

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent - St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)

"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!

Reader reads the rest of Psalm 140 and Psalm 141, then:

STICHERA

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name! Tone 4

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

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

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

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

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. (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.

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

O Lord, Your begetting from the Father is timeless and everlasting.
Your incarnation from the Virgin is beyond words and understanding.
Your descent into hell is terrible for the Devil and his Angels.
You have trampled on death,
rising on the third day,// and granting men incorruption and great mercy.

*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*** (Oh, most glorious wonder)*

The Lord's praises were always on your lips, O holy Father John.
With deep wisdom you searched the Scriptures,
which teach us to deny ourselves.
You became rich in the blessings of grace,//
overthrowing the craftiness of the devil.

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

You washed your soul in a fountain of tears, O most glorious Father John,
keeping vigil for God and gaining His mercy.
Upborne on the wings of prayer, you flew to divine love and beauty.
Now, together with your fellow soldiers, O holy one,//
you dwell in His spiritual light and unending joy.

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

On the wings of faith you raised your mind to God, O holy Father John. / Hating the world's
confusion and vanity, / you took up your cross and followed Him Who sees all things. / You
submitted your rebellious flesh to His guidance, / through the discipline of self-denial,// by the
power of the Holy Spirit.

* Music for St. John Climacus from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at www.oca.org.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 5 (from the Lenten Triodion)

O holy Father,
hearing the Lord's voice in the Gospel,
you spurned the riches and glory of the world.
You cry out to all:
"Love God and find eternal grace!
Set nothing higher than His love;
thus, you will find rest with all the saints, when He comes in glory!" //
Through his prayers guard and save our souls, O Christ!

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.

APOSTICHA

Tone 4 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 2** (from the Lenten Triodion)*

Let us honor John! / He is an earthly angel and a heavenly man, / the adornment of the world, the joy of the virtuous, / the glory of ascetics. / He was planted in the house of God, / and blossomed with the flower of sanctity. / He flourished in the desert like a cedar of Lebanon.// Through him the sheep of Christ’s flock grow in holiness and righteousness.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 2** (Theotokion)*

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles! / Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man, / who carried in her arms her Creator? / This birth is the will of God! / Since you carried Him as an infant in your arms, O most pure one, / and since you possess motherly boldness before Him, / do not cease praying for us who honor you, // that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

TROPARIA

Tone 4 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 1** Troparion (St. John Climacus)*

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,
you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.
You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer,
healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.
Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!//
Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 1** Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion*

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, saying “Rejoice!”
with that word the Master of all was incarnate in ^you,
the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David!
Your womb became more spacious than the heavens,
for you carried your Creator.
Glory to Him Who took abode in you!
Glory to Him Who came ^forth from you!//
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you!