

MAY 4

Great and Holy Saturday, Vespers and the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

"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!

Tone 1 *(from the Octoechos, for the Resurrection)*

Accept our evening prayers, O holy Lord!

Grant us remission of sins,//

for You alone have manifested the Resurrection to the world.

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

Encircle Zion

and surround her, O people!

Give glory in her to the One Who rose from the dead!

For He is our God,//

Who has delivered us from our transgressions!

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.

Come, O people,
let us hymn and fall down before Christ,
glorifying His Resurrection from the dead!
For He is our God, //
Who has delivered the world from the Enemy's deceit!

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

We have been freed from sufferings
by Your suffering, O Christ.
We have been delivered from corruption
by Your Resurrection. //
O Lord, 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 8 *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Today, Hell cries out groaning:
"I should not have accepted the Man born of Mary.
He came and destroyed my power.
He shattered the gates of brass.
As God, He raised the souls that I had held captive." //
Glory to Your Cross and Resurrection, O Lord!

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

Today, Hell cries out groaning:
"My dominion has been shattered.
I received a dead Man as one of the dead,
but against Him I could not prevail.
From eternity I had ruled the dead,
but behold, He raises all.
Because of Him do I perish." //
Glory to Your Cross and Resurrection, O Lord!

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

Today, Hell cries out groaning:
“My power has been trampled down.
The Shepherd is crucified and Adam is raised.
I have been deprived of those whom I ruled.
Those whom I swallowed in my strength I have given up.
He Who was crucified has emptied the tombs.
The power of death has been vanquished.” //
Glory to Your Cross and Resurrection, O Lord!

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

Tone 6

The great Moses mystically foreshadowed this day when he said:
“God blessed the seventh day.”
This is the blessed Sabbath;
this is the day of rest,
on which the only-begotten Son of God rested from all His works.
By suffering death to fulfill the plan of salvation,
He kept the Sabbath in the flesh;
by returning again to what He was,
He has granted us eternal life through His Resurrection, //
for He alone is good and the Lover of man.

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

Tone 1 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Let us praise the Virgin Mary!
The gate of heaven, the glory of the world!
The song of the angels, the beauty of the faithful!
She was born of man, yet gave birth to God!
She was revealed as the heaven, as the temple of the Godhead!
She destroyed the wall of enmity!
She commenced the peace; she opened the Kingdom!
Since she is our foundation of faith,
our defender is the Lord Whom she bore!
Courage! Courage! O People of God!
For Christ will destroy our enemies //
since He is all powerful.

Entrance with the Gospel, "O Gladsome Light," and immediately the Readings:

Old Testament Readings

- 1. Genesis 1:1-13**
- 2. Isaiah 60:1-16**
- 3. Exodus 12:1-11**
- 4. Jonah 1:1-4:11**
- 5. Joshua 5:10-15**
- 6. Exodus 13:20-15:1**

When the Reader comes to the beginning of the Song of Moses at Chapter 15: "Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the Lord, and he spoke saying," he continues in a louder voice:

"Let us sing to the Lord!"

And the choir and the people respond with this refrain, sung after each of the other verses of this song:

For gloriously has He been glorified.

(Verses read while choir sings) (and the Reader concludes:)

For gloriously has He been glorified.

(And we continue the readings from the Old Testament.)

Old Testament Readings

- 7. Zephaniah 3:8-15**
- 8. 3 [1] Kings 17:8-24**
- 9. Isaiah 61:10-62:5**
- 10. Genesis 22:1-18**
- 11. Isaiah 61:1-9**
- 12. 4 [2] Kings 4:8-37**
- 13. Isaiah 63:11-64:5**
- 14. Jeremiah 31:31-34**
- 15. Daniel 3:1-23, Song of the Three Children 1-66 with the verses**

When the Reader comes to verse 34 of the Song of the Three Children:

“Blessed are You in the firmament of Heaven, and to be sung and glorified forever.”

And the choir and the people respond with this refrain, sung after each of the other verses of this song:

Praise the Lord! Sing and exalt Him throughout all the ages!

(Verses read while choir sings) (and the Reader concludes:)

Praise the Lord! Sing and exalt Him throughout all the ages!

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

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

Tone 5 Prokeimenon

Let all the earth worship You and praise You; / let it praise Your Name, O Most High! *(Ps. 65:3)*

V. Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His Name, give glory to His praise! (Ps. 65:1)

Epistle

(91) Romans 6:3-11

(Instead of the “Alleluia,” we sing in Tone 7:)

Arise, O God, judge the earth, for to You belong all the nations! *(Ps. 81:8)*

(Verses read while choir sings) (and the Reader concludes:)

Arise, O God, judge the earth!

(and the Choir concludes:)

For to You belong all the nations!

Gospel

(115) Matthew 28:1-20

(Instead of the Cherubic Hymn, we sing the following:)

Hymn of the Entrance

Let all mortal flesh keep silent,
and in fear and trembling stand,
pondering nothing earthly minded!
For the King of kings, and the Lord of lords,
comes to be slain,
to give Himself as food to the faithful.

Before Him go the ranks of angels:
all the Principalities and Powers;
the many-eyed Cherubim;
and the six-winged Seraphim,
covering their faces, singing the hymn:
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

(Instead of "All of creation rejoices...", we sing the following)

Hymn to the Theotokos

Do not lament Me, O Mother,
seeing Me in the tomb,
the Son conceived in the womb without seed!
For I shall arise
and be glorified with eternal glory as God.
I shall exalt all who magnify you in faith and love.

Communion Hymn

The Lord awoke as one asleep, and arose, saving us. *(Ps. 77:70)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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