



# The Messenger

Sunday, October 22, 2023  
Κυριακή, 22 Οκτώβριος

6th Sunday of Luke  
Κυριακή ΣΤ' Λουκά

## Weekly Worship Guide

The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation • Atlanta, GA

Abercius, Equal-to-the-Apostles and Wonderworker, Bishop of Hierapolis  
Seven Holy Martyred Youths of Ephesus

### Honoring Nicodemos and MaryAnn Economos

Today, we honor Nicodemos Economos for over fifty years of dedicated service as our Protospalti (Lead Chanter). Our Cathedral Parish Family is blessed with many talented parishioners with various gifts and talents. Nicodemos is one of those parishioners who has offered his God-given talent as a skilled Byzantine chanter. He has served as Protospalti at our Annunciation Cathedral for decades demonstrating excellence, dedication, unwavering endurance, reliability, not to mention an extraordinary, powerful, and very inspiring voice. He will now become our Protospalti Emeritus handing the reins over to Grigorios Karakostas from Volos, Greece. Of course, we hope to have Nicodemos at the chant stand whenever he and MaryAnn are not traveling the world or enjoying their three beautiful grandchildren. We also thank and honor Nicodemos' loving wife MaryAnn who has supported and shared him with our parish.



A special Fellowship Coffee Hour is offered today as a demonstration of our gratitude to both of them!

**AXIOS! WORTHY! AXIOS!**

### Saint Abercius, Bishop and Wonderworker of Hieropolis

Saint Abercius, Bishop and Wonderworker of Hieropolis lived in the second century in Phrygia. The city of Hieropolis was inhabited by many pagans and very few Christians. The saint prayed to the Lord for the salvation of their souls and that they might be numbered among God's chosen flock. An angel appeared and bade Saint Abercius to destroy the idols in the pagan temple. He fulfilled the command of God with zeal. Hearing that the idol-worshippers wanted to kill him, the saint went to the place where the people had gathered and openly denounced the failings of the pagans. The pagans tried to seize the saint.

At this moment three demon-possessed youths in the crowd cried out. The people were dumbfounded, as the saint expelled the devils from them by his prayers. Seeing the youths restored to normal, the people of Hieropolis asked Saint Abercius to instruct them in the Christian Faith, and then they accepted Holy Baptism.

After this the saint went to the surrounding cities and villages, healing the sick and preaching the Kingdom of God. With his preaching he made the rounds of Syria, Cilicia, Mesopotamia, he visited Rome and everywhere he converted multitudes of people to Christ. For many years he guarded the Church against heretics, he confirmed Christians in the Faith, he set the prodigal upon the righteous path, he healed the sick and proclaimed the glory of Christ. Because of his great works, Saint Abercius is termed "Equal of the Apostles."

Saint Abercius returned home to Hieropolis, where he soon rested from his labors. After his death, many miracles took place at his tomb. He wrote his own epitaph, and it was carved on his tombstone, which is now in the Lateran Museum.

([www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org))



# Order of Hymns Following The Small Entrance

## Ἀναστάσιμον Ἀπολυτίκιον. Ἦχος γ'.

Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιάσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ, ὁ Κύριος· ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον· πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο· ἐκ κοιλίας ἄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς, καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

## Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἀβερκίου. Ἦχος δ'.

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξέ σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου, ἢ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, πάτερ ἱεράρχα Ἀβέρκιε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

## Ἀπολυτίκιον τῶν Ἁγίων Ἑπτὰ Παίδων. Ἦχος δ'.

*Ταχὺ προκατάλαβε.*

Οἱ Μάρτυρες σου Κύριε, ἐν τῇ ἀθλήσει αὐτῶν, στεφάνους ἐκομίσαντο τῆς ἀφθαρσίας, ἐκ σοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν· σχόντες γὰρ τὴν ἰσχὺν σου, τοὺς τυράννους καθεῖλον, ἔθραυσαν καὶ δαιμόνων, τὰ ἀνίσχυρα θράση. Αὐτῶν ταῖς ἰκεσίαις, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, σῶσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

