

**7 JANUARY**  
**Afterfeast**  
**± Synaxis of the Forerunner**

**VESPERS**

**Lord I have cried**

Tone 2

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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

The Forerunner saw our Illumination, who enlightens all men as he approached to be baptised. He rejoiced in soul while his hand trembled. He showed him to the people and said, "See, the Redeemer of Israel who frees us from corruption." O Sinless *Lord*, Christ our God, glory to 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 hosts of angels were filled with fear when they saw our Rescuer as he was baptised by a servant and received witness through the coming of the Spirit. The Father's voice was heard from above, "The one on whom the Forerunner lays his hand, is the same *Person* as my dear Son, in whom I am well pleased." O Christ our God, glory to you!

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord

from morning watch until night,

from morning watch.

The streams of the Jordan received you. The Fountain and Advocate descended in the form of a dove. The *Lord* who inclined the heavens,

bowed his head, and the clay cried aloud to the one who formed him,  
“Why do you command me *to do* what lies beyond my power? For I need  
to be baptised by you. O sinless *Lord*, Christ our God, glory to you!

Tone 1

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord  
and abundant redemption with *him*.

He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

O Forerunner of Christ, O Baptist inspired by God, you are praised  
throughout the world and we reverently called you blessed. We glorify  
Christ who bowed his head before you in the Jordan and sanctified mortal  
nature. Implore him to grant peace and great mercy to our souls.

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

O wise John the Forerunner, you looked down from the bank of the river  
on the Son himself, the ineffable Glory of the Father, as he stood in the  
waters. You saw the Spirit descend like a dove, to purify and illuminate  
the ends of the earth. The mystery of the Trinity was revealed to you. We  
sing to you as we honour your divine feast.

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

O Baptist and Forerunner, you were strengthened by the divine grace of  
Christ and have revealed the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world for  
us. Today you have joyfully brought two disciples to him. Implore him to  
grant peace and great mercy to our souls.

Glory: Tone 6

O living Light, O Forerunner of the Saviour, O child of an infertile mother  
and friend of the *Lord* who was born from a virgin, you have worshipped  
him by leaping in the womb and have baptised him in the waters of the  
Jordan. O prophet, we implore you to intercede with him, so that we may  
escape from the great storms to come.

Both now: Tone 6

God the Word appeared to the human race in the flesh. When he was  
ready for baptism, he stood in the Jordan, but the Forerunner said to him,  
“How can I extend my hand and touch the head of the *Lord* who rules over

everything? Although you are the Child of Mary, I know you are the pre-eternal God. Although you walk on the earth, yet you are praised by the Seraphim. I am only a servant and do not know how to baptise the Master. O Lord, *you are* beyond all understanding; glory to you!

*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.

### **Great Prokeímenon**

*If 7<sup>th</sup> January is a Saturday, use this on Sunday evening.*

Tone 7

R: Our God is in heaven and earth;  
he has accomplished which he determined. Ps 113

S1: When Israel left Egypt  
and the house of Jacob *departed* from a foreign people,

S2: The sea saw and fled;  
Jordan was turned back.

S3: O sea, what *happened* to you that you fled  
and you, O Jordan, that you turned back?

### **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 4

O Master, when he saw you approach him, John the Forerunner was amazed and cried out in fear like a faithful servant, “O Saviour, what is this humility? What is this poverty you have put on? In the wealth of your goodness and compassion, you have raised man from his humiliation by clothing yourself in him.”

S1: The sea saw and fled; Jordan was turned back.

“Come to me this day,” the Saviour of all replied to the Forerunner, “for I bring to pass a mystery. Serve me with trembling, yet do not withdraw in fear. For although I am undefiled by nature, I stand now before you in the waters of the Jordan and am baptised as man. Renew Adam, who was devastated by sin.”

S2: O sea, what *happened* to you that you fled  
and you, O Jordan, that you turned back?

