

THE 27th DAY OF THE MONTH OF JUNE
COMMEMORATION OF OUR VENERABLE FATHER SAMPSON THE HOSPITABLE
AT VESPERS

On “Lord, I have cried ...,” 3 Stichera of the venerable one, in Tone I:

Spec. Mel.: “O all-praised martyrs ...”:

Having made thine abode in the wilderness * like Elijah of old, * O all-famed father Sampson, * with the burnings of abstinence * thou didst cause the assaults of the flesh to wither up, * purifying thy mind with unceasing prostrations before God. * And now pray thou, that He grant our souls ** peace and great mercy.

O divinely wise father Sampson, * adorned with dispassion * thou wast numbered among the desert-dwellers, * thou didst make thine abode in a monastery of the venerable, * wherein was the never-waning light, * as also the tree of life. * And now, pray thou, that God grant unto our souls ** peace and great mercy.

O divinely inspired father Sampson, * thou wast a lamp * enlightening all the earth with the beams of thy miracles, * dispelling the darkness * of soul-destroying infirmities * and driving away the gloom of the demons. * And now, pray thou, that God grant unto our souls ** peace and great mercy.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion, in the same melody:

Woe is me! What shall I do? * For I have defiled My mind, soul and body * with transgressions! * What shall I do? * How shall I escape the unbearable flame * and the unbreakable and everlasting bonds? * Yet, before the end * grant me forgiveness, ** O all-immaculate one!

Stavrotheotokion, in the same melody:

Stavrotheotokion: **T**he Sovereign Lady, the unblemished ewe-lamb, * beholding her Lamb upon the Cross, * bereft of form and comeliness, * lamenting, said: “Woe is me! * Whither hath Thy comeliness gone, O most Sweet One? * Where is Thy splendor? Where is the brilliant grace of Thine image, ** O my Son most beloved?”

Troparion of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

In thy patience, O venerable father, thou didst acquire thy reward, * having endured in prayer without ceasing, and loved the poor and provided for them. * Beseech Christ God, O merciful and blessed Sampson, ** that our souls be saved.

AT MATINS

Canon of the venerable one, the acrostic whereof is: “With faith I hymn thee, O Sampson, with divine words”, the composition of Joseph, in Tone II:

ODE I

Irmos: Come, O ye people, * let us sing a song to Christ our God, * Who divided the sea, * and made a way for the nation * which He had brought up out of the bondage of Egypt; * for He hath been glorified.

Standing crowned before the throne of the Master, O most blessed one, send light down upon me who strive to praise with hymns thy most radiant solemnity.

Desiring the one thing which leadeth thee to life, thou didst pass beyond the beauties of this world and acquired a transcendent inheritance. Wherefore, assembling, we honor thee, O Sampson.

When thou didst submit to the law of God, rejoicing, O right wondrous one, thou didst reach the summit of virtue, being merciful to all. Wherefore, we now call thee blessed.

Theotokion: O all-immaculate one, without ceasing we bless and glorify thee as the mighty help of all the defeated, who in a manner beyond all telling art the bearer of God.

ODE III

Irmos: O Lord, who didst slay sin upon the tree, * firmly establish us in Thee, * and in the hearts of us who hymn Thee * plant the fear of Thee.

Let us praise the sacred Sampson; for, emulating the compassion of God, he was merciful to the needy; providing clothing to all the naked.

Having led a godly life in a holy and pious manner, thou hast been numbered among the saints and thereby attained unto the mansions of the venerable, deemed worthy of ineffable illumination.

Blessed art thou, and well will it be with thee, who didst keep the divine laws of our Lord and God, O father. Him do thou beseech, that thy flock be saved.

Theotokion: Drive away the darkness of my mind and soul, O pure one, and grant that I may live to see the promised day, observing the precepts of salvation.

