

Soul Saturday

Saturday before Judgment

Tone 1

DAILY VESPERS - FRIDAY EVENING

DEACON: Bless, Father.

PRIEST: Blessed is our God always now and ever and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

“Come Let Us Worship...”

Psalm 104

READER: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind, Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. You Who laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever, You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At Your rebuke they fled; at the voice of Your thunder they hastened away. They went up over the mountains; they went down into the valleys, to the place which You founded for them. You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, that they may not return to cover the earth. He sends the springs into the valleys, which flow among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. By them the birds of the heavens have their habitation; they sing among the branches. He waters the hills from His upper chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works. He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine that makes glad the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread which strengthens man's heart. The trees of the Lord are full of sap, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted, where the birds make their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high hills are for the wild goats; the cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers. He appointed the moon for the seasons; the sun know its going down. You made darkness, and it is night, in which all the beasts of the forest creep about. The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their food from God. When the sun arises, they gather together and lie down in their dens. Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening. O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions – this great and wide sea, in which are innumerable teeming things, living things both small and great. There the ships sail about and there is that Leviathan which You have made to play there. These

all wait for You, that You may give them their food in due season. What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in His works. He looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the hills, and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. May my meditation be sweet to Him; will be glad in the Lord. May sinners be consumed from the earth, and the wicked be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord! The sun knows its going down. You make darkness and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all.

READER: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

PEOPLE: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

O our God and our hope, glory to You!

The Great Litany

DEACON: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For the peace from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For this holy house, and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) N., the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For our president, all civil authorities, and for our armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For this city, every city and countryside, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For healthful seasons, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For travelers by sea, by land, and by air; the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our most-holy, most-pure, most-blessed, and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

Exclamation of the Fourth Prayer

PRIEST: For unto You are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

O Lord, I Cry...” – Tone 5

Opening Psalm Verses - Psalm 141:1, 2 (LXX 140)

O Lord, I cry out unto You, hear me! Hear me, O Lord. O Lord, I cry out to You, hear me. Give ear to my voice when I cry out, when I cry out to You. Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

Set a guard, O Lord over my mouth; keep watch o’er the door of my lips.

Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men who work iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies.

Let the righteous strike me; it shall be a kindness, and let him reprove me; it shall be as excellent oil. Let not my head refuse it, for still my prayer is against the deeds of the wicked.

Their judges are overthrown by the sides of the cliff and they hear my words for they are sweet. Our bones are scattered at the mouth of the grave, as when one plows and breaks up the earth.

But my eyes are upon You, O God the Lord; in You I take refuge; do not leave my soul destitute.

Keep me from the snares which they have laid for me, and from the traps of the workers of iniquity. Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I escape safely.

Psalm 142 (LXX 141)

I cry out to the Lord with my voice; with my voice to the Lord I make my supplication.

I pour out my complaint before Him; I declare before Him my trouble.

When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then You knew my path. In a way in which I walk they have secretly set a snare for me.

Look on my right hand and see, for there is no one who acknowledges me; refuge has failed me; no one cares for my soul.

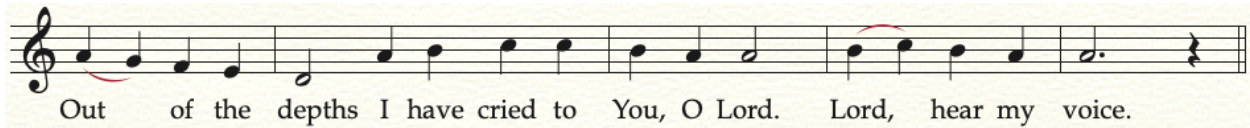
I cried out to You, O Lord. I said, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors for they are stronger than I."

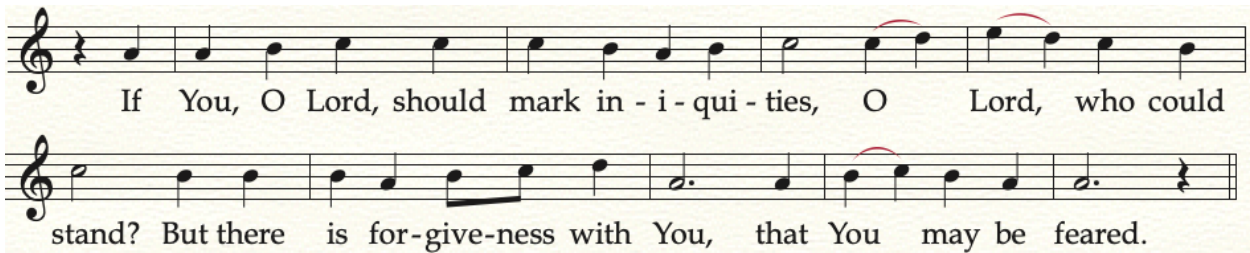
Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Your name.

The righteous shall surround me, for You shall deal bountifully with me.

