

11th Sunday after Pentecost/Leavetaking of the Dormition

STICHERA

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name! Tone 2

Come, let us worship the Word of God
begotten of the Father before all ages,
and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!
Having endured the Cross,
He was buried as He Himself desired.//
And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

Christ our Savior
nailed to the Cross the bond against us,
He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//
We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

With the Archangels
let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!
He is our Savior, our Redeemer.
He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//
to judge the world which He made.

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

The Angel proclaimed You,
the crucified and buried Master.
He told the women: "Come, see the place where He lay!
He is risen as He said,
for He is almighty."
We worship You, O only immortal One.//
Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You. Tone 1 Automelon (for the Dormition)

O the marvelous wonder!
The source of Life is laid in a grave,
and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven.
Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos!
Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:
"Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you,//
He that grants the world great mercy through you!"

v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

O the marvelous wonder!

The source of Life is laid in a grave,
and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven.

Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos!
Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:
"Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!"

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

O the wonder of your mysteries, pure Lady:
you were made the throne of the Most High,
and today you have passed from earth to heaven.
Your glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness.
Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King!
Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

O the wonder of your mysteries, pure Lady:
you were made the throne of the Most High,
and today you have passed from earth to heaven.
Your glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness.
Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King!
Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

The Dominions and Thrones, the Rulers, Principalities and Powers,
the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify your falling asleep.
All those born of earth rejoice,
adorned with honor by your divine glory.
Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels:
"Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!"

v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

The Dominions and Thrones, the Rulers, Principalities and Powers,
the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify your falling asleep.
All those born of earth rejoice,
adorned with honor by your divine glory.
Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels:
"Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!"

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 1 By the divine command the God-bearing Apostles were caught up by clouds from every place.

When they came to your all-pure body, the source of Life, they kissed it most reverently.

The highest Powers of heaven were also present with their Master, and seized with awe they escorted the inviolate body, the body that had received God in the flesh.

In a manner beyond this world they went before it and invisibly cried out to the ranks above them:

“Behold, the Queen of all, the Child of God, has come!

Lift up your gates, and in a manner beyond this world receive the Mother of the everlasting Light, for through her was accomplished the salvation of all the mortal race!

We cannot gaze upon her, nor is it possible to render honor worthy of her, for her excellence surpasses all understanding.”

Therefore, O immaculate Theotokos, who live forever with your Son, the life-bearing King, pray ceaselessly to Him to preserve the new people of God, and to save them from every hostile assault, for we have acquired your intercession,// and to the ages, in manifest splendor, we call you blessed.

LITYA

Tone 1 It was right that the eye-witnesses and ministers of the Word should see the Dormition of His Mother according to the flesh:

the final mystery concerning her;

so that they might be witnesses not only to the Ascension of the Savior, but also to the translation of her who gave Him birth.

Assembled from all parts of the earth by divine power, they came to Zion, and sent forth to heaven the Virgin, who is higher than the Cherubim.//

We also venerate her, for she prays for our souls.

Tone 2 She who is higher than the heavens and more glorious than the Cherubim, she who is held in greater honor than all creation,

she who by reason of her surpassing purity became the vessel of the everlasting Essence,

today commends her most pure soul into the hands of her Son.//

With her all things are filled with joy, and she bestows great mercy on us.

Tone 2 The spotless Bride, the Mother of Him in Whom the Father was well pleased,
she who was preordained by God
to be the dwelling place of His union of two natures without confusion,
today delivers her blameless soul to her Creator and her God.
The spiritual powers receive her with the honors due to God,
and she who is truly the Mother of Life departs to life,
the lamp of the unapproachable Light//
the salvation of the faithful and hope of our souls.

Tone 3 Come, all you ends of the earth,
let us praise the most holy translation of the Mother of God;
for she has placed her spotless soul
into the hands of her Son!
Therefore the world, restored to life by her holy Dormition,
in radiant joy celebrates this feast with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs//
together with the Angels and the Apostles.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. **Tone 5** (by Theophanes)*
Come, all who love to keep the feasts,
come, let us form a choir!
Come, let us crown the Church with songs, as the Ark of God goes to her rest!
For today heaven is opened wide,
as it receives the Mother of Him Who cannot be contained.
The earth, as it yields up the source of Life, is robed in blessing and majesty.
The hosts of Angels, present with the fellowship of the Apostles,
gaze in great fear at her who bore the Author of life,
now that she is translated from life to life.
Let us all venerate and implore her:
O Lady, forget not your ties of kinship//
with those who keep in faith the feast of your all-holy Dormition!

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 5***
Sing, O people! Sing the praises of the Mother of our God;
for today she delivers her soul, full of light,
into the hands of Him Who became incarnate of her without seed.
And she entreats Him without ceasing//
to grant the earth peace and great mercy.

