

**PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY**  
**Saturday, March 20, 2021**  
**(sung on Friday)**

***LORD I CALL***

***From the Triodion, tone 5:***

Come, O faithful,  
let us perform the works of God in the light!  
Let us behave with decency, as befits the day!  
Let us not make unjust accusations against our neighbors  
or place a cause of stumbling in their path!  
Let us lay aside all fleshly pleasures and increase the spiritual gifts of our  
souls!  
Let us give food to those in need,  
drawing near to Christ and crying in repentance://  
“O our God, have mercy on us!”

***For the martyrs, tone 7:***

The martyrs drove out the darkness of godlessness,//  
by revealing to all people the light of the knowledge of God.

O Savior, when You come to judge all the world,  
put me not to shame,//  
though I have done shameful deeds!

Glory to You, O Christ God,  
the Apostles' boast, the martyrs' joy,//  
whose preaching was the consubstantial Trinity!

O holy martyrs,  
who fought the good fight and have received your crowns,//  
entreat the Lord that He will have mercy on our souls.

***For St. Theodore, tone 2:***

Come, all lovers of the martyr,  
let us celebrate and rejoice in spirit!  
Today the Martyr Theodore offers a mystical banquet,  
making us glad in the feast, that we might sing to him:  
“Rejoice, unconquerable bearer of suffering, victor over torturers!  
Rejoice, for you gave your body over to torture for Christ God!  
Rejoice, for by many trials  
you were revealed to be a true soldier of the heavenly army!//  
O adornment of martyrs, pray for our souls!”

You extend the divinely-granted grace of your miracles  
to all who run to you in faith, O Martyr Theodore.  
Therefore we praise you in song:  
“You release the captives,  
heal the sick, reward the poor,  
and save those who are drowning.  
You intercede for all who honor your sacred memory.”  
Entreat Christ to grant great mercy, O holy martyr,//  
to us who praise your suffering!

You were revealed as the highest gift of God, O Martyr Theodore.  
Even after your end, you grant help to those who run to you.  
When the widow came to your temple in tears,  
you appeared in mercy and returned her son,  
who had been taken captive by foreign soldiers.  
You do not cease to work wonders.//  
Entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved!

I honor you as the true “gift of God,” thrice-blessed Theodore.  
You were revealed as an unfailing candle of the Divine Light.  
Your sufferings illumined creation.  
More powerful than fire, you quenched the flames.  
You crushed the head of the evil serpent.  
When you went to your suffering, Christ placed the crown on your divine  
head.  
Since you have boldness before God, O great martyr,//  
fervently pray for our souls!

***Glory... for St. Theodore, tone 6:***

The Devil used the Apostate Emperor as a vessel of evil  
filling him with foul thoughts of polluting the food of the fasting people.  
But you overcame his craftiness with wiser reasoning:  
you appeared to the Archbishop in a dream  
and revealed the wicked plot to him.  
For this we give thanks to you, O Martyr Theodore,  
and honor you as a helper and deliverer.  
Every year we remember this miracle at this season.  
By your intercessions to God,//  
may we be delivered from the reasonings of the Evil One!

***Now & ever... the Dogmatikon in tone 7:***

No tongue can speak of your wonderful childbearing,  
for the order of nature was overruled by God.  
You were revealed to be a Mother above nature,  
for you remained a Virgin beyond reason and understanding.  
Your conception was most glorious, O Theotokos!  
The manner of your giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin!  
Knowing you to be the Mother of God,  
devoutly we pray to you://  
“Beseech Him to save our souls!”

