

The 3rd Day of February

⊗ The Righteous God-bearer Symeon and Anna the Prophetess.

And Equal-to-the-Apostle Nikolai, Archbishop of Tokyo and Apostle to Japan, whose service is provided separately.

Evening Service

At “Lord, I call...” 6 stikhera:

3 stikhera of the Feast in Tone 1: *Special melody: “Joy of the ranks of heavens...”*

The Creator of all and our Deliverer /
Is borne into the temple by His Virgin Mother, /
And receiving Him the elder cries aloud in joy /
Now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace, O Good One; ///
Let this be done according to Thy will!

Symeon receives the Creator of all from the arms of *the* Virgin, /
The Savior of all who was begotten before all ages; /
And he cries aloud saying: /
I have beheld Thy brilliant radiance shining forth, /
Now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace, O Good One; ///
For mine eyes have beheld Thee today.

Symeon bears in his arms *the* Savior /
Who, in the fullness of time was born for the salvation of mankind; /
And he cries aloud rejoicing: /
I have seen the light of the nations and the glory of Israel /
Now lettest Thou thy servant depart from among those here in peace ///
According to Thy command, for Thou art God!

And 3 stikhera in Tone 4: *Special Melody: “Thou hast given a sign...”*

O divinely-inspired one, /
As one righteous, perfected, and glorious in all, /
Thou didst take up in thine arms the One Perfect God /
Who didst come, Incarnate, to justify the world. /
And thou didst cry out to Him that thou mightiest be released from thy body: /
Now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace, /
For I have beheld Thee today ///
O Thou Who lovest mankind.

Young in spirit, yet elderly in body, O Symeon /
Thou wast given a promise not to see death until thou didst behold in thine arms /

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The young Babe Who before time is the God and Creator of all /
Who had humbled Himself to take on our flesh /
And beholding Him thou didst cry out rejoicing: ///
Asking to be released from that same flesh and so come into the *divine* mansions.

The divinely-inspired Anna /
And the all-rich Symeon, resplendent in prophecy, /
Are manifest as blameless according to the Law /
Beholding the Bestower of the Law manifest among us as a little Babe. /
Therefore, let us bow down in worship before Him /
And joyously celebrate today their memory ///
Glorifying, as is meet, the Lord Jesus, *Who* loveth mankind.

Glory..., now and ever..., Tone 5: (the composition of Germanus)

The Ancient of Days, having become a Babe /
Is borne into the temple by His Virgin Mother /
Fulfilling the promise of His own Law; /
And Symeon, receiving Him said: /
O Holy One, now lettest Thou thy servant depart in peace ///
For mine eyes have *seen* Thy salvation.

At the Apostikha, these stikhera in Tone 1: Special Melody: “Joy of the ranks of heaven...”

Let us celebrate today the saving grace of the ineffable manifestation of God: /
For Christ God, having without change became a Babe through the Virgin Maiden,
Is borne by His Mother into the temple of God His Father ///
And receiving Him, Symeon embraces Him in his arms.

Verse: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace.

Thou wast seen by *the* prophets of old /
Insofar as they were able, O Jesus; /
But now, Thou hast revealed Thyself of Thine own will, O Word of God, /
In the flesh through the Virgin Mary, O Christ, /
And hath made manifest to all Thy salvation, /
O Thou, who art descended from Adam, ///
For Thou art the lover of mankind.

Verse: A light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

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O Christ, Who of old laid down the Law upon Mount Sinai /
Now fulfills the Law upon Mount Zion; /
Thou hast desired to be carried forth into the temple in the arms of the Theotokos, /
And be given in to the arms of Symeon. ///
Together with the doves of sacrifice.

Glory..., now and ever..., Tone 1: *(the composition of Monk John)*

Today, He Who gave the Law to Moses upon Mount Sinai /
Submits Himself to the commands of the Law,
For in His loving kindness He has become likened to us. /
And now our Pure God, having opened the womb of the pure one /
Is offered to Himself, as God, ///
Freeing us from the curse of the Law and enlightening our souls.

The Troparion of the Feast, Tone 1:

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace! /
From thee hast risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, /
Who gives light to those in darkness. /
Rejoice, also, O righteous elder; /
Thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls ///
Who grants us the resurrection.

Morning Service

At “God is the Lord...,” *The Troparion, thrice.*

The Kontakion of the Saint, Tone 4: *Special Melody: “Thou hast appeared today...”*

Today the elder asked to be loosed /
From the bonds of this life of corruption ///
Receiving in his arms Christ, the Creator and Lord.

The Kontakion of the Feast, Tone 1:

By Thy Nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb, /
And didst bless Simeon’s hands, O Christ God. /
Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. ///
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of mankind!

At the Apostikha, these stikhera in Tone 6: *Special Melody: "On the third day..."*

Take up in thine arms, O Symeon, /
Take up the Creator of all; /
O Elder, take up Christ to Whom the Virgin Maiden gave birth without seed ///
Unto the joy of our race.

Verse: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace.

Let us praise the Giver of the Law, /
Before whom the hosts of angels tremble; /
Come all ye people assembled /
And let us praise the only Benefactor, ///
Unto the salvation of our souls.

Verse: A light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, /
From the bonds of corruption /
As thou didst promise, /
For I have beheld Thee, O Christ /
The Pre-eternal Light Which enlightens the Gentiles and Israel.

Glory..., now and ever..., Tone 2:

Today the Holy Virgin brought the Holy One to the priest in the Temple, /
And stretching for his hands, Symeon received Him; /
And rejoicing, he cried aloud: /
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace /
Let this be according to Thy word!

Liturgy

At the Beatitudes, 8 troparia: 4 from Ode 1 of the Canon of the Feast, and 4 from Ode 4 of the Canon to the Saint.

The Prokeimenon of the Feast and one for the Saints, in Tone 7: The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall set his hope in Him.

The Epistle is to the Hebrews, pericope 321-ctr. The Alleluia of the Feast and one for the Saints in Tone 7, verse: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

The Gospel is according to Luke, pericope 8.

The Communion Hymn of the Feast and also for the Saint: The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.