

SUNDAY, JULY 17

TONE 4

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

"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.*

**Tone 4**      *(for the Resurrection)*

We glorify Your Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,

by always honoring Your life-creating Cross;

by it, You have renewed the corrupted nature of man,

O almighty One.

By it, You have renewed our entrance to heaven,//

for You are good and the Lover of man.

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

You loosed the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Savior,

by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.

By descending to hell, O almighty God,

You broke the bonds of death.

Therefore, we adore Your Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://

"Glory to You, O all powerful Lord!"

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

You smashed the gates of hell, O Lord,  
and by Your death You demolished the kingdom of death.  
You delivered the race of men from corruption,//  
granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

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

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

Come, O people,  
let us sing of the Savior's Resurrection on the third day!  
By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bonds of hell.  
By it, we have received life and incorruption.  
Save us by Your Resurrection!//  
O Life-creating and almighty Savior, 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.*

Angels and men sing of Your Resurrection on the third day, O Savior.  
By it, the ends of the earth have been illuminated.  
By it we have been delivered from bondage to the Enemy.  
Save us by Your Resurrection!//  
O Life-creating and almighty Savior, glory to You!

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

You have shattered the gates of brass  
and destroyed the chains of death, O Christ God.  
You have raised the fallen human race.//  
O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

*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 4**      *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a father of the Lord  
through you, O Virgin.  
He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonder in you:  
“At Your right hand stood the Queen,”  
Your Mother, the mediatrix of life,  
since God was freely born of her without a father.  
He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,  
so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder  
and brought it to His Father,  
joining it to the heavenly pow'rs. //  
Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has saved the world, O Theotokos.

Old Testament Readings (*Fathers*)

Genesis 14:14-20

Deuteronomy 1:8-11, 15-17

Deuteronomy 10:14-21

Aposticha

**Tone 4**     *(for the Resurrection)*

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,  
You have annulled our ancestral curse.  
By descending to hell, You have freed the eternal prisoners,  
granting incorruption to the human race.//  
Therefore in songs we glorify Your life-creating and saving Resurrection.

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

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord,  
You shook all of creation.  
By being laid in the tomb You have raised those who dwelt in the tombs,  
granting life and incorruption to the human race.//  
Therefore in songs we glorify Your rising on the third day.

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

The lawless people, O Christ,  
handed You over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified,  
thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor.  
But voluntarily You endured burial,  
rising by Your own power on the third day as God,//  
granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

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

With tears the women reached Your tomb,  
searching for You, but not finding You.  
They wept with wailing and lamented:  
“Woe to us! Our Savior, King of all,  
how were You stolen?  
What place can hold Your life-bearing body?”  
An Angel replied to them:  
“Do not weep, but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen,//  
granting us joy as the only compassionate One!”

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

**Tone 4**      *(for the Fathers)*

Come, all Orthodox Churches,  
let us celebrate today in faith and true worship  
the yearly commemoration of the divinely-arrayed Fathers  
who gathered at Nicea from throughout the world!  
There they refuted the godless teaching of Arius,  
banishing him from the catholic Church by a decree of the council.  
They taught all to confess openly the Son of God,  
consubstantial and co-eternal with the Father,  
proclaiming this with precision and true worship in the Symbol of Faith.  
Therefore, as we faithfully follow their divine doctrines,  
let us worship the Father, the Son, and the most Holy Spirit,//  
the consubstantial Trinity in one Godhead!

*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 4      Troparion    *(Resurrection)***

When the women disciples of the Lord  
learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the apostles:  
“Death is overthrown!  
Christ God is risen,//  
granting 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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learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the apostles:  
“Death is overthrown!  
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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!

**Tone 4      Kontakion    *(Resurrection)***

My Savior and Redeemer  
as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.  
He has shattered the gates of hell,  
and as Master,//  
He has risen on the third day!

**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 4      Prokeimenon    *(Resurrection)***

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; / in wisdom have You made them all.  
*(Ps. 103:26)*

*V. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great! (Ps. 103:1)*

**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**

(103) Romans 10:1-10

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

## **Tone 4**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!*  
(Ps. 44:3b)

*V. For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity.* (Ps. 44:6)

## **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**

(28) Matthew 8:28-9:1

(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.