

The 17th Day of October

The Commemoration of the Holy Prophet Hosea; and the Commemoration of the Venerable Martyr Andrew of Crete.¹

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera,

3 stichera of the Prophet, in Tone 1: *To the melody, “O all-praised martyrs....”*

The Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father /
Appointed thy tongue to speak /
Of the coming of Christ in these latter days /
To restore Creation; /
And now, beholding the fulfillment of thy prophecies ///
We honor thy memory, O prophet Hosea.

Thou didst espouse our fallen human nature, /
O Lover of mankind, /
To deliver it from defilement /
By an ineffable union with Thee. /
And Thy prophet was in himself an image of this ///
For he took a fallen woman to be his wife and brought her to chastity.

Standing now in the presence of the God of all, /
And beholding thy prophecies fulfilled by grace, /
Entreat Him, O prophet, on behalf of all /
Who keepest thy memory with faith ///
That they be granted remission of sins, peace, and great mercy.

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

Having cleaved to the Lord from thy youth, O blessed one, /
Thou didst run thy course until thy blessed end; /
For, being armed with the weapon of the Cross, /
Thou didst set thy hands to the plow, as was commanded by the Lord. /
Beseech Him now that those who celebrate thy precious memory with faith ///
Be delivered from corruption and misfortune.

By faith thou didst become like a most precious stone, /

¹ The venerable Monk-Martyr Andrew lived and suffered during the reign of the iconoclast emperor Constantine V (741-775) and is not to be confused the Archbishop of the same name, Andrew of Jerusalem, the 8th century bishop also known as St. Andrew of Crete, the author of the Great Canon.

That was unbroken and unharmed; /
 For, being beaten and rolled upon the ground /
 Thou didst make smooth the path of faith, O glorious one, /
 And thou didst negate the beliefs of the evil Copronymus ///
 Showing them to be as vile and rotten as his name.²

Raised on the dogmas of the apostles /
 And the teachings of the divine fathers, /
 Thou didst venerate the visible icons of the incarnate God /
 In sacred signs and precious images. /
 Therefore, having greatly suffered for this, O Andrew the glorious, ///
 Thou wast revealed to be an example of piety and the adornment of the martyrs.

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)

Containing within thy womb the uncontainable God, /
 Who, in His love for mankind became a man /
 And accepted from thee the substance of our flesh /
 Thus deifying our nature, /
 Do not disdain me, O all-pure one, in my sorrow. /
 But come quickly and take pity on me ///
 And release me from the harm and enmity of the evil one.

Or, this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)

Seeing Thee the Lamb and Shepherd on the tree, /
 The ewe-lamb who gave birth to Thee lamented, /
 And as a mother cried out to Thee: /
 “O desired Son, how art Thou hung on the Tree of the Cross, /
 O Longsuffering One? /
 How art Thy hands and feet nailed by the transgressors, O Word? /
 How dost Thou shed Thy Blood, O Master?

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a resurrection service.

The Troparion of the Martyr, in Tone 4:

Trained in the ascetic life upon the mountain /
 Thou didst defeat the devil’s assaults by the power of the Cross. /
 With great courage thou didst face the battle /
 And crushed the evil emperor with the sword of faith. /

² Constantine V was unpopularly known as Constantine Coprónymus, the nickname literally meaning “excrement”.

O glorious monk and martyr Andrew, /
God crowned thee for both thy holy and ascetic life ///
And thy victory in fighting the good fight.

Matins

The Canon

One Canon of the Octoechos; and two Canons, one of each Saint, with 8 Troparia:

Ode 1

The Canon of the Prophet, Tone 1

having the acrostic: "I praise the divinely-inspired words of Hosea."

the composition of Theophanes

Irmos: *Let us sing to God, who helped Moses in Egypt and drowned Pharaoh and all his host, a song of victory, for He hath been greatly glorified.*

Refrain: Holy prophet of God, Hosea, pray to God for us!

Truly standing before the Giver of Life as His herald and prophet, O Hosea, earnestly pray that He may deliver from all temptations those who with faith celebrate and praise thy holy memory.

Having cleansed the eyes of thy soul from all pollution, O glorious one, thou wast vouchsafed to gaze upon things which were to come, and to truly foretell things which had not yet come to pass.

The Wisdom of God, the source of all foresight, showed the eloquent prophet Hosea to be an abundant river of prophecy pouring forth with teachings divine.

Refrain: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Theotokion: **O**ut of Egypt did the Father call Christ, who had revealed Himself from the Virgin for our sakes, as the eye-witness prophet Hosea foretold in days of old.

