

**LITURGICAL TEXTS FOR SUNDAY**  
**March 23, 2008**  
**Second Sunday of Great Lent and the**  
**Commemoration of St. Gregory Palamas, Bishop of Thessalonica**  
**Tone 2 / Eothinon 10**

**Saints of the Day:** Venerable-martyr Nikon of Sicily and with him 199 disciples; Venerable-martyr Luke of St. Anne Skete on Athos

**GREAT VESPERS**

1.) We say the Sunset Psalm 104(103)

2.) We chant "O Lord, I have cried ..." in Tone 2 with ten stichera:

Six stichera for the Resurrection from the Octoechos (Nassar, 145; Kazan, Vesp., 18)

Four Second Sunday of Great Lent (Lenten Triodion, 314; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 42)

**Tone 2**

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

Come ye, let us worship him who was born of the Father before all time, the Word of God, incarnate of the Virgin Mary; for he did submit to crucifixion by his own choice, was delivered to burial as he himself willed, rose from the dead, and saved me, who was lost.

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

Verily, Christ our Savior nailed to his Cross the handwriting of the decree, and did expunge it. And he abolished the might of death. Let us therefore adore his third-day Resurrection.

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

Come, let us with the archangels praise the Resurrection of Christ; for he is the Redeemer and Savior of our souls, and he it is who will come with fearful magnificence and glorious might to judge the world which he hath created.

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

O thou who wast crucified and wast buried, the angel did proclaim thee, that thou art the Master, saying to the women, Come ye and behold where the Lord was laid; for he is risen as he said; for he is the Almighty One, and therefore, do we worship thee, O thou who alone art deathless; O Christ, Giver of life, have mercy upon us.

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

With thy Cross thou didst abolish the curse of the tree; with thy Death and Burial thou didst cause the might of death to die; and with thy Resurrection thou didst enlighten mankind. Wherefore, do we cry to thee, O Christ our God, the Benefactor, glory to 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 Lord, verily, the gates of death were opened to thee for fear of thee. And as the gate-keepers of hades saw thee they did tremble; for thou didst break asunder its brazen gates; didst crush its iron bars; didst bring us out from the shadow and darkness of death; and didst break our bonds asunder.

## **Tone 2**

Second Sunday of Great Lent (Lenten Triodion, 314; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 42)

Verse 4: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

What hymns of praise shall we sing in honor of the holy bishop? He is the trumpet of theology, the herald of the fire of grace, the honored vessel of the Spirit, the unshaken pillar of the Church, the great joy of the inhabited earth, the river of wisdom, the candle-stick of the light, the shining star that makes glorious the whole creation.

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

What hymns of praise shall we sing in honor of the holy bishop? He is the trumpet of theology, the herald of the fire of grace, the honored vessel of the Spirit, the unshaken pillar of the Church, the great joy of the inhabited earth, the river of wisdom, the candle-stick of the light, the shining star that makes glorious the whole creation.

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

What words of song shall we weave as a garland, to crown the holy bishop? He is the champion of true devotion and the adversary of ungodliness, the fervent protector of the Faith, the great guide and teacher, the well-tuned harp of the Spirit, the golden tongue, the fountain that flows with waters of healing for the faithful, Gregory the great and marvelous.

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

With what words shall we who dwell on earth praise the holy bishop? He is the teacher of the Church, the herald of the light of God, the initiate of the heavenly mysteries of the Trinity, the chief adornment of the monastic life, renowned alike in action and in contemplation, the glory of Thessalonica; and now he dwells in heaven with the great and glorious martyr Demetrius, whose relics flow with holy oil.

## **Tone 6**

Second Sunday of Great Lent for St. Gregory (Nassar, 676; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 46)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

O Thrice-Blessed, righteous, and most holy Father, the good shepherd and Disciple of Christ, the chief of shepherds, seek now, O thou who didst also give himself for the sheep, O God-mantled Father Gregory, that by thine intercessions we may be granted the Great Mercy.

