

## FEBRUARY 2

### The Meeting of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple

#### "Lord I Call..." Tone 1\*

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.*

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

*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**     *Idiomela*     (by Patriarch Germanus)

Simeon, tell us, Whom you bear in your arms,  
that you rejoice so greatly in the Temple?

To Whom do you shout and cry aloud:

"Now I am set free, for I have seen my Savior?"

This is He Who was born of a Virgin;

this is God the Word, Who came forth from God,

Who for our sakes has taken flesh and has saved man.//

Let us worship Him!

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

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

Simeon, receive Him Whom Moses once beheld in darkness,  
granting the Law on Sinai,  
now that He has become a Babe subject to the Law!  
This is He Who spoke through the Law.  
This is He, of Whom the Prophets spoke,  
Who for our sakes has taken flesh and has saved man.//  
Let us worship Him!

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

Come, let us also go to meet Christ with divine songs!  
Let us receive Him Whose salvation Simeon saw!  
This is He Whom David announced;  
this is He Who spoke in the Prophets,  
Who, for our sakes, has taken flesh and Who speaks through the Law.//  
Let us worship Him!

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

**Tone 6**      *(by John the Monk)*

Let the gate of heaven be opened today,  
for the unoriginate Word of the Father  
has made a beginning in time without forsaking His divinity.  
As a Babe forty days old,  
of His own will He is brought by the Virgin, His Mother,  
as an offering in the Temple of the Law.  
The Elder receives Him in his arms,  
crying as a servant to his Master:  
“Let me depart for my eyes have seen Your salvation!”//  
Glory to You, O Lord, for You have come into the world to save mankind.

### **Old Testament Readings**

**Composite 6** *(Exodus 12:51-13:3; Leviticus 12:2-7, Numbers 8:16-17)*

**Isaiah 6:1-12**

**Composite 7** *(Isaiah 19:1, 3, 4-5, 12, 16, 19-21)*

## Litya

### Tone 1 *(by Anatolius)*

The Ancient of Days, Who gave Moses the Law on Sinai in former times,  
today appears as a Child.

As Maker of the Law, He fulfills the Law.

He is brought into the Temple according to the Law,  
and given over to the Elder.

Simeon the righteous receives Him.

Beholding the fulfillment of the divine order now brought to pass,  
rejoicing aloud, he cries:

"My eyes have seen the mystery hidden from the ages  
made manifest in these latter days,

the Light that disperses the foolishness of the faithless Gentiles,  
and the glory of the newly-chosen Israel!

Therefore let Your servant depart from the bonds of this flesh  
to the life filled with wonder that knows no age or end, //  
for You grant the world great mercy!"

### Tone 1 *(by John the Monk)*

Today He Who once gave the Law to Moses on Sinai  
submits Himself to the commandments of the Law,  
becoming for our sakes like us in His compassion.

Now the God of purity as a holy Child has opened a pure womb,  
and as God He is brought as an offering to Himself,  
setting us free from the curse of the Law, //  
and granting light to our souls.

### Tone 2 *(by Andrew Pyros)*

Simeon now receives below in his earthly arms  
Him Whom the ministers on high entreat with trembling.

He proclaims the union of God with mankind.

He sees the heavenly God as mortal Man.

He prepares to withdraw from earthly things,  
and raises his cry in joy:

"Glory to You, O Lord, for You have revealed to those in darkness //  
the Light that knows no evening!"

**Tone 2**     *(by Germanus)*

Today Simeon takes in his arms the Lord of Glory,  
Whom Moses saw of old in the darkness  
when he received the Tablets of the Law on Mount Sinai.  
This is He Who speaks through the Prophets  
and Who is the Creator of the Law.  
This is He Whom David announced; //  
He is fearful to all, yet great and abundant in mercy.

**Tone 2**     *(by Germanus or John the Monk)*

The holy Virgin brought the Holy One to the priest in the sacred Temple.  
Simeon, extending his arms, received Him with joy, and cried out:  
“Now, Master, let Your servant depart in peace, //  
according to Your word, O Lord!”

**Tone 2**     *(by Germanos or John the Monk)*

Today holy Simeon the Elder  
lifted up in his arms the Creator of heaven and earth,  
as he said in the Holy Spirit: //  
“Now I am set free, for I have seen my Savior.”

**Tone 2**     *(by Anatolius or Andrew of Jerusalem)*

Today Simeon the Elder enters the Temple, rejoicing in the Spirit,  
to take into his arms Him Who gave the Law to Moses  
and Who Himself fulfilled the Law.  
Moses was deemed worthy to see God through darkness and as an indistinct  
voice.  
With veiled face he reproved the faithless hearts of the Hebrews;  
while Simeon lifted up the pre-eternal Word of the Father in bodily form,  
and revealed the Light of the Gentiles: the Cross and the Resurrection.  
And Anna the Prophetess pointed out the Savior,  
proclaiming Him the Deliverer of Israel.  
Let us cry out to Him: //  
“O Christ our God, through the Theotokos, have mercy on us!”

