

SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER 2025
+ Great Martyr Dimitrios (Demetrios) of Thessaloniki C4
Great Earthquake in Constantinople C8
20th Sunday Tone 3 & Eothinón 9

VESPERS

Lord I have cried

Tone 3

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.

S10: Lead my soul from prison that I may acknowledge your name.

O Christ our Saviour, the dominion of death has been shattered by your cross and the deception of the Devil has been destroyed. The human race which has been saved by faith always offers you a hymn.

S9: The just will wait for me until you reward me.

O Lord, everything has been enlightened by your resurrection and Paradise has been re-opened. The whole creation praises you and continually offers you a hymn.

S8: O Lord, I have cried to you from the depths;

O Lord listen to my voice.

I glorify the power of the Father and the Son, and I praise the authority of the Holy Spirit, the undivided, uncreated Divinity, the consubstantial Trinity who reigns for all time.

S7: Let your ears note the voice of my plea.

O Christ, we bow down in worship before your precious cross. We glorify and praise your resurrection, for we have all been healed by your wounds.

Tone 8

6: O Lord *our* Lord, if you mark offences,
who will stand?

But there is forgiveness with you.

Most glorious wonder! Today joy shines in heaven and earth at the commemoration of the martyr Dimītrios. He is crowned with praises by the angels and receives hymns from men. How greatly he suffered! How well he fought the fight! In this way the evil enemy was felled when Christ conquered him.

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

Most glorious wonder! Dimītrios continually enlightens the ends of the earth with rays of miracles brighter than the sun, for he is illuminated by the unfading Light and delights in the Sun which never sets. The clouds of the enemy have been dispelled by his rays, infirmities driven away and the demons vanquished.

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

Most glorious wonder! The three-times blessed Dimītrios, who was pierced for the sake of Christ, continually reveals himself to the foe as a two-edged sword which cuts down the uprisings of the enemy and casts down the boldness of demons. Let us cry out to him, "O holy Dimītrios, save us who continually and faithfully honour you with love."

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

You have become tower of true worship. You are securely founded on the rock of faith *and* are not separated by temptations or shaken by afflictions. When the waves of atheism dashed against you in a great torrent and tempest, they did not break down your resolute steadfastness, for you wished to be adorned with the crown of martyrdom.

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

O fight-bearing Dimītrios, you copied in your passion the life-giving passion of Christ and received from him the gift of wonder-working. Therefore, O glorious *martyr*, you save those who hurry to you and free them from many tribulations, for you are well-favoured by Christ. All through the day you stand before him full of glory.

1: For he has strengthened his mercy over us
and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.

O Dimītrios, you came before the life-giving Christ by the shedding of your blood. He shed his own precious blood for your sake and made you a partaker in his glory and his kingdom, for you prevail over the Evil One and make void all his evil tricks.

Glory: Tone 6

Today the universal feast of the passion-bearer has brought us together. O lovers of the feasts of the Church, come, let us celebrate his memorial brilliantly and say, "Hail, for you tore the godless garment with faith and robed yourself with a spirit of courage! Hail, for you destroyed the schemes of the enemy with the power given you by God! Hail, for you spiritually portrayed the sufferings of Christ for us with your pierced limbs! O Dimītrios, adornment of athletes, plead with him to save us from visible and invisible enemies and to rescue our souls.

Both now: Tone 3

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.

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

P/D: The Evening Prokeimenon

R: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty.

S1: The Lord has put on power and clothed himself.

S2: He founded the world, which will not be moved.

Readings

1: From the Prophecy of Isaiah (63:15-64:5, 8-9)

¹⁵Look down from heaven and observe
 from your holy and glorious dwelling.

Where are your zeal and might?

The yearning of your heart and your mercy
 are kept from me.

¹⁶For you are our Father,
 although Abraham does not know us
 and Israel does not acknowledge us.

O Lord, you are our Father *and* Redeemer
 your name from the past.

¹⁷O Lord, why do you make us stray from your ways
 and harden our heart, so that we do not fear you?

