

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

Not withstanding our unworthiness,* you gifted us, Lord, with the life-giving cross as a sign of your goodness.* We now bring to you that same cross and pray:* save our country and your people who make their supplications to you through the Theotokos,* O one and only true lover of all people.

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

With His life-giving hand Christ our God, the Giver of life,* raised all the dead from the murky abyss and bestowed resurrection upon humanity.* He is for all the Savior, the resurrection and the life,* and the God of all.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

The tree of salvation* appears today out of the depths of the earth.* It is reverently carried on high into the church by the bishop.* With awe the universe devoutly honors the cross,* through which we pray, save us, O Lord.

Apostolos

Prokimenon: O Lord, save your people* and bless your inheritance!

Stichon: To you, O Lord, I have called:* O my Rock, be not deaf to me!

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians:

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand! All those who want to please in a human way are forcing you to be circumcised merely to avoid persecution because of the cross of Christ. For not even the circumcised observe the Law: but they want you to be circumcised that they may boast of your subjection to external rites. But as for me, God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision but a new creation is of any account. And whoever follows this rule, peace and mercy be upon them and on God's Israel. From now on, let no man give me trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus in my body. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Alleluia: I have exalted one chosen out of my people.* I have found David my servant, and anointed him with holy chrism.

Stichon: For my hand shall support him,* and my arm shall make him strong.

Gospel: (John 3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that

he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

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

Extol, my soul,* the virgin Mary born of a barren woman.

Strange indeed it would be* if mothers were to retain physical virginity,* and just as strange for virgins in childbearing to know maternity.* But in you, O Mother of God, wondrously we find both maternity and virginity.* And so,* together with all peoples of the earth,* we extol you unceasingly.

Kinonikon

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise him in the highest.
I will take the cup of salvation* and call upon the name of the Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.