

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2020
Beginning of Christmas Fast
Martyrs Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos of Edessa C3-C4
[Venerable Father Paisius Velichkovsky C18]
Luke 8
23rd Sunday Tone 6 & Eothinón 1

VESPERS

Lord I have cried

Tone 6

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.

S10: Lead my soul from prison that I may acknowledge your name.

O Christ, you were victorious over Hades. You ascended the cross and raised with you those who sat in the shadow of death, for you are free among the dead and pour out life from your light. O almighty Saviour, have mercy on us.

S9: The just will wait for me until you reward me.

Today Christ has trampled on death, for he has risen as he said and granted joy to the world, so that we may all sing this hymn, “O unapproachable Light, Source of life, almighty Saviour, have mercy on us.”

S8: O Lord, I have cried to you from the depths;

O Lord listen to my voice.

O Lord, where shall we sinners flee from you, for you are in all creation? In Heaven? It is there that you live. In Hades? It is there that you trampled on death. In the depths of the sea? Even there is your hand, O Master. As we flee to you and fall down before you, we pray, “You rose from the dead; have mercy on us.”

S7: Let your ears note the voice of my plea.
 O Christ, we glory in your cross. We sing and honour your resurrection.
 For you are our God and we know no one else apart from you.

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?
 But there is forgiveness with you.

We will always bless the Lord and sing about his resurrection, for he
 endured the cross, and trampled down death by death.

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.

O Lord, your might is great, for you overthrew the one with the power of
 death! You have renewed us by your cross, and grant us life and
 incorruption.

Tone 4

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord
 from the morning watch until night,
 from the morning watch.

The holy martyr Ávidos, the amazing Samonás and the renowned Gourías
 now gather in a choir with every believer and rejoice with those of us who
 share their mutual joy, for God allows the souls of his witnesses to the
 power to see what happens below.

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord
 and abundant redemption with him.

He will redeem Israel
 from all his offences.

O three martyrs, equal in number to the divine Trinity, Samonás, Gourías
 and Ávidos, since you have suffered the pains of intolerable punishments
 and have fought courageously, you now enjoy the fruit of your labours.
You have received the joy and eternal blessedness which Christ has given
 you. Implore him to save our souls.

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

O holy martyrs, after you had acknowledged the Three-Person Unity, you ended pagan polytheism and foolish wisdom through the power of the cross, which counted as foolishness in their eyes. You, however, were strengthened by it and bravely endured the cruel beatings of your punishments.

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

O victorious martyrs, you discovered the harbour unassailed by waves, the peaceful life and the tranquil haven. Therefore, O blessed athletes, you gained as a prize for your deeds, the passionless home with its eternal changelessness, when you received from our God the reward merited by your anguish.

Glory: Tone 2

Edessa rejoices because it has the relics of the martyrs Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos. She summons the people who love Christ and says, “O friends of the martyrs, come and be radiant with joy on their memorial. O feast-lovers, shine! Come and see these heavenly lights who illuminate the earth. Come and hear what a death these noble diamonds have suffered for the eternal life.” These genuine holy *martyrs* saved a young girl who was thrown alive into a grave; they handed over to perdition the sordid man who broke his promises to them, for *he was* a callous murderer. They continually implore the all-holy Trinity that the faithful who celebrate their sacred memory may be saved from mortal trials and dangers.

Both now: Tone 6

Most holy Virgin, who will not bless you? Who will not sing about your most pure childbearing? O pure *Lady*, the uniquely-fathered Son shone timelessly from the Father, but was ineffably incarnate from you. He was God by nature, but became man for our sake. He was not divided into two persons, but known as one in two natures. O honourable and all-blessed Lady, plead with him to have mercy on our souls.

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

P/D: The Evening Prokeimenon

R: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty.

S1: The Lord has put on power and clothed himself.

S2: He founded the world, which will not be moved.

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.

Aposticha

Tone 6

O Christ our Saviour, the angels in heaven sing hymns to your resurrection. Enable us who are on earth to glorify you with purity of heart.

S1: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty;

the Lord has put on power and clothed himself. Ps 92

You destroyed the gates of brass, broke the chains of Hades and raised the fallen human race, for you were almighty God. Therefore we cry out in unison, “O Lord, glory to you who rose from the dead!”

