

Pentecostarion

Saturday of the Fourth Week

Menaion - May 25

Third Finding of the Forerunner's Head

LITURGY

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Antiphon I. Mode 2. Psalm 65.

Verse 1: Shout to God, all the earth. [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 2: Sing now to His name; give glory to
His praise. [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 3: Say to God, "How fearful are Your
works. [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 4: Let all the earth worship You and
sing to You. [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Glory. Both now.

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Antiphon II. Mode 2. Psalm 66.

Verse 1: May God be gracious to us, and
bless us. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 2: May He cause His face to shine
upon us, and have mercy on us. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 3: That we may know His way on the
earth, Your salvation among all the Gentiles. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 4: Let the peoples give thanks to You,
O God; let all the peoples praise You. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the
dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy
Spirit.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

Only begotten Son and Logos of God,
being immortal, You condescended for
our salvation to take flesh from the holy
Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary and, without
change, became man. Christ, our God, You
were crucified and conquered death by death.
Being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with
the Father and the Holy Spirit: Save us. [GOA]

Antiphon III. Mode pl. 1. Psalm 67.

Verse 1: *Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.* [SAAS]

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

Verse 2: *As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire.* [SAAS]

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

Verse 3: *So shall the sinners perish from the face of God. And let the righteous be glad.* [SAAS]

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

Verse 4: *This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.* [SAAS]

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

[GOA]

An optional alternative to the Antiphons are the Typika (Psalms 102 and 145), and the Beatitudes with the appointed troparia, which are provided here.

Psalm 102.

Psalm 145.

The Beatitudes.

Mode 4.

In Your kingdom. Remember us, O Lord, when You come in Your kingdom. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [RSV]

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. [RSV]

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. [RSV]

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. [RSV]

Canon 1 of Mid-Pentecost.

Ode iii. Mode 4. N/M (Your Church rejoices.)

From Pentecostarion - -

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. [RSV]

You opened springs of life-giving waters for the Church, O Good One, as you cried: If any thirst, let them with fervour come and drink. [EL]

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. [RSV]

You opened springs of life-giving waters for the Church, O Good One, as you cried: If any thirst, let them with fervour come and drink. [EL]

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. [RSV]

You said clearly that you would be lifted up from earth to heaven; but you promised to send the Holy Spirit from heaven. [EL]

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [RSV]

Theotokion.

The Lord, by nature giver of life and born of a Virgin, as he is compassionate has given immortality to all the faithful. [EL]

Canon for the Forerunner.

From Menaion - -

Ode vi. Mode pl. 4. Be gracious to me.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely [for my sake]. [RSV]

O Christ, when the head of Your Baptist came up from the earth, like the truth, it drove away falsehood, it ended the bitter winter of heresy, and it illumined the world. [SD]

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. [RSV]

Come, all believers, draw illumination and God's grace and mercy. And with faith be sanctified in soul and head, as you touch the head of the Baptist, who touched the Head of God in the river. [SD]

Glory.

O Forerunner, pray that the heads of our enemies be crushed beneath the feet of our leaders, as we lovingly honor your precious head that had castigated Herod of old. [SD]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

O blessed Forerunner, you proclaimed to those in Hades that the Light was coming,

yes the Lord, who was clothed in flesh from a
Virgin's blood and became man, for the good
of humanity. ^[SD]

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

Come, let us worship and bow down
before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, risen
from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia. ^[GOA]

Hymns After the Small Entrance.

Apolytikion of the Feast.

From Pentecostarion - - -

Mode pl. 4.

O Lord, midway through the feast, give drink to my thirsty soul from the waters of true religion. For to all You the Savior cried aloud, "Let whoever is thirsty come to Me and drink." O Christ our God, the fountain of life, glory to You. [SD]

For the Forerunner.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4. Come quickly.

Now Christ has revealed to us your sacred head once again, * a most holy treasure hidden underground for so long, * O Prophet and Forerunner. * Therefore we have assembled for the feast of its Finding, * singing our God-inspired hymns in praise of the Savior, * who saves us from destruction, by your earnest prayers to Him. [SD]

(Apolytikion of the Parish Church)

(The text of the Apolytikion of the local church goes here.)

From Pentecostarion - - -

Kontakion.

Mode 4. You who were lifted.

The feast according to the Law at its midpoint, O Christ our God, as the Creator and Master of everything, You said to all those who were present there, "Come that you might draw from Me the water of immortality." Hence with faith we cry to You as we prostrate before You. Your tender mercies grant to us, we pray. You are the fountain and source of our life, O Lord. [SD]

THE TRISAGION HYMN

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3) [GOA]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The Epistle

For the Forerunner.

Prokeimenon. Grave Mode. Psalm 63.

The righteous man shall be glad in the Lord. [SAAS]

Verse: Hear my voice, O God. [SAAS]

The reading is from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

4:6-15

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believed, and so we speak, knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also

with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. [RSV]

Alleluia. Mode 4. Psalm 91.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *Those planted in the house of the Lord.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel

For the Forerunner.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

11:2-15

At that time, when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities. Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is he who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, those who wear soft raiment are in

kings' houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way before you.' Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has been coming violently and men of violence take it by force. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John; and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear." [RSV]

Hymn to the Theotokos.

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Logos. We magnify you, the true Theotokos. [GOA]

Communion Hymn. Psalm 111/112.

The righteous will be remembered for ever. Alleluia. [RSV]

Hymn after Holy Communion.

Instead of "We have seen."

Mode pl. 1.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life. [GOA]

THE DISMISSAL

May He who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, the Finding of whose precious Head we celebrate, of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, of the holy, glorious, and triumphant martyrs, of our righteous and God-bearing fathers, **(local patron saint)**; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Fasting Rule

Fast Free: All foods allowed.