

# **Sunday, August 25, 2024 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Return of the Relics of the Holy Apostle Bartholomew (829-42).**

## ***Troparia and Kontakia***

*Troparion, Tone 5:* Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word,\* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,\* and born of the Virgin for our salvation.\* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death\* and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

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

*Kontakion, Tone 5:* You, my Savior, descended to Hades,\* and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates.\* With Yourself You, as the Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death,\* and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Mankind.\* And so we cry out: “Save us, O Lord.”

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

*Theotokion, Tone 5:* Rejoice, O rampart and protection of those who have recourse to you!\* Rejoice, O tranquil haven and Virgin,\* who gave birth in the flesh to your Maker and God!\* Fail not to intercede for those\* who sing and worship the Child you bore.

## ***Prokeimenon, Tone 5***

You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us\* from this generation and for ever.  
*verse:* Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man. (*Psalm 11:8,2*)

## ***Epistle – A reading of Paul to the Corinthians: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 (NRSV)***

Brothers and Sisters, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first installment. But I call on God as witness against me: it was to spare you that I did not come again to Corinth. I do not mean to imply that we lord it over your faith; rather, we are workers with you for your joy, because you stand firm in the faith. So I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause

you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came, I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice; for I am confident about all of you, that my joy would be the joy of all of you. For I wrote you out of much distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain, but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

### ***Alleluia, Tone 5***

*verse:* Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing for ever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth.

*verse:* For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared. (*Psalms 88:2,3*)

### ***Gospel - Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)***

*The Lord spoke this parables:* “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

### ***Communion Hymn***

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (*Psalms 148:1*)