

9 AUGUST
Aferfeast
 ± **Apostle Matthías**
[Herman of Alaska]

VESPERS

Lord I have cried

Tone 1

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;
 O Lord, listen to me.

O Lord, I have cried to you, listen to me;
 Note the voice of my plea when I cry to you.
 O Lord, listen to me.

² Let my prayer be directed before you like incense,
 the raising of my hands be an evening sacrifice.
 O Lord, listen to me.

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?
 But there is forgiveness with you.

Let us glorify Christ today as we celebrate the all-holy and glorious Transfiguration of the Lord. Through the fire of his divine splendour he restores our fallen human nature and makes it as radiant as it was before the Fall.

S5: O Lord, I have waited for you for your name's sake;
 my soul has waited for your word,
 my soul has hoped in the Lord.

Come and climb the holy mountain in order to see the brilliant Transfiguration of the Lord. Let us fall down before him and say, "You alone are our God, for you assumed flesh and made human nature godlike.

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord
 from morning watch until night,
 from morning watch.

See the illustrious day on which Christ is transfigured on Tabor in the presence of Moses, Ilias and his disciples! The divine voice is heard, "This is my dear Son."

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord
 and abundant redemption with *him*.
 He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

O apostle Matthías, you completed God's choir after Judas was lost. Your words of wisdom fall as divine lightning to dispel the darkness of ignorance. You overthrew the madness of idolatry by the power of the Spirit; now implore the Lord to grant us peace and great mercy.

S2: Every nation, praise the Lord;
 every people, acclaim him!

O blessed Matthías, you were sent out like a river flowing from Eden. You watered the earth with godly *teaching* and yielded the fruit of God's saving work. Pray to *the Lord* to grant our souls peace and great mercy.

S1: For his mercy is strengthened over us
 and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.

O apostle Matthías, the light of your inspired teaching has shone out over the whole inhabited earth. You have enlightened men and led them to the knowledge of God. You have changed into homes of light those who had been lying in the night of deluded imagination and the shadow of the total absence of God.

Glory Tone 6

O glorious apostle Matthías, grace was poured out on your lips. You were a beacon of the Church of Christ and taught the reason-endowed sheep to believe in the consubstantial Trinity of one Divinity.

Both now: Tone 2

O God of goodness, you made the whole world holy with your light when you were transfigured on a high mountain and revealed your power to your disciples, so that you might rescue the world from sin, Therefore, we cry out to you, "O compassionate Lord, save our souls."

Phos Ilarón

P/D: Wisdom! Stand upright!
 O Jesus Christ, joyful light of the holy glory
 of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father,
 when we come to the setting of the sun
 and see the light of evening,
 we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For it is right at all times to worship you
 with voices of praise,
 O Son of God *and* Giver of life.
 Therefore the world glorifies you.

Prokeimenon
Of the Day

Ektení

Prayer

O Lord, allow us this night to be guarded from sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers! Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be on us, for we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. Blessed are you, O Master; make me understand your statutes. Blessed are you, O Holy *One*; enlighten me with your statutes. O Lord, your mercy lasts for ever; do not overlook the work of your hands. To you belongs worship, to you belongs praise, to you belongs glory, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

Plirotiká

Prayer

P: Peace be with you all. R: And with your spirit
 D: Bow down your heads to the Lord. R: To you, O Lord.

P: For blessed and glorified is the power of your Kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*.

Apósticha

Tone 6

O Word of God, your light dawned beyond understanding from the All-Holy Virgin; you have clothed yourself entirely in Adam. O Master, Christ our God, by the divine transformation of your appearance when you were transfigured on Mount Tabor before suffering on your precious cross, you enlightened his entire nature, for it had become dark.

S1: The heavens are yours and the earth also. Ps 88
 The mountain that once was veiled in darkness and smoke is now holy and revered. Christ who, as it is written, once guided Israel by a pillar of fire and cloud, has shone ineffably today more brightly than the Sun. As God he illuminates all things.

S2: Tabor and Hermon will rejoice in your name.
 When Peter the Rock saw two men with the Lord on Tabor, he cried out as a servant to the Master, "It is good for us to be here. If it is your will, let us erect three tents, one for you, O Christ, one for Moses and one for Ilias." He did not know what he said, for he was seized with fear.

Glory: Tone 2

O apostle Matthías, worthy of all praise, you were filled with divine zeal and were ablaze for the all-powerful God, who had filled you with divine miracles. Because you possessed unusual zeal, you gained integrity through your actions. Therefore, since you gaze on the Word and live with the heavenly choirs in the highest, pray to the Word, Christ our God, that he will grant us great mercy.