Sessional Hymn of the venerable one, in Tone IV:

Spec. Mel.: “Go thou quickly ...”:

Shining forth in spirit like a brilliant beacon, O all-blessed Sampson, thou dost illumine us with honor in thy habitation; hence, O father, thou dost dispense the healing given thee by God to those with divers ailments. Wherefore, by thine entreaties deliver us from the passions.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion, in Tone IV:

By thy divine birthgiving, O pure one, * thou hast renewed the mortal nature of those born on earth, * which had become corrupt through the passions, * raising up all from death to a life of incorruption. * Wherefore, as is meet we all bless thee, ** O exceedingly glorious Virgin, as thou didst foretell.

Stavrotheotokion: O all-immaculate Virgin Mother of God, a sword passed through thy most holy soul when thou didst behold thy Son and God crucified of His own will. Cease not to beseech Him, O blessed one, that He grant us forgiveness of our transgressions.

ODE IV

Irmos: I have heard report of Thy dispensation, O Lord, * and have glorified Thee * Who alone lovest mankind.

Like a star thou dost illumine the hearts of all of us who rightly call thee blessed.

Putting slumber away from thine eyes, thou didst keep vigil constantly and didst lull to sleep the pleasures of the body.

Thou wast generous to the poor for the sake of Christ, and, rejoicing, hast received a heavenly inheritance, O venerable one.

Theotokion: We hymn and bless thee, O Sovereign Lady, as the splendid palace of the Word.

ODE V

Irmos: O Lord, Bestower of light and Creator of the ages: * guide us in the light of Thy commandments, * for we know none other God than Thee.

The most pure Light which abode within thee, O father, made thee wholly luminous, enlightening the faithful with the splendid effulgence of thy virtues.

By thy mercy thou wast a source of wealth for the poor, and didst manifestly rise up as a physician for those in sickness, removing their ailments with healing.

Thou didst reveal thyself to be a truly pure temple of the most holy and honored Spirit, cleansing away the filth of the passions, O God-bearing father; wherefore, we praise thee.

Theotokion: With faith and godly voices do we hymn thee, O most holy and pure one, as the beauty of Jacob, who hast given birth for us to God in the flesh, before Whom all things tremble.

ODE VI

Irmos: Whirled about in the abyss of sin, * I appeal to the unfathomable abyss of Thy compassion: * Raise me up from corruption, O God.

Loving almsgiving, O glorious Sampson, thou wast enriched with heavenly treasures, opening thy compassion unto the poor with perfect intent.

Thou didst erect a hallowed building to the glory of our God; and, hastening thereto, the faithful are cleansed of their many ailments, O most blessed one.

Thou didst live thy life purely, and make thine abode with the venerable in a holy manner. Pray for us who honor thee with faith, O divinely inspired one.

Theotokion: By divine grace wast thou the pure palace, the splendid chamber and the lofty heaven of God the King of all, O all-immaculate one.

Kontakion of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

Spec. Mel.: “As first-fruits ...”:

Rejoicing with psalms and hymns, O divinely wise and venerable Sampson, * and hastening to thy divine shrine, as to that of an excellent physician * and a right acceptable intercessor, we glorify Christ ** Who hath bestowed upon thee such grace of healing.

Ikos: Let us praise the venerable Sampson, who blamelessly completed a meek, guileless life at an advanced age, and who gloriously received the sure and ineffable grace of miracles: the feeder of the hungry, the helper of those in need, and the great champion who raised up a divine temple of healing for the infirm.

ODE VII

Irmos: When the golden image was worshipped on the plain of Dura, * Thy three children spurned the impious command, * and, cast into the midst of the flame, * they were bedewed, and sang: * O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Possessed of the mighty strength of Christ amid dangers, O most blessed and venerable one, thou didst pass through the tempest of life without capsizing, reaching the calm haven, and chanting: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Moved by great wisdom and spiritual love, thou didst erect a great building, O father; and ever having recourse thereto, all receive healing, crying aloud and saying: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Thou wast shown to be a radiant beacon of the virtues, luminous with divine light, O Sampson, enlightening the ends of the whole world. Wherefore, assembling, with faith we call thee blessed, chanting: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Theotokion: The fleece once prefigured thy pure womb, which received the heavenly Rain which bedeweth all who are held fast by the thirst of sin, O all-hymned one. Blessed art thou who hast given birth unto God in the flesh!

