

SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2025

TONE 2

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / The Holy, Glorious, and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!  
Hear me, O Lord!  
Lord, I call upon You, hear me!  
Receive the voice of my prayer,  
when I call upon You!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise  
in Your sight as incense,  
and let the lifting up of my hands  
be an evening sacrifice!//  
Hear me, O Lord!

Reader reads the rest of Psalm 140 & Psalm 141 on pgs 31 & 32 in the pew book, then 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 2 Automelon (for the Apostles, by Andrew Pyrrhus)*

With what wreaths of praise shall we crown Peter and Paul? / Separated in body, they were united by the Spirit; / they rank first among preachers: / one was the leader of the Apostles, / while the other labored more than the rest. / Truly, Christ our God, Who has great mercy,// has adorned them with the crowns of immortal glory.

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

With what wreaths of praise shall we crown Peter and Paul? / Separated in body, they were united by the Spirit; / they rank first among preachers: / one was the leader of the Apostles, / while the other labored more than the rest. / Truly, Christ our God, Who has great mercy,// has adorned them with the crowns of immortal glory.

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

How shall we worthily sing hymns to honor Peter and Paul? / Their hands were filled with grace and truth; / their feet carried them to the ends of the earth, preaching the Gospel of peace. / Once driven by the wind of the Spirit, / they are now carried up to heaven. / Truly they are rivers of wisdom and the arms of the Cross. / Through them Christ our God, Who has great mercy,// has cast down the arrogance of demons.

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

How shall we worthily sing hymns to honor Peter and Paul? / Their hands were filled with grace and truth; / their feet carried them to the ends of the earth, preaching the Gospel of peace. / Once driven by the wind of the Spirit, / they are now carried up to heaven. / Truly they are rivers of wisdom and the arms of the Cross. / Through them Christ our God, Who has great mercy,// has cast down the arrogance of demons.

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

With what spiritual songs shall we praise Peter and Paul? / They have silenced the sharp tongues of the godless. / They are awesome swords of the Spirit. / They are the adornment of Rome; / they have nourished the whole world with the Word of God. / They are the living tablets of the New Testament written by the hand of God.//Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has exalted them in Sion.

**V. (1)** *For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

With what spiritual songs shall we praise Peter and Paul? / They have silenced the sharp tongues of the godless. / They are awesome swords of the Spirit. / They are the adornment of Rome; / they have nourished the whole world with the Word of God. / They are the living tablets of the New Testament written by the hand of God.//Christ, Who has great and rich mercy, has exalted them in Sion.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; **Tone 4***

Three times Christ asked Peter: “Do you love Me?” / In this way Christ set aright the threefold denial. / Therefore Simon cried out to the One Who sees all hidden things: / “Lord, You know all things, You understand all things. / You know that I love You!” / Then the Savior said to him: “Feed My sheep, feed My chosen ones, / feed My lambs, whom I have acquired for salvation by My own blood!” // O blessed Apostle, pray that He may grant us great mercy!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 2** (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came; / as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed, / so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin. / The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.//Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **The reading is from the first letter of the holy apostle Peter. (1 Peter 1:3-9)**

Beloved, blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith – the salvation of your souls.

### **The reading is from the first letter of the holy apostle Peter. (1 Peter 1:13-19)**

Beloved, gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

### **The reading is from the first letter of the holy apostle Peter. (1 Peter 2:11-24)**

Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation. Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men – as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king. Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: “Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth”; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed.

**then the Augmented Litany and following.**

## LITY

**Tone 2** Let us come today and gather in chorus, / and give an offering of the faithful! / Let us exalt the Apostles Peter and Paul, the two vessels of grace! / Let us worthily crown them with praises! / For they bountifully spread the seed of the Word, / giving all mankind its rich harvest. / Filled with the grace of the Spirit, / they were branches of the True Vine / who tended the fruit that gladdens our hearts. / Let us sing to them with unveiled faces and pure hearts: / “Rejoice, guides of those without reason, / who cared for those who gained wisdom! / Rejoice, chosen friends of the Creator! / Rejoice, stewards of bounty and foes of illusion!” / Let us ever pray to them that they may intercede with their Creator and Master// that He may grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls!