## **Tone 2**

Resurrection (Nassar, 676; Kazan Vesp., 30)

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen

O Virgin, verily, the shadow of the law hath been annulled by the coming of thy grace; for as the bush was burning but not consumed, so didst thou give birth while yet a Virgin. And instead of the pillar of fire, the Sun of justice shone forth; and instead of Moses, Christ the Savior of our souls.

3.) The Entrance is made with the censer, and we chant "O gladsome Light ..." followed by the Prokeimenon "The Lord is King ..." in Tone 6 with its stichoi.

4.) At the Aposticha, we chant four stichera for the Resurrection from the Octoechos in Tone 2 (Nassar, 146; 123)

## **Tone 2**

Thy Resurrection, O Christ Savior, hath illumined, the whole universe. Thou hast renewed thy creation, O Lord Almighty. Glory to thee.

Verse 1: The Lord is King and hath put on glorious apparel, The Lord hath put on His apparel and hath girt Himself with strength.

By the Tree, O Savior, thou hast removed the curse that was caused by a tree; and by thy Burial thou hast caused the might of death to die. Thou hast illumined our race by thy Resurrection. Wherefore, do we shout to thee, O Christ our Lord, Giver of life, glory to thee.

Verse 2: For He hath established the world so that it shall never be moved.

O Christ, when thou wast seen nailed upon the Cross, thou didst invert the beauty of creation. Yet withal did the soldiers show brutality when they pierced thy side with a spear. And the Hebrews comprehended not the might of thine authority, seeking to seal thy tomb. But thou who for the compassion of thy mercies didst accept a tomb, and didst rise in three days, O Lord, glory to thee.

Verse 3: Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, forever.

O Christ God, O Giver of life, thou didst bear the Passion willingly for the sake of the dead. Thou didst descend into hades for thou art mighty, and didst snatch away from the hand of the proud one those who there awaited thy coming, bestowing paradise upon them for an abode instead of hades, Wherefore, we supplicate thee to give us who glorify thy third-day Resurrection forgiveness of sins, and the Great Mercy.

## **Tone 8**

Second Sunday of Great Lent for St. Gregory (Nassar, 676; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 47)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Thy tongue, awakened unto doctrines, hath sounded in the hearing of our hearts, rousing the souls of the tardy; and thy God-speaking words have become a ladder transporting those on earth to God. Wherefore, O Gregory, wonder of Thessalonica, cease not to intercede with Christ God to illuminate with his divine light those who honor thee.

**Tone 8**

For the Theotokos - Resurrection (Nassar, 193; Kazan, Vesp., 156)

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Virgin without groom, blameless one, Mother of the high God; O thou who didst conceive in the flesh in an inexplicable way, receive the petitions of thy servants, O thou who bestowest on all the purification of sins; and in receiving our petitions beseech thou for the salvation of us all.

5.) St. Simeon's Prayer and Holy God...

6.) At the Apolytikia, we chant:

**Tone 2**

The Resurrection from the Octoechos (Nassar, 147; Kazan Vesp., 163)

When thou didst submit thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal one, then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly pow'r, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the pow'rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee O Christ thou giver of life glory to Thee.

**Tone 8**

Second Sunday of Great Lent for St. Gregory (Nassar, 676; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 50)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

Theotokion of the Resurrection (Nassar, 193; Kazan Vesp., 176)

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thou who for our sake wast born of a Virgin, and didst suffer crucifixion, O Good One, and didst despoil death through Death, and as God didst reveal resurrection; despise not those whom thou hast created with thine own hand; show forth thy love for mankind, O merciful One, accept the intercessions of thy Mother, the Theotokos, for us; and save thy despairing people, O our Savior.

