

Feast day of St. John, the Forerunner



The Church today commemorates the Synaxis, or assembly, of John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist and Forerunner.

Today Christians celebrate the Synaxis in honor of the most sacred Forerunner, as he ministered at the mystery of the Divine Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Apolytikion of Synaxis of John the Forerunner

Second Tone

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner; for thou hast proved to be truly even more venerable than the Prophets, since thou was granted to baptize in the running waters Him Whom they proclaimed. Wherefore, having contested for the truth, thou didst rejoice to announce the good tidings even to those in Hades: that God hath appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting us great mercy.

Kontakion of Synaxis of John the Forerunner

Plagal of the First Tone

The Jordan accepted Your presence in the flesh and reversed its course in fear. John, fulfilling the spiritual ministry, fell back in awe. The ranks of Angels, seeing You in the flesh, baptized in the river, were amazed, and all who were in darkness were filled with light, praising You who appeared and enlightened all.

