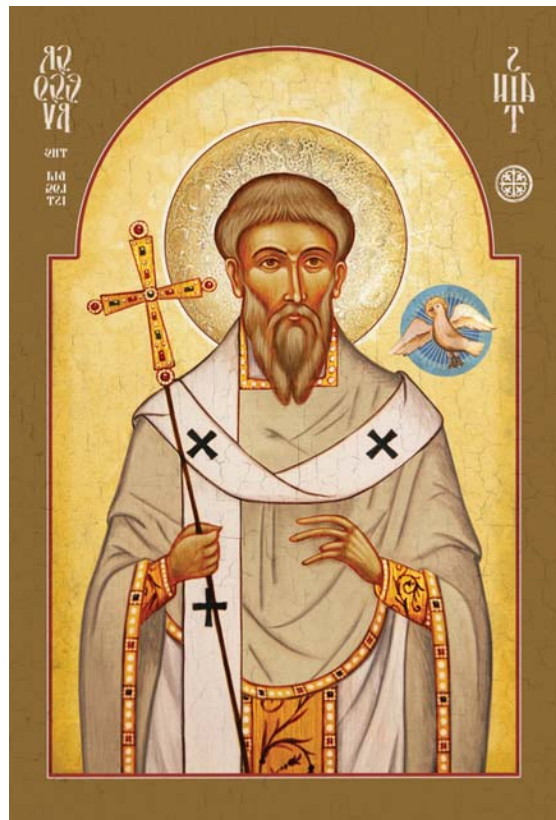


THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

Saint Gregory the Dialogist and the Pope of Rome

As served on Wednesdays of Great Lent



Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
Chambersburg, PA

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

As Celebrated on Wednesdays of Great Lent

DEACON: Bless, Master!

PRIEST: Blessed is the Kingdom: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;
both now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

ALL: O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.
O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and our God.
O come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ our King and our God.

PSALM 103

READER: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire. Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back forever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid. The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice. He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, to bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine to maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread which strengtheneth man's heart.

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE⇒

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares. He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad; young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. Man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all. The earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there is that leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being. May my words be sweet unto Him; I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul. The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.


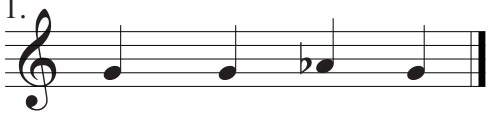
ALL: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.




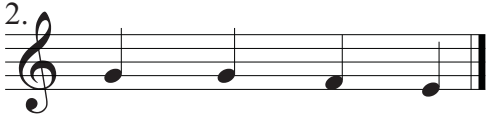
THE GREAT LITANY

DEACON: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 


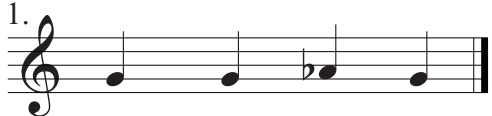
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For the peace from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 


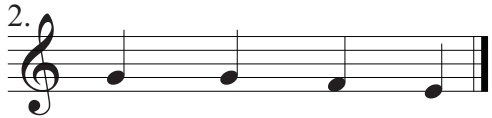
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the Holy Churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For this Holy House, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God, enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For our father and Metropolitan N., (and our Bishop N.), for the venerable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For the President of the United States, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: 
Lord, have mer - cy.


or

1. 
Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For healthful seasons, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: 
Lord, have mer - cy.


or

2. 
Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For travelers by sea, by land, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

or

1. 
Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: 
Lord, have mer - cy.


or

2. 
Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

or

1. 
Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE: 
To Thee, O Lord.

or


To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and rich in mercy, give ear to our prayer, and attend to the voice of our supplication. Show us a sign of Thy favor; lead us in Thy way, so that we may walk in Thy truth. Gladden our hearts, so that we may fear Thy holy Name, for Thou art great, and Thou workest wonders. Thou alone art God, and there is none like Thee among the gods, O Lord. Thou art mighty in mercy and benevolent in strength, to aid and to comfort and to save all those who put their trust in Thy holy Name.

For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

EIGHTEENTH KATHISMA

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th Wednesdays of Great Lent

PSALM 119

READER: Unto the Lord in mine affliction have I cried, and He heard me. O Lord, deliver my soul from unrighteous lips and from a crafty tongue. What shall be given unto thee and what shall be added unto thee for thy crafty tongue? The arrows of the mighty one, sharpened with coals of the desert. Woe is me, for my sojourning is prolonged; I have tented with the tentings of Kedar; my soul hath long been a sojourner. *With them that hate peace I was peaceable; when I spake unto them, they warred against me without a cause.*

PSALM 120

READER: I have lifted up mine eyes to the mountains, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth. Give not thy foot unto moving, and may He not slumber that keepeth thee. Behold, He shall not slumber nor shall He sleep, He that keepeth Israel. The Lord shall keep thee; the Lord is thy shelter at thy right hand. The sun shall not burn thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall keep thee from all evil; the Lord shall guard thy soul. *The Lord shall keep thy coming in and thy going out, from henceforth and forevermore.*

PSALM 121

READER: I was glad because of them that said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet have stood in thy courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city which its dwellers share in concord. For there the tribes went up, the tribes of the Lord, as a testimony for Israel, to give thanks to the Name of the Lord. For there are set thrones unto judgment, thrones over the house of David. Ask now for the things which are for the peace of Jerusalem, and for the prosperity of them that love thee. Let peace be now in thy strength, and prosperity in thy palaces. For the sake of my brethren and my neighbors, I spake peace concerning thee. *Because of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought good things for thee.*

PSALM 122

READER: Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, unto Thee that dwellest in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaid look unto the hands of her mistress, so do our eyes look unto the Lord our God, until He take pity on us. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for greatly are we filled with abasement. *Greatly hath our soul been filled therewith; let reproach come upon them that prosper, and abasement on the proud.*

PSALM 123

READER: Had it not been that the Lord was with us, let Israel now say, had it not been that the Lord was with us, when men rose up against us, then had they swallowed us up alive. When their wrath raged against us, then had the water overwhelmed us. Our soul hath passed through a torrent; then had our soul passed through the water that is irresistible. Blessed be the Lord Who hath not given us to be a prey to their teeth. Our soul like a sparrow was delivered out of the snare of the hunters. The snare is broken, and we are delivered. *Our help is in the Name of the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth.*

ALL: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.



Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. {3x}

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

THE LITTLE LITANY

DEACON: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: Lord, do not rebuke us in Thine anger, or discipline us in Thy wrath, but deal with us in all Thy kindness, O physician and healer of our souls. Bring us to Thy desired haven. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of Thy truth. And grant us that the completion of this day, and our whole life may be peaceful and sinless, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints.

For Thine is the majesty, and Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

PSALM 124

READER: *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Sion; he that dwelleth at Jerusalem, nevermore shall he be shaken. Mountains are round about her, and the Lord is round about His people from henceforth and forevermore. For the Lord will not permit the rod of sinners to be upon the lot of the righteous, lest the righteous stretch forth their hands unto iniquities. Do good, O Lord, unto them that are good and unto the upright of heart. *But them that turn aside unto crooked ways shall the Lord lead away with the workers of iniquity; peace be upon Israel.*

PSALM 125

READER: When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion, we became as men that are comforted. Then was our mouth filled with joy, and our tongue with rejoicing. Then shall they say among the nations: The Lord hath done great things unto them. The Lord hath done great things among us, and we are become glad. Turn again, O Lord, our captivity, like streams in the south. They that sow with tears shall reap with rejoicing. *In their going they went, and they wept as they cast their seeds. But in their coming shall they come with rejoicing, bearing their sheaves.*

PSALM 126

READER: Except the Lord build the house, in vain do they labor that build it. Except the Lord guard the city, in vain doth he watch that guardeth her; it is vain for you to rise at dawn. Ye that eat the bread of sorrow, rouse yourselves after resting, when He hath given sleep to His beloved. Lo, sons are the heritage of the Lord, the reward of the fruit of the womb. Like arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are the sons of them that were outcasts. *Blessed is he that shall fulfill his desires with them; they shall not be put to shame when they speak to their enemies in the gates.*

PSALM 127

READER: Blessed are all they that fear the Lord, that walk in His ways. Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy labors; blessed art thou, and well shall it be with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine on the sides of thy house, thy sons like young olive trees round about thy table. Behold, so shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord. The Lord bless thee out of Sion, and mayest thou see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. *And mayest thou see thy children's children; peace be upon Israel.*

PSALM 128

READER: Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, let Israel now say,
Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, and yet they have not
prevailed against me. The sinners wrought upon my back, they lengthened out
their iniquity. The Lord is righteous; He hath cut asunder the necks of sinners.
Let them be put to shame and turned back, all they that hate Sion. Let them be
as the grass upon the housetops, which before it is plucked up is withered away.
Wherefore the reaper filleth not his hand, nor he that gathereth sheaves his
bosom. Nor have they that passed by said: *The blessing of the Lord come upon you;
we have blessed you in the name of the Lord.*

ALL: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and
ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.



Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

THE LITTLE LITANY

DEACON: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord, our God, remember us sinners, Thy worthless servants, when we call upon Thy holy Name; and let us not be put to shame in our hope of Thy mercy; but grant us, O Lord, all our petitions which are for our salvation. And make us worthy to love and fear Thee with all our hearts, and to do Thy will in all things.

For Thou art a good God Who lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

PSALM 129

READER: *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; Lord hear my voice. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness, that Thou mayest be feared. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities*

PSALM 130

READER: O Lord, my heart is not exalted, nor are mine eyes become lofty. Nor have I walked in things too great or too marvelous for me. If I were not humble-minded but exalted my soul, as one weaned from his mother, so wouldst Thou requite my soul. *Let Israel hope in the Lord, from henceforth and forevermore.*

PSALM 131

READER: Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. How he made an oath unto the Lord, and vowed unto the God of Jacob: I shall not go into the dwelling of my house, I shall not ascend upon the bed of my couch, I shall not give sleep to mine eyes, nor slumber to mine eyelids, nor rest to my temples, until I find a place for the Lord, a habitation for the God of Jacob. Lo, we have heard of it in Ephratha, we have found it in the plains of the wood. Let us go forth into His tabernacles, let us worship at the place where His feet have stood. Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness. Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy righteous shall rejoice. For the sake of David Thy servant, turn not Thy face away from Thine anointed one. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not annul it: of the fruit of thy loins will I set upon thy throne. If thy sons keep My covenant and these testimonies which I will teach them, their sons also shall sit forever on thy throne. For the Lord hath elected Sion, He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself. This is My rest forever and ever; here will I dwell, for I have chosen her. Blessing, I will bless her pursuit; her beggars will I satisfy with bread. Her priests will I clothe with salvation, and her saints with rejoicing shall rejoice. There will I make to spring forth a horn for David, I have prepared a lamp for My Christ. *His enemies will I clothe with shame, but upon Him shall My sanctification flourish.*

PSALM 132

READER: Behold now, what is so good or so joyous as for brethren to dwell together in unity? It is like the oil of myrrh upon the head, which runneth down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, which runneth down to the fringe of his raiment. *It is like the dew of Aermom, which cometh down upon the mountains of Sion. For there the Lord commanded the blessing, life forevermore.*

PSALM 133

READER: Behold now, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God, in the nights lift up your hands unto the holies, and bless the Lord. *The Lord bless thee out of Sion, He that made heaven and the earth.*

ALL: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!



