

SUNDAY, JULY 18

TONE 3

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

"Lord I Call..." Tone 3

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 3 *(for the Resurrection)*

By Your Cross, O Christ our Savior,
death's dominion has been shattered;
the devil's delusion destroyed.

The race of man, being saved by faith,//
always offers You a song.

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

All has been enlightened by Your Resurrection, O Lord.

Paradise has been opened again.

All creation, praising You,//
always offers You a song.

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

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son.

I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit:

the undivided, uncreated Godhead,//

the consubstantial Trinity which reigns forever.

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

(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)

We bow down in worship before Your precious Cross, O Christ,
and we glorify and praise Your Resurrection,//
for by Your wounds we have all been healed.

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

We praise the Savior incarnate of the Virgin,
for He was crucified for our sake and resurrected on the third day,//
granting us great mercy.

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.

Christ descended to hell proclaiming the glad tidings:
“Behold! Now I have triumphed!
I am the Resurrection, I will lead you out,//
for I have shattered the gates of death!”

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

Standing unworthily in Your most pure house, O Christ God,
we offer our evening song, crying from the depths:
You Who enlightened the world
by Your Resurrection on the third day,
O Lover of man, deliver Your people//
from the hand of Your enemies.

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 6 *(for the Fathers)* *(Despairing for her life)*

You were begotten from the Father before the Morning Star,
but Arius taught wrongfully that You were created:
in his ignorance he designated You as a creature,
yet the Fathers of the Council proclaimed You as Son of God,//
co-enthroned with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

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

O honored Fathers,
you skillfully stitched together the garment of Christ,
which had been divided and torn apart by barking dogs.
You found it unbearable to see His nakedness,
as of old Shem and Japheth could not bear to see the nakedness of their father.
You put to shame the wretchedness of Arius and those who agreed with him, //
and who professed the madness that bears his name.

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

The Macedónians and Nestórians, the Eutýchians and Dióscorenes,
the Appolinárians, Sabéllians, and Séverans,
who were revealed as oppressive wolves in sheep's skins,
you, as true shepherds, drove far away from the Savior's flock,
having stripped the thrice-wretched ones of their sheep's skins. //
Therefore, we call you blessed, O holy Fathers.

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

Tone 6 *(for the Fathers)*

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 3 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

How can we not wonder
at your mystical childbearing, O exalted Mother?
For without receiving the touch of man,
you gave birth to a Son in the flesh, O immaculate Virgin.
The Son born of the Father before eternity
was born of you at the fullness of time, O honored Lady.
He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,
but preserved the fullness of each nature.
Entreat Him, O Lady and Virgin, and Mother,
to save the souls of those who, in the Orthodox manner, confess you //
to be the Theotokos.

Old Testament Readings

Genesis 14:14-20 (*Fathers*)

Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17 (*Fathers*)

Deuteronomy 10:14-21 (*Fathers*)

Aposticha

Tone 3 (*for the Resurrection*)

The sun was darkened by Your Passion, O Christ,
but all creation was enlightened by the light of Your Resurrection.//
Accept our evening song, O Lover of man!

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

Your life-bearing Resurrection, O Lord,
enlightened the whole universe, recalling Your creation.
Delivered from Adam's curse, we sing://
O Almighty Lord, glory to You!

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

You are the changeless God,
Who, suffering in the flesh, were changed.
Creation could not endure seeing You on the Cross.
It was filled with fear while praising Your patience.
By descending to hell and rising on the third day,//
You have granted to the world life and great mercy.

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

You endured death, O Christ,
to deliver the race of men from death.
You rose from the dead on the third day,
raising with Yourself those who knew You as God//
and enlightening the world. Glory to You!

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

Tone 4 *(for the Fathers)*

Today we, the Orthodox, celebrate the annual memory
of the God-bearing Fathers who assembled in Nicea.
They laid low the godless doctrines of Arius,
driving him from the unity of the Catholic Church,
and teaching us how to confess the consubstantial and co-eternal Son of God.
They expressed this clearly in the Symbol of Faith,
and we follow their divine doctrines,
believing in and serving the Son with the Father and the all-Holy Spirit//
the consubstantial Trinity and one Divinity.

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

Tone 4 *(Theotokion)*

Look on the entreaties of your servants, O Blameless One!
Stop all the terrible attacks against us,
freeing us from every affliction,
for we have only you as our sure and firm anchor!
Do not let us be put to shame, O Lady,
for we call on you for our intercession!
Hasten to pray for those who call in faith:
“Rejoice, O Lady, Help of all://
the Joy and Shelter and Salvation of our souls!”

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 3 **Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//
great mercy.

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

Tone 8 Troparion (*Fathers*)

You are most glorious, O Christ our God!
You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.
Through them You have guided us to the true Faith.//
O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

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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O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death.
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

Tone 8 Kontakion *(Fathers)*

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for
the Church.
Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology,//
It defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
(Ps. 46:6)

V. Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)

Tone 4 Prokeimenon *(Song of the Three Holy Children)*

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, / and praised and glorified is
Your Name forever! *(Song of the Three Holy Children, v. 3)*

Epistle

(93) Romans 6:18-23

(334) Hebrews 13: 7-16 *(Fathers)*

Tone 3

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame! (Ps. 30:1a)

V. Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me! (Ps. 30:2b)

Tone 1

*V. The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the
sun to its setting. (Ps. 49:1)*

Gospel

(25) Matthew 8:5-13

(56) John 17:1-13 *(Fathers)*

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*

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.