ and despised the world,  
keeping His teachings in your treasury, O godly James.  
You were revealed to be His Apostle.  
Therefore, going to the nations with the commandments of the Savior,  
you enlightened the souls in the darkness of delusion and passion, //  
that they might believe in the consubstantial Trinity.

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

**Tone 4**      *(from the Pentecostarion) (O most glorious wonder)*

O most glorious wonder!  
Thomas placed his hand on the fiery side of Jesus Christ our God!  
He was not scorched by this,  
but his doubt changed to certain faith, and he cried fervently:  
“You are my Master and my God. //  
Glory to You, Who are risen from the dead!”

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(at Great Vespers)

**Tone 8      Troparion    (*Apostle James*)**

Thou wast called to be a disciple and warrior of Christ, one of the exalted choir of Apostles.

With thy brother John, thou didst abandon all to follow the Master, O James; thou wast filled with the Holy Spirit and didst proclaim Him to all.

Thou didst bow thy head to the sword, the first of the twelve to shed thy blood!//

We celebrate thy memory, O blessed one!

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

**Tone 7      Troparion    (*from the Pentecostarion*)**

From the sealed tomb, You shone forth, O Life!

Through closed doors You came to Your Disciples, O Christ God.

Renew in us, through them, an upright spirit,//

by the greatness of Your mercy, O Resurrection of all!

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon's Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon's Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir's Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.