Return for the sake of your servants,
 the tribes of your heritage.

¹⁸Your holy people possessed your sanctuary a little while;
 our adversaries have trodden it down.

¹⁹We have become like those over whom you never ruled,
 like those who are not called by thy name.

¹O that you would tear apart the heavens and come down,
 that the mountains might quake at your presence -

²as when fire kindles brushwood
 and the fire causes water to boil -

to make your name known to your adversaries,
 and that the nations might tremble at thy presence!

³When you did terrible things for which we did not look,
 you came thou came down
and the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear,
 no eye has seen a God besides you,
 who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet the one who joyfully accomplishes justice,
 those who remember you in your ways.

See, you were angry and we sinned;
 we have been a long time in our sins,
 and shall we be saved?

⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father,
 we are the clay and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.

⁹O Lord, do not be exceedingly angry
or remember wickedness for ever.
 See *and* consider that we are all your people.

2: From the Prophecy of Jeremiah (2:2-12)

I remember the devotion of your youth,
 your love as a bride,
 how you followed me in the wilderness,
 in a land not sown.

³Israel was holy to the Lord,
 the first fruits of his harvest.

All who ate of it became guilty;
 evil came on them, says the Lord."

⁴Listen to the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob,
 and all the families of the house of Israel.

⁵Thus says the Lord:

"What wrong did your fathers find in me
 that they went far from me.

They went after worthlessness
 and became worthless?

⁶They did not say,

'Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
 who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits,
 in a land of drought and deep darkness,
 in a land that none passes through, where no man dwells?'

⁷And I brought you into a plentiful land
 to enjoy its fruits and its good things.

But when you came in you defiled my land
 and made my heritage an abomination.

- ⁸The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?'
 Those who handle the law did not know me;
 the rulers offended against me.
 The prophets prophesied by Ba'al
 and went after things that do not profit.
- ⁹"Therefore I still contend with you, says the Lord
 and with your children's children I will contend.
- ¹⁰For cross to the coasts of Cyprus and see
 or send to Kedar and examine with care;
 see if there has been such a thing.
- ¹¹Has a nation changed its gods,
 even though they are no gods?
 But my people have changed their glory
 for that which does not profit.
- ¹²Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
 be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord,

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

- The souls of the just are in the hand of God
 and no torment will ever touch them.
- ²In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died
 and their departure was thought to be an affliction.
- ³Their departure from us *was considered* to be their destruction,
 but they are at peace.
- ⁴For although in the sight of men they were punished,
 their hope is full of immortality.
- ⁵When they have been disciplined a little,
 they will receive great good,
 because God tested them
 and found them worthy of himself.
- ⁶He examined them like gold in the furnace
 and accepted them like a sacrificial burnt offering.
- ⁷They will be radiant at the time of their visitation
 and will run like sparks through the stubble.
- ⁸They will govern nations and rule over peoples
 and the Lord will reign over them for ever.
- ⁹Those who trust in him will understand truth,
 and the faithful will live with him in love,
 because grace and mercy are on his chosen *people*,
 and he watches over his holy 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.

Apósticha

Tone 3

O Christ, you darkened the sun by your passion and enlightened the whole creation with the light of your resurrection. O Lover of the human race, accept our evening hymn.

S1: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty;
the Lord has put on power and clothed himself. Ps 92

O Lord, your life-bearing resurrection enlightened the whole inhabited earth and recalled your creation which had become corrupt. Therefore we, who are rescued from the curse of Adam, sing, "O almighty Lord, glory to you!"

S2: For he founded the world which will not be moved. Ps 92
You are the changeless God, yet were changed by suffering in the flesh. Because creation could not endure seeing you on the cross, it was filled

with fear, yet praised your patience. You have granted the world life and great mercy by descending into Hades and rising on the third day.

S3: O Lord, holiness is right for your house to length of days. Ps 92
 O Christ, you endured death in order to rescue our human race from death. You rose from the dead on the third day, raised with you those who knew you as God and enlightened the world. Glory to you!

