

## **The 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of October**

**Commemoration of the Holy Wonderworker Averkius (Abercius, Avérkii), Bishop of Hieropolis and Equal-to-the-Apostles; and the Commemoration of the Seven Youths of Ephesus.**

**Also on this day, the Commemoration of the Kazan' Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, which service is found after this. — incomplete as of 8/2017**

### **Vespers**

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera:**

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

By thy splendid and divine teachings, O Averkius /  
Thou didst bring the dark night of the many gods to an end, /  
And rising like the dawn, O father, with the light of thy miracles, /  
Thou didst transform those sitting in the darkness into children of the day. /  
Therefore, O holy hierarch, we sing these songs of praise to thee ///  
As we celebrate in faith thy sacred memory.

Wondrously didst thou mingle wine with oil in a single vessel, O holy father, /  
Where they remained till they would separate again by divine grace; /  
And at thy prayers, the warm waters would flow /  
Healing the infirmities of all who approached thee with faith ///  
And call thee blessed, O Averkius.

Wholly cleaving thyself to God, O father Averkius, /  
Thou didst fulfill His divine teachings; /  
And receiving grace from on high, O vén'able one, /  
Thou didst drive away the varied illnesses of men; /  
And destroying the temples of the idols, thou didst plant knowledge divine ///  
In those who before languished in ignorance, O blessed one!

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

The blessed youths remained obedient to God /  
And spurned the commands of the impious king; /  
While being bound by fetters of iron they loosed the chain of errors, /  
And renouncing all the honors of this world. /  
Thus, they obtained the honors of glory. ///  
And now they rejoice in the kingdom on high.

**P**reparing yourselves courageously for the struggles of martyrdom /  
You went into the cave, there to engage in ceaseless prayer. /  
As it was sealed you entreated the Lord /  
That He may grant you the strength and power to persevere, ///  
And by His will, the Lover of mankind commanded you to sleep in peace.

**O** come, all ye people /  
And let us earnestly praise /  
The divinely assembled choir, /  
The blessed company of the invincible martyrs, /  
The unvanquished warriors and the beautiful triumph of the Church; ///  
The unshakable foundation of piety.

**Glory..., in Tone 3: (the composition of John the monk)**

**O** venerable hierarch, our most blessed father Averkus, /  
Thou worker of wonders and favorite of God, /  
Who shone forth in the prophetic life, and was adorned with apostolic gifts; /  
Now thou dost unceasingly minister to the Savior together with the angels! ///  
Entreat Him that our souls be delivered from all danger.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone: to the melody: "Great is the power of Thy Cross...."**

**A** sword has pierced thine heart, O pure one, /  
When thou didst see thy Son upon the Cross; /  
And thou didst cry out to Him: /  
Leave me not alone and childless, /  
Who hath preserved me a Virgin after giving birth to Thee, ///  
O my Son and my God.

**Troparion of the Hierarch, in Tone 4:**

**I**n truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith, /  
A model of humility and teacher of abstinence, /  
So thou didst win the heights of humility, riches by poverty; /  
O holy hierarch, father Averkus, ///  
Intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

**Glory..., the Troparion of the Martyrs, in the same Tone:**

**T**hy holy martyrs, O Lord, /  
Through their sufferings received their incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God /

AVERKIUS THE WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF HIEROPOLIS;  
AND THE SEVEN YOUTHS OF EPHESUS.

For having Thy strength they laid low their enemies /  
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///  
Through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone.**

**Matins**

After the usual readings from the Psalter, One canon from the Octoechos  
with 6 troparia; and two for the Saints, with 8 troparia

**Ode 1**

**The Canon of the Hierarch, in Tone 2**

*having the acrostic, "I praise the great glory of Averkius,"  
the composition of Joseph.*

*Irmos:* O come, ye people, let us sing a song to Christ our God who parted the sea and through it led his people whom He had brought out of the bondage of Egypt: for He hath been glorified!

*Refrain:* Holy hierarch father Averkius pray to God for us!

**H**aving been illumined by the radiant splendor of the three-fold sun of the Godhead, thou didst become a light enlightening those in darkness, dispelling the gloominess of the demons, O father Averkius.

**T**hou didst lead a heavenly life while on the earth, O most blessed father Averkius, mortifying the passions and living as a bodiless angel while yet abiding in the flesh.

