

25 APRIL (Paschaltide)
± Apostle and Evangelist Mark

Lord I have cried

Tone 1

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;

O Lord, listen to me.

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;

Note the voice of my plea when I cry to you.

O Lord, listen to me.

² Let my prayer be directed before you like incense,
the raising of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

O Lord, listen to me.

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?

But there is forgiveness with you.

O faithful, come and sing praises to Mark. He is the wise writer of the gospel. The greatest of Egypt's cities heard his inspired words. O apostle, guide our lives in the way of peace through your prayers and teaching.

S5: O Lord, I have waited for you for your name's sake;

my soul has waited for your word,

my soul has hoped in the Lord.

You became a fellow-traveller of Paul, the chosen vessel. You accompanied him through all Macedonia; then you followed Peter to Rome. You were welcomed as his secretary and interpreter. Nevertheless, all-wise Mark, it was in Egypt that you finished your course in a manner well-pleasing to God.

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord

from morning watch until night,

from morning watch.

O holy Mark, you gave life to barren souls and watered them with the radiant stream of your gospel. Because of you Alexandria rejoices with us today and celebrates your blessed memory.

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord

and abundant redemption with *him*.

He will redeem Israel from all his offences.
Most blessed Mark, you drank from the Fountain of delight and became a river of peace. You flowed from Eden and surrounded us like a protecting sea. The proclamation of your gospel waters the face of the earth. The Church is established through your divinely inspired teaching.

S2: Every nation, praise the Lord;
every people, acclaim him!

Most praised and wise apostle Mark, Moses once drowned the Egyptians in the sea, but you have drawn them up from the depths of error. You lived with them, showed them power and destroyed their idols with your strong right arm.

S1: For his mercy is strengthened over us
and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.

O holy Mark, when you received the light of the Spirit, you became a completely spiritual man. Because of your constant desire for the Lord, you now stand before God and are made divine by his blessed radiance. You have discovered both the Source of the mystery and the goal for which you longed.

Glory: Tone 6

O Apostle Mark, grace is poured on your lips. You became a shepherd of Christ's Church and taught the sheep whom God endowed with reason to believe in the consubstantial Trinity in one Divinity.

Both now:

From the Pentecostarion

Phos Ilarón

P/D: Wisdom! Stand upright!

O Jesus Christ, joyful light of the holy glory
of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father,
when we come to the setting of the sun
and see the light of evening,
we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For it is right at all times to worship you
with voices of praise,

O Son of God *and* Giver of life.
Therefore the world glorifies you.

Prokeímenon
Of the Day

Ektení

Prayer

O Lord, allow us this night to be guarded from sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers! Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be on us, for we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. Blessed are you, O Master; make me understand your statutes. Blessed are you, O Holy *One*; enlighten me with your statutes. O Lord, your mercy lasts for ever; do not overlook the work of your hands. To you belongs worship, to you belongs praise, to you belongs glory, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Plirotiká

Prayer

P: Peace be with you all. R: And with your spirit

D: Bow down your heads to the Lord. R: To you, O Lord.

P: For blessed and glorified is the power of your Kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

Apósticha

Tone 1

O Mark, learned in divine wisdom, you became the pen of a skilful writer and recorded Christ's life with inspired words. You clearly proclaim the good news of eternal life. We ask you, "Inscribe in the book of life the names of all those who glorify and praise your memory."

S1: His sound has gone out into all the earth
and his words to the ends of the world. Ps 18

O Mark, you are worthy of highest praise. You crossed the earth and preached the gospel of Christ. Like the sun you enlightened men with the rays of faith and drove away the darkness of idolatry. Implore Christ to grant peace and great mercy to our souls.

S2: The heavens declare God's glory

and the firmament speaks about his handiwork. Ps 18

Most blessed Apostle Mark, you preached to the people bound with the madness of idolatry. Egypt's darkness was banished by the light of your words. Implore Christ, whose gospel you preached, to grant peace and great mercy to our souls.

Glory: Tone 8

All you faithful, come and praise Mark with psalms and hymns. He is the herald of heavenly mysteries and interpreter of the gospel. He is a river of the spiritual Paradise and waters the earth with living streams, so that it may bear fruit for Christ our God. Forgiveness and great mercy are granted to all through his intercession.

