

20 JANUARY
+ God-bearing father Eftymios the Great of Palestine C5

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.

Tone 1

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?

But there is forgiveness with you.

O holy father Eftymios, a heavenly angel was sent beforehand to announce your birth. Like John you came from the womb of an infertile woman and revealed yourself as his follower. You were homeless, spurned possessions and shared his way of life. You sustained yourself in the mountains like the Baptist and shone with countless miracles.

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.

O father Eftymios, you produced fruit from infertility. You were truly revealed as having many children, for the desert which was once trackless was filled with monastics who were your spiritual children. Pray now that our souls may be granted peace and great mercy.

S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord

from morning watch until night,

from morning watch.

O father Eftymios, you excelled in your life; your faith was truly

Orthodox. You reached the highest vision and became a home of wisdom

through activity. You worshipped Christ in two Natures as one of the Trinity. Pray to him for us.

Tone 4

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

He will redeem Israel from all his offences.

You were sanctified from your mother's womb when the eye of the *Lord*, who sees everything, perceived your purpose and desire that continually led you towards higher things. Most blessed *father*, he declared you to be a gift of God. Your name means "good courage;" he set aside the sorrow of your parents. You advanced from infancy and pleased God our Benefactor. Plead with him to save and enlighten our souls.

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

Christ found you as a clear mirror of divine revelations. O father, he enlightened you with the radiant splendour of his light and filled you with divine gifts. You were revealed as a source which pours out healing, a feeder of the hungry which waters with rain the desire of those who thirst. O wise *saint*, you regarded our souls as pledges and helped them towards God through your teaching. Plead with him to save and enlighten our souls.

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

Your angelic life shone with vision and activity as a standard and excellent model of virtue for those who desire to worship God in perfection. O Eftymios, your divinely-wise teaching taught everyone to worship the Trinity, to know Christ as One in two Natures and *to count* the councils as equal in number to Christ's four gospels. Plead with him to save and enlighten our souls.

Glory: Tone 3

O father Eftymios, you were dedicated to God from your mother's womb like another Samuel. Indeed, you were rightly called by your name, for you are "good courage" to all believers, a foundation and pillar of the monastic way and a sanctified temple of the Holy Spirit. Pray for us who honour you, so that we may be granted great mercy.

Both now:

All-honoured *Virgin*, how can we not wonder at your giving birth to the *Lord* who is God and man? For, all-pure *Lady*, without experience of man, , you gave birth to a Son in the flesh who was begotten without mother from the Father before time. He underwent no mingling, change or division, but preserved the attributes of each nature. Therefore, O Lady and virgin Mother, plead with him to save the souls of those who acknowledge you in the Orthodox manner to be the Theotokos.

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

Prophecy 1

From the Wisdom of Solomon (3:1-9)

The souls of the just are in the hand of God and no torment will touch them. ² In the sight of the foolish they seemed to die and their departure is taken for misery, ³ and their going from us to be utter destruction, but they are in peace. ⁴ For although they may be punished in the sight of men, yet their hope is full of immortality. ⁵ Having been a little disciplined, they will be greatly rewarded, for God tested them and found them worthy for himself. ⁶ Like gold in the furnace he has tried them and received them as a burnt offering. ⁷ In the time of their visitation they will shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. ⁸ They will judge the nations, have

dominion over the people, and their Lord will reign for ever. ⁹ Those who put their trust in him will understand the truth. Those who are faithful in love will live with him, for grace and mercy *belongs* to his saints and he visits his chosen.

Prophecy 2

From the Wisdom of Solomon (5:15-6:3)

The just live for evermore and their reward is with the Lord, and their care is with the most High. ¹⁶ Therefore they will receive a glorious kingdom and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand, for he will shelter them with his right hand, and protect them with his arm. ¹⁷ He will take his fervour to himself for complete armour, and make the creature his weapon for revenge on his enemies. ¹⁸ He will put on justice as a breastplate, and judgment as a helmet. ¹⁹ He will take holiness for an invincible shield. ²⁰ He will sharpen his severe wrath for a sword; the world will fight with him against the foolish. ²¹ Then rightly-aimed thunderbolts will go out; from the clouds, as though from a well-drawn bow, they will fly to the mark. ²² Hailstones full of wrath will be fired as though from a stone bow, the water of the sea will rage against them and the rivers will cruelly drown them. ²³ Truly a mighty wind will rise against them, and like a storm will blow them away. Therefore lawlessness will lay waste the whole earth, and ill-dealing will overthrow the thrones of the mighty. ¹ Hear therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, you who are judges of the ends of the earth. ² Give ear, you who rule many people and glory in the throng of nations. ³ For might is given to you from the Lord, and sovereignty from the Most High.