Glory: Tone 8

O Dimitrios of constantly-fresh memory, your divine and blameless soul has for its home the heavenly Jerusalem whose walls were founded by the hands of the invisible God. Your all-honourable body, which has greatly struggled, has on earth a renowned temple. It is a treasury of miracles which cannot be robbed, a remedy for afflictions to which the distressed flock come and receive healing. Therefore, all-praised *martyr*, preserve the city which exalts you from the attacks of adversaries, for you are favoured by Christ who glorified you.

Both now:

O unwedded Virgin, you ineffably conceived God in the flesh. O Mother of the most high God, O blameless *Lady*, accept the cries of your servants; grant cleansing from offences to everyone. Receive our prayers at this time and pray that our souls may be saved.

Song of Simeon

B/P: O Master, now let your servant depart in peace
 according to your word,

² for my eyes have seen your salvation,
 which you have prepared before all peoples,

³ a light of revelation for *the* nations
 and *the* glory of your people Israel.

Triságion Prayers

Apolytikia

Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He has trampled down death by death and become the first born from the dead. He has rescued us from the depths of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

Tone 3

O victorious Dimītrios, you were given to the world as a powerful protector against dangers and as an invincible soldier of Christ. As you inspired Nestor to overcome the pride of Lyeos, so intercede with Christ our God to grant us his great mercy.

Tone 8

O Christ our God, you look at the earth and make it tremble. O only Lover of the human race, rescue us from the fearful threat of earthquake and send your rich mercies to us at the intercession of the Theotokos.

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.

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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*

Kathísma 1

Tone 3

Christ is risen from the dead, the firstfruits of those who sleep. He is the firstborn of all creation and the Maker of everything created. He restored the corrupt nature of our race in himself. O Death, you will reign no more, for the Master of all has destroyed your power.

Glory:

O Lord, after you had tasted death in the flesh, you emptied death of its sting through your resurrection. You have strengthened the human race against death and proclaimed the abolition of the ancient curse. Glory to you, O Lord, Protector of our lives!

Both now:

O Theotokos, Gabriel marvelled at the beauty of your virginity and at the great brightness of your purity, as he cried to you, “What praise can I offer which is fitting for you? By what name can I call you? I am troubled and afraid. Therefore, as I was commanded, I raise my cry, ‘Hail, O Full of Grace.’”

Kathísma 2

O Lord, Hades was dismayed when it saw your unchanging divinity, yet observed your voluntary passion. It mourned and said, “I tremble before the flesh of the incorruptible Person. I see the one who cannot be seen as he mysteriously fights me, while those I hold in my power are crying out, ‘O Christ, glory to your resurrection!’”

Glory:

O faithful, when we speak about divine matters, we touch on an ineffable mystery, the incomprehensible crucifixion and the inexplicable resurrection. For today death and Hades are plundered while the human

race is clothed with incorruption. Therefore we cry aloud with thanksgiving, "Glory to your resurrection, O Christ!"

Both now:

O Theotokos, you mysteriously held in your womb the Lord whom no one can comprehend and nothing can contain. He is one in essence with the Father and the Spirit. Through your childbearing we have come to realise that the one and only Energy of the Trinity is glorified without confusion in the world. Therefore we cry aloud to you with thanksgiving, "Hail, O Full of Grace!"

Evlogitária

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The assembly of angels was amazed when it saw you among the dead. O Saviour, by destroying the power of death, you raised Adam with you and freed everyone from Hades.

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The radiant angel cried to the Myrrhbearers from the tomb, "Why do you women mingle myrrh with your tears? Look at the tomb and understand. The Saviour has risen from the tomb."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The Myrrhbearers ran sorrowfully to your tomb very early in the morning, but an angel came to them and said, "The time for sorrow has come to an end. Do not weep, but announce the resurrection to the apostles."

Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

The Myrrhbearers were sorrowful as they approached your tomb, but the angel said to them: Why do you number the Living among the dead? As God he has risen from the tomb."

