

APRIL 27  
Lazarus Saturday  
Vespers alone (sung on Friday)

“Lord I Call...” Tone 6

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me. • Hear me, O Lord. • Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me. • Receive the voice of my prayer, • when I call upon Thee. • Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise • in Thy sight as incense, • and let the lifting up of my hands • be an evening sacrifice. • Hear me, O Lord.

*Tone 6, from the Lenten Triodion, by Emperor Leo*

*(6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

Wishing to see the tomb of Lazarus, O Lord, • since of Thine own will, Thou wast soon to  dwell  in a tomb, • Thou didst ask: “Where have you  laid  him?” • Learning that which was already  known  to Thee, • Thou didst cry to Thy beloved friend: “ Lazarus , come forth.” • and he who had no breath obeyed the Lord Who  gave  him breath, • for Thou art the  Savior  of our souls.

*(5) For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

**REPEAT:** Wishing to see the tomb of Lazarus, O Lord, • since of Thine own will, Thou wast soon to  dwell  in a tomb, • Thou didst ask: “Where have you  laid  him?” • Learning that which was already  known  to Thee, • Thou didst cry to Thy beloved friend: “ Lazarus , come forth.” • and he who had no breath obeyed the Lord Who  gave  him breath, • for Thou art the  Savior  of our souls.

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

Thou hast come to the place of the burial of Lazarus, O Lord, • the tomb of a man  four  days dead. • Weeping for Thy friend, O Bread of Life, Thou didst  raise  him up. • Therefore death was  bound  by Thy voice, • and grave clothes were  loosened  by Thy hand. • The band of disciples was  filled  with joy. • One song of adoration was  sung  by all: • “Blessed art Thou, O Savior. Have  mercy  on us.”

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

Thy voice destroyed the kingdom of  hell , O Lord. • Thy powerful word raised from the tomb the one who was  four  days dead. • Lazarus became the saving first-fruits

of the world's regeneration. • All things are possible for Thee, O Lord and King of all. • Grant Thy servants cleansing and great mercy.

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

Thou didst come to the tomb of Lazarus, O Lord, • and didst call him by name, • wishing to assure Thy disciples of Thine own Resurrection. • Hell was vanquished. • It released Lazarus who was four days dead. • He cried out to Thee: • “Glory to Thee, O blessed Lord.”

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

Thou didst come to Bethany to wake Lazarus, O Lord, • accompanied by Thy disciples. • Thou didst weep for him, • but he was raised by Thine almighty power. • A man four days dead cried to Thee, O our Savior: • “Glory to Thee, O blessed Lord.”

*Tone 8, from the Lenten Triodion, by Andrew the Blind*

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

We have completed the forty days that profit our souls. • Let us sing: “Rejoice, city of Bethany, home of Lazarus. • Rejoice, Mary and Martha, his sisters. • Tomorrow Christ will come and raise your dead brother to life. • Bitter and unsatisfied, hell will hear His voice. • Shaking and groaning, it will release bound Lazarus. • The assembly of Hebrews will be amazed. • They will greet Him with palms and branches. • Though their priests and elders look on Him with envy and malice, • the children shall praise Him in song: • ‘Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord, • the King of Israel.’”

*Tone 6, Prokeimenon*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth. *(Psalm 123:8)*

“If it had not been the Lord Who was on our side,” let Israel now say. *(Psalm 123:1a)*

*Reading from Genesis (49:33-50:26)*

*Tone 6, Prokeimenon*

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. *(Psalm 124:1)*

For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest upon the land allotted to the righteous. *(Psalm 124:3a)*

*Reading from Proverbs (31:8-31)*

*Aposticha*

### *Tone 8, Idiomelon, from the Lenten Triodion*

We have completed the forty days that profit our souls. • Now let us beg the Lover of man: • enable us to see the Holy Week of Thy Passion, • that we may glorify Thy mighty work, • Thy wonderful plan for our salvation, • as we sing with one heart and voice: • “O Lord, glory to Thee.”

*To Thee I lift up mine eyes, O Thou Who art enthroned in the heavens. Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us. (Psalm 122:1-2)*

**REPEAT:** We have completed the forty days that profit our souls. • Now let us beg the Lover of man: • enable us to see the Holy Week of Thy Passion, • that we may glorify Thy mighty work, • Thy wonderful plan for our salvation, • as we sing with one heart and voice: • “O Lord, glory to Thee.”

*Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud. (Psalm 122:3-4)*

### *Tone 8, for the Martyrs*

O martyrs of the Lord, • we beseech you to intercede with our God, • that He may forgive our many sins, • and grant our souls abundant mercy.

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

### *Tone 8*

Standing by the tomb of Lazarus, O Savior, • Thou didst call to Thy friend, who was dead. • He heard Thy voice, and awoke as from sleep. • Mortality was shaken by immortality. • By Thy word the bound was unbound. • All is possible. All things serve and submit to Thee, O loving Lord. • O our Savior, glory to Thee.

### *Tone 1, Troparion*

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion, • Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God. • Like the children with the palms of victory, • we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: • “Hosanna in the highest. • Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.”

### *At the Divine Liturgy on Saturday Morning*

### *Tone 1, Troparion*

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• we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: • “Hosanna in the highest. • Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.”

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

### **Tone 2, Kontakion**

Christ, the Joy, the Truth, and the Light of all, • the Life of the world, and the Resurrection, • has appeared in His goodness to those on earth. • He has become the Image of our Resurrection, • granting divine forgiveness to all.

*Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:*

As many as have been baptized into Christ, • have put on Christ. Alleluia.

### **Tone 3, Prokeimenon**

The Lord is my Light and my Savior. Whom shall I fear? *(Psalm 26:1)*

The Lord is the defender of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid? *(Psalm 26:2)*

### **Epistle**

(333-ctr) Hebrews 12:28-13:8

### **Tone 5**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty. *(Psalm 92:1a)*

For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved. *(Psalm 92:2)*

### **Gospel**

(39) John 11:1-45

*Instead of “It is truly meet...,” we sing:*

Come, all people, let us honor the pure Theotokos. • She conceived the divine Fire within her womb, yet was not consumed. • Let us magnify her in song.

### **Communion Hymn**

Out of the mouths of babes and infants, Thou hast fashioned perfect praise. *(Psalm 8:2a)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon’s Monastery and to those translators whose work*

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