

AUGUST 23, 2020
LEAVETAKING OF THE DORMITION

GREAT VESPERS

LORD I CALL: Four stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 2, followed by three for the feast Resurrection, tone 2:

Come, let us worship the Word of God
begotten of the Father before all ages,
and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!
Having endured the Cross, He was buried as He himself desired.//
And having risen from the dead, He saved me, the erring one.

Christ our Savior nailed to the Cross the bond against us,
He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//
We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

With the Archangels let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!
He is our Savior, our Redeemer.
He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//
to judge the world which He made.

The Angel proclaimed You as the crucified and buried Master.
He told the women: “Come, see the place where He lay!
He is risen as He said, for He is almighty.”
We worship You, only immortal One.//
O Christ, the Giver of life, have mercy on us!

Feast, tone 1:

O marvelous wonder!
The source of Life is laid in a grave,
and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven.
Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos!
Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:
“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you,//
He that grants the world great mercy through you!”

O the wonder of your mysteries, pure Lady:
you were made the throne of the Most High,
and today you have passed from earth to heaven.
Your glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness.
Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King!
Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you,//
He that grants the world great mercy through you!

The Dominions and Thrones, the Rulers, Principalities and Powers,
the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify your falling asleep.
All those born of earth rejoice,
adorned with honor by your divine glory.
Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels:
“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!”

GLORY...of the feast:

By the divine command the God-bearing Apostles
were caught up by clouds from every place.
When they came to your all-pure body, the source of Life,
they kissed it most reverently.
The highest Powers of heaven were also present with their Master,
and seized with awe they escorted the inviolate body,
the body that had received God in the flesh.
In a manner beyond this world they went before it and invisibly cried out to the ranks above
them:
“Behold, the Queen of all,
the Child of God, has come!
Lift up your gates, and in a manner beyond this world
receive the Mother of the everlasting Light,
for through her was accomplished the salvation of all the mortal race!
We cannot gaze upon her,
nor is it possible to render honor worthy of her,
for her excellence surpasses all understanding.”
Therefore, O immaculate Theotokos,
who live forever with your Son, the life-bearing King,
pray ceaselessly to Him to preserve the new people of God,
and to save them from every hostile assault,
for we have acquired your intercession, //
and to the ages, in manifest splendor, we call you blessed.

NOW AND EVER...the Dogmatikon in tone 2:

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;
as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,
so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.
Instead of a pillar of flame, the Righteous Sun has risen. //
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

APOSTIKHA: All stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 2:

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,
has enlightened the whole universe,
calling back Your creation.//
Glory to You, O almighty Lord!

O Savior, by the Tree You destroyed the curse of the Tree.
By Your burial You mortified the majesty of death.
You have enlightened our race by Your Resurrection.//
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!

O Christ, when You were seen nailed to the Cross,
You restored the beauty of Your creatures.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Your side with a spear.
The Hebrews not knowing Your power asked that Your tomb might be sealed,
but through the mercy of Your compassion,
You accepted the tomb and rose on the third day!//
O Lord, glory to You!

O Christ, the Giver of life,
for the sake of the dead You voluntarily endured death,
descending into hell as the Mighty One
to save those who awaited Your coming,
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.
Grant also to us who glorify Your Resurrection on the third day//
cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

GLORY...NOW AND EVER...of the feast, tone 4:

At your departing, O Virgin Theotokos,
to Him Who was ineffably born of you,
James, the first bishop and brother of the Lord, was there,
and so was Peter, the most honored pinnacle of the theologians,
and the whole sacred choir of the Apostles.
In words of theology that showed forth heavenly things
they sang the praises of the divine and amazing mystery of the dispensation of Christ,
and they rejoiced, O all-praised Virgin, as they buried your body,
the source of Life, which had received God.
On high, the all-holy and most venerable angelic Powers,
in amazement at the wonder, bowed and said to one another:
“Lift up your gates, and receive her who bore the Creator of heaven and earth!”
So we too celebrate your memory
and cry out to you, all-praised Lady://
“Raise up the horn of Christians, and save our souls!”

Troparia

Resurrection, tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
All the powers of heaven cried out:
O Giver O Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Dormition, tone 1

In giving birth,
you preserved your virginity!
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos!
You were translated to life O Mother of Life,
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion, tone 1

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, "Rejoice,"
With that word the Master of all was incarnate in you, O holy Ark.
As the righteous David said,
Your womb became more spacious than the heavens, bearing your Creator.
Glory to Him Who took abode in you.
Glory to Him Who came from you.
Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you.

THE DIVINE LITURGY

TROPARIA

Resurrection, tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
All the powers of heaven cried out:
O Giver O Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Dormition, tone 1

In giving birth,
you preserved your virginity!
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos!
You were translated to life O Mother of Life,
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

KONTAKIA

Resurrection, tone 2

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
Seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee!
And the world, O my Savior praises Thee forever.

Feast, tone 2

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.
For being the Mother of Life,
she was translated to Life by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb.

PROKEIMENON, tone 2: The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.

Vs. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over unto death.

2nd PROK., tone 3: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

EPISTLES: (141) 1 Corinthians 9:2-12 Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Have we not the power to eat and drink? Have we not the power to take along a believing wife, as do also the other Apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working? Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who feeds a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, "Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of an ox that treads out the grain." Is it the oxen that concern God or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope, If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we should hinder the Gospel of Christ.

(240) Philippians 2:5-11 Brethren, Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the Cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the Name which is above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things on earth, and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia in the second tone: May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the Name of the God of Jacob protect thee!

Vs. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call to Thee!

vs. Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness.

GOSPELS: (77) Matthew 18:23-35 The Lord said this parable: “Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle account with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

(54) Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 At that time, as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus’ feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.” And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.” And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, “Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!” but He said, “More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

COMMUNION HYMNS: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. Alleluia....