Both now:

O Christ our God, you were gloriously changed on Mount Tabor; you revealed the glory of your divinity to your disciples. Pour over us also the light of your knowledge and guide us along the way of your commandments in your goodness and love for the human race.

Song of Simeon

B/P: O Master, now let your servant depart in peace according to your word,
² for my eyes have seen your salvation,
 which you have prepared before all peoples,
³ a light of revelation for *the* nations
 and *the* glory of your people Israel.

Triságion Prayers

Apolytikia

Tone 3

O holy apostle Matthías, pray to the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness for their failings.

Tone 7

O Christ our God, you were transfigured on the mountain and revealed your glory to your disciples as far as they could bear it. Let your everlasting light shine also on us sinners through the prayers of the Theotokos. O Giver of light, glory to you!

Dismissal

ORTHROS

God is the Lord Ps 117

R: God is the Lord and has appeared to us.
 Blessed is the one who comes in the Lord's name. *Ps 117*
 S1: Thank the Lord, for he is good,
 for his mercy lasts for ever.
 S2: All the nations surrounded me,
 but I opposed them in the Lord's name.
 S3: This *is* the Lord's doing
 and it is wonderful in our eyes.

Apolytikia

Tone 3

O holy apostle Matthías, pray to the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness for their failings.

Tone 7

O Christ our God, you were transfigured on the mountain and revealed your glory to your disciples as far as they could bear it. Let your everlasting light shine also on us sinners through the prayers of the Theotokos. O Giver of light, glory to you!

Small Litany

P: For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kathísima 1

Tone 2

O Christ our God, the one who is glorious among the apostles pursued the nations and taught the ends of the earth to worship you, together with the Father and the Spirit. For his sake, only Lover of

the human race, establish your Church and send your blessing on the faithful.

Glory: Both now: Tone 4

O Jesus, you were transfigured on Mount Tabor and a shining cloud like a tent covered the apostles with your glory. Their gaze fell to the ground, for they could not bear to look at the brightness of the unapproachable glory of your face. O Saviour Christ, our God without beginning, you shone on them with your light, so now enlighten our souls.

Kathísima 2

Tone 4

O glorious apostle Matthías, Christ, the Sun of justice, sent you out like a ray of light to enlighten the whole world. You shine in your prayers and enlighten all those who faithfully celebrate your memory with the unfading light of God.

Glory: Both now: Tone 4

O Christ, you were transfigured with the unapproachable glory of your divine light. You illuminated your godly disciples, Peter, James and John, and moved them to awe by your divine grace. O Saviour, they heard the voice of the Father when he acknowledged you as his dear Son and saw the glory of your countenance. O Word, since you desire to save all men, enlighten our souls.

Small Litany

P: For blessed is your name, and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*

Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy
 and wipe out my offence through your great compassion.
⁴ Wash me thoroughly from my lawless act
 and cleanse me from my sin.
⁵ For I know my lawlessness
 and my sin is always before me.
⁶ I have sinned against you alone
 and done this evil before you
^{6b} so that you might be justified in your words
 and overcome when you are judged.
⁷ For see, I was conceived in lawlessness
 and my mother gave birth to me in sin.
⁸ For see, you have loved truth
 and revealed to me the hidden and secret *things* of your wisdom.
⁹ You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be clean;
 you will wash me and I will become whiter than snow.
¹⁰ You will make me hear about joy and gladness;
 the humbled bones will rejoice.
¹¹ Turn your face from my sins
 and wipe out all my lawlessness.
¹² O God, create a pure heart within me
 and renew an upright spirit within me.
¹³ Do not banish me from your presence
 or remove your Holy Spirit from me.
¹⁴ Restore the joy of your salvation to me
 and make me firm with your directing Spirit.
¹⁵ I will teach the lawless your ways
 and the ungodly will return to you.
¹⁶ O God, set me free from the guilt of blood;
 O God of my salvation,
 my tongue will rejoice in your justice.
¹⁷ O Lord, you will open my lips
 and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
¹⁸ For if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it;
 you will not be pleased with burnt offerings.
¹⁹ Sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;
 God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.
²⁰ O Lord, be good to Zion in your pleasure
 and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.

²¹ Then you will be pleased with a sacrifice of justice,
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;
then they will offer calves on your altar.

Kontákion

Tone 7

O Christ our God, you were transfigured on a mountain and your disciples saw your glory as far as they could bear it. Therefore when they were to see you crucified, they would understand that your suffering was voluntary and would proclaim to the world that you are truly the radiance of the Father.

Íkos

Come and stay awake! If we let sloth fix us to the ground, our spirits will never ascend to lofty matters. Let us rise and go to the slope of the divine mount. Let us hurry to join Peter and the two sons of Zebedee on Tabor, so that we may see God's glory with them, and listen to the voice which they heard from heaven. They announced that this is truly the radiance of the Father.

