

26 SEPTEMBER
+ John the Theologian

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.

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.

The man who has seen ineffable revelations, the interpreter of the mysteries of God above, the son of Zebedee has recorded the Gospel of Christ for us and taught us to acknowledge God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. X2

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord

from morning watch until night,

from morning watch.

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord

and abundant redemption with *him*.

He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

The divinely inspired harp for the songs of heaven, whose secrets he wrote down for us, marvellously sings the song of songs. He prays for us to be saved with words from his mouth as though from a musical instrument.

X2

S2: Every nation, praise the Lord;

every people, acclaim him!

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

You declare the hidden word of God's wisdom with your tongue
resounding like thunder. O beloved of God, you open your mouth to cry,
"In the beginning was the Word," and illuminate the entire human race
with the knowledge of God. X2

Glory: Tone 2

Let us give rightful praise to the Son of Thunder, John the beloved and
virgin, the source of divine words, the chief theologian and the first to
proclaim the truth of the teaching of God's wisdom. For divinely inspired
from within he said, "In the beginning was the Word." He taught that he is
inseparable from the Father and equal to him in nature; he showed us the
right worship of the Trinity. You have also shown us the Creator, who
being with the Father and bearing Life, showed us the true Light. O
awesome and fearful wonder! As you were filled with love, you were
filled with divine speech, as also with the glory, belief and honour which
confirm our undivided faith through which we attain eternal good on the
day of judgement.

Both now: Tone 2

The shadow of the law passed when grace came. As the bush burnt, yet
was not consumed, so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a virgin. The
Sun of Justice has risen instead of a pillar of flame and Christ, the
salvation of our souls, instead of Moses.

Entrance

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.

Prokeímenon
Of the Day

Reading 1

From the First Letter of John (3:21-4:5)

Dear people, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them. And in this we know that he remains in us, by the Spirit which he has given us. ¹ Dear people, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² In this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit which confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit which does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of antichrist, of which you heard that it was coming, and now it is in the world already. ⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. ⁵ They are from the world, therefore what they say is from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us, and the one who is not from God does not listen to us. In this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Reading 2

From the First Letter of John (4:11-16)

Dear people, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No man has ever seen God. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³ In this we know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us his own Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we know and believe the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.

Reading 3

From the First Letter of John (4:20-5:5)

Dear people, if anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar, for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And we have this commandment from him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also. ¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² In this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not onerous. ⁴ For whatever is born from God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world, but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

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.

Lití

Tone 4

O dear Disciple, you reclined on the breast of Christ at the supper of the Lord and drew ineffable mysteries from it which you were allowed to reveal. Your heavenly voice thundered out to all, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” He is Christ our God, the Saviour of our souls and the true Light who enlightens everyone who comes into the world.

Apósticha

Tone 4

You acknowledged the Son of the Most High as co-eternal and one in Being with the Father, as Light from Light and changeless, as the express image of the Person who fathered the one who shines timelessly from him without passion, and as the Creator and Lord of all ages. You preached about him to the world as Christ our God, the Light who leads *us* from darkness.

S1: His sound has gone out into all the earth
and his words to the ends of the world. Ps 18

When you had received the light of the Holy Spirit, you were enlightened to speak about divine matters. *You spoke about* the Advocate who proceeds from the Father and who appeared to the human race through the Son. *He is one* honour, one throne and one Being with the Father, who is without beginning, and *with* the Word of God. All this, O beloved *saint*, you proclaimed to the world. Therefore we honour you with hymns as the source of the faith which you preserve unshaken by your intercessions before the Lord.

S2: The heavens declare God’s glory
and the firmament speaks about their handiwork. Ps 18

When you had ascended to the height of theology, you learnt the ineffable mysteries of God. *They are* the unity of the divine Being of one glory, one kingdom, one dominion, yet always divided into three Persons, who are undivided and united in a divine Union without confusion. In this way you proclaimed him and glorified the undivided Trinity. O theologian, plead with him to save and enlighten our souls.

Glory: Tone 6

O apostle and evangelist of Christ, John the theologian, you penetrated ineffable theology and thundered your teaching to us. You clearly spoke about it as a dear friend and companion of Christ, like Moses and Isaiah who saw God. Since you have boldness before him, continually pray for our souls.

