

## 25th Sunday after Pentecost, Octoechos Tone 8 Holy Martyr Plato

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GREAT VESPERS

### At Psalm 140

*In Tone 8*

10.

O Christ, during this spiritual service,  
we sing to You these evening prayers,  
commemorating the mercy You have shown us  
by Your resurrection.

9.

O Lord, O Lord, do not cast us away from Your face;  
but in Your kindness have mercy on us  
through Your resurrection.

8.

Rejoice, O holy Zion,  
the Mother of Churches and the dwelling-place of God;  
for you were the first to receive the forgiveness of sins  
through the resurrection.

7.

Christ the Word was begotten by God the Father before all ages;  
yet in these latter times,  
He freely willed to take flesh from the Virgin who did not know man.  
By His death on the cross and His resurrection,  
He saved mankind from the ancient curse of death.

6.

O Christ, we glorify Your resurrection;  
for by rising from the dead  
You freed the race of Adam from the sufferings of Hades,  
and as God You granted eternal life  
and great mercy to the world.

5.

Glory to You, O Christ our Saviour,  
the only-begotten Son of God;  
for You were nailed to the cross,  
and then arose from the dead on the third day.

4.

We glorify You, O Lord;  
for of Your own free will You suffered crucifixion for our salvation.  
Almighty Saviour, we worship You.  
We implore You not to cast us away from Your face;  
but hear our prayer and save us by Your resurrection,  
for You truly love mankind.

*In Tone 8*

3. Filled with valiant wisdom and with courageous resolution,  
you endured the cutting of your limbs and dismemberment of your body,  
together with unbearable fire, starvation and death,  
in expectation of the glory which does not fade with time,  
which lies before you eternally,  
and foreseeing everlasting blessedness!

2. You transcended every sense and directed your mind toward life on high!  
With godly thoughts and great wisdom of soul,  
you scorned the baseness and lowliness of visible things.  
You courageously endured torture and burning for Christ, O Martyr!

1. By grace, you trampled down every assault of the enemy  
and the attacks of your persecutors!  
You were crowned with the wreath of victory, most wealthy one,  
given incorruptible gladness and ineffable and divine radiance!  
In their midst now, ask remission of sins for those who fittingly praise you!

*In Tone 6, Glory...*

The victories of your martyr are awesome and glorious, Lord!  
For imitating the boldness of the fishermen,  
by his words and deeds he tore asunder mythology,  
catching the foolishness of the philosopher Plato with the nets of theology!  
When his skin was flayed and he was beheaded,  
he choked the enemy with the outpouring of his blood!  
Most blessed wonder-worker Plato,  
the adornment of the martyrs:  
You preached the great name of Christ with boldness!  
Pray that great mercy may be granted to our souls!

*In Tone 8, Now...*

Out of his love for mankind  
the King of heaven appeared on earth and dwelt with men,  
for He assumed a human body from the pure Virgin  
and was seen in the flesh He received from her.

He is the One and only God having two natures but not two persons.  
Wherefore we profess and declare the truth  
that Christ our God is perfect God and perfect Man.  
O Mother, who knew not carnal union,  
intercede with Him that He may have mercy on our souls.

### **Aposticha**

*In Tone 8*

O Jesus, You descended from heaven  
so that You might ascend the cross.  
O immortal Life, You came to die.  
You are the true light to those who live in darkness,  
and You are the resurrection of the fallen.  
Therefore, O Saviour of all, we glorify You.

*The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty. \* Robed is the Lord, and girt about with strength.*

Let us glorify Christ, the Saviour of our Souls  
Who arose from the dead.  
For He took upon himself a soul and a body,  
and during His passion He separated the one from the other.  
His pure soul went down to conquer Hades,  
while His holy body lay uncorrupted in the grave.

*For He has made the world firm. \* which shall not be moved.*

O Christ, we glorify Your resurrection with psalms and hymns.  
For by Your victory over death  
You delivered us from the sufferings of Hades,  
and as God You granted us eternal life and great mercy.

*Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, \* for length of days.*

O Lord of all, Creator of heaven and earth,  
You are above all understanding.  
Through Your passion on the cross  
You freed us from the sufferings of Hades.  
And, after condescending to be buried, You arose in glory;  
and with Your mighty arm You also raised up Adam.  
O most merciful Lord, we glorify You;  
for by Your resurrection on the third day  
You granted us remission of sins and eternal life.

*Glory... Now...*

O Virgin, You have never known wedlock,  
Yet You conceived God in the flesh  
in a manner which words can never describe.  
You thus became the Mother of God on high.  
O Immaculate Lady, receive the supplication of your servants  
and grant us the cleansing of our sins.  
Accept now our prayers and beseech God to save all of us.

### **Troparia**

*In Tone 8*

You came down from on high, O Merciful One,\* and accepted three days of burial\* to free us from our sufferings.\* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,\*\* glory be to You.

*In Tone 4, Glory...*

O Lord, Your holy martyr Plato,\* through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from You, our God!\* For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries,\* and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.\* Through his intercessions, save our souls!

*Now...*

O Mother of God, the mystery hidden from all eternity\* and unknown even to the angels,\* was revealed through you to those on earth:\* God took on our human nature\* and united it to His divine nature in a perfect but unconfused union.\* Then, He willingly accepted the cross for our sake\* and thereby raised again the first created man,\*\* and saved our souls from death.