

## The 17<sup>th</sup> Day of February



**Commemoration of the Holy Greatmartyr Theodore the Recruit (Tyro). Also, on this day, the Commemoration of the Hieromartyr Hermogenes, Patriarch of Moscow, whose service follows after this.**

— incomplete as of 2/23/2023.

### Vespers

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:**

**3 stichera, in Tone 2:** *To the melody, “Down from the tree...”*

**A**s God and Benefactor /

Christ has given thee to the world as a rich gift, O Theodore /

In return for the gift of thy precious blood which thou didst offer to Him; /

Zealously shed for His sake. /

And standing now before Him with pious boldness, O martyr, ///

Pray for the salvation of all who come before thee.

**L**ike as a steadfast pillar /

Repelling the assaults of the adversaries; /

Thou art an invincible champ’ion of them that honor thee: /

A speedy helper, fervent advocate, and sure deliverance; /

An aide in times of trouble, and a prayerful intercessor ///

Who delivereth all who entreat thee with faith, O blessed Theodore.

**B**eing a true witness of the Goodness of Christ, /

The waters of redemption flow from thee in torrents of sweetness. /

So deliver me from the torrents of my sins, /

Calm the troubled waters for me, and still the tempest of temptations, /

And guide me to the tranquil haven on high, O right-blessed Theodore.

**And 3 stichera, in Tone 4:** *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs...”*

**M**oved by divine zeal, O glorious one, /

Thy soul enflamed with love for Christ the Savior, /

Thou didst reduce to ashes the false goddess and her temple, /

Proclaiming the name of the true God and Lord, /

Thou didst shame the arrogance of the tormentors ///

And hast attained to everlasting joy, O passion-bearer Theodore.

**H**aving ascended, O Theodore, /

To the summit of the knowledge of Christ. /

Thou didst pass beyond things visible, and didst seek only Him, /

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And having found Him, thou didst love only Him. /  
And thou didst suffer for His sake with a valiant soul. /  
Him do thou beseech, /  
That we who celebrate thy most glorious memory ///  
Be delivered from corruption and misfortune.

**G**rac<sup>e</sup>d with divine power and covered with the wounds of thy struggle /  
O passion-bearer Theodore, /  
Thou didst come to stand before Christ God,  
The King of Creation, /  
And received crowns of honor from Him, /  
Him do thou beseech, /  
That we who celebrate with faith thy most glorious memory ///  
Be delivered from corruption and misfortune.

**Glory..., in Tone 6:**

**T**hou didst appear to the world, O Theodore /  
As a gift of sanctification, and a treasury of godly life; /  
For Christ hath glorified thy memory, O wise one, /  
Therefore, we the faithful, rejoice together, ///  
And praise the pódvig of thy sufferings.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheokion: To the melody, "Having set all aside..."**

**A** sword has pierced thy heart, /  
As Simeon said, O most-pure Lady, /  
When thou didst behold Him Who shone forth ineffably from thee /  
Condemned by the lawless and lifted upon the Cross, /  
Given gall to eat and vinegar to drink, /  
His hand and feet pierced with nails, His side run through with a spear, /  
Thou didst cry out to Him with a mother's sorrow: ///  
What is this new mystery, O my sweetest Child?

**At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Octoechos.**

**Glory..., in Tone 8:**

**H**aving armed thyself with the pious courage of a martyr /  
O passion-bearer of Christ, /  
And mystically uniting thyself to His power /  
Thou didst reveal the false nature of idolatry /  
And the tormentors' impotent threats; /

Dismissing their tortures and the flames of their fires. /  
For both in truth and name, thou art rightly called a “Gift from God” ///  
And all who celebrate thy memory are delivered from every adversity.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion; or the Stavrotheotokion: To the melody, “O most glorious wonder ...”**

**B**ehold her Child upon the Tree /  
As a willing sacrifice, /  
The unblemished Maiden wept bitterly /  
And she cried lamenting: /  
“Woe is me, my belovèd Child /  
What hath the ungrateful people done to Thee? ///  
Wishing to leave me childless, O my belovèd One.”

**The Troparion of the Martyr, in Tone 2:**

**G**reat are the accomplishments of faith! /  
The martyred saint Theodore rejoiced in the flames as though in the waters of rest; /  
Being burned by the fire, he was offered as sweet bread to the Trinity, ///  
By his prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

**Matins**

**We sing both Canons from the Octoechos, and that of the Martyr, in Tone 8,**  
*having the acrostic: “Save them that call upon thee, O blessèd one.” — incomplete as of 1/2013*

**The Kontakion of the Martyr, in Tone 8:**

**H**aving received the faith of Christ within thy heart as a shield, /  
Thou didst trample down the hosts of the enemy, O longsuffering one; /  
And didst receive a heavenly crown of everlasting glory ///  
O martyr Theodore, as thou art invincible.

**At the Aposticha, the stichera from the Octoechos, and:**

**Glory..., in Tone 2:**

**O** thrice-blessèd Theodore, we honor thee, /  
Rightly art thou named “Gift from God” /  
For thou hast shown thyself a never-setting star of divine light, /  
And through thy sufferings thou dost shine on all the world /

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Proving thyself stronger than fire /  
Thou hast quenched the flames; and hast crushed the head of the deceitful serpent. /  
Therefore, in the midst of thy sufferings, Christ came and set a crown upon thy holy  
head. /

O greatmartyr, who hast boldness before God ///  
Do thou offer fervent intercession for our souls.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, or the Stavrotheokion:** *To the melody, "Down from the tree..."*

**The pure Lady**, when she beheld Thee hanging on the Tree, /  
The Blameless Fruit which she didst carry in her womb, /  
She cried out, lamenting: /  
O my Child, pour forth Thy sweetness, /  
Through which the droughts of passion are washed away. ///  
For the sake of her who gave birth to Thee, grant us this great mercy, O Good One!

### **Liturgy**

**At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from the Octoechos, and 4 from the Third Ode of the Canon of the Martyr.**

**The Prokeimenon in Tone 7:** The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord, / and shall set his hope in Him. *Verse:* Hear my voice, O God, when I pray into Thee!

**The Epistle:** (292) 2 Tim. 2:1-10

**The Alleluia in Tone 4,** The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. *Verse:* They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

**The Gospel:** (52) John 15:17-16:2

**The Communion Hymn:** The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.

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