Kontakion

Tone 4

Your word has spread over the whole world and illuminated men like the sun; it gives the grace of faith to the Church in Gentile lands, O wonder-worker and apostle Matthias,

Ikos

O Lord, give me a river of words, for you created the nature of water. O compassionate *Master*, strengthen my heart, for you established the earth by your word. Enlighten my thoughts, for you clothe yourself in light as though with a garment, so that I may say and sing suitable words which are worthy to honour your wonder-worker and apostle Matthias.

Synaxáron

Today we remember the holy apostle Matthias. When he was excluded from the holy Twelve, Judas hung himself with a rope on a tree. Matthias was chosen by lot. He joined the Twelve and died on a tree in imitation of his Master. On the Ninth he was put to death.

Together with him we remember:

Holy Psóí of Egypt C4

Wonderworker Herman of Alaska C20

O God, have mercy on us through their holy prayers. Amen.

Katavasías

1: Moses inscribed the invincible weapon of the cross on the waters and marked a straight line before him with his staff. He divided the Red Sea and opened a path for Israel who went over dry shod. Then he marked a second line across the waters, united them in one and overwhelmed the chariots of Pharaoh. Therefore let us sing to Christ our God, for he has been glorified.

3: The rod of Aaron is an image of this mystery; it comes into bud to show who should be priest. So also the wood of the Cross has now flowered in the Church that once was barren. It has filled her with strength and steadfastness.

4: O Lord, I have heard the mystery of your dispensation. I have considered your works and I glorified your divinity.

5: O three times blessed tree, on which Christ the King and Lord was stretched, the beguiler who tempted the human race with the tree fell because of you. He was caught in the trap set by God who was crucified on you in the flesh and grants peace to our souls.

6: Jonah stretched out his hands in the form of a cross within the belly of the whale and plainly prefigured your redeeming passion. He was cast out after three days and foreshadowed the mighty

resurrection of Christ our God who was crucified in the flesh and enlightened the world by his rising on the third day.

7: The senseless decree of the wicked tyrant confused the people and breathed out threats and blasphemy hateful to God. Yet neither the fury of wild beasts nor the roaring of the fire could frighten the three children. As they stood together in the flame and were fanned by the wind which brought refreshment like the dew, they sang, "Blessed are you and praised above all, our God and the God of our fathers!"

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord.

O children, equal in number to the Trinity, bless God the Father and Creator. Sing the praises of the Word who descended and changed the fire to dew and exalt above all for ever the most Holy Spirit who gives life to all.

Ode 9

My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour. **R**

R: *You are* more honourable than the Cherubim
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim.
You gave birth to God the Word without defilement;
O true Theotokos, we glorify you.

² For he has regarded his servant's humility;
see, from now all generations will call me blessed. **R**

³ For the Almighty has accomplished great *things* for me
and his name is holy.

His mercy is from generation to generation
on those who fear him. **R**

⁴ He has accomplished strength with his arm
and scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. **R**

⁵ He has put down the mighty from *their* thrones
and exalted the humble.

He has satisfied the hungry with good *things*
and dismissed the rich with nothing. **R**

⁶ He has helped his servant Israel
in remembering his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and his seed for ever. **R**

9: O Theotokos, you are a mystical Paradise in which Christ blossomed. Through him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its elevation we bow in worship before it and glorify you.

Small Litany

P: For blessed is your name, and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*

Exaposteilária

Tone 2

The ungodly Judas willingly excluded himself and reduced the number of the twelve holy apostles. Matthias was given his place and joined them by divine election. He was chosen as an apostle and disciple of Christ to bring light to the whole world by teaching about the Holy Trinity.

Tone 2

O Lord, before you went to the cross, you took your chosen disciples and were transfigured on Mount Tabor. Moses and Ilias stood in awe at your side like servants and spoke to you. O Christ our Saviour, Sun risen from the Virgin for the salvation of the human race, together with them we worship the Father and the Spirit in you.

Praises

Tone 2

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights.
To you, O God, is due a song.

Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his powers.
To you, O God, is due a song.

S4: Praise him with cymbal and dance;
praise him with strings and flute.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;
praise him with joyful cymbals.
Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

O God our Saviour, the glory of the Holy Trinity was openly
revealed on Mount Tabor when you were transfigured in your great
goodness. X2

S2: The heavens are yours and the earth also. Ps 88
When you were transfigured, a radiant cloud brilliantly covered
everything; it caused wonder in your chosen and holy disciples.

S1: Tabor and Hermon will rejoice in your name.
O Word, Moses and Ilias stood near you when you were
transfigured. The Father testified to you when his voice was heard
from above.

