Hymns & Readings for Sunday 1st August 2021 The Procession of the Honourable Wood of the Cross

TROPARIA & KONTAKIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 5

[Music on website]

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion of the Cross in Tone 1

[Music on website]

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by the power of Thy Cross,// preserve Thy habitation.

Troparion of the Maccabaean Martyrs in Tone 1

[Music on website]

By the pangs of the saints, which they suffered for Thee, be Thou entreated, O Lord, and heal Thou all our infirmities,//we pray Thee, O Thou Who lovest mankind.

Kontakion of the Resurrection in Tone 5

[Music on website]

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Saviour, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death.

Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,// and we all cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

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

Kontakion of the Maccabaean Martyrs in Tone 2

[Music on website]

O ye seven pillars of the wisdom of God, seven-branched lamp of the Light divine, O most wise Maccabees who before the martyrs were martyrs most great: with them entreat ye the God of all,// that we who honour you may be saved!

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

Kontakion of the Cross in Tone 4

[Music on website]

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries// by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone.

Reader: O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! **Choir:** O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance! **Reader:** To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! **Choir:** O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance!

Reader: And in the Fourth Tone.

Reader: The Lord has shown the wonders of His will to the saints who are in His land. **Choir:** The Lord has shown the wonders of His will to the saints who are in His land.

EPISTLE

Ye Brethren: Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

[1 Corinthians 1:18-24]

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. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

[Hebrews 11:33-12:2]

ALLELUIA

Reader: Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old!

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: God is our King before the ages; He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their

afflictions.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

At that time: Jesus, getting into a boat, crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your

hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" – he then said to the paralytic - "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men. [Matthew 9:1-8] The chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against lesus to put him to death; they led him to Pilate and cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gab'batha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King! They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Greek, and in Latin. Now standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own. After this Jesus, knowing that all was now fulfilled, said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up the spirit. Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the sabbath (for that sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness - his testimony is true. [John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35]

The Lord said to his disciples, "Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's foes will be those of his own household." And when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities. [Matthew 10:32-36; 11:1]

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!