S2: For he founded the world which will not be moved. Ps 92

Christ who desired to restore us after our fall, was nailed to the cross and placed in a tomb. The myrrhbearing women sought him with tears and cried, “Woe to us, O Saviour! How do you stoop to live in the tomb? What place can hide your life bearing body? Come to us as you promised; take away our lamentation and tears.” Then the angel appeared to them and cried, “End your lamentation. Go and proclaim to the apostles that the Lord has risen; he grants us pardon and great mercy.”

S3: O Lord, holiness is right for your house to length of days. Ps 92

O Christ, you have been crucified as you determined and you captured death by your burial. You rose on the third day as God in glory, and have granted the world eternal life and great mercy.

Glory: Tone 2

O friends of the martyrs, come and let us honour with hymns Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos, for these warriors of Christ accomplish marvellous miracles. Because of a vow they did not refuse to send a young girl to her home, but, listening to her plea, they rescued her from an unjust Goth whom they had protected. O Christ our God, in your goodness and love for the human race save our souls through their intercessions.

Both now:

All-holy Bride of God, only you carried in your unconfined womb the God whom no space can confine, when he became man in his goodness. Therefore I plead with you to banish the evil that encircles me on every side, so that following the straight and narrow path, I may discover the way that leads to life.

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

Apolytíkiá

Tone 6

The angelic powers were at your tomb; the guards became like dead men. Mary stood beside your grave and sought your most pure body. You took Hades captive and came away from it unscathed. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, you rose from the dead; glory to you!

Tone 5

You have granted us the wonders of your holy martyrs Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos as a stronghold and protection. O Christ our God, strengthen our country in every good deed through their prayers, for only you are merciful and the Lover of the human race.

Hail, O gate of the Lord which no one can pass! Hail, O rampart and shelter of those who come to you! Hail, O undisturbed haven who never knew man! Since you gave birth in the flesh to your Maker and God, continually intercede for those who sing a hymn of praise to your Son and worship him.

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 6

The angelic powers were at your tomb; the guards became like dead men. Mary stood beside your grave and sought your most pure body. You took Hades captive and came away from it unscathed. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, you rose from the dead; glory to you!

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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*

Kathísma 1

Tone 6

When the tomb was opened, Hades lamented and Mary cried to the Apostles *who were* in hiding, "O workers of the vineyard, come out and proclaim the word of the resurrection, 'The Lord has risen and grants the world great mercy.'"

Glory:

Mary Magdalene stood beside your tomb and, because she thought that you were the gardener, said with loud lamentation, "Where have you

hidden the Eternal Life? Where have you laid the one who sits on the throne of the Cherubim? Those who were guarding him have died with fright. Either give me my Lord or cry out with me, ‘Glory to you, for you were among the dead, yet you made the dead rise!’”

Both now:

Kathísma 2

Life lay in the tomb and the seal lay over the stone. The soldiers guarded Christ like a sleeping King. When he had invisibly struck his enemies, the Lord rose.

Glory:

O immortal Lord, Jonah prefigured your burial and Simeon foretold your divine resurrection. For you went down as a corpse into the tomb and shattered the gates of Hades. O Christ our God, Enlightener of those in darkness, you rose as Master without corruption for the salvation of the world.

Both now:

O Virgin Theotokos, pray to your Son, Christ our Lord, who was willingly nailed to the cross and rose from the dead so that he might save our souls.

Evlogitária

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
The assembly of angels was amazed when it saw you among the dead. O Saviour, by destroying the power of death, you raised Adam with you and freed everyone from Hades.

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
The radiant angel cried to the Myrrhbearers from the tomb, "Why do you women mingle myrrh with your tears? Look at the tomb and understand. The Saviour has risen from the tomb."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
The Myrrhbearers ran sorrowfully to your tomb very early in the morning, but an angel came to them and said, "The time for sorrow has come to an end. Do not weep, but announce the resurrection to the apostles."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The Myrrhbearers were sorrowful as they approached your tomb, but the angel said to them: Why do you number the Living among the dead? As God he has risen from the tomb.

Glory:

We worship the Father, his Son and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, one in Being. We cry with the Seraphim, "Holy, Holy, Holy are you, O Lord."

Both now:

O Virgin, because you gave birth to the Giver of Life, you rescued Adam from his sin. You gave Eve joy instead of sadness. The Divine Man who was born from you has restored to life those who had fallen from it.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (X3)

O our God and our hope, glory to you.

