

## The Third Stasis

(Chanted on the Third Friday of Great Lent)



### Ikos 7

A new creation hath the Creator revealed, manifesting Himself unto us His creatures. For He sprang from a seedless womb, and kept it incorrupt as it was, that seeing the miracle we might sing to Her, crying out:

Rejoice, flower of incorruptibility:

Rejoice, crown of continence!

Rejoice, Thou from whom shineth the Archetype of the Resurrection:

Rejoice, Thou Who revealest the life of the angels!

Rejoice, tree of shining fruit, whereby the faithful are nourished:

Rejoice, tree of goodly shade by which many are sheltered!

Rejoice, Thou that has carried in Thy womb the Redeemer of captives:

Rejoice, Thou that gavest birth to the Guide of those astray!

Rejoice, supplication before the Righteous Judge:

Rejoice, forgiveness of many sins!

Rejoice, robe of boldness for the naked:

Rejoice, love that doth vanquish all desire!

Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

### **Kontakion 8**

Having beheld a strange nativity, let us estrange ourselves from the world and transport our minds to Heaven; for the Most High God appeared on earth as a lowly man, because He wished to draw to the heights them that cry to Him: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 8**

Wholly present was the Inexpressible Word among those here below, yet in no way absent from those on high; for this was a divine condescension and not a change of place, and His birth was from a God-receiving Virgin Who heard these things:

Rejoice, container of the Uncontainable God:  
Rejoice, door of solemn mystery!  
Rejoice, report doubtful to unbelievers:  
Rejoice, undoubted boast of the faithful!  
Rejoice, all-holy chariot of Him Who sitteth upon the Cherubim:  
Rejoice, all-glorious temple of Him Who is above the Seraphim!  
Rejoice, Thou Who hast united opposites:  
Rejoice, Thou Who hast joined virginity and motherhood!  
Rejoice, Thou through whom transgression hath been absolved:  
Rejoice, Thou through whom Paradise is opened!  
Rejoice, key to the kingdom of Christ:  
Rejoice, hope of eternal good things!  
Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

### **Kontakion 9**

All the angels were amazed at the great act of Thine incarnation; for they saw the Unapproachable God as a man approachable to all, abiding with us, and hearing from all: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 9**

We see most eloquent orators mute as fish before Thee, O Theotokos; for they are at a loss to tell how Thou remainest a Virgin and could bear a child. But we, marveling at this mystery, cry out faithfully:

Rejoice, receptacle of the Wisdom of God:  
Rejoice, treasury of His Providence!  
Rejoice, Thou Who showest philosophers to be fools:  
Rejoice, Thou Who exposest the learned as irrational!  
Rejoice, for the clever critics have become foolish:  
Rejoice, for the writers of myths have faded away!

Rejoice, Thou Who didst rend the webs of the Athenians:  
Rejoice, Thou Who didst fill the nets of the fishermen!  
Rejoice, Thou Who drawest us from the depths of ignorance:  
Rejoice, Thou Who enlightenest many with knowledge!  
Rejoice, ship for those who wish to be saved:  
Rejoice, harbor for sailors on the sea of life!  
Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

### **Kontakion 10**

Desiring to save the world, He that is the Creator of all came to it according to His Own promise, and He that, as God, is the Shepherd, for our sake appeared unto us as a man; for like calling unto like, as God He heareth: Alleluia!

*Then the Choir chants the Kontakion:*

*(Tone 8)*

To Thee, the Champion Leader, we Thy servants dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos: but as Thou art one with might which is invincible, from all dangers that can be do Thou deliver us, that we may cry to Thee: Rejoice, Thou Bride Unwedded!

*Then the Trisagion is read, after which is read the Kontakion of the feast, if there is one (falling on the Saturday). If not, then the Kontakion of all Saints is read:*

To Thee, O Lord, the Planter of creation, the world doth offer the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of nature. By their intercessions, preserve Thy Church, Thy commonwealth, in profound peace, through the Theotokos, O Greatly-merciful One.

Lord, have mercy (*forty times*).

*Then the order of [Small Compline](#) is resumed, ending with the hymn “Awed by the beauty...” and then the prayer:*

*“Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.*

