

August 28

Commemoration of our venerable father Moses, the Ethiopian (5th Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for the Apostles (Tone 2)

6. O Apostles of God, you were seen to be heralds of the Word who appeared on earth. You revealed His salvation to all. You gathered all the nations to lead them to the Faith as you destroyed the strongholds of error. Thus you have rightly received the honors and crowns of victory, O blessed ones!
5. Truly the multitude of Angels in the heights of Heaven celebrated and rejoiced as they saw the divine Apostles boldly and firmly proclaiming the incarnation of the Lord as they said: "Behold, this is our God, who existed before all ages! He has willed to take flesh and become one of us, He who shares the same throne as the Father and the same glory with the Holy Spirit!"
4. O fishermen of the whole world, hasten to free my soul which has been captured by the hook and lures of the enemy. Save me from the danger which I am experiencing in my despair. Grant me strength to bear worthy fruits of repentance, O divine Apostles, that escaping the fires of Gehenna, I may be judged worthy of the Kingdom of Heaven.

For Moses (Tone 8)

3. Wisely renouncing the pleasures of this world, the illustrious Moses submitted the passions of the flesh to the harsh labors of asceticism. Overthrowing the perfidious Deceiver, he received the crown of victory. By his prayers, O Lord, grant us great mercy.

2. You were armed with incomparable temperance, night-long vigils in prayer, custody of the eyes, and a spirit that contemplated the beauty of God, O blessed Moses. Thus you received the grace of healing the strongest passions. O venerable Father, gain for us great mercy.
1. O Father Moses, you passed unharmed through the snares of the demons and their plots and their arrows, protected by the right hand of God. Freed from the passions, you were added to the number of holy monks in Heaven, where you pray to Christ to grant great mercy to the faithful who venerate you.
- 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

The thoughts of my heart are impure; my lips are filled with falsehood; the works of my life are covered with shame. What can I do? How can I appear before the Judge? O sovereign Lady, implore your Son, your Creator and your Lord, that He accept the conversion of my heart in the unique compassion of His heart.

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

APOSTICHA (*Tone 2*)

1. O Savior, You exalted the names of Your chief Apostles throughout the whole world: they were instructed in the ineffable mysteries of heaven; they became a source of healing for those on earth; their shadow alone was enough to heal the sick. The first wonderworker was once a fisherman; the second, who explained the divine mysteries of grace, was chosen from the Jews. At their prayers, O compassionate God, grant us Your great mercy.

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. Assailed unjustly on every side, we take refuge in You, O God of truth, and call out to You with the words of Your Disciples: "Save us, O Lord, for we are perishing!" We entreat You to show our enemies that You protect Your people and save them from all danger. At the prayers of Your Apostles, pardon the multitude of our sins in Your great goodness: O Lord and Master, glory to You!

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. Great is the glory which you acquired through your faith. You not only overcame the enemy in your sufferings, but you still cast out devils and heal the sick, O physicians of souls and bodies. O holy martyrs, intercede with God that He have mercy on our souls.

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

Gracious Virgin, who protect those who in faith flee under your powerful arm, we have none other to plead for us before God but you in time of adversity and tribulation. We sinners stoop down under the weight of our sins. Mother of God, the Most High, we bend our knees to you and beseech you: deliver your servants from all kinds of trouble.

TROPARION OF MOSES (*Tone 1*)

You appeared as a citizen of the wilderness, an angel in the flesh and a wonder-worker, our God-inspired Father Moses. By fasting, vigils and prayer, you received heavenly gifts. You cure the sick and the souls of those who run to you in faith. Glory to Him who gave you this power! Glory to Him who crowned you! Glory to Him who through you performs healings for all.

- 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 1*)

You have borne the fire of the Godhead without being burned; you have given birth to the Lord, the Source of Life, O Theotokos and Woman full of grace! Save those who exalt you.

OR TROPARION OF MOSES (*Tone 5*)

Having left the Egypt of the passions, O holy father Moses, you ascended the mountain of the virtues in the fervor of your faith, taking upon your shoulders the Cross of Christ. Glorified by God, you became a model for monks, the summit of the holy fathers. Ceaselessly intercede together with them before God that He have mercy on our souls.

- 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 5*)

The Virgin's wondrous mystery was the salvation revealed to the world, for You, O Lord, were born of her without human seed, and You appeared in the flesh without corruption, O Joy of us all! O Lord, glory to You!