

**Sunday, February 21, 2021**  
**37th Sunday after Pentecost - Tone 4**  
**(Beginning of the Lenten Tridion)**  
**Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee**

Troparion:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection; they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, in spite of our honor and devotion we are unable to give you worthy praise, through your glorious and noble birth your mother's childlessness was ended, your father's tongue was freed, and the incarnation of the Son of God was proclaimed to the world.

Kontakion:

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee and learn humility from the Publican's tears. Let us cry to our Savior. Have mercy on us, O only-merciful One.

Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone:

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.  
(Vs.) Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great!

Epistle:

The reading from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy. (2 Tim 3:10-15)

My child Timothy, now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Ico'nium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia Verses:

Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth.  
(Vs.) For Thou lovest righteousness and dost hate iniquity.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke. (Chapter 18:10-14)

The Lord told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and began to pray thus within himself: 'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men, robbers, dishonest, adulterers, or even like this publican. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all I possess.' But the publican, standing far off, would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but kept striking his breast, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went back to his home justified rather than the other; for anyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself shall be exalted."