

**SUNDAY, October 25, 2020**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius**

**The Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius, Notaries of Constantinople** served in a Constantinople cathedral. Marcian was a reader and Martyrius a subdeacon. They both performed in the capacity of notaries, i.e. secretaries, for Patriarch Paul the Confessor (November 6).

Arian heretics expelled and secretly executed the righteous Patriarch Paul. His throne was given to the heretic Macedonius. The heretics attempted to entice Sts Marcian and Martyrius over to their side by flattery. They offered them gold and promised to consecrate them as archbishops, but all the efforts of the Arians were in vain.

Then the impious threatened to slander them before the emperor, and sought to intimidate them with torture and death. But the saints steadfastly confessed Orthodoxy, as handed down by the Fathers of the Church. Marcian and Martyrius were sentenced to death. Before death, the martyrs prayed, “Lord God, Who have invisibly created our hearts, and directed all our deeds, accept with peace the souls of Your servants, since we perish for You and are considered as sheep for the slaughter (Ps 32/33:15; 43/44:22). We rejoice that by such a death we shall depart this life for Your Name. Grant us to be partakers of life eternal with You, the Source of life.” After their prayer the martyrs, with quiet rejoicing, bent their necks beneath the sword of the impious (+ ca. 335).

Their holy bodies were reverently buried by Orthodox Christians. Later, by decree of St John Chrysostom, the relics of the holy martyrs were transferred to a church built in their honor. Believers here were healed of many infirmities through the prayers of the saints, to the glory of the One Life-Creating Trinity.

**GREAT VESPERS**

***LORD I CALL: Seven stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 3, followed by three for the Martyrs***

***Resurrection, tone 3:***

By Your Cross, O Christ our Savior,  
death's dominion has been shattered;  
the devil's delusion destroyed.  
The human race, being saved by faith,//  
always offers You a song.

All has been enlightened by Your Resurrection, O Lord.  
Paradise has been opened again.  
All creation, praising You,//  
always offers You a song.

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son.  
I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit:

the undivided, uncreated Godhead,//  
the consubstantial Trinity which reigns forever.

We bow down in worship before Your precious Cross, O Christ,  
and we glorify and praise Your Resurrection,//  
for by Your wounds we have all been healed.

We praise the Savior incarnate of the Virgin,  
for He was crucified for our sake and resurrected on the third day,//  
granting us great mercy.

Christ descended to hell proclaiming the glad tidings:  
“Be bold! Now I have triumphed!  
I am the Resurrection, I will lead you out,//  
for I have shattered the gates of death!”

Standing unworthily in Your most pure house, O Christ God,  
we offer our evening song, crying from the depths:  
“You enlightened the world by Your Resurrection on the third day,//  
Lover of mankind, deliver Your people from the hand of Your enemies.

***Martyrs, tone 4:***

Having completed the course and kept the Faith,  
O Marcian and Martyrius,  
you have been wreathed with a crown of martyrdom.  
You are unshakable pillars of the Church,  
breasts flowing with the milk of truth,  
beacons and shining pearls,//  
who have enlightened creation with the splendor of piety.  
You have been revealed as the bright messenger of the tri-luminary Godhead!

You were godly twins,  
sharing a single heart and mind.  
You destroyed the division of Arius,  
by teaching all to worship the Son as consubstantial with the Father,  
and equally unoriginate with the Spirit:  
the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity,//  
one Essence in three undivided Persons.

You showed yourselves to be followers of the holy preacher Paul.  
You were like him in zeal and one with him in mind and heart:  
you drowned the adversaries with the blood you poured out,  
drying up the torrent of wicked heresies.  
O Marcian and Martyrius, you were revealed as rivers of piety//  
watering the Church of Christ.

***GLORY...Martyrs, tone 1:***

You were disciples and followers  
of the one who preached and confessed the consubstantial Trinity.  
You were persecuted with him, O blessed ones.  
You preferred death by the sword to blasphemous heresy.  
Therefore, God has adorned you with crowns of martyrdom,  
and you have received boldness before Him,  
pray that those who honor your memory//  
may be delivered from misfortunes!

***NOW AND EVER...the Dogmatikon in tone 3:***

How can we not wonder  
at your mystical childbearing, O exalted Mother?  
For without receiving the touch of man,  
you gave birth to a Son in the flesh, O immaculate Virgin.  
The Son born of the Father before eternity  
was born of you at the fullness of time, O honored Lady.  
He underwent no mingling, no change, no division,  
but preserved the fullness of each nature.  
Entreat Him, O Lady and Virgin, and Mother,  
to save the souls of those who, in the Orthodox manner, confess you//  
to be the Theotokos.

