

“Lord I Call...” Tone 7

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 in the pew book, then STICHERA:

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name! Tone 7

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,
Who destroyed the dominion of death!
Let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts,
for He enlightened the race of man!//
O our Maker and Savior, glory to You!

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

You endured the Cross and burial for our sake.
By Your death, You destroyed death as God.
We fall down before Your Resurrection on the third day,//
O Savior, glory to You!

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

When the Apostles beheld the Resurrection of the Maker,
they were amazed and sang the angelic praise.
This is the glory of the Church.
This is the richness of the Kingdom.//
O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to You!

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

You were held by lawless men, O Christ,
but to me, You are God, and I am not ashamed.
You were smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny You.
You were nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it,
for I glory in Your Resurrection: Your death is my life.//
O Almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to You!

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

Fulfilling the prophecy of David,
Christ manifested His greatness in Zion to the disciples.
He is praised and always glorified,
together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.
At first as the Word, He was bodiless,
but then He took flesh and was slain for our sake.//
He rose in power as the Lover of man!

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 descended into hell as You willed, O Christ,
overthrowing death as God, and rising on the third day as Master!
With Yourself You raised Adam from the bonds of hell and from corruption!//
Glory to Your Resurrection, O only Lover of man!

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

Tone 1 Simeon, tell us, Whom you bear in your arms,
that you rejoice so greatly in the Temple?
To Whom do you shout and cry aloud:
"Now I am set free, for I have seen my Savior?"
This is He Who was born of a Virgin;
this is God the Word, Who came forth from God,
Who for our sakes has taken flesh and has saved man.//
Let us worship Him!

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

Simeon, tell us, Whom you bear in your arms,
that you rejoice so greatly in the Temple?
To Whom do you shout and cry aloud:
"Now I am set free, for I have seen my Savior?"
This is He Who was born of a Virgin;
this is God the Word, Who came forth from God,
Who for our sakes has taken flesh and has saved man.//
Let us worship Him!

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

Simeon, receive Him Whom Moses once beheld in darkness,
granting the Law on Sinai,
now that He has become a Babe subject to the Law!
This is He Who spoke through the Law.
This is He, of Whom the Prophets spoke,
Who for our sakes has taken flesh and has saved man.//
Let us worship Him!

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

Come, let us also go to meet Christ with divine songs!

Let us receive Him Whose salvation Simeon saw!

This is He Whom David announced;

this is He Who spoke in the Prophets,

Who, for our sakes, has taken flesh and Who speaks through the Law.//

Let us worship Him!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6 Let the gate of heaven be opened today,

for the unoriginate Word of the Father

has made a beginning in time without forsaking His divinity.

As a Babe forty days old,

of His own will He is brought by the Virgin, His Mother,

as an offering in the Temple of the Law.

The Elder receives Him in his arms,

crying as a servant to his Master:

“Set me free for my eyes have seen your Salvation!”//

Glory to You, O Lord, for You have come into the world to save mankind.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Reading is from Exodus. [12,51- 13,16 and selection][1]

The Lord spoke to Moses on the day on which he brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt, saying, ‘Sanctify to me every first-born, first produced that opens every womb among the children of Israel’. And Moses said to the people, ‘Remember this day, on which you came out of Egypt, from the house of slavery, for the Lord has brought you out from there with a mighty hand. And keep his law. And it shall be that when the Lord God brings you into the land of the Chananites, in the way that he swore to your fathers, you shall set apart everything that opens the womb; the males to the Lord. But if after this your son asks you, saying, “What is this?”, you will say to him, “God brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery, with a mighty hand. And when Pharaoh hardened his heart against sending us out, the Lord slew every first-born in the land of Egypt, from the first-born of humans to the first-born of animals. This is why I sacrifice everything that opens the womb; the males to the Lord, and every first-born of my sons I will redeem”. And it will be for a sign upon your hand, and immovable before your eyes, because thus said the Lord the Almighty, “All the first-born of your sons you will give me. [Leviticus 12] And it shall be that everyone who gives birth to a male child shall circumcise the flesh of its foreskin on the eighth day. And for thirty three days he will not come into the sanctuary of God to the Priest, until the days of purification are completed. And after this he will offer an unblemished yearling lamb to the Lord for a holocaust, and a young pigeon or turtle dove to the Priest at the door of the Tabernacle of Witness. Or instead of these he will offer two young pigeons or two turtle doves. And the Priest will make atonement for him. [Numbers] Because these have been offered to me as an offering out of all the children of Israel. And I have taken them and sanctified them for myself in place of the first-born of the Egyptians, on the day when I smote every first-born in the land of Egypt from human to beast of burden,” said God the Most High, the Holy One of Israel.’

