

**DECEMBER 16**  
**The Holy Prophet Aggeus**

**VESPERS**

*For Lord, I have cried, we chant the following Stichera of the Apostles*

*Plagal of Fourth Tone. O Lord, though Thou didst stand*

**Verse 6.** If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Lord, the Apostles hast Thou truly enlightened \* with the Good Comforter's radiance, \* setting them like lights in the heavens \* making the whole world exceeding bright \* with the clear spiritual light \* of knowledge of Thee as the Lord; \* wherefore, O Master, we praise and worship\* Thy great goodness and beneficence.

**Verse 5.** Because of Thy name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Lord, with Thy wise Apostles' bold intercessions \* Thou ever wallest Thy flock about, \* saving it from strife and from factions, \* and the affront'ry of enemies; \* for with Thine own precious Blood, \* O Saviour, Thou hast purchased it \* and, as compassionate, Thou hast freed it \* from its bondage to the alien.

**Verse 4.** From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord. Ye shone as bright translucent gem-stones most precious \* set in the crown of the Church of Christ, \* flashing out with lightning resplendence \* upon the whole world, while sending forth \* the light of knowledge of God, \* O blest Apostles, who now stand \* before the Trinity, with great fervour \* interceding that our souls be saved.

*Plagal of Fourth Tone. O Lord, Thy holy Martyrs*

**Verse 3.** For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

O glorious Aggeus, thou wast God's pure dwelling-place and living temple \* through the resplendence of thy life and conduct; \* and for the King of all the world \* thou didst raise the Temple in Jerusalem, \* which of old had fallen, O all ven'erable. \* Now by thine intercessions, supplicate that great mercy be granted unto all.

**Verse 2.** Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

The Spirit's hallowed vessel wast thou, being able to take in His splendour, \* ever receiving the floods of His brightness \* sent down from Heaven unto thee. \* Wherefore, thou dost prophesy to all mankind \* of that saving deed of our deliverance. \* Now by thine intercessions, ask of Him that great mercy be granted unto all.

**Verse 1.** For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Since thou art now encompassed with bright beaming glory and art counted worthy of a \* more pure and lucid divine vision, \* filled up with never-setting light, \* O blessed Aggeus, shelter and protect them that sing thy praises with exultant hearts, \* as thou dost supplicate the only Lord that great mercy be granted unto all.

## DOXASTICON

### *Plagal of Fourth Tone.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

My lips are full of guile; my thoughts are all unclean; my deeds are base and filthy.\* O what then shall I do? What shall I answer? \* How shall I go to meet the Judge? \* Virgin, all-pure Lady, do thou intercede \* with thy Son and Fashioner and Sovereign Lord, \* that He receive my spirit peaceably in repentance, since He is merciful.

### *Prokeimenon. Plagal of First Tone*

Save me, O God, by Thy name and judge me by Thy strength.

*Verse:* Hear my prayer, O God, and hearken unto the words of my mouth.

### *For the Aposticha, the following Hymns of the Apostles:*

#### *Plagal of Fourth Tone. O Lord, though Thou didst stand*

O Lord, because Thy wise and holy Apostles \* sincerely longed for Thee on the earth \* they considered all things as rubbish, \* that they might truly gain Thee alone \* and gave their bodies to pains \* and ruthless tortures for Thy sake. \* So being glorified ever after, \* they entreat Thee in our souls' behalf

*Verse:* Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Lord, Thou hast magnified Thy holy Apostles' \* divine memorial on the earth; \* for thereon we all come together \* and praise and glorify Thee, O Christ. \* For Thou dost grant us, through them, \* the healings of our maladies; \* and through their prayers, Thou dost grant the whole world \* Thy great mercy and Thy peace, O Lord.

*Verse:* Wondrous is God in His saints.

### *Martyricon.*

If there be any virtue, if there be any praise, it appertaineth to the Saints, for they bowed their necks to the swords for Thee, Who didst bow the Heavens and come down. They shed their blood for Thee, Who didst empty Thyself and take on the form of a servant. They were humbled even unto death, imitating Thy poverty. By their prayers, O God, have mercy on us, according to the multitude of Thy compassions.

### *Glory; both now. Theotokion. What shall we now call you*

When our God came bodily unto us, \* those deemed worthy to behold Him in the flesh proclaimed thee as \* the pure Virgin Bride of God the Father's dread Divinity; \* as well as God the Word's Birthgiver on the earth, \* O Maiden, and the Holy Spirit's dwelling-place. \* For in thee, all of the plenitude \* of the Divinity bodily \* came down to dwell, \* with the plenitude of grace divine.

### *And the Dismissal.*