

GREAT VESPERS

Resurrection Tone 6 – Sept 24

Lord, I Call

Tone 6

Lord I call upon Thee, hear me! Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me! Receive the voice of my prayer, when I call upon Thee, hear me O Lord! Let my prayer arise, in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands, be an evening sacrifice, hear me O Lord!

(10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!

Possessing victory over hell, O Christ, since Thou art free among the dead, Thou didst ascend the cross: raising, with Thyself, them that sat in the shades of death, drawing life from Thine own light, O almighty Saviour, have mercy upon us.

(9) The righteous will surround me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Today, Christ trampleth on death; for He is risen, as He said; let us all sing this song, for He hath granted joy to the world: 'O light unapproachable, O fountain of life, O Saviour almighty, have mercy upon us'.

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

Whither shall we sinners flee from Thee, Who art in all creation? In heaven, Thou dwellest; in hell, Thou didst trample on death; in the depths of the sea? Even there is Thy hand, O Master; to Thee, do we flee; and, falling before Thee, we pray: 'O Thou that didst rise from the dead, have mercy upon us'.

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

In Thy cross, we glory, O Christ; we sing, and glorify, Thy resurrection: for Thou art our God; and we know no other than Thee.

(6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

(Tone 6) Forsaking the tumult of the world, / and taking up thy cross, O saint, / thou hast followed Christ without any thought of looking back; / and, going to dwell in the wilderness, / thou hast uprooted the passions of the soul, / and hast mortified the feelings of the flesh; / by frequent vigils, and prayers, thou hast received the grace to heal infirmities; / O fellow-converser with the angels, / and companion of the

venerable, / pray to the Lord, O venerable Sergius, // that our souls may receive mercy.

(5) For Thy name's sake have I waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Who can tell of thy labours and pains, O holy father? / what tongue can speak of thy rigorous life, / thy vigils, and abstinence from food, / thy sleeping upon the cold earth, / thy purity of body and soul, / the complete silence of thy lips and mind, / thy true humility, unceasing prayers, and discerning judgment, / the poverty of thine apparel, / and thy never-failing remembrance of death? / our holy father Sergius, // pray for the salvation of our souls.

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

O holy Father Sergius, / thou hast been revealed to be a physician of our souls and bodies, / a fount of healing for the sick; / adorned with the gift of prophecy, / thou hast spoken of future things; / by thy prayer, O saint, thou hast armed the prince fighting, for his fatherland, / against the boastful barbarians; // and they fell, struck, like the people of Amalek.

(3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

O holy Sergius, wise in God, / thou hast forsaken the glory of the world, / living in the wilderness and the hills; / thou hast been the pure dwelling-place of the Holy Trinity, / by Whose strength, thou hast raised up many holy churches, / and hast built a fortress for the salvation of them living the ascetic life: / Christ our God, Whom thou hast desired from thy youth, / dwelt in thee, O blessed one; / entreat Him, O holy father Sergius, // for the salvation of our souls.

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

(Tone 2) Enduring, with fortitude, the things of the present, / rejoicing in the promise for the future, / O holy Sergius, thou hast said to all: / 'If we, now, strive unrewarded, / we still have hope for eternal life; / our afflictions are grievous; / but paradise is sweet; / our labours are painful; / but our undertaking is everlasting; / wherefore, be not slothful, O people that fast; / let us endure, but a little, that we may be crowned with incorruption // by Christ our God, the Saviour of our souls.

(1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Looking upon afflictions as pleasure, / walking along the straight and narrow way, / most-blessed Sergius, thou hast told thy disciples: / 'Fear not the struggle of

abstinence, by which we may escape the fearful torments of hell; / let our hands be clasped in prayer, that we may reach out to God; / let our feet be established to stand before Him in prayer; / let us not spare the corruptible nature; / let us surrender ourselves willingly to the fight, // that we may be crowned, with triumph, by Christ our God.

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

(Tone 6) Thou hast kept the image of God within thee unharmed, / and, by fasting, hast set thy mind above pernicious passion; / thou hast risen to the Master's divine image as far as man is able, / having restrained thy nature; / thou hast striven to make the lower part obey the higher, / so that the spirit might rule the flesh; / wherefore, thou hast been shewn to be the summit of them living the ascetic life, / a dweller in the wilderness, / a trainer of them that run the good race, / a renowned example of virtue; / O Sergius, our father, / now, in the heavens, thou beholdest, in all purity, the Holy Trinity, // whilst thou prayest on behalf of them that honour thee in faith and love.

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

(Resurrection - Tone 6) Who will not bless thee, O most-holy Virgin? Who will not sing of thy most-pure child-bearing? The only-begotten Son shone, timelessly, from the Father; but, from thee, 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 upon our souls.

Aposticha

(Tone 6) Thy resurrection, O Christ our Saviour, the angels, in heaven, sing; enable us, on earth, to glorify Thee in purity of heart.

The Lord is King /He is robed in majesty.

Destroying the gates of hell, breaking the chains of death, Thou didst resurrect the fallen human race, as almighty God: 'O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee'.

For He hath 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 myrrh-bearing women sought Him, with tears, crying: 'Woe to us, O Saviour; how dost Thou deign to descend to death? What place can hold Thy life-bearing body? Come to us, as Thou didst promise; take away our wailing, and tears'; then, the angel appeared to them: 'Stop your lamentations; go; proclaim to the apostles that the Lord is risen, granting purification, and great mercy'.

Holiness befitteth Thine house / O Lord, forever.

Having been crucified, as Thou didst will, by Thy burial, Thou didst capture death, O Christ, and arise, 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.

(Tone 8) We honour thee, O Sergius our father, / as the instructor of a multitude of monks; / we have, indeed, learned to walk, rightly, in thy footsteps; / blessed art thou; for, having laboured for Christ, / thou hast denounced the power of the enemy; / thou wast a converser with the angels, and a companion of the venerable and righteous; / together with them, entreat the Lord, // that He grant mercy to our souls.

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

O Vír-gin that hast not known a man, * Móth-er of the most-high God, thou hast, in-éf-fa-bly, con-céived God in the flesh; * O Un-de-filed, ac-cépt the sup-pli-cá-tions of thy sér-vants; * for, to all, thou gránt-est cléans-ing from their sins: * re-céive our prayers; ** and in-ter-céde for the sal-vá-tion of us all.

Troparion

(Resurrection -Tone 6) The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men: Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most-pure body; Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it: Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life; O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

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

A zealot of good deeds, * as a true warrior of Christ God, * thou hast struggled, greatly, against the passions in this passing life, * in songs, together with vigils, and fasting, being an image for thy disciples; * wherefore, then, the most-holy Spirit abideth within thee, * Whose working hath adorned thee with light: * so, as thou hast boldness before the Holy Trinity, * remember thou the flock that thou hast gathered, O wise one; * and forget not, as thou hast promised, * to visit thy children, ** O venerable Sergius, our father.

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

The mystery of all eternity, / unknown even by angels, / through thee, O Theotokos, is revealed to them on earth, / God incarnate by union without confusion; / He voluntarily accepted the cross for us: / by which, He resurrected the first-created man, // saving our souls from death.