

**Sunday, February 21, 2021**  
***Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord***  
**Sunday of Publican and Pharisee**  
**Tone 4**  
**Beginning of the Lenten Triodion**

**Saints commemorated today:** Great-martyr Theodore Stratelates (*“the General”*) of Heraclea (319); Prophet Zechariah (520 B.C.); St. Sabbas II, archbishop of Serbia (1271); Sts. John and Basil of the Kyivan Caves.

**Tropar of Sunday**

(Tone 4) When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and with gladness told the apostles: Death is overthrown. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

**Tropar of the Feast**

(Tone 1) Rejoice, Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace: for from you the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God has shown forth, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice also, O righteous elder, for you received in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who bestows upon us Resurrection.

**Glory...**

**Kondak of the Publican and Pharisee**

(Tone 3) Like the Publican let us bring cries of sorrow to the Lord and let us fall before Him as sinners at the Master’s feet. For He desires the salvation of all. He grants forgiveness to all who repent

and He has taken flesh for our sake, even though He is God co-eternal with the Father.

**Both now and ever...**

### **Kondak of the Feast**

(Tone 1) By Your birth You have sanctified the Virgin's womb and blessed the hands of Simeon as was meet, O Christ our God. You have come on this day and saved us. Give peace to your Commonwealth in time of war and strengthen the Orthodox people whom you have loved, O only Lover-of-Mankind.

### **Prokimen – Tone 4**

**Reader:** How magnified are Your works, O Lord. In wisdom You made them all.

**Verse:** Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, You have been greatly magnified.

### **Epistle Reading**

**2 Timothy 3:10-15** – My son Timothy: But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy

Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

### **Alleluia Verses**

**Verse 1:** Bend your bow and proceed prosperously, and be king because of truth, meekness, and righteousness.

**Verse 2:** You have loved righteousness and hated iniquity.

### **Gospel Reading**

**Luke 18:10-14** – Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. ‘I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

### **Wording Change**

#### **Instead of “It is Right In Truth”**

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians: Protect, preserve and save all who put their hope in You.

***Irmos, Tone 3:*** In the shadow and the letter of the Law, let us, the faithful, discern a prototype: Every male child who opens the womb shall be sanctified to God. Therefore, the First-Born Word and Son of the Father Who is from Everlasting, and the First-Born Child of a mother who knew not man, do we magnify.

## **Communion Verse**

Praise the Lord in the heavens, praise Him in the highest.

I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord.