**NOVEMBER 16**

 **Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (60 A.D.)**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 4**

Lord, I call upon You, hear me.

Hear me, O Lord.

Lord, I call upon You, hear me.

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon You.//

Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice.//

Hear me, O Lord.

*v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice.*

**Tone 4** *(Called from on high)*

The Searcher of the hearts of men

inspired your mind, O Apostle, with His divine knowledge.

He called you to Himself, ransoming you from the world's deceit,

for He is the Light whose rays shine to the ends of the earth.

He commanded you to proclaim His word.

He made you worthy to write His holy Gospel;//

pray that He may enlighten and save our souls!

*v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

(Repeat “The Searcher of the hearts of men”)

*v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.*

Once a publican, now a disciple,

you accepted the urgent call of the Eternal Word.

You abandoned the collection of the taxes,

eager for the promise of communion in His kingdom;

you cast away the raging tumult of this life.

Now you behold His glory face to face;//

pray that He may enlighten and save our souls!

*v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

(Repeat “Once a publican”)

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope on the Lord.*

In days of old, as the earth lay waste in evil,

the prophet Daniel was endowed with clearness of sight.

He beheld a stone, cut without human hands from a mountain:

a stone that ground the riches of earthly kingdoms to dust.

In the fullness of time this all-wise Lord came down to earth.

Passing by the customs-house, He chose you to be His herald;

He called you, who once served an earthly kingdom,

to serve Him, the Light of the world.

Pray to Him, O blessed Matthew,//

that He may enlighten and save our souls!

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

(Repeat “In days of old”)

*v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

When the sinless Light came in the flesh, as He Himself willed,

scattering the darkness of ignorance,

then you, O servant of the most divine will,

followed in response to His life-giving command.

As a most divine keeper of His will in a manner beyond understanding,

you, O Matthew, became a beacon of the Church

and a dwelling-place of Christ.//

Entreat Him to save and enlighten our souls!

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.*

Burning up deception with a fiery tongue,

you, O most wise Matthew, were highly exalted.

After receiving the Comforter, Whose coming enlightened you,

you spoke to the people of the majesty of the Almighty One,

bringing amazement to the minds of those who heard your words.

Now your proclamation has gone out into all the earth, O divinely

inspired Apostle.//

Pray to God that He will be gracious to all who sing your praises!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 4** *(Idiomelon)*

You were called by Christ to heavenly discipleship,

and you followed Him eagerly, O chosen one of God.

forsaking overnight all enslavement to the cares of this life.

Obediently you accepted wisdom worthy of the Kingdom on high,

and abandoned the passing glory of your former life in the world,

becoming an evangelist instead of a publican:

a light for those living in darkness

and a guide to salvation for those gone astray.

Now, O Matthew, you are a fervent intercessor for the world//

and guardian of those who honor you.

 *now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 4**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The Prophet David was a Father of the Lord through you,

O Virgin.

He foretold in songs the One Who worked wonders in you:

“At Your right hand stood the Queen,”

Your Mother, the mediatrix of life,

since God was freely born of her without a father.

He wanted to renew His fallen image, made corrupt in passion,

so He took the lost sheep upon His shoulder

and brought it to His Father, joining it to the heavenly pow’rs.//

Christ who has great and rich mercy has saved the world, O Theotokos.

**Readings (Paremia)**

 **1 Peter 1:1-2:6**

 **1 Peter 2:21-3:9**

 **1 Peter 4:1-11**

**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (60 A.D.)**

**Litya** *(If the rector desires a Litya, following the sticheron to*

*the temple, these stichera are sung*)

 **Tone 4** *(As one valiant among the martyrs)*

With the rod of grace, O admirable Matthew,

you drew the human race from the depths of vanity,

and yielded them to the practice of the Master's commands.

Since you were His apostle, He enlightened your understanding;//

since you were His preacher, He revealed to you His incomprehensible

 Divinity, O most blessed one.

In the form of fire

the radiance of the Spirit descended on you.

He made you His chosen vessel.

Zealously you drove away the mist of godlessness

and enlightened the world with the mystery of faith by the wisdom of

your words,//

most honorable Apostle Matthew, eyewitness of Christ.

With the lightning bolts of your preaching

you enlightened those who sat in the darkness of ignorance, glorious

Matthew.

Through faith you revealed them to be the children of God the Master.