“Who among men,” replied John, “has seen the Sun being purified and the *Lord* who covered the heaven with clouds being stripped naked? Who has seen the one who made the springs and rivers, himself enter the waters? O Master, I stand amazed at your ineffable dispensation. Do not burden your servant with fearful commands.”

Glory: Tone 4

O Forerunner, as the lover of the Spirit and the swallow which brings divine news of grace, you have clearly revealed the dispensation of the King to the human race. He shone brilliantly from a pure Virgin for the restoration of the human race. O blessed prophet inspired by God, you banish the dominion of dark and evil ways. You guide the hearts of those who have been baptised in repentance towards eternal life.

Both now:

Come and set out like the wise virgins to meet the Master who has appeared, for he has come to John like a Bridegroom. The Jordan was driven back in fear when it saw you. John cried out, "I dare not touch your immortal head." The Spirit came down in the form of a dove and sanctified the waters. A voice called from above, "This is my Son who has come into the world to save the human race." O Lord, glory to you!

### **Song of Simeon**

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

### **Triságion Prayers**

#### **Apolytikia**

Tone 2

O Forerunner, the memory of the just is celebrated with praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you. You were truly revealed as the most honourable among the prophets, for you were found worthy to baptise in the waters the *Lord* whom they could only announce. After you had joyfully suffered for the sake of truth, you even proclaimed to those in Hades that the God who appeared in the flesh has taken away the sin of the world and grants us his great mercy.

Tone 1

O Lord, when you were baptised in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father witnessed to you and called you

his dear Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his word. O Christ our God, you have revealed yourself and enlightened the world; 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 2**

O Forerunner, the memory of the just is celebrated with praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you. You were truly revealed as the most honourable among the prophets, for you were found worthy to baptise in the waters the *Lord* whom they could only announce. After you had joyfully suffered for the sake of truth, you even proclaimed to those in Hades that the God who appeared in the flesh has taken away the sin of the world and grants us his great mercy.

#### **Tone 1**

O Lord, when you were baptised in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father witnessed to you and called you his dear Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his word. O Christ our God, you have revealed yourself and enlightened the world; 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*

## **Kathísma 1**

Tone 1

After Jesus had been born from the Virgin Mary and had been baptised in the Jordan by John, the Spirit descended visibly on him in the form of a dove. Therefore the prophet cried aloud with the angels and said, “Glory to your coming, O Christ! Glory to your Kingdom! Glory to your dispensation, O Lover of the human race! X2

## **Kathísma 2**

Tone 4

O Christ, when the great Forerunner saw you as you sought baptism in the streams of the Jordan, he cried out in gladness, “O unapproachable Light, you have come and are revealed.” X2

## **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*

## **Psalm 50**

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy  
and wipe out my offence through your great compassion.

<sup>4</sup> Wash me thoroughly from my lawless act  
and cleanse me from my sin.

<sup>5</sup> For I know my lawlessness  
and my sin is always before me.

<sup>6</sup> I have sinned against you alone  
and done this evil before you

<sup>6b</sup> so that you might be justified in your words  
and overcome when you are judged.

<sup>7</sup> For see, I was conceived in lawlessness  
and my mother gave birth to me in sin.

<sup>8</sup> For see, you have loved truth  
and revealed to me the hidden and secret *things* of your wisdom.

<sup>9</sup> You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be clean;  
you will wash me and I will become whiter than snow.

<sup>10</sup> You will make me hear about joy and gladness;  
the humbled bones will rejoice.

- <sup>11</sup> Turn your face from my sins  
and wipe out all my lawlessness.
- <sup>12</sup> O God, create a pure heart within me  
and renew an upright spirit within me.
- <sup>13</sup> Do not banish me from your presence  
or remove your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>14</sup> Restore the joy of your salvation to me  
and make me firm with your directing Spirit.
- <sup>15</sup> I will teach the lawless your ways  
and the ungodly will return to you.
- <sup>16</sup> O God, set me free from the guilt of blood;  
O God of my salvation,  
my tongue will rejoice in your justice.
- <sup>17</sup> O Lord, you will open my lips  
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
- <sup>18</sup> For if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it;  
you will not be pleased with burnt offerings.
- <sup>19</sup> Sacrifice for God is a broken spirit;  
God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.
- <sup>20</sup> O Lord, be good to Zion in your pleasure  
and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.
- <sup>21</sup> Then you will be pleased with a sacrifice of justice,  
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;  
then they will offer calves on your altar.