Both now: Tone 6

Most pure Virgin, my Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord, was born from you. By accepting my nature he freed Adam from his ancient curse. We continually glorify you as the Mother of God. Hail, O celestial joy! Hail, O Lady, the protection, intercession and salvation of our souls!

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

Apolytíka

Tone 2

O beloved apostle of Christ our God, come quickly to rescue your helpless people. The one on whose breast you leant will accept you as intercessor. O theologian, implore him to disperse the clouds of darkness and grant us peace and great mercy.

Tone 2

O Theotokos, your mysteries are beyond all thought and exceedingly glorious. Because you were sealed in purity and preserved in virginity, you were truly revealed as the mother who gave birth to the true God. Plead with him to save our souls.

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 2

O beloved apostle of Christ our God, come quickly to rescue your helpless people. The one on whose breast you leant will accept you as intercessor. O theologian, implore him to disperse the clouds of darkness and grant us peace and great mercy.

Tone 2

O Theotokos, your mysteries are beyond all thought and exceedingly glorious. Because you were sealed in purity and preserved in virginity, you were truly revealed as the mother who gave birth to the true God. Plead with him to save our souls.

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*

Kathisma 1

Tone 8

O most wise *saint*, you were called the Son of the Thunder of God; you deafened the ears of the ungodly while sweetly trumpeting the incarnation of the Word to upright hearts. As a true friend you reclined against the breast of Christ and drew out from there the revelation of understanding. You preached to all about the one who is equally without beginning with the Father. O Apostle John, implore Christ our God to grant remission of sins to those who lovingly celebrate your holy memory.

Glory: Both now:

You conceived the Wisdom and Word in your womb without being consumed. O Theotokos, you gave birth for the world to the *Lord* who sustains the world. You hold in your embrace the one who holds all things, the Nurturer of all and the Fashioner of creation. Therefore, most holy Virgin, we glorify you with faith. I implore you that I may be rescued from offences. O pure virgin Lady, give me your help on the day of judgement when I stand before the face of my Creator, for you, most-praised *Lady*, can do whatever you desire.

Kathisma 2

Tone 8

You abandoned the fishing of the deep and drew all nations like fish to the faith with the rod of the cross. Just as Christ said to you, you were revealed as a fisher of men and brought them to piety. O theologian and apostle, you sowed the understanding of the Word throughout Patmos and won Ephesus over with your preaching. Plead with Christ our God to grant remission of sins to those who lovingly celebrate your holy memory.

Glory: Both now:

I think about the judgement and am afraid, for I have performed actions worthy of shame and I am brought low. O Theotokos, you are praised by everyone, so I implore you, “Before the darkness overtakes me, turn me back from death and lead me to the path of repentance. In this way, all-holy Bride of God, advocate with Christ our Lord, I will gratefully honour you, and praise your boundless power and divine protection. I implore you to grant me forgiveness of sins and great mercy for his sake.”

Polyeleos

Kathisma 3

Tone 8

Because you had the familiarity of a disciple, you reclined on the breast of Jesus and asked the name of his betrayer. Because you are his dear friend, the answer was given through the mystery of the bread. You understood the depths of theology and taught the world about the incarnation of the Word. O apostle and theologian John, plead with Christ our God for the forgiveness of offences of those who lovingly observe your holy memory.

Glory: Both now:

All-pure Virgin Theotokos, I implore you to heal the cruel sufferings of my soul. Grant me forgiveness of the sins which I, the wretched one, have mindlessly committed as I pollute my soul and body. Woe is me! What shall I do at the hour when the angels separate my soul from my passion-ridden body? Be then my helper and most fervent intercessor, for I, your servant, have you as my hope.

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, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Anaváthmi Ps 128 Tone 4

1: Many passions have fought against me from my youth,
but help me and save me, O my Saviour. *X2*

2: Those who hate Zion will be shamed by the Lord;
they will be withered like grass by the fire. *X2*

Glory:

3: Every soul lives through the Holy Spirit, is exalted in purity
and illuminated by the Triune Unity in a sacred mystery.

Both now:

4: The streams of grace pour out through the Holy Spirit;
they water all creation and produce life.

Prokeímenon Ps 18 Tone 4

R: His sound has gone out into all the earth. *Ps 18*

S: The heavens declare God's glory.