**Tone 2** Let us praise as champions of all the world, / those leaders, Peter and Paul: / the disciples of Christ and founders of the Church, / true foundations, pillars, and trumpets of inspiration, / sounding forth the teachings and sufferings of Christ! / They indeed went out into all the earth / as husbandmen spreading the seed of the faith, / planting for all mankind divine understanding, / revealing the Word of the Trinity. / O Peter, the rock and foundation, / and Paul, the chosen vessel, / you were Christ’s yoke of oxen, drawing all to the knowledge of God: / the Gentiles, men of the cities and islands. / You brought the Hebrews back again to Christ, // and now you both intercede that our souls may be saved.

**Tone 2** O Peter, leader of the glorious Apostles and rock of the faith, / and Paul, divinely inspired orator and light of the holy Churches, / as you stand before the throne of God, // intercede with Christ on our behalf.

O Paul, the spokesman of Christ and founder of His teachings, / who earlier had persecuted Jesus the Savior, / now you fill the first throne of the Apostles, O blessed one. / Thus you saw things that cannot be spoken, / and ascending to the third heaven you cried: // “Come with me, and be filled with good things!”

**Tone 3** O citizens of heavenly Jerusalem – / the rock of faith and the orator of the Church of Christ – / you were an invincible team for the Trinity, / and have caught the whole world in your net; / you have endured the contest of suffering, / and today you depart this world for the throne of God; / as you stand before Him with boldness, // intercede that our souls may be saved!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; **Tone 5 (by Byzantius)***

O Apostles, praised throughout the world, / the Wisdom of God, the Word of the Father, / foretold in His Gospel that you would be His fruitful vines. / You carried in your branches the sweet-tasting fruit of life, / and we faithful partake and are filled with gladness. / O Peter, rock of faith, and Paul, the pride of all the earth, // strengthen the flock established by your teachings!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 5 (Theotokion)***

O most precious Virgin, / you are the gate, the temple, / the palace, the throne of the King. / From you, my Redeemer, Christ the Lord, / appeared to those asleep in darkness. / He is the Sun of Righteousness, / Who desired to enlighten His image, whom He had created. / Since you possess motherly boldness before Him, O all praised Lady, // pray unceasingly that our souls may be saved!

**Deacon:** 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 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 the Golden-mouth; Athanasius, Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas of Myra and 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, of the holy, glorious, and all-praised leaders of the apostles, Peter and Paul, whose remembrance we fulfill, 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)

**Deacon:** Again we pray for our rulers, that the Lord our God works together with them and makes them prosper in all.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. (x3)

**Deacon:** 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)

**Deacon:** 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)

**Deacon:** 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, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross whose universal lifting up we fulfill, 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 the Golden-mouth; Athanasius, Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria, Nicholas of Myra and 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, of the holy, glorious, and all-praised leaders of the apostles, Peter and Paul, whose remembrance we fulfill, 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 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) [then Choir sings 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; Tone 6*

A joyful feast dawns upon the earth today:  
the memorial of Peter and Paul,  
the wise leaders of the Apostles.  
Let Rome rejoice and be glad with us!  
Let us keep feast, O brethren, in songs and hymns!  
Rejoice, Apostle Peter, true friend of Christ our God!  
Rejoice, beloved Paul, herald of the faith and teacher of the universe!  
You have boldness before him, O chosen pair;//  
pray unceasingly that our souls may be saved!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 6*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,  
was born of you, O most pure Virgin.  
By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.  
Unceasingly we magnify you as the Mother of God!  
Rejoice, O celestial Joy!  
Rejoice, O Lady://  
the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

## TROPARIA

**Tone 2** When You descended to death, O Life Immortal, / You slew 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!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Tone 4 Troparion (Apostles)*  
O first-enthroned of the Apostles, / and teachers of the universe: / entreat the Master of all / to grant peace to the world, // and to our souls great mercy!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 4 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion*  
The mystery hidden from all eternity, / unknown even by Angels, / through you, Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth: / God incarnate by union without confusion. / He voluntarily accepted the Cross for us, / by which He resurrected the first-created man, // saving our souls from death.

## 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.