**JANUARY 25**

**St. Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople**

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

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!

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

**Tone 1** *(for St. Gregory)* *(O all-praised martyrs)*

O Father Gregory,

the tomb that brings oblivion did not seal thy lips;

for thou wast revealed as the mouth of theology,

and even now thou dost utter teachings of piety to the inhabited earth.//

Therefore humbly pray that peace and great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

(Repeat: “O Father Gregory, the tomb that brings…”)

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

O Father Gregory,

thou didst wisely shun the hostility and treachery of the flesh;

and, mounting the four-horse chariot of the virtues that journeys to heaven,

thou didst ascend to ineffable beauty.//

Being filled with this beauty, direct peace and great mercy to our souls!

V. (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.*

O Father Gregory,

thou didst become a faithful mediator between God and man.

And now by thy bold and confident prayers

thou hast disposed Christ to be most merciful.

Do not cease to intercede with the Lord, O holy Father,//

that peace and great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

**Tone 2** *(for St. Gregory) (With what crowns)*

Come, with sacred songs let us praise the Theologian:

the vigilant eye of grace, the all-wise mouth of the Spirit,

the radiant beacon of the inhabited earth,

the magnificent voice of the Church,

the all-marvelous glory of Orthodoxy,

the fountain of theology, the ever-flowing river of divine doctrines,//

the spring gushing with divine streams of spiritual nectar!

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: “Come, with sacred songs…”)

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

With spiritual love let us praise the Hierarch

who shared the Apostles’ way of life!

He is the great defender and champion of true piety,

the flood of divine words, the delightful river of teaching,

the fortress of exalted and eloquent discourse,

the lips of heavenly thunder, the tongue of fiery breath,

the treasury of wisdom, the preacher of the Word,//

and the adornment of the faithful.

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

With fitting hymns let us all praise the Theologian,

the guardian of the flock of Christ,

the all-wise hunter of wolves,

the uprooter of falsely-sown weeds,

the all-marvelous sower of right doctrines, the powerful pursuer of heretics,

the one who, by divine vigilance, truly increased the talents of Christ,//

and enlightened the world with the divine splendor of his teachings!

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

**Tone 8** *(for St. Gregory)*

Thy tongue, watchful in teaching,

rings in the ears of our hearts,

and awakens the souls of the slothful.

Thy words are inspired by God;

they are a ladder leading us from earth to heaven.

O Gregory the Theologian,

Do not cease to intercede before Christ our God//

that our souls may be saved from dangers!

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

**Tone 8**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven, because of His love for man,

appeared on earth and dwelt with men.

He took flesh from the pure Virgin

and after assuming it, He came forth from her.

The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.

Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,

we confess Christ our God!//

Entreat Him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

 **Old Testament Readings**

 **Composite 2** *(selections from Proverbs 10, 3, 8)*

 **Composite 4** *(selections from Proverbs and Wisdom of Solomon)*

 **Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15**

**Litya**

*(If the rector desires the Litya, following the sticheron to the Patron Saint of the Temple,*

*these stichera are sung)*

**Tone 1** (*by Anatolius*)

Thou didst open thy mouth to the Word of God, O thrice-blessed Gregory,

drawing in the Spirit of wisdom;

and when thou hadst become filled with grace,

thou didst thunder forth divine doctrines and teachings.

Joining the angelic hosts,

thou didst become an initiate of sacred mysteries.

Thou didst preach the three-fold and undivided Light.

And so, enlightened by thy divine teachings,//

we worship the Trinity, known in one Godhead, for the salvation of our souls.

With thy fiery tongue, O Gregory, inspired by God,

thou didst burn up the God-opposing blasphemies of the heretics;

thou wast revealed as truly a sacred mouth,

which spoke in the Spirit of the wonderful works of God

and didst depict in letters the Essence, equal in power,

of the hidden mystery of the Trinity.

Thou didst shine the three-sunned light upon the earthly world,//

and thou dost intercede for our souls without ceasing.

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

 **Tone 4** *(by Germanos)*

Purifying body and soul by divinely-inspired deeds,

thou didst ascend the mountain of theology,

being instructed in divine mysteries, O Gregory, thou revealer of God.

Entering the inner darkness, thou didst receive the Law engraved by God,

inscribed with the Trinity, One in Essence,

Whom we worship, as instructed by thee,

singing hymns of praise and saying://

“O Unity known in Trinity, have mercy on us!”

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

**Tone 4 (***Theotokion)*

Look on the entreaties of thy servants, O Blameless One!

Stop all the terrible attacks against us,

freeing us from every affliction,

for we have only thee as our sure and firm anchor!

Do not let us be put to shame, O Lady,

for we call on thee for our intercession!

