

Sunday, February 4, 2024
35th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 2

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Troparion:

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace! From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. Enlightening those who sat in darkness! Rejoice, and be glad, O righteous elder; you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the Resurrection.

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:

Hell became afraid, O Almighty Savior, seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee! And the world, O my Savior, praises Thee forever.

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 2nd Tone:

The Lord is my strength and my song. He has become my salvation.
(Vs.) The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

Another Tone 3 (Song of the Theotokos):

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Epistle:

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

Brethren, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, put on 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:

May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the Name of the God of Jacob protect thee!
(Vs.) Save the king, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call to Thee!

Tone 8 (Song of St. Simeon):

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word.

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."