

*Deacon:* Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

℟ Lord, have mercy.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

℟ Lord, have mercy.

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

℟ To Thee, O Lord.

*Priest:* For Thine is the might, and Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

℟ Amen.

#### FOURTH TONE RESURRECTIONAL KATHISMATA (Plain Reading)

##### First Kathisma

Looking up at the entrance to the sepulcher, then unable to endure the Angel's radiance, the Myrrh-bearing Women were frightened; and perplexed they said, "Has He been stolen, who opened Paradise to the Robber? Has He arisen, who before His Passion announced His rising?" Indeed, Christ God has truly risen, granting life and resurrection to those in the netherworld.

Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high; forget not Thy paupers to the end.

By Your voluntary will, O Savior, You endured the Cross, \* In a new tomb mortal men buried Your body, O Lord, \* who by a word had created the universe. \* Death, the ancient foe, was restrained by You \* and forcefully deprived of the spoils it had. \* And all the souls in Hades sang and glorified \* Your resurrection, which gave them life, \* "Christ the Giver of Life has risen! \* And He abides forever!"

*Glory... Both now... Amen.*

Joseph marvelled, beholding that which transcendeth nature, and pondering thy seedless conception he dwelt in thought upon the dew which fell upon the fleece, the bush unconsumed by the fire, and the rod of Aaron which put forth branches. And thy guardian and betrothed cried out to the priests: "The Virgin giveth birth, and even after birthgiving remaineth virgin!"

## Ode I

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

O Master, You remedied our ancient fall, \* when You were lifted up; \* You cured our utter ruin at the tree \* by the pure and immaculate tree \* of Your all-holy Cross, O Lord, \* who are almighty and benevolent.

In body You were inside the tomb; as God You were in hell with Your soul \* and with the Robber in Paradise. \* You were also on the throne, O Christ, \* with the Father and the Spirit, \* filling all things as One uncircumscribed.

Theotokion: The Father so willed, and by the Holy Spirit without seed you conceived \* the Son of God and bore Him in the flesh, \* whom the Father begot without \* a mother, and whom you brought forth \* without a father, for the sake of all.

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou didst heal the affliction of mankind, O Lord, restoring it by Thy divine blood; and Thou didst break him who is mighty in power, who of old broke Thy creature.

Through death Thou becamest the resurrection of the dead; for the might of mortality was removed when it fought with eternal Life, the incarnate God Who hath mastery over all things.

Theotokion: More beautiful than the heavenly hosts did Thy divine and animate temple become: the Virgin, the holy mountain which bore Thee in her womb.

Canon of the All-holy Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

The people were shaken, the nations were troubled, and mighty kingdoms bowed down out of fear of thine Offspring, O pure one. For my King came: He cast down the tyrant and hath delivered the world from corruption.

Christ, Who dwelleth in the highest and descended unto mortal man, sanctified thee as His dwelling-place, and showed thee forth as unshaken. For Thou, having borne the Creator, hast remained a treasury of virginity after childbirth.

**Ode 1.** I shall open my mouth and it will 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 III

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

The Savior, whom we perceive \* to be the tree of life, the true Vine himself, \* was on the Cross crucified, \* to all pouring out immortality.

As God who is incorrupt, \* the Lord has risen from the tomb bodily. \* He humbled hell's haughtiness, \* for He is our great and terrific God.

Theotokion: Through you only we on earth \* procure divine and supernatural gifts, \* all-holy Mother of God. \* Therefore we salute you and sing, "Rejoice!"

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

O Savior, the serpent sank into me his fangs, full of venom, which Thou didst break with the nails which pierced, Thy hands, O Almighty Master; for there is none among the saints as holy as Thou, Who lovest mankind.

Of Thine own will Thou wast seen, dead, in the tomb, O Bestower of life; and Thou hast overthrown the gates of hades for the souls held prisoner from ages past; for there is none among the saints as holy as Thou, Who lovest mankind.

Theotokion: Thou hast been shown to be the unploughed furrow, having given birth to the Grain of life, the Mediator of immortality for all who partake of the Holy One Who in holiness abideth among the saints.

Canon of the All-holy Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

The essence of men is purified, having been united through thee with the unbearable divine Fire, O all-pure Virgin, baked into Bread which was hid within thee, and Who preserved thee unharmed.

Who is this who is truly close to God? For, having surpassed all the ranks of the angels, she alone shineth forth as the Mother of the Almighty in the beauty of virginity.

**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 IV

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

You were crucified, O Savior, to cure my passions \* by what You suffered in Your all-immaculate body, \* which You voluntarily put on. So we sing to You: \* Glory to Your strength, O Lord!

Almighty Master, when death had tasted Your sinless \* and life-giving body, it was fittingly embittered \* and utterly put to death. And we now sing out to You: \* Glory to Your strength, O Lord!

Theotokion: Remaining virgin, you conceived in your womb, O Virgin, \* and even after childbirth, you remained a virgin. \* Therefore with unwavering faith, O Lady, unceasingly \* singing, we salute you: Rejoice!

