

Sunday, October 29, 2023
21st Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 4

Troparion:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting 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.

Kontakion:

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day!

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 4th Tone:

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.
(Vs.) Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

Epistle:

The reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians. (Gal 2:16-20)

Brethren, yet who know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Alleluia Verses:

Go forth and prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth.
(Vs.) For Thou lovest righteousness and dost hate iniquity.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke. (Chapter 8:26-39)

At that time when Jesus came to the country of the Gerasenes there met Him a certain man from the town who for a long time was possessed by a devil, and wore no clothes, and lived in the tombs, not in a house. And when he saw Jesus, he fell down before Him, and crying out with a loud voice, said, "What have I to do with you, Jesus, Son of the most high God? I pray you, do not torment me." For He was forcing the unclean spirit to go out from the man. For many times it had laid hold of him; and he was bound with chains and ropes, and kept under guard, but he would break the bonds asunder, and be driven by the devil into the wilderness. And Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many devils had entered into him. And he begged Him not to command them to go into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was there, feeding on the mountainside. And they kept begging Him to let them enter into them. And He did. And the devils came out from the man and entered into the swine; and the herd rushed down the cliff into the lake and were drowned. And when the swineherds saw what had happened, they fled and reported it in the town and in the country; and people came out to see what had happened. And they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the devils had gone out sitting at His feet, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those also who had seen it reported to them how the demoniac had been saved. And all the people of the Gerasene district asked Him to go away; for they were seized with great fear. And He got into a boat and went back. But the man from whom the devils had gone out prayed Him that he might remain with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your house, and tell all that God has done for you." And he left proclaiming throughout the whole town all that Jesus had done for him.