

The First Sunday Antiphon

Shout to the Lord, all the earth: sing now to His name, give glory to His praise.
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Say unto God, "How awesome are your works! Because of the greatness of
Your strength Your enemies will flatter You."

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Let all the earth worship You and sing to You, let it sing to Your name, O
Most High.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

The Third Sunday Antiphon

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Savior.
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth.
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

*****Entrance*****

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.
Son of God, risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Tropars

You came down from on high, O Merciful One,* and accepted three days of
burial to free us from our sufferings.* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,*
glory be to You.

O John, our god-bearing father!* You, a desert-dweller and angel in the flesh,
showed yourself as a miracle worker.* From heaven on high you acquired
gifts through prayer, vigils and fasting.* You were able to heal the sick and
touch the souls of those who came to you in faith.* Glory to him who gave
you strength!* Glory to him who crowned you!* Glory to him* who gives
healing to all through you.

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

The Lord raised you to the heights of true spirituality through abstinence,* and like a star without guile,* you radiate a light illuminating the far corners of the earth,* O father and our teacher, John.

Apostolos (Hebrews 6:13-20)

Prokimenon: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord, you sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews:

Brethren, when God made his promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, " *I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you.*" And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of his will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort- we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have, as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as he became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchisedek.

Alleluia: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

Gospel: (Mark 9:17-31)

At that time a man came to Jesus and said: "Teacher, I have brought to you my son possessed by a mute spirit. Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they were unable to do so." He said to them in reply, "O faithless generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I endure you? Bring him to me." They brought the boy to him. And when he saw him, the spirit immediately threw the boy into convulsions. As he fell to the ground, he began to roll around and foam at the mouth. Then he questioned his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" He

replied, "Since childhood. It has often thrown him into fire and into water to kill him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "'If you can!' Everything is possible to one who has faith." Then the boy's father cried out, "I do believe, help my unbelief!" Jesus, on seeing a crowd rapidly gathering, rebuked the unclean spirit and said to it, "Mute and deaf spirit, I command you: come out of him and never enter him again!" Shouting and throwing the boy into convulsions, it came out. He became like a corpse, which caused many to say, "He is dead!" But Jesus took him by the hand, raised him, and he stood up. When he entered the house, his disciples asked him in private, "Why could we not drive it out?" He said to them, "This kind can only come out through prayer." They left from there and began a journey through Galilee, but he did not wish anyone to know about it. He was teaching his disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to men and they will kill him, and three days after his death he will rise."

Instead of: "It is truly right..."

All creation* rejoices in you,* O full of grace:* the assembly of angels and the human race.

O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,* boast of virgins!* God became incarnate in you.* Being our God before all ages, he became a child.* By making your womb his throne,* you became more spacious than the skies.

All creation rejoices in you,* O full of grace. Glory to you.

Kinonikon

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous ones;* praise from the upright is fitting.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.