7.) At the Great Dismissal we say, "May he who has risen from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother, ... Through the prayers

## ORTHROS

- 1.) At the beginning of Orthros the Troparia and Theotokion  
("O Lord, save Thy people... Do Thou who of Thine own good will... O champion dread...")  
are always said/intoned and are NEVER chanted.
- 2.) All six of the Orthros Psalms must be said in their entirety.  
(*Note: In the Kazan Byzantine Music volume for Orthros, there is an omission in the first introductory stichos. It should read, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men." Please make this correction in your books.*)
- 3.) After the Litany of Peace and the exclamation "For unto Thee are due..."  
Chant "God is the Lord..." with its stichoi

### **Tone 2**

The Resurrection from the Octoechos (Nassar, 147; Kazan Sun. Mat., 12)

When thou didst submit thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal one, then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly pow'r, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the pow'rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee O Christ thou giver of life glory to Thee.

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- 4.) The Little Ektenia is intoned with the exclamation "For Thine is the might..."
- 5.) The Kathismata are all from the Octoechos. Tone 2 (Nassar, 147; Kazan Sun. Mat., 34)
- 6.) Benedictions (Evlogetaria) in Tone 5.
- 7.) The Little Litany is intoned with the exclamation "For blessed is Thy Name ..."

- 8.) The Hypakoë, Anabathmoi and the Prokeimenon with its accompanying stichos are all from the Octoechos Tone 2. (Nassar, 148; Kazan, Sun. Mat., 48).
- 9.) The 10<sup>th</sup> Eothinon Gospel (Nassar, 214) is chanted from the Holy Table.
- 10.) Following "In that we have beheld the Resurrection of Christ ..."  
(Nassar, 113; Serv. Bk., 66; Kazan Sun. Mat., 66)
- 11.) Psalm 50 (Nassar, 82; Serv. Bk., 66; Kazan Sun. Mat., 66)
- 12.) Troparia following Psalm 50 (Nassar 606; Kazan Triodion Vol. 1, 7)  
**(This order to be followed until the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent)**  
Tone 8: Glory...: "Open to me the doors of repentance..."  
Tone 8: Now...: "Prepare for me the ways of salvation..."  
Tone 6: "O merciful one, have mercy on me, God..."  
Tone 6: "If I think upon the multitude..."
- 13.) The Intercession then follows.
- 14.) Katabasia for the Akathist in Tone 4 (Nassar, 114; Kazan Sun. Mat., 66; Serv. Bk., 67)

#### **Tone 4**

Ode 1. I shall open my mouth and it shall be filled with the Spirit; and I shall speak forth to the Queen and Mother. I shall be seen joyfully singing her praises, and I shall delight to sing of her wonders.

Ode 3. As a living and copious fountain, O Theotokos, do thou strengthen those who hymn thy praises, and are joined together in spiritual company for thy service; and in thy divine glory make them worthy of crowns of glory

Ode 4. He who sits in clouds of glory upon the throne of Godhead, Jesus the most high God, came with mighty hand and saved those who cried out unto him: "Glory to thy power, O Christ."

Ode 5. All creation was amazed at thy divine glory, for thou, O unwedded Virgin, didst hold in thee the God of all, and didst bear the Eternal Son, who rewards with salvation all those who hymn thy praises.

Ode 6. As we the Godly minded, celebrate this divine and all-honorable feast of the Mother of God: let us clap our hands together and glorify the God whom she bore.

Ode 7. The godly-minded children worshipped not the creature rather than the Creator, but trampling upon the threat of fire in manly fashion, they rejoiced and sang: "O All-praised Lord and God of our Fathers, blessed art thou."

Let us praise, bless, and worship the Lord.

Ode 8. The three holy children in the furnace the Child of the Theotokos saved; then was the type, now is its fulfillment, and the whole world gathers to sing: "All ye works praise the Lord and magnify him unto all ages."



