

Sunday, February 9, 2025 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee; Leave-taking of the Encounter of our Lord; The Holy Martyr Nicephorus.

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.

2 Troparion, Tone 1: Rejoice, full of grace, Virgin Mother of God!* From you there dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God,* who enlightens those who dwell in darkness.* And you, O righteous Elder, be glad!* You received in your embrace* the Liberator of our souls,* who grants us resurrection.

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

Kontakion, Tone 3: Let us bring sighs of sorrow to the Lord as did the Publican* and approach the Master as sinners,* for He desires salvation for everyone.* He grants forgiveness to all who repent.* For as God, the One-who-is, co-eternal with the Father, He became flesh for us. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 1: By Your birth, You sanctified a virgin womb* and fittingly blessed the hands of Simeon.* You have come also now and saved us, O Christ our God;* give peace to Your community in time of war,* and strengthen its rulers, whom You love,* for You alone,* are the Lover of mankind.

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*)

Prokeimenon, Tone 3

My soul magnifies the Lord,* and my spirit has rejoiced in God, My Savior.

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15

A reading from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy

Timothy my Son, now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my suffering the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What persecutions I

endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But wicked people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

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. (*Psalm 88:2,3*)

verse: Now, O Master, You dismiss Your servant in peace according to Your word. (*Luke 2:29*)

Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Hymn to the Mother of God

O God-bearing Virgin, hope of Christians, protect and guard and save all those who put their trust in you. *and the Irmos, Tone 3:* In the law, the shadow, and the scriptures, we the faithful see a figure: every male child that opens the womb shall be sanctified to God. Therefore do we magnify the first-born Word and Son of the Father who is 3 without beginning, the first-born Child of a Mother who had not known man.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest (*Psalm 148:1*). * I will take the chalice of salvation;* and I will call upon the name of the Lord.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia. (*Psalm 116:13*)