

## **Sunday, November 8, 2020 – Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost; Synaxis of Archangel Michael & the Other Bodiless Powers of Heaven**

***Troparia and Kontakia Troparion, Tone 6:*** Angelic powers were upon Your tomb\* and the guards became like dead men;\* Mary stood before Your tomb\* seeking Your most pure body.\* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.\* You met the Virgin and granted life.\* O Lord, risen from the dead,\* glory be to You!

***Troparion, Tone 4:*** Princes of the heavenly hosts,\* we, though unworthy, beg you\* to encircle us through your prayers\* under the shelter of the wings your spiritual glory.\* Guard us as we come to you and sincerely cry:\* Deliver us from dangers,\* O princes of the powers on high!

+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

***Kontakion, Tone 6:*** With His life-giving hand\* Christ our God, the Giver of life,\* raised all the dead from the murky abyss\* and bestowed resurrection upon humanity.\* He is for all the Saviour,\* the resurrection and the life, and the God of all.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

***Kontakion, Tone 2:*** Princes of God's hosts, ministers of divine glory,\* leaders of angels and guides of men,\* pray for our welfare and for great mercy,\* O princes of the incorporeal powers.

***Prokeimenon, Tone 6*** Save Your people, O Lord,\* and bless Your inheritance.

*verse:* Unto You I will cry, O Lord, my God, lest You turn from me in silence. (*Psalms 27:9,1*)

***Prokeimenon, Tone 4*** *verse:* He makes spirits His angels and flaming fire His ministers.

### ***Epistle – A reading of Paul to the Ephesians: Ephesians 2:4-10 (NRSV)***

*Brothers and Sisters,* God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

### ***Hebrews 2:2-10 (NRSV)***

*Brothers and Sisters,* for if the message declared through angels was valid, and every transgression or disobedience received a just penalty, how can we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? It was declared at first through the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him, while God added his testimony by signs and wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, distributed according to his will. Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, “What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet.” Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory

and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

**Alleluia, Tone 6** *verse:* He who lives in the aid of the Most High, shall dwell under the protection of the God of heaven. *verse:* He says to the Lord: You are my protector and my refuge, my God, in Whom I hope. (*Psalm 90:1,2*) *verse:* Praise the Lord, all you His angels; praise Him, all you powers. *verse:* For He spoke, and they came into being; He commanded and they were created (*Psalm 148:2,5*)

**Gospel - Luke 8:26-39 (NRSV)**

*At that time, the Lord* arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”— for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

**Luke 10:16-21 (NRSV)**

*The Lord said:* “Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.” The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest. (*Psalm 148:1*)\* He makes spirits His angels,\* and flaming fire His ministers.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (*Psalm 103:4*)