Prophecy 3

From the Wisdom of Solomon (4:7-15)

Although the just may be overtaken with death, yet he will be at rest. ⁸ For honourable age is not in length of time, nor what is measured by the number of years. ⁹ But wisdom is the gray hair to people, and an unspotted life is old age. ¹⁰ He pleased God, and was loved by him, so that living among sinners he was taken up. ¹¹ He was snatched, in case evil should alter his understanding, or deceit charm his soul. ¹² For the bewitching of waywardness obscures things that are honest, and the wandering of desire undermines the simple mind. ¹³ Since he was made perfect in a short time, he completed long years, ¹⁴ for his soul pleased the Lord, therefore he hurried to take him away from among the wicked. ¹⁵ The people saw, and

did not understand, neither did they perceive that grace and mercy is with his saints, and that he has visited his chosen ones.

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 Eftymios, servant of Christ, your good works shine over earth and heaven like the sun, for you preached the Orthodox and pure faith to us according to the true teaching. Therefore, O renowned and God-bearing father, ask Christ to grant us great mercy on your feast-day.

Apósticha

Tone 5

Hail, O venerable father! You are the cause of good courage for the Church. By your birth all the assaults of heretics were repelled by the providence of God. Therefore he named you Eftymios or “Good courage.” You filled the ranks of heavenly beings with joy by the brilliance of your life. Now as you make your home with them, are filled

with light, and enjoy the most blessed and divine radiance, plead with Christ to grant great our souls mercy.

S1: The death of his saints is precious in the Lord's sight. Ps 115
 You were strengthened with the staff of the cross and dried up the sea of lawlessness. After you had been spiritually watered by the stream of divine sweetness and the rivers of Paradise, you revealed springs of salvation in the desert. You were watered like a palm tree with streams of the divine Spirit. O renowned *saint*, you hurried to the heights of heaven and revealed yourself as a fiery pillar of light-bearing radiance. Therefore, O divinely-wise father, plead with Christ to grant our souls great mercy.

S2: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord;
 there is great desire in his commandments. Ps 111
 You have truly passed over with joy and gladness of soul to the wonderful tabernacle, the house of God. There, most blessed father, you listen to the beautiful voices, the sweet hymns and ineffable delight of those who keep the feast. O Eftymios, you share in their beauty. This was all you desired as you crucified your flesh. You were adorned with the justice of God and reached it. Plead with Christ to grant our souls great mercy.

Glory:

O just father, you gave your eyes no sleep or your eyelids slumber, until you had freed your soul and body from passions. You prepared yourself to be a home of the Holy Spirit, for you became the companion of the consubstantial Trinity. All-praised Eftymios, Christ, who alone shows us the Father, came to live in you. Plead with him to save our souls.

Both now:

O virgin Theotokos, we who are faithful bless you; we rightly glorify you as the unshaken city, the fortified wall, the ardent intercessor and the protector 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

Apolytíkiá

Tone 4

Hail, O barren wilderness! Be glad, O sterile desert which has never known the travail of birth! The man of desires has increased your sons. He has planted them in faith and reverence and watered them with the Holy Spirit; they grow in self-denial and perfect virtue. O Christ our God, preserve your people in peace through his prayers.

O Theotokos, the mystery hidden from eternity and unknown to the angels, is revealed to those on earth through you. God was incarnate from you in a union without confusion and freely endured the cross for us. He raised the first-formed man and has saved our souls from death.

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.

Apolytíkiá

Tone 4

Hail, O barren wilderness! Be glad, O sterile desert which has never known the travail of birth! The man of desires has increased your sons. He has planted them in faith and reverence and watered them with the Holy Spirit; they grow in self-denial and perfect virtue. O Christ our God, preserve your people in peace through his prayers.

O Theotokos, the mystery hidden from eternity and unknown to the angels, is revealed to those on earth through you. God was incarnate from you in a union without confusion and freely endured the cross for us. He raised the first-formed man and has saved our souls from death.

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 4

O holy father, because you were illuminated with the unapproachable Light, you were radiant in the desert like a star. You enlighten with your teaching those who sincerely approach you.

Glory:

O Eftymios, you shone from Egypt like the Morning Star, gave the world light through your brilliant virtues and enlightened everyone with the splendour of asceticism.

Both now:

O pure Virgin, accept our plea as we turn to your protection. We implore you to plead continually with Christ God to save your faithful servants.

Kathisma 2

Tone 5

O God-bearing Eftymios, you rejected the cares of life, embraced the angelic life and adorned your soul with abstinence. You richly received grace from God. Pray for us who devoutly praise you.

Glory: Both now:

Most holy Virgin, O compassionate *Lady*, have mercy on us who turn to you in faith, for we ask for your fervent help. As the good mother of the Most High God, you are filled with the grace of God. You always plead with the prayers of a mother that he will save us all.

