

13th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 4)
Beheading of St John the Baptist
Acts 13: 25 – 32 Mark 6: 14 – 30

Beatitude Verses

6 from Octoechos for Resurrection
4 from Menaion for Forerunner: Canon Ode 4

People: In Your kingdom remember us, O Lord, when You come into Your kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted!

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth!

Reader: By the tree was Adam forced to depart from paradise; but by the Tree of the Cross was the Robber made to live in paradise. For the one by tasting, broke the commandment of the Creator; while the other, crucified with Him, confessed the hidden God, crying out: Remember me in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled!

Reader: O Lord You were lifted upon the Cross, You have destroyed the power of death and as God You have destroyed the record of our sins, grant also the repentance of the Robber to us who faithfully serve You and cry out to You, O Christ God who alone loves mankind: Remember us also in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy!

Reader: On the Cross You tore apart with the spear the record of our sins; and, numbered among the dead, You bound the tyrant of Hades. O Lord who loves mankind, by Your resurrection You have rescued all from the bonds of Hades and we have been illumined, and we cry to You: Remember us also in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God!

Reader: O You who alone are immortal, who was crucified and as Almighty arose from the tomb on the third day, and raised up Adam the first created: Grant that I also may turn to repentance with my whole heart, and may always cry out to You with fervent faith: O Savior, remember me in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God!

Reader: For our sake, He who is without passion became a man subject to the passions. And, nailed of His own will to the Cross, He has raised us up with Himself. Therefore, we glorify His Cross, passion, and resurrection, by which we have been renewed and saved, and we cry out: Remember us also in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven!

Reader: O faithful, let us entreat Him who has risen from the dead, has made captive the dominion of Hades, and was seen by the myrrh-bearing women and said to them: "Rejoice!" Let us entreat Him to rescue our souls from corruption so that we always cry out to Him with the voice of the noble Robber: Remember us also in Your kingdom!

People: Blessed are you when people revile you, persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake!

Reader: As mediator standing between the old and the new testaments of the Gospel preachings, you denounced the iniquitous union of the tyrant, and rejoicing, you accepted a glorious death.

People: Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven!

Reader: Instructed beforehand by her iniquitous mother, the girl said to Herod who was befuddled with drunkenness: "Give me the head of John on a platter, that I may present to my mother the gift she desires!"

People: **Glory** to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Reader: O glorious prophet, the shameless tyrant who was unable to endure the reproof of your God-bearing tongue gave your precious martyr's head to the girl as a reward for her dancing.

People: **Now** and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Reader: Having made Your bodily abode within the virgin, O Lord, You appeared to men, in that it was fitting that they behold You. You showed her to be the true Theotokos and the help of the faithful, O You who alone loves mankind.

Troparia & Kontakia

Resurrection Troparion

Tone 4

People:

When the women disciples of the Lord /
learned from the Angel /
the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection /
And of the dismissal of the ancestral judgment /
They boasted to the apostles /
Death is overthrown, Christ our God has risen //
Granting to the world His great mercy.

Troparion of the Forerunner

Tone 2

People:

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise, /
but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O Forerunner; /
for you have proved to be even more venerable than the prophets /
since you were granted to baptize in the running waters Him whom they proclaimed. /
Therefore, having contested for the truth, /
you rejoiced to announce the Good News even to those in Hades; /
that God has appeared in the flesh, //
taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion of the Forerunner

Tone 5

People:

The glorious beheading of the Forerunner /
was part of God's divine plan, /
that the coming of the Savior might also be preached to those in Hades. /
Lament then, Herodias, that you have demanded a wicked murder, /
for you loved neither the law of God nor eternal life, //
but a life false and fleeting.

People: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Kontakion of the Resurrection
Tone 4**

People:

My Savior and Redeemer, /
as God You raised the earthborn from the grave and from their chains, /
and You broke the gates of Hades, /
and as Master, //
You arose on the third day.

**Prokeimenon
Tone 7**

(Psalm 63: 11, 2)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone: The righteous man shall be glad in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

People: The righteous man shall be glad in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

Reader: Hear my voice, O God, in my supplication.

People: The righteous man shall be glad in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

Reader: The righteous man shall be glad in the Lord.

People: And shall hope in Him.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.

Deacon: Let us attend.

**Epistle
Acts 13: 25 – 32**

Reader: In those days, as John was completing his work, he said, 'Who do you suppose that I am? I am not He! But behold, One comes after me whose sandals I am unworthy to untie.' Brethren, children of the line of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, this message of salvation has been sent to you! Indeed, those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize Him or the voices of the prophets which are

read every Sabbath. Still, by condemning Him, they fulfilled the prophets! Although they could find no cause for His execution, they asked Pilate to have Jesus killed. After fulfilling all the things that were written about Him, they took Him down from the Tree, and laid Him in a tomb. But God raised Him from the dead, and He was seen for many days by those who had come up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are His witnesses to the people. And now, we bring you the Good News that the promise made to the fathers has come about.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Alleluiarion Tone 4

(Psalm 91: 13, 14)

Reader: Alleluia in the 4th Tone.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree. He shall be multiplied like the cedar in Lebanon.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Those planted in the house of the Lord shall blossom forth in the courts of our God.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Deacon: Bless Master, him who proclaims the Holy Gospel of the Holy, Apostle and Evangelist Mark.

Priest: May God, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious, all praised Apostle and Evangelist Mark, enable you to proclaim the Good News with great power, for the fulfillment of the Gospel of His Beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen.

Priest: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Deacon: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Priest: Let us attend.

Mark 6: 14 – 30

Deacon: At that time, King Herod heard this report, for Jesus' name had become well known, and he said, "John the Baptizer has risen from the dead! This is why these powers are at work in him!" But others said, "He is Elijah." Others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old!" But when he heard this, Herod said, "This is John whom I beheaded. He has risen from the dead!" For Herod himself had ordered that John be arrested, and he had him chained in prison. This was for the sake of Herodias, the former wife of his brother Philip, for Herod had married her. John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife!" Herodias became furious against John and desired to kill him, but she could not because Herod feared John. He knew that John was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard John speak, he did many things, and liked to listen to him. An opportunity came when on his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his nobles, high officers, and for the leading figures of Galilee. When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced and pleased Herod and those sitting with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you!" He swore to her, "Whatever you shall ask of me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom!" She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" Herodias answered, "The head of John the Baptizer!" At once, the girl hurried to the king and said, "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptizer on a platter." The king was extremely sorry, but for the sake of his oaths and because of his dinner guests, he did not wish to deny her. Immediately, the king sent out a soldier of his guard and commanded that John's head be brought. The soldier went off and beheaded John in the prison, and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl. And she gave it to her mother. When John's disciples heard this, they came, took his body, and laid it in a tomb. The apostles came back together around Jesus and told Him both what they had done and taught.

People: Glory to You, Lord, glory to You.

Communion Verse (Koinonikon)

People:

Resurrection: Praise the Lord in the heavens, praise Him in the highest!

Forerunner: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. They shall not be afraid because of an evil report.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.