You loved Him through suffering and death

and so inherited His glory,//

O wise, faithful, and inspired disciple.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

 **Tone 2**

You forsook earthly things and followed after Christ.

You were signed with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit

and sent by Him to the nations, which were perishing,

to turn men to the light of the knowledge of God.

Having completed the struggles, O Apostle Matthew,

of your divine suffering and many torments,

you surrendered your soul into the hands of Christ.

Entreat Him, O most blessed one,//

that He may grant us great mercy!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

 **Tone 2 Theotokion**

I place all my hope in you, O Theotokos;//

keep me beneath your protecting veil!

**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (60 A.D.)**

**Aposticha**

**Tone 4** *(You have given us a sign)*

O all-praised Matthew,

your words are a trumpet drawing men to the knowledge of God.

They have delivered the inhabitants of the earth from enslavement to evil,

leading us into the true faith, the unity of righteousness.//

Pray to Christ our God to deliver us from corruption and danger!

*v. Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe. (Ps 18/19:4).*

By a fiery tongue you were armed mightily with the Spirit;

your words overthrew the deceitful enemy, O Apostle.

Christ our God, Whom you proclaimed to be the fulfillment of the

Prophets,

adorned you with the resplendent crown of His love.//

Pray to Christ our God to deliver us from corruption and danger!

*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. (Ps 18/19:1)*

The publican in a single moment becomes an apostle;

the tax collector seizes riches from the Fount of Joy.

Blessing you abundantly with the fullness of the Spirit,

Christ our God made you to be the bearer of glad tidings for us.//

Pray to Christ our God to deliver us from corruption and danger!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 6**

The full stature of goodness is made manifest in you, O blessed Matthew:

in the fullness of time you abandoned the occupation of an evil age,

soaring as an eagle to the heights of righteousness;

you have filled the earth with the wisdom hidden from all eternity,

following fervently in the footsteps of Christ;

you have borne the Gospel of peace, life, and salvation to men,

filling with divine commandments those who hunger after righteousness.

Blessed guide, well-pleasing to the Creator,//

pray for us who bless your memory!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6** *(Theotokion)*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord,

was born of you, O most pure Virgin!

By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse.

Unceasingly we magnify you as the Mother of God!

Rejoice, O celestial Joy!

Rejoice, O Lady://

the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (60 A.D.)**

***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 3 Troparion**

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew,

entreat the merciful God//

to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

 **Tone 3** *(or this Troparion)*

With zeal, you followed Christ the Master,

Who, in His goodness, appeared on earth to mankind.

Summoning you from the customs house,

He revealed you as a chosen apostle:

the proclaimer to the whole world.

Therefore, divinely eloquent Matthew,

we honor your precious memory.//

Entreat merciful God that He may grant our souls remission of

transgressions!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,*

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 3 Resurrectional** **Dismissal Theotokion**

We praise you as the mediatrix of our salvation,

Virgin Theotokos.

For your Son, our God, Who took flesh from you,

accepted the Passion on the Cross,//

delivering us from corruption as the Lover of Man.

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 ***( at the Divine Liturgy)***

 **Tone 3 Troparion**

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew,

entreat the merciful God//

to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

 **Tone 3** *(or this Troparion)*

With zeal, you followed Christ the Master,

Who, in His goodness, appeared on earth to mankind.

Summoning you from the customs house,

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Therefore, divinely eloquent Matthew,

we honor your precious memory.//

Entreat merciful God that He may grant our souls remission of

transgressions!

**Kontakion Tone 4**

Casting aside the bonds of the customs house for the yoke of justice,

You were revealed as an excellent merchant, rich in wisdom from

on high.

You proclaimed the word of truth

and roused the souls of the slothful//

by writing of the hour of Judgment.

**Tone 8** **Prokeimenon**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the

ends of the universe! *(Ps 18/19:4)*

*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork. (Ps 18/19:1)*

**Epistle**

 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 *(Apostle Matthew)*

 **Tone 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v. The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; and Your truth in the congregation of the saints. (Ps 88/89:5)*

*v. God is glorified in the council of the saint; great and awesome toward all who are around Him. (Ps 88/89:7)*

**Gospel**  Matthew 9:9-13 *(Apostle Matthew)*

**Communion Hymn**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the

ends of the universe! *(Ps 18/19:4)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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