Small Litany

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

Ypakói

Read without note

O Christ, you have shattered the gates of Hades as God and have opened to us the former Paradise by your voluntary and life-giving death. You have saved our lives from corruption by rising from the dead.

Anaváthmi Tone 6

Antiphon 1 Ps 122

O Word, I raise my eyes to you in heaven;
have pity on me so that I may live for you.

O Lord, have mercy on us who are of no worth
and restore your vessels for service.

Glory: Both now:

The cause of salvation is in the Holy Spirit;
if he decides to breathe on one of these,
he quickly raises him from earthly things, gives him wings, makes him
grow and gives him standing above.

Antiphon 2 Ps 123

If the Lord had not been among us,
 none of us could have firmly struggled with the enemy,
 but the victors will be exalted.

O Word, do not let my soul be taken like a sparrow in their teeth.
 Alas! How can I, a lover of sin, be set free from the enemies?

Glory: Both now:

Everyone is made divine
 and given joy, peace and blessing through the Holy Spirit,
 for he is equally active with the Father and the Lord.

Antiphon 3 Ps 124

Those who trust in the Lord are fearful to their enemies
 and objects of wonder to everyone,
 for their vision is above.

O Saviour, the land of the just has you for helper
 and will not extend its hands to do wrong.

Glory: Both now:

The power over everyone is vested in the Holy Spirit;
 the hosts of heaven worship him as also every earthly breath.

Prokeímenon Ps 79

R: O Lord, stir up your power and come to save us.

S: O Shepherd of Israel, listen.

Small Litany

For you are the King of Peace and Saviour of our souls, and we send up
 glory to you, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, always, now and
 for ever, and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kontákion

Read without note

When Christ our God, the Giver of life, raised all the dead from the valleys
 of misery with his mighty hand, he granted resurrection to the human race.
 He is the Saviour of all, the Resurrection, Life and God of all.

Íkos

O faithful, let us praise and venerate the tomb of the Giver of Life. For you, immortal *Lord*, have bound Hades as Almighty God and raised the dead. You have destroyed death and shattered the gates of Hades. Therefore those of us who live on earth glorify you with love, for you have risen, overthrown the might of the all-destroying enemy, raised all those who have put their faith in you and rescued the world from the sting of the serpent. O Almighty *Lord*, you have saved us from the deceit of the enemy. Therefore we sing the praises of your resurrection through which you, who are the Resurrection, Life, and God of all, have saved us.

Synaxáron

Today we remember the holy martyrs and confessors Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos of Edessa who lived during the Third and Fourth Centuries. The first two were suspended with weights attached to their feet, but refused to deny their faith. Both were executed after a further hearing. Ávidos was a deacon who was burnt alive later and buried in the same grave. On the Fifteenth the three friends confessed the triune God.

Together with them we remember:

Martyrs Elpídios, Márkellos and Efstóchios C4

Martyr Dimítrios of Thráki C4

Venerable Father Paisius Velichkovsky C18

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

Katavasías

1: I will open my mouth and be filled with the spirit. I will sing a song to the Queen and Mother. I will come, rejoice in the feast and praise her entrance.

3: O Theotokos, living and inexhaustible fountain, strengthen those who are united in spiritual fellowship and who sing your praises. Make them worthy *to receive* crowns of glory at the time of your solemn entrance.

4: The counsel of God cannot be scrutinised. The Most High was incarnate from a Virgin. The prophet Habakkuk foresaw this and cried, “Glory to your power, O God!”

5: O Virgin, all creation was fearful at the sight of your solemn entrance, for although you knew no man, you entered the temple of God, as a most pure temple yourself. You order salvation for all who praise you.

6: O devout people, come and clap hands while we observe this divine and most precious feast of the Mother of God. Let us glorify God who was born from her.

7: The devout youths worshipped the Creator rather than created things. They courageously trampled on the threatening fire and joyfully sang, "Blessed are you, most praised Lord, the God of our fathers."

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord. The *Lord* who was born from the Theotokos saved the holy children in the furnace. The one who was then prefigured has now been born on earth and gathers the whole inhabited earth to sing, "All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord and exalt him above all for ever.

Gospel Dialogue

P/D: Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*

P: For you, O God, are holy *and* rest in the Holy Place. We send up glory to you, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

R: Let everything with breath praise the Lord. *X3*

Praise God in his saints;
praise him in his mighty firmament. Ps 50

P/D: And that we may be counted worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord our God. *Lord have mercy X3*

P/D: Wisdom. Stand up. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

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

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

P/D: Let us attend

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Eothinón Gospel 1

From the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (28:16-20)

At that time the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in

heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”
Amen.

