

SUNDAY, MAY 21

TONE 5

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha, Blind Man

Holy Equals-to-the-Apostles Emperor Constantine and his mother, Helen

"Lord I Call..." Tone 5

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!*

**Tone 5**      *(for the Resurrection)*

By Your precious Cross, O Christ,  
You have put the devil to shame.  
By Your Resurrection, You have blunted the sting of sin  
and saved us from the gates of death.//  
We glorify You, O only begotten One.

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

Christ was led as a sheep to the slaughter  
in order to grant Resurrection to the human race.  
The princes of hell were frightened by this,  
for the gates of sorrow were lifted.  
Christ the King of glory had entered,  
saying to those in chains: "Go forth!"//  
And to those in darkness: "Come to the light!"

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

O great wonder!

The Creator of the invisible suffered in the flesh in His love for man and rose again immortal.

Come, O sons of nations,

let us worship Him,

for delivered from error by His compassion,//

we have learned to sing of one God in three Persons!

*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 2**     *Idiomela*     *(from the Pentecostarion)*

The man blind from birth asked himself:

“Was I born blind because of my parents' sins?

Or am I a living sign of the people's faithlessness?

I am not content to continue asking whether it is night or day.

My feet can no longer endure tripping on the stones.

I have seen nothing: neither the sun shining, nor the image of my Maker.//

But I entreat You, O Christ God, look upon me and have mercy on me!”

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

Jesus, passing by the Temple, met a man blind from birth.

He had compassion on him and put spittle on his eyes,

saying: “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam!”

He washed himself and then gave glory to God.

His neighbors asked him:

“Who opened your eyes, which no one could heal before?”

He cried out: “A man called Jesus said to me:

‘Wash in Siloam!’ and now I see;

He is truly the Christ, the Messiah Whom Moses foretold in the Law.//

He is the Savior of our souls!”

*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 4**      *(for Sts. Constantine and Helen) (You have given a sign)*

You gave Your precious Cross to the Emperor  
as a most powerful weapon.  
Through it he reigned righteously on earth, shining with godliness.  
By Your compassion he was counted worthy of Your heavenly Kingdom.  
Therefore with him we glorify Your dispensation, O almighty Jesus,//  
the Savior of our souls and the Lover of man.

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

As the King of kings, the Lord Who reigns over all,  
You, O Lover of man, granted Your servant the wisdom of Solomon,  
the meekness of David,  
and the Orthodox faith of the Apostles.  
Therefore we glorify Your dispensation, O almighty Jesus,//  
the Savior of our souls and the Lover of man.

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

O ever-memorable Emperor,  
you were the first willingly to submit the royal purple to Christ,  
recognizing Him as true God and King of all,  
the great Benefactor and Source of victory.  
You saw Him set above every principality and power.  
Therefore Jesus made the kingdom prosper for you, O lover of virtue,  
for he is the Savior of our souls and the Lover of man.

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

**Tone 5**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

Passing by the way, O Lord,  
You met a man blind from birth.  
Your Disciples were puzzled and asked:  
“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”  
Jesus answered: “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents,  
but that the works of God might be revealed in him.  
I must work the works of Him Who sent me, which no one else can do.”  
As He said this, He spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle,  
and anointed the man's eyes with the clay and said to him:  
“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam!”  
He went and washed, and was made whole, crying: “Lord, I believe!”//  
He worshipped You, and we cry: “Have mercy on us!”

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

**Tone 5**      *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

In the Red Sea of old,  
a type of the Virgin Bride was prefigured.  
There Moses divided the waters;  
here Gabriel assisted in the miracle.  
There Israel crossed the sea without getting wet,  
here the Virgin gave birth to Christ without seed.  
After Israel's passage, the sea remained impassable;  
after Emmanuel's birth, the Virgin remained a Virgin.  
O ever-existing God Who appeared as Man, //  
O Lord, have mercy on us!

**Old Testament Readings** *(Sts. Constantine and Helen)*

3[1] Kings 8:22-23, 27-30, Isaiah 61:10-62:5, Isaiah 60:1-16

**Aposticha**

**Tone 5**      *(for the Resurrection)*

We magnify You in songs of praise,  
O incarnate Christ and Savior.  
By accepting the Cross and death for our sake,  
as the Lord and Lover of man,  
You overthrew the gates of hell, //  
and arose on the third day, saving our souls.

*(Then the Paschal Stichera with their verses from Psalm 67)*

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

**Tone 8**      *(for Sts. Constantine and Helen)*

Brightly shining moon and star of evening,  
you were turned from unbelief to faith in the true God,  
and were led to sanctify the people and city.  
Beholding the figure of the Cross in the sky,  
you heard from above:  
"Conquer with this Cross, in which lies victory over your enemies!"  
Receiving wisdom from the Holy Spirit,  
you were anointed as holy emperor,  
establishing and supporting the Church of God.  
O father of Orthodox emperors,  
Constantine, Equal to the Apostles,  
whose relics pour forth healings: //  
ever intercede for our souls!

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

**Tone 8**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

O Christ God, Sun of Righteousness,  
by Your touch You enlightened all.  
Give sight now to our spiritual eyes,  
and show us to be sons of the day!  
Great is Your ineffable goodness towards us!//  
O Lover of man, glory to You!

“Christ is risen from the dead, ... *(once)*

*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 5**      **Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

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

**Tone 8**      **Troparion**      *(Sts. Constantine and Helen)*

Your servant, Constantine, O Lord and only Lover of man,  
beheld the figure of the Cross in the heavens.  
Like Paul, not having received his call from men,  
but as an apostle among rulers set by Your hand over the royal city,//  
he preserved lasting peace through the prayers of the Theotokos.

*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)*

**Tone 5      Troparion    *(Resurrection)***

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Like Paul, not having received his call from men,  
but as an apostle among rulers set by Your hand over the royal city,//  
he preserved lasting peace through the prayers of the Theotokos.

**Tone 3      Kontakion    *(Sts. Constantine and Helen)***

Today Constantine and his mother Helen reveal the precious Cross,  
the weapon of Orthodox Christians against their enemies,//  
for it is manifest for us as a great and fearful sign in struggle.

**Tone 4      Kontakion    *(Pentecostarion)***

I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes,  
and call to You in repentance://  
“You are the most radiant Light of those in darkness.”

*Note: The Kontakion of Pascha is not sung on this day.*

**Tone 8      Prokeimenon    *(Pentecostarion)***

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! *(Ps. 75:10a)*

*V. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)*

**Tone 8      Prokeimenon    *(Sts. Constantine and Helen)***

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, / and their words to the ends  
of the universe. *(Ps. 18:4)*

## Epistle

(38) Acts 16:16-34

(49) Acts 26:1-5, 12-20 (*Sts. Constantine and Helen*)

## Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Look upon me and have mercy on me! (Ps.118:132a)*

*V. Guide my steps according to Your word! (Ps. 118:133a)*

## Tone 1

*V. I have exalted one chosen out of My people. (Ps. 88:18b)*

## Gospel

(34) John 9:1-38

(35-ctr) John 10:1-9 (*Sts. Constantine and Helen*)

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing: The Angel cried ...)*

## Communion Hymn

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe. (*Ps. 18:4*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

And unto us He has given eternal life.

Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

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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.