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr, Tone 2

having the acrostic: "With love, I praise the namesake of manly courage,"

the composition of Joseph

Irmos: *In days of old a mighty force sent the armies of Pharaoh into the deep sea; the Word Incarnate hath destroyed pernicious sin; the most glorious Lord hath been greatly glorified.*

Refrain: Holy martyr Andrew, pray to God for us!

Having courageously bound the carnal passions to the will of thy mind, O namesake of

courage, thou didst enslave the savagery of thy torturers when thou didst suffer under the edict of the law. Therefore, having assembled together with faith, we call thee blessed, O martyred father Andrew.

Set aflame like a noetic ember by the warmth of the divine Spirit, thou didst melt the ice of the passions, and extinguished the fire of impiety with the torrents of thy blood, O great and divinely bless't father and confessor Andrew.

Glory...,

Binding thyself with love for Christ from the days of thy youth, O father, thou didst accept thy cross and followed afar Him, rejoicing, denying thyself through feats of fasting, confession, and perfect suffering.

Now, and ever...,

Theotokion: **T**hough my soul is heavy with the slumber of despair, I hasten to thy divine intercessions, O all-pure Virgin Mother, and entreat thee to rouse me up to the watchfulness of repentance that I may be delivered from torments everlasting.

Katavasia, as prescribed.

Ode 3

The Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Establish me, O Christ, upon the immovable rock of Thy commandments, and illumine me with the light of Thy countenance, for there is none holy save Thee, who lovest mankind.

Instructed by the beautiful teachings of the revelation of God, O prophet, and being sealed by the power of the Holy Spirit, thou didst proclaim the summoning of all the nations.

Thou wast permitted to foresee the things of the future as if they were today, O divinely wise prophet, and didst foretell the apostasy of Thy people and the hypocrisy of those asserting the Law.

Thou didst foretell the deliverance of Israel not by battle, by the sword, or by the bow, but by the incarnation of the Word, the Lord God Almighty.

Theotokion: **R**ejoice, O all-honored Virgin, who didst conceive the Word incarnate who delivered us from deception by His own Body and His Blood.

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: On the rock of faith Thou hast established me, and Thou hast opened wide my mouth

against mine enemies. For my spirit hast rejoiced in singing: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord.

Having firmly placed the feet of thy understanding upon the rock of the love of Christ, O father, thou wast able to withstand the adverse winds of wickedness, crying out to thy Creator: Thou art our God, and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord!

Pouring streams of healings both before and after thine end, thou dost ever help those suffering infirmities, O venerable martyr Andrew, driving away unclean spirits and crying out to thy Creator: Thou art our God, and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord!

Washed clean by the tears and thy ascetic labors, thou didst adorn thyself with the blood of thy martyrdom, thus revealing thy true beauty as thou didst hasten to Him whom thou didst desire, crying out: Thou art our God, and none is righteous save Thee, O Lord!

Theotokion: **I**n a manner transcending nature, thou gavest birth to God the Word who is consubstantial with the Father and assumed the likeness of our flesh, O most immaculate Lady, yet thou didst remain a virgin after giving birth. Therefore, we faithfully bless thee, O Theotokos.

Katavasia as prescribed.

The Kontakion of the Martyr, in Tone 3: *To the melody, "Today the Virgin...."*

Today the Great City ³ keeps festival /
Celebrating thy bright and light-bearing memory, /
Summoning all cities and lands to join the feast; /
For it rejoices in possessing the great treasure of thy precious relics, /
O martyr Andrew, thou beacon of the Orthodox Faith.

The Kathisma hymn of the Prophet, in Tone 8: *To the melody, "Of Wisdom...."*

Having acquired a heart purified of the passions /
Thou didst become like a melodious instrument of the Spirit, /
And being richly illumined by Him, thou didst receive knowledge of all things that
were to come. /
Therefore, assembling together, we celebrate this day thy holy memory, /
Glorifying Christ our God, the Savior of all. /
And we entreat thee to beseech Him that He may grant the remission of sins ///
To those who honor thy holy memory with love, O holy prophet Hosea the wise.

³ Constantinople, the capital city of the Byzantine Empire.

Glory..., Kathisma Hymn of the Martyr, in Tone 4: To the melody, “As Thou wast voluntarily crucified....”

O come, all ye faithful /
And let us fittingly praise the wondrous ascetic and martyr /
Who was both a great preacher of piet̃y /
And a mighty champion against the enemy. /
For as he fearlessly opposed the evil emperor Copronymus /
He faithfully defended the veneration of the image of Christ. ///
Thus, he is the adornment of monastics and a courageous example for martyrs.