Both now: Tone 2

From the Pentecostarion

Song of Simeon

B/P: O Master, now let your servant depart in peace

according to your word,

² for my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared before all peoples,

³ a light of revelation for *the* nations

and *the* glory of your people Israel.

Triságion Prayers

Apolytikia

Tone 3

O holy apostle Mark, pray to the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness for their failings.

From the Pentecostarion

Dismissal

ORTHROS

God is the Lord Ps 117

R: God is the Lord and has appeared to us.

Blessed is the one who comes in the Lord's name. *Ps 117*

S1: Thank the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy lasts for ever.

S2: All the nations surrounded me,
but I opposed them in the Lord's name.

S3: This *is* the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful in our eyes.

Apolytikia

Tone 3

O holy apostle Mark, pray to the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness for their failings.

From the Pentecostarion

Small Litany

P: For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kathisma 1

Tone 1

O holy apostle Mark, you have shone over the world in splendour like the dawn and driven away the deep darkness of delusion through faith. You have enlightened our souls. Therefore today the whole Church celebrates your light-bearing memory.

Glory: Both now:

From the Pentecostarion

Kathisma 2

Tone 4

O apostle Mark, you learnt wisdom from the Source of life, and taught those who had previously worshipped idols in ignorance and insanity. Therefore you are blessed forever. Now you stand before the throne of the holy Trinity and pray that we may find remission of our sins.

Glory: Both now:
From the Pentecostarion

Small Litany

P: For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy
and wipe out my offence through your great compassion.
⁴ Wash me thoroughly from my lawless act
and cleanse me from my sin.
⁵ For I know my lawlessness
and my sin is always before me.
⁶ I have sinned against you alone
and done this evil before you
^{6b} so that you might be justified in your words
and overcome when you are judged.
⁷ For see, I was conceived in lawlessness
and my mother gave birth to me in sin.
⁸ For see, you have loved truth
and revealed to me the hidden and secret *things* of your wisdom.
⁹ You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be clean;
you will wash me and I will become whiter than snow.
¹⁰ You will make me hear about joy and gladness;
the humbled bones will rejoice.
¹¹ Turn your face from my sins
and wipe out all my lawlessness.
¹² O God, create a pure heart within me
and renew an upright spirit within me.
¹³ Do not banish me from your presence
or remove your Holy Spirit from me.
¹⁴ Restore the joy of your salvation to me

and make me firm with your directing Spirit.
15 I will teach the lawless your ways
and the ungodly will return to you.
16 O God, set me free from the guilt of blood;
O God of my salvation,
my tongue will rejoice in your justice.
17 O Lord, you will open my lips
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
18 For if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it;
you will not be pleased with burnt offerings.
19 Sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;
God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.
20 O Lord, be good to Zion in your pleasure
and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.
21 Then you will be pleased with a sacrifice of justice,
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;
then they will offer calves on your altar.

Kontákion

Tone 2

O Apostle, you received the grace of the Spirit from above and destroyed the snares of the orators. O renowned Mark, you preached the divine gospel, hunted all the nations and led them to your Master.

Íkos

O disciple of the chief of the apostles, you preached Christ as the Son of God alongside him. You strengthened those who had been unsettled by error with the Rock of truth. Direct the paths of my heart and also make me strong in the truth. Therefore, O apostle Mark, after I have been rescued from the snares of the enemy, I can freely glorify you, for you have brought the light to us all as you preached the divine Gospel.

Synaxáron

Today we remember the holy Apostle and Evangelist Mark. His mother's house is identified as the place of the Last Supper and is also mentioned in Acts 13. While staying in Rome he committed the memoirs of Peter to writing in the Gospel. Later he is connected with Alexandria and Egypt. On the Twenty Fifth heaven opened and gave a warm welcome to Mark

who had received cold rejection and ill-treatment from the godless on earth.

Together with him we remember:

Bishop Phoebadios of Agen C4

Abbot Sylvester of Obnora C14

O God, have mercy on us through their holy prayers. Amen.