15.) Magnification " More honorable..." with its verses; (Serv. Bk., 70; Kazan Sun. Mat., 76)

Verse: My soul doth magnify the Lord; and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

Refrain: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: thou who without stain bearest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Verse: For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaid; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. (Refrain)

Verse: For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His Name; and His mercy is on them that fear him, through out all generations. (Refrain)

Verse: He hath showed strength in his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. (Refrain)

Verse: He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and the meek. He hath filled the empty with good things, and the rich hath he sent away empty. (Refrain)

Verse: He remembering his mercy hath helped his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever. (Refrain)

16.) Ninth Ode of the Katabasia for the Akathist, "Let all Earth born mortals..."  
(Nassar, 116; Kazan Sun. Mat., 80; Serv. Bk., 71)

#### **Tone 4**

Let all the earth-born mortals rejoice in the Spirit, bearing their lamps. And let the nature of disembodied minds celebrate with honor the holy festival of the Mother of God, and cry out: "Hail, O all-blessed, pure, and ever-Virgin Theotokos."

17.) The Little Litany is intoned with the exclamation "For all the powers of heaven..."

18.) Exaposteilaria we chant "Holy is the Lord our God. (thrice) ... Exalt ye the Lord our God and worship at His footstool for He is holy." Then we chant the following:

#### **Tone 2**

Eothinon 10 (Nassar, 215; Kazan Sun. Mat., 100)

Verily, the two sons of Zebedee with Peter and Nathaniel and two others and Thomas were fishing in the Lake of Tiberias, who by the command of Christ cast the net on the right side and drew out much fish. And when Peter knew Him he came to Him swimming. This, then, was a third appearance of the Lord, when He showed them bread and fish on the live coals.

**Tone 2**

St. Gregory (Nassar, 677; Kazan Triod. Vol. 2, 65)

Rejoice, O pride of the Fathers and mouth-piece of those who speak in theology, O dwelling-place of calm and house of wisdom, leader of teachers, and sea of intellect. Rejoice, O instrument of work, O end of vision, and healer of human illness. Rejoice, O Father, treasure of the Spirit, alive and dead.

O Lady, queen of all, embrace us in our sorrows. Be present on the Last Day, the day of tribulation, lest Satan, hades, and destruction overrule us. Make us all stand upright before the terrible tribune of thy Son, without offense, by thine intercessions, O Lady Theotokos.

19.) Praises (Ainoi) in Tone 2 with eight stichera:

Five stichera for the Resurrection (Nassar, 150; Kazan, Sun. Mat., 111)

Three stichera Second Sunday of Great Lent for St. Gregory in Tone 1  
(Nassar, 677; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 67)

**Tone 2**

Resurrection from the Octoechos (Nassar, 150)

Verse 8: This glory shall be to all His saints.

All creatures glorify thee, O Lord, with every breath; for by the Cross thou didst abolish death, that thou mightest manifest to the nations thy Resurrection from the dead; for thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

Verse 7: Praise God in His sanctuary: praise Him in the firmament of His power.

Answer, O Jews, how was it that the guardian soldiers lost the King whom they were guarding? Why was it that the stone could not retain the Book of life? Either must ye, therefore, deliver to us Him that was buried, or worship with us Him who is risen, shouting, Glory to thy bountiful mercies, our Savior, glory to thee.

Verse 6: Praise Him for His mighty acts: praise Him according to His excellent greatness.

Rejoice, O nations, and be glad, for the angel hath sat on the stone of the grave, and given us the glad tidings, saying, Christ the Savior of the world is risen from the dead. He hath filled all with sweet scent. Rejoice, O ye nations, and be joyful.

Verse 5: Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet: praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

O Lord God, verily, before thy Conception an angel did come with peace to her who is full of grace. And now an angel hath rolled the stone from the door of thy tomb, made glorious by thy Resurrection. The first angel spake with signs of joy instead of sorrow; and the latter brought us the glad tidings of a Lord who giveth life instead of death. Therefore, do we shout to thee, O Benefactor of all, glory to thee, O Lord.

Verse 4: Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

Verily, the women did sprinkle spices with tears on thy grave, and their mouths were filled with laughter when they said, The Lord is risen.

