

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021

TONE 6

23rd Sunday after Pentecost (10th of Luke)/Monk-Martyr and Confessor Stephen the New

STICHERA

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

Tone 6

Possessing victory over hell, O Christ,
since You are free among the dead,
You ascended the Cross
raising with Yourself those who sat in the shades of death.//
Drawing life from Your light, O almighty Savior, have mercy on us!

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

Today Christ tramples on death,
for He is risen as He said!
Let us all sing this song,
for He has granted joy to the world:
O Light unapproachable, O Fountain of life!//
O Savior almighty, have mercy on us!

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

Where shall we sinners flee from You, Who are in all creation?
In heaven You dwell!
In hell You trampled on death!
In the depths of the sea?
Even there is Your hand, O Master!
To You we flee, and falling before You, we pray://
O You Who rose from the dead, have mercy on us!

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

In Your Cross, we glory, O Christ.
We sing and glorify Your Resurrection.
For You are our God,//
and we know no other than You.

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

We will always bless the Lord
by singing of His Resurrection!
For He endured the Cross,//
trampling down death by death.

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.*

Glory to Your might, O Lord,
for You overthrew the prince of death,
by Your Cross renewing us,//
granting us life and incorruption.

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

Tone 6 You offered yourself fully to the Master from your youth,
transcending the flesh and worldly love.

You were an excellent monk, O most holy Stephen,
and a vessel of the Spirit of God.

You were imprisoned in a narrow hut, O blessed one,
but you gave your mind wings to fly to the heavens
to behold the ineffable beauty of Christ our King and God.//
Venerating His image, you suffered greatly.

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

You offered yourself fully to the Master from your youth,
transcending the flesh and worldly love.

You were an excellent monk, O most holy Stephen,
and a vessel of the Spirit of God.

You were imprisoned in a narrow hut, O blessed one,
but you gave your mind wings to fly to the heavens
to behold the ineffable beauty of Christ our King and God.//
Venerating His image, you suffered greatly.

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

Imprisoned in a dungeon,
you fasted for forty days like the Master,
preparing yourself for suffering, O holy Stephen,
confirmation of monks and adornment of martyrs.

Therefore, those who had no mercy,
fell upon you like wild beasts,
dragging you like an innocent lamb.

They unjustly tore your body to pieces
and cast you out with the evildoers.

You suffered greatly,//
and now you pray boldly on behalf of our souls.

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

Evil men, subject to the iniquity of the lawless emperor,
stoned you without pity, O venerable one,
like the honored Protomartyr Stephen.

They crushed your holy head, O Father,
dragging you most savagely through the streets,
causing your bowels to spill forth, O most blessed one,
showing you no mercy even after you were dead.

How great was your courage!

How great were your fortitude and endurance!//

By them, O Stephen, you have received an unfading crown.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 6

Like the great prophet Samuel, O Stephen,
you were dedicated to God while yet an infant.
Having ascended the mountain, you were well-pleasing to Him in the monastic life.
You manfully strip yourself for the contest,
enduring banishment and tribulation with patience.
You bore fetters and imprisonment for His image.
You were dragged and beaten;
you were stoned, and your head was crushed.
Therefore you were crowned by Christ our God.
Entreat Him that those who celebrate your honorable memory
may be delivered from sufferings, temptations and the tribulation to come, //
and that our souls may be saved!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 6 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

Who will not bless you, O most holy Virgin?
Who will not sing of your most pure childbearing?
The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,
but from you He was ineffably incarnate.
God by nature, yet Man for our sake,
not two persons, but one known in two natures.
Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady, //
to have mercy on our souls!

APOSTICHA

Tone 6 Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,
the Angels in heaven sing!
Enable us on earth //
to glorify You in purity of heart!

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

Destroying the gates of hell,
breaking the chains of death,
You resurrected the fallen human race as almighty God! //
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

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

Desiring to return us to Paradise,
Christ was nailed to the Cross and placed in a tomb.
The Myrrhbearing Women sought Him with tears, crying,
“Woe to us, O Savior!
How do You deign to descend to death?
What place can hold Your life bearing body?
Come to us as You promised!
Take away our wailing and tears!”
Then the Angel appeared to them:
“Stop your lamentations!

Go, proclaim to the Apostles:
'The Lord is risen,//
granting us purification and great mercy!'"

V. *Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!*
Having been crucified as You willed,
by Your burial You captured death, O Christ,
rising on the third day as God in glory,//
granting the world unending life and great mercy!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; Tone 8 (for St. Stephen the New)
O venerable Father, greatly-suffering Stephen,
you preserved unharmed that which is according to the image
as a manful champion of Christ's image,
not fearing the threats of Coprónymus.
Indeed, you slew him with the sword of the Spirit.
Therefore, since you have acquired boldness before God,//
save your flock from all heresies!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Tone 8 (Theotokion)
O unwedded Virgin,
who ineffably conceived God in the flesh,
O Mother of God most high,
accept the cries of your servants, O blameless One!
Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//
Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

TROPARIA

Tone 6 The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb; / the guards became as dead men. / Mary stood by Your grave, / seeking Your most pure body. / You captured hell, not being tempted by it. / You came to the Virgin, granting life. / O Lord, Who rose from the dead, // glory to You.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Tone 4 Troparion
Trained in asceticism on the mountain, / with the weapon of the Cross you destroyed the spiritual assaults of the hostile powers, O all-blessed one. / Again you bravely prepared for combat / and slew Coprónymus with the sword of faith; // for both struggles you have been crowned by God, monk-martyr Stephen of eternal memory.

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.