

**GREAT VESPERS**

**FOR**

**SATURDAY, February 20, 2021**

**IN**

**TONE 4**

**Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord.  
Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee**

**Commemorating the Great-martyr Theodore Stratelates  
("the General") of Heraclea; the Prophet Zechariah; St.  
Sabbas II, Archbishop of Serbia; Sts. John and Basil of  
the Kyivan Caves**

**INSERT FOR THE BOOKLET  
"GREAT VESPERS"**

**Beginning on Page 19**

**VERSES FOR "LORD, I HAVE CRIED"  
(INSERT on PAGE 29)**

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

**(Tone 4) Ever hailing Your life-giving Cross, O Christ our Lord, we glorify Your Resurrection on the third day, for You Who are all powerful have thereby restored the corrupt nature of man and have reopened for us the upward path to heaven, for You only are good and love mankind.**

**v. The righteous shall wait for me, until You recompense me.**

**(Tone 4) Being of Your own will nailed to the wood of the Cross, You have abolished the penalty of disobedience committed through the tree and by descending into hell You have broken, as Almighty, the bonds of death. Therefore we worship Your Resurrection from the dead, and, rejoicing, we cry, "Glory to You, O Almighty Lord."**

**v. Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.**

**(Tone 4) You have broken in pieces the gates of hell, O Lord, and put an end by Your death to the dominion of death, and You have set mankind free by bestowing incorruption upon the world together with life and Your great mercy.**

**v. Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

**(Tone 4) O come all people, and let us sing the praises of the Saviour's Resurrection on the third day, for we have been delivered by it from the unbreakable bonds of hell, and having received incorruption and life, we all cry: "Will You, crucified, buried and risen, save us by Your Resurrection for only You love mankind!"**

**v. If you should mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with You is forgiveness.**

**(Tone 1) Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee: for he who exalts himself shall be humbled. Let us humble ourselves before God, and with fasting cry aloud as the Publican: God me merciful to us sinners.**

**v. Because of Your Name I have waited for You, O Lord; my soul has waited for Your word, my soul has hoped in the Lord.**

**(Tone 1) Brethren, let us not pray as the Pharisee: for he who exalts himself shall be humbled. Let us humble ourselves before God, and with fasting cry aloud as the Publican: God me merciful to us sinners.**

**v. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope in the Lord.**

**(Tone 1) A Pharisee, overcome with vainglory, and a Publican, bowed down in repentance, came to You the only Master. The one boasted and was deprived of blessings, while the other kept silent and was counted worthy of gifts. Confirm me, O Christ our God, in these his cries of sorrow, for You love mankind.**

**v. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

**(Tone 1) The Creator of all and our Redeemer was present in the Temple by the Virgin Mary. Receiving him with joy, the Elder cried aloud, "Now You shall dismiss Your servant in peace, according to Your good will, O God of all goodness!"**

**v. Praise the Lord, all nations; praise Him, all peoples.**

**(Tone 1) Simeon, receiving in his arms from the Virgin the Saviour, the One who had been begotten before all ages, cried aloud, "Today the ends of the earth have seen Your glory enlightening them! Now You shall dismiss Your servant in peace, for my eyes have seen You, the God of all goodness!"**

**v. For His mercy has prevailed over us, and the truth of the Lord abides forever.**

**(Tone 1) Carrying in his arms the Saviour who was born in these latter times for the salvation of mankind, Simeon cried aloud with joy, "I have seen the Light of the Gentiles and the Glory of Israel! Now let me depart from this world to You, according to Your word, O Lord!"**

**v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**(Tone 8) Almighty Lord, I know how great is the power of tears. For they led up Hezekiah from the gates of death; they delivered the sinful woman from the transgressions of many years; they justified the Publican above the Pharisee. And with them I also pray, "Have mercy on me."**

**v. Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

### **DOHMATYK**

**(Tone 8) David, the prophet, forefather of God through You gave voice beforehand in psalms concerning the great things done for You: Upon Your right hand stands the Queen. For God Who was pleased without father to be made man of You, has shown You forth Mother of life and mediator, that He might restore His image corrupted by the passions; and that when He had found the stray sheep caught in the mountains, He might lay it upon His shoulder and bring it to His Father, and by His own wish that Christ in Whom is great and bountiful mercy might gather it to the heavenly hosts and save the world, O Theotokos.**

**CONTINUE on PAGE 31...**

### **STYKHERA FOR THE DAY (INSERT on PAGE 37)**

**(Tone 4) Ascending upon the Cross, O Lord, You have abolished for us the ancestral curse, and descending into hell, having set free those in bonds from all eternity, You have bestowed on mankind incorruption and life. We therefore praise and glorify Your redeeming Resurrection upon the third day.**

**v. The Lord is King, and has put on glorious apparel.**

**(Tone 4) Hung upon the wood, You Who alone are mighty, have shaken the whole creation: while laid in the tomb, You have raised up those dwelling therein, and have bestowed life and incorruption on mankind; therefore, we praise and glorify Your redeeming Resurrection on the third day.**

**v. He has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.**

**(Tone 4) The lawless people who gave You, O Christ, to Pilate condemned You to be crucified, and showed themselves thankless towards their Benefactor. But it was Your good pleasure to suffer burial, and of Your own will have You rose as God on the third day, and have bestowed on us life without end and Your great mercy.**

**v. Holiness becomes Your house, O Lord, for ever.**

**(Tone 4) The women who sought You came in tears to Your tomb and when they found You not, they lamented and imploring said: "O Saviour of ours and Lord of all, how comes it that You have been stolen away? And what place can hold Your life bearing body?" An angel then stood before them and replied: "Weep not, but proclaim the good tidings that the Lord is risen, and grants us joy because He alone is compassionate."**

**v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**(Tone 5) Mind eyes are weight down by my transgressions, and I cannot lift them up and see the height of heaven. But receive me, Saviour, in repentance as the Publican and have mercy on me.**

**v. Both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.**

**(Tone 8) He who rides on the Cherubim and is praised by the Seraphim is presented today to the holy Temple according to the Law. He lies in the arms of an old man and receives the offerings due to God: a pair of turtledoves, a symbol of the Church and of the new people chosen from among the Gentiles. The two doves indicate that He is the Head of both the Old and of the New Testaments. As for Simeon, when he saw what had been revealed come to pass, he received the Child and blessed the Virgin Mother of God, pointing out to her the pains she would suffer. He asked the Lord to be dismissed, and said, "Now You shall dismiss me, O Lord, as You have promised: for my eyes have seen You, the eternal Light, God, the Saviour of the people called Christians!"**

**CONTINUE on PAGE 38...**

**TROPAR FOR THE DAY  
(INSERT on PAGE 39)**

**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. (3X)**

**CONTINUE on PAGE 39...**