Glory: Both now:
On Tabor Moses and Ilias saw God who took flesh from a Virgin
for the salvation of the human race.

Great Doxology

Glory to you who have shown us the light!
glory to God in the highest!
Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

² We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory,

³ O Lord King, heavenly God, almighty Father,
O Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,
and you, O Holy Spirit!

⁴ O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us,
for you take away the sin of the world.

⁵ Receive our prayer,
for you sit on the right of the Father,
and have mercy on us.

⁶ For only you are holy, only you are Lord,
O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

⁷ I will bless you every day
and always praise your name for ever and ever. Ps 144

⁸ O Lord, allow us this day
to be guarded from sin.

⁹ Blessed are you, O Lord God of our fathers!
Praised and glorified be your name for ever. Amen. Daniel 3

¹⁰ O Lord, let your mercy be on us,
for we have hoped in you. Ps 32.

¹⁶ Blessed are you, O Lord!
Teach me your statutes. X3 Ps 118

¹² O Lord, you have been our refuge
from generation to generation. Ps 89

I said, "O Lord, have mercy on me;
heal my soul, for I have sinned against you." Ps 40

¹⁴ O Lord, I have fled to you;
teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Ps 142

¹⁵ For with you is the source of life
and in your light we will see light. Ps 35

¹⁶ Stretch out your mercy
to those who know you. Ps 35

Triságion

Apolytikion

Tone 7
O Christ our God, you were transfigured on the mountain and
revealed your glory to your disciples as far as they could bear it.
Let your everlasting light shine also on us sinners through the
prayers of the Theotokos. O Giver of light, glory to you!

LITURGY

Antiphon 1 Tone 2

S1: Great is the Lord and highly praised in the city of our God. Ps 47

R: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us.

S2: You establish the mountains with your strength. Ps 64

S3: He wraps *himself* with light like a cloak. Ps 103

S4: The mountains will rejoice before the Lord's presence. Ps 97

S5: Glory: Both now:

Antiphon 2 Ps 94 Own Tone

S1: His foundations are on the holy mountains.

R: Save us, O Son of God.
You were transfigured on Mount Tabor.
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

S2: The Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the homes of Jacob. Ps 86

S3: O City of God, glorious things are spoken about you. Ps 86

S4: Someone will say, "Mother Zion,"
and a man was born in her. Ps 86

S4: Glory: Both now:
Monogenes

Antiphon 3 Ps 88 Tone 7

S1: O Lord, I will sing about your mercies for ever. Ps 88

R: O Christ our God, you were transfigured on the mountain and
revealed your glory to your disciples as far as they could bear it.
Let your everlasting light shine also on us sinners through the
prayers of the Theotokos. O Giver of light, glory to you!

S2: The heavens declare the glory of God.

S3: Blessed are the people who know the shout of joy.

S4: O Lord, they will walk in the light of your presence,
and rejoice in your name all through the day

S4: Glory: Both now:

Entrance Ps 35

With you is the source of life
and in your light we will see light.
Save us, O Son of God.
You were transfigured on Mount Tabor.
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

Apolytikion

Tone 7
O Christ our God, you were transfigured on the mountain and
revealed your glory to your disciples as far as they could bear it.
Let your everlasting light shine also on us sinners through the
prayers of the Theotokos. O Giver of light, glory to you!

Tone 3
O holy apostle Matthías, pray to the merciful God that he may grant
our souls forgiveness for their failings.

Of the Church

Kontákion

Tone 7

O Christ our God, you were transfigured on a mountain and your disciples saw your glory as far as they could bear it. Therefore when they were to see you crucified, they would understand that your suffering was voluntary and would proclaim to the world that you are truly the radiance of the Father.

Triságion**Prokeímenon Ps 18 Tone 8**

R: His sound has gone out into all the earth.

S: The heavens declare the God's glory.

Apóstolos

From the Acts of the Apostles (1:15-26)

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about a hundred and twenty), and said,¹⁶ "Brothers, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David, concerning Judas who was guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us, and was allotted his share in this ministry. ¹⁸(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness; and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Akéldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰For it is written in the book of Psalms, 'Let his habitation become desolate, and let there be no one to live in it'; and 'His office let another take.' ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us -- one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsab'bas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthías. ²⁴And they prayed and said, "Lord, you know the hearts of all men, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside, to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthías; and he was enrolled with the eleven apostles.

Alleluia Ps 88 Tone 1

S1: O Lord, the heavens will acknowledge your wonders.

S2: God is glorified in the council of the saints.

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke (10:16-21)

The Lord said to his disciples, "He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me." ¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" ¹⁸And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." ²¹In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

Communion Ps 18

His sound has gone out into all the earth
and his words to the ends of the world. Alleluia!