

MARCH 9, 2022 The Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste / Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

"Lord I Call..." Tone 8 on page 19 then the rest of the Psalms on pages 19-21 until:

STICHERA

*V. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name! **Tone 8***

While fasting in body, O brethren,
let us also fast in spirit!
Let us loose the bonds of iniquity!
Let us undo the chains of injustice!
Let us break the yoke of oppression!
Let us give food to the hungry!
Let us shelter the poor and homeless,//
so that we may receive great mercy from Christ our God!

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

While fasting in body, O brethren,
let us also fast in spirit!
Let us loose the bonds of iniquity!
Let us undo the chains of injustice!
Let us break the yoke of oppression!
Let us give food to the hungry!
Let us shelter the poor and homeless,//
so that we may receive great mercy from Christ our God!

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

Whatever is excellent and worthy of praise
is rightly ascribed to the saints,
for they bowed their necks beneath the sword,
for Your sake, Who bowed the heavens and came down.
They shed their blood for You, Who emptied Yourself,
taking the form of a servant.
They humbled themselves even unto death,
following the example of Your lowliness.
By their prayers have mercy on us, O God,//
according to Your abundant mercy!

*V. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! **Tone 2***

Jesus, the true spiritual Sun,
sent you out as lightning into all the world,
O Apostles and eyewitnesses of God.
He dispersed the darkness of error,
enlightening those held fast in the gloom of ignorance.//
Entreat Him to send down on us as well His illumination and great mercy!

V. (6) *If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

Glorified by fasting,
Elias rode in the divine chariot of virtues
and was carried up to the height of heaven.
Eagerly follow his example, O my humble soul!
Fast from every evil and jealousy,
from strife and fleeting pleasures!
Then you will escape the everlasting torment of Gehenna,//
crying out to Christ: "Glory to You, O Lord!"

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. **Tone 5***

O Apostles of God, fervent intercessors for the world,
defenders of the Orthodox,
you have power to approach Christ our God with boldness.
Intercede for us, we pray you,
that we may keep the holy fast in peace
and receive the grace of the consubstantial Trinity!//
O great and glorious preachers, worthy of all honor, pray for our souls!

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

Tone 2 The holy Martyrs bravely endured their present suffering;
they rejoiced in things hoped for but not yet seen.
They said to each other:
"By stripping off our garments we have put off the old man.
The winter is cold and bitter, but Paradise will be warm and sweet.
The freezing is painful, but the reward will bring us joy.
Let us not be defeated, O brothers!
We suffer a little, but Christ will crown us with the laurel of victory.//
He is our God and the Savior of our souls."

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

The holy Martyrs bravely endured their present suffering;
they rejoiced in things hoped for but not yet seen.
They said to each other:
"By stripping off our garments we have put off the old man.
The winter is cold and bitter, but Paradise will be warm and sweet.
The freezing is painful, but the reward will bring us joy.
Let us not be defeated, O brothers!
We suffer a little, but Christ will crown us with the laurel of victory.//
He is our God and the Savior of our souls."

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

The holy Martyrs threw their clothes aside;
fearlessly they entered the lake and encouraged one another:
“Remember that our fallen nature has been deprived of Paradise!
Let us care nothing for our corruptible flesh today!
The serpent once deceived us, handing over our bodies to death;
now let us win resurrection for all!
Let us scorn the ice and cold; let us hate our flesh,
and Christ will crown us with the laurel of victory!//
He is our God and the Savior of our souls.”

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

The holy Martyrs accepted their torments with joy.
They hurried to the frozen lake as to a comforting bath.
They said: “We will not fear the bitter cold.
Only let us escape Gehenna's flames!
Let a foot be burned, that it may rejoice eternally!
Let a hand be lost, offered to the Lord in sacrifice!
Let us not refuse death in the flesh!
Embrace death, and Christ will crown us with the laurel of victory!//
He is our God, and the Savior of our souls.”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 2 The holy Martyrs bravely endured their present suffering;
they rejoiced in things hoped for but not yet seen.
They said to each other:
“By stripping off our garments we have put off the old man.
The winter is cold and bitter, but Paradise will be warm and sweet.
The freezing is painful, but the reward will bring us joy.
Let us not be defeated, O brothers!
We suffer a little, but Christ will crown us with the laurel of victory.//
He is our God and the Savior of our souls.”

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 2 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.

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright!
Chanter: O Gladsome Light...

