

# Sunday, March 26, 2023 – Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast: Our Venerable Mother, Mary of Egypt; Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel

*The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is celebrated today.*

**Troparia and Kontakia** *Troparion, Tone 1:* Though the stone was sealed by the Judeans,\* and soldiers guarded Your most pure body,\* You arose, O Savior, on the third day,\* and gave life to the world.\* And so the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of Life:\* Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ!\* Glory to Your kingdom!\* Glory to Your saving plan,\* O only Lover of mankind.

*Troparion, Tone 4:* Today is the crown of our salvation,\* and the unfolding of the eternal mystery;\* the Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son,\* and Gabriel brings the good tidings of grace.\* With him let us also cry to the Mother of God:\* Rejoice, Full of grace! The Lord is with 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 of your spiritual glory.\* Guard us as we come to you and sincerely cry:\* "Deliver us from dangers,\* O princes of the powers on high!"

*Kontakion, Tone 1:* You arose in glory from the tomb\* and with Yourself You raised the world.\* All humanity acclaims You as God,\* and death has vanished.\* Adam exults, O Master,\* and Eve, redeemed now from bondage, cries out for joy:\* "You are the One, O Christ, Who offer resurrection to all."

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

*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.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

*Kontakion, Tone 8:* To You, O Mother of God,\* the invincible leader,\* we, your servants, ascribe these victory hymns\* in thanksgiving for our deliverance from evil.\* With your invincible power free us from all dangers\* that we may cry out to you:\* Hail, O Bride and pure Virgin!

**Prokeimenon, Tone 1** Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You.  
*verse:* Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous. (*Psalm 32:22,1*)

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

**Epistle - A reading of Paul to the Hebrews: Hebrews 9:11-14 (NRSV)**

*Brothers and sisters,* when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!

### **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 1** *verse*: God gives me vindication, and has subdued peoples under me.

*verse*: Making great the salvation of the king, and showing mercy to His anointed, to David, and to His posterity forever. (*Psalms 17:48,51*) *verse*: Praise the Lord, all you His angels; praise Him, all His powers. (*Psalms 148:2*)

### **Gospel: Mark 10:32-45 (NRSV)**

*At that time, Jesus took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.” James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”*

### **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.*

**Hymn to the Mother of God** In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins’ pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider than all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

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