

October 17

Commemoration of the Holy Prophet Hosea; and of the Holy Hosiomartyr Andrew of Crete, buried in "The Judgment"

(5th Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for Hosea (Tone 1)

6. He who proceeds from the Father, the Holy Spirit, through your mouth set the future coming of Christ in these last times, to renew the creation. We who now see your predictions fulfilled, glorify your memory, O Hosea, prophet of God.
5. Our nature was once prostituted in spirit, far from You, O Lover of Mankind. You espoused it, to save it from dishonor, as You united it to Yourself in an ineffable and indissoluble manner. Your prophet Hosea, as a symbol of this union, took to wife a prostitute long ago, and he made her pass from adultery to chastity.
4. O inspired prophet Hosea who now see your predictions fulfilled by grace, intercede before the God of all, for all those who celebrate your memory with faith. Ask for them the remission of sins, peace and amendment of life.

For Andrew (Tone 4)

3. Attached to the Lord from your youth, you ran your race to a good end. Armed with the cross, O blessed Andrew, you put your hand to the plow of the commandments of the Lord, as it is written. Entreat Him to save from danger and all evil the faithful who celebrate your holy memory.

2. Having become a precious stone by faith, you were not broken by blows, O blessed Andrew. Rolled over in the ground, you made straight the way of faith, by which the journey becomes easy. You cast down, like a rotted pedestal, the insignificant renown of the sinful emperor.
1. Nourished by the teachings of the Apostles and Fathers, O blessed one, you venerated the visible features of the incarnate God portrayed by the sacred symbols and holy icons representing Him. You struggled for His sake, O holy Andrew, and showed yourself to be truly a master of piety and treasure of the martyrs.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion

So often I promise to do penance for my sins, but evil habits hold me fast. Thus I fall prostrate before you, O spotless Virgin, and cry out, "O Lady, I entreat you to snatch me from slavery to evil and to guide me to the supreme Good and salvation.

"O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of Wednesday evening.

APOSTICHA (*Tone 4*)

1. You enlightened the choir of the Apostles with Your Holy Spirit, O Christ. Through their prayers, wash away the stain of our sins, O Lord, and have mercy on us!
- All: To You I have lifted up my eyes, to You who live in heaven. Behold: the eyes of the servants are turned to the hands of their masters, and the eyes of the maid-servants to the hands of their mistresses; thus do our eyes watch the Lord our God until He takes pity on us.
2. Your Holy Spirit made the unlearned Disciples become teachers; and by the beauty of their words resounding in every language, He has abolished error, O Christ, our mighty God!

All: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for we have been filled with shame: our soul has been filled to overflowing. May scorn befall detractors, and humiliation come to the proud.

3. O holy martyrs, you were living sacrifices, spiritual holocausts, victims pleasing to the Lord, sheep who know their divine Master and are known by Him whose fold is inaccessible to the ravaging wolves. Intercede with the Good Shepherd that we, too, may be nourished with you beside the still waters.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion

Deliver us from all danger, O Mother of Christ our God, who gave birth to the Creator of all, that we may continually sing to you: "Hail, O Protectress of our souls!"

TROPARION OF HOSEA (*Tone 2*)

We celebrate the memory of Your prophet Hosea, and through him we implore You, O Lord: Save our souls!

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

TROPARION OF ANDREW (*Tone 4*)

Trained in asceticism on the mountain, you were able to defeat the devil's assaults by the power of the Cross, O holy Andrew. With great courage, you faced the battle and crushed Emperor Copronymus with the sword of faith. O glorious monk and martyr, God crowned you for your asceticism and your good fight.

- now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

THEOTOKION OF THURSDAY (*Tone 4*)

O Virgin Theotokos, we acknowledge that the Word of the Father, Christ our God, was incarnate of you, the only pure one, the only blessed one. Wherefore we sing to you a hymn of praise and we exalt you.