Polyeleos

Kathísma 3

Tone 8

O blessed father, you took the poverty of the *Lord* who was born from the Virgin for our sake and you counted everything as chaff. After you had eaten from the tree of knowledge, you became a teacher of monks inspired by God. You roused them to zeal for the angelic life and for knowledge of the faith. O renowned Efthymios, plead with Christ God to grant forgiveness of sins to those who eagerly celebrate your holy memory.

Glory: Both now:

O Virgin, all generations call you blessed. You are the unique woman who gave birth to God in the flesh without seed. The divine Fire lived in you, and you nourished the Creator and Lord as a Child. Therefore we humans, together with the angels, rightly glorify your most holy birth-giving and unite our voices to cry to you, “All-pure *Lady*, spotless Virgin, plead with Christ God to grant forgiveness of sins to those who sing about your glory.”

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 115 Tone 4

R: The death of his saints is precious in the sight of the Lord.

S: I will take up the cup of salvation and call on the Lord's name.

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 Matthew (11: 27-30)

The Lord said to his disciples: I tell you, it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³ And you, Caper'natum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴ But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you." ²⁵ At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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 lawless deeds through the intercession of Eftymios.

Both now:

O Merciful *Lord*, blot out the abundance of our lawless deeds through the intercession of the Theotokos.

Have mercy:

O venerable father, the sound of your teaching has gone out into all the earth. Therefore you have found the reward of your labours in the heavens. You destroyed the hosts of demons and reached the ranks of angels whose life you blamelessly followed. Since you have boldness before Christ God, request peace for our souls.

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 our father among the saints Eftymios, 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. XI2

Through the mercy, compassion and love for the human race of your only-begotten 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 8

O holy father Efthymios, the desert rejoiced at your birth. It produces a harvest of joy in your memory through your many miracles. Pour wonders also on our souls and cleanse us from our sins, so that we may sing, “Alleluia!”

Íkos

How can I, wretch that I am, offer praise from my slothful heart? I am filled with fear when I sing hymns to the great Efthymios. Yet because I trust in his prayers, I begin a hymn with good courage and great diligence. I retell for everyone his life and birth, and how his parents sang to God, “Alleluia!”

Synaxáron

Today we remember our renowned father Efthymios the Great of Palestine, who lived in the Fifth Century. He had a companion called Theoktistos. As the number of monks grew he established the custom that new recruits would be trained by Theoktistos before they were allowed to graduate to the hermetical life. He was an ardent supporter of the Fourth Oecumenical Council. O grey-headed saint, you resembled the angels and became their companion in heaven on the Twentieth.

Together with him we remember:

Martyrs Inna, Pinna and Rimma of Scythia C1-C2

Confessor Leo the Great, Emperor of the East C5

Tax Collector Peter of Constantinople

New Martyr Zacharias of Old Patras C18

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

Katavasías

1: The sun's rays once shone on dry land in the midst of the deep, for the water on both sides became as firm as a wall while the people crossed over the sea on foot. They offered this song acceptable to God, “Let us sing to the Lord, for he has been greatly glorified.”

3: O Lord, *you are* the firm foundation of those who put their trust in you. Strengthen the Church which you have purchased with your precious blood.

4: O Christ, your virtue has covered the heavens, for after you came from your undefiled Mother, the ark of your sanctification, you appeared in the Temple of your glory as a Child in arms and the whole world was filled with your praise.

5: Isaiah symbolically saw God on a throne. He was lifted high and carried in triumph by angels in glory. He cried, “Woe is me, for I have seen the incarnate God beforehand. He is the Lord of the light which knows no evening and the King of peace.”

6: When the Elder with his eyes saw the Salvation which had come to the Gentiles, he cried aloud to you, “O Christ, *you* come from God and are my God.”

7: O Word of God, you dropped dew on the children as they spoke about divine matters in the midst of the fire. You took up your home in the pure Virgin. We praise you as we sing with devotion, “Blessed are you, O God of our fathers!”

8: Let us praise, bless and worship the Lord.
The youths who fought for godliness stood together in the unbearable fire, yet were not harmed by it. They sang a divine hymn, “Bless the Lord, all you his works, and exalt him above all for ever!”

Ode 9

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.

My soul glorifies the Lord
and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour. **R**
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: Those of us who are faithful see the outline in the shadow of the Law and in the Scriptures, “Every male child which opens the womb will be holy for God.” Therefore we also glorify the First-begotten Word, and Son of the Father who has no beginning, the First-born Son of the unwedded Mother.

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

O renowned father, God sanctified you from your mother’s womb and revealed you as a divine prophet like Jeremiah and Samuel of old. Together with them, O wonder-working and God-bearing Efthymios, as you live with the angels, remember those who sing hymns to you with faith.

