

25 NOVEMBER
Farewell to Feast
+ Great Martyr Katherine (Ekaterini) of Egypt C4

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.

O faithful, today let us dance for joy, sing to the Lord with psalms and hymns and venerate his holy tabernacle, the living ark, which contained the Word who cannot be contained. For she, a young child in the flesh, is offered in an amazing manner to the Lord and Zacharias the great high priest receives her with rejoicing as the dwelling place of God.

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.

Today the living temple of the holy glory of Christ our God - the one who alone among women is pure and blessed - is offered in the temple of the law, so that she may make her home in the sanctuary. Joachim and Anna rejoice with her in spirit and choirs of virgins sing to the Lord as they chant psalms and honour his Mother.

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

O virgin Mother of God, you are the preaching of the prophets, the glory of the apostles, the pride of martyrs and the restoration of all those who live on earth, for we are reconciled to God through you. Therefore we honour your entrance into the temple of the Lord. We are saved by your intercession and all cry to you with the angel, "Hail, most holy Lady!"

Tone 1

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

O martyr, today the city of Alexandria adorns itself with wisdom, because it has your childhood clothes within your holy temple. Therefore, O Katherine, we also reverently celebrate your honourable memory; pray for those who honour you.

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

Today let us celebrate the memory of Katherine, for she truly trampled all the powers of the enemy and the opposition of the orators with powerful word and action. O God, save us from the godless enemy through her prayers.

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

Rejoice, most glorious and honourable martyr Katherine! For the mountain of Sinai, where Moses saw the bush which burnt yet was not consumed, now keeps your body which is pleasing to God. It was removed there by the gracious mercy of Christ and waits for the time of his second coming.

Glory: Tone 2

All who love the martyrs, let us hurry with joy to the feast of the divinely-wise martyr Katherine. Let us crown her with praises as though with flowers and cry out to her, "Hail, for you denounced the insolence of foolish orators who were filled with ignorant thoughts and led them to the divine faith! Hail, for you gave your body over

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to tortures for love of your Creator and were not destroyed, because you were an invincible woman! Hail, for you have inherited the mansions above as the reward for your struggles! Now you delight in eternal glory. We *also* desire this glory; may we who sing a hymn about you not lose our hope in it.

Both now: Tone 8

O Lady and bride of God, after your birth you went to the temple of the Lord to be raised as a child consecrated in the Holy of Holies. Then Gabriel, O undefiled Virgin, was sent to bring you food. All the powers of heaven stood amazed when they saw the Holy Spirit live in you. Therefore, O pure and undefiled Mother of God, glorified in heaven and earth, save your people.

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

The Martyrs are also witnesses.

From the Prophecy of Isaiah (43:9-14)

All the nations are gathered together, and princes will be gathered from them. Who will declare these things? Or who will declare to you things from the beginning? Let them bring out their witnesses, and be justified. Let them hear and declare the truth. ¹⁰ Be my witnesses, and I too am a witness, says the Lord God, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know, and believe, and understand that I am he. Before me there was no other God, and after me there will be none. ¹¹ I am God; and beside me there is no Saviour. ¹² I have declared and have saved. I have rebuked and there was no strange god among you. You are my witnesses and I am the Lord God, ¹³ even from the beginning. There is no one who can deliver from my hands. I will work and who can turn it back? ¹⁴ Thus says the Lord God who redeems you, the Holy One of Israel. For your sake I will send to Babylon; I will stir up all who flee and the Chaldeans will be bound in ships.

Prophecy 2

Grace and mercy belong to his saints.

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 *belong* to his saints and he visits his chosen.

Prophecy 3

The just live for evermore.

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.

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

Apósticha

Tone 5

Heaven and earth rejoice as they see the spiritual heaven, the only virgin without blemish, enter the house of God to be reared in holiness. Zacharias cried to her in amazement, "O Gate of the Lord, I open the gates of the temple to you. Rejoice and go round it in gladness, for I know and believe that the Redemption of Israel will now come to live openly in our midst. *I know* that from you will be born God the Word who grants the world great mercy.

S1: The virgins following her will be brought before the king; her attendants will be led to you. Ps 44

Anna, truly blessed by God's grace, led the pure and Ever-virgin who is full of grace into the temple of the Lord with joy. She called the young maidens to go before her with lamps in hand. She said, "O child, go to the *Lord* who gave you to me; be an offering and a sweet smelling incense for him. Go into the place which none may enter, learn its mysteries and prepare yourself to become the pleasing and beautiful home of Jesus who grants the world great mercy.

S2: They will be brought with gladness and rejoicing *and* be led into the king's court. Ps 44

The most holy virgin Temple, which will hold God, is dedicated within the temple of the Lord and young maidens who carry lamps now go before her. Her noble parents, Joachim and Anna, leap for joy and dance, for they have carried the one who will carry the Creator. She, the all-pure *Virgin*, goes round the divine house with joy and is fed by the hands of an angel. She will become the Mother of Christ who grants the world great mercy.

