

APRIL 16
Lazarus Saturday
Vespers alone (sung on Friday)

"Lord I Call..." Tone 6

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!*
- 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.*
- 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.*

Tone 6 *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Emperor Leo)*

Wishing to see the tomb of Lazarus, O Lord,
since of Your own will, You were soon to dwell in a tomb,
You asked: "Where have You laid him?"
Learning that which was already known to You,
You cried to Your beloved friend: "Lazarus, come forth!"
and he who had no breath obeyed the Lord Who gave him breath,//
for You are the Savior of our souls.

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

You have come to the place of the burial of Lazarus, O Lord,
the tomb of a man four days dead.
Weeping for Your friend, O Bread of Life, You raised him up.
Therefore death was bound by Your voice,
and grave clothes were loosened by Your hand.
The band of disciples was filled with joy.
One song of adoration was sung by all://
“Blessed are You, O Savior! Have mercy on us!”

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

Your voice destroyed the kingdom of hell, O Lord.
Your powerful word raised from the tomb the one who was four days dead.
Lazarus became the saving first-fruits of the world's regeneration.
All things are possible for You, O Lord and King of all.//
Grant Your servants cleansing and great mercy!

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

You came to the tomb of Lazarus, O Lord,
and called him by name,
wishing to assure Your disciples of Your own Resurrection.
Hell was vanquished!
It released Lazarus who was four days dead.
He cried out to You://
“Glory to You, O blessed Lord!”

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

You came to Bethany to wake Lazarus, O Lord,
accompanied by Your disciples.
You wept for him,
but he was raised by Your almighty power.
A man four days dead cried to You, O our Savior://
“Glory to You, O blessed Lord!”

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

Tone 8 *(from the Lenten Triodion, by Andrew the Blind)*

We have completed the forty days that profit our souls.
Let us sing: “Rejoice, city of Bethany, home of Lazarus!
Rejoice, Mary and Martha, his sisters!
Tomorrow Christ will come and raise your dead brother to life.
Bitter and unsatisfied, hell will hear His voice.
Shaking and groaning, it will release bound Lazarus.
The assembly of Hebrews will be amazed.
They will greet Him with palms and branches.
Though their priests and elders look on Him with envy and malice,
the children shall praise Him in song:
‘Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord, //
the King of Israel!’”

Tone 6 **Prokeimenon**

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, / Who made heaven and earth. *(Ps. 123:8)*

V. “If it had not been the Lord Who was on our side,” let Israel now say. (Ps. 123:1a)

Reading from Genesis (49:33-50:26)

Tone 6 **Prokeimenon**

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, / which cannot be moved, but
abides forever. *(Ps. 124:1)*

*V. For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest upon the land allotted to the
righteous. (Ps. 124:3a)*

Reading from Proverbs (31:8-31)

Aposticha

Tone 8 *Idiomelon* *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

We have completed the forty days that profit our souls.
Now let us beg the Lover of man:
enable us to see the Holy Week of Your Passion,
that we may glorify Your mighty work,
Your wonderful plan for our salvation,
as we sing with one heart and voice: //
“O Lord, glory to You!”

V. To Thee I lift up mine eyes, O Thou Who art enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Ps 122:1-2)

(Repeat: "We have completed the forty days...")

V. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Ps. 122:3-4)

Tone 8 *(for the Martyrs)*

O martyrs of the Lord,
we beseech you to intercede with our God,
that He may forgive our many sins, //
and grant our souls abundant mercy.

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

Tone 8

Standing by the tomb of Lazarus, O Savior,
You called to Your friend, who was dead.
He heard Your voice, and awoke as from sleep.
Mortality was shaken by immortality.
By Your word the bound was unbound.
All is possible! All things serve and submit to You, O Loving Lord. //
O our Savior, glory to You!

Tone 1 **Troparion**

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your Passion,
You confirmed the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to You, O Vanquisher of Death:
"Hosanna in the highest! //
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord."

(at the Divine Liturgy on Saturday morning)

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*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
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Tone 2 Kontakion

Christ, the Joy, the Truth, and the Light of all,
the Life of the world, and the Resurrection,
has appeared in His goodness to those on earth.
He has become the Image of our Resurrection, //
granting divine forgiveness to all.

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

As many as have been baptized into Christ,
have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Tone 3 Prokeimenon

The Lord is my Light and my Savior! / Whom shall I fear? *(Ps. 26:1)*

V. The Lord is the defender of my life! Of whom shall I be afraid? (Ps. 26:2)

Epistle

(333-ctr) Hebrews 12:28-13:8

Tone 5

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty. (Ps. 92:1a)

V. For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved. (Ps. 92:2)

Gospel

(39) John 11:1-45

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Come, all people, let us honor the pure Theotokos!
She conceived the divine Fire within her womb, yet was not consumed.
Let us magnify her in song!

Communion Hymn

Out of the mouths of babes and infants, You have fashioned perfect praise.

(Ps. 8:2a)

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.