**H**aving been blessed with the gift of preaching, O father, thou didst cast down irrational vanity with thy words, thus destroying the temples of the demons and their false, graven images.

*Theotokion:* **T**he tongues of the orators are unable to describe thine ineffable conceiving, O all pure Lady, for thou gavest birth to God in the flesh, who, in His goodness became like unto us.

**The Canon of the Martyrs, in Tone 8**

*Irmos:* The staff of Moses performed miracles, striking the sea like the Cross, submerging Pharaoh with his chariots, saving the Israelites in their flight as they sang a song of victory.

*Refrain:* Holy Seven Martyrs pray to God for us!

**O** ye holy youthful martyrs, who are honored by the number seven, ye radiant stars shining in the firmament of the Church, and who, by your witness have come to

dwell in the heavens: ever remember those who honor your memory with faith.

**G**lory...,

**Y**ou extinguished the darkness of delusion bearing the brilliant lamp that shone with the sevenfold radiance of the Spirit, and ye now illumine us all with a sevenfold radiance of your piety, O ye seven martyrs of the Lord.

**N**ow and ever...

*Theotokion:* **I**n thee have I placed all my hope for salvation, O Virgin Mother: cleanse me from the filth of sin and make me pure, that I may become well-pleasing to thy Son and do His all-holy will.

### **Ode 3** **The Canon of the Hierarch**

*Irmos:* Establish us in Thee, O Lord, who by the wood of the Cross didst put sin to death, and didst implant the fear of Thee in our hearts as we sing praises to Thee.

**B**y sacred words and the performance of many miracles hast thou wondrously guided those who sail the sea of deception to the calm haven of salvation, O holy father Averkius.

**T**hou hast brought salvation to the faithful by working healings, performing miracles and dispelling the fantasies of the demons, O richly bless't intercessor for our souls.

**O** father Averkius, holy were thy words, godly was thy life, glorious were thy deeds, thy course was strewn with miracles, and most honorable was the end of thy earthly days.

*Theotokion:* **G**od, who before was invisible became visible, O Virgin, when, in His compassion, He became incarnate in thy womb! Therefore, with faith we bless thee, O Theotokos.

### **The Canon of the Martyrs**

*Irmos:* Thou didst establish the heavens in wisdom; Thou didst set the earth upon the waters. Now establish me on the rock of Thy commandments. None is as holy as Thou, O Lover of man.

**A**s a seven-branched candelabra of the virtues shining brightly with the radiance of your struggles and the brilliance of your miracles, ye have shone the light of the knowledge of God upon all the world.

**Y**ou, O holy martyrs, were offered to the Creator from your earliest years, and for His sake, you spurned the glory, royal honors and transitory riches of this life. For this, you have received incorruptible glory and honor in heaven.

AVERKIUS THE WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF HIEROPOLIS;  
AND THE SEVEN YOUTHS OF EPHESUS.

*Theotokion:* **T**hrough thine intercessions before the Giver of Life who came into the world through thee, O most pure Birthgiver of God, raise up my deadened mind, and heal the wounds brought on by my countless sins.

*Katavasia as prescribed by the Typicon.*

**The Kontakion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4:** *To the melody, “As Thou wast voluntarily crucified....”*

**O** Christ Thou hast glorified Thy saints on earth /  
Before Thy second and awesome coming. /  
For by gloriously raising the youths from their sleep /  
Thou didst manifest the resurrection to those who knew it not. /  
By revealing their flesh and clothing incorrupt /  
Thou didst move the Emperor to cry aloud: ///  
Truly there is resurrection for the dead!

*Ikos:* **W**hen the bishop of Ephesus beheld the wondrous and glorious resurrection of the seven youths, in his astonishment he wrote with haste to the faithful emperor, describing their arising: “May your highness hasten to come here, O master, that thou mayest behold the power of our God, which He hath shown.” And rising up straightway, the great emperor made the journey, rejoicing, and like Elijah the charioteer, he cried aloud: “Truly there is resurrection for the dead!”

**The Sessional Hymn of the Hierarch, in Tone 8:** *To the melody, “Of Wisdom....”*

**T**hou wast a true hierarch anointed with precious oil of myrrh, /  
O holy and all-praised father Averk<sup>ius</sup>, /  
Working wonders through grace, and adorned with the splendor of thy miracles, /  
Healing the sick, casting out demons, and converting multitudes of people to the  
Faith. /  
Therefore, we, the faithful, cry out to thee: /  
Entreat Christ God, that He may grant the remission of sins /  
To those who lovingly honor thy holy memory.