## Ἀπολυτίκιον τοῦ Ναοῦ. Ἦχος δ'.

Σήμερον τῆς σωτηρίας ἡμῶν τὸ Κεφάλαιον, καὶ τοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος Μυστηρίου ἢ φανέρωσις, ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, Υἱὸς τῆς Παρθένου γίνεται, καὶ Γαβριὴλ τὴν χάριν εὐαγγελίζεται. Διὸ καὶ ἡμεῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ Θεοτόκῳ βοήσωμεν· Χαῖρε Κεχαριτωμένη, ὁ Κύριος μετὰ σοῦ.

## Κοντάκιον. Ἦχος β'.

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε. Μὴ παρίδης ἀμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθὴ, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ σπεῦσον εἰς ἰκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα αἰεὶ, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμῶντων σε.

## Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 3.

Let the heavens be glad. Let the earth rejoice exceedingly. For the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead. Out of the belly of Hades, He has rescued us, and to the world He has granted the great mercy.

## Apolytikion of Saint Abercius. Mode 4.

A rule of faith are you, and an icon of gentleness, and a teacher of self-control. And to your flock this was evident, by the truth of your life and deeds. You were humble and therefore you acquired exalted gifts, treasure in heaven for being poor. Father holy hierarch Abercius, intercede with Christ our God, and entreat Him to save our souls.

## Apolytikion of the Holy Seven Youths. Mode 4.

*Come quickly.*

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You \* the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. \* Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, \* dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. \* O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

## Apolytikion of the Church. Mode 4.

Today is the beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the mystery which was hidden from eternity. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel announces the grace of this Good News. Let us also join with him, calling to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Woman full of grace; the Lord is with you.

## Kontakion. Mode 2.

A protection of Christians unshamable, intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, please reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: Hasten to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

# Readings

6th Sunday of Luke  
Κυριακή ΣΤ' Λουκά

**Epistle** (St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1:11-19)

Reader: Nicholas Esper

**PROKEIMENON:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises.  
**VERSE:** Clap your hands, all you nations.

**Brethren,** I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

**Gospel** (Luke 8:26-39)

**At that time,** as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion;" for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

DIVINE LITURGY CONTINUES ON PAGE 51 OF THE DIVINE LITURGY BOOK

### Reminders for Receiving Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered in the Orthodox Church only to those individuals baptized and/or chrismated (confirmed) in the Orthodox Faith. To participate in Holy Communion one must be in good standing with the Church spiritually (for example, married people must have had their marriage blessed in the Church; and, all must be without grave sin on their hearts). For all Orthodox Christians, the proper preparation for Holy Communion must be observed: that is, examination of conscience, confession, reading the prayers for Holy Communion, and the proper fasting. If you have any further questions about this, please speak with the clergy. Women should remove all lipstick when approaching for Holy Communion.

Thank you.

# Support our Cathedral

Welcome, everyone!

We extend a warm welcome to our visitors worshipping with us today in our Cathedral. You are invited to join us for our fellowship following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy in Carlos Hall next to the Church. Thank you for your visit! Please stop by our hospitality table and sign the register in the Narthex.

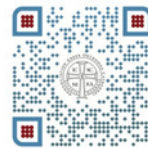
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## Thank you to our volunteers

### Acolytes

#### Group 4

Alex Simitzes  
Constantine Dallis  
Yanni Kitas  
Demetre Lignos  
Matthew Simitzes  
Luke Simitzes  
Peter Soulimiotis  
Lucas Tiliakos  
Niko Tiliakos

### Handmaidens

#### Group 4

Gabriella Mayes  
Marina Dallis  
Stavroula Dallis  
Anna Koulouris  
Kat Leitourgis  
Saiah Murray  
Maria Nikolov  
Zoe Tiliakos

### Parish Council

#### St. Basil the Great

Michael Hoon  
Chris Adams  
Ted Kipreos  
Toni Taggart  
Stacie Nefos  
Athanasios Tiliakos

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