

Saint Mary Protectress Center

Reader Service

(service without a priest)

17th Sunday After Pentecost, Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Tone 8

Reader: + Through the prayers of our holy Fathers,
O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

+ Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (3x)

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

+ Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Lord have mercy. (12x)

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

+ O come, let us worship God our King.

+ O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

+ O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

Festal Antiphon 1

Choir: Stichos 1: O God, my God, attend to me; why hast Thou forsaken me?

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

Stichos 2: Far from my salvation are the words of my transgression.

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

Stichos 3: My God, I will cry by day, and wilt Thou not hearken?
and by night, and it shall not be unto folly for me.

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

Stichos 4: But as for Thee, Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, O Praise of Israel.

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

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

Festal Antiphon 2

Choir: Stichos 1: O God, why hast Thou cast us off
unto the end?

Refrain: O Son of God Who wast crucified in the flesh,
save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

Stichos 2: Remember Thy congregation
which Thou hast purchased from the beginning.

Refrain: O Son of God Who wast crucified in the flesh,
save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

Stichos 3: This is Mount Zion
wherein Thou hast dwelt.

Refrain: O Son of God Who wast crucified in the flesh,
save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

Stichos 4: But God is our king before the ages,
He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

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

O Only-Begotten Son and Word of God, Who art Immortal,
Yet didst deign for our salvation to be incarnate
Of the Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary,
And without change didst become man, and was crucified,
O Christ God, trampling down death by death.
Thou Who art One of the Holy Trinity,
Glorified with the + Father and the Holy Spirit,
Save us!

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Festal Antiphon 3

Reader: **Stichos 1:** The Lord is king, let the peoples rage; He sitteth on the
cherubim, let the earth be shaken.

Choir: (Festal Troparion, Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant Thou victory unto
Orthodox Christians / over their enemies, / and by the power of Thy Cross // do
Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

Reader: **Stichos 2:** The Lord is great in Zion, and He is high above all peoples.
Choir: Repeat Troparion

Choir: (Festal Troparion, Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant Thou victory unto Orthodox Christians / over their enemies, / and by the power of Thy Cross // do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

Reader: Stichos 3: Worship the Lord in His holy court.

Choir: (Festal Troparion, Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant Thou victory unto Orthodox Christians / over their enemies, / and by the power of Thy Cross // do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

Introit
(Entry Hymn)

Reader: Exalt ye the Lord our God,
and worship the footstool of His feet, for it is holy.

Troparia
(Thematic Hymns)

Choir: (Festal Troparion, Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant Thou victory unto Orthodox Christians / over their enemies, / and by the power of Thy Cross // do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

**Instead of the Trisagion, “Holy God”,
we sing “Before Thy Cross”**

Choir: Before Thy Cross we bow down, O Master,
and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify.

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

And Thy holy Resurrection we glorify.
Before Thy Cross we bow down, O Master,
and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify.

Prokeimenon

(that which precedes)

Reader: The Prokimenon in the 7th Tone: Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship the footstool of His feet for it is holy.

Choir: Exalt ye the Lord our God,
and worship the footstool of His feet for it is holy.

Reader: The Lord is king, let the peoples rage.

Choir: Exalt ye the Lord our God,
and worship the footstool of His feet for it is holy.

Reader: Exalt ye the Lord our God,

Choir: and worship the footstool of His feet for it is holy.

Epistle Reading
(1 Corinthians 1:18-24)

Reader: The Reading is from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

Brethren: The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. * For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. * Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? * For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. * For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: * But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling-block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; * But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

Alleluia
(Praise ye the Lord)

Reader: Alleluia in the 1st Tone.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased from the beginning.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: But God is our king before the ages, He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Holy Gospel Reading
(John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35)

Reader: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

Reader: At that time, when the chief priests and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him. * The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God. * When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid; * And went again into the judgement hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer. * Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee? * Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin. * When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgement seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. * And it was the preparation of the Passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King! * But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar. * Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away. * And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: * Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst. * And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS. * This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to

the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. * Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. * When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! * Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. * After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. * When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. * The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. * Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. * But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: * But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. * And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

Choir: (Tone 6)

Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith:

Holy, Holy, Holy,

Lord of Sabaoth; //

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Reader: Come unto Him, and be enlightened & your faces shall not be ashamed.

