

## 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

When You went down to death, O Life Immortal,\* You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity.\* When You raised the dead from the nether world, all the powers of heaven cried out:\* "O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

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

You arose from the tomb, O almighty Savior;\* and Hades, seeing this in wonder, was stricken with fear; and the dead arose.\* Creation saw and rejoices with You, and Adam exults.\* And the world, my Savior, sings Your praises forever.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

The tomb and death could not hold the Mother of God,\* unceasing in her intercession and an unfailing hope of patronage,\* for as the Mother of Life she was transferred to life by Him\* who had dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

### **Apostolos (2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9)**

**Prokimenon:** My strength and my courage is the Lord,\* and he has been my Savior.

**Stichon:** The Lord has chastised me through his teaching,\* yet he has not delivered me to death.

**Reading** from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians:

Brethren, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus, who is blessed forever, knows that I do not lie. In Damascus, the Governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of the Damascenes in order to arrest me, but I was lowered in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

It is not fitting for me to boast: but I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago (whether in the body, I do not know, or out of the body, I do not know: God knows) was caught up into paradise and heard secret sayings that man may not repeat. Of such a man I will boast; but of myself I give glory in nothing except my weaknesses. For if I do wish to boast, I shall not be foolish, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I give up, lest any man have an idea of me beyond what he sees in me or hears from me. And lest the greatness of the revelation puff me up, there was given to me a thorn for the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me. Concerning this, I begged the Lord three times that it may leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is enough for you, for strength is made perfect in weakness." Gladly, then, will I glory in my weaknesses, that the strength of Christ may dwell in me.

**Alleluia:** The Lord shall hear you on the day of distress;\* the name of the God of Jacob shall defend you.

**Stichon:** O lord, save your king\* and listen to us on whatever day we call upon you.

## **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..."

## **Kinonikon**

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.