

June 26

Commemoration of our Venerable Father David of Thessalonica (5th Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for The Apostles (Tone 1)

6. O glorious Apostles of Christ, disciples called by our God, you are teachers of the whole world! Having found the Lord, the Mediator between God and men, you were united to Him and clearly proclaimed Him throughout the world as true God and true Man.
5. O most wise Apostles of Christ, by your prayers obtain wisdom of heart for me. You are truly initiates and dispensers of Wisdom who shed the light of the Paraclete. In that Fire, burn out the corruption from my heart; make me worthy to sing of you and call you blessed.
4. O Apostles, you have seen the Word of God! Enlighten my soul which has been darkened by the passions, for your divine teachings have illumined the very limits of the universe and drive out the darkness of idolatry. Intercede now that our souls be given peace and great mercy.

For David (Tone 8)

3. Temperance made your spirit radiant, O father David, and you mounted on wings toward the First Cause of all good. You became a pillar of fire, enlightening by your words and miracles all those who continually draw near to you with faith; thus we glorify you and call you blessed.

2. Like a sparrow, O holy father, you made your nest in the branches of a tree, chilled by the cold and oppressed by the heat. There you gained dispassion and perfection as gilded wings with which you took flight to dwell in the heights of Heaven, where you ceaselessly intercede for us who acclaim you.
1. You consumed carnal pleasures on the burning coals of temperance, O venerable David, and thus you were radiantly able to take up glowing coals in your hands without being burned, in the presence of the amazed emperor. Thus he granted your request, since by the grace of the Lord he obtained you, O blessed father, as an intercessor before God.
- 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

Ceaselessly provoking my divine Creator by the faults I commit, O pure Virgin, I fear eternal punishment, the inextinguishable fire and the merciless gnawing worm, wretched as I am. O Lady, by your prayers, deliver me from it, as you intercede with your Son, the Word, the Lover of Mankind!

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

APOSTICHA (*Tone 1*)

1. The harp of the Apostles is filled with sweet harmonious music as it is played by the Holy Spirit. It banished the mysteries and worship inspired by demons. As it sang of the one and only Lord, it delivered the people from the error of idolatry, teaching them to bow down in worship before the consubstantial Trinity.

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. Let us praise with one accord the Apostles Peter and Paul, Luke, Matthew, Mark and John, Andrew, Thomas, Bartholomew, James, Philip and Simon. Let us direct our hymns of praise to the whole company of the Disciples!

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 martyrs worthy of all praise, although the earth did not conceal your bodies in burial, heaven has welcomed you. The gates of Paradise were opened to you, and there you rejoice in the Tree of Life. Intercede with Christ that He grant our souls peace and great mercy!

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

O Virgin, most worthy of our hymns, Moses foresaw your mystery with his prophetic eyes: it was the bush which burned without being consumed; for the Fire of the Godhead did not burn your pure womb. Thus we entreat you, the Mother of our God, to grant peace to the world.

TROPARION OF DAVID (*Tone 8*)

In you, O father David, was restored the likeness of God, for you carried your cross and followed Christ. You taught by your deeds how to spurn the body, for it passes away, and how to value the soul, for it is immortal. Wherefore, your soul is forever in happiness with the angels.

- 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 OF THURSDAY (*Tone 8*)

O Pure Theotokos, Gate of Spiritual Life, save from dangers those who run to you with confidence to glorify your holy birth-giving for the salvation of our souls.