### **Kontákia**

#### Tone 4

O Lord, you have appeared today to the inhabited earth and your light has shone on us, for we praise you with understanding. “O unapproachable Light, you have come and revealed yourself.”

#### Tone 6

O Lord, the River Jordan trembled before your presence in the flesh and reversed its course because of fear. John was struck with amazement and hurried to perform the baptism for you which had been foretold by the prophets. The angelic ranks were gripped with wonder when they saw you as you were baptised like a man. O Lord, all those who were in darkness received illumination and sang a hymn of praise to you, for you have appeared and enlightened all things.



## **Íkos**

Adam became blind in Eden, but the Sun has now appeared to him in Bethlehem to open his eyes and cleanse them in the waters of the Jordan. An unfading Light has risen for the one who was in the deepest darkness. There can be no more night for him, only total day. For his sake the Dawn has arrived, since, as it was written, he hid in the cool of the evening. The one who fell in the evening has discovered the Radiance which raises him. He is released from gloom and comes to the Dawn who has appeared and enlightened all things.

## **Synaxáron**

Today we celebrate the synaxis of the holy and renowned Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John. After he had preached repentance as the Forerunner he was permitted to baptise Christ, although he recognised his unworthiness. As a messenger of God he often appears in icons with wings. On the Seventh we praise his memory.

Together with him we remember:

Holy Brannock of Braunton in Devon C6

Bishop Cedd of the East Saxons C7

New Martyr Athanasios of Attalia and Smyrna C18

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

## **Katavasías**

Tone 2

1: Israel passed through the storm-tossed deep of the sea which God had turned into dry land, but the dark waters completely covered the chief captains of Egypt in a watery grave through the mighty strength of the Master's right hand.

3: We have all been freed from the ancient snares and the jaws of the devouring lions have been broken. Let us, therefore, greatly rejoice and open our mouths in song, as we weave with words a melody to the Word who delights to grant us gifts.

4: After he had been cleansed by the fire of a mystic vision, the prophet sang praises about the renewal of mortal man. He was filled with the

inspiration of the Spirit, raised his voice and spoke about the incarnation of the ineffable Word who had shattered the dominion of the strong.

5: We have been washed by the cleansing of the Spirit from the poison of the dark and unclean enemy. We have set out on a new path free from error which leads to joy of heart beyond all effort and which only those reach whom God has reconciled to himself.

6: The Father in a voice full of joy revealed his dear Son whom he had begotten from the womb. "This is indeed my Child," he said, "of the same nature as myself. My living Word has come to the human race bearing light. He is made a mortal man through divine providence.

7: The *Lord* who in the furnace stilled the heat of the flame which mounted high in the air and encircled the godly children, burnt the heads of the dragons in the stream of the Jordan. He washes away all the stubborn obscurity of sin with the dew of the Spirit.

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

The creation finds itself set free and those in darkness are now made sons of light; only the Prince of Darkness groans. Let all the inheritance of the nations who were in misery beforehand, now eagerly bless him who has caused this change.

## **Ode Nine**

*The Magnificat is not sung.*

### Canon 2

Today the Master bows his head  
beneath the hand of the Forerunner.

Today John baptises the Master  
in the streams of the Jordan.

Most pure Bride, blessed Mother, the wonders of your childbearing pass all understanding. Through you we have obtained the Salvation of all and rightly rejoice. Truly, our Benefactor, we bring a song of thanksgiving before you as a gift. X2

Today the Master buries in the waters  
the sin of mortal man.

Today the Master receives testimony from on high

that he is the dear Son.

Today the Master has come to sanctify  
the nature of the waters.