TURN TO PAGE 23

SEVENTH KATHISMA

5th Wednesday of Great Lent

PSALM 46

READER: Clap your hands, all ye nations; shout unto God with a voice of rejoicing, for the Lord Most High is terrible, a great King over all the earth. He hath subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He hath chosen us for His inheritance, the beauty of Jacob, which He loved. God is gone up in jubilation, the Lord with the voice of the trumpet. O chant unto our God, chant ye; chant unto our King, chant ye. For God is king of all the earth, O chant ye with understanding. God is king over the nations, God sitteth upon His holy throne. *The princes of the peoples are gathered together with the God of Abraham; for God's mighty ones of the earth are greatly exalted.*

PSALM 47

READER: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, in His holy mountain, in the well-rooted joy of all the earth, the mountains of Sion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is known in her towers, when He cometh to help her. For lo, the kings of the earth were assembled; they came together. When they saw her thus they marvelled, they were troubled, they were shaken, trembling took hold of them; there were pangs as of a woman in travail. With a vehement wind shalt Thou shatter the ships of Tharsis. Even as we have heard, so too we have seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God. God hath laid her foundations unto eternity. We have thought, O God, of Thy mercy in the midst of Thy people. According to Thy name, O God, so is Thy praise also unto the ends of the earth; Thy right hand is full of righteousness. Let Mount Sion be glad, and let the daughters of Judea rejoice, because of Thy judgements, O Lord. Encircle Sion and encompass her; tell her story in her towers. Set your hearts upon her strength, and consider her bulwarks, that ye may tell it to another generation. *For He is our God for ever, yea for ever and ever; He shall shepherd us unto the ages.*

PSALM 48

READER: Hear this, all ye nations; give ear, all ye that inhabit the world, both ye that are born of earth, and ye sons of men, rich and poor men together. My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. I will incline mine ear unto a parable, I will unfold my problem on the psaltery. Wherefore should I fear in an evil day? The iniquity at my heel shall compass me about. There be some that trust in their strength, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches. A brother cannot redeem; shall a man redeem? He shall not give to God a ransom for himself, nor the price of the redemption of his own soul, though he hath laboured for ever, and shall live to the end. For he shall not see corruption, when he shall see wise men dying. The mindless man and the witless shall perish together, and they shall leave their riches to others. And their graves shall be their houses unto eternity, their dwelling places unto generation and generation, though they have called their lands after their own names. And man, being in honour, did not understand; he is compared to the mindless cattle, and is become like unto them. This way of theirs is a stumbling-block for them, yet afterwards they will please with their mouth. Like sheep they are laid in hades, death shall be their shepherd. And the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning, and their help shall wax old in hades; they have been cast out from their glory. Yet God shall redeem my soul out of the hand of hades, when he receiveth me. Be not afraid when a man becometh rich, nor when the glory of his house is increased. For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away, nor shall his glory descend after him. For his soul shall be blessed in his lifetime; he will acknowledge Thee while Thou doest good unto him. He shall enter into the generation of his fathers; he shall not see light unto eternity. *And man, being in honour, did not understand; he is compared to the mindless cattle, and is become like unto them.*

ALL: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

THE LITTLE LITANY

DEACON: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:



Lord, have mer - cy.

or



1. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE:



Lord, have mer - cy.

or



2. Lord, have mer - cy

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE:



To Thee, O Lord.

or



To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: Lord, do not rebuke us in Thine anger, or discipline us in Thy wrath, but deal with us in all Thy kindness, O physician and healer of our souls. Bring us to Thy desired haven. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of Thy truth. And grant us that the completion of this day, and our whole life may be peaceful and sinless, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints.

For Thine is the majesty, and Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:



A - men.

or



A - men

PSALM 49

READER: *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

The God of gods, the Lord, hath spoken, and He hath called the earth from the rising of the sun and unto the setting thereof. Out of Sion is the magnificence of His comeliness. God shall come visibly, yea, our God, and shall not keep silence. Fire shall blaze before Him, and round about Him shall there be a mighty tempest. He shall summon heaven above and the earth that He may judge His people. Gather together unto Him His holy ones who have established His covenant upon sacrifices. And the heavens shall declare His righteousness, for God is judge. Hear, O my people, and I will speak unto thee, O Israel, and I will testify against thee; I am God, thy God. Not for sacrifices will I reprove thee; nay, thy whole-burnt offerings are continually before Me. I will not welcome bullocks out of thy house, nor he-goats out of thy flocks. For Mine are all the beasts of the field, cattle on the mountains, and oxen. I know all the fowls of the air, and with Me is the beauty of the field. If I hunger, not to thee will I tell it; for Mine is the world, and the fullness thereof. Shall I eat of the flesh of bulls? Or the blood of goats, shall I drink it? Sacrifice unto God a sacrifice of praise, and pay unto the Most High thy vows. And call upon Me in the day of thine affliction, and I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me. But unto the sinner God hath said: Why declarest thou My statutes and takest up My covenant in thy mouth? Thou hast hated instruction, and hast cast out My words behind thee. If thou sawest a thief, thou didst run with him; and with the adulterer thou hast set thy portion. Thy mouth hath abounded with evil, and thy tongue hath woven deceits. Thou didst sit down and speak against thy brother, and against thine own mother's son didst thou lay a stumbling-block; these things thou didst, and I kept silence. Thou didst think an iniquity, that I should be like unto thee; I will reprove thee, and bring thy sins before thy face. Wherefore, understand these things, ye that forget God, lest He snatch you away and there be none to deliver you. *A sacrifice of praise shall glorify Me, and there is the way wherein I shall show unto him My salvation.*

PSALM 50

READER: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy: and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out mine iniquity. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge mine iniquity: and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done evil in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sins did my mother conceive me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth: the unclear and hidden things of Thy wisdom Thou hast made clear to me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness: the bones which Thou hast broken shall rejoice. Turn away Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence: and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation: and steady me with a guiding spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Thy ways: and the impious shall be converted unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy righteousness. O Lord, open Thou my lips: and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For hadst Thou desired sacrifice, I would have given it Thee: Thou delightest not in burnt offerings. Sacrifices to God are a contrite spirit: a contrite and humble heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good will unto Zion: that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up. *Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole-burnt offerings: then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.*

ALL: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.


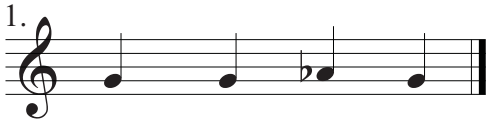
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.


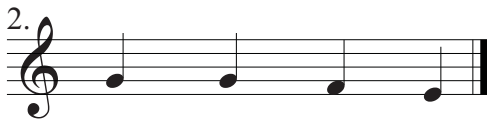
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

THE LITTLE LITANY

DEACON: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord, our God, remember us sinners, Thy worthless servants, when we call upon Thy holy Name; and let us not be put to shame in our hope of Thy mercy; but grant us, O Lord, all our petitions which are for our salvation. And make us worthy to love and fear Thee with all our hearts, and to do Thy will in all things.

For Thou art a good God Who lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

PSALM 51

READER: *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Why dost thou boast in evil, O mighty man, and in iniquity all the day long? Thy tongue hath devised unrighteousness, like a sharpened razor hast thou wrought deceit. Thou hast loved evil more than goodness, unrighteousness more than to speak righteousness. Thou hast loved all the words of engulfing ruin, and a deceitful tongue. Wherefore, God will destroy thee at the end, He will pluck thee out and remove thee from thy dwelling place, and thy root out of the land of the living. The righteous shall see and fear, and shall laugh at him, and say: Lo, this is the man that made not God his helper, but trusted in the abundance of his riches, and strengthened himself in his vanity. But as for me, I am like a fruitful olive tree in the house of the Lord; I have hoped in the mercy of God for ever, and unto the ages of ages. *I will give praise unto Thee for ever, for what Thou hast done, and I will wait on Thy name, for it is good before Thy saints.*

PSALM 52

READER: The fool hath said in his heart: There is no God. They are corrupt and are abominable in iniquities; there is none that doeth good. God looked down from heaven upon the sons of man, to see if there be any that understand or seek after God. They are all gone astray, they are altogether rendered useless; there is none that doeth good, no not one. Shall not all they that work iniquity come to understanding, they that eat up my people as they eat bread? They have not called upon the Lord. There have they feared with fear where no fear is. For God hath scattered the bones of man-pleasers; they have been put to shame, because God hath set them at nought. *Who shall give out of Sion the salvation of Israel? When God hath turned back the captivity of His people, Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad.*

PSALM 53

READER: O God, in Thy name save me, and in Thy strength do Thou judge me. O God, hearken unto my prayer, give ear unto the words of my mouth. For strangers are risen up against me, and mighty men have sought after my soul and have not set God before themselves. For behold, God helpeth me, and the Lord is the protector of my soul. He will bring evils upon mine enemies. Utterly destroy them by Thy truth. Willingly shall I sacrifice unto Thee; I will confess Thy name, O Lord, for it is good. *For out of every affliction hast Thou delivered me, and mine eye hath looked down upon mine enemies.*