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias. [6,1-12]

In the year that King Ozias died, I saw the Lord, seated on a high and exalted throne. And the house was full of his glory. And Seraphim stood around him, the one having six wings and the other having six wings, and with two they covered their faces and with two the feet and with two they flew. And one cried to other and they said, 'Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Sabaoth. The whole earth is full of his glory.' The threshold was lifted up at the voice with which they cried, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said, 'Woe is me! For I am pricked to the heart, because I, a human being, and with unclean lips dwell among a people with unclean lips, and with my eyes I have seen the King, the Lord Sabaoth.' And one of the Seraphim was sent to me, and in his hand he held a burning coal, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. And touched my mouth and said, 'See, this has touched your lips and it will take away your iniquities and cleanse your sins.' And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go to this people?' And I said, 'See, here am I. Send me.' And he said, 'Go, and say to this people, "You will hear and not understand, and seeing, you will see and not perceive." For the heart of this people has grown fat, and they have heard with heavy ears and they have shut their eyes, lest perhaps they perceive with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn back, and I will heal them.' And I said, 'Until when, Lord?' And he said, 'Until the cities are deserted from being inhabited and the houses from there being no people, and the land will be abandoned as desert. And after this God will remove the people far away, and those who are left behind will be multiplied on the land'.

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias. [19,1.3-5.12.16.19-21]

See, the Lord will be seated on a light cloud and will come to Egypt and the idols of Egypt will be shaken at his presence and their heart will be worsted within them. 'And their spirit will be troubled within them, and I will frustrate their counsel and hand Egypt over into the hands of harsh lords,' says the Lord Sabaoth. And the Egyptians will drink water that is beside the sea, while the river will fail and be dried up. Thus says the Lord, 'Where now are your wise men? And let them declare to you and let them say, "What has the Lord Sabaoth planned against Egypt?" On that day the Egyptians will be like women, in fear and trembling in the presence of the hand of the Lord Sabaoth, which he will bring against them. And there will be an Altar to the Lord in the country of the Egyptians and a pillar to Lord at its border. And it will be for a sign for ever to the Lord in the country of Egypt, because they will cry to the Lord and he will send them a man who will save them. And the Lord will be known to the Egyptians. And the Egyptians will know the Lord in that day, and they will offer sacrifice and gift, and they will vow vows to the Lord and pay them.

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Tone 1 The Ancient of Days, Who gave Moses the Law on Sinai in former times, today appears as a Child.

As Maker of the Law, He fulfills the Law.

He is brought into the Temple according to the Law, and given over to the Elder.

Simeon the righteous receives Him.

Beholding the fulfillment of the divine order now brought to pass,
rejoicing aloud, he cries:

“My eyes have seen the mystery hidden from the ages
made manifest in these latter days,
the Light that disperses the foolishness of the faithless Gentiles,
and the Glory of the newly-chosen Israel!
Therefore set free your servant from the bonds of this flesh
to the life filled with wonder that knows no age or end, //
for You grant the world great mercy!”

Tone 1 Today He Who once gave the Law to Moses on Sinai
submits Himself to the commandments of the Law,
becoming for our sakes like us in His compassion.
Now the God of purity as a holy Child has opened a pure womb,
and as God He is brought as an offering to Himself,
setting us free from the curse of the Law, //
and granting light to our souls.

Tone 2 Simeon now receives below in his earthly arms
Him Whom the ministers on high entreat with trembling.
He proclaims the union of God with mankind.
He sees the heavenly God as mortal Man.
He prepares to withdraw from earthly things,
and raises his cry in joy:
“Glory to You, O Lord, for You have revealed to those in darkness //
the Light that knows no evening!”

Tone 2 Today Simeon takes in his arms the Lord of Glory,
Whom Moses saw of old in the darkness
when he received the Tablets of the Law on Mount Sinai.
This is He Who speaks through the Prophets
and Who is the Creator of the Law.
This is He Whom David announced; //
He is fearful to all, yet great and abundant in mercy.

