

SUNDAY, APRIL 4  
Third Sunday of Great Lent  
Veneration of the Cross

TONE 2

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

**Tone 2**      *(for the Resurrection)*

Come, let us worship the Word of God  
begotten of the Father before all ages,  
and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!  
Having endured the Cross,  
He was buried as He Himself desired.//  
And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

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

Christ our Savior  
nailed to the Cross the bond against us,  
He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//  
We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

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

With the Archangels  
let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!  
He is our Savior, our Redeemer.  
He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//  
to judge the world which He made.

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

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

The Angel proclaimed You,  
the crucified and buried Master.  
He told the women: “Come, see the place where He lay!  
He is risen as He said,  
for He is almighty.”  
We worship You, O only immortal One.//  
Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

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

By Your Cross, You destroyed the curse of the tree.  
By Your burial You destroyed the dominion of death.  
By Your rising, You enlightened the race of man.//  
O Benefactor, Christ our God, glory to You!

*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.*

The gates of death opened to You from fear, O Lord.  
When the guards of hell saw You they were afraid,  
for You demolished the gates of brass and smashed the iron chains.//  
You have led us from the darkness and shadows of death, and have broken our  
bonds.

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

**Tone 5\***      *(from the Lenten Triodion)*      *(Rejoice, O Life-giving Cross)*

Shine, O Cross of the Lord!  
Illumine the hearts of those who honor you!  
With love inspired by God, we embrace you,  
for you are the only hope of the world.  
Through you our tears are wiped away,  
the snares of death are sprung,  
and we pass over into everlasting joy.  
Through the Cross reveal Your beauty to us, O Lord!  
Help Your servants who ask for mercy in faith!//  
Bestow upon us the fruits of abstinence!

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\* Music for the Veneration of the Cross from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org).

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

Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross:  
bright paradise of the Church, the tree of incorruption!  
You have obtained for us the joy of everlasting glory.  
Through you, the hosts of demons are driven out;  
the choirs of angels are amazed and rejoice;  
the company of the faithful gathers in celebration.  
O unconquerable weapon, unbroken stronghold,  
triumph of Orthodox Christians and pride of priests, //  
by following you may we witness the Passion and Resurrection of Christ our  
God!

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

Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross:  
invincible triumph of godliness,  
gate of Paradise, and protection of the faithful!  
The Cross is the might of the Church,  
through which corruption is abolished,  
through which the power of death is crushed.  
and we are raised from earth to heaven.  
O invincible weapon, the adversary of demons,  
the glory of martyrs, the true adornment of ven' rable saints,  
and the haven of salvation, //  
which grants the world great mercy.

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

Come, O Adam and Eve, our first father and mother,  
who fell from divine glory  
through the envy of the murderer of man!  
Bitter was the pleasure of the Tree of old;  
but see, the honored Tree of the Cross draws near!  
Run with haste and embrace it in joy,  
crying out with faith:  
"You are our help, O most-precious Cross!  
We eat your fruit and gain incorruption! //  
We are restored again to Eden, having received great mercy!"

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*  
**Tone 3**      *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Wishing to restore all men to life,  
You accepted crucifixion, O Christ our God.  
Burning with boundless love for man,  
You took the quill of the Cross in Your hand;  
dipping it in ink of royal crimson,  
You signed our release with blood-stained fingers.  
Though temptations assault us,  
may we never forsake You again!  
Have mercy on Your despairing people,  
O long-suffering Master!//  
Arise and fight Your enemies in Your almighty power!  
*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 2**      *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;  
as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,  
so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.  
The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.//  
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

### **Aposticha**

**Tone 2**      *(for the Resurrection)*

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,  
has enlightened the whole universe,  
recalling Your creation.//  
Glory to You, O almighty Lord!

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

By the Tree You destroyed the curse of the Tree, O Savior.  
By Your burial You mortified the majesty of death.  
You have enlightened our race by Your Resurrection.//  
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!

*v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

When You were seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,  
You restored the beauty of Your creatures.  
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Your side with a spear.  
The Hebrews, not knowing Your power,  
asked that Your tomb might be sealed,  
but through the mercy of Your compassion,  
You accepted the tomb  
and rose on the third day!//  
O Lord, glory to You!

*V. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!*

O Christ, the Giver of life,  
for the sake of the dead You voluntarily endured death,  
descending into hell as the Mighty One  
to save those who awaited Your coming,  
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.  
Grant also to us who glorify Your Resurrection on the third day//  
cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

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

**Tone 4**      *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

The humble David  
defeated his enemies by Your help, O Lord.  
Now come to the aid of Your Orthodox people;  
show us Your power as You did of old,  
and our adversaries will know that You are God!  
And we will be victorious, for we hope in You.  
Through the constant intercessions of Your all-pure Mother//  
grant us Your great mercy!

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*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 2**      **Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,  
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.  
And when from the depths You raised the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

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

**Tone 1      Troparion of the Cross**

O Lord, save Your people,  
and bless Your inheritance!  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries;  
and by virtue of Your Cross,//  
preserve Your habitation!

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

**Tone 1      Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, saying “Rejoice!”  
with that word the Master of all was incarnate in ^you,  
the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David!  
Your womb became more spacious than the heavens,  
for you carried your Creator.  
Glory to Him Who took abode in you!  
Glory to Him Who came ^forth from you!//  
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you!

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

**Tone 2      Troparion    *(Resurrection)***

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,  
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.  
And when from the depths You raised the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out://  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

**Tone 1      Troparion of the Cross**

O Lord, save Your people,  
and bless Your inheritance!  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries;  
and by virtue of Your Cross//  
preserve Your habitation!

**Tone 7      Kontakion    *(Cross)***

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden;  
it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross.  
The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished;  
for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell://  
“Enter again into Paradise!”

**Tone 6      Prokeimenon    *(Cross)***

O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! *(Ps. 27:9a)*

*V. To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)*

**Epistle**  
(311) Hebrews 4:14-5:6

## **Tone 8†**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old! (Ps. 73:2)*

*V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)*

## **Gospel**

(37) Mark 8:34-9:1

*(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 Hymn**

The light of Your countenance has shone on us, O Lord. *(Ps. 4:7a)*  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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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.

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† The Slavonic Triodion indicates that the Alleluia is sung in Tone 1.  
The Slavonic "Apostol" indicates that the Alleluia is sung in Tone 8.  
The Greek Triodion indicates that the Alleluia is sung in Tone 2.