PSALM 54

READER: Give ear, O God, unto my prayer, and disdain not my supplication; attend unto me, and hear me. I was grieved in my meditation, and I was troubled at the voice of the enemy and at the oppression of the sinner; because they have turned iniquity upon me, and with wrath were they angry against me. My heart is troubled within me, and the terror of death is fallen upon me. Fear and trembling are come upon me, and darkness hath covered me. And I said: Who will give me wings like a dove? And I will fly, and be at rest. Lo, I have fled afar off and have dwelt in the wilderness. I waited for God that saveth me from faintheartedness and from tempest. Plunge them into the depths, O Lord, and divide their tongues, for I have seen iniquity and gainsaying in the city. Day and night they go round about her upon her walls; iniquity and toil and unrighteousness are in the midst of her. And usury and deceit have not departed from her streets. For if mine enemy had reviled me, I might have endured it. And if he that hateth me had spoken boastful words against me, I might have hid myself from him. But thou it was, O man of like soul with me, my guide and my familiar friend, Thou who together with me didst sweeten my repasts; in the house of God I walked with thee in oneness of mind. Let death come upon such ones, and let them go down alive into hades. For wickedness is in their dwellings, and in the midst of them. As for me, unto God have I cried, and the Lord hearkened unto me. Evening, morning, and noonday will I tell of it and will declare it, and He will hear my voice. He will redeem my soul in peace from them that draw nigh unto me, for they among many were with me. God will hear, and He will humble them, He that is before the ages. For to them there is no requital, because they have not feared God; He hath stretched forth His hand in retribution. They have defiled His covenant; they were scattered by the wrath of His countenance, and their hearts have convened. Their words were smoother than oil, and yet they are darts. Cast thy care upon the Lord, and He will nourish thee; He will never permit the righteous to be shaken. But Thou, O God, shalt bring those men down into the pit of destruction. *Bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but as for me, O Lord, I will hope in Thee.*



ALL: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. {3x}

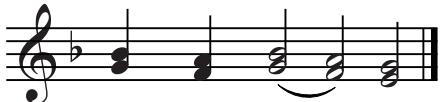

O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!

THE LITTLE LITANY

PRIEST: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRIEST: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRIEST: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord, Who art hymned by the holy angelic powers with never-silent hymns and incessant praises, fill our mouths with songs of praise, so that we may ascribe majesty to Thy holy Name. Grant us a share and an inheritance with those who fear Thee in truth, and who keep Thy commandments, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints.

For Thou art our God, the God of mercy and salvation, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

PSALM 140

First Week turn to page 24

Second Week turn to page 29

Third Week turn to page 34

Fourth Week turn to page 39

Fifth Week turn to page 44

Sixth Week turn to page 52

PSALM 140

Mode Plagal 4 / Tone 8 - First Week of Great Lent



O Lord, O Lord, I have
cried out un - to Thee, hear Thou
me. Hear Thou me,
O Lord. O Lord, I have
cried out un - to Thee, hear
Thou me. Give ear to the voice
of my sup - pli - ca - - - tion, when I
cry out un - to Thee. Hear
Thou me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth be -
fore Thee as the in - - - cense,
and the lift - - - ing up of my
hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - - - fice.
Hear Thou me, O Lord.



VERSES OF PSALMS 140, 141, AND 129

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

STICHERA

First Week of Great Lent

Mode Plagal 4 / Tone 8

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*

While fasting physically, brethren, let us also fast spiritually. Let us loose every knot of iniquity. Let us tear up every unrighteous bond. Let us distribute bread to the hungry, and welcome into our homes those who have no roof over their heads, so that we may receive the Great Mercy from Christ our God.

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

While fasting physically, brethren, let us also fast spiritually. Let us loose every knot of iniquity. Let us tear up every unrighteous bond. Let us distribute bread to the hungry, and welcome into our homes those who have no roof over their heads, so that we may receive the Great Mercy from Christ our God.

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

Fame and praise befits the saints, for they bowed their necks beneath the sword to Thee Who didst bow the heavens and come down. They shed their blood for Thee Who didst empty Thyself and take the form of a servant. By emulating Thy poverty, they also humbled themselves even unto death. By their prayers have mercy on us, O God, according to the abundance of Thy mercies.

Mode 2

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

Jesus, the spiritually radiant Sun, hath sent ye into the world as shining flashes of lightning, O apostles and eyewitnesses of God. By the rays of your divine doctrines the error of darkness was swept away, enlightening those who were held in the ignorant gloom. Entreat Him to grant us enlightenment and Great Mercy.

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

Elias was enlightened through fasting. He mounted the chariot of good works and was taken up to the heights of heaven. Emulate him, O humble soul. Abstain from every evil and jealousy, from every fleeting pleasure, so that ye might be cleansed of corrupting disease, the fires of Gehenna, crying to Christ: O Lord, glory to Thee.

Mode Plagal 1 / Tone 5

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

O divine apostles, fervent intercessors for the world, defenders of the Orthodox. Ye possess the authority to entreat Christ our God with boldness. We entreat ye to pray for us, O honorable ones, that we might spend the good time of fasting in joyousness and receive the grace of the consubstantial Trinity. Pray for our souls, O great and glorious preachers.

STICHERA FROM THE MENAION

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

First from the Menaion

Verse 3. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Second from the Menaion

Verse 2. *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Third from the Menaion

Verse 1. *For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Fourth from the Menaion

THEOTOKION

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion from the Menaion



TURN TO PAGE 57

PSALM 140

Mode 1 - Second Week of Great Lent



O Lord, I have cried out un - to
Thee, hear Thou me. Hear
Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have
cried out un - to Thee, hear
Thou me. Give ear to the voice
of my sup - - pli - ca - - - - tion
when I cry out un - to Thee.
Hear Thou me (ee), O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth be -
fore Thee as the in - - - -
cense, and the lift - ing up of my hands
as the eve - ning sac - ri - - - - fice.
Hear Thou me (ee), O Lord.

LET MY PRAYER
ARISE AS
INCENSE.



VERSES OF PSALMS 140, 141, AND 129

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

STICHERA

Second Week of Great Lent

Mode 1

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*

Having undertaken the spiritual fast, brethren, let us speak no lies with our tongues, nor give each other a cause for scandal. But illuminating the light of our souls through repentance, let us cry to Christ with tears: Remit our falls in sin, O Lover of mankind.

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

Having undertaken the spiritual fast, brethren, let us speak no lies with our tongues, nor give each other a cause for scandal. But illuminating the light of our souls through repentance, let us cry to Christ with tears: Remit our falls in sin, O Lover of mankind.

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

O most-laudable martyrs, the earth did not hide you, for heaven received you. The gate of Paradise was opened unto you, where ye now delight in the tree of life. Entreat Christ that peace and Great Mercy be granted to our souls.

Mode 3

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

Through the prayers of Thy divine Apostles, O Lord, enable us to perform a proper fast with compunction of mind. That, being saved by Thee, we may glorify Thee, O gracious and merciful God.

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

Thy coming will be great and fearful, O Lord, when Thou wilt come in righteous judgment. Do not condemn me, though I stand condemned, but spare me as the compassionate God, through the acceptable prayers of Thine Apostles

Mode Plagal 2 / Tone 6

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

O Apostles of Christ, the lights of those born on earth, and treasures for the world of the knowledge of God. Through your prayers deliver those, who praise you, from temptation. Enable us to pass the time of fasting in peace, as children. So that having attained the passions of Christ, with boldness we may offer songs of praise to our God.

STICHERA FROM THE MENAION

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

First from the Menaion

Verse 3. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Second from the Menaion

Verse 2. *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Third from the Menaion

Verse 1. *For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Fourth from the Menaion

THEOTOKION

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion from the Menaion



TURN TO PAGE 57

PSALM 140

Mode 4 - Third Week of Great Lent



O Lord, I have cried out un - to Thee,
hear Thou me, Hear Thou
me, O Lord. O Lord, I
have cried out un - to Thee, hear Thou
me. Give ear to the voice of my
sup - pli - ca - - - - tion, when I
cry out un - to Thee. Hear Thou
me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth before
Thee as the incense, and the
lifting up of my hands
as the evening sacrifice.
Hear Thou me, O Lord.



VERSES OF PSALMS 140, 141, AND 129

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

STICHERA

Third Week of Great Lent

Mode 4

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*

I have blindly squandered my father's riches. I am now empty, living in a land of evil men. In my foolishness, I have become like the senseless beasts, and am now stripped of every divine grace. So in my return, I cry to Thee, O merciful and compassionate Father: I have sinned, O God, receive me in repentance and have mercy on me.

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

I have blindly squandered my father's riches. I am now empty, living in a land of evil men. In my foolishness, I have become like the senseless beasts, and am now stripped of every divine grace. So in my return, I cry to Thee, O merciful and compassionate Father: I have sinned, O God, receive me in repentance and have mercy on me.

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

O martyrs of the Lord, inspired sacrifices, perfect victims for God, sheep who know God and are known by Him, whose pasture cannot be trespassed by wolves, pray that we too may graze with ye near peaceful waters.

Mode Plagal 2 / Tone 6

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

You were revealed as the rays of the spiritual Sun, O apostles who beheld our God, entreat Him to illumine our souls and deliver us from the darkness of passions, so that we may behold the saving day. By your intercessions and prayers may our hearts be purified, the hearts wounded by the evil one. And we will honor you in faith forever, for you saved the world by your wise preaching.

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

I, the prodigal, have wandered away into a land of evil, and I have squandered the riches which Thou hadst given me. Now I am pining with hunger, O compassionate Father. Clothed in the shame of transgression, I am now stripped of righteous deeds and grace. I cry to Thee: I have sinned, but I know Thy goodness. Receive me as one of Thy servants, O compassionate Christ, through the prayers of the apostles who loved Thee.

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

O apostles of the Savior, lights and benefactors and saviors of the world, seers of God's glory and heaven, adorned with miracles and signs of healing, fervently pray to the Lord for us so that our prayers may be accepted. May we all be made worthy of seeing and kissing the life-bearing Cross with fear. In worshipping it, send down on us Thy mercy, O Savior, as the Lover of mankind.

STICHERA FROM THE MENAION

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

First from the Menaion

Verse 3. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Second from the Menaion

Verse 2. *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Third from the Menaion

Verse 1. *For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Fourth from the Menaion

THEOTOKION

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion from the Menaion



TURN TO PAGE 57

PSALM 140

Mode 4 - Fourth Week of Great Lent



O Lord, I have cried out un - to Thee,
hear Thou me, Hear Thou
me, O Lord. O Lord, I
have cried out un - to Thee, hear Thou
me. Give ear to the voice of my
sup - pli - ca - - - tion, when I
cry out un - to Thee. Hear Thou
me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth be -
 fore Thee as the in - - - cense, and the
 lift - - ing up of my
 hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - - - fice.
 Hear Thou me, O Lord.

