

**Sunday, January 31, 2021**  
**34th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 1**

Troparion:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews; while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body; Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

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:

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as god, for death has vanished! Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee: Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!

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 1st Tone:

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.  
(Vs.) Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

Epistle:

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians. (Col. 3:12-16)

Brethren, put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Alleluia Verses:

God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me!

(Vs.) He magnifies the salvation of His King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew. (Chapter 25:14-30)

The Lord told this parable: "A man going abroad, called his servants and handed over his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his particular ability, and then he went on his journey. And he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more. In like manner, he who had received the two gained two more. But he who had received the one went away and dug in the earth and hid his master's money. Then after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And the one who had received the five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Master, you gave me five talents; look, I have gained five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; because you have been faithful over a few things, I will set you over many; enter into the joy of your master.' Likewise, the one who had

received the two talents came and said, 'Master, you gave me two talents; look, I have gained two more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; because you have been faithful over a few things, I will set you over many; enter into the joy of your master.' But the one who had received the one talent came and said, 'Master, I know you are a stern man; you reap where you have not sowed and gather where you have not winnowed; and as I was afraid, I went away and hid your talent in the earth; behold, you have what is yours.' But his master answered and said to him, 'Wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I do not sow, and gather where I have not winnowed. You should therefore have entrusted my money to the bankers, and on my return I should have got back my own with interest. Take away therefore the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents. [For to everyone who has shall be given, and he shall have abundance; but from him who does not have, even that which he seems to have shall be taken away.] But as for the unprofitable servant, cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be weeping and the gnashing of teeth.'" And when Jesus had finished, He cried out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."