

Hymns & Readings for Sunday 22nd August 2021

The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist, John

TROPARIA & KONTAKIA

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 1:

[\[music on website\]](#)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews;
While the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body;
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O giver of life:
Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy kingdom!
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

Troparion of St John the Baptist in Tone 2:

[\[music on website\]](#)

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise,
But the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner.
For thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the prophets,
Since thou wast granted to baptise in the running waters Him Whom they proclaimed.
Wherefore, having contested for the truth,
Thou didst rejoice to announce to those in hades that God hath appeared in the flesh,
Taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

Troparion of Saint Chad in Tone 2:

[\[music on website\]](#)

As a Bishop thou gavest thyself
To preaching the truth and the purity of the Church.
Thou didst shine forth as an example of humility and holiness;
studying the Scriptures, thou tookest care to follow the Word.
Pray for thy children, O Holy Father Chad,
that we too may follow Christ,
and be found worthy to partake of the nature of God.

Kontakion of the Resurrection in Tone 1:

[\[music on website\]](#)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,
Raising the world with Thyself.
Human nature praiseth Thee as God,
For death hath vanished.
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoiceth, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee:
Thou are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ.

Kontakion of the Beheading of St John the Baptist in Tone 5:

[\[music on website\]](#)

The glorious beheading of the Forerunner
Was part of God's dispensation,
That the coming of the Saviour might also be preached to those in hades.
Lament then, Herodias, that thou hast demanded a wicked murder,
For thou didst love neither the law of God nor eternal life,
But one false and fleeting.

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

Kontakion of Saint Chad in Tone 2:

[music on website]

When thou wast praying to Christ, O venerable Chad
the choir of the angels came to call thee to thy reward.
Then thou wast summoned to share
in the Thrice Holy song with the seraphim.
Pray thou that we may live
as icons of the cherubim//
rejoicing before the Trinity, the Giver of life.

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

Steadfast Protectress of Christians in Tone 6:

[music on website]

Steadfast Protectress of Christians,
Constant advocate before the Creator,
despise not the cry of us sinners,
but in thy goodness
come speedily to help us who call on thee in faith.
Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos,
for thou dost ever protect those who honour thee.

PROKIEMENA

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the First Tone:

Reader: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

Choir: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

Reader: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Choir: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

Reader: And in the Seventh Tone:

Reader: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

Choir: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

EPISTLE:

The reading from the epistle of the holy apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

⁹Ye brethren: I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. ¹⁰We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honour, but we in disrepute. ¹¹To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, ¹²and we labour, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; ¹³when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the offscouring of all things.

¹⁴I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. ¹⁵For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ¹⁶I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

[1 Corinthians 4:9-16]

²⁵In those days, as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.'

²⁶'Brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you that fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. ²⁷For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets which are read every sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning him. ²⁸Though they could charge him with nothing deserving death, yet they asked Pilate to have him killed. ²⁹And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him,

they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. ³⁰ But God raised him from the dead; ³¹ and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. ³² And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, ³³ this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus; as also it is written in the second psalm,

‘Thou art my Son,
today I have begotten thee.’

[Acts 13:25-33]

ALLELUIA

Reader: And with thy spirit. It is God that giveth me vengeance, and subdueth people under me.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reader: He magnifieth the salvation of the King and dealeth mercifully with David, His anointed, and with his seed forever.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reader: The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree, and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

¹⁴ At that time, a man came up to him and kneeling before him said, ¹⁵ “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. ¹⁶ And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.” ¹⁸ And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. ¹⁹ Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁰ He said to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.”

²² As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, ²³ and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.” And they were greatly distressed. [Matthew 17:14-23]

¹⁴ At that time, King Herod heard of Jesus; for Jesus’ name had become known. Some said, “John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him.”

¹⁵ But others said, “It is Eli’jah.” And others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.” ¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.” ¹⁷ For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Hero’di-as, his brother Philip’s wife; because he had married her. ¹⁸ For John said to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” ¹⁹ And Hero’di-as had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. ²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee. ²² For when Hero’di-as’ daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it.” ²³ And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” ²⁴ And she went out, and said to her mother, “What shall I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the baptizer.” ²⁵ And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” ²⁶ And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did

not want to break his word to her. ²⁷ And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸ and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹ When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

³⁰ The apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.

ZADOSTOYNIK

Meet it is in truth to bless thee, O Theotokos
Who art ever blessed and all blameless and the Mother of our God.
More honourable than the cherubim,
And more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim,
For without defilement, thou gavest birth to God the Word.
True Theotokos, we magnify thee.

[[music on website](#)]

COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!