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Resurrection Ode

P/R: Now that we have seen the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. O Christ, we venerate your cross, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for you are our God, and we know no one else apart from you. We address your name. All you faithful, come and venerate Christ's holy resurrection. For see, joy has come into all the world through the cross. Let us always bless the Lord and praise his resurrection. For he has destroyed death by death by enduring the cross for us.

Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy
and wipe out my offence through your great pity.
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 what is evil before you
^{6b} so that you might be right in your words
and overcome when you are judged,
⁷ for see, I was conceived in lawlessness
and my mother desired me in sin,
⁸ for see, you have loved truth
and shown me the mysteries and secrets 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;
humbled bones will rejoice.
¹¹ Turn your face from my sins
and wipe out all my lawlessness.

- 12 O God, make 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 your saving joy to me
and strengthen me with your directing Spirit.
- 15 I will teach the lawless your ways
and the ungodly will return to you.
- 16 O God, God of my salvation, free me from bloodshed,
then my tongue will rejoice in your justice.
- 17 O Lord, you will open my lips
and my mouth will announce 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 just sacrifice,
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;
then they will offer calves on your altar.

Glory: Tone 6

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of the apostles.

Both now:

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of the Theotokos.

Have mercy:

Jesus has risen from the tomb as he foretold
and grants us eternal life and great mercy.

Intercession

Short form

P/D: O God, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Visit your world with mercy and compassion; exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians and send down on them your rich mercy, through the prayers of

our all-pure Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the honourable and life-giving cross, through the protection of the honourable bodiless powers of heaven, through the prayers of the honourable, glorious, prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, of the holy, glorious, all-praised apostles, of the holy, all-praised and victorious martyrs, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of the holy and just forebears of God, Ioachim and Anna, of XXX, and of all the saints. We ask you, only merciful Lord, “Listen to us sinners as we pray to you, and have mercy on us.”

Lord have mercy. XI2

Through the mercy, compassion and love for the human race of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with the all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

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: Let every earthborn mortal spiritually rejoice and carry lamps. be radiant and spiritually leap for joy. Let the ranks of angelic powers celebrate as they honour the holy entrance of the Theotokos and cry, “Hail, O pure and blessed Ever-virgin who gave birth to God!”

Small Litany

P: For all the powers of heaven praise you, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Holy is the Lord

Holy is the Lord our God. *X3*

Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool.
for he is holy.

Exaposteilária

Tone 1

Let us gather with the disciples on the mountain in Galilee. Let us see Christ in faith and hear him say, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” Let us learn to baptize every nation in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and to know how he is with us always, even to the close of the age.

Tone 3

O holy martyrs, because you once saved from a frightening death the young girl *who was* enclosed in a tomb and delivered the unjust Goth to death, rescue me also from my rebellious passions so that I may joyfully celebrate your light-bearing memory.

O Virgin, the boundless God who fills the inhabited earth with his divinity, in his love was ineffably incarnate in you in order to put right the ancient fall; he became the new Adam. O divine mother, since he is your Son, plead with him for us.

Praises

Tone 6

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.

S8: This glory will be for all his holy ones.
O Lord, your cross is life and resurrection for your people. We place our trust in it and praise you as our risen God. Have mercy on us.

S7: Praise God in his saints;
praise him in his mighty firmament.
O Master, your burial has opened Paradise for the human race. We have been rescued from corruption and praise you, our risen God. Have mercy on us.

S6: Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him for the abundance of his majesty.
Let us praise Christ, together with the Father and the Spirit, *for he* has risen from the dead. Let us cry to him, "You are our Life and Resurrection, have mercy on us."

S5: Praise him with the trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp.
O Christ, you rose from the grave on the third day according to the Scriptures; you raised our forefather with you. Therefore the whole human race glorifies you and praises your resurrection.

S4: Praise him with cymbal and dance;
praise him with strings and flute.
O Lord, the mystery of your resurrection is great and dreadful. You came from the tomb like a Bridegroom coming from his room. You trampled down death by death in order to rescue Adam. Therefore, O Lover of the human race, the angels rejoice in heaven and men on earth glorify the compassion which you have shown us.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;
praise him with joyful cymbals.