Katavasías

1: It is the day of Resurrection; O people, let us be radiant. It is Pascha, the Pascha of the Lord, for Christ God has made us pass from death to life and from earth to heaven and we sing the triumphal song.

3: Come and drink a new drink, not one miraculously produced from a barren rock, but from the Spring of incorruption which pours out from the tomb of Christ in whom we are made firm

4: Let the Prophet Habakkuk who was inspired by God, stand with us in the divine guard. Let him point out the radiant Angel, who announces with resounding voice, “To-day there is salvation for the world, for Christ has risen as the almighty *Lord*.”

5: Let us rise before the dawn and offer praise to the Master instead of myrrh. We shall see Christ, the Sun of justice who makes life dawn for everyone.

6: O Christ, you descended into the deepest parts of the earth and shattered the eternal shackles of those that those who were chained. On the third day you rose from the tomb like Jonah from the whale.

7: The one who set free the children from the furnace, becomes man and suffers as a mortal. The one who is the only blessed and most glorious God of our fathers clothes the mortal through suffering with the splendour of incorruption.

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord.

This is the chosen and holy day, the first of Sabbaths, the Queen and Lady, the Feast of Feasts, and the Festival of Festivals on which we bless Christ for ever.

Ode 9

My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour. **R**

R: *You are* more honourable than the Cherubim
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim.
You gave birth to God the Word without defilement;
O true Theotokos, we glorify you.

² For he has regarded his servant's humility;
see, from now all generations will call me blessed. **R**

³ For the Almighty has accomplished great *things* for me
and his name is holy.

His mercy is from generation to generation
on those who fear him. **R**

⁴ He has accomplished strength with his arm
and scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. **R**

⁵ He has put down the mighty from *their* thrones
and exalted the humble.

He has satisfied the hungry with good *things*
and dismissed the rich with nothing. **R**

⁶ He has helped his servant Israel
in remembering his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and his seed for ever. **R**

9: The Angel cried to her who is full of grace, "Rejoice, O pure Virgin, rejoice!" And again I say, "Rejoice!" for your Son has risen from the tomb on the third day.

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has dawned on you. O Sion, dance now and rejoice and you, O pure Theotokos, also rejoice at the resurrection of the one whom you bore.

Exaposteilária

Tone 3

The holy apostle Peter calls you his son in his letter. You were the first to write down the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the sake of the Egyptians. O apostle Mark you have brought life to the whole inhabited earth through it.

From the Pentecostarion

Praises

Tone 1

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise him in the heights.

To you, O God, is due a song.

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his powers.

To you, O God, is due a song.

S4: Praise him with cymbal and dance;

praise him with strings and flute.

Holy Mark is the radiant light of Egypt, the wise messenger of the Word and the writer of the Gospel. Let us praise him with hymns and divine songs, for he pleads before Christ that our souls may be given peace and great mercy.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;

praise him with joyful cymbals.

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

Holy Mark is the radiant light of Egypt, the wise messenger of the Word and the writer of the Gospel. Let us praise him with hymns and divine songs, for he pleads before Christ that our souls may be given peace and great mercy.

S2: His sound has gone out into all the earth

and his words to the ends of the world. Ps 18

Because you were the editor of the teaching of Christ our God, you have brought light to the whole inhabited earth. You proclaimed his coming in the flesh, his resurrection and ascension to the Father. O holy apostle Mark, you have guided the nations to the knowledge of the one true God.

S1: The heavens declare God's glory

and the firmament speaks about his handiwork. Ps 18

O sacred Mark, apostle of the Lord, you were the gentle companion of holy Peter, for you listened intently to all the holy teaching. You enlightened the Egyptians and made Christ shine in their hearts through the grace of the Holy Spirit. You have become the treasure of Alexandria.

Glory: Tone 6

O apostle Mark, grace was poured out on your lips. You became a shepherd of the Church of Christ and taught the mystical flock about faith in the consubstantial Trinity and undivided Divinity.

Both now: Tone 2

From the Pentecostarion

Great Doxology

Glory to you who have shown us the light!

glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

² We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory,

³ O Lord King, heavenly God, almighty Father,
O Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,
and you, O Holy Spirit!