ODE VIII

Irmos: God Who descended into the fiery furnace * with the Hebrew children, * and transformed the flame into dew, * do ye works hymn, * and supremely exalt as Lord throughout all ages.

Moving thy tongue to the hymns of God, O father Sampson, thou didst enslave the passions of the flesh to thy soul by abstinence and reveal thyself to be a true servant of Christ and an heir to the heavenly city.

Thy pure mind, adorned with divine splendors, was shown to be most luminous, and the abode of pure and divine effulgence, O all-blessed one; wherefore, we honor thee, O Sampson, throughout the ages.

Possessed of a sanctified life, O all-blessed Sampson, thou wast manifestly and most gloriously glorified, passing over to God; for, lo! thy memory and righteousness shall abide throughout the ages.

Theotokion: **S**till the cruel tempest of my passions, O pure and blessed Virgin, and do battle against all the incorporeal enemies who pitilessly assail my lowliness, that I may hymn thee with faith.

ODE IX

Irmos: **G**od the Word, God of God, * Who by ineffable wisdom came to create Adam anew * after his grievous fall to corruption through eating * and Who took flesh beyond all telling from the Holy Virgin for our sake, * Him we faithful with one accord magnify in song.

Behold, thy memory hath shone forth upon all like the sun, O father, illumining with radiance those who glorify thee as a minister of Christ, an heir of His kingdom and a companion of all the venerable.

In that thy life is luminous, thy glory great and the tomb where thine honored body lay is rich, O wise one, it poureth forth health upon those who have recourse to it with faith and, ever ask thy help.

Cease thou never to visit us with the most glorious healing which thou didst acquire by thy pangs, O father, but intercede for us unceasingly in thy tender compassion, and alleviate the pain and labor of our souls, we pray.

Shining forth the rays of the sun upon those who honor thee, O blessed father, illumine the senses of our soul, and make us worthy partakers of the divine effulgence by thy supplications, we pray thee.

Theotokion: **K**nowing thee to be the luminous cloud of the Sun of righteousness, O pure one, we cry out to thee with faith: Rejoice, O Virgin who knewest not wedlock, thou glory of the apostles, crown of the glorious martyrs, and salvation of the faithful!

Exapostilarion of the venerable one:

Spec. Mel.: "The heaven with stars ...":

In a god-pleasing manner thou didst distribute thy wealth to the poor and didst offer thyself wholly to the Lord, O Sampson. Him do thou entreat, that He deliver us from all the passions.

Glory ..., Both now ..., Theotokion:

By thy mighty protection, O pure one, preserve all thy servants unharmed by the assaults of the enemy; for thee alone have we acquired as a refuge in times of need.

AT LITURGY

At the beatitudes, 4 Troparia from the Oktoechos, and 4 Troparia from ODE III of the venerable one:

Let us praise the sacred Sampson; for, emulating the compassion of God, he was merciful to the needy; providing clothing to all the naked.

Having led a godly life in a holy and pious manner, thou hast been numbered among the saints and thereby attained unto the mansions of the venerable, deemed worthy of ineffable illumination.

Blessed art thou, and well will it be with thee, who didst keep the divine laws of our Lord and God, O father. Him do thou beseech, that thy flock be saved.

Theotokion: **D**rive away the darkness of my mind and soul, O pure one, and grant that I may live to see the promised day, observing the precepts of salvation.

Troparion of the venerable one, in Tone VIII:

In thy patience, O venerable father, thou didst acquire thy reward, * having endured in prayer without ceasing, and loved the poor and provided for them. * Beseech Christ God, O merciful and blessed Sampson, ** that our souls be saved.

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Prokeimenon, in Tone VII: Precious in the sight of the Lord * is the death of His saints.

Verse: What shall I render unto God for all that He hath rendered unto me?

EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS, § 213 (GAL. 5: 22-6: 2)

Brethren: the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another. Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Alleluia, in Tone VI: Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; in His commandments shall he greatly delight.

Verse: His seed shall be mighty upon the earth.

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE, § 67 (LK. 12: 32-40)

The Lord said: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Let your loins be girded about, and your lights burning; And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Communion Verse: In everlasting remembrance shall the righteous be; he shall not be afraid of evil tidings.