

**Third Sunday of the Great Fast: Veneration of the Holy Cross of our Lord
Jesus Christ; Tone 6; Our Holy Father Sophronius
Patriarch of Jerusalem (638); March 10.**

*Text from "[The Divine Liturgy: An Anthology for Worship](#)"; Pg. 349 (Tone 6) & Pg. 625
Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great: Pg. 267*

***Liturgical Instruction:** For the Sundays of Great Lent the Typicon prescribes the
Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great.*

Troparion (Tone 6): Angelic powers were upon Your tomb* and the guards became like dead men;* Mary stood before Your tomb* seeking Your most pure body.* You captured Hades without being overcome by it.* You met the Virgin and granted life.* O Lord, risen from the dead,* glory be to You.

Troparion (Tone 1): Save your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.* Grant victory to Your faithful people against enemies,* and protect Your community by Your cross.

+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion (Tone 7): No longer does the flaming sword guard the gate of Eden;* the tree of the Cross has quenched its flames gloriously.* The sting of death and the victory of Hades are banished,* and You, O my Saviour, came and called to those in Hades: "Return again to Paradise!"

Instead of "Holy God,": To Your Cross, O Master, we bow in veneration, and we glorify Your holy Resurrection.

Prokimenon (Tone 6): Save Your people, O Lord,* and bless Your inheritance (Ps 27:9).

verse: Unto You I will cry, O Lord my God, lest You turn from me in silence (Ps 27:1).

Epistle (Hebrews 4:14-5:6): *Brethren*, since, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honour, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

Alleluia (Tone 1):

verse: Remember Your congregation which You acquired from the beginning (Ps 73:2).

verse: But God is our king before the ages; He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth (Ps 73:12).

Gospel: (Mark 8:34-9:1): *The Lord said*, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.' And he said to them, 'Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.'

Instead of "It is truly...": In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins' pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before the ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider than all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

Communion Verse: Let the light of Your countenance, O Lord,* shine upon us (Ps 4:7). Alleluia! (3x).