**SUNDAY, AUGUST 31 TONE 3**

**12th Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Most-holy Theotokos**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 3**

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 3** *(for the Resurrection)*

By Your Cross, O Christ our Savior,

death's dominion has been shattered;

the devil's delusion destroyed.

The race of man, being saved by faith,//

always offers You a song.

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

All has been enlightened by Your Resurrection, O Lord.

Paradise has been opened again.

All creation, praising You,//

always offers You a song.

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

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son.

I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit:

the undivided, uncreated Godhead,//

the consubstantial Trinity which reigns forever.

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

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

We bow down in worship before Your precious Cross, O Christ,

and we glorify and praise Your Resurrection,//

for by Your wounds we have all been healed.

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

We praise the Savior incarnate of the Virgin,

for He was crucified for our sake and resurrected on the third day,//

granting us great mercy.

V. (5) *For Your Name’s sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

Christ descended to hell proclaiming the glad tidings:

“Behold! Now I have triumphed!

I am the Resurrection, I will lead you out,//

for I have shattered the gates of death!”

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

**Tone 4** *(for the Theotokos) (As one valiant among the martyrs)*

The shrine that holds your sash, O Theotokos,

is ever known by your servants to be an ark of sanctification.

It is our glory and boast; a sacred wall surrounding us;

a fountain of healings.

Therefore being divinely gathered today,//

we hymn your mighty acts and the vast abyss of your wonders.

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: “The shrine that holds…”)

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

Behold the all-glorious place!

Behold the ever-radiant temple in which a treasure has been laid:

the sash of the Mother of the divine Son!

Come, O people! Draw forth enlightenment and mercy,

and shout with a grateful heart:

“All-holy Virgin, we bless you,//

for we have been saved by your childbearing.”

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

We rejoice and keep the feast of the placing of your belt, O Theotokos,

for today you have granted it to your people,

it is a sacred garment, wealth that cannot be stolen,

a precious gift and river of healings//

overflowing with spiritual treasures!

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

**Tone 2** *(for the Theotokos)*

As with a supremely shining crown,

the Church of God is robed in your holy sash, O all-holy Theotokos.

Today it is radiant and cries out to you rejoicing:

“Rejoice, sovereign Lady,

precious diadem and crown of divine glory!

Rejoice, for you alone are the fullness of glory and everlasting gladness!

Rejoice, refuge of those who run to you,//

our intercessor and salvation!”

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

**Tone 3** *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

How can we not wonder

at your mystical childbearing, O exalted Mother?

For without receiving the touch of man,

you gave birth to a Son in the flesh, O immaculate Virgin.

The Son born of the Father before eternity

was born of you at the fullness of time, O honored Lady.

He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,

but preserved the fullness of each nature.

Entreat Him, O Lady and Virgin and Mother,

to save the souls of those who, in the Orthodox manner, confess you//

to be the Theotokos.

**Litya**

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

*these stichera are sung)*

**Tone 4** *(for the Theotokos) (You have given a sign)*

You gave your sash to your people, O glorious Lady,

as a divine protection to keep them safe from misfortunes,

preserving them, unvanquished by their enemies.

Therefore we cry to you with love:

“Your Son and God, Who alone is compassionate,//

is our strength, our might, and our greatest joy.”

Those who rule with piety,

should always praise you, O most-pure one.

They should treasure your sash as a garland and a precious crown,

and they should praise your divine majesty;

for it is known to strike fear in the hearts of our enemies.

Therefore, they should cry out to Him, Who beyond understanding was born of you://

“O Most-glorious Jesus, in Your compassion, save us!”

Beseech Him to grant peace and great mercy to our souls!

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

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

**Tone 4** *(for the Theotokos) (You have given a sign)*

Encircle us with the power of your sash, O Virgin,

and strengthen us against our enemies.

Chasten the passions which always torment us and struggle against us,

and grant us the victory of dispassion,

so that with purity we may glorify you

and earnestly cry out to your Son: //

“O All-powerful Jesus, in Your compassion, save us!”

**Aposticha**

**Tone 3** *(for the Resurrection)*

The sun was darkened by Your Passion, O Christ,

but all creation was enlightened by the light of Your Resurrection.//

Accept our evening song, O Lover of man!

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

Your life-bearing Resurrection, O Lord,

enlightened the whole universe, recalling Your creation.

Delivered from Adam's curse, we sing://

O Almighty Lord, glory to You!

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

You are the changeless God,

Who, suffering in the flesh, were changed.

Creation could not endure seeing You on the Cross.

It was filled with fear while praising Your patience.

By descending to hell and rising on the third day,//

You have granted to the world life and great mercy.

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

You endured death, O Christ,

to deliver the race of men from death.

You rose from the dead on the third day,

raising with Yourself those who knew You as God//

and enlightening the world. Glory to You!

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

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

**Tone 2** *(for the Theotokos)*

Having cleansed our heart and mind,

let us keep feast together with the Angels,

joyfully addressing the song of David

to the maiden Bride of the King of all, Christ our God, saying:

“Arise, O Lord, into Your resting place,

both You and the ark of Your holiness!”

For You have adorned her as a beautiful palace,

giving her as an inheritance to Your people, O Master,

to preserve and shelter them from their enemies,//

by Your mighty power, through her supplications.

***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 3** **Troparion** *(Resurrection)*

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,

and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

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

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

**Tone 8 Troparion** *(Theotokos)*

Ever Virgin Theotokos, protectress of mankind,

you have given your people a powerful legacy:

the robe and sash of your most honored body which remained incorrupt throughout your seedless childbearing;

for through you time and nature are renewed.//

Therefore we implore you: “Grant peace to your people and to our souls great mercy!”

***(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)*

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

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**Tone 3** **Kontakion** *(Resurrection)*

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,

leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;

with the Prophets and Patriarchs//

they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

**Tone 4 Kontakion** *(Theotokos)*

Today your flock celebrates the enshrinement of your precious sash,

and it earnestly cries out to you://

“Rejoice, O Virgin, boast of all Christians!”

**Tone 3** **Prokeimenon** *(Resurrection)*

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

*(Ps. 46:6)*

V. *Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)*

**Epistle**

(158) 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Tone 3**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. *In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame! (Ps. 30:1a)*

V. *Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me! (Ps. 30:2b)*

**Gospel**

(79) Matthew 19:16-26

**Communion Hymn**

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.*