Psalm 130 (LXX 129)

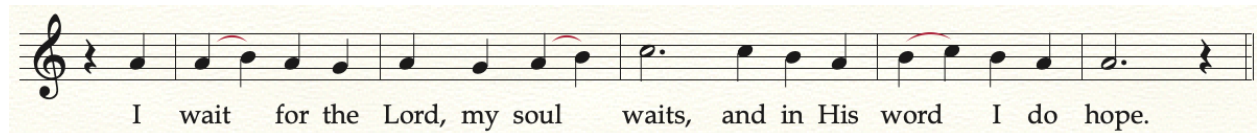


Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

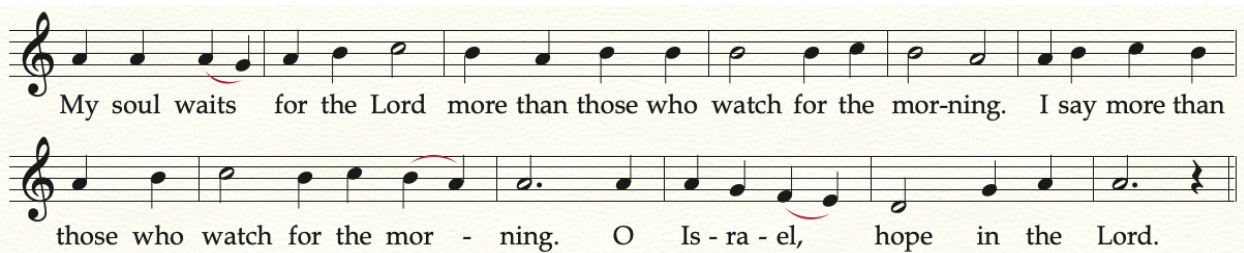


(Tone 1) – Martyrs

At the prayers, O Lord, of all the saints and of the Theotokos, grant us Your peace and have mercy on us, for You only are compassionate.



The confession of faith that you made in the arena, O you saints, filled the hosts of demons with fear and set men free from error. As you were beheaded you cried out: 'May the sacrifice of our souls be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord; for, desiring You Who love mankind, we have despised this quickly passing life.'



Wise was the exchange you made, O saints! You gave your blood, and received heaven as your reward; you suffered tribulation for a time, and now make glad eternally. Wisely have you traded: forsaking things corruptible, you have attained things incorruptible; and rejoicing with the choirs of angels you sing continually the praises of the consubstantial Trinity.



(Tone 8) – Departed

O you faithful, remember today by name all the dead from all the ages who have lived in piety and faith, let us sing praises to the Lord and Savior, asking Him fervently to give them in the hour of judgment a good defense before our God Who judges all the earth. May they receive a place at His right hand in joy; may they dwell in glory with the righteous and the saints, and be counted worthy of His heavenly Kingdom.

Psalm 117 (LXX 116)

O, praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!

By Your own Blood, O Savior, You have ransomed mortal men, and by Your death You have delivered us from bitter death, granting us eternal life by Your Resurrection. Give rest then, O Lord, to all those who have fallen asleep in godliness, whether in wilderness or city, on the sea or land, in every place, both princes, priests and bishops, monks and married people, of every age and line, and count them worthy of Your heavenly Kingdom.

For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Through Your rising from the dead, O Christ, death rules no longer over those who die in faith. Therefore, we pray fervently: Give rest in Your courts and in the bosom of Abraham to Your servants who from Adam to this present day have worshipped You in purity, our fathers and brethren, friends and kin, all who in different ways have offered faithful service to You in this life and now have gone to dwell with You, O God; and count them worthy of Your heavenly Kingdom.

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

(Tone 8) – Departed

I weep and lament when I think upon death and behold our beauty, fashioned after the image of God lying in the tomb disfigured, dishonored, and deprived of form. O strange wonder! What mystery is this concerning us? Why have we been given over unto corruption? Why have we been wedded unto death? All of this, so it is written, is by the command of God Who grants rest to the departed.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Tone 1) – Resurrection Theotokion

Let us sing the praises of the Virgin Mary, the door of heaven and the glory of all the world, the song of the angels, and the beauty of all the earth. For she was born a human yet gave birth to God. She was revealed as heaven and the temple of the Godhead. Tearing down the wall of enmity, she ushered in peace and threw open the kingdom. Therefore, since she is the foundation of our faith, we have as our defender the Lord, Who was born of her. Be bold, therefore, be bold, O people of God, for Christ will destroy all our enemies, since He is all-powerful.

“O Joyful Light”

PEOPLE: O joyful Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening, we praise God: the 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 all the world glorifies You.

Alleluia: Tone 8 (Kievan)

Psalm 65:4 (LXX 64)

DEACON: Wisdom!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Verse: Blessed are those whom You have chosen and taken to be with You.
They will live in Your courts.*

Verse: Their memory is from generation to generation.

The Evening Prayer

PEOPLE: Grant, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen. Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on You. Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes. Blessed are You, O Master; make me to understand Your statutes. Blessed are You, O holy One; enlighten me with Your statutes. Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever. Despise not the works of Your hands. To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Evening Litany

DEACON: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That this whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For all things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For a Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, and peaceful, and for a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our most-holy, most-pure, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

Exclamation of the Seventh Prayer

PRIEST: For You are a good God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE: And to your spirit.

