Reader’s Vespers on Friday October 30th, 2020

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke (October 18th/31st)

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.

In the 8th 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.

What shall we call you, O Apostle?

Heaven, for you have made an account of the glory of God for us?

Lightning, for you illumine the world with radiance?

A cloud, for you rain down in a torrent the knowledge of God?

A chalice pouring the rich wine of wisdom to gladden our hearts? //

Pray to the Lord that He may save our souls!

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.

How shall we address you, O chosen of God?

A golden ark of the covenant which Christ laid down?

A river, flowing forth to us from Paradise?

A beacon, made radiant by spiritual light?

A lamp that enlightens the Church?

The bread of life, divine table, or cup of spiritual drink? //

Pray to the Lord that He may save our souls!

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

What shall we call you, O God-inspired speaker?

A faithful steward of the myst’ries of Christ?

A servant of the divine tent not made with human hands,

perfected in the fullness of time by the Builder of wisdom?

He entrusted to you the new law of grace,

inscribed in Zion on tablets hewn from the rock of love. //

O faithful witness, pray to Him that our souls may be saved!

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

What shall we call you, O glorious one?

A treasury of heavenly gifts?

A steadfast physician of our souls and bodies?

A fellow-laborer of Paul and his companion in travel and hardship,

who set down the Acts of the Apostles?

O Luke, your exceeding goodness has won you many names. //

Pray to the Lord that He may save our souls!

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

How shall I address you, O divinely-speaking Luke,

for you brought us the good tidings of Christ?

A doctor, for you cure the passions of souls?

A candlestick shining with a light of the intellect?

A base and foundation of the Faith;

For you wrote down for us the most sacred Gospel? //

Pray that our souls may be saved!

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

What shall I now call you, O wondrous Luke?

Trustworthy witness of the teachings of wisdom?

An able recorder of the Apostles’ teaching?

An unshakeable pillar of piety?

An indestructible rampart of the Church?

Many are your strengths, and greater your spiritual gifts. //

Pray that our souls may be saved!

In the 6th Tone: Glory..:

O Apostle of Christ,

compiler of divine dogmas and foundation of the Church.

You were the attendant and imitator of Paul, the chosen vessel.

By wisdom you have rescued us from the turmoil of ignorance,

for our hearts were in the depths of destruction.

Therefore we beseech you:

“O most-admirable Luke, the pride of Antioch,

pray to our Savior and God, //

for those who celebrate your most hon’rable memory in faith!”

In the 3rd Tone: Now and ever... :

How can we not wonder at your mystical childbearing,

O exalted mother?

For, without receiving the touch of man,

you gave birth to a son in the flesh, O immaculate Virgin!

The son born of the Father before eternity,

was born of you at the fullness of time, O honored Lady!

He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,

but preserved the fullness of each nature.

O lady and virgin and mother, entreat him to save the souls,

of those who confess you in the orthodox manner //

to be the Theotokos.

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 7th Tone:

Thou, O God, art my Helper, and Thy mercy shall go before me.

Verse: Rescue me from my enemies, O God, and redeem me from them that rise up against me.

Thou, O God, art my Helper,/ and Thy mercy shall go before me.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin.  Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages.  Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.  Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.  Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy statutes.  Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the work of Thy hands.  To Thee is due praise, to Thee is due a song, to Thee glory is due, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the 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 5th Tone:

Grace is poured out upon your lips like a tongue of fire:

you received the word of light, O apostle Luke.

By writing and teaching the holy Gospel in the fragrance of truth,

and compiling faithfully the deeds and words of Paul, your teacher,

you proclaimed salvation for those who longed to be made children of

Light.

Your holy writings are powerful weapons of light.

Through them we pierce the darkness of evil.

Pray that we may love the Light of all,

that, delivered from the corruption of death, //

we may be granted peace, eternal light and great mercy!

Verse: Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the

ends of the universe.

You beheld the fullness of God’s mysteries;

your words are a sure fortress of faith.

To you was entrusted the task of writing the Word of Life for us.

You faithfully obeyed God's inspiration,

eye-witness and minister of the incarnate Word;

together with Cleopas you beheld Him after the Resurrection,

and recognized Him with hearts aflame in the breaking of bread.

Pray that He may fill the souls of all who keep your holy memory //

with the sweetness of divine fervor!

Verse: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His

handiwork.

Rejoice, O blameless writer of the Gospel of joy;

you have recorded for us the conception and preaching of the Baptist;

the wondrous Annunciation to the Mother of the Lord;

the ineffable Incarnation and Birth of the Word who came forth from

her womb;

His temptations, miracles and parables,

His Passion, Cross and death,

the glory of His risen body recognized in the breaking of bread,

His glorious Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

As a faithful witness you compiled the Acts of the Apostles.

You were Paul’s companion in travel and his greatest consolation,

the beholder of divine mysteries and light of the Church. //

Guard us all, O glorious healer!

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

O all-wise Apostle and faithful laborer of the Savior,

witness of the triumph of His Passion,

you have completed the race, you have kept the faith,

by harvesting the peoples from the darkness of error,

and offering us as a sweet-smelling oblation to the heavenly King.

Now you stand before the Judge of all;

pray that He may rescue us from our sins

and deliver us from eternal death, //

when He comes in glory on the Day of Judgment!

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

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,

was born of you, O most pure Virgin.

By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.

Unceasingly we magnify you as the Mother of God!

Rejoice, O celestial Joy!

Rejoice, O Lady: //

the protection, intercession and salvation of 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 5:

Let us praise with sacred songs the holy apostle Luke,

the recorder of the joyous Gospel of Christ

and the scribe of the Acts of the Apostles;

for his writings are a testimony of the Church of Christ.

He is the physician of human weaknesses and infirmities.

He heals the wounds of our souls, //

and constantly intercedes for our salvation!

Glory… now and ever…:

Rejoice, impassable Gate of the Lord!

Rejoice, Wall and Protection of those who run to you!

Rejoice, unshakable Refuge!

Rejoice, you who knew not wedlock,

who gave birth in the flesh to your Creator and God! //

Do not cease praying for those who praise and worship your Son!

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.

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 Apostle and Evangelist Luke, and of all the saints, Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.