

The 22nd Day of November

Afterfeast of the Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple; the commemoration of the Holy Apostles of the 70, Philēmon, his wife Apphias, Archíppus and Onésimus.

Vespers

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera,

3 stichera, of the Feast, in Tone 8: *To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”*

O most glorious wonder, /
The coming ineffable mystery /
Is clearly seen in visible signs today /
For she who brings the divine Light into the world /
Is led into the holy temple as a bride. /
Let us praise her as the most glorious temple of God ///
The holy dwelling-place of Christ, the Giver of Light.

The wise Joachim and Anna /
Bring Mary, the Virgin and godly maid /
As truly an acceptable first-fruit offering, well pleasing to God /
Who had allowed them to bear this divine fruit
Thus cancelling our ancient debt through her. /
So let us, the faithful, sing to her with joy ///
For she is the intercessor of joy for all the world

Come, and let us mystically hasten to kindle our lamps with faith, /
And let us escort the Virgin /
As she comes to the temple. /
And as she enters, in glory, the sanctuary of God /
Betrothed to God, the King of all, ///
Let us celebrate the beautiful and glorious feast of her entrance into the temple.

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

Being a branch of the life-giving Vine, /
O glorious Philēmon, /
Thou pourest the wine of the knowledge of God upon afflicted souls /
Bringing joy to all hearts saddened by the darkness of error /
And to those held in the gloominess of idolatry. ///
Therefore, we celebrate thy holy and light-bearing memory

Having received the light of understanding through thee /

The city of Gaza venerates thee,
 And the Colossians, in whose city thy relics repose /
 Receive abundant healing and grace flowing from this, their holy treasury. /
 And celebrating thy memory, O glorious Philemon, ///
 We are saved from all danger through thy prayers

Let us together with the hon'rable Apphias praise the wise hierarch Archippus with
 faith, /

And let us sing the glory of Philemon and Onisemus /
 Those honorable teachers and holy preachers of God. /
 For by their words they uprooted the error of idolatry /
 And planted the knowledge of truth in all ///
 Who piously venerate their holy memory.

Glory... now and ever..., of the Feast, in Tone 1: (from the Litya, the composition of George of Nicomedia)

Today let the heavens rejoice and let the clouds pour down gladness /
 At the mighty acts, exceedingly marvelous, of our God. /
 For behold, the Gate that looks towards the East, /
 Born according to the promise from a fruitless and barren womb /
 And dedicated to God in His sanctuary, /
 Is led today into the temple as a spotless offering. /
 Let David rejoice greatly and strike his harp. /
 He said, Virgins, her companions shall be brought in after her before the King /
 And they shall enter into the palace of the King; /
 And she shall be brought to the place of His mercy seat /
There to be brought up and to become the dwelling-place of Him /
 Who was begotten of the Father, without change, before the ages ///
 For the salvation of our souls.

Or, on Friday or Saturday Evening, Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week.

At the Aposticha, these stichera of the Feast, in Tone 2: To the melody, "O House of Ephratha...."

Today the assembly of virgins /
 In procession with their candles aglow, /
 And in fulfillment of the Psalmist's words, ///
 Brightly accompany the only most pure Lady

Verse: And the virgins, her companions, shall be brought before the King.

AFTERFEAST OF THE ENTRANCE;
THE APOSTLES OF THE 70, PHILĒMON AND THOSE WITH HIM

O holy prophet of God /
Behold the spiritual mountain, /
The divine table, the bridge of salvation ///
And the vessel of manna which thou hast foretold.

Verse: And they shall come with joy and gladness, and they shall enter into the palace of the King.

Open the gates of the holy sanctuary, /
O prophet Zechariah, ///
And receive the only Ever-virgin Lady, the true Mother of God.

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

Today the most pure Virgin /
Is led into the temple /
There to become the habitation of God, the King of all /
Who sustains our life. /
Today, the most pure sanctuary is led into the Holy of Holies /
As a blameless three-year old offering of sacrifice. /
To her, let us cry out with the angel: ///
Rejoice, thou who alone art blessed among women.

The Troparion of the Apostles, in Tone 3:

O holy apostles, /
Intercede with our merciful God, /
That He may grant to our souls ///
The remission of our transgressions.

Glory... now and ever..., the Troparion of the Feast, in Tone 4:

Today is the preview of the good will of God /
And the proclamation of the salvation of man: /
The Virgin appears clearly in the temple of God, /
And Christ is foretold to all. /
To her, therefore, let us cry with mighty voices: /
Rejoice, O thou fulfillment ///
Of the Creator's providence.

Matins

The Canon

The Canon of the Feast, with 8 Troparia, in Tone 4; and that of the Apostles,
with 4 Troparia, in Tone 2

*having the acrostic: "I praise thee, O Philēmon, thou lover of Christ,"
(the composition of Joseph) — incomplete as of 11/9/15*

**After the Third Ode, the Kontakion of the Apostles, in Tone 2: To the melody,
"Seeking the highest...."**

We praise those stars of heaven /
Who bathe the earth with light, /
The holy apostles of Christ, /
Philēmon the glorious, holy Archíppus and Onēsímus, /
And Mark and Apollos, /
And with them the most wise Apphías. /
We cry out to them and sing: ///
Pray without ceasing on behalf of us all!

After the Sixth Ode, the Kontakion of the Feast, in Tone 4:

The most pure temple of the Savior /
The precious bridal chamber and Virgin /
The sacred treasure of the glory of God /
Is led today into the house of the Lord; /
With her she brings the grace of the Holy Spirit /
Of her the angels of God sing in praise: ///
"Truly she is the tabernacle of heaven!"

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 6 Troparia from the Sixth Ode of the First Festal Canon.

Prokeimenon of the Feast, in Tone 3, and that of the Apostles, in Tone 8: Their proclamation is gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!

The Epistle (Apostles): (302 ctr-b) Philēmon 1-24

The Alleluia of the Feast, in Tone 8, and that of the Apostle, Tone 1: The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints!

The Gospel (Apostles): (50) Luke 10:1-15

The Communion Hymns: **I** will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. **And also that of the Apostles:** Their proclamation is gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!