

THE 17th DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER
COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY PROPHET HOSEA
COMMEMORATION OF THE VENERABLE MARTYR ANDREW OF CRETE
AT VESPERS

On “Lord, I have cried ...”, 6 Stichera: 3 for the prophet, in Tone I:

Spec. Mel.: “O all-praised martyrs ...”:

The Holy Spirit, Who proceedeth from the Father, * spake through thy tongue * of the advent of Christ * which would come to pass in later times, * unto the restoration of creation: * And now, beholding the fulfillment * of what was prophesied, ** we honor thy memory, O prophet.

Espousing our nature, * which had willfully fallen away from Thee, * O Lover of mankind, * Thou didst deliver it from defilement, * joining it inseparably to Thyself through its union with Thee * which passeth understanding. * And Thy prophet, being an image of this, ** chastely took to wife a former harlot.

O divinely eloquent prophet, * seeing thine utterances * now filled with grace, * standing before the God of all * pray thou for all who with faith * celebrate thy memory, * asking for them forgiveness of sins, ** peace and great mercy.

And 3 Stichera of the venerable martyr, in Tone IV:

Spec. Mel.: “As one valiant among the martyrs ...”:

Having cleaved unto the Lord from childhood, O blessed one, * thou didst run the course until the end; * for, armed with the Cross, * thou didst set thy hands to the plough of the commandments of the Lord, * as it is written. * Him do thou entreat, * that those who with faith celebrate * thy most honored memory ** be delivered from corruption and misfortunes.

Through faith thou didst become * a most precious stone * without being broken; * for, beaten and rolled upon the ground, * thou didst make the path of faith smooth, * O glorious one, rendering it easy of ascent; * by overturning the opinions * and the evil fame of Copronymus ** like a corrupt foundation, O father.

Raised on the dogmas of the apostles * and the teachings of the divine fathers, * O blessed one, * thou didst venerate the visible image of the incarnate God * in sacred signs and honored depictions. * Wherefore, having suffered for them, * O glorious one, * thou wast revealed to be a teacher of piety ** and the adornment of martyrs.

Glory ..., Now & ever ..., Theotokion, in Tone IV:

O all-pure one, * who hath contained the infinite God in thy womb * Who, in His love for mankind, hath become a man, * and hath received our substance from thee, * deifying it: * disdain me not who am now sorrowing, * but quickly take pity * and free me from divers enemies ** and the malice of the evil one.

Stavrotheotokion: Upon beholding Thee, * the Lamb and Shepherd, upon the Tree, * the ewe-lamb who bore Thee lamented, * and maternally exclaimed to Thee: * “O most desired Son, * how is it that Thou art suspended upon the tree of the Cross? * How is it that Thine arms and legs are nailed * by the iniquitous ones, O long-suffering Word, ** and that Thou hast shed Thy blood, O Master?”

Troparion of the venerable martyr, in Tone IV:

Struggling first upon the mountain in fasting, * with the whole armor of the Cross * thou didst destroy the noetic hordes of the enemy, * and then manfully array thyself O all-blessed one for thy contest, * slaying Copronymus with the sword of faith. * And for both thou hast been crowned by God, ** O ever-memorable venerable martyr Andrew.

AT MATINS

One canon from the Oktoechos, with 6 Troparia; and two canons for the saints, with 8 Troparia.

ODE I

Canon of the prophet, the acrostic whereof is:

“I hymn the divinely inspired words of Hosea”, the composition of Theophanes, in Tone I:

Irmos: Let us sing a triumphant hymn unto God, * who came to Moses' aid in Egypt, * and drowned Pharaoh with all his host: * for He hath been glorified.

Truly standing before the Bestower of life as a prophet and speaker of divine things, O Hosea, pray thou earnestly, that He deliver from temptations those who faithfully praise thee.

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

The wisdom of God, the source of foresight, showed the divinely eloquent Hosea to be an abundant river of prophecy pouring forth divine teachings.

Theotokion: Out of Egypt the Father manifestly called Christ, Who had revealed Himself for our sake from the Virgin, as the God-seeing Prophet Hosea foretold of old.