Today the Master receives baptism  
at the hand of the Forerunner.

What was revealed to Moses in the bush, we see accomplished here in a strange manner. The Virgin bore Fire within her, yet was not consumed when she gave birth to the Benefactor who brings us light; the streams of the Jordan suffered no harm when they received him. *X4*

O Baptist of Christ, pray for us.

The voice of the Forerunner in the wilderness revealed the Word who came to live among us in the flesh. With great joy he prepared to baptise Christ who had approached and who cleanses our souls from sin through faith.

O Baptist of Christ, pray for us.

You are the holy mediator between the Law and Grace. You set the seal on the first and began the second. Most venerable John, the Word honoured you above all the prophets and now you have passed beyond visible objects.

Glory:

The one who demonstrated a life which outshone that of the bodiless powers of heaven, now rejoices with the angelic choirs. As he stands beside the throne of the Master, he is glad to plead for the forgiveness and salvation of those who honour his memory.

Both now:

The Rescuer of all *people* becomes man in his supreme compassion. All-blessed Theotokos, the *Lord* who loves the human race and whose nature is to love us, condescends to be born according to the flesh from your virginal womb for the sake of men.

9: O Theotokos, no tongue is capable of praising you worthily and the angelic mind is overawed in exalting you. Accept our faith, since you are gracious and know our love for divine things. You are the protector of Christians and we praise you.

### **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

The Master announced that you were a prophet higher than the prophets and greater than those born from a woman. For you have seen in the flesh the *Lord* whom all the Prophets and the Law foretold. *He is* truly the Christ and more honourable than them all, yet you have baptised him.

Tone 3

The Saviour, who is grace and truth, has appeared in the streams of the Jordan and enlightened those who sleep in darkness and shadow. For the Light which no one can approach has come and been revealed.

### **Praises**

Tone 1

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.  
The Light from Light, Christ our God has shone on the world; he is revealed as God. O people, let us worship him.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;  
praise him with joyful cymbals.  
Let everything with breath praise the Lord.  
Our Saviour, you were baptised in the Jordan and have sanctified the waters. You accepted a servant's hand on your head and heal the passions

of the world. Great is the mystery of your dispensation! O Lord and Lover of the human race, glory to you!

S2: The sea saw and fled; Jordan was turned back. Ps 113

The true Light has appeared and grants enlightenment to all. Christ, who is above all purity, is baptised with us; he brings sanctification to the water and it becomes a cleansing for our souls. What is outward and visible is earthly and what is inwardly understood is higher than heaven. Salvation comes through washing; the Spirit through water. We ascend to God by descending into water. O Lord, how wonderful are your works; glory to you!

S1: O sea, what *happened* to you that you fled

and you, O Jordan, that you turned back? Ps 113

The *Lord* who covers the heavens with clouds is himself covered today by the streams of the Jordan. The one who takes away the sin of the world is cleansed so that I may be made clean. The uniquely-fathered Son of the most high Father receives the testimony of the consubstantial Spirit from above. Let us cry aloud to him, “O Christ our God, you have revealed yourself and saved us. Glory to you!

Glory: Tone 6

O Baptist, you came as a messenger from an infertile womb and went to live in the wilderness almost after finishing with your swaddling clothes. You were made a seal for all the prophets, for you were counted worthy to baptise in the Jordan the *Lord* whom they had foretold in dark sayings and many ways. You heard the voice of the Father from heaven as he testified to his Son. You have seen the Spirit in the form of a dove as he descended with the Father’s words on the one who was baptised. You are higher than all the prophets; continually intercede for us who celebrate your memorial with faith.

Both now: Tone 2

Today Christ has come to be baptised in the Jordan. Today John touches the head of the Master. The powers of heaven are amazed as they observe the amazing mystery. The sea looked on and fled; Jordan was driven back at the sight. And we who have been enlightened cry aloud, “Glory to the revealed God, who has appeared on earth and brought light to the world.