**Glory..., the Sessional Hymn of the Martyrs, in Tone 4:** *To the melody, “Quickly go before...”*

**O** ye seven holy martyrs, /  
Truly you are the pillars of the Church of Christ; /  
For bravely you destroyed the ramparts of unbelief, /  
And before your death you destroyed the rage of the heathen, /  
And by your death you destroyed the storm of heresy, ///

And now you pray for our souls.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone 4:**

**O** most pure Lady, /  
O Virgin Mother who knew not man, /  
Thou alone gavest birth in time /  
To thy timeless Son and Word of God /  
Entreat Him now together with all the honorable apostles, martyrs, prophets and all  
the saints ///  
That He grant us the remission of our sins and great mercy.

**Or this Stavrotheotokion, in the same Tone:**

**W**hen thou didst behold thy Son and God /  
O most immaculate Virgin, Mother of Christ God, /  
Crucified of His own will, /  
A sword pierced thy most holy soul. /  
Never cease to entreat Him, O blessed Lady, ///  
That He may grant us the forgiveness of our sins.

**Ode 4**

**The Canon of the Hierarch**

***Irmos:** I sing to Thee, O Lord, for I have heard the report of Thee and am afraid for Thou comest seeking after me who has gone astray. Therefore, I glorify Thy great condescension towards me, O greatly merciful one.*

**T**hou didst beautify thy cathedral, O ven'erable hierarch, making it magnificent by the greatness of thy miracles and the splendid example of thy life. Therefore, hath our God greatly glorified thee.

**K**nowing that the Lord desireth to grant mercy, O God-bearing father Averkius, fervently didst thou beseech Him to cause a miraculous spring of waters to gush forth for the healing and the salvation of many souls.

**B**y the grace of God thou didst make childless women fertile, thus fulfilling their intentions; and having sown thy words upon them as seeds, O blessed Averkius, like a good husbandman didst thou reap a bountiful harvest.

***Theotokion:*** **O** all-immaculate Bride of God, thou hast healed us mortals from the ancient curse by giving birth to Christ, the King and Lord of all, who in His ineffable compassion, hath taken all our sins and infirmities upon Himself.

**The Canon of the Martyrs**

***Irmos:** O Thou art my strength, O Lord, my God, my power, my joy; without leaving Thy*

AVERKIUS THE WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF HIEROPOLIS;  
AND THE SEVEN YOUTHS OF EPHESUS.

*Father's bosom Thou hast visited our wretchedness. So with the prophet Habákkuk I cry to Thee: Glory to Thy Power, O Lover of man!*

**B**ound together with a fraternal bond, and set aflame with divine desire, O ye martyrs of the Lord, you agreed on making a true confession of faith, and thereby put to shame the vain understanding of the tyrants and the false teaching of polytheism.

**H**aving been persecuted for Christ yet didst you abide with Christ, hiding in the caves of the mountainous wasteland instead of death, and for many long years ye slept a life-bearing sleep for His sake, clearly confirming the general resurrection of mortal mankind.

*Theotokion:* **I**n Wisdom didst Thou make Thine abode within the Virgin's womb, making it the temple of God, that in the richness of Thy goodness, Thou mightest restore Thine image which had become dim through the passions of men, and come to dwell amongst mankind and save all the world, O Compassionate Lord.

**Ode 5**  
**The Canon of the Hierarch**

*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.

**H**aving set thy feet upon the rock of thy heart, O divinely wise and blessed Averkios, thou didst teach with thy divine words those who had fallen into perdition and worshiped idols of stone, so that they came to worship the Rock, Jesus Christ our God.

**L**et us honor Averkios the teacher of sanctity, the excellent physician of the infirm, the guide of all who have been deceived by evil counsel, the vessel of precious gifts, and the receptacle of the Holy Spirit.

**W**hen wine and oil were placed into a single vessel and mixed together at thy command, they poured out miraculously unmingled, truly revealing thy most excellent grace, O holy father Averkios.

*Theotokion:* **O**, the awesome wonder! In thee, O Virgin Theotokos, the laws of nature are most gloriously overcome; for thou gavest birth to God the Savior without seed, and yet didst thou remain a virgin. Therefore, we piously praise thee as the Mother of Emmanuel.

