

Hymns and Readings for Sunday 17th December 2023

28th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

The Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias & Misael

THE HOURS

TROPARIA AND KONTAKION AT THE THIRD HOUR

Troparia: Resurrection; Glory ... Prophet Daniel; Both now ... From the Horologion

Kontakion: Holy Forefathers

TROPARIA AND KONTAKION AT THE SIXTH HOUR

Troparia: Resurrection; Glory ... Holy Forefathers: Both now... From the Horologion

Kontakion: Holy Forefathers

THE DIVINE LITURGY

TYPICAL PSALMS AND BEATITUDES

ENTRANCE HYMN

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

TROPARIA & KONTAKIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 3

[Music on website / Green Book page 6]

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

Troparion of the Holy Forefathers in Tone 2

[Music on website / Sheet]

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers,
betrotting through them the Church of the gentiles.

These saints exult in glory,

for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:

she who bore Thee without seed.//

So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Troparion of the Prophet Daniel in Tone 2

[Music on website / Sheet]

Great are the accomplishments of faith,

for the three holy youths rejoiced in flames as though at the waters of rest;

And the Prophet Daniel appeared,

a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep!//

So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

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

Kontakion of the Holy Prophet Daniel in Tone 3

[Music on website / Sheet]

When thy pure heart was purged by the Spirit

thou becamest a vessel of clear prophecy;

thou sawest things far away as though they were near at hand.

When cast into their den thou didst tame the lions.

Therefore, we honour thee, blessèd prophet, glorious Daniel.

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

Kontakion of the Holy Forefathers in Tone 6

[Music on website / Sheet]

Ye did not worship the graven image,
O thrice-blessed ones,
but armed with the immaterial Essence of God,
ye were glorified in a trial by fire.
From the midst of unbearable flames ye called on God, crying:
“Hasten, O compassionate One!
Speedily come to our aid, //
for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!”

THE TRISAGION

PROKEIMENA

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone.

Reader: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

Choir: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

Reader: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

Choir: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

Reader: And in the Fourth Tone.

Reader: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Choir: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Colossians.

Ye Brethren: When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all. [Colossians 3:4-11]

Ye Brethren: All the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated – of whom the world was not worthy – wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. [Hebrews 11:33-40]

ALLELUIA

Priest: Peace be to thee that reapest, and to all the people.

Reader: And to thy spirit. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: They called to the Lord and He answered them.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them out of all their troubles.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'" [Luke 14:16-24; Matthew 22:14]

The Lord said to the Jews who came to Him: "Woe to you! for you build the tombs of the prophets whom your fathers killed. So you are witnesses and consent to the deeds of your fathers; for they killed them, and you build their tombs. Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,' that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation, from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it shall be required of this generation. Woe to you lawyers! for you have taken away the key of knowledge; you did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering." As he went away from there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to press him hard, and to provoke him to speak of many things, lying in wait for him, to catch at something he might say. In the meantime, when so many thousands of the multitude had gathered together that they trod upon one another, he began to say to his disciples first, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy." [Luke 11:47-12:1]

ZADOSTOYNIK

It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos,
ever blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God.
More honourable than the Cherubim,
and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim:
without defilement thou gavest birth to God the Word:
true Theotokos, we magnify thee!

COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous;
praise befits the upright! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

AFTER COMMUNION

"We have seen the True Light ..." etc., as usual.