LET MY PRAYER
 ARISE AS
 INCENSE.



VERSES OF PSALMS 140, 141, AND 129

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

STICHERA

Fourth Week of Great Lent

Mode 4

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*

The fast, the means of receiving blessings, hath now led us halfway through its course, pleasing God with the days that are past and proposing purposeful tasks for the days ahead; for the increase of blessings produces a greater number of good deeds. Therefore, let us cry to Christ, the giver of all blessings; O Thou Who didst fast and endure the cross for our sakes, enable us to partake uncondemned of Thy divine Pascha, to lead our lives in peace, worthily glorifying Thee with the Father and the Spirit.

Mode Plagal 1 / Tone 5

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

Those who thirst for spiritual blessings perform their good deeds in secret, not noising them abroad in markets, but cherishing and keeping them in their hearts. For He who sees all that is done in secret will reward us for our abstinence. Let us fulfill the fast without sad faces, but ceaselessly praying in the depths of our hearts: Our Father, Who art in heaven, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

With boundless love in your souls, O holy martyrs, ye did not forsake Christ. Enduring the various wounds of suffering, ye laid low the torturers' impudence. Preserving unbending and unshakeable faith, ye were translated into heaven. Since ye received boldness before Him, entreat Him to grant peace to the world, and for our souls Great Mercy.

Mode 1

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

Let us clean our souls with the water of the fast. Let us draw near to the precious and pure cross of the Lord, venerating it in faith and drawing divine enlightenment, even now obtaining eternal salvation, peace and Great Mercy.

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

O Cross, boast of Apostles, surrounded by principalities, powers and archangels, save those who bow down before thee from all harm, and enable us to fulfill well the divine course of abstinence, to attain to the saving day, by which we are saved.

Grave Mode / Tone 7

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

Today, as we bow before the Cross of the Lord, let us cry: Rejoice, O tree of life, the tormentor of hell. Rejoice, O joy of the world, the destroyer of corruption. Rejoice, O power which drives out demons. Rejoice, O confirmation of the faithful, invincible weapon. Preserve and sanctify those who kiss thee.

STICHERA FROM THE MENAION

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

First from the Menaion

Verse 3. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Second from the Menaion

Verse 2. *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Third from the Menaion

Verse 1. *For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Fourth from the Menaion

THEOTOKION

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion from the Menaion



TURN TO PAGE 57

PSALM 140

Mode Plagal 4 / Tone 8 - Fifth Week of Great Lent



O Lord, O Lord, I have
cried out un - to Thee, hear Thou
me. Hear Thou me,
O Lord. O Lord, I have
cried out un - to Thee, hear
Thou me. Give ear to the voice
of my sup - pli - ca - - - tion, when I
cry out un - to Thee. Hear
Thou me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth be -
fore Thee as the in - - - cense,
and the lift - - - ing up of my
hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - - - fice.
Hear Thou me, O Lord.



VERSES OF PSALMS 140, 141, AND 129

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.

+ *Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.*

In my wretchedness, I have fallen among the thieves of my own thoughts. My mind has been despoiled, and cruelly I have been beaten; all my soul is wounded, and stripped of the virtues I lie naked upon the highway of life. Seeing me in bitter pain and thinking that my wounds could not be healed, the priest neglected me and would not look at me. Unable to endure my soul-destroying agony, the Levite when he saw me passed me by on the other side. But Thou, O Christ my God, wast pleased to come, not from Samaria but incarnate from Mary; in Thy love for mankind, grant me healing and pour upon me Thy Great Mercy.

+ *I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.*

In my wretchedness, I have fallen among the thieves of my own thoughts. My mind has been despoiled, and cruelly I have been beaten; all my soul is wounded, and stripped of the virtues I lie naked upon the highway of life. Seeing me in bitter pain and thinking that my wounds could not be healed, the priest neglected me and would not look at me. Unable to endure my soul-destroying agony, the Levite when he saw me passed me by on the other side. But Thou, O Christ my God, wast pleased to come, not from Samaria but incarnate from Mary; in Thy love for mankind, grant me healing and pour upon me Thy Great Mercy.

+ *I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.*

If there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, rightly are these things ascribed to the saints. They bowed their necks beneath the sword for Thy sake, Who hast bowed the heavens and come down. They shed their blood for Thee, Who hast emptied Thyself and taken the form of a servant; they humbled themselves even unto death, following the example of Thy poverty. At their prayers have mercy upon us, O God, according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies.

+ *When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.*

O Lord, Thou hast made Thy holy disciples into living heavens. At their intercessions deliver me from the evils of the earth, and through abstinence lift up my thoughts to the understanding of Thy Passion, for Thou art merciful and lovest mankind.

+ *In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.*

The season of the fast helps all of us to perform the works of God. Let us weep, then, with our whole heart and cry to the Savior: Through Thy disciples, O Lord of many mercies, save us who with reverent fear sing the praises of Thy great love for mankind.

+ *I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.*

O ye apostles, worthy of all praise, intercessors for the world, physicians of the sick, guardians of health, as we pass through the time of the fast, protect us on our right hand and our left. By God's grace may we remain at peace with one another; preserve our mind untroubled by the passions, that all of us may sing a hymn of praise to the risen and triumphant Christ.

Mode 4: The 24 Penitential Stichera from Simeon the Translator

+ *Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.*

I have wasted all my life with harlots and publicans. How shall I repent, even in my old age, of the sins I have committed? Maker of all things and healer of the sick, before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

+ *I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.*

I am weighted down with the burden of my negligence and wallow in filth. I am pierced by the arrow of the devil and have defiled my nature that is according to Thine image. O Thou Who dost convert the negligent and deliver the sinful, before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

+ *Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.*

I have become a stumbling-block to men; born of the earth, I have cultivated earthly things. At Thy commandment I was joined in marriage, but I have transgressed Thine ordinance and defiled my bed. O Thou Who hast formed me from the earth, despise not Thy creature; but before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

+ *Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.*

Taking thought for my flesh, I have become the murderer for my soul. I have been made a plaything of the devils and a slave of sinful pleasures. In Thy compassion spare me, for Thou dost put to flight the demons: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*

More than all men have I willfully sinned, and so I am forsaken and left helpless. As the adversary of my soul, I have the carnal thoughts that darken me. O light of those in darkness, guide of all that go astray, before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

My soul shall live and praise Thee, saith the prophet. Seek me, Thy lost sheep, and number me in Thy flock. Grant me time for repentance, that with cries of sorrow I may call upon Thee. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

I have sinned, O Christ my God, I have sinned, rejecting Thy commandments. Be merciful unto me, O benefactor: that, escaping from the darkness, I may see with my inner eyes, and cry unto Thee in fear. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

Wild beasts encompass me; O snatch me from them, Master; for it is Thy will that all men should be saved and come to knowledge of the truth. As creator, save them all, and with them all save me. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

O my Benefactor, my Deliverer and my Savior, be Thou my healing. Cast me not away. Look upon me as I lie in my transgressions, and raise me up by Thine almighty power; and I will confess my deeds and cry to Thee: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

Like the foolish servant, I have hidden the talent that was given to me and buried it in the ground. I have been condemned as useless, and I no longer dare to ask Thee for forgiveness. But in Thy forbearance take pity on me that I too may cry unto Thee: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*
When the woman with an issue of blood touched the hem of Thy garment, Thou hast dried up the source of her sufferings. If I too approach Thee with unwavering faith, I will receive forgiveness of my sins. Accept me as Thou hast accepted her, and heal me from my pain. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 3. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

O Lord Who hast created heaven and earth by Thy word, Thou shalt sit upon the throne, and we shall all stand in Thy presence and confess to Thee our sins. Ere the day that comes, accept me in repentance; before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 2. *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Look upon me with a compassionate eye and be merciful unto me, O only Savior. Grant to my poor and wretched soul springs of healing water. Wash me clean from the filth of my actions that I may sing: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse 1. *For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

The devil hath prepared his weapons and hastens to ensnare my humble soul; and he hath made me, O merciful Lord, a stranger to the light of the knowledge of Thy countenance. But Thou art mighty in strength; O snatch me from his snares. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse J. *Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, O Thou that dwellest in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaiden look unto the hands of her mistress, so do our eyes wait upon the Lord our God, until He take pity upon us.*

I am utterly enslaved by the passions. I have forsaken the law and the Holy Scriptures. Heal me in every part, O loving Benefactor, Who for my sake hast become as I am. Turn me back, O merciful destroyer of the passions. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse I. *Have mercy upon us O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we are utterly humiliated. Let shame come on them that prosper, and abasement on the proud.*

The harlot washed Thy pure and precious feet with her tears, and she urges all men to approach Thee and receive the remission of their sins. Unto me also grant her faith, O Savior, that I may cry unto Thee: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse H. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

Cleanse the filth from my soul, O Thou Who for my sake wast made poor and hast become a young child according to the flesh. I am weak and broken, O Christ; send down upon me a drop of Thy mercy; wash the dirt away and heal me from my sickness. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse G. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

Strengthen my soul, O Master, so that it may run to Thee and ever serve Thee; for Thou art my guardian and protection, my defense and help. Enable me, O Word of God, to cry to Thee with boldness: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse F. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

Be Thou our rampart that cannot be overthrown, O Savior Jesus, our merciful God; for we have fallen into deceitful ways and actions. O Benefactor, raise up Thy creature, and in Thy compassion reconcile us to Thyself. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse E. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

I am become the Prodigal Son, and having wasted my riches I perish now from hunger. Beneath Thy protection I seek refuge, O loving Father: accept me as Thou hast accepted him. Make me a sharer at Thy table that I may cry unto Thee: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse D. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

Out of envy the author of evil drove the first-created man from paradise. But the thief who cried upon the cross, "Remember me," regained paradise once more. With faith and fear I also cry to Thee, "Remember me." Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse C. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

Stretch out Thine hand to me, O God, as Thou hast to Peter, and raise me from the deep; grant me grace and mercy, at the supplications of Thine all-pure Mother who gave birth to Thee without seed, and at the prayers of all Thy saints. Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse B. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

O Lamb Who takest away my sin, accept me as each day I sing to Thee. Into Thy hands I commend myself entirely, soul and body, and as my bound duty night and day I cry to Thee: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

Verse A. *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.*

Ineffable is Thy compassion, O longsuffering Lord, supreme in love! Sinless Thou art and merciful. Cast me not away from Thy presence, that with thanksgiving and rejoicing I may cry unto Thee: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.