***APOSTIKHA: All stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 3:***

The sun was darkened by your Passion, O Christ,  
but all creation was enlightened by the light of Your Resurrection.//  
Accept our evening song, O Lover of mankind!

Your life-bearing Resurrection, O Lord,  
enlightened the whole universe, recalling Your creation.  
Delivered from Adam's curse, we sing://  
“Almighty Lord, glory to You!”

You are the changeless God,  
Who, suffering in the flesh, were changed.  
Creation could not endure seeing You on the Cross.  
It was filled with fear while praising Your patience.  
By descending to hell and rising on the third day,//  
You have granted to the world life and great mercy.

You endured death, O Christ,  
to deliver the human race from death.  
You rose from the dead on the third day,  
raising with yourself those who knew You as God//  
and enlightening the world. Glory to You!

***GLORY... for the Martyrs, tone 3:***

Marcian and Martyrius  
conquered heresies with the shield of Faith  
and enlightened the world with the light of orthodoxy.  
They are champions of the Trinity and spiritual beacons of the Church.  
Obedient to Paul, the equal of the Apostles,  
they cast down the teachings of Arius and Nestorius,  
refuting also the confusions of Sabellius and Severus.  
They theologized about the Unity in Trinity,  
the God Who was incarnate of the Virgin.  
The most blessed ones preached to all one Christ in two natures.  
Now that they have received crowns of victory from heaven,//  
these heralds of God intercede on our behalf for great mercy.

***NOW AND EVER...Theotokian, tone 3:***

By the will of the Father,  
without seed, of the Holy Spirit you conceived the Son of God.  
He was born of the Father before eternity without a mother,  
but now for our sake He came from you without a father!//  
Do not cease entreating Him to deliver our souls from harm!

**Troparia**

**Resurrection, tone 3:**

Let the heavens rejoice!  
Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
and has granted to the world//  
great mercy.

**Martyrs, tone 3:**

In holy zeal you dispelled the error of Arius  
and proclaimed the Trinity, one in essence.  
Holy martyrs Marcian and Martyrius,  
unshaken bulwarks of Orthodoxy,  
entreat Christ our God to grant us His great mercy!

**Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion, tone 3:**

We praise you as the mediatrix of our salvation,  
O Virgin Theotokos.  
For your Son, our God, Who took flesh from you,  
accepted the Passion on the Cross,//  
delivering us from corruption as the Lover of Man.

## THE DIVINE LITURGY

### TROPARIA

#### Resurrection, tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,

and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

#### Saint John of Damascus

Teacher of Orthodoxy, piety, and purity!

Enlightener of the universe!

And divine inspiration to monastics

by your teachings we are all enlightened,

and by your spiritual music, O all-wise John of Damascus,

pray to Christ our God for the salvation of our souls!

#### Martyrs, tone 3

In holy zeal you dispelled the error of Arius

and proclaimed the Trinity, one in essence.

Holy martyrs Marcian and Martyrius,

unshaken bulwarks of Orthodoxy,

entreat Christ our God to grant us His great mercy!

### KONTAKIA

#### Resurrection, tone 3

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb,

O merciful One,

Leading us from the gates of death.

On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;

With the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise

The divine majesty of Thy power.

#### Martyrs, tone 4

From your youth you were good athletes, wise Marian and Martyrius,

vanquishing the Arian heretics;

you kept the faith perfect by following in the footsteps of your bishop and teacher Paul,

therefore, you are worthy to be with him in eternal life,

as respected defenders of the Holy Trinity.

### **Steadfast Protectress of Christians**

Steadfast protectress of Christians,

Constant advocate before the creator:

Do not despise the cry of us sinners,

But in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith.

Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos,

For you always protect those who honor you.

**PROKEIMENON, tone 3:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

**vs.** Clap your hands, all ye people, shout to God with loud songs of joy!

**EPISTLE: (200) Galatians 1:11-19** Brethren, I make known to you that the Gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, neither was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in the religion of the Jews, how I persecuted the Church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in the religion of the Jews beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me by His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, neither did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were Apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him for fifteen days. But I saw none of the other Apostles except for James, the brother of the Lord...

**Alleluia in the third tone:** In Thee, O lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.

**vs.** Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me.

**GOSPEL: (83) Luke 16:19-31** Jesus said to the Jews, there was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in

anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us. And he said, then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment. But Abraham said, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent. He said to him, If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.

**COMMUNION HYMN:** Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!  
Alleluia....