Glory: Tone 2

O Katherine, you lived a bodiless life, therefore you triumphed before the tribunal of the godless. You carried the splendor of God like a brilliant robe. Since you were clothed with the strength of God,

you laughed at the tyrant's order and brought to an end the babbling of orators.

Both now: Tone 6

O faithful who have gathered together, today let us be triumphant in spirit. Let us reverently praise the child of God, who is the Virgin and Theotokos, as she is offered in the temple of the Lord. She was chosen beforehand from all generations to be the home of Christ, the Master and God of all. Virgins bearing lamps, go before her and honour the majestic advance of the Ever-virgin. Mothers set aside every sorrow to follow them in gladness and sing the praises of the one who became the Mother of God and mediator of joy for the world. Let us all joyfully cry to her with the angel, "Hail!" for she is the joyful *Virgin* who always intercedes for 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 5

Let us sing about the renowned bride of Christ, holy Katherine, the protector of Sinai; she is our refuge and help. She brilliantly silenced the reasoning of the godless with the sword of the Spirit. She continually requests great mercy for us all, for she is a crowned martyr.

Tone 4

Today is the prelude of the good will of God and the preaching of salvation for the human race. The Virgin appears openly in the temple of God and proclaims beforehand to everyone *the coming of* Christ. Let us rejoice and sing to her, "Hail, O fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation."

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

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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 1

The fruit of the just Joachim and Anna who sustains our life, a young child in the flesh, is brought as an offering to God in the holy place. She receives the blessing of Zacharias the priest. In faith let us all call her blessed, for she is the Mother of the Lord. X2

Kathisma 2

Tone 4

O pure *Lady*, you were dedicated to God before your conception. Now that you have been born on earth, you are brought to him in order to fulfil your parents' vow. You were handed over with radiant lamps in the temple of God, as a pure and divine temple from your infancy. You were revealed as the receptacle of the unapproachable and divine Light. Unique Ever-virgin and bride of God, truly your entrance is great. X2

*Polyeleos***Kathisma 3**

Tone 8

Let David who wrote the psalms rejoice. Let Joachim and Anna exchange good news, for a holy child has been born from them. She is Mary, the light-bearing torch, who joyfully enters the temple. When the son of Barachias saw her, he blessed her, raised his voice with joy and cried, "Hail, O miracle of the whole world." 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*

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 67 & 15 Tone 4

³⁶ God is marvellous in his saints; the God of Israel will give power and strength to his people.

³ The Lord has been marvellous in the saints on his earth; all his goodwill *is* for them.

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 John.

P/D: Let us attend

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

Gospel

From the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (25:1-13)

The Lord said to his disciples, "The kingdom of heaven shall be compared to ten maidens who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a

cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'⁷ Then all those maidens rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'⁹ But the wise replied, 'Perhaps there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.'¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Afterward the other maidens came also and said, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'¹² But he replied, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'¹³ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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*, wipe out the abundance of our sins through the intercessions of your holy martyr.

Both now:

O merciful *Lord*, wipe out the abundance of our sins through the intercessions of the Theotokos.

Have mercy: Tone 2

O victorious and renowned Katherine, you acquired an immaterial life. When you came before the godless tribunal, you stood clothed with divine might and wore the radiance of God like an adornment of flowers. O greatly suffering *saint*, you mocked the commands of the tyrant and ended the insolent speech of the orators.

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 Great Martyr Katherine, 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.*

Kontákion

Tone 4

The most pure temple of the Saviour, the precious chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God, is presented today in the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the divine Spirit. Therefore the angels of God sing praises, "Truly this *woman* is the heavenly tabernacle."

Íkos

I rejoice when I see the grace of the secret mysteries of God revealed and clearly fulfilled in the Virgin. I do not know how to understand the strange and secret manner in which the undefiled *Lady* has been revealed as uniquely chosen above all creation, both visible and spiritual. Therefore, while I want to praise her, I am struck dumb with amazement in both my thoughts and speech. Yet I still dare to proclaim and glorify her. Truly this *woman* is the heavenly tabernacle.

Kontákion

Tone 2

Let all of us who love to honour the martyrs form a great choir in praise of the most wise Katherine, for she preached Christ, trampled the serpent and despised the art of the orators.

Íkos

The martyr received the wisdom of God from childhood, but was also fully educated in the wisdom of the world. Through it she knew the importance of reason in the establishment and formation of the elements and *recognised* the *Lord* who called them all into being through his word. She thanked him by day and night, overthrew the idols and their foolish worshippers, and despised the art of orators.