Canon of the venerable martyr, the acrostic whereof is:

“With love I hymn the namesake of manliness”;

The composition of Joseph, in Tone II:

Irmos: In the deep of old the infinite Power overwhelmed Pharaoh's whole army. * But the Incarnate Word annihilated pernicious sin. * Exceedingly glorious is the Lord, * for gloriously hath He been glorified.

Having manfully enslaved the carnal passions to thy mind, as the namesake of manliness, O father, thou didst enslave the savagery of the tyrants and suffered lawfully. Wherefore, assembling together with faith, we call thee blessed.

Noetically set afire like an ember by the fervor of the divine Spirit, thou didst melt the ice of the passions, extinguishing the alien fire of impiety with the torrents of thy blood, O wondrous and divinely blessed confessor Andrew.

Having bound thyself with the love of Christ O father, accepting thy cross from the time of thy youth, rejoicing thou didst follow after Him, denying thyself through fasting, confession and a most perfect suffering.

Theotokion: Though my soul is burdened with the sleep of despair, O most pure Virgin Mother, I hasten to thine aid. Rouse me to the watchfulness of repentance, delivering me from everlasting torment.

ODE III

Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Establish me, O Christ, upon the immovable rock of Thy commandments, * and enlighten me with the light of Thy countenance; * for there is none more holy than Thee, * O Lover of mankind.

Instructed in the divine teaching of the revelation of God, O prophet, impressed with the seal of the Holy Spirit thou didst manifestly proclaim the summoning of the nations.

Thou wast deemed worthy to foresee the things of the future as though they were present, O divinely wise one, manifestly declaring the falling away of the Jews and the destruction of those bound by the law.

Thou didst foretell that Israel would be delivered, not by battle, or the bow, or weaponry, but in the Lord God Almighty, signifying for us the incarnation of the Word.

Theotokion: Rejoice, O honored Virgin who didst conceive the Word incarnate Who hath delivered us from deception by His own holy blood and body.

Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: Thou hast established me on the rock of faith, * and my mouth hath been emboldened against mine enemies. * For my spirit rejoiceth when I sing: * There is none as holy as our God * and none more righteous than Thee, O Lord.

Having established the feet of thine understanding upon the rock of the love of Christ, O father, thou wast in nowise shaken by contrary winds, crying out to thy Creator: Thou art our God, and there is none more righteous than Thee, O Lord!

Pouring forth healings both before and after thine end, thou dost aid those who languish in infirmity, O venerable Andrew, driving away unclean spirits, and crying out to thy Creator: Thou art our God, and there is none more righteous than Thee, O Lord!

Drenched in the tears of fasting, thou didst adorn thyself with the blood of martyrdom, showing thyself to be wholly most comely; and hastening to Him Whom thou didst desire, thou didst cry aloud: Thou art our God, and there is none more righteous than Thee, O Lord!

Theotokion: In a manner transcending nature, O all-immaculate one, thou hast given birth to God the Word, Who is consubstantial with the Father and assumed the likeness of our flesh; yet didst remain a virgin even after birthgiving. Wherefore, we bless thee with faith.

Kontakion of the venerable martyr, in Tone III:

Spec. Mel.: “Today the Virgin ...”:

Today the imperial city doth celebrate * the resplendent feast of thy radiant memory, * summoning every city and land; * for it rejoiceth, possessing thy much-suffering body as a great treasure, ** O martyr Andrew, beacon of Orthodoxy.

Sessional Hymn of the prophet, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “Of the Wisdom ...”:

Having acquired a heart purified of the passions, O prophet, thou wast truly like a harmonious instrument of the Spirit, richly illumined by Him, O wise one, and receiving the knowledge of things to come. Wherefore, assembling together, we celebrate thy holy memory with faith, glorifying the Savior, O ever-memorable Hosea. Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins to those who honor thy holy memory with love.

Glory ..., Sessional Hymn of the venerable martyr, in Tone IV:

Spec. Mel.: “Having been lifted up ...”:

O ye faithful, as is meet let us praise him who is wondrous in fasting and sufferings, as a preacher of piety and a mighty champion; for, fearlessly opposing Copronymus, he preached that the image of Christ ought to be venerated, in that he is the adornment of all fasters and a model of courage for the martyrs.

Now & ever ..., Theotokion in Tone IV:

He that sitteth upon the throne of the cherubim * and abideth in the bosom of the Father * doth sit in thy womb as upon a throne, O Lady; * for, being truly God incarnate, * He reigneth over all nations, * and with understanding we now chant to Him. * Him do thou also entreat, ** that thy servants be saved.

