

### The First Sunday Antiphon

Shout to the Lord, all the earth: sing now to His name, give glory to His praise.  
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Say unto God, "How awesome are your works! Because of the greatness of Your strength Your enemies will flatter You."  
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Let all the earth worship You and sing to You, let it sing to Your name, O Most High.  
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

### The Third Sunday Antiphon

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Savior.  
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.  
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth.  
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

\*\*\*\*\*Entrance\*\*\*\*\*

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.  
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

### Tropars

Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Lord,\* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation.\* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh,\* to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Praise is fitting for every righteous person,\* but for you, the Forerunner, the witness of the Lord is more than enough.\* Of all the prophets, manifestly you are indeed the greatest,\* for while they foretold his coming, you were chosen to baptize him in the waters of the Jordan.\* You suffered with the truth, but you did so with joy.\* Even to those held captive in Hades, you proclaimed the good news,\* that God has revealed himself in the flesh,\* taking away the sin of the world and granting us his great mercy.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

You, my Savior, descended to Hades, and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates.\* With Yourself You, as the Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death,\* and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Mankind.\* And so we cry out: "Save us, O Lord."

The glorious beheading of the forerunner was part of God's salvation plan,\* for John thereby became the herald of the Savior's visit to those in Hades.\* Let Herodias cry her eyes out for asking for this iniquitous murder,\* rejecting God's law and eternal life for a false and passing one.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Rejoice, O impassable door of the Lord!\* Rejoice, O rampart and protection of those who have recourse to you!\* Rejoice, O tranquil haven and Virgin, who gave birth in the flesh of Your Maker and God!\* Fail not to intercede for those who sing and worship the Child you bore.

Prokimenon: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord and hope in him.

Stichos: O God, hear my voice when I pray to you.

Epistle: Reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren, the one who gives us security with you in Christ and who anointed us is God; he has also put his seal upon us and given the Spirit in our hearts as a first installment. But I call upon God as witness, on my life, that it is to spare you that I have not yet gone to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; rather, we work together for your joy, for you stand firm in the faith. For I decided not to come to you again in painful circumstances. For if I inflict pain upon you, then who is there to cheer me except the one pained by me? And I wrote as I did so that when I came I might not be pained by those in whom I should have rejoiced, confident about all of you that my joy is that of all of you. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears, not that you might be pained but that you might know the abundant love I have for you.

Alleluia: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

Stichos: They that are planted in the Lord's house shall flourish in the courts of God.

Gospel: (Mt 22:1-14)

Jesus again in reply spoke to them in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those invited: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast."' Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to meet the guests he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. He said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?' But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.' Many are invited, but few are chosen."

Instead of: "It is truly right..."

No change. We sing "It is truly right..."

Kinonikon

The righteous shall be remembered forever.\* They have no fear of evil reports.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.