**SUNDAY, APRIL 7 TONE 4**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent: St John of the Ladder *(Climacus)***

 **Repose of St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of**

**North America *(transferred to Monday, April 8)***

 ***[Music for the stichera for St John Climacus from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at*** [***www.oca.org***](http://www.oca.org)***]***

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 4**

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 4** *(for the Resurrection)*

We glorify Your Resurrection on the third day, O Christ God,

by always honoring Your life-creating Cross;

by it You have renewed the corrupted nature of mankind, O almighty One.

By it You have renewed our entrance to heaven,//

for You are good and the Lover of mankind.

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

You loosed the Tree's verdict of disobedience, O Savior,

by being voluntarily nailed to the tree of the Cross.

By descending to hell, O almighty God,

You broke the bonds of death.

Therefore, we adore Your Resurrection from the dead, singing in joy://

“Glory to You, O all powerful Lord!”

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

You smashed the gates of hell, O Lord,

and by Your death You demolished the kingdom of death.

You delivered the human race from corruption,//

granting the world life, incorruption and great mercy.

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

*(for the Resurrection, by Anatolios)*

Come, O people,

let us sing of the Savior's Resurrection on the third day!

By it, we have been freed from the unbreakable bonds of hell.

By it, we have received life and incorruption.

Save us by Your Resurrection!//

Life-creating and almighty Savior, glory to You!

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

Angels and mortals sing of Your Resurrection on the third day, O Savior.

By it, the ends of the earth have been illumined.

By it we have been delivered from bondage to the Enemy.

Save us by Your Resurrection!//

Life-creating and almighty Savior, glory to You!

*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.*

You have shattered the gates of brass

and destroyed the chains of death, O Christ God.

You have raised the fallen human race.//

O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

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

Lord, Your begetting from the Father is timeless and everlasting.

Your incarnation from the Virgin is beyond words and understanding.

Your descent into hell is terrible for the Devil and his Angels.

You have trampled on death, rising on the third day,//

and granting mankind incorruption and great mercy.

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

**Tone 8** *(from the Lenten Triodion) (O most glorious wonder)*

The Lord’s praises were always on your lips, O holy Father John.

With deep wisdom you searched the Scriptures,

which teach us to deny ourselves.

You became rich in the blessings of grace,//

overthrowing the craftiness of the devil.

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

You washed your soul in a fountain of tears, O most glorious Father John.

You kept vigil for God and gained His mercy.

Upborne on the wings of prayer, you flew to divine love and beauty.

Now, together with your fellow soldiers, O holy one,//

you dwell in His spiritual light and unending joy.

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

On the wings of faith you raised your mind to God, O holy Father John.

Hating the world’s confusion and vanity,

you took up your cross and followed Him Who sees all things.

You submitted your rebellious flesh to His guidance,

through the discipline of self-denial,//

by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

**Tone 5** *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

O holy Father,

hearing the Lord’s voice in the Gospel,

you spurned the riches and glory of the world.

You cry out to all:

“Love God and find eternal grace!

Set nothing higher than His love;

thus, you will find rest with all the saints, when He comes in glory!”//

Through His prayers guard and save our souls, O Christ!

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

**Tone 4**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a Father of the Lord through you,

O Virgin.

He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonders in you:

“At Your right hand stood the Queen,”

Your Mother, the mediatrix of life,

since God was freely born of her without a father.

He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,

so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder

and brought it to His Father, joining it to the heavenly pow’rs.//

Christ who has great and rich mercy has saved the world, O Theotokos.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent: St John of the Ladder *(Climacus)***

**Litya *(If the rector desires the Litya, following the stichera of the patron saint of the church or monastery, these stichera are sung:*)**

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

 **Tone 8**

With the multitude of monastics, we honor you

as guide and teacher, O John, our father,

for through you we have learned to walk by the straight path.

Blessed are you, who labored for Christ,

and triumphed over the might of the Enemy,

O converser with Angels and companion of the righteous and the

venerable.//

With them intercede with the Lord that mercy may be granted to our

 souls!

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

 **Tone 8** *(Theotokion)*

Unwedded Virgin,

you ineffably conceived God in the flesh.

O Mother of God most high,

accept the cries of your servants, O blameless one!

Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//

Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

**Fourth Sunday of Lent: St John of the Ladder *(Climacus)***

**Aposticha**

**Tone 4**  *(for the Resurrection)*

By ascending the Cross, O Lord,

You have annulled our ancestral curse.

By descending to hell, You have freed the eternal prisoners,

granting incorruption to the human race.//

Therefore in songs we glorify Your life-creating and saving Resurrection.

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

By hanging upon the tree, O only powerful Lord,

You shook all of creation.

By being laid in the tomb You have raised those who dwelt in the tombs,

granting life and incorruption to the human race.//

Therefore in songs we glorify Your rising on the third day.

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

The lawless people, O Christ,

handed You over to Pilate, condemned to be crucified,

thus proving themselves ungrateful before their Benefactor.

But voluntarily You endured burial,

rising by Your own power on the third day as God,//

granting us life everlasting and great mercy.

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

With tears the women reached Your tomb,

searching for You, but not finding You.

They wept with wailing and lamented:

“Woe to us! Our Savior, King of all,

how were You stolen?

What place can hold Your life-bearing body?”

An Angel replied to them:

“Do not weep but go and proclaim that the Lord is risen,//

granting us joy as the only compassionate One!”

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

**Tone 2** *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Let us honor John!

He is an earthly angel and a heavenly man,

the adornment of the world, the joy of the virtuous,

the glory of ascetics.

He was planted in the house of God,

and blossomed with the flower of sanctity.

He flourished in the desert like a cedar of Lebanon.//

Through him the sheep of Christ’s flock grow in holiness and

righteousness.

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

**Tone 2** *(Theotokion)*

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles.

Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,

who carried in her arms her Creator?

This birth is the will of God.

Since you carried Him as an infant in your arms, O most pure one,

and since you possess motherly boldness before Him,

do not cease praying for us who honor you,//

that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

**Fourth Sunday of Lent: St John of the Ladder *(Climacus)***

***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 4** **Troparion**  *(Resurrection)*

When the women Disciples of the Lord

learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection,

they cast away the ancestral curse

and elatedly told the Apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

Christ God is risen,//

granting the world great mercy!”

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

**Tone 1** **Troparion**  *(for St John Climacus)*

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,

you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.

You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer,

healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.

Glory to Him Who gave you strength!

Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!//

Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

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

**Tone 1 Resurrectional** **Dismissal Theotokion**

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, saying “Rejoice!”

with that word the Master of all was incarnate in ^you,

the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David!

Your womb became more spacious than the heavens,

for you carried your Creator.

Glory to Him Who took abode in you!

Glory to Him Who came ^forth from you!

Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you!

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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)***

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they cast away the ancestral curse

and elatedly told the Apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

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you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.

You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer,

healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.

Glory to Him Who gave you strength!

Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!//

Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

**Tone 4** **Kontakion** *(Resurrection)*

My Savior and Redeemer

as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.

He has shattered the gates of hell,

and as Master,//

He has risen on the third day!

**Tone 4 Kontakion** *(for St John Climacus)*

The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence,

to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe,//

O our father and teacher John.

**Tone 4** **Prokeimenon**

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them

all. *(Ps 103/104:24)*

*v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great!*

*(Ps 103/104:1)*

**Tone 7** **Prokeimenon** *(St John Climacus)*

Let the saints exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches! *(Ps 149:5)*

**Epistle**

 Hebrews 6:13-20

 Ephesians 5:8-19 *(St John Climacus)*

 **Tone 4**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps 44/45:5)*

*v: For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity. (Ps 44/45:8)*

 **Tone 4**

*v: They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the*

 *courts of our God. (Ps 91/92:13)*

**Gospel**

 Mark 9:17-31

 Matthew 4:25-5:12 *(St John Climacus)*

***(Instead of “It is truly meet …,” we sing the following)***

**Hymn to the Theotokos**

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace:

the assembly of Angels and the race of men.

O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,

the glory of virgins,

from whom God was incarnate and became a Child –

our God before the ages.

He made your body into a throne,

and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace.

Glory to you!

**Communion Hymns**

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

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil

tidings. *(Ps 111/112:6b-7a)*

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, Dr Vladimir Morosan, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.