

December 22 – Greatmartyr Anastasia, deliverer from bonds

FIRST ANTIPHON. PSALM 91.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord; to sing praises to Your name, O most High.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To show that the Lord is upright, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

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

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

SECOND ANTIPHON. PSALM 92.

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, He has girded Himself.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

The world also is established, so that it cannot be moved.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

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

THIRD ANTIPHON. PSALM 94

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You:

Alleluia!

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You:

Alleluia!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You:

Alleluia!

In His hand are the deep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is His also.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You:

Alleluia!

TROPARIA

Tone 4 Prepare, O Bethlehem, for Eden has been opened to all!

Adorn yourself, O Ephratha, for the tree of life blossoms forth from the Virgin in the cave!

Her womb is a spiritual paradise planted with the Divine Fruit:

If we eat of it, we shall live forever and not die like Adam.

Christ comes to restore the image which He made in the beginning!

Tone 4 Your lamb Anastasia calls out to You, O Jesus, in a loud voice:

“I love You, my Bridegroom, and in seeking You, I endure suffering.

In baptism I was crucified so that I might reign in You,

and I died so that I might live with You.

Accept me as a pure sacrifice,

for I have offered myself in love.” //

Through her prayers save our souls, since You are merciful!

Tone 4 In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,

a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence,

so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty,

O Holy Father Nicholas,

intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

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

KONTAKION

Tone 3 The Virgin today comes to the cave

To give birth ineffably to the Word before the age.

Dance, world who hear this!

Glorify, with angels and the shepherds,

Him who willed to be manifest, //

A new child, the God before the ages.

The Prokeimenon in the Third Tone: My soul magnifies the Lord / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (Luke 1:46-47)

v: For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. (Luke 1:48)

THE READING IS FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO TIMOTHY (5:22-6:11) Timothy, my son: Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure. No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities. Some men's sins are clearly evident, preceding them to judgment, but those of some men follow later. Likewise, the good works of some are clearly evident, and those that are otherwise cannot be hidden. Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed. And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things. If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear. (*Psalm 44:11*)

v. Before your face the richest of people will pray. (*Psalm 44:13*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK (10:11-16)

COMMUNION HYMN I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (*Psalm 115:4*)