Now, and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)

He who ever abides in the bosom of the Father /
And sits on the throne of the cherubīm /
Dwelt in thy womb as upon His holy throne, O Lady. /
And we know Him as the truly incarnate God who reigns over all the nations. ///
Entreat thou Him that the souls of thy servants may be saved.

Or, the Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: (and melody)

She, who in these latter days /
Gave birth in the flesh to Thee begotten of the unoriginate Father, /
Cried out beholding thee upon the Cross: /
“Woe is me, O most belovèd Jesus, /
How is it that Thou Who art glorified as God by the angels /
Art now crucified of Thine own will by the transgressing people? ///
Yet do I praise Thy Longsuffering, O Christ.’

Ode 4

The Canon of the Prophet

***Irmos:** I have understood Thy dispensation, O Almighty Savior, and with trembling I have glorified Thee.*

O holy prophet Hosea, thou eye-witness of God, deliver from all misfortunes those who praise thee!

O most splendid and steadfast receptacle of the Spirit, pray that those who praise thee may be saved.

Standing before the Judge of all as His prophet, deliver me from all the passions by thy holy supplications.

Theotokion: **T**hou hast surpassed all the ranks of angels, O Ever-virgin, having borne their Creator in thy womb.

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: *Thou hast come from a virgin not as a minister nor an angel, but as the Lord Himself incarnate; to me, a human, Thou hath brought salvation; so I cry to Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!*

Obedient to the commandments of Christ, thou didst reverently venerate His image, O father, and for this, the evil one inflicted grievous wounds upon thee and slew thee.

Perfumed with the sweet fragrance of the virtues, O venerable father, thou dost perfume those who earnestly venerate thy precious relics and call upon thee.

As a champion of the Orthodox faithful, O right wondrous and venerable Andrew, thou didst boldly denounce the evil Coprónymus who was afflicted with the disease of heresy.

Theotokion: **O** most blessed Lady Theotokos, thou hast given birth to the Fruit of thy womb, the Word who was incarnate of thee and who nourishes all who, in the Orthodox manner, rightly honor thee.

Ode 5

The Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: *Rising early out of the night, O Christ God, we praise Thee who hast abased Thyself and endured the Cross and death in the flesh for our sake.*

Moved by mercy, thou didst teach us of God's long-suffering, compassion, and goodness by which He had taken pity upon us all, O divinely-eloquent prophet.

Having slain death, Christ arose bestowing life to the souls in Hades, as thy wise prophecy proclaimed, O divinely-eloquent one.

Rescue me from the abyss of sin by thy prayers, O holy prophet Hosea, for thou hast great and blameless boldness before Christ, O richly-blessed one.

Theotokion: **T**he Lord and King of all, who is timelessly co-unoriginate with the Father, came forth in time, and, in His compassion, took on our flesh from thy womb, O most immaculate Lady.

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: *O Christ my Savior, the enlightenment of those who lie in darkness and the salvation of those in despair: O King of peace, I rise early and cry out to Thee, illumine me with the light of Thy radiance, for I know no other God than Thee.*

Despising the darkness of sin, thou dost shine with the splendid light of dispassion, that enlightens all the faithful who come before thy relics, with rays of healing and the grace of God.

Thou didst reveal thyself to be truly a vessel of God, offering to Him thy godly life and suffering for Him with thy valiant mind, O blessed one, and now, lying incorrupt within thy tomb, thou dost release the faithful from their suffering, O venerable martyr Andrew.

Having bravely fought the demons and the heresy of men, O most blessed father, thou hast been vouchsafed everlasting glory and thy crown of victory. Therefore, we, the faithful, call thee blessed, O venerable martyr Andrew.

Theotokion: **H**aving ineffably given birth to Christ, thou bearest in thine embrace Him who takes into His own embrace those who fall into the wretched bondage of the evil one. Therefore, we bless thee, O most immaculate Lady Theotokos.

Ode 6

The Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: *As Thou didst save the prophet from the belly of the whale, deliver me also from the abyss of sin I pray, O Lover of mankind.*

Proclaiming things that are to come, thou didst foretell the descent of the Word unto man, O blessed Hosea.

Christ, the Life immortal, led up from Hades those dead through sin, as thou didst foretell, O blessed prophet Hosea.

Thou didst reveal the abolition of the curse of the law, the apostasy of Thy people, and the calling of the nations.

Theotokion: **G**od the Word shone forth from thy womb, O most immaculate Lady, and, in His compassion, He took on our flesh for our sakes.

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: *Compassed about in the depths of sin, I entreat the unfathomable depth of Thy compassion; bring me out of corruption, O Lord.*

The evil one cast thee into prison, O Andrew, but thou wast preserved by the Master, Christ, for thou didst fully obey His divine will.

