

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*****

The Lord has made his salvation known;* in the sight of the nations he has revealed his righteousness.

Tropars

When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,* they proudly told the apostles: "Death has been plundered!* Christ our God is risen, granting to the world great mercy."

Rejoice virgin Mother of God, full of grace,* for the Sun of righteousness, Christ our God, has shined forth from you enlightening those in darkness.*

Rejoice, too, you righteous elderly man (Simeon),* for in your arms you held the Redeemer of our souls* who gives us resurrection.

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

My Savior and Deliverer from the grave as God* has raised out of bondage the children of earth* and shattered the gates of Hades;* and as Master, he rose on the third day.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

By birth you sanctified the virgin's womb,* and as was befitting you blessed the hands of Simeon.* Now you have hastened and saved us, O Christ God.* Reconcile those who are at war* and strengthen our leaders whom you love,* O one and only true lover of all people.

Apostolos (1 Timothy 4:9-15 and Hebrews 7:7-17)

Prokimenon: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord, you sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Prokimenon: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

Stichon: For He has looked with favor on His lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blest.

Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy:

My son Timothy, this saying is true and worthy of full acceptance: for we work and are reviled for this reason, that we hope in the living God who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers. Command and teach these things. Let no man despise the fact that you are young, but be an example to the faithful by what you say and do, by love, faith, spirituality and chastity. Until I come, be diligent in reading, exhorting and teaching. Do not neglect the grace that is in you, granted to you as a speaker for God through the laying on of the hands of the priesthood. Meditate on these things, give yourself entirely to them, so that your progress may be evident to all.

Brethren, certainly the lower is blessed by the higher. And in one case indeed mortal men receive tithes, while Scripture testifies that this man lives on. And even Levi, the receiver of tithes, was also, so to speak, through Abraham made subject to tithes for he was still in his father's loins when Melchisedek met him.

If then perfection was by the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the Law), what further need was there that another priest shouldn't rise, according to the order of Melchisedek, and said not to be according to the order of Aaron? For when the priesthood is changes, it is necessary that a change of law be made also.

For the one of whom these things are said is from another tribe, for which no one has ever done service at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord has sprung out of Judah, and Moses said nothing at all about priests when referring to this tribe.

And it is yet far more evident if there arises another priest, according to the likeness of Melchisedek, who has become so not according to the law of carnal commandment, but according to a life that cannot end. For it is testified of him, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchisedek."

Alleluia: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

Alleluia: Now you shall dismiss your servant, O Lord, according to your word in peace; because my eyes have seen your salvation.

Stichon: A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people, Israel.

Gospel: (Luke 19:1-10 and Luke 2:22-40)

And he went into Jericho, and when he was going through it, A man, named Zacchaeus, who was the chief tax-farmer, and a man of wealth, made an attempt to get a view of Jesus, and was not able to do so, because of the people, for he was a small man. And he went quickly in front of them and got up into a tree to see him, for he was going that way.

And when Jesus came to the place, looking up, he said to him, “Zacchaeus, be quick and come down, for I am coming to your house today.” And he came down quickly, and took him into his house with joy.

And when they saw it, they were all angry, saying, “He has gone into the house of a sinner.” And Zacchaeus, waiting before him, said to the Lord, “See, Lord, half of my goods I give to the poor, and if I have taken anything from anyone wrongly, I give him back four times as much.”

And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, for even he is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to make search for those who are wandering from the way, and to be their Saviour.”

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never

left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

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

O Virgin Mother of God,* Hope of Christians,* protect, keep and save* those who hope in you.

The law and writing state:* Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord.* We believers see in these words a foreshadowing of the figure of Christ.* Thus we extol the Word,* the first-born of the eternal Father* -the Son who became* the first born of an ever-virgin Mother.

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.