**The Canon of the Martyrs**

*Irmos:* Why hast Thou cast me away from Thy face, O never setting Light? Why has this dismal

*darkness covered me, the wretched one? Guide me in return to the light of Thy commandments, I pray Thee.*

**H**aving died to the world, ye rejected all the beauties of life, committing your life to Him who hath dominion over life, and slept a life-bearing sleep for many years as an image of the coming universal resurrection.

**E**nduring long travail and persecution, ye showed yourselves to be spiritual contenders by your life, bearing hunger and thirst and countless tribulations, sorrows and misfortunes, yet made rich in tranquility and peace.

*Theotokion:* **R**ichly blessed in thee, our haven of defense, being protected by thy holy intercessions, and boasting in thy divine glory, we call thee blessed; for thou, O most holy Lady, dost pour forth joy and gladness upon our souls.

### **Ode 6** **The Canon of the Hierarch**

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

**F**rom the East to the West, O venerable Averkius, didst thou travel driving away the powers of demonic and cruel passions by the power of the Spirit.

**S**trange didst thou appear to the world, O most holy father Averkius, working wondrous and awesome miracles, while walking in the body yet being separated from it.

**S**een to be as bright as lightning, O divinely inspired father Averkius, thou didst vanquish hordes of the demons, who were unable to bear the threat of thee.

*Theotokion:* **T**hrough thee, O all-holy Bride of God, we, who are dead, have been deemed worthy of life, and we, who are in thrall to corruption, have been truly enriched by the grace of incorruption.

### **The Canon of the Martyrs**

*Irmos:* *Cleanse me, O Savior, for many are my transgressions; Lead me from the abyss of evil, I pray Thee, and I cry: Hear me, O God of my salvation.*

**F**or the love for God, O divinely wise ones, you left your Ephesian homeland, your splendid families, great riches, honor, and glory, preferring the splendor of heaven instead, as your inheritance.

**O** ye seven-member choir of holy martyrs, you joined yourselves together in a godly fashion, cast down the great multitude of the enemy arrayed against you, and received the glory of your witness and martyrs' crowns as the reward for your sufferings.

AVERKIUS THE WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF HIEROPOLIS;  
AND THE SEVEN YOUTHS OF EPHESUS.

*Theotokion:* **T**he majesty of the Most High hath shone forth from Sion, arrayed in the flesh which He received through a union with thee who knewest no wedlock; and thus hath He enlightened the world.

*Katavasia.*

**The Kontakion of the Hierarch, in Tone 8: To the melody “As the first-fruits ....”**

**T**he whole Church of the faithful honors thee as a great hierarch and successor to the apostles, O Averk<sup>u</sup>s, /

Preserve her invincible, unharmed and unshaken by any heresy ///  
Through thy prayers, O ever-mem'rable one.

*Ikos:* **A**s a stranger to the world ever mindful of its vanities, and emulating of the suffering of Christ, thou didst mortify the carnal passions, take up thy cross, O blessed father Averkius, and thou didst follow after thy Creator. Abiding with Him now, ever pray thou for those who truly honor thy holy memory.

**Ode 7**

**The Canon of the Hierarch**

*Irmos:* *The three children trampled upon the ungodly command to adore the golden idol on the field of Dura, and besprinkled with dew in the midst of the fire sang: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers.*

**A**s a godly shepherd of thy flock and a worker of miracles, O father, has thou, by thy prayers, granted the blind to see and the deaf to hear, bestowed cleansing upon the lepers, and healing of body to the lame, as they sang: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

**T**hou didst drive out evil spirits from the youths; cause bubbling streams of miraculous waters to flow abundantly for the healing of the sick; and thine epitaph, written by thine own hand in stone now abides in Rome where it proclaims thy miracles unto all ages.

**T**hou wast truly a visionary guide for the humble, being exalted as a favorite of the Most High King and granted the power of working wonders, O most holy father, and to Him do we all cry: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

*Theotokion:* **H**e who was begotten of the Father before the morning-star and was born of thee in two wills and natures, as both God and man, O Maiden, is known to all who cry out with faith: Blessed art thou who hast given birth to God in the flesh!