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Israel of the law refused to acknowledge Thee as God Who made the law, O Christ; instead, violating the law, they nailed Thee to the Tree as a transgressor, and are now unworthy of the law.

Thy divine soul, O Savior, having captured the treasures of hades, raised up with itself the souls of ages past; and Thy life-bearing body hath poured forth incorruption upon all.

Theotokion: All of us glorify thee as the Ever-virgin and the true Theotokos, whom the bush which mingled with fire without being consumed prefigured for Moses who beheld God, O all-pure one.

Canon of the Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

The Invisible One, becoming visible, dwelt with men; He Who is in the form of the unapproachable Divinity took on a form alien to Himself through thee, O Maiden, and He saveth those who acknowledge thee to be the pure Mother of God.

The Virgin received the Immaterial One into material participation in matter, when He became a babe through her; wherefore, He alone is known in two essences: as incarnate God and transcendent man.

He Who made His abode within thee and was born of thee without seed remained God the Word and preserved thee as virgin during thy birthgiving and virgin after birthgiving, in that He is the Master and Maker of all creation.

**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 V

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

With sympathy for us \* You descended to earth, O Lord. \* You lifted humanity's fallen nature \* when You were suspended on the Cross, O Christ.

O Christ, You took away \* every charge against me for sins. \* By Your divine resurrection, \* O compassionate Savior, You ended the distress of death.

Theotokion: Against our every foe, \* we have you, our unbreakable shield. \* We hope in you for salvation. \* We have you as our anchor, all-holy Virgin, Bride of God.

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Mindless hades seized Thee in its maw; for, having seen Thee nailed to the Cross, pierced by the spear, bereft of breath, it thought that Thou, the living God, wast a simple man. But testing the might of Thy divinity it understood.

The grave and hades divided the ruined temple of Thy body, O Thou Who lovest mankind, and both were against their will compelled to pay a fine: the one by giving up the souls of Thy saints, and the other their bodies, O Immortal One.

Theotokion: Behold! now hath the prophecy of the prophets been fulfilled! For thou, O Virgin who knewest not wedlock, didst have within thy womb Him Who is God over all, and gavest birth to the timeless Son for all, Who giveth peace unto all who hymn thee.

Canon of the Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

The Son of God, making His abode within thee, made thee-for us a house of glory, the holy mountain of God, His bride, bridal-chamber and temple of sanctity, a paradise of everlasting delight, O pure one.

Through the Virgin's blood, O Christ, Thou didst receive blood which is seedless, all-pure, hypostatic, reasonable and noetic, animate, active, with a will, possessed of its own power, self-governing.

The womb of the Virgin confounded the understanding of the tyrants; for her Babe sustained the soul-destroying sting of the serpent, cast down the proud apostate, and subdued him beneath the feet of the faithful.

**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 VI

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

O Savior, You went up on the Cross, having girt yourself \* with might, and wrestled the tyrant; \* and as God from heaven, You took him down. \* As for Adam, Your invincible hand resurrected him.

O Christ, dazzling and handsome, You rose from the sepulcher; \* and by divine might and power, \* You utterly scattered all Your opponents; \* and as God You filled all things with divine joy and happiness.

Theotokion: O miracle, more novel than all other miracles! \* Behold, without man a Virgin \* in her body conceived the One who holds \* in His hands the universe, and He was not confined by her.

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Hades opened its maw and swallowed me, and, mindless, it puffed up its soul; but Christ, descending, led up my life, in that He loveth mankind.

Death hath perished through death; for He Who slew death hath arisen, granting me incorruption; and appearing to the women He proclaimed immortal joy.

Theotokion: Thy womb was shown to be the pure receptacle of the unbearable Godhead, O Theotokos, which the ranks of heaven were unable to gaze upon without fear.

Canon of the Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

Of old the serpent beguiled and slew me through my first mother Eve; but now, O pure one, He Who fashioned me hath through thee called me back from corruption.

The Abyss of compassion ineffably showed thee to be His chosen abyss of miracles, O Maiden; for from thee hath Christ the pearl shone forth through the lightning-flashes of His divinity.

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

## Ode VII

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

Having been washed clean \* in the divine and holy blood of Christ, \* humanity is called back to immortal life; \* and with gratitude we sing to Him, \* “O Savior, in the temple of Your holy glory, You are blessed, O Lord.”

Your tomb was shown forth \* to be more beautiful than Paradise \* and by far more splendid than any king’s \* royal chamber, for it hosted Life. \* It is the source of our resurrection, O Christ, for You rose from it.

Theotokion: Divine and hallowed \* habitation of the Most High God, rejoice! \* For through you, O Theotokos, was given joy \* unto us who cry aloud to you: \* Among all women, Lady, you are blessed, all-blameless, and immaculate.

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Lifted up upon the Tree, He Who hath saved man laid low the lofty eye and cast overweening pride down to the ground. O all-hymned Lord and God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

By Thy power lift up the horn of those who serve Thee, O Thou Who arose from the dead and emptied hades of its former riches, the souls of many men, O Master. O all-hymned Lord and God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Theotokion: Following the words of God, we glorify the one Godhead united in three Lights, indivisible, the eternal Flame which enlighteneth all creation, which crieth: Blessed art Thou, O God!

