Reader’s Great Vespers on Wednesday, October 21st, 2020

Glorification of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of North America

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life: come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. ***(Thrice)***

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. ***(Thrice)***

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.

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Lord have mercy. ***Twelve Times***

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.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire, Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back for ever and ever.  The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand.  At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.  The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them.  Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth.  He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run.  They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst.  Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.  He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works.  He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, To bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man.  To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.  The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted.  There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them.  The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.  He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down.  Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad.  Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled.  Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return.  Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.  Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works.  Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.  May my words be sweet unto Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord.  O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down, Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night.  How magnified are Thy works, O Lord!  In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  Glory to Thee, O God. ***Thrice****.*

Lord, have mercy. ***Forty Times***

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

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in Him with trembling. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Arise O Lord, save me, O my God! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Salvation belongs to the Lord: Thy blessing is upon Thy people. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God. ***Three Times***

Lord, have mercy ***Three Times***

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

In the 4th Tone: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me.

Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord. \* Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; \* attend to the voice of my supplication, \* when I cry unto Thee. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth \* as incense before Thee, \* the lifting up of my hands \* as an evening sacrifice. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord.

Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth, and a door of enclosure round about my lips.

Incline not my heart unto words of evil, to make excuse with excuses in sins.

With men that work iniquity; and I will not join with their chosen.

The righteous man will chasten me with mercy and reprove me; as for the oil of the sinner, let it not anoint my head.

For yet more is my prayer in the presence of their pleasures; swallowed up near by the rock have their judges been.

They shall hear my words, for they be sweetened; as a clod of earth is broken upon the earth, so have their bones been scattered nigh unto hades.

For unto Thee, O Lord, O Lord, are mine eyes, in Thee have I hoped; take not my soul away.

Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and from the stumbling-blocks of them that work iniquity.

The sinners shall fall into their own net; I am alone until I pass by.

With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto the Lord have I made supplication.

I will pour out before Him my supplication, mine affliction before Him will I declare.

When my spirit was fainting within me, then Thou knewest my paths.

In this way wherein I have walked they hid for me a snare.

I looked upon my right hand, and beheld, and there was none that did know me.

Flight hath failed me, and there is none that watcheth out for my soul.

I have cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my hope, my portion art Thou in the land of the living.

Attend unto my supplication, for I am brought very low.

Deliver me from them that persecute me, for they are stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of prison:  that I may confess Thy name.

The righteous shall wait patiently for me until Thou shalt reward me.

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

For Thy name’s sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath patiently waited for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

O divinely-inspired teacher of the Mysteries,

Holy Father Tikhon,

we know you as a foundation of Truth and confirmation of the Faith,

expounder of piety, abode of purity,

elect vessel, fragrance of the Spirit,

truly-great treasury of teachings,//

and a foundation of the Church of Christ in the Russian lands and North

America.

O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.

We honor you, all-praised God-bearing Father Tikhon,

successor to the Apostles and of like character with the martyrs,

zealous emulator of the ascetics, seal of teachers,

divine model, expounder of the Mysteries of Christ,

and river spilling out holy understanding,

drowning the intentions of the blasphemers and transgressors,//

O truly-wise New Confessor Tikhon.

For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

Having increased the talent of wisdom, O truly-rich One,

you were given the joy of the Lord.

Adorned with the grace of divine radiance,

and shining noetically with spiritual rays,

you stand now at the right hand of the Bearer of Life//

always illumined, O glorious New Confessor Tikhon.

In the 6th Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

Grace spilled out from your lips, O venerable Father Tikhon,

and you became a shepherd of the Church of Christ,

teaching your rational sheep to believe in the Trinity,//

one in essence and one Godhead.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen:

Who will not bless you, O most holy Virgin?

Who will not sing of your most pure childbearing?

The only-begotten Son shone timelessly from the Father,

but from you He was ineffably incarnate.

God by nature, yet Man for our sake,

not two persons, but one known in two natures.

Entreat Him, O pure and all-blessed Lady,//

to have mercy on our souls!

O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father, O Jesus Christ: Having come to the setting of the sun, having beheld the evening light, we praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: God.  Meet it is for Thee at all times to be praised with reverent voices, O Son of God, Giver of life.  Wherefore, the world doth glorify Thee.

The Prokeimenon in the 5th Tone: Save me, O God, by Thy name, and judge me by Thy strength!

**Verse**: O Lord, hearken unto my prayer; give ear to the words of my mouth.

Save me, O God, by Thy name,/ and judge me by Thy strength!