Stavrotheotokion: She who in the latter days * gave birth in the flesh unto Thee O Christ, * Who wast begotten of the beginningless Father, * upon seeing Thee hanging upon the Cross, cried aloud: * “Woe is me, O Jesus, most beloved Christ! * How is it that Thou Who art glorified as God by the angels * dost now consent to be crucified by iniquitous men O my Son? ** I hymn Thee, O Thou Long-suffering One!”

ODE IV

Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: I have considered Thy dispensation, * O Almighty One, * and with fear have I glorified Thee, O Savior.

O Hosea, most divine eye of the Church, deliver those who praise thee from misfortunes.

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

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

Theotokion: Thou hast surpassed the ranks of the angels, O Ever-virgin, having borne their Creator within thy womb.

Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: From a Virgin didst Thou come forth, not as an ambassador, * nor as an Angel, * but the very Lord himself incarnate, * and didst save me, the whole man; * wherefore I cry unto Thee: * Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Obedient to the commandments of Christ, thou didst reverently venerate His image, O father; wherefore, the all-iniquitous one slew thee with multifarious wounds.

Perfumed with the sweet fragrance of the virtues, while lying in the tomb thou dost perfume the faces of those who call upon thee with steadfast heart, O venerable father.

As a champion of the Orthodox, O right wondrous and venerable Andrew, with boldness thou didst denounce the most evil Copronymus who was accursedly infected with heresy.

Theotokion: In that thou art fruitful, O all-hymned Theotokos, thou hast given rise to the grain of grace which feedeth all who in an Orthodox manner honor thee and the Word Who was incarnate through thee, O all-pure one.

ODE V

Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Seeking Thee early in the morn, * we sing Thy praises, O Christ God, * who for our sake became poor * and in Thy flesh * endured the Cross and death.

Moved by mercy, thou hast taught us of the long-suffering, compassion and goodness of God, whereby He taketh pity on all, O divinely eloquent prophet.

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

By thy supplications, O Prophet Hosea, rescue me from the abyss of sin, in that thou hast blameless boldness before Christ, O most noetically rich and divinely wise one.

Theotokion: The Lord and King of all, Who is co-beginningless with the Father, came under time through thee, O Virgin Theotokos, and showed Himself to have flesh.

Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: O Christ my Savior, the enlightenment of those lying in the darkness of sin. * I rise early to hymn Thee O King of Peace, * enlighten me with Thy radiance, * for I know no other God than Thee.

Hating the darkness of sin, O father, thou didst reveal thyself to be light through the splendor of dispassion; and with the rays of healings and the grace of God thou dost enlighten the faithful who approach thy divine shrine.

Thou wast revealed to be a receptacle of the fullness of God, having lived a good life and suffered with valiant mind, O father; and now, lying in the tomb, thou dost remain whole and untouched by corruption, O blessed one, releasing all the faithful from their sufferings.

Having contended bravely against the demons and against heretical men, O all-blessed one, thou hast been deemed worthy of everlasting glory and crowns, O venerable Andrew. Wherefore, we, the faithful, ever call thee blessed.

Theotokion: **H**aving ineffably given birth unto Christ, thou didst bear in thine embrace Him Who taketh in His arms those inclined to evil and wretchedly in thrall to the wicked one, O all-immaculate Maiden. Wherefore, we, the faithful, ever call thee blessed.

ODE VI

Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: **Thou didst save the Prophet from the sea monster, O Lover of mankind; * lead me up also I pray, * from the abyss of transgressions.**

Proclaiming things to come, O all-blessed Hosea, thou didst declare the descent of the Word unto mankind.

As thou didst foretell, immortal Life hath led up from the regions of Hades those deadened through sin.

O prophet, thou didst reveal the abolition of the prescriptions of the law, the falling away of the Jews and the entry of the nations.

Theotokion: **G**od the Word hath shone forth from thy womb, O all-immaculate one, having ineffably assumed flesh for our sake, in that He is compassionate.

Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: **Whirled about in the abyss of sin, * I appeal to the unfathomable abyss of Thy compassion: * Raise me up from corruption, O God.**

The iniquitous one cast thee into prison, O Andrew, but thou wast preserved by the Master, immutably obeying His divine will.