**The Canon of the Martyrs**

*Irmos:* *In Babylon the flames were put to shame by God's condescension; the young men in the*

*furnace danced in joy and sang in exultation: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!*

**S**ubmitting to the will of God and guided by divine law and an upright mind, ye set at naught the exceedingly wicked commands of your tormentors, O youthful martyrs, thus acquiring life and incorruption through death and enriching your mortal bodies.

**D**esiring to drink the cup of death for your faith in your Creator, ye endured the burial of your bodies for the sake of immortality and incorruption, making plain the resurrection by your glorious rising from the dead, O holy martyrs of the Lord.

*Theotokion:* **T**hou didst shine forth like the morning dawn giving birth to the Son of Righteousness who, through divine action, taketh away the darkness of ignorance from the world. To Him do we all sing, O most pure Lady: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!

### **Ode 8** **The Canon of the Hierarch**

*Irmos:* *God came down upon the Hebrew children in the fiery furnace and changed the flames into dew. Praise the works of the Lord, and exalt Him throughout all ages.*

**L**et Averkius be honored as a glorious shepherd, an inexhaustible well-spring of healings, a pillar of the Church, the confirmation of the faithful, a great luminary and a splendid teacher of all things divine.

**T**hou didst flourish in the courts of the living God like the palm-tree of the Psalms; thou wast firm in the faith like a cedar of Lebanon, O wise one; and thou wast revealed to be like a fruitful olive-tree, causing the faces of all to shine with faith through the oil of thy holy deeds.

**T**hy entire life showed thee to be like a city standing on the summit of a mountain, O venerable Averkius; and thy city of Hieropolis, once known as a den of deception, hast been transformed into a city of the Most High.

*Theotokion:* **B**ehold, the bridal-couch of Solomon, surrounded now by the mighty prophecies of the divinely inspired Scriptures, and one upon which Christ God hath rested in His divine incarnation, O blessed and joyous Lady.

### **The Canon of the Martyrs**

*Irmos:* *The Chaldean torturer became enraged; he ordered the furnace to be heated sevenfold; but seeing the godly youths saved by a greater might, he sang to the Creator and Redeemer: Bless Him, O ye children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him throughout all ages!*

**T**oday your memory hath shone forth with a sevenfold radiance like the beams of the sun, illumining the earth with the splendors of your suffering, the brilliance of

AVERKIUS THE WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF HIEROPOLIS;  
AND THE SEVEN YOUTHS OF EPHESUS.

your miracles, and the rays of your divine teachings with which you assure all of the resurrection of the body and the incorruption of mortals, O wise martyrs.

**O**nce, God preserved Abimelech on the field of battle, that he might not see the destruction of Jerusalem; and He preserved you asleep for a great many years in the cave as an assurance of the resurrection of all, O youths, ye lamps equal in number to the seven ages.

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

*Theotokion:* Sanctified by the Holy Spirit, O all pure Theotokos, thou didst truly receive the everlasting Son begotten before the ages, within thy womb, who became incarnate within thee, for the salvation of those who sing with faith: Bless Him, O ye children, praise Him, O ye priests, exalt Him throughout all ages!

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

*Katavasia.*

**Ode 9**  
**The Canon of the Hierarch**

*Irmos:* God the Word from God, who in His ineffable Wisdom came to renew Adam, grievously fallen through food into corruption, and who was made flesh ineffably for our sakes from the Virgin, do you faithful magnify in hymns with one accord.

**O** most wise father Averkios, we honor thee with faith in that thy life was splendid and thy feet beautiful; thy yearning and love for God and neighbor were exceedingly wondrous; and that the grace given thee from on high was truly magnificent,

**W**ith faith let us glorify thee, O father Averkios, as one who dwelleth now with all the holy martyrs; as an emulator of the divine disciples; as a peer of the holy patriarchs, prophets and the all the venerable saints; and a converser with the powers and ministers of heaven.

**T**hy most holy memory, which is celebrated throughout the world, doth illumine the souls of all with the rich light of grace. By thy supplications, O holy father Averkios, we beseech thee: deliver us who celebrate it with love from the passions and from perilous darkness!

*Theotokion:* The prophet once beheld thee as a radiant lampstand bearing within thee as a truly divine Lamp the only transcendent God who, in the compassion of His mercy, became man through thee, O all-holy Virgin.

## The Canon of the Martyrs

*Irmos:* The heavens were filled with fear, the ends of the earth were filled with awe, for God revealed Himself in the flesh to men; and thy womb became more spacious than the heavens, so the leaders of men and angels magnify thee, O Theotokos!