## **The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (3:1-9)**

1 But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. 2 In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be affliction, 3 and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. 4 For though in the sight of men they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. 5 Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; 6 like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them. 7 In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. 8 They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. 9 Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his elect, and he watches over his holy ones.

## **The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (5:15-6:3)**

**15** But the righteous live for ever, and their reward is with the Lord; the Most High takes care of them. **16** Therefore they will receive a glorious crown and a beautiful diadem from the hand of the Lord, because with his right hand he will cover them, and with his arm he will shield them. **17** The Lord will take his zeal as his whole armor, and will arm all creation to repel his enemies; **18** he will put on righteousness as a breastplate, and wear impartial justice as a helmet; **19** he will take holiness as a invincible shield, **20** and sharpen stern wrath for a sword, and creation will join with him to fight against the madmen. **21** Shafts of lightening will fly with true aim, and will leap to the target as from a well-drawn bow of clouds, **22** and hailstones full of wrath will be hurled as from a catapult; the water of the sea will rage against them, and rivers will relentlessly overwhelm them. **23** a mighty wind will rise against them, and like a tempest it will winnow them away. Lawlessness will lay waste the whole earth, and evil-doing will overturn the thrones of rulers. **1** Listen therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, O judges of the ends of the earth. **2** Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, and boast of many nations. **3** For your dominion was given you from the Lord, and your sovereignty from the Most High, who will search out your works and inquire into your plans.

## **The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon (4:7-15)**

**7** But the righteous man, though he die early, will be at rest. **8** For old age is not honored for length of time, nor measured by number of years; **9** but understanding is gray hair for men, and a blameless life is ripe old age. **10** There was one who pleased God and was loved by him, **11** He was caught up lest evil change his understanding or guile deceive his soul. **12** For the fascination of wickedness obscures what is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. **13** Being perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years; **14** for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he took him quickly from the midst of wickedness. **15** Yet the peoples saw and did not understand, nor take such a thing to heart, that God’s grace and mercy are with his elect, and he watches over his holy ones.

Lord have mercy. ***Forty times***

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

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name for ever. Amen. Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on You. Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Master; make me to understand Your commandments. Blessed are You, O Holy One; enlighten me with Your precepts. Your mercy endures forever, O Lord! Do not despise the works of Your hands! To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Lord, have mercy. ***Twelve Times***

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

In the 8th Tone:

All-wise Father Tikhon,

you have illumined the Church of Christ,

for you have worthily received the grace of God.

From thence, the deception of evil spirits against you was cast down,

and you have passed over into the heavenly mansions.//

Therefore, we sing the praises of your memory.

Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

Most glorious Father Tikhon,

leaving the rebellious noise of the world,

you hastened to the calm of Christ, O venerable one.

And through the contemplation of divine actions,

you were worthily enriched,

reflecting the light of Christ to the faithful,

having shone with a life befitting God,//

O truly blessed one.

Verse: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments.

Come, all you born on earth,

with hymns let us piously celebrate today

the sacred and precious festival of holy Tikhon!

For lo, he has truly been made worthy to receive the Divine Radiance.

Oh, how ineffable is Your compassion, O Christ,//

through which we have learned to glorify You, the truly gracious One!

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

By your pure confession and missionary work,

laboring on two continents,

you set before all people a faithful pattern of true godliness,

O New Confessor Tikhon,//

father of the flock of Christ.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen:

O unwedded Virgin,

who ineffably conceived God in the flesh,

O Mother of God most high,

accept the cries of your servants, O blameless One!

Grant cleansing of transgressions to all!//

Receive our prayers and pray to save our souls!

Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples; a light of revelation for the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. ***(Thrice)***

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. ***(Thrice)***

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.

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Amen.

Tone 1:

Chosen by God in a turbulent time,

you glorified God in complete holiness,

and attained greatness through humility,

showing forth the power of God through simplicity and piety.

You laid down your life for the Church and her people,

O holy Confessor and Patriarch, Father Tikhon.

Pray to Christ God with Whom you were also crucified,

that He may save our souls!

Glory...now and ever…:

When Gabriel announced to you, O Virgin, saying “Rejoice!”

with that word the Master of all was incarnate in you,

the holy Ark, spoken of by the righteous David!

Your womb became more spacious than the heavens,

for you carried your Creator.

Glory to Him Who took abode in you!

Glory to Him Who came forth from you!//

Glory to Him Who freed us by being born of you!

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, 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, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord bless!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, of the Holy Patriarch Tikhon of Moscow, Enlightener of North America, and all the saints, Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.