

PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY ON MARCH 31, 2021 TONE 4; THIRD WEDNESDAY IN GREAT LENT

REPOSE OF OUR RIGHTEOUS MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT; MARTYRS GERONTIOS AND BASILIDES;
HOLY AND JUST AHAZ, KING OF JUDAH; VENERABLE EUTHYMIOS, WONDERWORKER OF SUZDAL

- For the full, invariable parts of the Presanctified Divine Liturgy, consult “[The Liturgikon](#)” (P. 327-367); “[Ninth Hour, Typica and Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts](#)” by the Department of Sacred Music; and the digital text available in [PDF](#) and [RTF](#).

“O LORD I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE FOUR

For the Third Wednesday in Tone Four

Verse 10. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.

I have blindly squandered my father’s riches. I am now empty, living in a land of evil men. In my foolishness, I have become like the senseless beasts, and am now stripped of every divine grace. So in my return, I cry to Thee, O merciful and compassionate Father: I have sinned, O God, receive me in repentance and have mercy on me.

Verse 9. The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.

I have blindly squandered ... (repeat above)

Verse 8. Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

O martyrs of the Lord, inspired sacrifices, perfect victims for God, sheep who know God and are known by Him, whose pasture cannot be trespassed by wolves, pray that we too may graze with ye near peaceful waters.

For the Third Wednesday in Tone Six

Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

You were revealed as the rays of the spiritual Sun, O apostles who beheld our God, entreat Him to illumine our souls and deliver us from the darkness of passions, so that we may behold the saving day. By your intercessions and prayers may our hearts be purified, the hearts wounded by the evil one. And we will honor you in faith forever, for you saved the world by your wise preaching.

Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

I, the prodigal, have wandered away into a land of evil, and I have squandered the riches which Thou hadst given me. Now I am pining with hunger, O compassionate Father. Clothed in the shame of transgression, I am now stripped of righteous deeds and grace. I cry to Thee: I have sinned, but I know Thy goodness. Receive me as one of Thy servants, O compassionate Christ, through the prayers of the apostles who loved Thee.

Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

O apostles of the Savior, lights and benefactors and saviors of the world, seers of God’s glory and heaven, adorned with miracles and signs of healing, fervently pray to the Lord for us so that our prayers may be accepted. May we all be made worthy of seeing and kissing the life-bearing Cross with fear. In worshipping it, send down on us Thy mercy, O Savior, as the Lover of mankind.

For St. Mary of Egypt in Tone Six (Having laid up all their hope**)**

Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.
Though thy body, which had been * defiled with reckless abandon, * hindered thee from vision
of * the august and holy things * thou didst long to see, * yet did thy consciousness * and thy clear
perception * of the deeds that thou hadst done before * graciously work a turn * in thee for the
better, O godly-wise; * for when thou hadst looked on the pure * icon of the blest Mother of our
God, * thou, on passing judgment * against thyself for all thy former sins, * didst freely worship
the precious Wood, * Mary, who art praised of all.

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

Though thy body, which had been ... (repeat above)

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Worshipping with joy of heart * the places hallowed by Christ God, * in thyself thou didst receive
* a saving viaticum * for the virtues' path; * filled with zeal and good cheer, * thou didst run the
good course; * and on crossing past the Jordan's streams, * thou dweltest eagerly * where the holy
Baptist had lived before. * And by thy righteous way of life, * thou didst tame the passions
ferocity, * godly-minded Mary, * our Mother ever-mem'orable in truth; * for thou hadst quelled
with thine abstinence *all the tumults of the flesh.

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Dwelling in the wilderness, * thou didst religiously blot out * from thy soul the images * of thy
passions, and with all * virtues and travails, * didst inscribe in thy soul * that most Godlike
image; * and thou shonest so exceedingly * that thou didst lightly walk * on the very waters with
nimble step; * and thou wast lifted in the air * during thine entreaties and prayers to God. * All-
glorious Mary, * as thou with boldness now dost stand before * the Savior Christ, do thou
fervently * pray Him in our souls' behalf.

THEOTOKION FROM THE MENAION IN TONE SIX

(**Having laid up all their hope**)

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

Ready is that marriage feast * made for the Heavenly Bridegroom; * even now the heralds cry; *
why, O darkened soul, dost thou * tarry willingly? * Truly thy garments are * all exceeding filthy
* with licentious deeds and lewd desires; * how shalt thou enter in, * thou unhappy wretch? But
before the end * come fall thou down and cry aloud * to the Ever-virgin with all thy heart: *
Sprinkle me and cleanse me, * O pure one, with the hyssop of thy prayers; * vouchsafe that bride-
chamber unto me, * so that I may magnify thee.

- *The clergy make the Holy Entrance with the censer, and then we say:*

O GLADSOME LIGHT

O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Lo now that we have come to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light, we hymn Thee: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be magnified by joyous voices, O Son of God and Giver of life. Wherefore the whole world doth glorify Thee.

THE OLD TESTAMENT PASSAGES

The First Reading

Deacon: The Evening Prokeimenon!

Reader: I have hoped in the mercy of God forever, and unto ages of ages. Why dost thou boast in evil, O mighty man, and in iniquity all the day long.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Genesis. (7:6-9)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the ark, to escape the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah.

At the end of the first reading, the Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, and the reader reads the Prokeimenon for the second reading.

The Second Reading

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: When God hath turned back the captivity of His people, Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad. The fool hath said in his heart: There is no God.

Command!

The people kneel. The Priest turns toward the Prothesis Table, elevates the censer and the candle, which are in his right hand at head level and makes the sign of the cross:

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Then standing in the Holy Doors, he bows to the Icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

Priest: The Light of Christ...

He then blesses the people, making the sign of the cross with the censer and the candle, and continues...

Priest: ...illumineth all!

The people stand and the Priest returns to the Holy Table and gives away the candle and censer as the Deacon says:

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Proverbs. (9:12-18)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it. The Woman folly is noisy; she is wanton and knows no shame. She sits at the door of her house, she takes a seat on the high places of the town, calling to those who pass by, who are going straight on their

way, “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!” And to him who is without sense she says, “Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.” But he does not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of the grave.

- *The Presanctified Divine Liturgy continues as usual.*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother, by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; of our father among the saints, Gregory the Dialogist, pope of Rome, whose Presanctified Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and the protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of our righteous mother Mary of Egypt; Martyrs Gerontios and Basilides; holy and just Ahaz, king of Judah; and Venerable Euthymios, wonderworker of Suzdal, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy upon us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Choir: Amen.

As the people come forward to reverence the Holy Cross, the Reader recites Psalms 33 and 144. Afterward, the priest concludes the Presanctified Divine Liturgy.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

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