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**Sunday, August 22, 2021**  
**9th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 8**  
Afterfeast of the Dormition

Troparion:

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection; glory to Thee!

In giving birth you preserved your virginity, In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated to life, O Mother of Life, And by your prayers, you deliver our souls from death.

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:

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, and the world celebrates Thy Rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Neither the tomb, nor death could hold the Theotokos, Who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life, She was translated to life by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb.

Prokeimenon in the 8th Tone:

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!  
(Vs.) In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel!

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 Corinthians. (1 Cor. 3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

Alleluia Verses:

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!  
(Vs.) Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

Tone 2 (Theotokos):

Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, Thou and the Ark of Thy holiness.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew. (Chapter 14:22-34)

At that time Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and cross the sea ahead of Him, while He dismissed the crowd. And when He had dismissed the crowd, He went up the mountain alone to pray. And when it was late, He was there alone, but the boat was in the midst of the sea, buffeted by the waves, for the wind was against them. But in the fourth watch of the night Jesus came to them, walking upon the sea. And the disciples, seeing Him walk upon the sea, were greatly alarmed, and exclaimed, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. Then Jesus immediately spoke to them, saying, "Take courage; it is I, do not be afraid." But Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is you, order me to come to you over the water." And He said, "Come." Then Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water to come to Jesus. But when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid; and as he began to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And Jesus at once stretched out His hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind fell. But those who were in the boat came and worshipped Him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And crossing over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.