

Sunday, October 25, 2020
20th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 3

Troparion:

Let the Heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the First-born of the dead; He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy.

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, in spite of our honor and devotion we are unable to give you worthy praise, through your glorious and noble birth your mother's childlessness was ended, your father's tongue was freed, and the incarnation of the Son of God was proclaimed to the world.

In holy zeal you dispelled the error of Arius and proclaimed the Trinity, one in essence. Holy martyrs Marcian and Martyrius, unshaken bulwarks of Orthodoxy, entreat Christ our God to grant us His great mercy.

Kontakion:

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day, Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power!

From your youth you were good athletes, wise Marcian and Martyrius, vanquishing the Arian heretics; you kept the faith perfect by following in the footsteps of your bishop and teacher Paul, therefore, you are worthy to be with him in eternal life, as respected defenders of the Holy Trinity.

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, despise not the entreating cry of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, For you always ever protect those who honor you!

Prokeimenon in the 3rd Tone:

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
(Vs.) Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Epistle:

The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians. (Gal. 1:11-19)

Brethren, I would have you know, that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Alleluia Verses:

In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame!
(Vs.) Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge, in order to save me!

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke. (Chapter 16:19-31)

At that time, the Lord told this parable: "There was a certain rich man who used to clothe himself in purple and fine linen, and who feasted every day in splendid fashion. And there was a certain poor man, named Lazarus, who lay at his gate, covered with sores, and longing to be filled with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. And it came to pass that the poor man died and was borne away by the angels into Abraham's bosom; but the rich man also died and was buried in hell. And lifting up his eyes, being in torments, he saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said to him, 'Son, remember you in your lifetime have received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now here he is comforted whereas you are tormented. And besides all that, between us and you a great gulf is fixed, so that those who wish to pass over from this side to you cannot, and they cannot cross from your side to us.' And he said, 'Then, Father, I pray you to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they too come into this place of torments.' And Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.' But he answered, 'No Father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not believe even if someone rises from the dead.'"