Canon of the Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

The fire of love for the Virgin which is within my heart moveth me to hymnody, so that I cry out to the Mother and Virgin: O blessed one, the Lord of hosts is with thee!

Thou wast shown to transcend creation, in that thou gavest birth to the Creator and Lord; wherefore, O Theotokos, I cry out to thee: O blessed one, the Lord of hosts is with thee!

Triadicon: Worshipping Thee, the one Dominion in three sanctities, indivisible, I hymn Thee, the Essence in three Hypostases, crying out to Thee, O Blessed One, Who directest all things.

**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.



## Ode VIII

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

Master, when You stretched Your hands upon the Cross, You gathered all the nations to yourself. \* You made them one holy Church, O Christ, \* which is praising and extolling You, \* with those in heaven and on earth \* united and all together singing, \* “Bless the Lord and praise Him, all you works of the Lord.”

An Angel, his raiment white and dazzling with the resurrection’s unapproachable light, \* appeared at the sepulcher \* to the women, saying, “Why do you seek \* among the dead the One who lives? \* Christ has truly risen!” To whom we cry out, \* “Bless the Lord and praise Him, all you works of the Lord.”

Theotokion: Immaculate Virgin, in all generations only you became the Mother of God; \* and you were also the dwelling place \* of the Godhead, O all-blameless one, \* and you were not at all consumed \* by the fire of the unapproachable light. \* We all now bless you, O Mary the Bride of God.

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Creation, beholding Thine unjust slaughter, veiled itself in darkness and lamented; for when the earth was troubled, the sun clothed itself in gloom as in a black robe. And we unceasingly hymn and exalt Christ supremely forever.

Having descended to me, even unto hades, and made resurrection a way for all, thou didst ascend again, taking me with Thee on Thy shoulder, and didst bring me to the Father. Wherefore, I cry out to Thee: Hymn the Lord, O ye works, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Triadicon: Let us glorify the one God of all the Father, Who alone is unoriginate, the first Mind and Cause of all, and the Word Who is without beginning, and the Spirit Comforter-, worshipping and exalting the united Trinity for all ages.

Canon of the Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

The Lord of all, Who fashioned thee of the rib of Adam, became incarnate of thy virginity. Unto Him do we cry out, chanting: Bless the Lord, all ye works, and exalt Him supremely forever!

In a shadow Abraham beheld the mystery which is in thee, the Theotokos; for he received thine incorporeal Son, chanting: Bless the Lord, all ye works! Hymn and exalt Him supremely forever!

The prefiguration of thy virginity saved those who were equal in number to the Trinity; for in their virginal bodies they trampled down the flame, O Virgin, crying: Bless the Lord, hymn and exalt Him supremely forever!

*We praise, we bless, and we 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.



## Ode IX

Refrain: Glory to Thy holy resurrection, O Lord!

You assumed the whole of me wholly in a union without confusion; \* and when You had worked my salvation, \* bodily bearing Your Passion and the Cross, \* You gave it to the whole of me, \* because of Your immense compassion, as God.

When they saw Your sepulcher opened and the linen cloths that had covered \* Your divine body, Your Disciples \* became aware of Your resurrection, O Christ, \* they cried out as the Angel had, \* “The Lord has truly risen from the dead!”

Triadicon: For the Trinity. All we the believers now worship God, one in nature and in essence, \* but three in hypostases and persons \* unconfused, and equal in might and honor. \* With Orthodox theology, we magnify the Holy Trinity.

Canon of the Cross and Resurrection

Refrain: Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Having deceitfully caused me to fall, the serpent took me captive away from Eden; but on the hard stone of Golgotha the Lord Almighty dashed him as he were a babe, and through the tree of the Cross opened the entrance to delight again to me.

The mighty fortresses of the enemy hast Thou now brought to desolation; and with Thine almighty hand Thou hast plundered his riches, O Christ who raised me up with Thyself from the wastelands of hades; and an object of scorn hast Thou shown him to be who of old boasted beyond measure.

Come Thou, and, visiting the affliction of Thy poor people, strengthen Christians, Thine excellent inheritance, with Thy merciful and mighty arm, O Christ, in that Thou lovest mankind.

Canon of the Theotokos

Refrain: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

We behold thee as a lily, arrayed in a robe dyed by the divine Spirit, O all-pure one, resplendent amid thorns and filling with sweet fragrance those who sincerely magnify thee.

The Incorrupt One, receiving corrupt human nature from thy womb, O most immaculate one, showed it to be incorrupt within Himself, in His loving-kindness; wherefore, we magnify thee as the Theotokos.

As the Mistress of all creatures, grant thy people triumphant victory, making the enemy pacific toward the Church, that we may magnify thee, the Theotokos.

**Ode 9. ([Kazan](#)) ([Crow](#))** Let all the earth-born mortals rejoice in the Spirit, bearing their lamps. And let the nature of bodiless Minds celebrate with honor the holy festival of the Mother of God, and cry out: Hail! All-blessed, pure, and ever-virgin Theotokos!