

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

TONE 1

26th Sunday after Pentecost (11th of Luke)

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

"Lord I Call..." Tone 1

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!

Tone 1 *(for the Resurrection)*

Accept our evening prayers, O holy Lord!
Grant us remission of sins,//
for You alone have manifested the Resurrection to the world.

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

Encircle Zion
and surround her, O people!
Give glory in her to the One Who rose from the dead!
For He is our God,//
Who has delivered us from our transgressions!

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

Come, O people,
let us hymn and fall down before Christ,
glorifying His Resurrection from the dead!
For He is our God,//
Who has delivered the world from the Enemy's deceit!

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

(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)

Be glad, O heavens!
Sound trumpets, O foundations of the earth!
Sing in gladness, O mountains!
Behold Emmanuel has nailed our sins to the Cross!
Granting life, He has slain death.//
He has resurrected Adam as the Lover of mankind.

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

Tone 2* *(for St. Nicholas) (Joseph of Arimathea)*

O Nicholas, living in Myra,
you were anointed with spiritual myrrh,
and were revealed to be truly myrrh, O bishop of Christ.
You make fragrant with myrrh those who keep your memorial with faith
and love,
freeing them from misery, danger and affliction,//
by your intercessions to Christ, O holy Father.

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.

O Holy Nicholas, the servant of Christ,
as a true namesake of victory,
you were shown to the faithful people to be strong amid temptations and grief.
Called from all places, you are swift to come to those who turn with love
to your protection.
Appearing by day and night to the faithful,//
you save them from dangers and temptations.

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

You appeared in a dream to the Emperor Constantine and his counselor
Avlavius,
speaking to them, and putting them in fear:
"Set free at once those you hold unjustly bound in prison,
for they are not guilty of lawless murder!
And if you do not listen to my words, O King,//
I will beseech the Lord and intercede against you!"

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

O glorious Nicholas, the holy preacher of Christ,
you are the great and fervent protector of those in danger,
those on land and sea, far off or near;
for you are a most compassionate and mighty intercessor.
Therefore, as we assemble, we cry aloud://
“Pray to the Lord that we may be delivered from all danger!”

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

Tone 2 *(for St. Nicholas) (With what crowns)*

What crowns of praise shall we weave for the Bishop?
Although he lived in Myra,
he reaches out in spirit to all who sincerely love him.
He is the consolation of all in affliction, the refuge of all in danger,
the tower of godliness, the champion of the faithful,//
for whose sake the greatly merciful Christ has laid low the arrogance of
the Enemy.

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

What songs of praise shall we sing to the Bishop?
He wrestled against godlessness
and was the champion of godliness,
a great leader, shield and teacher of the Church,
who put all inglorious heresy to shame,
the destroyer and fierce opponent of Arius,
whose arrogance was overthrown by Christ,//
Who grants to the world great mercy.

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

Tone 6 *(for St. Nicholas)*

You that love the feasts,
let us gather and sing the praises of the fair ornament of bishops,
the glory of the Fathers, the fount of wonders and the great protector of the
faithful.

Let us say: "Rejoice, guardian of the people of Myra,
their chief and honored counselor and the pillar that cannot be moved!
Rejoice, light filled with brightness!
You make the ends of the world shine with wonders.
Rejoice, divine delight of the afflicted,
the fervent advocate of those who suffer from injustice!
And now, all-blessed Nicholas, never cease praying to Christ our God//
for those who honor the high feast of your memorial with faith and love!"

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

Tone 1 *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

Let us praise the Virgin Mary!
The gate of heaven, the glory of the world!
The song of the angels, the beauty of the faithful!
She was born of man, yet gave birth to God!
She was revealed as the heaven, as the temple of the Godhead!
She destroyed the wall of enmity!
She commenced the peace; she opened the Kingdom!
Since she is our foundation of faith,
our defender is the Lord Whom she bore!
Courage! Courage! O People of God!
For Christ will destroy our enemies//
since He is all powerful.

Old Testament Readings
Composite 2
Proverbs 10:31-11:12
Wisdom of Solomon 4:7-15

Aposticha

Tone 1 *(for the Resurrection)*

We have been freed from sufferings
by Your suffering, O Christ.
We have been delivered from corruption
by Your Resurrection.//
O Lord, glory to You!

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

Let creation rejoice!
Let the heavens be glad!
Let the nations clap their hands with gladness,
for Christ our Savior has nailed our sins to the Cross.
Slaying death, He has given life.//
He has resurrected fallen Adam as the Lover of man.

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

As King of heaven and earth,
You were voluntarily crucified in Your love for man.
Hell was angered when it met You below.
Adam rose seeing You, the Creator, under the earth.
O wonder! How has the Life of all tasted death?
You enlightened the world which cries://
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You!

V. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore!

The myrrhbearing women came with haste to Your tomb,
bearing myrrh and lamenting.
Not finding Your most pure body,
they learned from the angel of the new and glorious wonder.
They told the Apostles://
“The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy.”

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

Tone 6 *(for St. Nicholas, by John the Monk)*

O man of God and faithful servant,
minister of the Lord and man of desires,
chosen vessel, pillar and foundation of the Church,
inheritor of the Kingdom,//
let your supplication for us to the Lord be unceasing!

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

Tone 6 *(for the Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ)*

O unwedded Virgin, from where have you come?
Who has given you birth?
Who is your mother?
How can you carry your Creator in your arms?
How is your womb free from corruption?
Most holy one, we see great and fearful mysteries upon earth fulfilled in you;
we adorn the cave as a house worthy of you;
we ask the heavens to send us a star,
for behold, the Magi proceed from the East to the West,
desiring to see the Salvation of mortal men//
shining in your arms as a Pillar of Flame.

(at Great Vespers)

Tone 1 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,
You rose on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Your Kingdom!//
Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!”

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

Tone 4 Troparion *(St. Nicholas)*

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,
an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;
your humility exalted you;
your poverty enriched you.
O Hierarch Father Nicholas,
entreat Christ our God//
that our souls may be saved!

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

Tone 4 Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion

The mystery of 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.

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 1 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,
You rose on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Your Kingdom!//
Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!”

Tone 4 Troparion *(St. Nicholas)*

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,
an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;
your humility exalted you;
your poverty enriched you.
O Hierarch Father Nicholas,
entreat Christ our God//
that our souls may be saved!

Tone 1 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

As God, You rose from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Yourself.
Human nature praises You as God, for death has vanished.
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to You://
“You are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Tone 3 Kontakion *(St. Nicholas)*

You appeared as a priest in Myra, O Saint Nicholas,
fulfilling the Gospel of Christ, O venerable one;
you laid down your life for your people
and rescued the innocent from death.//
Therefore, you have been blest as a great initiate of the grace of God.

Tone 1 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us /as we have set our hope on You! *(Ps. 32:22)*

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon *(St. Nicholas)*

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, / and shall hope in Him. *(Ps. 63:10a)*

Epistle

(229) Ephesians 5:9-19

(335) Hebrews 13:17-21 *(St. Nicholas)*

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

V. God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me. (Ps. 17:48)

V. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever. (Ps. 17:51)

Tone 2

V. Your priests shall be clothed in righteousness, and Your saints shall rejoice. (Ps. 131:9)

Gospel

(85) Luke 17:12-19

(24) Luke 6:17-23 *(St. Nicholas)*

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. *(Ps. 111:6)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

In addition to translations from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon's Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon's Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Father Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir's Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.