THEOTOKION OF THE PENITENTIAL STICHERA

Mode 4

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O condescension past all speech! O strange and wondrous birth! How does the Virgin carry Thee as a child in her arms, for Thou art her Creator and her God? O Benefactor Who hast consented to take flesh from her: before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord.



TURN TO PAGE 57

PSALM 140

Mode Plagal 1 / Tone 5- Sixth Week of Great Lent

O Lord, I have cried out un - to
Thee, hear Thou me. Hear Thou me
O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out un -
to Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear
to the voice of my sup - pli -
ca - tion, when I cry out un -
to Thee, hear Thou me, O Lord.

Let my pray - er be set forth be -
fore Thee as the in - cense,
and the lift - ing up of my hands
as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.
hear Thou me, O Lord.

LET MY PRAYER
ARISE AS
INCENSE.



VERSES OF PSALMS 140, 141, AND 129

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

STICHERA

Sixth Week of Great Lent

Mode Plagal 1 / Tone 5

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*

I am rich in passions; I am clothed in vile garments of hypocrisy. Through lack of abstinence, I delight in foul deeds, and show a boundless lack of tender-heartedness. Cast before the gates of repentance, I despise my mind, thirsting for every blessing, but ill from lack of concentration. Make me, O Lord, like Lazarus, who was poor in sin, lest I receive no answer when I pray for the finger dipped in water to relieve my burning tongue. Make me to dwell in the bosom of Abraham, as the lover of mankind.

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*

I am rich in passions... {repeat above}

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*

With boundless love in your hands, O holy martyrs, ye did not forsake Christ; enduring the various wounds of sufferings, ye laid low the torturers' impudence. Preserving unbending and unshakeable faith, ye wert translated into heaven. Since ye received boldness before Him, entreat Him to grant peace to the world, and for our souls Great Mercy.

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*

Jesus told those who were with Him when He walked in the flesh by the River Jordan: My friend Lazarus is already dead, given over for burial. But I rejoice for your sake, O friends, for by his death ye shall learn that I know all, for I am God, even though I have appeared as man. Let us go and bring Him to life, so that death may really feel its utter destruction, and the victory I shall win, granting the world Great Mercy.

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

Imitating Mary and Martha, O faithful, let us offer divine works to the Lord as they did, that He might come and raise our minds, which now lie dead in the tomb of carelessness, feeling no fear of God, and deprived of any living action. Behold, O Lord, Who of old didst raise Thy friend Lazarus by Thy coming. Give life to us also, O bountiful One, granting us Great Mercy.

Mode Plagal 2 / Tone 6

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

Lazarus is in the tomb two days, seeing the dead of all ages, beholding strange sights of terror, a great crowd held by the bonds of hell. His relatives grieve bitterly, looking at his tomb. But Christ is coming to bring His friend to life, so that one harmonious song may be sung by all: Blessed art Thou, O Savior, have mercy on us.

STICHERA FROM THE MENAION

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

First from the Menaion

Verse 3. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

Second from the Menaion

Verse 2. *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Third from the Menaion

Verse 1. *For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Fourth from the Menaion

THEOTOKION

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion from the Menaion



THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

DEACON: Wisdom! Let us attend!

GLADSOME LIGHT

Mode 2

O Glad-some Light of the ho - ly glo - - - ry of the
Fa - ther Im - mor - - tal, Heav'n - ly Ho - - - ly, Bless - ed
Je - - - sus Christ. In that we now are come un - to the
set - ting of the sun and be - hold the light of
eve ning, we hymn Thee; Fa - ther, Son, and
Ho - ly Spi - - - rit God. For meet is it that at all
times Thou shouldst be mag - ni - fied by voi - ces
ho - ly. O Son of God, who be -
stow - - est life; for which cause all the world,
doth glo - ri - - fy Thee.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

First Week of Great Lent

The First Reading

DEACON: The Evening Prokeimenon!

READER: Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and shalt preserve us from this generation, and for evermore. Save me, O Lord, for a righteous man there is no more; for truths have diminished from the sons of men (Psalm 31.7,1).

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Genesis (1:24-2:3)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. *Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.*

The Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, as the Deacon says:

The Second Reading

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: Look upon me, hear me, O Lord my God. How long, O Lord, wilt Thou utterly forget me? How long wilt Thou turn Thy face away from me? (Psalm 12.1,3)

READER: Command!

The people kneel. The Priest turns toward the Prothesis Table, elevates the censer and the candle, which are in his right hand at head level and makes the sign of the cross:

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Then standing in the Holy Doors, he bows to the Icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

PRIEST: The Light of Christ...

He then blesses the people, with the censer and the candle, and continues...

PRIEST: ...illumineth all!

The people stand and the Priest returns to the Holy Table and gives away the candle and censer as the Deacon says:

DEACON: Wisdom!

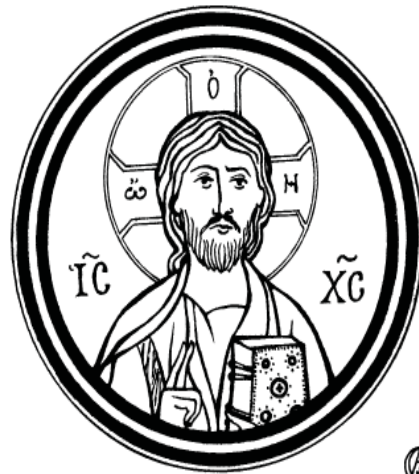
READER: The reading is from Proverbs (2:1-22)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: My son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding; yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding; He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly; He guards the paths of justice, and preserves the way of His saints. Then you will understand righteousness and justice, equity and every good path.

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE ⇒ 59

When wisdom enters your heart, and knowledge is pleasant to your soul, discretion will preserve you; understanding will keep you, to deliver you from the way of evil, from the man who speaks perverse things, from those who leave the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness; who rejoice in doing evil, and delight in the perversity of the wicked; whose ways are crooked, and who are devious in their paths; to deliver you from the immoral woman, from the seductress who flatters with her words, who forsakes the companion of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her God. For her house leads down to death, and her paths to the dead; none who go to her return, nor do they regain the paths of life so you may walk in the way of goodness, and keep to the paths of righteousness. *For the upright will dwell in the land, and the blameless will remain in it; but the wicked will be cut off from the earth, and the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.*



THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Second Week of Great Lent

The First Reading

DEACON: The Evening Prokeimenon!

READER: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous; and glory, all ye that are upright of heart (Psalm 31.1,11).

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Genesis (4:16-26)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech. Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah. And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain was Naamah. Then Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; Wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold." And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, "For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed." *And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord.*

The Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, as the Deacon says:

The Second Reading

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright. (Psalm 32.22,1)

READER: Command!

The people kneel. The Priest turns toward the Prothesis Table, elevates the censer and the candle, which are in his right hand at head level and makes the sign of the cross:

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Then standing in the Holy Doors, he bows to the Icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

PRIEST: The Light of Christ...

He then blesses the people, with the censer and the candle, and continues...

PRIEST: ...illumineth all!

The people stand and the Priest returns to the Holy Table and gives away the candle and censer as the Deacon says:

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Proverbs (5:15-6:3)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: Drink water from your own cistern, and running water from your own well. Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be only your own, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice with the wife of your youth. For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman, and be embraced in the arms of a seductress? For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and He ponders all his paths. His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, and he is caught in the cords of his sin. He shall die for lack of instruction, and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray. My son, if you become surety for your friend, if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger, you are snared by the words of your mouth; you are taken by the words of your mouth. *So do this, my son, and deliver yourself; for you have come into the hand of your friend: go and humble yourself; plead with your friend.*

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Third Week of Great Lent

The First Reading

DEACON: The Evening Prokeimenon!

READER: I have hoped in the mercy of God for ever, and unto the ages of ages. Why dost thou boast in evil, O mighty man, and in iniquity all the day long? (Psalm 51.1,8).

DEACON: Wisdom!

The reading is from Genesis (7:6-9)

Let us attend!

Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth. So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth, *two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.*

The Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, as the Deacon says:

The Second Reading

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: When God hath turned back the captivity of His people, Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad. The fool hath said in his heart: There is no God. (Psalm 52.8,1)

READER: Command!

The people kneel. The Priest turns toward the Prothesis Table, elevates the censer and the candle, which are in his right hand at head level and makes the sign of the cross:

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Then standing in the Holy Doors, he bows to the Icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

PRIEST: The Light of Christ...

He then blesses the people, with the censer and the candle, and continues...

PRIEST: ...illumineth all!

The people stand and the Priest returns to the Holy Table and gives away the candle and censer as the Deacon says:

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Proverbs (9:12-18)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: If you are wise, you are wise for yourself, and if you scoff, you will bear it alone. A foolish woman is clamorous; she is simple, and knows nothing. For she sits at the door of her house, on a seat by the highest places of the city, to call to those who pass by, who go straight on their way: "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here"; and as for him who lacks understanding, she says to him, "Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant." ***But he does not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of hell.***

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Fourth Week of Great Lent

The First Reading

DEACON: The Evening Prokeimenon!

READER: Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, Who alone doeth wonders. O God, give Thy judgement to the king, and Thy righteousness to the son of the king (Psalm 71.19,1).

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Genesis (9:18-10:1)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: Now the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And Ham was the father of Canaan. These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated. And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness. So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him. Then he said: "Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brethren." And he said: "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Shem, and may Canaan be his servant. May God enlarge Japheth, and may he dwell in the tents of Shem; and may Canaan be his servant." And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years. So all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years; and he died. *Now this is the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood.*

The Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, as the Deacon says:

The Second Reading

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: But it is good for me to cleave unto God, to put my hope in the Lord. How good is God to Israel, to them that are upright of heart! (Psalm 72.1,26)

READER: Command!

The people kneel. The Priest turns toward the Prothesis Table, elevates the censer and the candle, which are in his right hand at head level and makes the sign of the cross:

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Then standing in the Holy Doors, he bows to the Icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

PRIEST: The Light of Christ...

He then blesses the people, with the censer and the candle, and continues...

PRIEST: ...illumineth all!

The people stand and the Priest returns to the Holy Table and gives away the candle and censer as the Deacon says:

DEACON: Wisdom!

