**SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 30 TONE 1**

**18th Sunday after Pentecost/ Hieromartyr Gregory, Bishop of Greater Armenia; Martyrs Rhipsimia and Gaina**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 1**

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!

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

**Tone 1** *(for the Resurrection)*

Accept our evening prayers, O holy Lord!

Grant us remission of sins,//

for You alone have manifested the Resurrection to the world.

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

Encircle Zion and surround her, O people!

Give glory in her to the One Who rose from the dead!//

For He is our God, Who has delivered us from our transgressions!

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

Come, O people, let us hymn and fall down before Christ,

glorifying His Resurrection from the dead!//

For He is our God, Who has delivered the world from the Enemy's deceit!

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

*(Resurrection stikheron by Anatolius)*

Be glad, O heavens!

Sound trumpets, O foundations of the earth!

Sing in gladness, O mountains!

Behold Emmanuel has nailed our sins to the Cross!

Granting life, He has slain death.//

He has resurrected Adam as the Lover of mankind.

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

Let us praise Him Who voluntarily was crucified in the flesh for our sake.

He suffered, was buried, but rose from the dead.

By orthodoxy confirm Your Church, O Christ. //

Grant peace for our life as the gracious Lover of mankind.

*v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

We stand before Your life- bearing tomb unworthily, O Christ God,

offering glory to Your ineffable compassion.

You have accepted the Cross and death, O sinless One//

to grant Resurrection to the world as the Lover of mankind.

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

**Tone 6** *(for Hieromartyr Gregory) (Having placed all their hope)*

You dyed your sacred robe in the blood of your martyrdom,

hastening to enter the Holy of Holies, O admirable Martyr,

where there is divine glory, ineffable light, and the voices of

those who feast.

There you received the reward of your labors://

an unfading crown, eternal glory,

and a dwelling in Paradise.//

Wise Gregory, pray with boldness on behalf of our souls!

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

(Repeat: “You dyed your sacred robe …”)

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

Threefold waves of torture, most wise Gregory,

did not overcome your soul, O glorious athlete,

nor did your long imprisonment in a gloomy pit.

You shone like light on those languishing in the darkness of emptiness,

revealing them to be children of the day through the baptismal font,

through higher rebirth and a divine and saving way of life//

as a God-pleasing bishop.

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.*

Rhipsimia loved You, the Master of all,

the immortal Bridegroom.

She accepted the flaying of the skin of her body,

having first torn apart the dirty sackcloth of the passions by abstinence.

The ever-memorable Gaiana also struggled with her,

leading an assembly of virgins who suffered bravely,

casting down Eve's ancient deceiver.//

Honoring them worthily, we praise You, O Christ.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 6** *(from the Menaion, by Sergius)*

Who can fittingly describe the triumphs of your virtues?

What lips can express plainly your perseverance in martyrdom?

For you, Gregory, have won distinction in both of these things!

O hieromartyr, well pleasing to Christ,

since you have great boldness before Him,//

ever beseech Him that our souls may be saved!

 *now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 1**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Let us praise the Virgin Mary!

The gate of heaven, the glory of the world!

The song of the angels, the beauty of the faithful!

She was born of man, yet gave birth to God!

She was revealed as the heaven,

as the temple of the godhead!

She destroyed the wall of enmity!

She commenced the peace; she opened the Kingdom!

Since she is our foundation of faith,

our defender is the Lord Whom she bore!

Courage! Courage! O People of God!

For Christ will destroy our enemies//

since He is all powerful.

**18th Sunday after Pentecost/ Hieromartyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia; Martyrs Rhipsimia and Gaina**

**Aposticha**

**Tone 1**  *(for the Resurrection)*

We have been freed from sufferings by Your suffering, O Christ.

We have been delivered from corruption by Your Resurrection.//

O Lord, glory to You!

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

Let creation rejoice!

Let the heavens be glad!

Let the nations clap their hands with gladness,

for Christ our Savior has nailed our sins to the Cross.

Slaying death, He has given life.//

He has resurrected fallen Adam as the Lover of mankind.

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

As King of heaven and earth,

You were voluntarily crucified in Your love for mankind.

Hell was angered when it met You below.

Adam rose seeing You, the Creator, under the earth.

O Wonder! How has the Life of All tasted death?

You enlightened the world which cries://

“O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!”

*v. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!*

The myrrhbearing women came with haste to Your tomb,

bearing myrrh and lamenting.

Not finding Your most pure body,

they learned from the angel of the new and glorious wonder.

They told the Apostles://

“The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy.”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 6** *(from the Menaion)*

The martyr and pastor learned the secret things of the mysteries

of God,

having spiritually entered the inaccessible darkness of the ineffable Light.

He was enlightened as a martyr and instructed as a pastor.

Therefore he was crowned with double wreaths of heavenly glory,//

and he ever intercedes with Christ on behalf of our souls.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6** *(Theotokion)*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,

was born of you, O most pure Virgin.

By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.

Unceasingly we magnify you as the Mother of God!

Rejoice, O celestial Joy!

Rejoice, O Lady://

the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

**18th Sunday after Pentecost/ Hieromartyr Gregory, Bishop of Armenia; Martyrs Rhipsimia and Gaina**

***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 1** **Troparion**  *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,

while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure ^body,

You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your ^Kingdom!//

Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 4** **Troparion**  *(Hieromartyr Gregory)*

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles,

you became a successor to their throne.

Through the practice of virtue, you found the way to divine

 contemplation, O inspired one of God;

by teaching the word of truth without error, you defended the Faith,

even to the shedding of your blood.//

Hieromartyr Gregory, entreat Christ God to save our souls.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 4** **Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion**

The mystery of all eternity,

unknown even by Angels,

through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth:

God incarnate by union without confusion.

He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us,

by which He resurrected the first-created man,//

saving our souls from death.

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***(at Vigil)***

**Tone 4 Troparion to the Theotokos**

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. *(thrice)*

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***(at the Divine Liturgy)***

**Tone 1** **Troparion**  *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,

while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure ^body,

You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Your ^Kingdom!//

Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!”

**Tone 4** **Troparion**  *(Hieromartyr Gregory)*

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles,

you became a successor to their throne.

Through the practice of virtue, you found the way to divine

 contemplation, O inspired one of God;

by teaching the word of truth without error, you defended the Faith,

even to the shedding of your blood.//

Hieromartyr Gregory, entreat Christ God to save our souls.

 **Tone 1 Kontakion** *(Resurrection)*

As God, You rose from the tomb in glory,

raising the world with Yourself.

Human nature praises You as God, for death has vanished.

Adam exults, O Master!

Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to You://

“You are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

**Tone 2** **Kontakion**  *(Hieromartyr Gregory)*

Today, let us, the faithful, praise with songs and hymns

the admirable hierarch Gregory as an initiate in the sacred

 mysteries.

He was a contender for the truth, a vigilant pastor and teacher,

a light for the whole world,//

interceding with Christ that our souls may be saved.

**Tone 1** **Prokeimenon**

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on You!

(Ps 32/33:22)

*v: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps 32/33:1)*

**Epistle**

 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

 **Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*v: God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me..*

*(Ps 17/18:47)*

*v: :He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever. (Ps 17/18:50)*

**Gospel**

 Luke 6:31-36

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps 148:1)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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 has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Archimandrite Juvenaly, Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.