An angel of God came to announce your birth from an infertile woman, as though you were another Forerunner. You became his image as you baptised, lived on a mountain without wealth or home, and made your gifts radiant among men.

O pure Virgin, you gave birth in an ineffable way to the God of two Natures, two Wills, but one Person, who determined to become poor for our sake, even to the cross, in order to enrich us through his Divinity.

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.

Tone 8

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 venerable father Efthymios, you forsook earthly things to follow Christ. You did not prefer corruptible things to those which are to come. O glorious *saint*, you lived in the desert as though in a city and destroyed legions of demons. All-glorious *father*, who can avoid retelling your soul's true zeal for the Lord. X2

S1: The death of his saints is precious in the Lord's sight. Ps 115

O venerable father Efthymios, delight of the Orthodox and beacon shining over the whole world, you were revealed as an example for monastics and their pride. You were not afraid of the deceitful enemies' terrors when you were living in the cave. O blessed *saint*, how great are the gifts which fill you, by which you openly trample underfoot all the arrogance of the demons.

S1: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord;
 there is great desire in his commandments. Ps 111

O venerable father Efthymios, you truly took flight and soared above to God. O holy *father*, blessed *saint*, when you had purified your senses with fasting and continual prayer, you were counted worthy of immortal life. All-glorious adornment of the ascetics, you are full of joy, for Christ has received you into the spiritual dwellings.

Glory: Tone 8

O Efthymios our father, the instructor of a host of monks, we honour you. We have truly learnt to walk rightly in your footsteps. You are blessed, for after you had toiled for Christ, you condemned the power of the enemy. You talk with the angels, and are a companion of the venerable and just *saints*. Together with them, implore the Lord to be merciful to our souls.

Both now:

O Lady, accept the pleas of your servants and save us from every danger and affliction.

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

Apolytícion

Tone 4

Hail, O barren wilderness! Be glad, O sterile desert which has never known the travail of birth! The man of desires has increased your sons. He has planted them in faith and reverence, and watered them with the Holy Spirit; they grow in self-denial and perfect virtue. O Christ God, preserve your people in peace through his prayers.

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 94 Tone 2

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

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

S2: Let us enter his presence with gratitude
and shout with gladness to him in psalms.
For the Lord is a great God
and an exalted king over all the earth.

S3: For the ends of the earth are in his hand
and the summits of the mountains are his.
For the sea is his and he made it;
his hands have formed the dry land.

Monogenes

Antiphon 3 Ps 113& 111 Tone 4

S1: The death of his saints is precious in the Lord’s sight. Ps 115

R: Hail, O barren wilderness! Be glad, O sterile desert which has never known the travail of birth! The man of desires has increased your sons. He has planted them in faith and reverence, and watered them with the Holy Spirit; they grow in self-denial and perfect virtue. O Christ God, preserve your people in peace through his prayers.

S2: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord;
there is great desire in his commandments. Ps 111

Entrance

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!”

Apolytikia

Tone 4

R: Hail, O barren wilderness! Be glad, O sterile desert which has never known the travail of birth! The man of desires has increased your sons. He has planted them in faith and reverence, and watered them with the Holy Spirit; they grow in self-denial and perfect virtue. O Christ God, preserve your people in peace through his prayers.

*Of the Church***Kontákion**

Tone 1

O Christ God, you sanctified the Virgin's womb by your birth and blessed Simeon's hands; now you have come and saved us. Grant peace to your people in time of war and strengthen the rulers whom you have loved, for you are the only Lover of the human race.

Triságion**Prokeímenon Ps 149 Tone 7**

R: The holy ones will boast in glory.

S: Sing a new song to the Lord.

Apóstolos

From the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (4:6-15)

Brothers, it is God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷ But we have this treasure in clay vessels, that the exceeding greatness of the power may be of God, and not from ourselves. ⁸ We are pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not to despair; ⁹ pursued, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed; ¹⁰ always carrying in the body the putting to death of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus may be revealed in our mortal flesh. ¹² So then death works in us, but life in you. ¹³ But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed, and therefore I spoke." We also believe, and therefore also we speak; ¹⁴ knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will present us with you. ¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that the grace, being multiplied through the many, may cause the thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Alleluia Ps 111 Tone 2

S1: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord.

S2: He will take great pleasure in his commandments.

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke (6:17-23)

At that time Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great crowd of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; ¹⁸ and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came forth from him and healed them all. ²⁰ And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ "Blessed are you that hunger now, for you shall be satisfied. "Blessed are you that weep now, for you shall laugh. ²² "Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, on account of the Son of man! ²³ Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

Communion Ps 111

The just will be in everlasting remembrance. Alleluia!