

## 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 7 (9<sup>th</sup> of Luke)

**Prophet Obadiah. Martyr Barlaam.**

**Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**

### **Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 7**

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen,// granting the world great mercy.

### **Troparion, Tone 1 (St. Mark)**

O blessed Mark, O voice of God. As an apostle of Christ you were taught by the chief apostle Peter – like the sun you brought light to the nations, enrichment of Alexandria. Liberator of Egypt from pagan delusions, as a pillar of light to the church you enlightened all by your evangelical teachings. Therefore we honor your memory with great festivity, pray to God the giver of the gospel that He will grant the forgiveness of sins.

### **Troparion, Tone 2 (Prophet Obadiah)**

We celebrate the memory of Your Prophet Obadiah, O Lord; through him we beseech You: “Save our souls!”

### **Troparion, Tone 4 (Martyr Barlaam)**

Armed with youthful fervor, you endured martyrdom in old age and glorified Christ. You offered Him your right hand as a whole burnt offering and your holy soul as a blameless sacrifice.// Intercede that all may be granted forgiveness, Great-martyr Barlaam!

### **Resurrectional Kontakion, Tone 7**

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

### **Kontakion, Tone 2 (St. Mark)**

You received the grace of the Spirit from above most glorious Mark! And destroyed rhetorical snares, O Apostle. You captured all nations bringing them to your Master by the preaching of the Divine Gospel.

### **Kontakion, Tone 1 (Prophet Obadiah)**

The great Obadiah, acquiring a mind luminous with divine splendor, speaks through the Holy Spirit, proclaiming things to come. Today we honor him with faithful minds, //celebrating his holy memory which enlightens the hearts of men.

### **Kontakion, Tone 3 (Martyr Barlaam)**

Though weak with old age you vanquished the Evil One in your mighty contest, O Barlaam. You endured the rack like one without a body, and steadfastly endured the burning of your hand. Therefore, God the Word has crowned you with a crown of glory.

### **Kontakion, Tone 6 (Theotokos)**

Steadfast Protectress of Christians, Constant Advocate before the Creator; despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

### **THE EPISTLE READING**

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto all!

**Reader: And to your spirit!**

Deacon: Wisdom!

**Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 7<sup>th</sup> Tone. The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!**

Choir: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

**Reader: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!**

Choir: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

**Reader: The Lord shall give strength to His people!**

Choir: The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

Deacon: Wisdom!

**Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Ephesians.**

Deacon: Let us attend!

**Reader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, for He is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the Saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the Cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. [(221)**

Ephesians 2:14-22 (RSV)]

Priest: Peace be unto you, reader.

**Reader: And to your spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, in the 7<sup>th</sup> Tone.**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High!**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night!**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## THE GOSPEL READING

<sup>16</sup>And the Lord [He] told them a parable, saying, *“The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; <sup>17</sup>and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup>So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”* [66]  
Luke 12:16-21 (RSV)]

### Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



**Among the saints we commemorate today: The Holy Prophet Obadiah** [or Abdia] is the fourth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, and he lived during the ninth century B.C. He was from the village of Betharam, near Sichein, and he served as steward of the impious Israelite King Ahab. In those days the whole of Israel had turned away from the true God and had begun to offer sacrifice to Baal, but Obadiah faithfully served the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in secret.

When Ahab's wife, the impious and dissolute Jezebel, hunted down all the prophets of the Lord (because of her quarrel with the Prophet Elias), Obadiah gave them shelter and food (3/1 Kgs 18:3 ff). Ahab's successor King Okhoziah [Ahaziah] sent three detachments of soldiers to arrest the holy Prophet Elias (July 20). One of these detachments was headed by Saint Obadiah. Through the prayer of Saint Elias, two of the detachments were consumed by heavenly fire, but Saint Obadiah and his detachment were spared by the Lord (4/2 Kgs 1).

From that moment Saint Obadiah resigned from military service and became a follower of the Prophet Elias. Afterwards, he himself received the gift of prophecy. The God-inspired work of Saint

Obadiah is the fourth of the Books of the Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible, and contains predictions about the New Testament Church. The holy Prophet Obadiah was buried in Samaria.



**The Holy Martyr Barlaam** lived in Antioch of Syria. During Diocletian’s persecution against Christians, the aged Saint Barlaam

was arrested and brought to trial, where he confessed himself a Christian.

The judge, wanting to compel the saint to renounce Christ, ordered that Saint Barlaam be brought to the pagan altar. His right hand was placed over it, and a red-hot censer burning with incense was put into his hand. The torturer thought that a physically weak old man could not endure the pain and would drop it on the altar. In this way he would involuntarily be offering sacrifice to the idol. However, the saint held on to the censer until his hand fell off. After this, the holy Martyr Barlaam surrendered his soul to the Lord.

