

Sunday, May 24, 2020
6th Sunday Of Pascha-Tone 5
The Blind Man

Troparion:

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Kontakion:

I come to Thee, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, and I call to Thee in repentance: Thou art the most radiant Light of those in darkness!

Prokeimenon in the 8th Tone

Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!
(Vs.) In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle:

The reading is from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (Acts 16:16-34)

In those days it happened, as we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Alleluia Verses:

Look upon me and have mercy on me.
(Vs.) Direct my steps according to Thy word.

Gospel:

The Holy Gospel According to St. John. (Chapter 9:1-38)

At that time as Jesus was passing by, He saw a man blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who has sinned, this man or his parents, that he should be born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither has this man sinned nor have his parents, but the works of God were to be made manifest in him. I must do the works of the One who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the Light of the world." When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle, and spread the clay over the man's eyes, and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which is interpreted 'sent')." So he went away, and washed, and returned seeing. The neighbors therefore and those who had seen earlier that he was blind began saying, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is." But others said, "He only looks like him." Yet, the man declared, "I am the one." They therefore asked him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "The man who is called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' And I went and washed, and I see." And they asked him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They took the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. Now, it was a Sabbath on which Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Again, therefore, the Pharisees asked him how he received his sight. But he said to them, "He put clay upon my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner work these signs?" And there was a division among them. Again therefore they said to the blind man, "What do you say of the One who opened your eyes?" But he said, "He is a prophet." The Jews therefore did not believe of him that he had been blind and had got his sight, until they called the parents of the one who had gained his sight, and questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, of whom you say he was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered them and said, "We know this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we ourselves do not know. Ask him; he is of age, let him speak for himself." These things his parents said because they feared the Jews. For already the Jews had agreed that if anyone were to confess Him to be the Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. This is why his parents said, "He is of age; question him." They therefore called a second time the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give glory to God! We ourselves know this man is a sinner." He therefore said, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know, that whereas I was blind, now I see." They therefore asked him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, but you did not listen. Why would you hear a second time? Would you also become his disciples?" They heaped abuse on him therefore and said, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know God spoke to Moses; but as for this man, we do not know where He is from." In answer the man said to them, "Why herein is the marvel, that you do not know where He is from, and yet He opened my eyes. Now we know God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshipper of God, and does His will, Him He hears. Not from the beginning of the world has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered and said to him, "You were altogether born in sins, and do you teach us?" And they turned him out. Jesus heard they had turned him out, and when He had found him, said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He it is who speaks with you." And he said, "I believe, Lord." And falling down, he worshipped Him.