Synaxáron

Today we remember the holy great martyr Katherine of Alexandria who lived in the Fourth Century. She came from a wealthy home. As a Christian she resisted the lustful demands of the Emperor and suffered for her faith. The monastery at Sinai was later renamed when her relics were taken there. On the Twenty Fifth she offered herself to Christ when she was beheaded.

Together with them we remember:

Great Martyr Mercury of Kappadokia C3

Hermit-Martyr Alnoth of Stowe C8

Bishop Clement of Ochrid, Enlightener of the Bulgarians C10

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

Katavasías

1: Christ is born, glorify him! Christ is from heaven, receive him! Christ is on earth, be raised! All the earth, sing to the Lord! All you people, praise him with joy, for he has been glorified!

3: Let us cry out to Christ our God, to the Son begotten of the Father before all ages and incarnate from the Virgin without seed in these latter days, "O Lord, you have raised our horn and are holy."

4: O Rod of the stem of Jesse and Flower which bloomed from a virgin, O all-praised Christ, you have come from the mountain covered with darkness. You have been made flesh from the one who did not know marriage. O God not formed from matter, O Lord, glory to your might!

5: God of peace and Father of mercies, you have sent us the Angel of great council who grants us peace. So we are guided to the light of the knowledge of God. O Lover of the human race, we wake early from the night and praise you.

6: The sea-monster spewed Jonah unharmed as it had received him, like a baby from the womb. When the Word came to live in the Virgin and was made flesh, he came out, yet preserved her incorrupt, for he himself was not subject to decay and kept his mother free from harm.

7: The children brought up together in godliness, despised the unjust command, and were not afraid of the threat of fire, but as they stood in the midst of the flames, they sang, "Blessed are you, O God of our fathers!"

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

The furnace which was moist with dew, was the image of a wonder beyond nature, for it did not burn the children whom it had received, just as the Fire of Divinity did not consume the Virgin's womb when it entered. So let us raise the song, "Let the entire creation bless the Lord and exalt him above all for ever!"

Canticle 9

The Magnificat is not sung.

Tone 4

The angels saw the entrance of the pure *Virgin* and were amazed. How has the virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

The angels were amazed when they saw the entry of the Virgin. How has she entered the Holy of Holies in glory? O Theotokos, you are the living ark of God. Let no impure hand touch you since you are a living temple of God. Rather let the lips of all believers sing and constantly glorify you in joy together with the angelic salutation, "O pure *Lady*, truly you are above all creatures."

The angels saw the entrance of the pure *Virgin* and were amazed. How has the virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

The Law prefigured you most wonderfully as tabernacle, jar of manna, strange ark, veil of the temple, rod of Aaron, temple which will never be destroyed and gate of God. So we are taught to cry to you, "O pure *Lady*, truly you are above all creatures."

The angels saw the entrance of the pure *Virgin* and were amazed. How has the virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

David sang in your honour and called you the daughter of the King, for he saw you in the beauty of the virtues and in a robe of many-coloured needlework at the right hand of God. Therefore he cried aloud in prophecy, "O pure *Lady*, truly you are above all creatures."

The angels saw the entrance of the pure *Virgin* and were amazed. How has the virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

Solomon foresaw how you were to receive God and spoke about you in dark sayings as gate of the King and sealed fountain of living water which flows in an unhindered stream to us. We cry aloud with faith, "O pure *Lady*, truly you are above all creatures."

9: I see a strange and most glorious mystery. Heaven is the cave and the cherubic throne is the Virgin. The manger is the place where Christ lay. *He* is the God who cannot be contained and whom we glorify in song.

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 virgin Katherine, *you are* most honourable among women, burn with wisdom and are the glory of passion bearers. Through God you denounced the skill of the philosophers as foolishness and fables, for you acquired the all-pure Mother of God as your companion.

O virgin Theotokos, the interior of the sanctuary received you from the hands of the high priest. You lived there from the age of three until you were twelve and were fed by the hands of a divine angel, for you were the holy Ark of the Creator of all.

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.

The virgins bearing lamps, who with their light accompany the Ever-virgin, truly prophesy the future in spirit. For the temple of God, the Theotokos, enters as a little child with virginal glory into the temple.

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

The Theotokos, glorious fruit of a sacred promise, is truly revealed to the world as higher than all creation. She was faithfully led into the house of God, fulfils the vow of her parents and is preserved by the Holy Spirit.

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

O renowned Katherine, we celebrate the sacred memory of your holy passion and glorify with ceaseless voices the Lord Jesus, the Lover of the human race and our Saviour.

S2: I truly waited for the Lord;
he was attentive to me and listened to my plea. Ps 39
O renowned Katherine, you freely testified as a martyr in the sight of everyone. You overcame the tyrant, and through the grace of God you overthrew the deluded worship of many idols in the light of the knowledge of the one true God. Therefore Christ, the Saviour of our souls, crowned you as a martyr and innocent virgin.