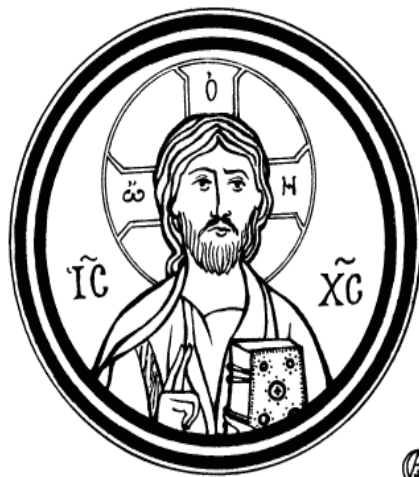
READER: The reading is from Proverbs (12:23-13:9)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: A prudent man conceals knowledge, but the heart of fools proclaims foolishness. The hand of the diligent will rule, but the lazy man will be put to forced labor. Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, but a good word makes it glad. The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray. The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, but diligence is man's precious possession. In the way of righteousness is life, and in its pathway there is no death. A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke. A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, but the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE⇒

He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction. The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich. A righteous man hates lying, but a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame. Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless, but wickedness overthrows the sinner. There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing; and one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches. The ransom of a man's life is his riches, but the poor does not hear rebuke. *The light of the righteous rejoices, but the lamp of the wicked will be put out.*



THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Fifth Week of Great Lent

The First Reading

DEACON: The Evening Prokeimenon!

READER: The Lord is the God of vengeance; the God of vengeance hath spoken openly. Be Thou exalted, O Thou that judgest the earth; render the proud their due. (Psalm 93.1,2).

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Genesis (17:1-9)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God." *And God said to Abraham: "As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.*

The Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, as the Deacon says:

The Second Reading

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: O sing unto the Lord a new song, sing unto the Lord all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless His name (Psalm 95.1-2).

READER: Command!

The people kneel. The Priest turns toward the Prothesis Table, elevates the censer and the candle, which are in his right hand at head level and makes the sign of the cross:

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Then standing in the Holy Doors, he bows to the Icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

PRIEST: The Light of Christ...

He then blesses the people, with the censer and the candle, and continues...

PRIEST: ...illumineth all!

The people stand and the Priest returns to the Holy Table and gives away the candle and censer as the Deacon says:

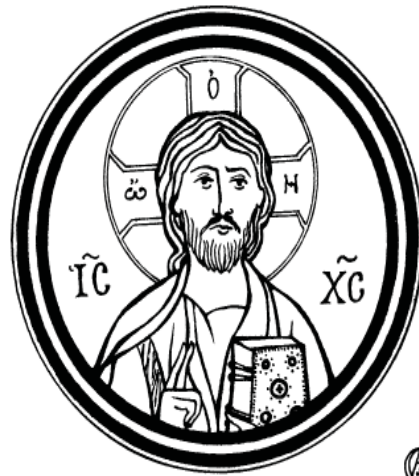
DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Proverbs (15:20-16:9)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish man despises his mother. Folly is joy to him who is destitute of discernment, but a man of understanding walks uprightly. Without counsel, plans fail, but in the multitude of counselors they are established. A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and a word spoken in due season, how good it is! The way of life winds upward for the wise, that he may turn away from hell below. The Lord will destroy the house of the proud, but He will establish the boundary of the widow. The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord, but the words of the pure are pleasant. He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, but he who hates bribes will live.

The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil. The Lord is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous. The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and a good report makes the bones healthy. The ear that hears the rebukes of life will abide among the wise. He who disdains instruction despises his own soul, but he who heeds rebuke gets understanding. The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom, and before honor is humility. The preparations of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirits. Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established. The Lord has made all for Himself, yes, even the wicked for the day of doom. Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; though they join forces, none will go unpunished. In mercy and truth atonement is provided for iniquity; and by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil. When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. *Better is a little with righteousness, than vast revenues without justice. A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.*



THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

Sixth Week of Great Lent

The First Reading

DEACON: The Evening Prokeimenon!

READER: I will be well-pleasing before the Lord in the land of the living. I am filled with love, for the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication. (Psalm 114.1,9).

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Genesis (43:26-31; 45:1-16)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, and bowed down before him to the earth. Then he asked them about their well-being, and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?" And they answered, "Your servant our father is in good health; he is still alive." And they bowed their heads down and prostrated themselves. Then he lifted his eyes and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your younger brother of whom you spoke to me?" And he said, "God be gracious to you, my son." Now his heart yearned for his brother; so Joseph made haste and sought somewhere to weep. And he went into his chamber and wept there. Then he washed his face and came out; and he restrained himself, and said, "Serve the bread." Then Joseph could not restrain himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Make everyone go out from me!" So no one stood with him while Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept aloud, and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard it. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph; does my father still live?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed in his presence. And Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come near to me." So they came near. Then he said: "I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt. "Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph: "God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry. You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near to me, you and your children, your children's children, your flocks and your herds, and all that you have. There I will provide for you, lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty; for there are still five years of famine.'" "And behold, your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my mouth that speaks to you. So you shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that you have seen; and you shall hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell on his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck. Moreover he kissed all his brothers and wept over them, and after that his brothers talked with him. *Now the report of it was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, "Joseph's brothers have come." So it pleased Pharaoh and his servants well.*

The Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, as the Deacon says:

The Second Reading

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: My vows unto the Lord will I pay in the presence of all His people. I believed wherefore I spake; I was humbled exceedingly. (Psalm 115.1,5)

READER: Command!

The people kneel. The Priest turns toward the Prothesis Table, elevates the censer and the candle, which are in his right hand at head level and makes the sign of the cross:

PRIEST: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Then standing in the Holy Doors, he bows to the Icon of Christ on the iconostasis and says:

PRIEST: The Light of Christ...

He then blesses the people, with the censer and the candle, and continues...

PRIEST: ...illumineth all!

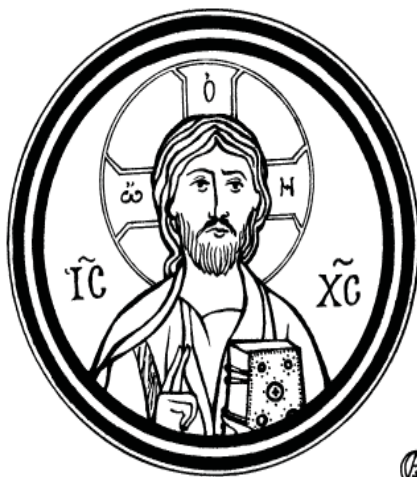
The people stand and the Priest returns to the Holy Table and gives away the candle and censer as the Deacon says:

DEACON: Wisdom!

READER: The reading is from Proverbs (21:23-22:4)

DEACON: Let us attend!

READER: Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles. A proud and haughty man—“Scoffer” is his name; He acts with arrogant pride. The desire of the lazy man kills him, for his hands refuse to labor. He covets greedily all day long, but the righteous gives and does not spare. The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; how much more when he brings it with wicked intent! A false witness shall perish, but the man who hears him will speak endlessly. A wicked man hardens his face, but as for the upright, he establishes his way. There is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the Lord. The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but deliverance is of the Lord. A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, loving favor rather than silver and gold. The rich and the poor have this in common, the Lord is the maker of them all. *A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished. By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches and honor and life.*



The Priest takes up the censer as the Deacon, holding a lighted candle, goes to stand behind the Holy Table, opposite the Priest. On each of the following verses, the Priest moves to and continuously censens a side of the Holy Table; and the Deacon, holding the candle, moves to stand opposite him.

LET MY PRAYER ARISE

Mode Plagal 1 / Tone 5



Let my prayer a-rise in Thy sight as
in - cense; And let the lift - ing up of
my hands, be an eve - ning, sa - cri - fice.

PRIEST: Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear me; attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry unto Thee.

ALL: *Let my prayer arise...*

PRIEST: Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.

ALL: *Let my prayer arise...*

PRIEST: Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.

ALL: *Let my prayer arise...*

PRIEST: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

ALL: *Let my prayer arise...*

PRIEST: Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

ALL: *Let my prayer arise...*

PRIEST: Let my prayer arise, in Thy sight as incense;

ALL: *And let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.*

THE PRAYER OF SAINT EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

PRIEST: Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. *{prostration}*

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. *{prostration}*

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen. *{prostration}*

First Wednesday of Great Lent the appointed Gospel is read.

Second through Sixth Weeks of Great Lent turn to the Litany on the next page.

THE GOSPEL READING

First Wednesday of Great Lent

DEACON: Wisdom! Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE:
And to Thy Spir - it.

PRIEST: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to...

PEOPLE:
Glo - ry to Thee, O Lord, glo - ry to Thee.

PRIEST: Let us attend!

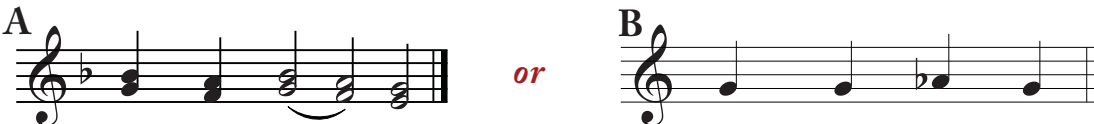
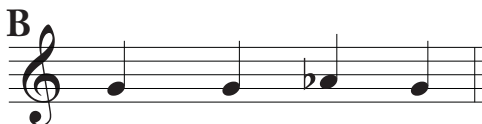
The appointed Gospel is read

PEOPLE:
Glo - ry to Thee, O Lord, glo - ry to Thee.

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION



The People respond with a triple "Lord, have mercy" after each petition.

DEACON: Let us say with our whole soul, and with our whole mind, let us say.

PEOPLE:  *or* 

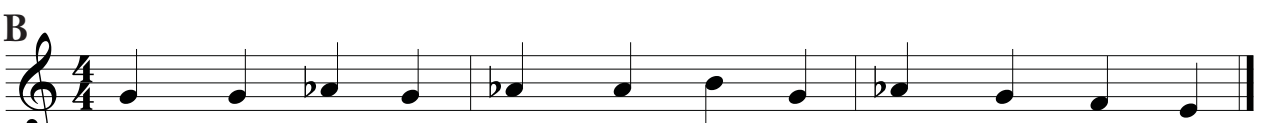
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: O Lord Almighty, the God of our Fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

PEOPLE:  *or* 

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy

DEACON: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

PEOPLE:  

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy.

or

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy

DEACON: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

DEACON: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan N., (and our Bishop N.), and all our brotherhood in Christ.

