

## GREAT MATINS – THOMAS SUNDAY

*Opening Blessing. Six Psalms. Great Litany. "God is the Lord" in Tone 7.*

### **Troparion**

*In Tone 7: When the tomb was sealed, O Christ God,\* You dawned as life from the sepulchre,\* and while the doors were shut,\* You came to Your disciples, the Resurrection of all,\* renewing a right spirit in us through them,\* according to Your great mercy. (3)*

### **Sessional Hymn I, Tone 1**

The disciples were in hiding out of fear of the Jews,\* and they gathered in the upper room in Zion.\* You stood in their midst, O Lord of goodness;\* and though the doors were closed, You appeared and filled them with joy.\* You showed them your hands and the wound of Your side,\* saying to the doubting disciple:\* Stretch forth your hand and know that it is I who have suffered for you. *Glory... Now... Repeat*

### **Sessional Hymn II, Tone 1**

Although the doors were closed, O Christ,\* You appeared to Your disciples as the Life of all.\* You showed them Your hands, Your feet, and Your side,\* to strengthen their faith in Your Resurrection from the grave.\* But Thomas was not with them and so he said:\* If I do not see with my own eyes\* I will not be convinced by Your words. *Glory... Now... Repeat*

### **Polyeleos**

### **Exaltation**

We extol You,\* O Life-giving Christ,\* because You descended into Hades for our sake,\* and You resurrected all with You.

1. The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.
2. For He bursts the gates of bronze and shatters the iron bars.
3. He led them forth from darkness and gloom and broke their chains to pieces.
4. The Lord arose as though from sleep, and He smote their enemies.
5. Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered.
6. This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
7. Glory... Now...

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to You, O God! (3)

### **Sessional Hymn, Tone 1**

When the Lord rose from the grave\* and appeared to His disciples in a marvelous manner, He said:\* Thomas, having seen my side and the marks of the nails,\* why do you doubt my Resurrection?\* Thomas, called the Twin, answered the Creator:\* You are truly my Lord and my God.

### **Gradual Hymn, Tone 4, Antiphon I**

### **Prokeimenon, Tone 4**

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God! v. He has strengthened the bars of your gates; He has blessed the children within you.

### **Gospel**

*Matthew 28: 16- 20*

### **Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ (3)**

### **Canon, Tone 1**

*ODE 1, Irmos:* Let us sing a hymn of victory, all you people,\* to the One who delivered the people of Israel\* from the harsh servitude of Pharaoh;\* for He is covered with glory.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

*ODE 3, Irmos:* O Christ, strengthen me on the unshakable rock of Your commandments.\* Enlighten me in the brightness of Your face,\* for there is no one holy but You, O Lord.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

*HYPAKOE, TONE 6:* As You appeared to Your disciples\* and gave them Your peace,\* come also to us, O God our Saviour, and save us.

*ODE 4, Irmos:* Awesome is the mystery of Your work of salvation, O Christ.\* The prophet Habakkuk saw it from afar\* as he penetrated the divine secrets.\* He said: O Lover of mankind,\* You have come for the salvation of Your people.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

*ODE 5, Irmos:* In this night vigil, we sing to You, O Christ,\* equal to the Father in eternity\* and the Saviour of our souls;\* grant peace to the world, O Lord and Lover of mankind.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

*ODE 6, Irmos:* You have saved Your prophet from the sea monster, O Lover of mankind;\* now I beseech You:\* draw me out of the abyss of my sins.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

*KONTAKION, TONE 8:* With his searching hand,\* Thomas explored Your life-giving side, O Christ God.\* For when You entered while the doors were shut,\* he called out to You with the rest of the Apostles:\* You are my Lord and my God!

*IKOS:* Who stopped the hand of the disciple from being melted when he approached the fiery side of the Saviour? Who gave him such boldness, to be able to touch this blazing door? Surely it was the One who was touched, for if He had not given this power to a hand made of clay, how could it have touched the wounds which shook both heaven and earth? And Thomas received the grace to touch Christ and shout out to Him: You are my Lord and my God.

*ODE 7, Irmos:* The people, called together at the sound of the instruments,\* had to worship the idols of the tyrant;\* but as their fathers before them,\* the young men, singing hymns of Zion with David,\* resisted the order of the tyrant and changed the flames into fresh dew.\* They sang the hymn of praise:\* Blessed are You, O our God and the God of our fathers.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

*ODE 8, Irmos:* He who protected the youths in the flaming furnace\* and who came down to them in the form of an angel,\* He is the Lord.\* Sing to Him and exalt Him throughout the ages.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

### **WE SING THE MAGNIFICAT**

*ODE 9, Irmos:* O most radiant Lamp, O God-bearer,\* you are the brilliant glory of the Lord\* and are exalted above all creatures;\* with our hymns we extol you.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

On this most bright day,\* filled with the light of Your grace, O Christ,\* You appeared to Your disciples in all Your beauty and goodness;\* with our hymns we extol You.

*Glory to Your holy Resurrection, O Lord!*

Your side was examined and touched by a mortal hand,\* yet it was not burned by Your divinity;\* with our hymns we extol You.

*Glory... Now...*

O Christ, You rose from the tomb, and You are our God.\* Though we have not seen Your Resurrection with our own eyes,\* yet we eagerly believe in You,\* and with our hymns we extol You.

*Katavasia* Shine in splendour,\* O new Jerusalem!\* For the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.\* O Zion, sing with joy and rejoice!\* And you, pure Mother of God,\* rejoice in the Resurrection of your Son.

### **Hymn of Light, Tone 3**

O Thomas, do not refuse to believe in Me,\* for I was wounded for your sake.\* Examine my wounds with your hand,\* be of one mind with the other disciples\* and proclaim that I am the living God.

*Glory... Now...*

Today the fragrance of Spring arises,\* and the new creation rejoices.\* Today the locks are pulled from the door of the disbelief of Thomas,\* and the nails of doubt are broken by the presence of the Lord.\* In an act of faith the Apostle confesses:\* You are indeed my Lord and my God.

### **At the Praises, For 4**

*Tone 1* After Your wondrous Resurrection,\* O Lord and source of Life,\* You entered even though the doors were locked,\* just as You did not break the seals of the tomb.\* You filled Your glorious disciples with joy,\* and in Your goodness, You gave them your Spirit of Truth. (2)

When You appeared to Your disciples, O Lord,\* Thomas, who was called the Twin, was not with them.\* Thus he did not believe in Your Resurrection,\* and he said to those who saw You:\* Unless I place my finger into His side\* and into the marks of the nails,\* I will not believe that He is risen.

O Thomas, touch Me as you wish,\* extend your hand and realize that I am flesh and bones;\* know that I truly have a human body, said Christ.\* Do not persist in your unbelief, but now believe.\* And Thomas responded: You are my Lord and my God!\* Glory to Your holy Resurrection!

*Glory... Tone 6:* Eight days after Your Resurrection,\* O only Son and Word of God,\* You appeared to Your disciples through locked doors\* and granted them Your peace.\* To the unbelieving disciple You showed the marks of your passion, saying:\* Reach out and examine my hands, feet, and the wound of my side.\* He was convinced and cried out to You:\* My Lord and my God, glory to You!

*Now... Tone 2* You are truly most blessed, O virgin Mother of God.\* Through the One who was incarnate of you,\* Hades was chained, Adam revived, the curse wiped out,\* Eve set free, Death put to death,\* and we ourselves were brought back to life.\* That is why we cry out in praise:\* Blessed are You, O Christ our God,\* who finds in this your good pleasure. Glory to You!