Thou didst disdain thy body which was lacerated and covered with wounds, O blessed one, and, strengthened by God, didst endure, as though it were someone else suffering.

Thou art revealed as a hidden and precious treasure, O father, lying before the pious, and dost enrich all who honor thee with miracles.

Theotokion: **O**f old, the prophet perceived thee as a noetic lampstand holding Christ, the divine lamp, O pure one, whereby we have all been enlightened.

Kontakion of the venerable martyr, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: "To thee, the champion leader ...":

Out of love for thee, O divinely blessed one, * we chant hymns of praise as thanksgiving to the namesake of manliness, * to the teacher of the mysteries of piety. * As thou hast boldness before the Lord, save us from all evils, ** that we may chant: Rejoice, O ever-memorable father!

Ikos: Thou wast shown to be an angel of the truth from Crete, denouncing impiety with the voice of theology, O all-wise father; and beholding thee wounded, I fear suffering, crying out and exclaiming to thee such things as these: Rejoice, O mighty swordsman of God! Rejoice, faithful favorite of the Lord! Rejoice, opponent of the blasphemous foe! Rejoice, restraint of those who speak evil! Rejoice, for thou didst suffer for the image of Christ! Rejoice, for thou didst bridle carnal pleasures! Rejoice, for by fasting thou didst vanquish the princes of darkness! Rejoice, for with suffering thou didst oppose Copronymus! Rejoice, ever-flowing fountain of miracles! Rejoice, thou who hast illumined the earth with thy sufferings! Rejoice, O father, thou dwelling-place of the faithful! Rejoice, our intercessor and deliverer! Rejoice, O ever-memorable father!

ODE VII

Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Having prefigured the Trinity in the furnace, * the children of Abraham * changed the flame of fire into dew, * and chanting, cried aloud: * O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Having illumined thy mind with supra-natural enlightenment, O blessed Hosea, thou wast enriched with the knowledge of things to come, crying out to the Master: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Having become like the prophets, thou didst multiply their visions, O immortal Savior, appearing in divers images to those who cried out to Thee with faith: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

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

Theotokion: He Who shone forth from the beginningless Father became incarnate from thee in His ineffable mercy, O Maiden, Mother of God; and chanting to Him we cry aloud: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: The godless order of the lawless tyrant * fanned the roaring flame; * but Christ bedewed the God-fearing children with the Spirit, * therefore He is blessed and supremely exalted.

The lofty waves of wickedness did not shake the mind of thee who stood on the rock of the knowledge of Christ, O glorious Andrew; wherefore, thou hast manifestly become a tranquil haven for the tempest-tossed.

The evil-minded one, darkened of mind, strove with foolish arguments to mislead thee who art adorned with the splendors of theology, O wise one, yet he showed himself worthy of ridicule and was filled with shame by thy boldness.

Thy mind, adorned with most divine inclinations, was shown to all to be a most radiant star, O right wondrous Andrew, illumining with miracles each of the faithful who praise thee.

Theotokion: Thou wast the temple of the living God, wherein He Who dwelleth in the heavens made His ineffable habitation, O all-hymned Virgin, being pleased to become a man in His bountiful goodness.

ODE VIII

Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: Praise ye the Lord Who preserved The Children * in the fiery flame of the furnace, * descending unto them in the guise of an Angel, * and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages.

Incomprehensible gifts were given to the prophets by the divine Giver: the activity and knowledge of things to come, that they might hymn the Lord and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages.

Having acquired a divinely inspired mouth and a tongue of godly eloquence, O Hosea, thou dost hymn the illumining Light of piety, chanting: Hymn the Lord, and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

Prophesying by thy words and actions, thou didst denounce the adulterous people, O thou who art most noetically rich, teaching them in images to chant: Hymn the Lord, and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

Theotokion: God, the equally everlasting Word of God, appeared incarnate of the Virgin to those who cry out with faith: Hymn the Lord, and supremely exalt Him throughout the ages!

Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: In Babylon, the activity of the fire was once divided, * for, by the command of God it consumed the Chaldeans, * but bedewed the faithful, who chant: * Bless ye the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Having first mortified the carnal passions by struggles of fasting, O wise one, thou didst suffer mightily, reverently venerating the image of the Savior, the Ever-virgin and the saints.

