

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

TONE 8

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Afterfeast of the Dormition

Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia and his companions

"Lord I Call..." Tone 8

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 8**      *(for the Resurrection)*

We offer to You, O Christ,  
our evening song and reasonable service,  
for You willed to have mercy on us//  
by Your Resurrection.

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

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Your face!  
For You willed to have mercy on us//  
by Your Resurrection.

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

Rejoice, O holy Zion:  
Mother of the churches, the abode of God,  
for you were the first to receive remission of sins//  
by the Resurrection.

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

*(Resurrection stichera by Anatolius)*

The Word of God the Father,  
begotten before the ages,  
in the latter times willed to be incarnate of the Virgin  
and endured crucifixion unto death.  
He has saved mortal man//  
by His Resurrection.

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Dormition)*      *(Oh, most glorious wonder)*

Oh, most glorious wonder!  
She who gave birth to God in the flesh without knowing man  
and remained a virgin  
is now translated from life;  
she departs from this temporal life  
to that which does not grow old.//  
Therefore, Christ's Disciples and Apostles are all assembled on clouds for her  
burial.

*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.*

Today is a solemn feast;  
let us all be changed for the better,  
to glorify with the Angels  
the honored repose of the Mother of our God;  
for she commends her holy and radiant soul into the hands of Her Son  
and joins with Him in everlasting life,//  
always praying earnestly for us in spirit.

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

Come, let us go in our minds to the honorable garden of Gethsemane,  
the holy abode of the glorious body of the Mother of our God!  
With the Apostles let us be filled with sweet fragrance,  
and with the Angels let us sing,//  
for today heaven and earth are united in the joy of her falling asleep.

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

**Tone 4**      *(for St. Agathonicus)*      *(Thou hast given a sign)*

Searching for the Original Goodness, O Agathonicus,  
and the Beauty that lies beyond understanding,  
you rejoiced as you hastened to the noble struggles before you.  
Courageously you wrestled with the enemy  
and, with virtue, cast him down to the ground.  
You wove for your head a splendid wreath of victory.//  
Now you pray to the Lover of Man for those who sing your praise.

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

You were a fountain adorned with wisdom,  
pouring forth life-giving words.  
You converted the foolish and shamed the tyrant emperor,  
destroying the worship of many idols.  
You strengthened the faithful to stand firm in the grace of God.  
Therefore, you endured cruel burning,//  
as you hastened to ascend with your crown to the Kingdom on high.

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

You stood before the Master,  
covered with the blood of your terrible contest:  
a pure offering and sweet-smelling sacrifice,  
an acceptable gift, a holy oblation,  
an unblemished burnt offering.  
Therefore, by your prayers, O great athlete Agathonicus,//  
preserve the fullness of the Church in peace!

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

**Tone 1**      *(for St. Agathonicus, by Anatolius)*

You were named aptly for 'good victory', O much-suffering Agathonicus;  
for, wounded by divine desire,  
you rejected utterly the falsehood of idols and the imperial deception,  
and gloriously passed over to a better life.  
Therefore, as you have boldness before Him,//  
pray earnestly on your glorious commemoration that our souls be saved!

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

**Tone 8**      *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven, because of His love for man,  
appeared on earth and dwelt with men.  
He took flesh from the pure Virgin  
and after assuming it, He came forth from her.  
The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.  
Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,  
we confess Christ our God!//  
Entreat Him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

**Aposticha**

**Tone 8**      *(for the Resurrection)*

Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,  
the eternal Life has come for death  
to raise those who are fallen;  
to enlighten those in darkness.//  
O Jesus, our Savior and illuminator, glory to You!

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

We glorify Christ, who rose from the dead.  
He accepted the human body and soul,  
and freed both from suffering.  
His most pure soul descended to hell, which He spoiled.  
His holy body did not see corruption in the tomb.//  
He is the Redeemer of our souls.

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

In psalms and songs we glorify Your Resurrection from the dead, O Christ.  
By it, You have freed us from the tortures of hell//  
and as God have granted eternal life and great mercy.

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

O Master of all, incomprehensible Creator of heaven and earth,  
by Your suffering on the Cross You have gained passionlessness for me.  
Accepting burial and arising in glory,  
You resurrected Adam with Yourself by Your almighty hand.  
Glory to Your rising on the third day!  
By it You have granted us eternal life and cleansing of sins//  
as the only compassionate One.

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

**Tone 8**      *(for St. Agathonicus)*

Named 'good victory', O martyr Agathonicus,  
you dedicated yourself as a temple  
containing the treasures of the King of all.  
Struggling through your torments, like a true champion,  
you destroyed the power of the cruel enemy  
and received the honor of victory.  
Now you stand crowned before God in the highest.  
Without ceasing entreat Him on behalf of those who honor you, //  
O adornment of the martyrs!

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

**Tone 8**      *(for the Dormition, by the Emperor Leo the Wise)*

Jesus, your Son and our God, O Theotokos,  
confirming His two natures,  
dies as a Man and arises as God.  
And it was His good pleasure, O Mother of God,  
that you also die,  
lest unbelievers consider His dispensation but a fantasy.  
You were translated to the heavenly realm, O celestial Bride,  
taken up from the earth as a bride from her chamber where she dwells.  
The air was sanctified by your passage,  
just as the earth was illumined by the One Who was born of you.  
The Apostles send you forth, and the Angels bear you up.  
As they buried your all-pure body, singing funeral hymns for you,  
they gazed in awe and spoke with fear:  
"This change is from the right hand of the Most High,  
for He dwelt within you, yet you have remained unchanged.  
O all-hymned Mother, cease not to watch over us,  
for we are your people and the sheep of your pasture;  
and we call upon your name, //  
asking salvation and great mercy for your sake!"

*(at Great Vespers)*

**Tone 8      Troparion    *(Resurrection)***

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!  
You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

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

**Tone 4      Troparion    *(St. Agathonicus)***

Your holy martyr Agathonicus and his companions, O Lord,  
through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, our God.  
For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,  
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//  
Through their intercession, save our souls!

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

**Tone 1      Troparion    *(Dormition)***

In giving birth you preserved your virginity.  
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.  
You were translated to life O Mother of Life,//  
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*

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**Tone 4      Troparion    *(St. Agathonicus)***

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through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, our God.  
For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,  
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//  
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**Tone 8      Kontakion    *(Resurrection)***

By rising from the tomb, You raised the dead and resurrected Adam.  
Eve exults in Your Resurrection,//  
and the world celebrates Your rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

**Tone 1      Kontakion    *(St. Agathonicus)***

Having received the good calling, O divinely wise one,  
you abandoned the cult of evil men, not fearing their tortures, O glorious  
Agathonicus.  
Therefore, you have inherited good things//  
and worthily received the incorruptible crown with your fellow martyrs.

**Tone 2      Kontakion    *(Dormition)***

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,  
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.  
For being the Mother of Life,//  
she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

**Tone 8      Prokeimenon      *(Resurrection)***

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! *(Ps. 75:10a)*

*V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)*

**Tone 3      Prokeimenon      *(Song of the Theotokos)***

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. *(Lk. 1:46-47)*

**Epistle**

(128) 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

**Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps. 94:1)*

*V. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps. 94:2)*

**Tone 8**

*V. Arise, O Lord, into Your rest, You and the Ark of Your sanctification! (Ps. 131:8)*

**Gospel**

(59) Matthew 14:22-34

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)*

The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin,  
were struck with wonder,  
seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.

The limits of nature are overcome in you, O Pure Virgin:  
for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death;  
a virgin after childbearing and alive after death,  
you ever save your inheritance, O Theotokos.

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*  
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!