Thou didst disregard thy lacerated and mutilated body, O blessed Andrew, and strengthened by God, thou didst endure thy suffering.

Thou wast revealed to be a precious treasure to the pious, O father, enriching with thy miracles all who honor thee.

Theotokion: **T**he prophets of old perceived thee to be a noetic lampstand holding Christ, the divine Light, O pure Lady, by which, we have all been enlightened.

Katavasia as prescribed.

Another Kontakion of the Martyr, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O victorious Leader....”*

We lift up our praises out of love for thee, O divinely-blessed one, /
For thou art the namesake of manly courage and a teacher of the mysteries of piety. /
As thou dost possess great boldness before the Lord, save us from all evil so that we
may cry out to thee: ///
Rejoice, O ever-memorable father Andrew!

Ikos: Thou wast revealed to be an angel, a messenger of truth from Crete, denouncing impiety with a voice of theology, O most wise father, and beholding thy suffering, we fear similar torments coming upon us, and we cry to thee: Rejoice, O mighty warrior of God! Rejoice, God-pleasing and faithful favorite of the Lord! Rejoice, fearsome opponent of the blasphemous foe! Rejoice, O enemy of heretical proclamations! Rejoice, for thou didst suffer for the image of Christ! Rejoice, for thou didst subdue the sweetness of the flesh! Rejoice, for by thy fasting thou didst vanquish the prince of darkness! Rejoice, for by thy suffering thou didst defeat the evil Coprónymus! Rejoice, ever-flowing fountain of miracles! Rejoice, for thou hast illumined the earth by thy sufferings! Rejoice, O abode of truth and refuge of the faithful! Rejoice, O ever-memorable father Andrew, our protector and deliverer!

Ode 7

The Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: *Prefiguring the Trinity, the children of Abraham in the furnace transformed the flame of the fire into dew as they cried aloud: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!*

Thy mind was enriched beyond all comprehension, O holy prophet Hosea, with the gift of beholding the future and thou didst cry out to the Master: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

By the works of the prophets didst Thou, O immortal Savior, communicate visions of the future to those who faithfully call upon Thee and cry: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

Thou, O prophet, art the well-spring of Israel, pouring forth the waters of salvation proclaiming Christ, the River of peace, and to Him do we faithfully cry: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

Theotokion: **H**e who shone forth from the unoriginate Father became incarnate of thee in His ineffable mercy, O Maiden, Mother of God, and unto Him to we cry aloud: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: *The profane command of a lawless tyrant made the flames to rise exceedingly, but Christ sent the dew of the Spirit to the godly youths; blessèd is He and most glorious.*

The lashing waves of wickedness did not threaten thy mind as thou stood upon the rock of the knowledge of Christ, O glorious Andrew, and thou didst truly become a tranquil haven for those tossed on the stormy seas.

The evil-minded tyrant, with his darkened reasonings, sought to subvert thee who art adorned with the splendors of true theology, and he found himself ridiculed and filled with shame by thy bravery before him.

Thy mind, adorned with the most divine intentions, appears to all as a blazing star, O right-wondrous Andrew, illumining with miracles each of the faithful who praise thee.

Theotokion: **T**hou art the temple of the living God in which He who dwelleth in the heavens made His ineffable habitation being pleased to become man in His great goodness, O all-praised Virgin.

Ode 8

The Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: *Praise the Lord who preserved the children in the fiery flames of the burning furnace, and came down to them in the form of an angel, and exalt Him exceedingly unto all ages.*

Incomprehensible gifts were given to the prophets by the divine Benefactor: the knowledge of things that are, and the knowledge of things that are to come, so that they might praise the Lord and exalt Him exceedingly unto all ages!

Having acquired a divinely-inspired mouth and a godly-eloquent tongue, O Hosea, thou didst praise the brilliant Light of piety crying: Praise the Lord and exalt Him exceedingly unto all ages!

Prophesying by both thy words and actions, thou didst denounce the adulterous people, O richly-bless't Hosea, teaching them by example how to sing: Praise the

Lord and exalt Him exceedingly unto all ages!

Theotokion: God, the co-eternal and everlasting Word of the Father appeared incarnate of the Virgin to those who cried with faith: Praise the Lord and exalt Him exceedingly unto all ages!

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: *In Babylon of old by the command of God, the fiery furnace worked in a double way: it burned the Chaldeans while it refreshed the faithful who sang: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!*

Having mortified the carnal passions by ascetic fasting, O wise one, thou didst suffer greatly for reverently venerating the images of the Savior, the Ever-virgin Mary, and of the saints.

