

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
VENERATION OF THE CROSS

GREAT VESPERS

***LORD I CALL: Six stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 7,
followed by four stikhera from the Triodion***

Triodion, (Special Podoben Melody) tone 5:

Shine O Cross of the Lord!
Shine with the light of grace on the hearts of those honoring you!
O desire of the world, we embrace you with love inspired by God!
By you our tears of sorrow are wiped away,
We are delivered from death, and pass to unending joy!
Show us the glory of your beauty.
And grant to us, your servants,
The rewards of fasting,//
For with faith we beg your protection and great mercy!

Rejoice, O life-giving Cross,
The paradise of the Church
The tree of incorruption that brings us the joy of eternal life!
The demons are driven away by you!
And together the ranks of angels rejoice,
As the congregation of the faithful keeps the feast!
You are a stronghold, an invincible weapon!
You are the victory of kings and the glory of priests!//
Grant us to reach the Passion of Christ and His Resurrection!

Rejoice, O life-giving Cross,
The unconquerable trophy of faith,
Door to paradise, help of the faithful,
And a wall of defense set around the Church!
Through you the curse is destroyed and the power of death is

swallowed up,
And we are raised from earth to heaven!
Invincible weapon, adversary of demons,
Glory of the martyrs, true ornament of the holy monks,//
Haven of salvation giving the world great mercy!

Come, our first parents, Adam and Eve,
Who fell through the envy of the murderer of the human race,
With bitter pleasure you ate of the tree in Paradise
Behold, the tree of the Cross now draws near!
Run to embrace it with joy and cry out with faith:
“You are our help, O precious Cross!
From your fruit we have gained incorruption!
We are again restored to Eden,//
And receive great mercy!”

GLORY...Triodion, tone 3

Wishing to restore all men to life,
You accepted crucifixion, O Christ our God.
Burning with boundless love for man,
You took the quill of the Cross in Your hand;
dipping it in ink of royal crimson,
You signed our release with blood-stained fingers.
Though temptations assault us,
may we never forsake You again!
Have mercy on Your despairing people,
O long-suffering Master!//
Arise and fight Your enemies in Your almighty power!
NOW AND EVER... the Dogmatikon in tone 7

APOSTIKHA: All stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 7

GLORY...NOW AND EVER... Triodion, tone 4:

The humble David
defeated his enemies by Your help, O Lord.
Now come to the aid of Your Orthodox people;
show us Your power as You did of old,
and our adversaries will know that You are God!
And we will be victorious, for we hope in You.
Through the constant intercessions of Your all-pure Mother,//
grant us Your great mercy!

TROPARIA

Resurrection, tone 7

By Your Cross You destroyed death.
To the thief You opened Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.
And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that You are risen,//
granting the world great mercy.

Cross, tone 1:

O Lord, save Your people,
and bless Your inheritance!
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians
over their adversaries;
and by virtue of Your Cross,//
preserve Your habitation!

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion, tone 1

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!

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