

Vespers on Saturday 18th October for Sunday 19th October 2025

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Holy, Glorious Prophet Joel ♦ The Holy Martyr Varus and his Companion Martyrs

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 2

[Music on website / Sheet]

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Thy sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.

Tone 2 (For the Resurrection)

[Music on website / Sheet]

Come, let us worship the Word of God

begotten of the Father before all ages,

and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!

Having endured the Cross,

He was buried as He Himself desired.//

And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Christ our Saviour

nailed to the Cross the bond against us,

He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//

We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

With the Archangels

let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!

He is our Saviour, our Redeemer.

He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//

to judge the world which He made.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

The Angel proclaimed Thee,

the crucified and buried Master.

He told the women: “Come, see the place where He lay!

He is risen as He said,

for He is almighty.”

We worship Thee, O only immortal One.//

Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Tone 8 (For the Holy Prophet Joel)

[Music on website / Sheet]

The Spirit of God has been poured out on us, O faithful,

as the honoured Joel prophesied, moved by the same Spirit.

In prophetic words he opens the revelation of divine mysteries.

We who have received his works are enlightened with divine radiance//

and with the grace of God.

For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

O Master, the wondrous Joel comes forth from Thy house,
filled with divine eloquence,
like a stream of water giving life to the souls of men.
He lets fall on us the sweetness that delights our thoughts,
for he has been exalted by the Spirit//
and raised by virtue to divine heights.

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

O Joel, with thy boldness as a Prophet
and thy spiritual closeness to God,
thou dost behold heavenly visions.
Move Him, O glorious one, to have compassion for us,
who celebrate thy memory with faith,//
asking remission of sins and a share in divine joy and great mercy!

For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Tone 6 *(For the Holy Martyr Varus)*

[Music on website / Sheet]

Behold the sufferings of the truly victorious martyrs!
Filled with the boldness of God, thou didst enter the arena, O Varus.
Thou didst preach Christ, Who became a man for our sake.
Thou wast not afraid of death or the torments that lay before thee.
Therefore as thou wast wounded and mercilessly dismembered,
thou didst rejoice with perfect understanding, O wise one,//
looking to the glory that abides for those who love God.

Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

As thou didst behold thy flesh and blood fall away, O athlete,
thou didst endure valiantly as if another were suffering in thy place.
Bound to a tree, most patiently thou didst endure laceration by the evil one.
Thou didst commit thy spirit into the hands of God
astonishing those who beheld thee with thy steadfast resistance.
Therefore we honour thee, O wise Varus,//
for thy courage was so great, and thou didst cast down the tyrant by thy sufferings.

For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Having anointed thy body with spices and buried thee in the earth,
the wondrous Cleopatra raised up to thee a holy church,
celebrating thy feast and entreating thee with faith, O wondrous Varus.
Thou didst enrol her children in the spiritual army:
adorned with glory, they are numbered among the choirs of the saints.
Grant this portion also to us, O truly wondrous martyr,//
as we celebrate thy memory with faith!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 2 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

[Music on website / Sheet]

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;
as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,
so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.
The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.//
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

APOSTICHA

Tone 2 (*For the Resurrection*)

[Music on website / Sheet]

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Saviour,
has enlightened the whole universe,
recalling Thy creation.//
Glory to Thee, O almighty Lord!

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

By the Tree Thou didst destroy the curse of the Tree, O Saviour.
By Thy burial Thou didst mortify the majesty of death.
Thou hast enlightened our race by Thy Resurrection.//
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

When Thou wast seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,
Thou didst restore the beauty of Thy creatures.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Thy side with a spear.
The Hebrews, not knowing Thy power,
asked that Thy tomb might be sealed,
but through the mercy of Thy compassion,
Thou didst accept the tomb
and didst rise on the third day!//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

V. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

O Christ, the Giver of life,
for the sake of the dead Thou didst voluntarily endure death,
descending into hell as the Mighty One
to save those who awaited Thy coming,
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.
Grant also to us who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day//
cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 2 (*Theotokion*)

[Music on website / Sheet]

A new miracle surpasses all ancient miracles!
Who knows of a Mother who gave birth without a man,
who carried in her arms her Creator?
This birth is the will of God!
Since thou didst carry Him as an infant in thine arms, O most pure one,
and since thou dost possess motherly boldness before Him,
do not cease praying for us who honour thee,//
that He may be bountiful and save our souls!

TROPARIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 2

[Music on website / Green Book page 4]

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendour of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
"O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Troparion of the Holy Martyr Varus in Tone 4[\[Music on website / Sheet\]](#)

Thy holy martyr Varus, O Lord,
through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God.
For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//
Through his intercession, save our souls!

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

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion in Tone 4[\[Music on website / Sheet\]](#)

The mystery hidden from before the ages
and unknown even to the angels,
through thee, O Theotokos, hath been revealed to those on earth:
God incarnate in unconfused union,
Who willingly accepted the Cross for our sake,
and thereby raising up the first-formed man,//
hath saved our souls from death.