The Prayer with Heads Bowed

DEACON: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord, our God, Who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of mankind, look upon Your servants and Your inheritance; for to You,

the fearful Judge, Who love mankind, have Your servants bowed their heads, and submissively inclined their necks, not awaiting help from men, but entreating Your mercy and looking confidently for Your salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every enemy, from all adverse powers of the devil, and from vain thoughts and evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of Your kingdom: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Aposticha: Tone 1

O martyrs worthy of all praise,
your bodies were not buried in the earth,
yet heaven has received you; *
the gates of Paradise were opened to you,
And entering within, you have eaten from the tree of life. *
Pray to Christ that He may grant peace and great mercy to our souls.

Blessed are those whom You have chosen, and taken to Yourself, O Lord.

What pleasure in this life remains unmarked by sorrow?
What glory can endure upon this earth unchanged?
All is feebler than a shadow, more deceptive than a dream, *
for in a single moment death takes all things away.
But in the light of Your countenance, O Christ,
and in the joy of Your beauty,
give rest to those whom You have chosen, *
for You love mankind.

Their memory is from generation to generation.

No man is free from sin,
none save You, Who only are immortal.
Therefore, in divine compassion grant unto Your servants *
a dwelling place in light with the choirs of Your angels.
In Your lovingkindness overlook their sins *
and grant forgiveness to them.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

(Tone 6) – Soul Saturday

Your creative command was my beginning and foundation.
For You have willed to fashion me as a living creature from natures
both visible and invisible:
You have made my body from the earth, *
and have given me a soul by Your divine and life-giving breath.

Therefore, O Savior, give rest to Your servants *
in the land of the living where the righteous dwell.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the intercessions of the Mother who bore You, O Christ,
and through the prayers of Your martyrs, apostles, prophets, bishops and
holy monks,
and of the righteous and all the saints, *
give rest to Your servants who have fallen asleep.

Hymn of St. Simeon (Byzantine)

Lord, now You are let-ting Your ser - vant de - part in peace, ac -
5 cor-ding to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your sal -
9 va - tion, which You have pre - pared be-fore the face of all
13 peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles,
16 and the glo - ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Trisagion Prayers

PEOPLE: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto
ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon
our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto
ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

PRIEST: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Troparion of Soul Saturday: Tone 8 (Kievan) (2x)

O Cre - a - tor, Who by Your pro-found wis - dom,
or - der all things in Your love for man - kind; and grant to all
men that which is best for them. Grant rest, O Lord, to the souls
of Your ser - vants for they have placed their hope in
You, our Ma - ker, Cre - a - tor, and our God.

Cantor: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

For they have placed their hope in You, our Ma - ker, Cre -
a - tor, and our God.

Cantor: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



The Litany of Fervent Supplication

DEACON: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, hear us we pray, and have mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians; for our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) *N.*; for our brethren: the priests, deacons, and monastics and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (*and for the servants of God. NN.*); and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, and for pardon and forgiveness of sins for (*the servants of God NN., and*) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for those who serve and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: [O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication of Your servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Your mercy; and send down Your compassion on us and on all Your people, who await Your great and rich mercy.]

For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Blessing & Dismissal

DEACON: Wisdom!

PEOPLE: Father bless.

PRIEST: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always now and ever and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen. Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox Faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

PRIEST: Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

PEOPLE: More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos, we magnify you.

PRIEST: Glory to You, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to You.

PEOPLE: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Father, bless.

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, the Immortal King, Who has dominion over the living and the dead and Who rose from the dead, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-blameless Mother, of the holy glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, of our venerable forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, of the holy and righteous friend of Christ, Lazarus of four-days, and of all the saints, establish the souls of His servants, departed this life, in the dwelling-place of the righteous, give them rest in the bosom of Abraham, and number them among the righteous; and have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Memory Eternal

PRIEST: Grant rest eternal and blessed repose, O Lord, to the souls of Your servants, and make their memory eternal

PEOPLE: Memory eternal. (3x)

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Soul Saturday Troparion: Tone 8 (Kievan)

O Cre - a - tor, Who by Your pro-found wis - dom,
or - der all things in Your love for man - kind; and grant to all
men that which is best for them. Grant rest, O Lord, to the souls
of Your ser - vants for they have placed their hope in
You, our Ma - ker, Cre - a - tor, and our God.

Soul Saturday Kontakion: Tone 8 (Kievan)

With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of Your
ser - - - vants where there is nei-ther sick - ness nor
sor - row, nor sigh - ing, but life ev-er-last - ing.

Ikos

You alone are immortal, Who have created and fashioned man. For out of the earth were we mortals made, and unto the same earth shall we return again, just as You commanded when You fashioned me, saying: Earth you are, and to the earth shall you return. To the grave shall all we mortals go, making of our lamentation the song: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

O Creator



*Who by Your Profound
Wisdom..."*