

**Sunday, June 27, 2021**  
**1st Sunday After Pentecost-Tone 8**  
**All Saints**

Troparion:

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

As with fine porphyry and royal purple, Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyrs' blood shed throughout all the world. She cries to Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy bounties on Thy people, grant peace to Thy habitation, and great mercy to our souls.

Kontakion:

The universe offers Thee the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. Through the Theotokos and their prayers establish Thy Church in peace.

Prokeimenon in the 8th Tone:

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!  
(Vs.) In Judah God is known: His name is great in Israel!

Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone: (To the Saints)

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Epistle:

The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews. (Heb. 11:33-12:2)

Brethren, those who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Alleluia Verses:

The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles.  
(Vs.) Many are the afflictions of the righteous: the Lord will deliver them out of them all.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew. (Chapters 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30)

The Lord said to His disciples, "Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before men, I in turn will disown before my Father in heaven. Anyone who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me and anyone who does not take up his cross and follow me, is not worthy of me." Then Peter addressed Him saying, "Behold, we have left all and followed you; what then shall we have?" And Jesus said to them, "Amen I say to you that you who have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man shall sit on the throne of His glory, shall also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left house, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and shall possess life everlasting. But many who are first now will be last, and many who are last now will be first."