Every mind is amazed, and all born on earth marvel, that mortals who lay buried for many years within a cave appeared as though having slept for an evening, rising up again in the morning, assuring all of the universal resurrection of the mortal race of mankind.

O ye seven radiant luminaries and martyrs of the Lord, bright beacons of the city of Ephesus, intercessors for the whole world, preachers of the universal resurrection, guardians of the faithful, and fervent advocates for us all: entreat Christ God for the tranquility, peace, and the salvation for all the ends of the world.

*Theotokion:* As thou art the Mother of Him who deigned to suffer for us, and in that thou art full of tender compassion, deliver us from the soul-corrupting passions, and break thou the bonds of our transgressions. In that thou art good, bless us now, for our souls are vexed by the assaults of demons, O Virgin Theotokos, that we may ever praise thee, the all praise Lady.

*Katavasia.*

### Exapostilarion of the Hierarchy:

When a demon had entered into the daughter of the Emperor, thou didst hasten to the city of Rome, O divinely eloquent father Averkius, and thou didst drive him away from her like a dog, and compelled him to carry thy pillar back to Hieropolis

### Glory..., that of the martyrs:

Thy victorious martyrs, O Lord, protected themselves with the weapon of Thy precious Cross, and mightily vanquished the powers of evil putting their tormentors to shame as they suffered for Thee. Now, they reign together with Thee, O Christ, Thou King of all.

### Now and ever.... Theotokion:

O, the wonders of thy holy mysteries! How is it that after giving birth thou didst remain a virgin as thou wast before birthgiving? How didst thou contain the uncontainable God? Truly ineffable are all thy works, O blessed Virgin Mary Theotokos!

## Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 troparia: 4 from the Octoechos, and 4 from the Third Ode of

AVERKIUS THE WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF HIEROPOLIS;  
AND THE SEVEN YOUTHS OF EPHESUS.

both Canons, beginning with that of St. Averkius.

**1-4. [From the Octoechos]**

**5. By** sacred words and the performance of many miracles hast thou wondrously guided those who sail the sea of deception to the calm haven of salvation, O holy father Averkius.

**6. Thou** hast brought salvation to the faithful by working healings, performing miracles and dispelling the fantasies of the demons, O richly bless't intercessor for our souls.

**7. O** father Averkius, holy were thy words, godly was thy life, glorious were thy deeds, thy course was strewn with miracles, and most honorable was the end of thy earthly days.

**8. Theotokion:** God, who before was invisible became visible, O Virgin, when, in His compassion, He became incarnate in thy womb! Therefore, with faith we bless thee, O Theotokos.

**Troparion of the Hierarch, in Tone 4:**

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith, /  
A model of humility and teacher of abstinence, /  
So thou didst win the heights of humility, riches by poverty; /  
O holy hierarch, father Averkius, ///  
Intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

**Troparion of the Martyrs, in the same Tone:**

Thy holy martyrs, O Lord, /  
Through their sufferings received their incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God /  
For having Thy strength they laid low their enemies /  
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///  
Through their intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

**The Kontakion of the Martyrs, in Tone 4: To the melody, "As Thou wast voluntarily crucified...."**

**O** Christ Thou hast glorified Thy saints on earth /  
Before Thy second and awesome coming. /  
For by gloriously raising the youths from their sleep /  
Thou didst manifest the resurrection to those who knew it not. /

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By revealing their flesh and clothing incorrupt /  
Thou didst move the Emperor to cry aloud: ///  
Truly there is resurrection for the dead!

**The Kontakion of the Hierarch, in Tone 8:** *To the melody “As the first-fruits ....”*

**The** whole Church of the faithful honors thee as a great hierarch and successor to  
the apostles, O Averkus, /  
Preserve her invincible, unharmed and unshaken by any heresy ///  
Through thy prayers, O ever-mem’rable one.

**Prokeimenon, Tone 8:** My mouth shall speak wisdom and the meditation of my  
heart shall be understanding. *Verse:* Hear this, all nations! Give ear, all inhabitants  
of the earth!

**The Epistle:** (318) Hebrews 7:26-8:2

**The Alleluia, Tone 2:** The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom and his  
tongue shall speak of judgment. *Verse:* The Law of God is in his heart and his steps  
shall not falter.

**The Gospel:** (36) John 10:9-17

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

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