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

O lawless Jews, where are the seals and the silver pieces which you handed to the guards? The Treasure was not stolen, but rose in might. You have denied Christ and been put to shame. He is the Lord of glory who suffered, was buried and has risen from the dead. Let us adore him!

S2: O Lord God, rise; let your hand be exalted
and never forget the poor.

O Jews, how could you be robbed since the tomb was sealed? You placed the guards and fixed the seals, but the King has passed through closed doors. Either produce him as a corpse or worship him as God and sing with us, "O Lord, glory to your cross and resurrection."

S1: O Lord, I will thank you with all my heart;
I will recount all your wonders.

The myrrh-bearing women reached your tomb, the source of life, with loud lamentation. They wanted to anoint your most pure body. They found a radiant angel sitting on the stone, who spoke to them and said, "Why do you mourn for the *Lord* who has caused life to flow from his side to the world? Why do you seek the immortal one among the dead in a tomb? Go quickly and tell his disciples the total joy of his glorious resurrection." O Saviour; enlighten us also with it; grant us forgiveness and great mercy.

Glory: Tone 1

The Lord truly appeared to the disciples and went to the mountain to ascend from earthly things. They worshipped him and learnt from him about the power permitted to him in every place. They were sent to every place under heaven to preach his resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven. He truly promised to be with them always, for he is Christ our God, the Saviour of our souls.

Both now: Tone 2

O Virgin Theotokos, you are most blessed, for through the One who was born of you, Hades has been captured and Adam recalled. The curse has been annulled, and Eve set free. Death has been slain, so we are given life. Blessed is Christ our God, whose good will it was. Glory to you!

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

Resurrection Troparion

Today salvation has come to the world. Let us sing to the one who rose from the dead, the Author of our life. After he had destroyed death by death, he gave us victory and great mercy.

LITURGY

Antiphon 1 Ps 91

S1: It is good to thank the Lord
and make melody to your name, O Most High.

R: At the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us!

S2: To announce your mercy in the morning
and your truth by night,

S3: For the Lord our God is upright
and there is no injustice in him.

S4: Glory: Both now:

Antiphon 2 Ps 92

S1: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty;
the Lord has put on power and clothed himself,

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

S2: For he founded the world
which will not be moved.

S3: Your throne *was* made ready in the past;
you are from eternity.

Monogenes

Antiphon 3 Ps 94 Tone 6

S1: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,
and shout with joy to God our Saviour.

R: The angelic powers were at your tomb; the guards became like dead men. Mary stood beside your grave and sought your most pure body. You took Hades captive and came away from it unscathed. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, you rose from the dead; glory to you!

S2: Let us enter his presence with thanksgiving
and gladly cry to him with psalms,
S3: For the Lord is a great God
and a high king over all the earth.

Entrance Ps 94

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.
Save us, O Son of God.
You arose from the dead.
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

Apolytíkion

Tone 6

The angelic powers were at your tomb; the guards became like dead men. Mary stood beside your grave and sought your most pure body. You took Hades captive and came away from it unscathed. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord, you rose from the dead; glory to you!

Tone 5

You have granted us the wonders of your holy martyrs Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos as a stronghold and protection. O Christ our God, strengthen our country in every good deed through their prayers, for only you are merciful and the Lover of the human race.

Of the Church

Kontákion

Tone 4

The most pure temple of the Saviour, the precious chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God, is presented today to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit which the angels of God praise. Truly this woman is the dwelling place of Heaven.

Triságion

Prokeímenon Ps 27 Tone 6

R: O Lord, save your people
and bless your inheritance.

S: O Lord my God, I have cried to you;
O my God, do not be deaf to me.

Apóstolos – Sunday Week 23

From the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (2:4-10)

Brothers, God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead because of our offences, made us alive together with Christ. (You have been saved by grace.), ⁶ He raised us and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. ⁷ so that during the coming ages he might show the infinite riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. This is not your own doing, but the gift of God, ⁹ not because of works in case any man should boast. ¹⁰ For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, so that we should walk in them.

Alleluia Ps 90 Tone 6

S1: Whoever settles with the help of the Most High
will stay under the shelter of the God of heaven.

S2: He will say to the Lord: You are my support and refuge,
my God and I will hope in him.

Sunday Luke 8

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke (10:25-37)

At that time a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" ²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." ²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²

So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, ³⁴ and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." and Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Communion Ps 148

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights. Alleluia!