1ST READING

Deacon: Let us attend!
Priest: Peace to all!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the fifth tone: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. *(Psalm 11:7)*

Chanter: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. *(Psalm 11:7)*

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! *(Psalm 11:1)*

Chanter: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. *(Psalm 11:7)*

Reader: You, O Lord, shall protect us

Chanter: and preserve us from this generation forever. *(Psalm 11:7)*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from Genesis *(1:24-2:3)*

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: God said: Let the earth bring forth living soul according to its kind, quadrupeds, reptiles, and wild beasts of the earth according to their kind; and it was so. And God made the wild beasts of the earth according to their kind, and the cattle according to their kind, and all the reptiles of the earth according to their kinds. And God saw that they were good. And God said: Let us make humanity according to our Image and according to our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of heaven and the cattle and all the earth and all the reptiles which creep upon the earth. And God made humanity, according to the Image of God he made it; male and female he made them. And God blessed them, saying: Increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and have dominion over it; and rule the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of heaven and all the cattle and all the earth and all the reptiles which creep upon the earth. And God said: See, I have given you all seed-bearing grass, sowing seed, which is upon the whole earth; and every tree, which has in it fruit of seed-bearing seed, shall be food for you, and for all the wild beasts of the earth and for all the winged creatures of heaven, and for every reptile which creeps upon the earth, which has in itself a soul of life, and every green grass shall be food. And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made; and behold, they were very good. And there was evening and there was morning, a sixth day. And the heaven and the earth were accomplished, and all their array. And God accomplished on the sixth day the works which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from his works which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it; because on it he rested from all his works, which God had begun to make.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the sixth tone: Consider and answer me, / O Lord my God! *(Psalm 12:3a)*

Chanter: Consider and answer me, / O Lord my God! *(Psalm 12:3a)*

Reader: How long, O Lord, will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? *(Psalm 12:1)*

Chanter: Consider and answer me, / O Lord my God! *(Psalm 12:3a)*

Reader: Consider and answer me,

Chanter: O Lord my God! *(Psalm 12:3a)*

EVERYONE KNEELS.

Deacon: Command!

Priest: Wisdom! Upright! The Light of Christ illumines all!

2ND READING

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs. (2:1-22)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: My son, if you accept utterance of my commandment and hide it in yourself, your ear will obey wisdom and you will apply your heart to understanding; you will apply it to the instruction of your son. For if you call upon wisdom and give your voice to understanding, while you seek perception with a loud voice, and if you seek it like silver, and search it out like treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and you will find knowledge of God; because the Lord gives wisdom and from his face come knowledge and understanding. And he treasures up salvation for those who act uprightly; he will protect their path, to guard the ways of just deeds; and to protect the way of those who respect him. Then you will understand justice and judgement, and direct all good courses. For if wisdom comes into the mind, while perception seems to be good to your soul, good counsel will guard you; while holy thought will watch over you, that it may deliver you from a wicked way, and from a man who speaks nothing trustworthy. Alas for those who abandon straight ways to journey in ways of darkness; who are glad at wickednesses, and rejoice at wicked perversity! Whose paths are crooked and whose tracks are winding, to take you far from the straight way, and make you a stranger to just purpose. My son, let not wicked counsel, which has abandoned teaching from her youth, and forgotten God's testament, take you; for she has set her house next to death and her door-posts with the earthborn next to Hell. All those who journey by her will not return, nor will they take straight paths; for they are not taken by years of life. For if they had journeyed on good paths, they would have found smooth paths of justice. They will be good builders of the land; but the innocent will be left behind in it; because the upright will inhabit the land and the holy will be left behind in it. The ways of the ungodly will perish from the land; while the transgressors will be destroyed from it.

The Presanctified Liturgy continues with "Let my prayer arise..." on the bottom of page 25

After the prayer of Saint Ephrem the Syrian on page 26:

THE EPISTLE (For the Forty Holy Martyrs)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace to all!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the fifth tone: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (Psalm 11:7)

Chanter: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (Psalm 11:7)

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (*Psalms 11:1*)

Chanter: You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (*Psalms 11:7*)

Reader: You, O Lord, shall protect us

Chanter: and preserve us from this generation forever. (*Psalms 11:7*)

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the epistle of the apostle Paul to the Hebrews. (*12:1-10*)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, therefore, having around us a cloud of witnesses, laying aside all weight and the sin which surrounds us, we also in forbearance run the race set before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus the source and perfecter of the faith, who instead of the joy set before Him forbore the cross, despising shame, and sat at the right side of the throne of God. Think then of the such one who forbore onto himself hostility from the sinners, so that you are not hard pressed weary in your souls! You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

Priest: Peace be to you, reader(s)!

Reader: And to your spirit. Alleluia in the fourth tone.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing of His name, give to Him glorious praise! (*Psalms 65:1*)

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: For You, O God, have proved us; You have tried us with fire as silver is tried. (*Psalms 65:10*)

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL (For the Forty Holy Martyrs)

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright! Let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Chanter: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. (*20:1-16*)

Chanter: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: The Lord spoke this parable: For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.' So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.' And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.' But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?' So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.'"

Chanter: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

The Presanctified Divine Liturgy continues on page 27.

COMMUNION HYMN The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (*Psalms 111:6b-7a*)