

Sunday, August 29 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Tropar, tone 5: Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, * co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, * and born of the Virgin for our salvation. * For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, * to suffer death and to raise the dead * by His glorious resurrection.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!

Kondak, tone 5: You, my Savior, descended to Hades, * and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates. * With Yourself You, as the Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death, * and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Mankind. * And so we cry out: "Save us, O Lord."

Prokimen, tone 5: You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and forever.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man.

Epistle: 2nd Corinthians 1: 21-2: 4

Brothers and Sisters! God is the one who firmly establishes us along with you in Christ; it is he who anointed us and has sealed us, thereby depositing the first payment, the Spirit, in our hearts. I call on God as my witness that it was out of consideration for you that I did not come to Corinth again. Domineering over your faith is not my purpose. I prefer to work with you toward your happiness. As regards faith, you are standing firm. I did decide, however, not to visit you again in painful circumstances. For if I cause you pain, who can make me happy again but the ones I grieved? I wrote as I did so that when I come, I may not be saddened by those who should rejoice my heart. I know you all well enough to be convinced that my happiness is yours. That is why I wrote you in great sorrow and anguish, with copious tears -- not to make you sad but to help you realize the great love I bear you.

Alleluia Verses: Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation, I will announce Your truth with my mouth. For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared.

Gospel: Matthew 22: 1-14

The Lord told this parable: "The reign of God may be likened to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the wedding, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying: 'Tell those who were invited, See, I have my dinner prepared! My bullocks and corn-fed cattle are killed; everything is ready. Come to the feast.' Some ignored the invitation and went their way, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, insulted them, and killed them. At this the king grew furious and sent his army to destroy those murderers and burn their city. Then he said to his servants: 'The banquet is ready, but those who were invited were unfit to come. That is why you must go out into the byroads and invite to the wedding anyone you come upon.' The servants then went out into the byroads and rounded up everyone they met, bad as well as good. This filled the wedding hall with banqueters. When the king came in to meet the guests, however, he caught sight of a man not properly dressed for a wedding feast. 'My friend,' he said, 'how is it you came in here not properly dressed?' The man had nothing to say. The king then said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the night to wail and grind his teeth.' The invited are many, the elect are few.

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!