

JANUARY 30

Synaxis of the Three Great Ecumenical Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

"Lord I Call..." Tone 4

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. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!*
- v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.*
- v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Tone 4 *(As one valiant among martyrs)*

Let us worthily honor the instruments of grace:
John, Basil, and Gregory,
the harps of the Spirit, the resounding trumpets of preaching,
awesome and clear in tone,//
thundering from the heights to declare the glory of God to the ends of the earth!

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

Let us worthily honor the three champions:
the bulwarks of devotion,
the three apostles added to the twelve,
rivers overflowing with living water from Eden,
flooding the face of the earth with life-bearing and divine streams!//
They have formed the faith, as the elements form creation.

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

It is said: “There is no speech, nor are there words that are not heard in their voices”;
for the proclamation of the godly and wise teachers has gone out through all the earth and the sea of creation.
Therefore, through their divine precepts, great things are gathered and assembled//
into one true doctrine for the ends of the earth.

v. (5) For Your Name’s sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Let us who follow their teachings
praise the instruments of the Holy Spirit with hymns;
they are the trumpets of truth, the words of orators!
Let us entreat them, for they are bold before the Lord,
that He may always grant forgiveness to all of us, //
and great peace to the whole world!

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

Tone 2 *(With what crowns)*

With what wreaths of praise
shall we crown the teachers?
In separate bodies, they were united in spirit:
God-bearing intercessors, equal in number to the Trinity,
ministers and lights who illumine the universe,
pillars of the Church, whom Christ, our merciful God, //
crowns with wreaths of victorious glory.

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

With what beautiful hymns
shall we crown the God-bearing and heavenly initiates?
Preachers of the mysteries,
leading theologians of the Orthodox Faith:
Basil, manifest in holiness,
Gregory, godly and divinely inspired,
John of the golden tongue, //
whom the Trinity, the greatly merciful Lord, has fittingly glorified.

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

With what words of praise
shall we extol the holy hierarchs?
Equals to the Apostles in grace and the honor of spiritual gifts,
destroyers of impiety,
saviors and guides in word and deed,
earthly angels and heavenly men,
Christ-like shepherds in the faith, //
whom Christ, the greatly merciful Lord of glory, has honored.

v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

With what wreaths of praise
shall we crown Chrysostom, together with Basil and Gregory?
Precious vessels of the Spirit, champions of the pure Faith,
pillars of the Church and strength of the faithful,
consolation for sinners,
springs overflowing with water
from which we drink for the delight of our souls, //
as we ask forgiveness of sins and great mercy.

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

Tone 6

Today let us praise the mystical trumpets of the Spirit,
the God-bearing Fathers,
who stand in the midst of the Church, singing true theology,
praising the changeless Trinity!
They laid low the errors of Arius
and upheld the Orthodox Faith. //
They always entreat the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

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.

Old Testament Readings
Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17
Deuteronomy 10:14-21
Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9

Aposticha

Tone 1

(O all-praised martyrs)

Today let us worthily gather to praise
the spiritual initiates of the mysteries,
the trumpets of God and reflections of His glory:
Basil the Great, the divine Gregory of fiery inspiration,
and John, the truly golden-mouthed!//
They pour out streams of golden teachings on us.

V. Your saints shall exult in glory and rejoice upon their beds. (Ps. 149:5)

Let us praise with worthy hymns the foundations of the faith:
the godly and watchful minds,
the radiant golden-streamed rivers and the shining beacons,
the champions of the Trinity, the vessels of the grace of the Spirit, //
the unshakable pillars and the strength of the Church!

V. Your priests shall be clothed with righteousness and Your saints will shout for joy.

O thrice-blessed Basil,
divinely wise Gregory,
and most golden and all-honored John,
you were instruments of the Spirit,
trumpets of divine thunder, lightning flashes of preaching,
most radiant beacons, shining with the golden light of God!//
Pray to Christ that He may save those who honor you!

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

Tone 2

Today, the souls of mortals are raised up from earthly things.
Today, on the saints' memorial, they become heavenly.
The gates of heaven are opened,
and the words of the Master are spoken to us.
Words proclaim the Word, and tongues sing hymns to His wonders.
We cry out to the Savior:
Glory to You, O Christ our God, //
for through them peace has been given to the faithful!
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 2 *(Forefeast of the Meeting of the Lord)*

Today Christ is carried in the sanctuary as an Infant;
today He Who gave the Law to Moses becomes subject to the Law.
The armies of angels wondered,
seeing Him Who holds all things carried in the arms of an elderly man.
Filled with reverence, Simeon cried out, rejoicing:
"O Savior, now let me depart from this fleeting life to a
rest that grows not old, //
for I have seen You, and I rejoice!"

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 1 **Troparion** *(Three Hierarchs)*

Let us who love their words come together with hymns,
and honor the three great torch-bearers of the ^triune Godhead:
Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom!
These men have enlightened the world with the rays of their divine doctrines.
They are sweetly flowing rivers ^of wisdom,
and have filled all creation with springs of heavenly knowledge.
They ceaselessly intercede for us //
before the Holy Trinity.

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

Tone 4 **Troparion** *(Three Hierarchs)*

As sharers of the Apostles' life and character
and teachers of the universe,
intercede with the Master of all
to grant peace to the world, //
and great mercy to our souls!

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

Tone 8 **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

For our sake You were born of the Virgin
and endured crucifixion, O Good One, destroying death by death.
Revealing the Resurrection as God, do not despise the work of Your hand!
Reveal Your love for man, O Merciful One, and accept the Theotokos praying
for us, //
and save the despairing people, O our Savior!

(at the Divine Liturgy)

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Tone 4 Troparion *(Three Hierarchs)*

As sharers of the Apostles' life and character
and teachers of the universe,
intercede with the Master of all
to grant peace to the world,//
and great mercy to our souls!

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Three Hierarchs)*

O Lord, You have taken up to eternal rest
and to the enjoyment of Your blessings
the divinely-inspired heralds, the greatest of Your teachers,
for You have accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling sacrifice//
for You alone are glorified in Your saints.

Tone 8 Prokeimenon *(Three Hierarchs)*

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

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

Epistle

(334) Hebrews 13:7-16 *(Three Hierarchs)*

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; and Your truth in the congregation of the saints. (Ps. 88:5)

V. God is glorified in the council of the saints! (Ps. 88:7a)

Gospel

(11) Matthew 5:14-19 (*Three Hierarchs*)

Communion Hymn

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps. 32:1*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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.