

Octoechos

Mode pl. 2.

On Sunday Morning

Triodion

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Menaion - February 24

Finding of Forerunner's Head

LITURGY

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Antiphon I. Mode 2.

Verse 1: *Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His holy name.* [SAAS]

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

Verse 2: *Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Verse 3: *The Lord prepared His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

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

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

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Antiphon II. Mode 2.

Verse 1: *Praise the Lord, O my soul! I shall praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God as long as I exist.* [SAAS]

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

Verse 2: *Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead, we sing to You, Alleluia.

Verse 3: *The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, to all generations.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead, we sing to You, Alleluia.

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. 2.

Verse 1: *This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.* [SAAS]

Resurrectional Apolytikion.

Mode pl. 2.

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the

sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You. ^[SD]

Verse 2: *Let heaven and earth praise Him.*

^[SAAS]

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You. ^[SD]

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 pl. 2.

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

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

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

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

Resurrectional.

From Octoechos - - -

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

Like the robber I entreat You, O my Savior, * when You come in Your kingdom, remember me, * O Lord, and save me, O only God who loves mankind. [SD]

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

Through a tree was Adam tricked, but You saved him * through a tree, and You saved the robber as well * who cried to You, Lord: In Your kingdom remember me. [SD]

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

After smashing Hades' bars and gates, O Savior, * as the Giver of life You raised

all the dead, * who shouted: Glory to Your resurrection, O Lord. [SD]

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

Theotokion.

In the latter days, ineffably conceiving, * you gave birth to the Lord who created you. * O Virgin, save us who magnify you in song. [SD]

Canon from the Triodion.

From Triodion - - -

Ode vi. Mode 2. I am held fast. (NM)

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

The depth of sin ever holds me fast, and a tempest of transgressions drags me down. Pilot me, Christ my God, to the harbour of life and save me, King of glory. [EL]

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

I have wickedly squandered my Father's wealth, and reduced to poverty, I am filled with shame, enslaved to fruitless thoughts. Therefore I cry to you who love humankind, 'Take pity on me and save me'. [EL]

Glory.

I am wasted with starvation of every good, and estranged from you, O Christ supremely good. Take pity on me as I now return, and save me as I sing the praise of your love for humankind. [EL]

Both now. **Theotokion.**

Maiden, who conceived Christ the Saviour and Master, count me, beggared of every kind

of good, worthy of salvation, pure Virgin, that
I may sing the praise of your mighty acts. ^[EL]

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.

From Octoechos - - -

Resurrectional Apolytikion.

Mode pl. 2.

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You. [SD]

For the Forerunner.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 4. *Come quickly.*

The Forerunner's head has risen once again from the earth; * it sends forth the brilliant rays of incorruption and cures to the faithful all. * Above it has assembled the arrays of the Angels; * below it calls the human race to gather together. * In unison we offer up glory to Christ our God. [SD]

(Apolytikion of the Parish Church)

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

From Triodion - - -

Kontakion.

Mode 3. *On this day.*

I revolted senselessly * out of Your fatherly glory; * I have squandered sinfully * all of the riches You gave me.* Hence to You, using the Prodigal's words, I cry out,* I have sinned before You, merciful loving Father.* O

receive me in repentance, * I pray, and treat me * as one of Your hired hands. [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 pl. 2. Psalm 90.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *He who dwells in the help of the Most High shall lodge in the shelter of the God of heaven.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *He shall say to the Lord, "You are my protector."* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel

The 17th Sunday: The Prodigal Son

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

(15:11-32)

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he

said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for

this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found." [RSV]

Fasting Rule

Fast Free: All foods allowed.

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 148.

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia. [SAAS]

Hymn after Holy Communion.

Mode 2.

We have seen the true light; we have received the heavenly Spirit; we have found the true faith, worshiping the undivided Trinity, for the Trinity has saved us. [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 venerable 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.