DEACON: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for (the servants of God, *{Names}*, and) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

DEACON: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church and (for the departed servants of God, *{Names}*, and) all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

DEACON: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and allvenerable temple, those who serve and those who sing, and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

DEACON: O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication of Thy servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Thy mercy, and send down Thy compassions upon us and upon all Thy people, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

PRIEST: O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication of Thy servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Thy mercy, and send down Thy compassions upon us and upon all Thy people, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: 
A - men.



or


A - men



THE LITANY OF THE CATECHUMENS

The People respond "Lord, have mercy" after each petition.

DEACON: Pray to the Lord, ye catechumens.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Let us the faithful, pray for the catechumens, that the Lord will have mercy on them.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: That He will teach them the word of truth.

DEACON: That He will reveal to them the gospel of righteousness.

DEACON: That He will unite them to His holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

DEACON: Help them; save them; have mercy on them; and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

DEACON: Bow your heads to the Lord, ye catechumens.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: O God, our God, the Creator and Maker of all things, Who willest that all men should be saved and should come unto the knowledge of the truth: Look down upon Thy servants the catechumens, and deliver them from the ancient delusion and from the wiles of the adversary. And call them unto life eternal, illuminating their souls and bodies and numbering them with Thy rational flock, which is called by Thy Holy Name.

That with us they may glorify Thine all-honorable and majestic Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.



PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

THE LITANY OF PREPARATION FOR ILLUMINATION & BAPTISM



The Litany is said on the 4th, 5th, and 6th Weeks of Great Lent.

The People respond "Lord, have mercy" after each petition.

DEACON: Pray unto the Lord, ye who are preparing for Illumination.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Ye faithful, pray unto the Lord for these brethren who are preparing for Holy Illumination and for their salvation.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy

DEACON: That the Lord God will establish them and strengthen them.

DEACON: That He will illuminate them with the light of wisdom and of piety.

DEACON: That He will grant unto them, in His own good time, the laver of regeneration, the remission of sins, and the garment of incorruption.

DEACON: That He will beget them with water and the Spirit.

DEACON: That He will grant unto them the perfection of faith.

DEACON: That He will number them with His holy and chosen flock.

DEACON: Help them; save them; have mercy on them; and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

DEACON: Bow your heads to the Lord, ye who are preparing for Illumination.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

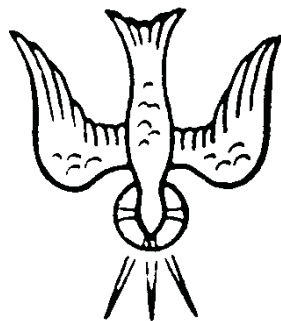
PRIEST: Show the light of Thy countenance, O God, upon those who are preparing for Holy Illumination, and who desire to put away the defilement of sin. Enlighten their understanding. Establish them in the Faith. Strengthen them in hope. Perfect them in love. Make them honorable members of Thy Christ, Who gave Himself for our souls.

For Thou art our Illumination, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:





or





FIRST LITANY OF THE FAITHFUL

DEACON: As many as are of the faithful, again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Wisdom!

PRIEST: O God, great and worthy to be praised, Who through the life-giving death of Thy Christ hast translated us from corruption to incorruption: Deliver Thou all our senses from death-dealing, carnal desires, setting over them as a good ruler the understanding that is in us. Let our eye have no part in any evil sight. Let our hearing be in accessible to all idle words; and let our tongue be purged from unseemly speech. Purify our lips which praise Thee, O Lord. Make our hands to abstain from evil deeds and to work only such things as are acceptable into Thee, establishing all our members and our minds by Thy Grace.

For unto Thee are due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

The Priest kisses the Gospel Book, stands it before the tabernacle and then carefully, and with reverence, respect and fear, opens the Antimins.

SECOND LITANY OF THE FAITHFUL

DEACON: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

or

1. 
Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

PEOPLE: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

or

2. 
Lord, have mer - cy

DEACON: Wisdom!

PRIEST: O holy Master, exceeding good, we beseech Thee, Who art rich in mercy, that Thou wilt be gracious to us sinners and make us worthy to receive Thine Only Begotten Son and our God, the King of glory. For behold, His immaculate Body and His life-giving Blood, entering at this present hour, are about to be set forth upon this mystical table, invisibly escorted by a multitude of heavenly hosts. Grant us to partake of them without condemnation, that, the eyes of our understanding being enlightened thereby, we may become sons of the light and of the day.

Through the gift of Thy Christ, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: 
A - men.

or


A - men

NOW THE POWERS OF HEAVEN

Mode Plagal 4 / Tone 8.

Now the pow - ers of hea - ven in -
vis - i - bly wor - ship with us. For be -
hold, the King of Glo - ry doth
en - ter. Be - hold, the com -
plet - ed mys - ti - cal sac - fice is es -
cort - ed, es - cor - ted in.

*The Entrance now occurs in silence after which the Choir sings "Let us draw near in faith".
Music is on the next page.*

Let us with faith and long - ing draw near and be -
 come par - tak - ers of life ev - er - last - ing.
 Al - le - lu (u) ia.

THE PRAYER OF SAINT EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

PRIEST: Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. *{prostration}*



But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.
{prostration}

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen. *{prostration}*





THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION



DEACON: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: For the precious Gifts which have been offered and Presanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: That our Lord God, Who loveth mankind, receiving them upon His holy, heavenly, and ideal Altar for an odor of spiritual sweetness, will send down upon us in return His divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



DEACON: Asking for the unity of the Faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: And vouchsafe, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation, we may dare to call upon Thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say:

ALL: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

PRIEST: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men

THE PEACE & ELEVATION

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE:



or



And to thy spir - it.

And to Thy Spir - it.

DEACON: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

PEOPLE:



or



To Thee, O Lord.

To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: O God, Who alone art good and compassionate, Who dwellest in the heights and regardest the humble: Look with the eyes of Thy tenderness upon all Thy people, and preserve them. And make us all worthy to partake without condemnation of these Thy life-giving mysteries; for unto Thee have we bowed our heads in the hope of Thy rich mercy.

Through the grace and compassion and love toward man of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:



or



A - men.

A - men

PRIEST: Hear us, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, from Thy holy dwelling-place, and from the throne of the glory of Thy kingdom; and come to sanctify us, O Thou who sittest on high with the Father, and art here invisibly present with us; and vouchsafe by Thy mighty hand to impart unto us Thine immaculate Body and precious Blood, and through us unto all the people.

O God, be gracious unto me, a sinner, and have mercy upon me.

DEACON: Let us attend!

PRIEST: The Presanctified Holy Things are for the holy.

ONE IS HOLY

Mode Plagal 4 / Tone 8.

PEOPLE: *Slow*



One is ho - ly, one is Lord, Je - sus Christ, to the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE PRE-COMMUNION PRAYERS

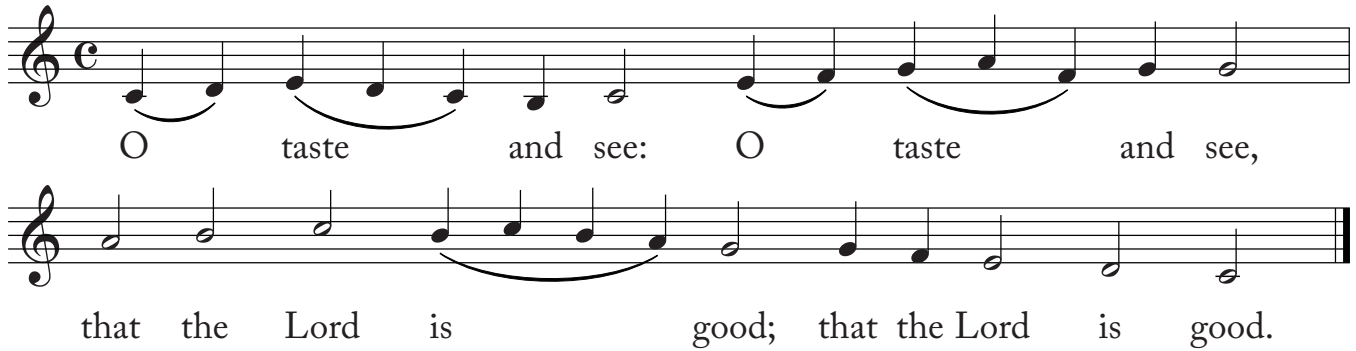
PEOPLE: I believe, O Lord, and I confess that thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. And I believe that this is truly thine own immaculate Body and that this is truly thine own precious Blood. Wherefore, I pray thee, have mercy upon me, and pardon my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance; and make me worthy to partake without condemnation of thine immaculate mysteries unto forgiveness of sins and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of thy mystic supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of thy mystery to thine enemies, neither will I give thee a kiss as did Judas; but like the thief will I confess thee: Remember me, O Lord, in thy kingdom.

Not unto judgment nor unto condemnation be my partaking of thy holy mysteries, O Lord, but unto the healing of soul and body.

COMMUNION HYMN

Mode Plagal 4 / Tone 8.



O taste and see: O taste and see,
that the Lord is good; that the Lord is good.

The choir repeats this as often as necessary, interspersing verses from Psalm 33.

CHANTER: I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

In the Lord shall my soul be praised; let the meek hear and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His Name together.

I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my tribulations.

Come unto Him, and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed.

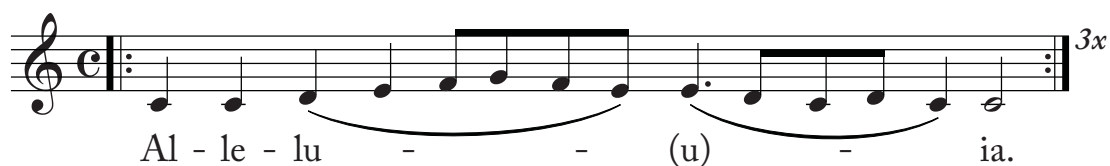
This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his tribulations.

The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear Him, and will deliver them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that hopeth in Him.