Tone 2 The holy Virgin brought the Holy One to the priest in the sacred Temple.
Simeon, extending his arms, received Him with joy, and cried out:
“Now, Master, set free your servant in peace, //
according to Your word, O Lord!”

Tone 2 Today holy Simeon the Elder
lifted up in his arms the Creator of heaven and earth,
as he said in the Holy Spirit: // “Now I am set free, for I have seen my Savior.”

Tone 2 Today Simeon the Elder enters the Temple, rejoicing in the Spirit, to take into his arms Him Who gave the Law to Moses and Who Himself fulfilled the Law.

Moses was deemed worthy to see God through darkness and as an indistinct voice. With veiled face he reproved the faithless hearts of the Hebrews; while Simeon lifted up the pre-eternal Word of the Father in bodily form, and revealed the Light of the Gentiles: the Cross and the Resurrection. And Anna the Prophetess pointed out the Savior, proclaiming Him the Deliverer of Israel.

Let us cry out to Him://

“O Christ our God, through the Theotokos, have mercy on us!”

Tone 4 Today the holy Mother who is even more exalted than the Temple, has come into the Temple, clearly showing to the world the Creator of the world and the Giver of the Law. Simeon the Elder receives Him in his arms and honors Him, crying out:

“Now let Your servant depart in peace, //
for I have seen You, the Savior of our souls!”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; **Tone 5** *(by Andrew of Crete)*

Search the Scriptures, just as Christ our God said in the Gospels!

For in them we find Him being brought forth and wrapped in swaddling clothes, laid in a manger, and nourished with milk, receiving circumcision and held by Simeon, neither in fancy nor in fantasy but in truth appearing to the world.

Let us cry aloud to Him://

“O pre-eternal God, glory to You!”

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen **Tone 5** *(by Germanos or Anatolius)*

The Ancient of Days, as a Child in the flesh, is brought by His Mother the Virgin into the Holy Temple, fulfilling the promise announced by His own Law.

Receiving Him, Simeon said:

“Now set free Your servant in peace, according to Your word, //
for my eyes have seen Your Salvation, O Lord!”

When the singers have completed the stichera, the deacon says:

God, save your people and bless your inheritance, watch over your world in mercy and compassions, lift up the horn of right-glorifying Christians and send down upon us your rich mercies, through the intercessions of our all-pure lady the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven, through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and teachers of the world

Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John the Golden-mouth; Athanasius and Cyril, John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas, archbishop of Myra and Spyridon the bishop of Trimethos, the wonderworkers; of the holy glorious and right-victorious martyrs, of the holy glorious great martyrs George the trophy-bearer, Demetrios the myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Recruit and Theodore the Commander, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all your saints, we implore you, only Lord full of mercy, hear us the sinners who pray to you and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (40 and 3)

Again we pray for our rulers, that the Lord our God works together with them and makes them prosper in all.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Again we pray for our Archbishop and father (name).

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Again we pray for every Christian soul distressed and weary, in need of God's mercy and help, for the protection of this holy house and those who dwell in it, for the peace and stillness of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, for the salvation and help of our fathers and brothers who with diligence and fear of God labor and serve, for those who are absent and those who are abroad, for the healing of those who lie in infirmity, for the repose, blessed memory and remission of sins of all our right-glorifying fathers and brethren gone before us, who piously lie asleep here and everywhere, for deliverance of the imprisoned, and for all who serve and have served in this holy house, let us say:

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3 and 40 and 3)

Again we pray that this holy house, and every city, monastery, and countryside be kept from pestilence, famine, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, invasion of enemies, civil war, and sudden death; that our good God who loves mankind be gracious, favorable, and conciliatory, and turn away and dispel all the wrath and illness stirred up against us, and deliver us from his looming righteous threat, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (40 and 10 and 3)

Again we pray that the Lord God will hear the voice of our supplication, of the sinners, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Priest: Hear us, God, our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, Master, be gracious to us, upon our sins, and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace to all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

All bow their heads as the priest says the following prayer aloud:

