

Sunday, July 23, 2023
7th Sunday after Pentecost-Tone 6

Troparion:

The Angelic powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking thy most pure Body. Thou didst capture hell, not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord who didst rise from the dead: glory to Thee!

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:

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, despise not the entreating cries 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 protect those who honor you!

Prokeimenon in the 6th Tone:

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
(Vs.) To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me.

Epistle:

The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans. (Rom. 15:1-7)

Brethren, we then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me." For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Alleluia Verses:

He that dwelleth in the aid of the Most High shall abide under the protection of the God of heaven.
(Vs.) He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God, in Him will I trust!

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew. (Chapter 9:27-35)

At that time as Jesus was passing on, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Have pity on us, Son of David!" And when He had reached the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this to you?" They answered Him, "Yes, Lord," Then He touched their eyes, saying, "Let it be done to you according to your faith." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus strictly charged them, saying, "See that no one knows of this!" But they went out and spread His fame abroad throughout all that district. Now as they were going out, behold, there was brought to Him a dumb man possessed by a devil. And when the devil had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never has the like of this been seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "By the prince of devils He casts out devils." And Jesus was going about all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Good News of the kingdom, and curing every kind of disease and infirmity in the people.