

November 16

Commemoration of the Holy and Illustrious Apostle and Evangelist Matthew (4th Class, 6th Tone, 1st Eothinon)

ORTHROS

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION (*Tone 6*) [Twice]

The angelic Powers were around Your tomb, and the guards became as dead; and Mary stood at the tomb seeking Your spotless body. Then You despoiled Hades without being tried by it, and You met the Virgin, O Bestower of Life! O Lord who rose from the dead, glory to You!

TROPARION OF MATTHEW (*Tone 3*)

O holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, intercede with the merciful God that He may grant our souls the forgiveness of sins.

RESURRECTIONAL THEOTOKION (*Tone 3*)

We praise you, O Virgin Theotokos, mediatrix of our salvation, for your Son, our God, who suffered on the Cross in the flesh which was taken from you, redeemed us from corruption, for He is the Lover of Mankind!

SESSIONAL HYMNS (*Tone 6*)

When the tomb was seen to be opened, Hades was groaning; and Mary Magdalene cried out to the Apostles in hiding: "Go out into the vineyard, you laborers! Proclaim the good news of the Resurrection! For the Lord is risen, granting to the world great mercy!

v. Arise, O Lord my God; lift up Your mighty hand, and never forget Your poor.

Mary Magdalene stood before Your sepulcher, O Lord. Thinking You were a gardener, she cried out in her tears: "Where have you taken the eternal Life? Where have you hidden the One who is enthroned upon the Cherubim? I see the guards who are like dead men in their fright. Return my Lord to me, or else come with me and cry aloud: 'You have risen from the tomb, raising up the dead! O Lord, glory to You!'"

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O Theotokos, Gideon foretold your conception and David explained the manner of your birth-giving. The Word came into your womb like dew on the fleece. O holy Soil, without seed, you brought forth Christ God, the Salvation of the world!

HYPACOI (*Tone 6*)

O Christ, through Your voluntary and life-giving death, You shattered the gates of Hades by Your power as God, opening to us the original paradise! And through Your Resurrection from the dead, You saved our life from corruption!

KONDAKION OF THE RESURRECTION (*Tone 6*)

Through the might of His hand, Christ our God, the Giver of Life, has raised the dead from the valley of gloom! He resurrected the human race, since He is Savior, Resurrection, Life and God to all!

IKOS (*Tone 6*)

In faith, we sing and bow down in worship before Your Cross and Burial, O Giver of Life. For You bound Hades, O immortal Lord, and as the Mighty God, You raised up the dead with You. You smashed the gates of Hades and destroyed the dominion of Death. We mortals sing with love to You who trampled down the might of the deadly Enemy as You rose. You raised up all those who believe in You and delivered the world from the treachery of the serpent. In Your singular power, Lord, You freed us from the Enemy who had led us astray. Therefore we reverently sing to You who are Savior, Resurrection, Life and God to all!

SYNAXARION

On November 16, we commemorate the holy apostle and evangelist Matthew.

Enduring his martyrdom in the fiery furnace, Matthew cried out, "You save the publicans, O my God! I thank you, O Jesus!" The tireless Apostle was burned on the sixteenth.

By his holy prayers, O our God, take pity on us and save us. Amen.

EXAPOSTILARIA (*Tone 2*)

~O faithful, let us join the Disciples on that mountain in Galilee and behold Christ speaking to them: "I have received power over the things here below as well as those above on high!" Let us listen as He teaches them to baptize all nations in the name of the Father and of

the Son and of the Holy Spirit, as He promises to be with His Disciples even until the end of time.

(Tone 3)

~Having shaken off your yoke as a publican, you wisely followed Christ, O holy Matthew. Having wondrously followed in His footsteps, you became an initiate in His divine Mysteries, inheriting His glory and sharing His Kingdom in the heavens.

~O Virgin Theotokos, lift up in prayer for us your all-pure hands which carried the Creator, entreating Him to save us from all trials of demons, and to grant us the goods of the Age to Come, O all-spotless Virgin.

PRAISES *Stichera of the Resurrection (Tone 6)*

8. O Lord, Your Cross is Life and Resurrection for Your people. Having placed our hope in it, we sing praise to You and say: "O our risen God, have mercy on us!"
7. O Master, Your tomb has opened the gates of Paradise to the human race. Having been delivered from Death, we sing praise to You and say: "O our risen God, have mercy on us!"
6. With the Father and the Spirit, let us glorify Christ who is risen from among the dead. Let us cry aloud to Him: "You are our Life and our Resurrection: have mercy on us!"
5. On the third day You have risen from the tomb, according to the Scriptures, O Christ! You raised up our first father with You. The whole human race glorifies You and sings of Your holy Resurrection!

Stichera for Matthew (tone 4)

4. You shone with the radiance of the Spirit, O holy Apostle Matthew, like a sun all resplendent with light. You shined the light of the knowledge of God over the whole world, O blessed one, to dispel the darkness and shadows of the many idols by your divine preaching. Thus today we celebrate your wondrous and radiant festival as a source of sanctification.
3. You shone with the radiance... *(Repeat)*
- v. Their voice has gone forth over the whole world, and their words to the limits of the universe.

2. Arriving at the summit of the knowledge of God, you received the light of the Spirit who appeared to you in the form of fire. With your words of fire, you consumed the wood of the many idols. Thus we glorify you as a divine Apostle, celebrating your sacred memory.
- v. The heavens proclaim the glory of God and the firmament shows forth the work of His hands.
1. Throughout the whole world you made resound in a holy manner the thunder of your saving teachings. You purified the whole creation of idolatry. You poured out the light of the Gospel of Christ upon all peoples. Having destroyed the temples constructed for idols, in grace you built up Churches for the praise of God, O blessed Matthew.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 1)

On the mountain, the Lord appeared to His Disciples who had come there for His Ascension; and they bowed down in worship before Him. He revealed to them His power over all things, then sent them forth to all the nations under the sun to preach His Resurrection from the dead and His return from earth to heaven. He also promised to be with them always; and His word is truth, for He is Christ our God, the Savior of our souls.

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

Theotokion from the Orthros booklet

You are truly most blessed, O Virgin Mother of God: through the One who was incarnate of you, Hades was chained, Adam revived, the curse wiped out, Eve set free, Death put to death, and we ourselves were brought back to life. That is why we cry out in praise: "Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who find in this Your good pleasure: glory to You!"