Those who raged insanely against Christ like savage wild beasts put thee to death, O father; wherefore, dragging thee along as they beat thee, they cast thee into a ravine, manifestly rendering thee a witness of the truth.

Thou dost irrigate the faithful with miracles as with water, O all-blessed one, driving away the spirits of wickedness, and washing away our infirmities, having received the grace of healing from Christ our God on high.

Theotokion: **T**hou hast been revealed to be more spacious than the heavens, O Virgin, having contained within thy womb God Whom naught can contain. Him do thou entreat, that He deliver those who piously hymn thee from soul-corrupting circumstances, O pure Lady.

ODE IX

Canon of the Prophet

Irmos: **Rejoice, O boast of virgins! * Rejoice, O most pure Mother, * whom all creation * doth magnify * with divine hymns!**

Thou didst receive honor as a prophet, O all-blessed Hosea, having received a crown of splendor from God.

Illumined by the light of Christ, O most excellent one, by thy supplications render Him merciful unto all who hymn thee.

Having lived an angelic life, O Hosea, thou standest with the ranks of angels before the Master, praising Him with laudations.

Theotokion: **D**esiring to save mankind, the Savior and Lord clothed Himself in our flesh through the most pure Virgin.

Canon of the Venerable Martyr

Irmos: **The Son of the Beginningless Father, God and Lord, * hath appeared to us incarnate of a Virgin, * to enlighten those in darkness, * and to gather the dispersed; * therefore the all-hymned Theotokos do we magnify**

Behold, O venerable father, finishing thy course thou didst preserve unsullied the Orthodox Faith for which thou didst suffer lawfully, and hast received from on high a twofold crown, as an invincible martyr and an invulnerable ascetic.

Like a sweet-smelling lily, like a rose didst thou manifestly blossom forth in the meadow of divine asceticism, O father; and, illumined as a martyr, thou dost spread thy fragrance like a cedar, O all-praised Andrew, adornment of monastics.

Manifestly adorned with signs and wonders, thou didst lie, unharmed, before the sight of all, O all-blessed Andrew, and dost illumine the souls of those who with ardent faith have recourse to thee and ever bless thee.

Celebrating thy holy memorial today, a festive day full of gladness, we cry out to thee with faith, O father: By thy holy supplications to God deliver us all from the evil circumstances of life.

Theotokion: **T**hy womb became the dwelling-place of the Light Who illumineth the world with rays of divinity and hath utterly driven the darkness of ignorance away from the earth, O most immaculate Maiden. Wherefore, we glorify thee.

Exapostilarion:

Spec. Mel.: “With the disciples let us ascend ...”:

Let us all praise the right victorious Andrew, celebrating his honored memory in a godly manner, that we may be delivered from our infirmities; for he hath preached the reverent veneration of the precious images of the Savior and of all the saints. Wherefore, receiving a crown in the heavens, he rejoiceth with the angels.

Theotokion: O ye divinely wise, let us hymn the pure Virgin: the most holy mountain of God, the candle-stand, the jar, the table, the bridge, the staff and the lamp, the divine throne, the portal, the temple and bridal-chamber; for God, having become incarnate through her immutably and in a manner surpassing nature, hath by an ineffable union deified what He received.

AT LITURGY

Troparion of the venerable martyr, in Tone IV:

Struggling first upon the mountain in fasting, * with the whole armor of the Cross * thou didst destroy the noetic hordes of the enemy, * and then manfully array thyself O all-blessed one for thy contest, * slaying Copronymus with the sword of faith. * And for both thou hast been crowned by God, ** O ever-memorable venerable martyr Andrew.

Kontakion of the venerable martyr, in Tone III:

Today the imperial city doth celebrate * the resplendent feast of thy radiant memory, * summoning every city and land; * for it rejoiceth, possessing thy much-suffering body as a great treasure, ** O martyr Andrew, beacon of Orthodoxy.

Kontakion of the venerable martyr, in Tone VIII:

Out of love for thee, O divinely blessed one, * we chant hymns of praise as thanksgiving to the namesake of manliness, * to the teacher of the mysteries of piety. * As thou hast boldness before the Lord, save us from all evils, ** that we may chant: Rejoice, O ever-memorable father!