Gospel Dialogue

P/D: Let us pray to the Lord. *Lord have mercy*

P: For you, O God, are holy *and* rest in the Holy Place. We send up glory to you, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

R: Let everything with breath praise the Lord. *X3*

Praise God in his saints;

praise him in the firmament of his power. *Ps 50*

P/D: And that we may be counted worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord our God. *Lord have mercy X3*

P/D: Wisdom. Stand up. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

P: Peace be with you all. *And with your spirit*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

P/D: Let us attend

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to John (21:15-25)

At that time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!" Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?") When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me." Because of this, the rumour spread among the brothers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you?" This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true. Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written. Amen.

R: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

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.

Glory: Tone 6

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of your apostle.

Both now:

O merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our offences through the prayers of the Theotokos.

Have mercy: Tone 2

O virginal Theologian, dear disciple of the Saviour, we implore you to save us from all harm through your prayers, for we are the sheep of your fold.

Intercession

P/D: O God, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Visit your world with mercy and compassion; exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians and send down on them your rich mercy, through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the honourable and life-giving cross, through the protection of the honourable bodiless powers of heaven, through the prayers of the honourable, glorious, prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, of the holy, glorious, all-praised apostles, of the holy, all-praised and victorious martyrs, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of the holy and just forebears of God, Ioachim and Anna, of the apostle and evangelist John, and of all the saints. We ask you, only merciful Lord, “Listen to us sinners as we pray to you, and have mercy on us.”

Lord have mercy. X12

Through the mercy, compassion and love for the human race of your uniquely-fathered Son, with whom you are blessed, together with the all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

Kontáktion

Tone 2

O virgin disciple, who will declare your greatness? For you flow with miracles like a fountain of healing and intercede for our souls as theologian and friend of Christ.

Íkos

It is presumptuous and beyond our reach to try to gain complete understanding about the heights of heaven and the depths of the sea. In the same way it is impossible to count all the stars, the sand on the seashore, or to speak adequately of the Theologian who has been crowned with so many crowns by Christ whom he loved. For he leant on his breast and ate with him at the last supper as the theologian and friend of Christ.

Synaxáron

Today we celebrate the Dormition of the holy renowned apostle and evangelist, the virgin disciple and dear friend of Christ, John the Theologian, who reclined on his breast. He lived in Ephesus. O John, you were loved by the Word more than anyone else among the apostles. On the Twenty Sixth you fell asleep.

Together with him we remember:

Gideon the Judge C12 BC

Abbot and Bishop Mawgan of Cornwall

God-bearer Nilus of Rossano Italy C11

Abbot and Wonderworker Ephraim of Perekop C15

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

Katavasías

1: I will open my mouth and be filled with the spirit. I will sing a song to the Queen and Mother. I will come, rejoice in the feast and praise all her glory.

3: O Theotokos, living and inexhaustible fountain, in your divine glory spiritually establish your choir which is assembled in chorus. Make them worthy *to receive* crowns of glory in your mercy.

4: The counsel of God cannot be scrutinised. The Most High was incarnate from a Virgin. The prophet Habakkuk foresaw this and cried, “Glory to your power, O God!”

5: O Virgin, all creation was fearful at your divine glory, for you knew no man, yet bore the God of all. You held in your womb the Eternal Son who grants peace to those who praise you in song.

6: O believers, let us clap our hands in festivity and fulfil the most precious feast. Since we know God through the Theotokos, let us glorify the one who was born from her.

7: The godly youths worshipped the Creator rather than the creature. They courageously trampled on the flames and joyfully sang, “Blessed are you, most praised Lord, the God of our fathers.”

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord.
The *Lord* who was born from the Theotokos saved the holy children in the furnace. The one who was then prefigured has now been born on earth and gathers all creation to sing, “All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord and exalt him above all for ever.

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: Let every earthborn mortal be radiant and spiritually leap for joy. Let the ranks of angelic powers celebrate as they honour the holy feast of the Theotokos and cry, "Hail, O pure and blessed Ever-virgin who gave birth to God!"

Small Litany

P: For all the powers of heaven praise you, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Exaposteilária

Tone 3

As a Son of Thunder you talked to mortal men about God and said, "In the beginning was the Word." O apostle John, as you leant with faith on the bosom of your Master, you drew out streams of theology to enrich the whole creation.