Master full of mercy, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the intercessions of our all-pure Lady the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven, through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and teachers of the world Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John the Golden-mouth; Athanasius and Cyril, John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas archbishop of Myra and Spyridon the bishop of Trimethos, the wonderworkers; of the holy glorious and right-victorious martyrs, of the holy glorious great martyrs George the trophy-bearer, Demetrios the myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Recruit and Theodore the Commander, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all your saints, make our supplication acceptable, grant us remission of our trespasses, shelter us in the shelter of your wings, drive away from us every enemy and adversary, make our life peaceful, Lord, have mercy on us and on your world and save our souls, for you are good and love mankind.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls. (*x1*)

Choir: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls. (*twice*)

The priest takes one of the loaves from the five loaves and with it makes the sign of the cross over the loaves.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ our God, who blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and with them fed the five thousand, yourself also bless these loaves, the wheat, the wine and the oil, and multiply them in this holy city and in the whole world; and sanctify your faithful servants who will partake of them. For it is you who bless and sanctify all things, Christ our God, and to you we send up glory, together with your unoriginate Father and your all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Rich men have turned poor * and gone hungry; * but they that seek the Lord * shall not be deprived of any good thing. (*once*)

Choir: Rich men have turned poor * and gone hungry; * but they that seek the Lord * shall not be deprived of any good thing. (*twice*)

APOSTICHA

Tone 7 As the Savior of the world You arose from the tomb.

As God You resurrected the race of man with Your flesh.//

O Lord, glory to You!

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

Come, let us worship the One Who rose from the dead,
and enlightened all creation!

By His death, He saved us from the torments of hell.//

By His Resurrection He has granted us eternal life and great mercy.

V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

You descended into hell, capturing death, O Christ.

In three days You arose again,

resurrecting us who glorify Your Resurrection,//

O Lord and Lover of man.

V. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!

When You were placed in the tomb as one asleep,

the sight was great and awesome.

But when You rose on the third day as almighty God,

You resurrected Adam with Yourself.//

Glory to Your Resurrection, only Lover of man!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 8 He Who is borne on high by the Cherubim

and praised in hymns by the Seraphim

is brought today according to the Law into the holy Temple

and rests in the arms of the Elder as on a throne.

From Joseph He receives gifts fitting for God:

a pair of doves, a symbol of the spotless Church

and of the newly chosen people of the Gentiles,

and two young pigeons,

for He is the originator of the two Covenants, both Old and New.

Simeon, now granted the fulfillment of the prophecies concerning himself,

blesses the Virgin and Theotokos Mary.

He foretells in figures the Passion of her Son.

From Him he begs release, crying aloud:

“Now, Master, set me free as You have promised me,

for I have seen the pre-eternal Light//

and the Lord and Savior of the people who bear the Name of Christ!”

TROPARIA

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.

(twice without Glory...now...) **Tone 1** Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,
enlightening those who sat in darkness.
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder,
you accepted in your arms the ^Redeemer of our souls, //
Who grants us the Resurrection!

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Antiphons of the Feast

Small Entrance

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright!

Priest: The Lord has named known his Salvation, before all the nations he has revealed his
Righteousness. Son of God, who were borne in the arms of the righteous Symeon, save
us who sing to you: Alleluia!

Tone 7 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

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.

Tone 1 Troparion *(Feast)*

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,
enlightening those who sat in darkness.
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder,
you accepted in your arms the ^Redeemer of our souls, //
Who grants us the Resurrection!

(saint or feast of the temple)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 1 Kontakion *(Feast)*

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb
and blessed Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God.
Now You have come and saved us through love.
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, //
O only Lover of Man!

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Song of the Theotokos)*

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
(Lk. 1:46-47)

V. For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, all generations will call me blessed. (Lk. 1:48)

Epistle
(316) Hebrews 7:7-17

Tone 8
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Now set free your servant, Master, according to your word in peace, for my eyes have seen your Salvation! (Luke 2:29)

V. Light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the Glory of your people Israel. (Luke 2:32)

Gospel
(7) Luke 2:22-40

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Tone 3 O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians,
protect, preserve, and save those who hope in you!

In the shadow and letter of the Law,
let us the faithful discern a figure:
every male [child] that opens the womb
is holy to God.

Therefore we magnify the firstborn Word of the Father Who has no beginning, //
the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

Communion Hymn

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

(Instead of "We have seen the true Light...", we sing:)

Tone 1 Troparion *(Feast)*
Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!...