Glory:

We worship the Father, his Son and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, one in Being. We cry with the Seraphim, "Holy, Holy, Holy are you, O Lord."

Both now:

O Virgin, because you gave birth to the Giver of Life, you rescued Adam from his sin. You gave Eve joy instead of sadness. The Divine Man who was born from you has restored to life those who had fallen from it.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (X3)
O our God and our hope, glory to you.

Small Litany

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

Ypakóï

Read without note

The radiant angel caused amazement through his appearance and brought dew by his words to the myrrhbearing women, “Why do you seek the Living in a grave? The one who has emptied the tomb has risen and has changed corruption, *for he is the Lord* without change. Say to God, ‘How fearful are your works, for you have saved the human race!’”

Anaváthmi Tone 3

Antiphon 1 Ps 125

O Word, you freed the captivity of Zion from Babylon,
so pull me from the passions of life in the same way.
Those who sow divine tears in the South
will reap everlasting sheaves with joy.

Glory: Both now:

Every good gift comes from the Holy Spirit,
for he is radiant, together with the Father and the Son;
everything lives and moves in him.

Antiphon 2 Ps 126

If the Lord had not built the house of virtues,
then we would labour in vain;
while he protects the soul no one destroys our city.
The saints are always like the fruit of the womb for you;
O Christ, they have been adopted as sons by the Father
through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Glory: Both now:

All wisdom and holiness are observed in the Holy Spirit,
for he is the essence of all creation.
Let us worship him with the Father and the Word,
for he is God.

Antiphon 3 Ps 127

Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways;
for they eat the life-giving fruits of the commandments.

O chief Shepherd, rejoice as you see your children
who carry branches of good deeds around your table.

Glory: Both now:

All richness of glory is the Holy Spirit's
and from him come grace and life for all creation,
for he is praised with the Father and the Word.

Prokeimenon Ps 95

R: Say among the nations that the Lord reigns,
and has founded the world which will not be moved.

S: Sing to the Lord a new song.

Small Litany

For you are the King of Peace and Saviour of our souls, and we send up glory to you, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, always, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Kontákion

Read without note

O merciful *Lord*, on this day you rose from the tomb and led us away from the gates of death. Today Adam dances as Eve rejoices. Together with the prophets and patriarchs they continually praise the divine majesty of your power.

Íkos

Let heaven and earth dance today and sing in unison the praises of Christ our God, for he has raised those held captive from the grave. All creation rejoices together and offers suitable hymns to the Creator and Rescuer of all. For today, as the Giver of Life, he pulled mortal man from Hades and raised him to heaven with himself. He has trampled the pride of the enemy and broken the gates of Hades by the divine majesty of his power.

Synaxáριον

Today we remember the holy, glorious, great martyr and wonderworker Dimītrios the Myrrh-gusher of Thessalonīki who lived in the Fourth Century. He was in prison for his faith when the Emperor Maximian was

attending the games in that city. The Emperor was enraged when Lyaῖos, his favourite gladiator, was killed by Nestor and immediately ordered the execution of Dimῑtrios. On the Twenty Sixth he confessed the Son of the almighty Father, was pierced and died.

On the same day we remember the great and dreadful earthquake which happened at Constantinople in the Eighth Century. O Word, you caused the earth to move in order to save it, for you filled it with your anger because of your compassion.

We also remember:

Bishop Eata of Hexham and Lindisfarne C7

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

Katavasías

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

3: O Theotokos, living and inexhaustible fountain, strengthen those who are united in spiritual fellowship and who sing your praises. Make them worthy *to receive* crowns of glory in your divine glory.

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

5: O Virgin, all creation was amazed at your divine glory, for you knew no man. You held thee God of all in your womb and gave birth to the eternal Son. You order salvation for all those who praise you.

6: O devout people, come and clap hands while we observe this divine and most precious feast of the Mother of God. Let us glorify God who was born from her.

