

Octoechos - Mode 1.

On Wednesday Morning

Menaion - December 18

Memory of the Holy Martyr Sebastian and those with him

LITURGY

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Antiphon I. Mode 2.

Verse 1: *It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing to Your name, O Most High.* [SAAS]

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

Verse 2: *To proclaim Your mercy in the morning and Your truth at night.* [SAAS]

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

Verse 3: *The Lord my God is upright, and there is no wrongdoing in Him.* [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: *The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty; the Lord clothed and girded Himself with power.* [SAAS]

or:

Verse 1: Come, let us greatly rejoice in the Lord; let us shout aloud to God our savior. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 2: *And He established the world, which shall not be moved.* [SAAS]

or:

Verse 2: Let us come before His face with thanksgiving, and let us shout aloud to Him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, a great King over all the earth. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Verse 3: *Holiness is proper to Your house, O Lord, unto length of days.* [SAAS]

or:

Verse 3: For in His hand are the ends of the earth, and the heights of the mountains are His. For the sea is His, and He made it, and His hands formed the dry land. [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. 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.

Apolytikion. For the Martyrs.

Mode 4. *Come quickly.*

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily
awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption,
in that they contested for You our immortal
God. * Since they possessed Your power, they
defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons'
powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ
God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

[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 1.

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]

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

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

Troparia.

From Octoechos - - -

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

Then the foe used eating from the tree * to get Adam banished from Paradise. * Now crucified upon a tree, * Christ allowed the Robber enter it, * when he said: Remember me * when You come in Your kingdom, O Lord. [SD]

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

O Christ, the Passion You suffered for our sake * was shameful, and thus You took away our shame, * O most benevolent Lord, * and You granted Your heavenly * Kingdom and rule to us * who extol Your condescension to us. [SD]

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

You wrapped yourself in Adam's nakedness, * and in the flesh You were stripped naked, O Christ, * and You were lifted on the Cross * and from the depth of evils lifted us. * And therefore we glorify * Your holy condescension, O Word. [SD]

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

For the Martyrs.

All-lauded Martyrs, each day you ever cure * the wounds and the injuries of all mankind, * by grace divine that you have, * for by the wounds and the injuries * you endured in martyrdom * you wounded the demonic hosts. [SD]

Glory.

Let us bow in worship and adore * the Father; likewise let us glorify * the Son; and also let us praise * the all-holy Spirit faithfully, * crying out in unison, * "Save us all, we implore, all-holy Trinity." [SD]

Both now. **Stavrotheotokion.**

All-blameless Lady, standing by the Cross, * you watched as your Son and God was

crucified, * physically nailed to the Cross,
* and you wept aloud and cried to Him, *
"Where has Your ineffable * gracious beauty
set, O merciful Christ?" [SD]

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Hymns After the Small Entrance.

Apolytikion. For the Martyrs.

Mode 4. Come quickly.

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls. [SD]

Apolytikion of the Parish Church

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

Kontakion. For the Cross.

Mode 4. Automelon.

You who were lifted on the cross voluntarily, * O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassions * upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. * Cause our faithful emperors to be glad in Your power, * granting them the victories against their adversaries. * And for an ally, Lord, may they have You, * peace as their armor, the trophy invincible. [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

WEDNESDAY OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH WEEK

Prokeimenon. Mode 3. Ode ix.

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

Verse: *For he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.* [RSV]

1 Tim. 5:22-25; 6:1-11

Timothy, my son, do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor participate in another man's sins; keep yourself pure. No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments. The sins of some men are conspicuous, pointing to judgment, but the sins of others appear later. So also good deeds are conspicuous; and even when they are not, they cannot remain hidden. Let all who are under the yoke of slavery regard their masters as worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be defamed. Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful on the ground that they are brethren; rather they must serve all the better since those who benefit by their service are believers and beloved. Teach and urge these duties. If any one teaches otherwise and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching which accords with godliness, he is puffed up with conceit, he knows nothing; he has a morbid craving for controversy and for disputes about words,

which produce envy, dissension, slander, base suspicions, and wrangling among men who are depraved in mind and bereft of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. There is great gain in godliness with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world; but if we have food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and hurtful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced their hearts with many pangs. But as for you, man of God, shun all this. [RSV]

Alleluia. Mode pl. 4. Psalm 131.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *Arise, O Lord, into Your rest, You and the ark of Your holiness.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *The Lord swore to David this truth, and He shall not reject it, "I shall set upon your throne one from the fruit of your loins."* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel

Wednesday of the Fourteenth Week of Luke

Mk. 10:11-16

The Lord said, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." And they were bringing children to him, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was

indignant, and said to them, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them. [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 115.

I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. 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 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, 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

Strict: Refrain from meat, fish, oil, dairy, and eggs.

It is the Christmas fast.