Choir: The heavenly choir praiseth Thee and saith:

Holy, Holy, Holy,

Lord of Sabaoth; //

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Reader: + Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Choir: The choir of Holy angels and archangels,

With all the heavenly hosts praiseth Thee and saith:
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth; //
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Reader: Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

The Nicene Creed

Choir: + I believe / in one God, the Father Almighty, / Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. / And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, / the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages; / Light of Light, true God of true God; / begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made; / Who for us men and for our salvation came down from the heavens, / and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; / And was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, / and suffered and was buried; and arose again on the third day according to the Scriptures; / And ascended into the heavens, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father; / And shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. / And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life; Who proceedeth from the Father; / Who with the + Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the prophets. / In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. / I confess one baptism for the remission of sins. / I look for the resurrection of the dead, / And the life of the age to come. Amen.

Reader: Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offenses, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and thought; forgive us all things, for Thou art good & the Lover of mankind.

The Lord's Prayer

Choir: (Tone 4)

+ Our Father, Who art in the heavens,
Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

Reader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Kontakia (Thematic Hymns)

Choir: (Festal Kontakion, Tone 4)

O Thou Who wast lifted up willingly on the Cross, / bestow Thy mercies upon the new community named after Thee, O Christ God; / gladden with Thy power the Orthodox Christians, / granting them victory over enemies; // may they have as Thy help the weapon of peace, the invincible trophy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (12x)

O All-Holy Trinity, the consubstantial dominion, the indivisible Kingdom, and cause of every Good: Show Thy good will even unto me a sinner; make steadfast my heart and grant it understanding, and take away mine every defilement; enlighten my mind that I may glorify, hymn, worship, and say:

Choir: One is Holy, One is Lord, Jesus Christ,
to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Blessed by the name of the Lord, henceforth and forever more. (3x)

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

Psalms 33

Choir: I will bless the Lord at all times,
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
In the Lord shall my soul be praised;
let the meek hear and be glad.
O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt His name together.
I sought the Lord, and He heard me,
and delivered me from all my tribulations.
Come unto Him, and be enlightened,
and your faces shall not be ashamed.
This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him,
and saved him out of all his tribulations.
The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear Him,

and will deliver them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed is the man that hopeth in Him.

O fear the Lord, all ye His saints;
for there is no want to them that fear Him.

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

**Instead of “It is truly meet...” we chant the
Irmos of the 9th Ode of the 1st Canon of the feast, Tone 8:**

Choir: (Tone 4)

Refrain: Magnify, O my soul, / the most precious Cross of the Lord.

Irmos: O Theotokos, thou art a mystical Paradise, / who, untilled, hast brought forth Christ. / He hath planted upon the earth the life-giving Tree of the Cross: / therefore at its exaltation on this day, // we worship Him and thee do we magnify.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

O Lord, Bless.

Reader: Thou that didst rise from the dead, O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother our Protectress, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

Choir: Amen

Memory Eternal
(For those who have fallen asleep in the Lord)

Choir:

Memory eternal!

Memory eternal!

Memory eternal!

His/Her/Their soul(s) shall dwell with the blessed!

Many Years

(For those with birthdays and namedays)

Choir:

God grant you many years!
God grant you many years!
God grant you many, many years!

Save them O Christ God!
Save them O Christ God!
Save them O Christ God!

God grant you many years!
God grant you many years!
God grant you many, many years!

Patronal Hymns

(St Mary Protectress Troparion, Tone 4)

Today we Orthodox people joyfully celebrate
thy glorious coming among us, O Mother of God,
and gazing upon thy most pure image, we say with compunction:
Shelter us with thy most precious protection,
and deliver us from all evil,
and pray to thy Son, Christ our God, //
that He save our souls.

(St Mary Protectress Kontakion, Tone 3)

Today the Virgin doth stand before us in church,
and with the choirs of saints invisibly prayeth for us to God.
Angels worship with hierarchs,
apostles rejoice with prophets, //
for the Theotokos prayeth for us to the Eternal God.