7: The devout youths worshipped the Creator rather than created things. They courageously trampled on the threatening fire and joyfully sang, “Blessed are you, most praised Lord, the God of our fathers.”

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

The *Lord* who was born from the Theotokos saved the holy children in the furnace. The one who was then prefigured has now been born on earth and gathers the whole inhabited earth to sing, "All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord and exalt him above all for ever.

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 his mighty firmament. *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.

Eothinón Gospel 9

From the Holy Gospel according to John (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but

believing.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me, Thomas? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.” ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

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

Resurrection Ode

P/R: Now that we have seen the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. O Christ, we venerate your cross, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for you are our God, and we know no one else apart from you. We address your name. All you faithful, come and venerate Christ's holy resurrection. For see, joy has come into all the world through the cross. Let us always bless the Lord and praise his resurrection. For he has destroyed death by death by enduring the cross for us.

Psalm 50

O God, have mercy on me in your abundant mercy
and wipe out my offence through your great pity.
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 what is evil before you
^{6b} so that you might be right in your words
and overcome when you are judged,
⁷ for see, I was conceived in lawlessness
and my mother desired me in sin,
⁸ for see, you have loved truth
and shown me the mysteries and secrets 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;
humbled bones will rejoice.
¹¹ Turn your face from my sins
and wipe out all my lawlessness.

- 12 O God, make 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 your saving joy to me
and strengthen me with your directing Spirit.
- 15 I will teach the lawless your ways
and the ungodly will return to you.
- 16 O God, God of my salvation, free me from bloodshed,
then my tongue will rejoice in your justice.
- 17 O Lord, you will open my lips
and my mouth will announce 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 just sacrifice,
with an offering and burnt sacrifices;
then they will offer calves on your altar.

Glory: Tone 6

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

Both now:

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

Have mercy:

Jesus has risen from the tomb as he foretold
and grants us eternal life and great mercy.

Intercession

Short form

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 Greatmartyr Demetros, 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 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.*

Ode 9

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9: Let every earthborn mortal spiritually rejoice and carry lamps. be radiant and spiritually leap for joy. Let the ranks of angelic powers celebrate as they honour the sacred wonders of the Theotokos and cry, “Hail, O pure and blessed Ever-virgin who gave birth to God!”

Small Litany

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

Holy is the Lord

Holy is the Lord our God. *X3*

Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool.
for he is holy.

Exaposteilária

Tone 5

When you had entered while the doors were shut, you filled your apostles with the Holy Spirit. You breathed peace on them and said, “Forgive sins or retain them.” After eight days you showed Thomas your hands and your side. Therefore we cry out with him, “My Lord, and my God!”

Tone 2

O martyr of Christ Dimítrios, you crushed in former time the arrogance of Lyaíōs and the strength of his soldiers as though by divine grace. You gave heart to the brave Nestor on the battleground by the power of the cross. O fight-bearing martyr, always take my side against demons and soul-corrupting passions.

O undefiled Virgin, continually implore the Lord, who became incarnate for us from your pure blood, that your servants may find the grace and help of good access on the day of tribulation. Rescue the race of men from the terrible threat of earthquake and from danger through you motherly intercession.

Praises

Tone 3

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.

S8: This glory will be for all his holy ones.
 Come, every nation, and learn the power of the awesome mystery, for
 Christ our Saviour, who is the Word from the beginning, was crucified and
 willingly suffered burial for our sake. He rose from the dead so that he
 might save all things; let us worship him.

S7: Praise God in his saints;
 praise him in his mighty firmament.
 O Lord, your guards spoke about all the wonders, but the deluded council
 filled their right hands with gifts, imagining that they would then conceal
 your resurrection which the world glorifies. Have mercy on us!

S6: Praise him for his mighty *deeds*;
 praise him for the abundance of his majesty.
 Everything was filled with joy on learning the proof of the resurrection.
 Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found an angel in radiant clothing
 sitting on the stone. He said, "Why do you seek the living among the
 dead? He is not here, but is risen as he foretold; he goes ahead of you to
 Galilee."