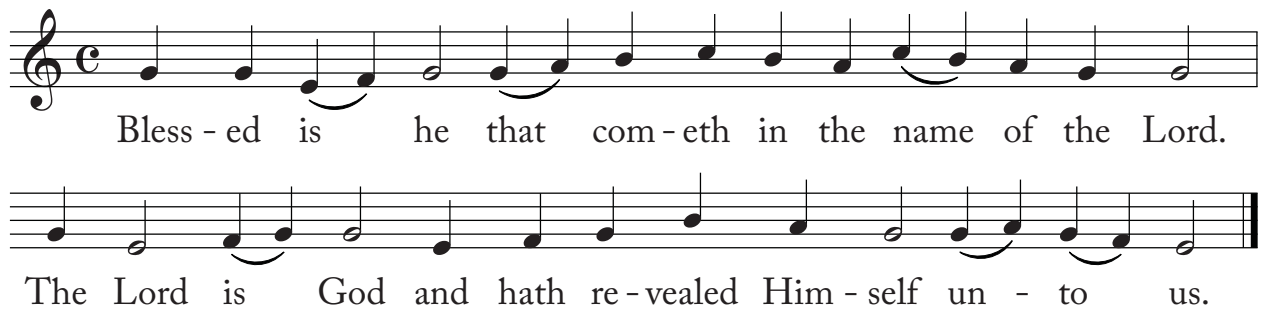
O fear the Lord, all ye His saints; for there is no want to them that fear Him.

Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry; but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing.



Al - le - lu - (u) - ia. ^{3x}

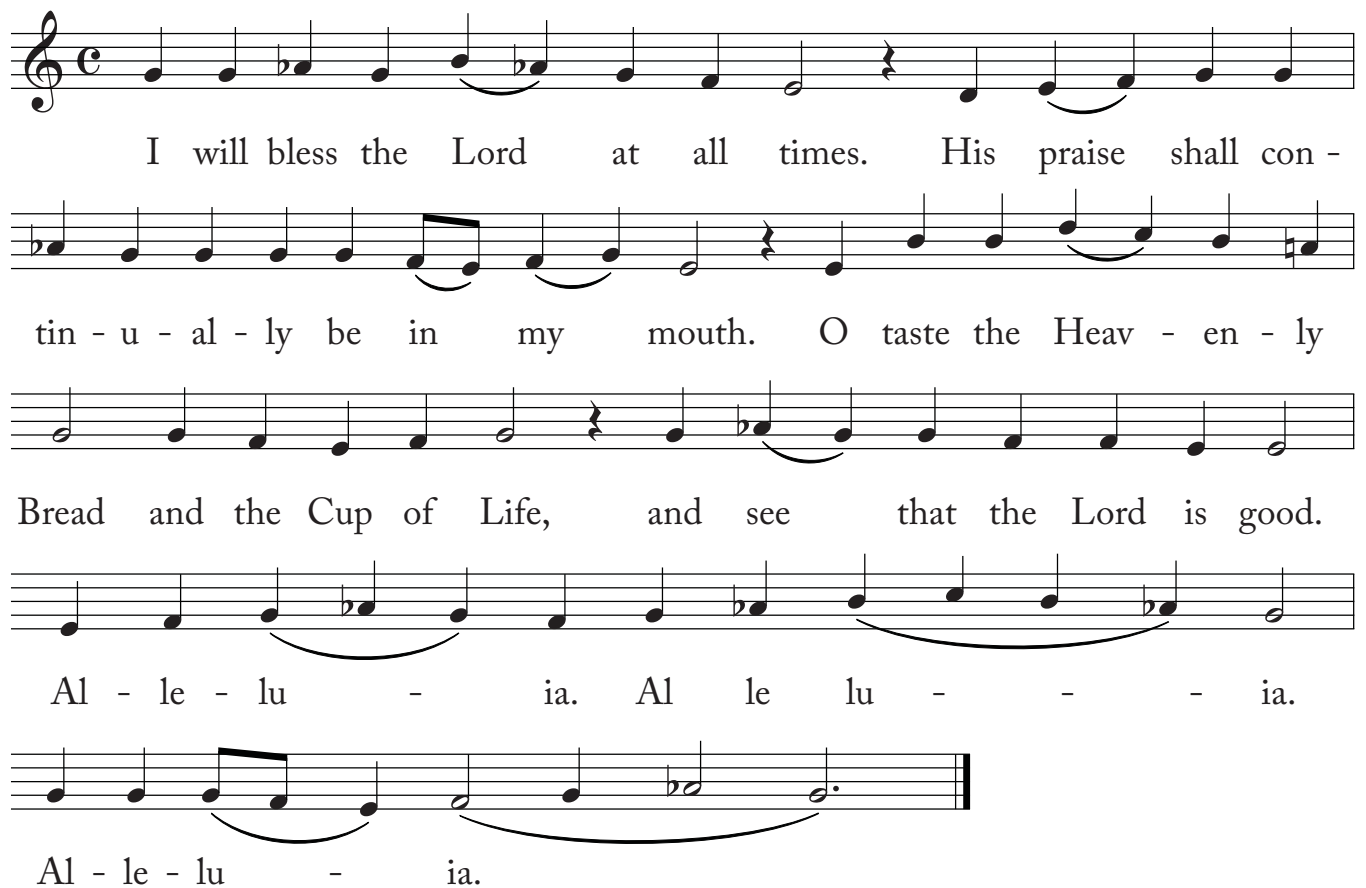
DEACON: With fear of God and faith and love, draw near.



Bless - ed is he that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
The Lord is God and hath re - vealed Him - self un - to us.

*During the reception of Holy Communion,
the people sing "O Taste and See", on the previous page, as many times as necessary.*

PRIEST: O God, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.



I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall con -
tin - u - al - ly be in my mouth. O taste the Heav - en - ly
Bread and the Cup of Life, and see that the Lord is good.
Al - le - lu - ia. Al le lu - - - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia.

PRIEST: Blessed is our God; always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.



PEOPLE: 
A - men





Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that we
may sing of Thy glo - ry. For Thou hast per - mit - ted us
to par - take of Thy Ho - ly Di - vine im - mor - tal
and life - giv - ing Mys - ter - ies. Es - tab - lish us in Thy
sanc - ti - fi - ca - tion, that all the day long, we may med -
i - tate up - on Thy right - eous - ness. Al - le - lu - ia. Al -
le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

DEACON: Let us attend! Having partaken of the divine, holy, immaculate, immortal, heavenly, life-giving and awesome Mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

DEACON: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.



PEOPLE:  *or* 
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy

DEACON: Asking that the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
To Thee, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: We give thanks unto Thee, O God, the Savior of all, for all the good things which Thou hast granted unto us and for the communion of the Holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ. And we beseech Thee, O Master, Who loveth mankind, to keep us under the shelter of Thy wings. And grant that, even unto our last breath, we may worthily partake of Thy Holy Things unto the illumination of soul and body and unto the inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven.

For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 
A - men. A - men



THE PRAYER BEHIND THE AMBON

PRIEST: Let us go forth in peace.

PEOPLE:  *or* 

In the name of the Lord. In the name of the Lord.



DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:  *or* 

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy

PRIEST: O almighty Master, Who hast made all creation and by Thine inexpressible providence and great goodness hast brought us to these all-revered days, for the purification of soul and body, for the controlling of passions and for hope of resurrection, Who, during the forty days didst give into the hands of Thy servant Moses the tablets of the Law in characters divinely traced by Thee: Enable us also, O good One, to fight the good fight, to complete the course of the fast, to preserve inviolate the faith, to crush under foot the heads of invisible serpents, to be accounted victors over sin; and, uncondemned, to attain unto and worship the Holy Resurrection.

For blessed and glorified is Thine all-honorable and majestic Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:  *or* 

A - men. A - men



Bles-sed be the Name of the Lord hence-forth and for - ev - er - more.



Bles-sed be the Name of the Lord hence-forth and for - ev - er - more.

THE DISMISSAL

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE:



Lord, have mer - cy.

or



Lord, have mer - cy

DEACON: The blessing of the Lord and His mercy come upon you through His grace and love towards mankind, always: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE:



A - men.

or



A - men

PRIEST: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

PEOPLE: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, bless.

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother, by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; of our father among the saints, Gregory the Dialogist, pope of Rome, whose Presanctified Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of *{the saints of the day}*, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy upon us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

PEOPLE:



A - men.

or



A - men

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ANTIDORON

As the people come forward to reverence the Holy Cross, the Reader proclaims the following Psalms.

PSALM 33

READER: I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth. In the Lord shall my soul be praised; let the meek hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my tribulations. Come unto Him, and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his tribulations. The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear Him, and will deliver them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that hopeth in Him. O fear the Lord, all ye His saints; for there is no want to them that fear Him. Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry; but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing. Come ye children, hearken unto me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is there that desireth life, who loveth to see good days? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Turn away from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are opened unto their supplication. The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, utterly to destroy the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them out of all their tribulations. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, and He will save the humble of spirit. Many are the tribulations of the righteous, and the Lord shall deliver them out of them all. The Lord keepeth all their bones, not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and they that hate the righteous shall do wrong. *The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants, and none of them will do wrong that hope in Him.*

PSALM 144

READER: I will exalt Thee, O my God, my king, and I will bless Thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever. Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name for ever, yea, for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and exceedingly to be praised, and of His greatness there is no end. Generation and generation shall praise Thy works, and Thy power shall they declare. Of the majesty of the glory of Thy holiness shall they speak, and they shall tell of Thy wonders. And the power of Thine awesome deeds shall they relate, and they shall tell of Thy majesty. The memory of the multitude of Thy goodness shall they pour forth, and in Thy righteousness shall they rejoice. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy. The Lord is good to all, and His compassions are over all His works.

Let all Thy works, O Lord, give praise to Thee, and let Thy righteous ones bless Thee. Of the glory of Thy kingdom shall they speak, and shall tell of Thy dominion, To make Thy dominion known to the sons of men, and the glory of the majesty of Thy kingdom. Thy kingdom is the kingdom of all the ages, and Thy sovereignty is in every generation and generation. Faithful is the Lord in all His words, and holy in all His works. The Lord upholdeth all that are falling, and setteth up all that are broken down. The eyes of all look to Thee with hope, and Thou gavest them their food in due season. Thou openest Thy hand and fillest every living thing with Thy favour. Righteous is the Lord in all His ways, and holy in all His works. The Lord is nigh unto all that call upon Him, to all that call on Him in truth. The will of them that fear Him shall He do, and their supplication shall He hear, and He shall save them. The Lord preserveth all that love Him, but all the sinners shall He utterly destroy. *My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless His holy name, for ever, yea, for ever and ever.*

PRIEST: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God have mercy on us and save us.

PEOPLE: 
A - men.

or


A - men