S1: He set my feet on a rock and guided my steps;
he put a new song in my mouth, even a hymn for our God. Ps 39
O renowned Katherine, when you opened your mouth you were filled with the grace of the Spirit. He made you eager to keep your life pure and you triumphed over the arrogance of tyrants by your patience. Then, O boast of martyrs, you received splendour in your soul in exchange for the beauty of body.

Glory: Tone 2

O Katherine, you led a bodiless life and so were triumphant before the tribunal of the godless. You carried the majesty of our God like a radiant garment. You were clothed with the strength of God, derided the command of the tyrant and brought to an end the speech-making of the orators.

Both now: Tone 2

Today the unblemished Virgin is led to the temple to become the dwelling place of God the King of all who sustains our life. Today the most pure sanctuary is led into the Holy of Holies like a three-year old victim for sacrifice. Let us cry out to her with the angel, "Hail, only blessed *Lady* among women."

Great Doxology

Glory to you who have shown us the light!

glory to God in the highest!
Peace on earth and goodwill to men!

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

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

⁴ O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us,
for you take away the sin of the world.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Triságion**Apolytikion**

Tone 4

Today is the prelude of the good will of God and the preaching of salvation for the human race. The Virgin appears openly in the temple of God and proclaims beforehand to everyone *the coming of* Christ. Let us rejoice and sing to her, "Hail, O fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation."

LITURGY**Antiphon 1 Ps 48 & 86 Tone 2**

S1: Great is the Lord and highly praised
in the city of our God *and* on his holy mountain.

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

S2: O City of God,
glorious things are spoken about you.

S3: God is known in her great houses
when he comes to help her.

S4: As we have heard, so we have seen
in the city of the Lord of Hosts, in the city of our God;
God has established her for ever.

S5: Glory: Both now:

Antiphon 2 Ps 45, 95, 117, 64 Own Tone

S1: The flow of the river makes the City of God glad;
the Most High has made his tabernacle holy.

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

S2: Confession and beauty *are* before him;
holiness and splendour *are* in his sanctuary.

S3: This is the gate of the Lord;
the just will enter through it.
S4: Your temple is holy
and you are marvellous in justice.
S5: Glory: Both now:
Monogenes

Antíphon 3 Ps 44 Tone 4

S1: The daughters of Tyre will adore him with gifts
and the rich people beg your favour.

R: Today is the prelude of the good will of God and the preaching of salvation for the human race. The Virgin appears openly in the temple of God and proclaims beforehand to everyone *the coming of* Christ. Let us rejoice and sing to her, "Hail, O fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation."

S2: All the glory of the king's daughter is within;
she is clothed with embroidered gold-fringed robes.
S3: The virgins who follow her will be brought to the king;
her attendants will be brought to you.

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!"

Apolytikia

Tone 4

Today is the prelude of the good will of God and the preaching of salvation for the human race. The Virgin appears openly in the temple of God and proclaims beforehand to everyone *the coming of* Christ. Let us rejoice and sing to her, "Hail, O fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation."

Tone 5

Let us sing about the renowned bride of Christ, holy Katherine, the protector of Sinai; she is our refuge and help. She brilliantly silenced the reasoning of the godless with the sword of the Spirit. She continually requests great mercy for us all, for she is a crowned martyr.

Of the Church

Kontákion

Tone 4

The most pure temple of the Saviour, the precious chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God, is presented today in the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the divine Spirit. Therefore the angels of God sing praises, "Truly this *woman* is the heavenly tabernacle."

Triságion

Prokeimenon Ps 67 Tone 4

R: God is wonderful in his saints.
S: Bless God, in *the* assemblies.

Apóstolos

Male and female are one in Christ Jesus.

From the Letter of Paul to the Galatians (3:23-4:5)
Brothers, before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, shut up to the faith which should afterwards be revealed. ²⁴ So that the law has become our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. ²⁶ For you are all children of God, through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptised into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to promise. ¹ But I say that so long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, though he is lord of all; ² but is under guardians and stewards until the day appointed by the

father. ³ So we also, when we were children, were held in bondage under the elements of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of the time came, God sent out his Son, born to a woman, born under the law, ⁵ that he might redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of children.

Alleluia Ps 39 Tone 1

S1: I truly waited for the Lord.
S2: He set my feet on a rock.

Gospel

The woman with the flow of blood is cured.

From the Holy Gospel according to Mark (5:24-34)
At that time a great crowd followed Jesus and thronged about him. ²⁵ And there was a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years, ²⁶ and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard the reports about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. ²⁸ For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I shall be made well." ²⁹ And immediately the haemorrhage ceased; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone forth from him, immediately turned about in the crowd, and said, "Who touched my garments?" ³¹ And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³² And he looked around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had been done to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴ And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

Communion Ps 115

I will take up the cup of salvation
and address the name of the Lord. Alleluia!