

GREAT VESPERS

Saturday, June 13, 2020

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

THE HOLY PROPHET ELISHA • METHODIUS THE CONFESSOR, PATRIARCH OF
CONSTANTINOPLE • VENERABLE NIPHON OF ATHOS • CYRIL, BISHOP OF CRETE

Priest:

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

Amen.

O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ,
our King and our God.

PSALM 103

BLESS THE LORD, O my soul. O Lord my God, Thou art very great; Thou art clothed with honour and majesty. Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment; Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain; Who layeth the beams of His chambers in the waters; Who maketh the clouds His chariot; Who walketh upon the wings of the wind; Who maketh His Angels spirits; His ministers a flaming fire; Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed forever. Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At Thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of Thy thunder they hasted away. They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which Thou hast founded for them. Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth. He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst. By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches. He watereth the hills from His chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man, that he may bring forth food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart. The trees of the Lord are full of sap; the

cedars of Lebanon, which He hath planted, where the birds make their nests; as for the stork, the fir trees are her house. The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies. He appointed the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou makest darkness, and it is night, wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth. The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God. The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens. Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! in wisdom hast Thou made them all. The earth is full of Thy riches. So is this great and wide sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts. There go the ships; there is that leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein. These wait all upon Thee; that Thou mayest give them their meat in due season. That Thou givest them they gather; Thou openest Thine hand, they are filled with good. Thou hidest Thy face, they are troubled; Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. Thou sendest forth Thy spirit, they are created, and Thou renewest the face of the earth. The glory of the Lord shall endure forever; the Lord shall rejoice in His works. He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth, He toucheth the hills, and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My meditation of Him shall be sweet; I will be glad in the Lord. Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul. Praise ye the Lord.

~ and then the Great Litany ~

THE KATHISMA

Blessed is the man, the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked.
Alleluia.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will
perish. *Alleluia.*

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice, rejoice in Him with trembling. *Alleluia.*

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him. *Alleluia.*

Arise, arise, O Lord; save me, O my God. *Alleluia.*

Salvation belongs to the Lord; Thy blessing be upon Thy people. *Alleluia.*

O LORD, I HAVE CRIED OUT

Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Psalm 140

O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips. • Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins. • With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them. • The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head. • For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up. • They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell. • But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul. • Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity. • Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.

Psalm 141

I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication. • I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble. • When my spirit was over-whelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path. • In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me. • I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me. • Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul. • I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living. • Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low. • Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

of the Resurrection, from the Octoechos • Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.

Evening praise and spoken worship do we offer Thee, O Christ; for Thou didst consent to have mercy upon us by Thy Resurrection.

The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.

O Lord, O Lord, cast us not from before Thy face, but consent to have mercy upon us by Thy Resurrection.

Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

Rejoice, O holy Sion, mother of the churches, the abode of God; for thou didst first receive forgiveness of sins by His Resurrection.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

Verily, the Word, born of the Father before the ages, hath Himself been incarnate in the last times by His own will, of one who knowest not wedlock. He did suffer crucifixion and death; and by His Resurrection He hath saved man dead of old.

If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Let us glorify Thy Resurrection from the dead, O Christ, by which Thou didst free the race of Adam from the usurpation of Hades. And since Thou art God, Thou hast granted the world eternal life and the Great Mercy.

Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord;

my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Glory to Thee, O Christ Saviour, only Son of God, Who wast nailed upon the Cross, and Who didst rise from the tomb on the third day.

of the Holy Fathers, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Second Tone • Having laid up all their hope

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

As the Spirit's orators, • the Saviour's blessed disciples, • who became the instruments • of the Spirit through their faith, • scattered far and wide • to the earth's farthest parts • as in Orthodoxy • they all sowed the preaching from on high, • whence richly sprouted forth, • by the grace of God and His husbandry, • the Martyrs' holy companies, • which showed forth in image the ven'erable • Passion of the Saviour • through every kind of torture, scourge and fire. • And now with boldness they intercede • with Him in our souls' behalf.

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

With the fire of love for God • were the august Martyrs kindled; • wherefore, they set fire at nought, • and as coals of fire divine • hotly set ablaze, • they in Christ burnt away • all the withered brushwood • of vain error's vaunting insolence; • they stopped the mouths of beasts • with wise invocations in earnest prayer; • and when their heads had been cut off, • they cut down the ranks of the enemy; • and when they had poured out • their blood in mighty fountains valiantly, • they fully watered the holy Church, • and she blossomed forth by faith.

Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Wrestling with ferocious beasts, • beaten with swords as with cudgels, • scraped and torn with iron claws, • having both their hands cut off, • tortured on the rack, • being burnt in the fire • in unyielding torments, • being pierced with sharp and stabbing wounds, • having their joints cut up, • the unbending Martyrs endured it all • with great exceeding steadfastness, • looking to the portion that is to come • with the crowns unfading • and that unending glory of Christ God, • with Whom they boldly now intercede, • praying in our souls' behalf.

For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

As is due, let us extol • with sacred songs the Apostles, • Martyrs, godly-minded priests, • women chaste and ven'erable, • that whole sacred throng • who throughout all the earth • struggled for the Faith's sake; • for, while being mortals born of earth, • they were made one and joined • to those in the Heavens eternally; • and through their passion they obtained • coveted dispassion by gift of Christ. • Now like constellations, • the steadfast Martyrs compass us with light, • as with great boldness they intercede, • praying in our souls' behalf.

Doxastikon of All Saints, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Second Tone

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

Ye are the pillars of the Church and the fulfillment of the Gospel, O divine ranks of Martyrs. In deeds ye have fulfilled the sayings of the Savior; for through ye the gates of Hades, opened against the Church, have been closed; and your shed blood dried up the libations of the idols. And having nourished the perfection of believers through your slaughter, ye dazzled the incorporeals,

standing before Christ wearing your crowns. Wherefore, intercede ye ceaselessly with Him for our souls.

Dogmatikon, from the Octoëchos • Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Verily, the King of Heaven, for His love to mankind, did appear on earth; and with men did He deal; for He took unto Himself a body from the pure Virgin. And from her did He issue in the adopted body, He being one Son, dual in Nature, not dual in Person. Wherefore, do we confess, preaching the truth that Christ our God is perfect God and perfect Man. Therefore, O Mother who hast no groom, beseech thou Him to have mercy upon our souls.

ENTRANCE AT THE LIGHTING OF THE LAMPS

Gladsome Light of the holy glory that shines from the immortal Father in heaven, the holy, the blessed: O Jesus Christ. Lo, now that we come to sunset, now that we see the evening light, we sing the praise of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: One God. Worthy art Thou to be praised at all times with voices meet for holy song, Son of God, Thou Giver of Life. Wherefore, the world glorifieth Thee.

THE EVENING PROKEIMENON

The Lord is King, • and hath clothed Himself with majesty.

✠. The Lord is clothed with strength and hath girt Himself.

✠. For He established the world which shall never be shaken.

✠. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days.

READINGS FROM THE PROPHETOLOGION

Isaiah 43:9-14

THUS SAITH THE LORD: All nations are gathered together, and princes shall be gathered out of them; who will declare these things among them? Or who will declare to you things from the beginning? Let them bring forth their witnesses, and be justified; and let them hear, and declare the truth. Be ye My witnesses, and I too am a witness, saith the Lord God, and My servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know, and believe Me, and understand that I am. Before Me there was no other God, and after Me there shall be none. I am

God, and beside Me there is no savior. I have declared, and have saved; I have reproached, and there was no strange god among you. Ye are My witnesses, and I am a witness, saith the Lord God. Even from the beginning I am; and there is none that can deliver out of My hands. I will work, and who shall turn it back? Thus saith the Lord God that redeemeth you, the Holy One of Israel.

Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9

THE SOULS OF THE RIGHTEOUS are in the hands of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, and their departure is taken for misery, and their going from us to be utter destruction, but they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded; for God proved them and found them worthy for Himself. As gold in the furnace hath He tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge nations and have dominion over peoples, and their Lord shall reign unto the ages. They that put their trust in Him shall understand the truth; and such as be faithful in love shall abide with Him; for grace and mercy is in His Saints, and visitation among His elect.

Wisdom of Solomon 5:15-6:3

THE RIGHTEOUS LIVE FOREVER; and their reward is in the Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High. Therefore shall they receive the kingdom of majesty and the crown of comeliness from the Lord's hand, for with His right hand shall He cover them, and with His arm shall He protect them. He shall take to Him His jealousy for complete armor, and make creation His weapon for the warding off of His enemies. He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of a helmet. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. His severe wrath shall He sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with Him against the unwise. Then shall the right-aiming thunderbolts go abroad, and from the clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. And as from a stone-bow shall hailstones full of wrath be cast forth, and the water of the sea shall rage indignantly against them, and floods shall cruelly drown them. Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away; thus iniquity shall lay

waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty. Hear, therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, ye that rule a multitude and vaunt yourselves in throngs of nations, for power is given you from the Lord and sovereignty from the Most High.