Those who raged insanely against Christ like savage wild beasts put thee to death, O father Andrew, by beating thee as they dragged thee, and casting thee into the pit, making thee a blessed witness of the Truth.

Thou dost sprinkle the faithful with miracles as if with water, O most blessed Andrew, driving away the spirits of wickedness, and washing away infirmities, having received the grace of healing from Christ our God on high.

Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!

Theotokion: Thou hast been revealed to be more spacious than the heavens, O Virgin, for thou didst contain within thy womb God whom nothing can contain. Entreat thou Him to deliver those who piously praise thee from every evil calamity, O Lady most pure.

We praise, bless, and worship the Lord singing and exalting Him throughout all ages!

Katavasia as prescribed.

Ode 9

The Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: *Rejoice, O boast of virgins! Rejoice, O all-pure Mother, whom all creation magnifies with divine hymns of praise!*

Thou didst receive great honor as a prophet, O most blessed Hosea, receiving a crown of splendor from God on-high.

Illumined by the light of Christ, O most excellent Hosea, entreat thou Him to be merciful to all who praise thee.

Having lived an angelic life, O Hosea, thou standest now with the ranks of angels before the Master singing to Him hymns of praise.

Theotokion: **I**n His desire to save mankind, the Lord and Savior clothed Himself in our flesh through thee, O all-pure Virgin.

The Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: *The Son of the eternal Father, God the Lord incarnate of the Virgin, hath appeared to us to give light to those in darkness and to gather those who had gone astray; so we magnify thee, O Theotokos.*

Behold, O venerable father, finishing thy course thou didst preserve spotless the Orthodox Faith for which thou didst suffer by the edict of the law, thou hast received from on-high a two-fold crown for being both an invincible ascetic and a victorious martyr.

Thou didst blossom in the meadow of holy ascetics as a fragrant lily and a sweet-smelling rose, O father, and as a valiant martyr, thy witnessing perfumed all with the aromatic fragrance of a mighty cedar, O Andrew, thou adornment of monastics.

Adorned with many signs and wonders, thou dost now lie unharmed in the sight of all, O most blessed father Andrew, illumining the souls of those who with ardent faith come before thy relics and bless thee.

Celebrating today thy festive and holy memory, we are filled with joy and we cry out to thee with faith: By thy holy prayers to God, deliver us from every danger and necessity, O father Andrew.

Theotokion: **T**hy womb became the abode of the Light that illumined all the world with its rays of divinity, driving away the darkness of ignorance from all the earth. Therefore, do we glorify thee, O most immaculate Maiden.

Exapostilarion of the Venerable Martyr: Let us all praise the right victorious venerable martyr Andrew, rightly celebrating his honored memory, that we may be delivered from every infirmity; for he preached the reverent veneration of the precious images of the Savior and all the saints. For this cause he received his crown of victory in heaven, and he rejoices now with the angels.

Theotokion: Let us, the divinely-wise faithful, praise the most pure Virgin, the all-holy mountain of God, the candlestick, the jar, the table, the bridge, the staff and the lamp, the divine throne, the portal, the temple and the bridal chamber of the Lord; for God, becoming ineffably incarnate, without change of essence, has deified our nature which He had received through her.

Liturgy

The Troparion of the Prophet Hosea, in Tone 2: *(General – none given in the Menaion)*

We celebrate the memory /
Of Thy prophet Hosea /
Through him, we implore Thee, O Lord, ///
To save our souls.

The Troparion of the Martyr, in Tone 4:

Trained in the ascetic life upon the mountain /
Thou didst defeat the devil's assaults by the power of the Cross. /
With great courage thou didst face the battle /
And crushed the evil emperor with the sword of faith. /
O glorious monk and martyr Andrew, /
God crowned thee for both thy holy and ascetic life ///
And thy victory in fighting the good fight.

The Kontakion of the Martyr, in Tone 3: *To the melody, "Today the Virgin...."*

Today the Great City keeps festival /
Celebrating thy bright and light-bearing memory, /
Summoning all cities and lands to join the feast; /
For it rejoices in possessing the great treasure of thy precious relics, ///
O martyr Andrew, thou beacon of the Orthodox Faith.

Another Kontakion of the Martyr, in Tone 8: *To the melody, "O victorious leader"*

We lift up our praises out of love for thee, O divinely-blessed one, /
For thou art the namesake of manly courage and a teacher of the mysteries
of piety. /
As thou dost possess great boldness before the Lord, save us from all evil so that we
may cry out to thee: ///
Rejoice, O ever-memorable father Andrew!