All-pure Virgin, when you stood with the virgin disciple beside the cross of the Lord, you heard from the Creator, "Woman, see your son!" And to the disciple he said, "See your mother!" O Virgin and Mother of God, we all praise you, together with him.

Praises

Tone 8

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.

Most wise and blessed John with the warmth of your love for Christ, you were the best loved of the disciples by the all-seeing Word who justly judges the world. O divinely blessed *apostle*, you were radiant in body and mind through the beauty of chaste purity.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;
praise him with joyful cymbals.

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

O foremost disciple John, when you leant on the breast of Wisdom, you drew out streams of theology which flow through the world. Through knowledge of the Trinity you dried up the sea of wickedness, and were a pillar and cloud to lead us into the heavenly kingdom.

S1: His sound has gone out into all the earth
and his words to the ends of the world. Ps 18

Let us now praise with songs John, the servant of Christ. *He is* the flower of virginity, the acceptable dwelling of virtues, the musical instrument of wisdom, the temple of the Spirit, the voice which brings the light of grace, and the brilliant and treasured eye of the Church.

S1: The heavens declare God's glory
and the firmament speaks about their handiwork. Ps 18

O evangelist of divine voice, son of thunder, you proclaimed the Source of good things, an unshaken kingdom, eternal life, the ineffable joy of divine contemplation and the richly given gifts of Christ's grace which surpass the mind. You enlightened the understanding of mortal men.

Glory:

O John the evangelist, virgin equal to the angels, divinely taught theologian, you rightly revealed to the world the pure side from which blood and water flowed and by which we have obtained eternal life for our souls.

Both now:

O Lady, accept the prayers of your servants and rescue us from all anguish and sorrow.

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

Apolytíkion

Tone 2

O beloved apostle of Christ our God, come quickly to rescue your helpless people. The one on whose breast you leant will accept you as intercessor. O theologian, implore him to disperse the clouds of darkness and grant us peace and great mercy.

LITURGY

Antiphon 1 Ps 91 Tone 5

S1: It is good to thank the Lord
and make melody to your name, O Most High.

R: At the prayers of the Theotokos, Saviour, save us!

S2: To announce your mercy in the morning
and your truth by night,

S3: For the Lord our God is upright
and there is no injustice in him.

S4: Glory: Both now:

Antiphon 2 Ps 92 Tone 2

S1: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty;
the Lord has put on power and clothed himself.

R: Save us, O Son of God. You are wonderful in your saints.
We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

S2: For he founded the world which will not be moved.

S3: O Lord, holiness is right for your house
to length of days.

S4: Glory: Both now:

Monogenes

Antiphon 3 Ps 94 Tone 2

S1: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,
and shout with joy to God our Saviour.

R: O beloved apostle of Christ our God, come quickly to rescue your helpless people. The one on whose breast you leant will accept you as intercessor. O theologian, implore him to disperse the clouds of darkness and grant us peace and great mercy.

S2: Let us enter his presence with thanksgiving
and gladly cry to him with psalms,
For the Lord is a great God
and a high king over all the earth.

Entrance Ps 94

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.
Save us, O Son of God.
You are wonderful in your saints.
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

Apolytíkion

Tone 2

O beloved apostle of Christ our God, come quickly to rescue your helpless people. He on whose breast you leaned will accept you as intercessor. O theologian, implore him to disperse the clouds of darkness and grant us peace and great mercy.

Of the Church

Kontákion

O unfailing protection of Christians and unchanging mediator before the Creator, do not despise the prayers of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to those of us who faithfully cry to you, "O Theotokos, you always protect those who honour you, so hurry to intercede for us and hasten to plead for us."

Triságion

Prokeimenon Ps 18 Tone 8

R: His sound has gone out into all the earth.
S: The heavens declare God's glory.

Apostolos

From the First Catholic Letter of John (4:12-19)

Dear children, no man has ever seen God. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³ In this we know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us his own Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we know and believe the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him. ¹⁷ Love made perfect within us in this, that we may have confidence for the day of judgement, because as he is so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love throws out fear. For fear has to do with punishment and the one who fears is not perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love, because he first loved us.

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 John (19:25-27, 21:24-25)

At that time standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Mágdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. ²⁴ This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵ But there are also many other things which Jesus did; were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Communion Ps 18

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