~ and then the Litany of Fervent Supplication ~

THE EVENING PRAYER

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy commandments. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy precepts.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

~ and then the Litany of Supplication ~

THE PEACE

Priest:

Peace be to all.

And to thy spirit.

Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

To Thee, O Lord.

O Lord our God, Who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon Thy servants and Thine inheritance; for unto Thee, the fearful Judge Who yet lovest mankind, have Thy servants bowed their heads and submissively inclined their necks, awaiting not help

from men but entreating Thy mercy and looking confidently for Thy salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse powers of the devil, and from vain thoughts and from evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

APOSTICHA

of the Resurrection, from the Octoëchos • Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Thou didst ascend the Cross, O Jesus, Who didst descend from heaven. Thou didst come to death, O Life that dieth not, and to those who are in darkness, O true Light, and to the fallen, O Resurrection of all. Wherefore, O our Light and Saviour, glory to Thee.

The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty.

The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength.

Let us glorify Christ risen from the dead; for He did take unto himself a soul and a body; and He separated one from the other in the Passion, when His pure soul went down to Hades which He led captive; and the holy body saw no corruption in the grave, the body of the Redeemer, Savior of our souls.

For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved.

With psalms and with songs of praise, O Christ, do we glorify Thy Resurrection from the dead, by which Thou didst deliver us from the rebellion of Hades. And since Thou art God, Thou didst grant us eternal life and the Great Mercy.

Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore.

O Lord of all, O incomprehensible One; O Maker of heaven and earth, when Thou didst suffer in Thy Passion on the Cross, Thou didst pour out for me passionlessness; and when Thou didst submit to burial and didst rise in glory, Thou didst raise Adam with Thee by a mighty hand. Wherefore, glory to Thy third-day Resurrection by which Thou didst grant us eternal life and forgiveness of sins; for Thou alone art compassionate.

Doxastikon of All Saints, from the Pentecostarion • Plagal of the Second Tone

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

Come, ye believers, let us today stand in rank and celebrate with true worship; let us exalt with glorifications the memorial of all-honored, all-revered saints, shouting, Rejoice, O glorious Apostles, Prophets, Martyrs and Bishops! Rejoice, O company of the righteous and just! Rejoice, O rank of honored women! Supplicate ye Christ to grant the king victory over the Barbarians, and our souls the Great Mercy.

Theotokion of the Resurrection, from the Octoëchos • Plagal of the Second Tone

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most pure one, when Christ the Lord, my Creator and Saviour, came forth from thy womb, putting me on, He did free Adam from the ancient curse. Wherefore, O most pure one, since thou art the Theotokos and a Virgin in truth, we shout to thee untiringly with the Angels, saying: Rejoice, Lady, O thou who art the helper, the cover, and the salvation of our souls.

HYMN OF ST. SIMEON

Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. *(thrice)*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
both 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 Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(thrice)*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
both 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. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL HYMNS

of the Resurrection, from the Octoëchos • Plagal of the Fourth Tone

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

of All Saints, from the Pentecostarion • Fourth Tone

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

Thy Church, O Christ God, hath regaled herself in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout the entire world, as in porphyry and purple. Through them she lifteth her voice crying: Turn with Thy compassion toward Thy people, and grant peace to Thy city, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

Theotokion of the Resurrection, from the Octoëchos • Fourth Tone

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Mystery which was hidden from everlasting and was unknown of the angels, O Theotokos, wast revealed through thee, to those who dwell upon earth. In that God, having become incarnate—in unconfused union—of His own good will accepted the Cross for our sake. Whereby He raised again the first created, and hath saved our souls from death.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon:

Wisdom!

Father, bless!

Priest:

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

Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest:

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

More honourable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without stain bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Priest:

Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

Priest:

MAY HE WHO ROSE FROM THE DEAD, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honourable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honourable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of Saint Ignatius the Godbearer of Antioch, the patron and protector of our holy community; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the Holy Prophet Elisha; Methodius the Confessor, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Niphon of Athos; and Cyril, bishop of Crete—and of all the Saints of all ages who are well-pleasing to God, whose memory we celebrate today—have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind. **Amen.**

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

Amen.