Hasten to pray for those who call in faith:

“Rejoice, O Lady, Help of all://

the Joy and Shelter and Salvation of our souls!”

**Aposticha**

**Tone 5** *(for St. Gregory) (Rejoice, O Life-giving Cross)*

Rejoice, O source of theology and abode of divine contemplation!

Thou didst search the high depth with a godly mind

explaining clearly to all that in three Suns there is one blending of light,

united by the identity of one Godhead,

but being Three in holy Persons;

O Saint, inspired by God.

By the purity of thy life and the splendor of thy words,

thou hast taught us to worship the All-holy Trinity;//

pray that great mercy may be sent forth to our souls!

V. *My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps. 48:3)*

With the brilliance of thy theology,

thou didst dispel the dense darkness of heresies,

for by devout and godly-minded reasoning, O Theologian,

thou didst draw near to the source of radiance,

experiencing the brightness that came from there.

Having made thy mind as clear as a mirror, O Father,

thou didst receive the triune and indivisible light of the Godhead,

holding in abundance His single ray.//

Pray that great mercy be granted to our souls!

V. *The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice.*

*(Ps. 36:31)*

Rejoice, O river of God, full of the waters of grace,

gladdening the whole city of Christ the King

with divine teaching and inspired words!

Rejoice, O torrent of delight and inexhaustible sea,

faithful and just guardian of doctrine,

most fervent defender of the Trinity,

instrument of the Holy Spirit and ever-vigilant mind,

eloquent tongue expounding the depths of the Scriptures!//

Now entreat Christ that great mercy be granted to our souls!

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

**Tone 8**

Tilling the hearts of the faithful

with thy words, O Gregory,

thou didst cultivate in them the never-ending fruits of piety for God,

cutting out heretical thorns by the root

and adorning thy thoughts with purity.

Therefore, as thou dost receive our praises,

O divine lyre and watchful eye,

shepherd of shepherds, and hunter of wolves,//

intercede fervently with the Word, O Theologian, on behalf of our souls!

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

**Tone 8** *(Theotokion)*

O unwedded Virgin,

who ineffably didst conceive God in the flesh,

O Mother of God most high,

accept the cries of thy servants, O blameless one!

Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//

Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 1 Troparion** *(St. Gregory)*

The sweet-sounding shepherd’s pipe of thy theology

overpowered the trumpeting of the orators;

for eloquence was also bestowed on thee

as on one searching the depths of the Spirit.

Pray to Christ our God, O Father Gregory,//

that our souls may be saved!

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

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

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

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

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

the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David!

Thy womb became more spacious than the heavens,

for thou didst carry thy Creator.

Glory to Him Who took abode in thee!

Glory to Him Who came ^forth from thee!//

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

***(at Vigil)***

**Tone 1 Troparion** *(St. Gregory)*

The sweet-sounding shepherd’s pipe of thy theology

overpowered the trumpeting of the orators;

for eloquence was also bestowed on thee

as on one searching the depths of the Spirit.

Pray to Christ our God, O Father Gregory,//

that our souls may be saved! *(twice)*

**Tone 4 Troparion to the Theotokos**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos,

Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!

Blessed art thou among women,

and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb,//

for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls. *(once)*

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

**Tone 1 Troparion** *(St. Gregory)*

The sweet-sounding shepherd’s pipe of thy theology

overpowered the trumpeting of the orators;

for eloquence was also bestowed on thee

as on one searching the depths of the Spirit.

Pray to Christ our God, O Father Gregory,//

that our souls may be saved!

**Tone 3** **Kontakion** *(St. Gregory)*

By words of theology thou didst unravel the complex webs of the orators,

O glorious Gregory,

and didst adorn the Church with the robe of Orthodoxy woven from on high.

Wearing it, she cries out with us, her children://

“Rejoice, O Father, supreme mind of theology!”

**Tone 1** **Prokeimenon** *(St. Gregory)*

My mouth shall speak wisdom; / the meditation of my heart shall be

understanding. *(Ps. 48:3)*

V. *Hear this, all nations! Give ear, all inhabitants of the earth! (Ps. 48:1)*

**Epistle**

 (319) Hebrews 8:7-13

 (151) 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 *(St. Gregory)*

**Tone 2**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. *Give heed, O my people, to my law; incline your ear to the words of my mouth. (Ps. 77:1)*

V. *I shall open my mouth in parables; I shall speak of hidden things from of old.*

*(Ps. 77:2)*

**Gospel**

 (33) Mark 8:11-21

 (36) John 10:9-16 *(St. Gregory)*

**Communion Hymn**

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

tidings. *(Ps. 111:6)*

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