## Great Doxology

Glory to you who have shown us the light!

glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

<sup>2</sup> We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,  
we glorify you, we thank you for your great glory,

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

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Receive our prayer,  
*for* you sit on the right of the Father,  
and have mercy on us.

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

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

<sup>8</sup> O Lord, allow us this day  
to be guarded from sin.

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

<sup>10</sup> O Lord, let your mercy *be* on us,  
for we have hoped in you. Ps 32.

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

<sup>12</sup> 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

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

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

<sup>16</sup> Stretch out your mercy  
to those who know you. Ps 35

## Triságion

### Apolytíkion

Tone 1

O Lord, when you were baptised in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father witnessed to you and called you his dear Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his word. O Christ our God, you have revealed yourself and enlightened the world; glory to you!

## LITURGY

### Antíphon 1 Ps 113 Tone 1

S1: Israel left Egypt  
and the house of Jacob *departed* from a foreign people.

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

S2: Judah became his sanctuary  
*and* Israel his dominion.

S3: The sea saw and fled;  
Jordan was turned back.

S4: O sea, what *happened* to you that you fled  
and you, Jordan, that you turned back?

S5: Glory: Both now:

### Antíphon 2 Ps 114 Tone 2

S1: I have *poured out* love,  
for the Lord will hear the voice of my plea.

R: Save us, O Son of God.  
You were baptised by John in the Jordan.  
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

S2: For he has inclined his ear to me;  
I will address him throughout my days.

S3: The pains of death have surrounded me,  
the perils of Hades have discovered me;  
I have found affliction and grief;

I addressed the name of the Lord,  
S4: The Lord is merciful and just;  
our God has pity.

S5: Glory: Both now:  
*Monogenes*

### **Antíphon 3 Ps 117 Tone 1**

S1: Thank the Lord, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures for ever.

R: O Lord, when you were baptised in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father witnessed to you and called you his dear Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his word. O Christ, our God, you have revealed yourself and have enlightened the world, glory to you!

S2: Let the house of Israel now say that he is good,  
for his mercy endures for ever.

S3: Let the house of Aaron now say that he is good,  
for his mercy endures for ever.

S4: Let all those who fear the Lord now say that he is good,  
for his mercy endures for ever.

### **Entrance Ps 117**

Blessed is the one who comes in the Lord's name;  
we have blessed you from the Lord's house.

God is the Lord, and has appeared to us.

O Son of God, you were baptised by John in the Jordan.

Save us who sing to you, "Alleluia!"

### **Apolytikia**

Tone 1

O Lord, when you were baptised in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father witnessed to you and called you his dear Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his word. O Christ our God, you have revealed yourself and enlightened the world; glory to you!

*Of the Church*



## **Kontákion**

Tone 4

O Lord, you have appeared today to the inhabited earth and your light has shone on us, for we praise you with understanding. “O unapproachable Light, you have come and revealed yourself.”

## **Triságion Substitute**

For as many as have been baptised into Christ,  
have put on Christ. Alleluia!

## **Prokeimenon Ps 63 Tone 7**

R: The just will rejoice in the Lord.

S: O God, listen to my voice.

## **Apóstolos**

From the Acts of the Apostles (19:1-8)

In those days while Apol'los was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” <sup>3</sup>And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John’s baptism.” <sup>4</sup>And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.” <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. <sup>7</sup>There were about twelve of them in all. <sup>8</sup>And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the kingdom of God.

## **Alleluia Ps 91 Tone 4**

S1: The just *person* will flourish like a palm tree  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

S2: Those who are planted in the house of the Lord  
will blossom in the courts of our God.

## **Gospel**

From the Holy Gospel according to John (1:29-34)

At that time John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup> And John bore witness, “I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup> And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

### **Communion Ps 111**

The just will be in everlasting remembrance. Alleluia

### **Post Communion**

Tone 1

O Lord, when you were baptised in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the voice of the Father witnessed to you and called you his dear Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his word. O Christ, our God, you have revealed yourself and have enlightened the world, glory to you!