⁴ O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us,

for you take away the sin of the world.

⁵ Receive our prayer,
for you sit on the right of the Father,
and have mercy on us.

⁶ For only you are holy, only you are Lord,
O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

⁷ I will bless you every day
and always praise your name for ever and ever. Ps 144

⁸ O Lord, allow us this day
to be guarded from sin.

⁹ Blessed are you, O Lord God of our fathers!

Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. Daniel 3

- ¹⁰ O Lord, let your mercy *be* on us,
for we have hoped in you. Ps 32.
- ¹⁶ Blessed are you, O Lord!
Teach me your statutes. X3 Ps 118
- ¹² O Lord, you have been our refuge
from generation to generation. Ps 89
- I said, "O Lord, have mercy on me;
heal my soul, for I have sinned against you." Ps 40
- ¹⁴ O Lord, I have fled to you;
teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Ps 142
- ¹⁵ For with you is the source of life
and in your light we will see light. Ps 35
- ¹⁶ Stretch out your mercy
to those who know you. Ps 35

Triságion

Apolytíkion

Tone 3

O holy apostle Mark, pray to the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness for their failings.

LITURGY

Antíphon 1 Ps 65 Tone 2

S1: All the earth, shout with joy to the Lord;

R: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us.

S2: Make melody to his name
and give glory in his praise.

S3: Say to God, "How fearful are your works!
Your enemies will cringe before you
because of the greatness of your power."

S4: Let all the earth worship you and sing to you;
O Most High, let them make melody to your name.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Antíphon 2 Ps 66 Own Tone

S1: May God be compassionate to us and bless us;
may he cause his face to shine on us
and be merciful to us.

R: Save us, O Son of God.
You have risen from the dead.
We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

S2: May we know your way on earth,
your salvation among all the nations.

S3: O God, let the peoples acknowledge you
and all the peoples thank you.

S4: May God bless us
and all the ends of the earth fear him.

S5: Glory: Both now:
Monogenes

Antíphon 3 Ps 67 & 117 Tone 8

S1: Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him take flight from his presence.

R: Christ is risen from the dead! He has trampled down death by death
and granted life to those in the tombs.

S2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish,
as wax melts before the fire,

S3: So let sinners perish at the presence of God;
let the just be festive.

S4: This *is* the day which the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Entrance Ps 67 Tone 5

Bless God, in *the* assemblies,
the Lord from the springs of Israel.

Save us, O Son of God!
You arose from the dead.
We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

Apolytikia

From the Pentecostarion

Tone 3

O holy apostle Mark, pray to the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness for their failings.

Of the Church

Kontákion

Pascha to Farewell, except below

Tone 8

O immortal *Lord*, although you descended into the grave, yet you overthrew the power of Hades; O Christ *our* God, you rose as conqueror. You greeted the women bearing myrrh, saying, “Rejoice!” As you grant resurrection to the fallen, you give peace to your apostles.

Kontákion

Thomas Week

Tone 8

O Christ *our* God, Thomas touched your life-giving side with an eager hand when you came to your apostles through closed doors. He cried out to all, “You are my Lord and my God!”

Prokeímenon Ps 18 Tone 8

R: His sound has gone out into all the earth.

S: The heavens declare God’s glory.

Apóstolos

From the First Catholic Letter of Peter (5:6-14)

Brothers, humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that in due time he may exalt you. ⁷ Cast all your anxieties on him, for he cares about you. ⁸ Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls round like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experience of suffering is required of your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, establish, and strengthen you. ¹¹ To him be the

dominion for ever and ever. Amen. ¹² By Silvánus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God; stand fast in it. ¹³ She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings; and so does my son Mark. ¹⁴ Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you that are in Christ.

Alleluia Ps 88 Tone 1

S1: O Lord, the heavens will acknowledge your wonders.

S2: God is glorified in a council of the saints.

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke (10:16-21)

The Lord said to his disciples, "The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects the one who sent me." ¹⁷ The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" ¹⁸ And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." ²¹ In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will."

Communion

The just will be in everlasting remembrance. Alleluia!

Post Communion

Christ is risen from the dead!

He has trampled death with death
and granted life to those in the tombs.