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.

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 the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead:* He saved us from the abyss of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

You are glorified in the highest degree, O Christ our God,* for you made our fathers on earth into shining lights.* Through them you led us all to true faith.* O Lord, rich in mercy, glory to you.

You rose from the tomb, O compassionate Lord,* and led us out from the gates of death.* Today Adam exults and Eve rejoices, * and the prophets

together with the patriarchs unceasingly acclaim the divine might of Your power.

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

The Son who came forth from the Father in a way beyond expression* with two natures was born of a woman.* Seeing this we do not reject his image honorably drawn by human hands,* but rather venerate it in faith.* And so the church, holding fast to true faith,* reveres the icon of the incarnation of Christ.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

O unfailing patroness of Christians,* O steadfast advocate before the Creator,* turn not away from us sinners as we call out to you in prayer,* but rather, as out gracious Lady, come to our aid as we trustingly appeal to you.* Quickly hear our prayer and make it your own speedy plea,* for you always intercede in behalf of those who honor you, O Mother of God.

Apostolos

Prokimenon: Sing praise to our God, sing praise!* Sing praise to our King, sing praise!

Stichon: All you peoples, clap your hands!* Shout to God with cries of gladness.

<u>Reading</u> from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians:

Brethren I give you to understand that the Good News that was announced to you by me is not of man. For I did not receive it from man, nor was it taught to me [by man], but I received it by a revelation from Jesus Christ. For you have heard of the way I lived before in Judaism: how I persecuted the Church of God and ravaged it beyond measure. And I advanced in Judaism above many of my contemporaries in my nation, showing much more zeal for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased him who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I may preach him among the Gentiles, immediately, without taking counsel with flesh and blood and without going up to Jerusalem to those who were appointed apostles before me, I retired into Arabia and again returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went to Jerusalem to see Peter, and I remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles, except James, the Lord's brother. <u>Alleluia:</u> In you, O Lord, I have hoped: let me never be put to shame.* In your justice, save me and deliver me.

<u>Stichon</u>: Be for me a protecting God,* a sheltering house to save me.

Gospel (Luke 8: 5-15)

A man went out to put in seed, and while he was doing it, some was dropped by the wayside and it was crushed under foot, and was taken by the birds of heaven. And some went on the rock, and when it came up it became dry and dead because it had no water. And some went among thorns, and the thorns came up with it and it had no room for growth. And some falling on good earth, came up and gave fruit a hundred times as much. And with these words he said in a loud voice, "He who has ears, let him give ear."

And his disciples put questions to him about the point of the story. And he said, "To you is given knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to the others, they are given in stories, so that seeing, they may not see, and though they give hearing, the sense will not be clear to them."

Now this is the point of the story: The seed is the word of God. Those by the side of the road are those who have given hearing; then the Evil One comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not have faith and get salvation. And those on the rock are those who with joy give hearing to the word; but having no root, they have faith for a time, and when the test comes they give up. And those which went among thorns are those who have given hearing, and go on their way, but they are overcome by cares and wealth and the pleasures of life, and they give no fruit. And those in the good earth are those who, having given ear to the word, keep it with a good and true heart, and in quiet strength give fruit.

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

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

<u>Kinonikon</u>

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise him in the highest. Rejoice, in the Lord, you righteous ones.* Praise from the upright is fitting.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.