**Tone 4**      *(by Andrew of Crete)*

Today the holy Mother who is even more exalted than the Temple,  
has come into the Temple,  
clearly showing to the world the Creator of the world and the Giver of the Law.  
Simeon the Elder receives Him in his arms and honors Him, crying out:  
“Now let Your servant depart in peace, //  
for I have seen You, the Savior of our souls!”

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

**Tone 5**      *(by Andrew of Crete)*

Search the Scriptures, just as Christ our God said in the Gospels!  
For in them we find Him being brought forth and wrapped in swaddling clothes,  
laid in a manger, and nourished with milk,  
receiving circumcision and held by Simeon,  
neither in fancy nor in fantasy  
but in truth appearing to the world.  
Let us cry aloud to Him: //  
“O pre-eternal God, glory to You!”

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

**Tone 5**      *(by Germanos or Anatolius)*

The Ancient of Days, as a Child in the flesh,  
is brought by His Mother the Virgin into the Holy Temple,  
fulfilling the promise announced by His own Law.  
Receiving Him, Simeon said:  
“Now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, //  
for my eyes have seen Your salvation, O Lord!”

**Aposticha**

**Tone 7**      *(by Cosmas the monk)*

Adorn your bridal chamber, O Zion,  
and welcome Christ the King!  
Salute Mary, the heavenly gate, fashioned as the throne of the Cherubim!  
She carries the King of Glory!  
The Virgin is a cloud of light:  
she has borne in the flesh the Son begotten before the Morning Star.  
Simeon, taking Him in his arms, proclaimed to the peoples: //  
“He is the Master of life and death; the Savior of the world!”

*V. Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation! (Luke 2:29)*

The unwedded Mother has brought into the Temple  
Him Who shone forth before the ages from the Father.  
In these latter times He was born from a Virgin womb.  
He gave the Law on Mount Sinai, yet He makes Himself obedient to the  
    commandment of the Law.  
She has brought Him to the Priest and righteous Elder  
whose appointed lot it was to see Christ the Lord.  
Simeon, receiving Him in his arms, rejoiced greatly and cried aloud:  
“This is God Who is co-eternal with the Father!//  
He is the Redeemer of our souls!”

*V. A Light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel. (Luke 2:32)*

The Theotokos Mary carried in her arms  
Him Who is borne aloft upon the chariot of the cherubim, and praised in song by  
    the seraphim.  
The Giver of the Law, Who fulfills the commandment of the Law,  
was made flesh of the Unwedded Virgin.  
She gave Him into the arms of the Priest and Elder.  
Holding the Life, he asked to be released from life, saying:  
“Now, Master, let me depart to declare to Adam  
that I have seen the pre-eternal God and Savior of the world,//  
Who was made a Babe without undergoing change!”

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

**Tone 8**      *(by Andrew of Crete)*

He Who is borne on high by the Cherubim  
and praised in hymns by the Seraphim  
is brought today according to the Law into the holy Temple  
and rests in the arms of the Elder as on a throne.  
From Joseph He receives gifts fitting for God:  
a pair of doves, a symbol of the spotless Church  
and of the newly chosen people of the Gentiles,  
and two young pigeons,  
for He is the originator of the two Covenants, both Old and New.

Simeon, now granted the fulfillment of the prophecies concerning himself, blesses the Virgin and Theotokos Mary.  
He foretells in figures the Passion of her Son.  
From Him he begs release, crying aloud:  
“Now, Master, let me depart as You have promised me,  
for I have seen the pre-eternal Light//  
and the Lord and Savior of the people who bear the Name of Christ!”

**Tone 1      Troparion**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!  
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,  
enlightening those who sat in darkness.  
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder,  
you accepted in your arms the ^Redeemer of our souls,//  
Who grants us the Resurrection!

*(sung once at Great Vespers, thrice at Vigil)*

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

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**Tone 1      Kontakion**

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb  
and blessed Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God.  
Now You have come and saved us through love.  
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,//  
O only Lover of Man!

**Tone 3      Prokeimenon      *(Song of the Theotokos)***

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.  
*(Lk. 1:46-47)*

*V. For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, all generations will call me blessed. (Lk. 1:48)*

**Epistle**  
(316) Hebrews 7:7-17

**Tone 8**  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Lord, now let Your seroant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation! (Luke 2:29)*

*V. A Light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel. (Luke 2:32)*

**Gospel**  
(7) Luke 2:22-40  
(*Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:*)  
**Tone 3**

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians,  
protect, preserve, and save those who hope in you!

In the shadow and letter of the Law,  
let us the faithful discern a figure:  
every male [child] that opens the womb  
is holy to God.

Therefore we magnify the firstborn Word of the Father Who has no beginning, //  
the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

**Communion Hymn**

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. (Ps. 115:4)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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