

Hymns and Readings for Saturday 24th December 2022

Eve of the Nativity of Christ ♦ Saturday Before the Nativity

THE HOURS

TROPARIA AND KONTAKION AT BOTH HOURS

Troparia: Glory ... Forefeast; Both now ... From the Horologion

Kontakion: Forefeast

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 wonderful in the Saints**, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

TROPARIA & KONTAKION

Troparion of the Forefeast in Tone 4

[Music on website / Sheet]

Mary was of David's seed,
so she went with Joseph to register in Bethlehem.
She bore in her womb the Fruit not sown by man.
The time for the birth was at hand.
Since there was no room at the inn,
the cave became a beautiful palace for the Queen.//
Christ is born, raising up the image that fell of old.

Troparion of Saint Chad in Tone 2

[Folder]

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.

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

Kontakion of Saint Chad in Tone 2

[Folder]

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.

Kontakion of the Forefeast in Tone 3

[Music on website / Sheet]

Today the Virgin comes to the cave
to give birth to the Eternal Word.
Hear the glad tidings and rejoice, O universe!
Glorify with the Angels and the shepherds//
the Eternal God, Who is willing to appear as a little Child!

THE TRISAGION

PROKEIMENON

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone.

Reader: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O ye righteous!

Choir: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O ye righteous!

Reader: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

Choir: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O ye righteous!

Reader: Be glad in the Lord

Choir: and rejoice, O ye righteous!

EPISTLE

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

Ye Brethren: The scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "in you shall all the nations be blessed." So then, those who are men of faith are blessed with Abraham who had faith. For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, and do them." Now it is evident that no man is justified before God by the law; for "the righteous shall live by faith"; but the law does not rest on faith, for "He who does them shall live by them." [Galatians 3:8-12]

ALLELUIA

Reader: And with thy spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Reader: Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord will deliver them out of them all.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his garden; and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches." And again he said, "To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? It is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened." He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. And some one said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, "Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the householder has risen up and shut the door, you will begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us.' He will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from; depart from me, all you workers of iniquity!' There you will weep and gnash your teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves thrust out. And men will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God." [Luke 13:18-29]

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 HYMN

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise befits the upright! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

AFTER COMMUNION

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