When the singers have completed the stichera, the deacon says:

God, save your people and bless your inheritance, watch over your world in mercy and compassions, lift up the horn of right-glorifying Christians and send down upon us your rich mercies, through the intercessions of our all-pure lady the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, the remembrance of whose holy dormition we also fulfill, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven, through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and teachers of the world Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; Athanasius and Cyril, John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon the bishop of Trimythous, the wonderworkers; of the holy glorious and right-victorious martyrs, of the holy glorious great martyrs George the trophy-bearer, Demetrios the myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Recruit and Theodore the Commander, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all your saints, we implore you, only Lord full of mercy, hear us the sinners who pray to you and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray for our most-pious and God-protected rulers, their dominion, victory, permanence, health, and salvation, and that the Lord our God works together with them and makes them prosper in all, and subdues under their feet every enemy and adversary.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray for our Archbishop and father (name).

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray for every Christian soul distressed and weary, in need of God's mercy and help, for the protection of this holy house and those who dwell in it, for the peace and stillness of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, for the salvation and help of our fathers and brothers who with diligence and fear of God labor and serve, for those who are absent and those who are abroad, for the healing of those who lie in infirmity, for the repose, blessed memory and remission of sins of all our right-glorifying fathers and brethren gone before us, who piously lie asleep here and everywhere, for deliverance of the imprisoned, and for our brethren who are in ministries, and for all who serve and have served in this holy house, let us say:

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray that this holy house, and every monastery, city, and countryside be kept from pestilence, famine, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, invasion of enemies, civil war, and sudden death; that our good God who loves mankind be gracious, favorable, and conciliatory, and turn away and dispel all the wrath and illness stirred up against us, and deliver us from his looming righteous threat, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray that the Lord God will hear the voice of our supplication, of the sinners, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: Hear us, God, our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, Master, be gracious to us, upon our sins, and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace to all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

All bow their heads as the priest says the following prayer aloud:

Master full of mercy, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the intercessions of our all-pure Lady the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary whose remembrance of her holy dormition we also fulfill, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven, through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and teachers of the world Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; Athanasius and Cyril, John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon the bishop of Trimythous, the wonderworkers; of the holy glorious and right-victorious martyrs, of the holy glorious great martyrs George the trophy-bearer, Demetrios the myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Recruit and Theodore the Commander, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all your saints, make our supplication acceptable, grant us remission of our trespasses, shelter us in the shelter of your wings, drive away from us every enemy and adversary, make our life peaceful, Lord, have mercy on us and on your world and save our souls, for you are good and love mankind.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls. (*x1*)

Choir: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls. (*twice*)

The priest takes one of the loaves from the five loaves and with it makes the sign of the cross over the loaves.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ our God, who blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and with them fed the five thousand, yourself also bless these loaves, the wheat, the wine and the oil, and multiply them in this holy city and in the whole world; and sanctify your faithful servants who will partake of them. For it is you who bless and sanctify all things, Christ our God, and to you we send up glory, together with your unoriginate Father and your all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The priest takes one of the loaves and sings in Tone 7:

Priest: Rich men have turned poor * and gone hungry; * but they that seek the Lord * shall not be deprived of any good thing. (*once*)

Choir: Rich men have turned poor * and gone hungry; * but they that seek the Lord * shall not be deprived of any good thing. (*twice*)

APOSTICHA

Tone 2 Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,
has enlightened the whole universe,
recalling Your creation.//
Glory to You, O almighty Lord!

v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

By the Tree You destroyed the curse of the Tree, O Savior.
By Your burial You mortified the majesty of death.
You have enlightened our race by Your Resurrection.//
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!

v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

When You were seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,
You restored the beauty of Your creatures.
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Your side with a spear.
The Hebrews, not knowing Your power,
asked that Your tomb might be sealed,
but through the mercy of Your compassion,
You accepted the tomb
and rose on the third day!//
O Lord, glory to You!

v. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!

O Christ, the Giver of life,
for the sake of the dead You voluntarily endured death,
descending into hell as the Mighty One
to save those who awaited Your coming,
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.
Grant also to us who glorify Your Resurrection on the third day//
cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 4 At your departing, O Virgin Theotokos,
to Him Who was ineffably born of you,
James, the first bishop and brother of the Lord, was there,
and so was Peter, the most honored pinnacle of the theologians,
and the whole sacred choir of the Apostles.
In words of theology that showed forth heavenly things
they sang the praises of the divine and amazing mystery of the dispensation of Christ,
and they rejoiced, O all-praised Virgin, as they buried your body,
the source of Life, which had received God.
On high, the all-holy and most venerable angelic Powers,
in amazement at the wonder, bowed and said to one another:
“Lift up your gates, and receive her who bore the Creator of heaven and earth!”
So we too celebrate your memory
and cry out to you, all-praised Lady://
“Raise up the horn of Christians, and save our souls!”

TROPARIA

Tone 2 When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

Tone 1 In giving birth you preserved your virginity.
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life O Mother of Life, //
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death. (*twice*)

APOLYSIS

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The blessing and mercy of the Lord come upon you with his grace and love for mankind, always, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to You, Christ God our Hope, glory to you.

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy. Father, bless!

Priest: He who is risen from the dead...

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Through the prayers...

Choir: Amen.