

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

TONE 6

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (9<sup>th</sup> of Luke)

Forefeast of the Entrance into the Temple, Ven. Gregory of Decapolis

"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!*

**Tone 6**      *(for the Resurrection)*

Possessing victory over hell, O Christ,

since You are free among the dead,

You ascended the Cross

raising with Yourself those who sat in the shades of death.//

Drawing life from Your light, O almighty Savior, have mercy on us!

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

Today Christ tramples on death,

for He is risen as He said!

Let us all sing this song,

for He has granted joy to the world:

O Light unapproachable, O Fountain of life!//

O Savior almighty, have mercy on us!

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

Where shall we sinners flee from You, Who are in all creation?  
In heaven You dwell!  
In hell You trampled on death!  
In the depths of the sea?  
Even there is Your hand, O Master!  
To You we flee, and falling before You, we pray://  
O You Who rose from the dead, have mercy on us!

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

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

In Your Cross, we glory, O Christ.  
We sing and glorify Your Resurrection.  
For You are our God,//  
and we know no other than You.

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

**Tone 1**      *(for the Forefeast)    (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

Virgins, bearing lamps to light the way for the ever-Virgin,  
truly prophesy in the Spirit that which is to come.  
For the Theotokos is the Temple of God,//  
and from infancy is led into the Temple in virginal glory.

*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 glorious fruit of a holy promise,  
the Theotokos is truly shown to the world as exalted over all.  
As she is brought with reverence into the house of God,  
she fulfills the prayer of her parents//  
being preserved by the Divine Spirit.

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

You were nourished by faith with heavenly bread, O Virgin,  
in the Temple of the Lord,  
and you broughtest forth for the world the Word, Who is the Bread of Life.  
As His chosen and immaculate Temple,  
you were betrothed mystically through the Spirit//  
to be the Bride of God the Father.

*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 1**      *(for St. Gregory)      (Joy of the Heavenly Hosts)*

Dwelling in the heavenly tabernacles in joy, O Father,  
and standing with the angels in boldness before the throne of the Lord,  
entreat Him that those who celebrate your commemoration on earth//  
may be delivered from errors and passions.

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

Removing the thorns of passions with the sickle of prayers, O Father Gregory,  
and renewing the earth of your soul with the plow of abstinence,  
you planted therein the seeds of piety,//  
through which you are sprouting forth to us fruits of healing.

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

We call you a vessel of virtues, O holy Father Gregory,  
as you are a friend of silence, a keeper of vigil,  
a pillar of chastity and moderation,  
a sacred abode of prayer, a treasury of wonders,//  
and an intercessor for those who honor you.

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

**Tone 4**      *(for the Forefast, by George of Nicomedia)*

Today the Theotokos, the Temple that is to hold God,  
is brought into the Temple of the Lord,  
and Zachariah receives her.  
Today the Holy of Holies is glad,  
and the choir of angels mystically keeps the feast.  
With them let us celebrate the feast today,  
and with Gabriel let us cry aloud:  
“Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you,//  
He Who has great mercy!”

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

**Tone 6**      *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Who will not bless you, O most holy Virgin?  
Who will not sing of your most pure childbearing?  
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,  
but from you He was ineffably incarnate.  
God by nature, yet Man for our sake,  
not two persons, but one known in two natures.  
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady,//  
to have mercy on our souls!

**Aposticha**

**Tone 6**      *(for the Resurrection)*

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,  
the Angels in heaven sing!  
Enable us on earth//  
to glorify You in purity of heart!

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

Destroying the gates of hell,  
breaking the chains of death,  
You resurrected the fallen human race as almighty God!//  
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

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

Desiring to return us to Paradise,  
Christ was nailed to the Cross and placed in a tomb.  
The Myrrhbearing Women sought Him with tears, crying,  
“Woe to us, O Savior!  
How do You deign to descend to death?  
What place can hold Your life bearing body?  
Come to us as You promised!  
Take away our wailing and tears!”  
Then the Angel appeared to them:  
“Stop your lamentations!  
Go, proclaim to the Apostles:  
‘The Lord is risen,//  
granting us purification and great mercy!’”

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

Having been crucified as You willed,  
by Your burial You captured death, O Christ,  
rising on the third day as God in glory,//  
granting the world unending life 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**      *(for the Forefeast, by George of Nicomedia)*

Come, all peoples,  
let us praise her who alone is without blemish,  
who was proclaimed by the prophets and now is offered in the Temple:  
the Mother foreordained before the ages,  
who in the last days has been shown forth as Theotokos.  
By her intercessions, O Lord,//  
grant us Your peace and great mercy!

*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 6**      **Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.  
Mary stood by Your grave,  
seeking Your most pure body.  
You captured hell, not being tempted by it.  
You came to the Virgin, granting life.  
O Lord, Who rose from the dead,//  
glory to You.

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

**Tone 4**      **Troparion**      *(Sts. Gregory and Proclus)*

The twofold lamps of divine gifts,  
Proclus, shepherd of New Rome, and Gregory, scion of Decapolis,  
guide us by the light of grace as divinely-inspired fathers.  
Let us draw near and eagerly beseech them,//  
that we may receive forgiveness and salvation of our souls!

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

**Tone 4      Troparion    (*Forefeast*)**

Today Anna bequeaths joy to all instead of sorrow,  
by bringing forth her fruit, the only ever-Virgin.  
In fulfillment of her vow,  
today with joy she brings to the temple of the Lord//  
the true temple and pure Mother of God the Word.

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

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Mary stood by Your grave,  
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You captured hell, not being tempted by it.  
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O Lord, Who rose from the dead,//  
glory to You.

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**Tone 6      Kontakion    (*Resurrection*)**

When Christ God, the Giver of Life,  
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,  
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.//  
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

**Tone 3      Kontakion** *(St. Gregory)*

The Church knows you to be a brilliant sun  
enlightening all with the rays of healing and the beauty of virtue.  
Therefore, as we celebrate your honored memory,  
We glorify your struggles,//  
ever-blest and all-wise Father Gregory.

**Tone 4      Kontakion** *(Forefeast)*

Today the universe is filled with joy  
at the glorious feast of the Mother of God,//  
and cries out: "She is the heavenly tabernacle."

**Tone 6      Prokeimenon**      *(Resurrection)*

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**  
(220) Ephesians 2:4-10

**Tone 6**  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. (Ps. 90:1)*

*V. He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust." (Ps. 90:2)*

**Gospel**  
(66) Luke 12:16-21

**Communion Hymn**

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