**Tone 1**

Second Sunday of Great Lent for St. Gregory (Nassar,677; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 67)

Verse 3: Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

Thou didst live in the world a blessed life. Wherefore, thou dost rejoice now with the congregations of the blessed, and dwellest in the land of the meet, as one who is meek, O Bishop Gregory, enriched by God with the grace of miracles, which thou dost grant to those who honor thee.

Verse 2: Arise, O my God, lift up thine hand, and forget not the humble.

Planting the doctrines of Orthodoxy, uprooting the thistles of wicked opinion, O blessed one, and growing well the plant of faith with the rain of thy sayings, thou didst offer to God, like a good farmer, ears a hundred fold.

Verse 1: I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart: I will show all thy marvelous works.

The ranks of angels and assemblies of men wondered at the splendor of thy blameless life, O blessed one; for by thine own choice thou didst reveal thyself as a firm striver, an ascetic, a worthy Bishop, a deserving minister of God, and a chosen friend.

**Tone 6**

Second Sunday of Great Lent for St. Gregory (Nassar,678; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 69)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Thou didst shine forth, O Christ, a Light to those who dwell in the darkness of sin, in the season of abstinence. Show us, therefore, the glorious day of thy Passion, that we may cry to thee aloud, Arise, O God, and have mercy upon us.

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Most blessed art thou, O Virgin Theotokos, for through Him that was incarnate of thee is Hades despoiled, Adam is recalled from the dead, the curse is made void, Eve is set free, death is slain, and we are endowed with life. Wherefore, in hymns of praise, we cry aloud: Blessed art thou, O Christ our God, who is thus well pleased, glory to thee.

20.) Great Doxology - Tone 6 (Serv. Bk.,75-6; Kazan Sun. Mat., 225, Nassar, 118)

21.) Troparion: "Today is salvation...", Tone 4 (Serv. Bk., 76)

**Tone 4**

Today is salvation come into the world. Let us sing praises to Him who arose from the grave, the Author of our life; for having by Death He hath destroyed death, He hath given us victory and Great Mercy.

**DIVINE LITURGY**

**Saints of the Day:** Venerable-martyr Nikon of Sicily and with him 199 disciples; Venerable-martyr Luke of St. Anne Skete on Athos

1.) During the Little Entrance: The troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 2

**Tone 2**

The Resurrection from the Octoechos (Nassar, 147; Kazan Sun. Mat., 12)

When thou didst submit thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal one, then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly pow'r, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the pow'rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee O Christ thou giver of life glory to Thee.

2.) The Entrance Hymn(Eisodikon):

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, save us who sing unto thee: Alleluia

3.) After the Entrance we chant:

**Tone 2**

The Resurrection from the Octoechos (Nassar, 147; Kazan Sun. Mat., 12)

When thou didst submit thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal one, then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly pow'r, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the pow'rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee O Christ thou giver of life glory to Thee.

**Tone 8**

Second Sunday of Great Lent for St. Gregory (Nassar,676; Kazan, Triod. Vol. 2, 50)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

Troparion of the Patron Saint or Titular Feast of the Church

**Tone 8**

Kontakion of the Five Sundays of Great Lent (Nassar, 524; or Liturgicon)

To thee the champion leader, I thy servant offer thanks for victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror. As thou hast power invincible, free me from every danger that I may cry unto thee: Rejoice, O bride without bridegroom.

4.) The Trisagion (“Holy God ...”) as usual.

5.) Epistle

[Hebrews 1:20-2:3 \(Second Sunday of Great Lent\)](#)

6.) Gospel

[Mark 2:1-12 \(Second Sunday of Great Lent\)](#)

**The rest of the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great.**

7.) The Megalynarion: "All Creation rejoices in Thee ... " (Nassar, 130; Serv. Bk., 139)

8.) The Koinonikon: “Praise the Lord ... Alleluia.”

9.) Post-Communion: “We have seen the true Light ...”, as usual. ONCE.

10.) At the Dismissal for St. Basil the Great we say, "May He Who rose again from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother, ... Through the prayers...".