S5: Praise him with the trumpet sound;
 praise him with lute and harp.
 O Master, we see light in your light. For you have risen from the dead
 and, as the Lover of the human race, grant salvation to man, so that the
 whole creation may glorify you, the only sinless *Lord*. Have mercy on us!

Tone 5

4: Praise him with cymbal and dance;
 praise him with strings and flute.
 O martyr of Christ, hurry to make your visit of compassion to us when we
 ask you. Save those who are in misery, from the threats of usurpers and
 from the vile delusion of heretics who persecute us like native captives, for

we are continually driven from place to place. We wander in caves and mountains. Therefore, all-praised *martyr*, have compassion and grant us rest. Calm the tempest, put down the anger which rises against us and implore God to grant the world great mercy.

3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;

praise him with joyful cymbals.

Let everything with breath praise the Lord.

O martyr of Christ, hurry to make your visit of compassion to us when we ask you. Save those who are in misery, from the threats of usurpers and from the vile delusion of heretics who persecute us like native captives, for we are continually driven from place to place. We wander in caves and mountains. Therefore, all-praised *martyr*, have compassion and grant us rest. Calm the tempest, put down the anger which rises against us and implore God to grant the world great mercy.

¹³ The just will flourish like a palm tree

and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Ps 91

O Dimītrios, you have been granted to us as a fortified wall which does not fear the impacts of its enemies and makes of no effect the attacks of the barbarians and every symptom of disease. Therefore you have remained a firm pillar, an unshaken foundation, a guard, a leader and a fighter for your city. All-blessed *martyr*, since it is now surrounded by danger and hard pressed by misery, save it through your intercession and plead with Christ who grants the world great mercy.

¹⁴ Those who are planted in the house of the Lord

will blossom in the courts of our God. Ps 91

The rank of fight-bearing *martyrs* was revealed as possessing every virtue. Therefore they have inherited the joy and happiness of eternal life according to their worthiness. O Dimītrios, worthy of praise, since you enjoy that life, rejoice in your likeness to Christ and pride yourself that, like him, you were pierced with a spear. Therefore continually plead that we who honour you may be rescued from sufferings and severe hardships. Fervently pray to him who grants the world great mercy.

Glory: Tone 2

Let us honour Dimītrios, who by spears inherited the grace of the Saviour's side which was pierced by a spear and poured out waters of life and incorruption. The one who was most wise in teaching was crowned in the

midst of torments. He completed the course of suffering with the shedding of his blood and has shone on the world with miracles. He loved the Master and with mercy loved the poor. He is the intercessor for the Thessalonians in the midst of many and great misfortunes. As we honour his yearly memorial let us glorify Christ our God who for his sake accomplishes healing for all.

Both now: Tone 2

O Virgin Theotokos, you are most blessed, for through the One who was born of you, Hades has been captured and Adam recalled. The curse has been annulled, and Eve set free. Death has been slain, so we are given life. Blessed is Christ our God, whose good will it was. Glory to you!

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

Resurrection Troparion

Today salvation has come to the world. Let us sing to the one who rose from the dead, the Author of our life. When he destroyed death by death, he gave us victory and great mercy.

LITURGY

Antiphon 1 Ps 91

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

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

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

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

S4: Glory: Both now:

Antiphon 2 Ps 92

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

R: Save us, O Son of God.
You arose from the dead
We sing to you, "Alleluia!"

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

S3: Your throne *was* made ready in the past;
you are from eternity.

Monogenes

Antíphon 3 Ps 94 Tone 3

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

R: Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He has trampled down death by death and become the first born from the dead. He has rescued us from the depths of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

S2: Let us enter his presence with thanksgiving
and gladly cry to him with psalms,

S3: For the Lord is a great God
and a high king over all the earth.

Entrance Ps 94

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Save us, O Son of God.

You arose from the dead.

We sing to you, “Alleluia!”

Apolytikia

Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown strength with his arm. He has trampled down death by death and become the first born from the dead. He has rescued us from the depths of Hades and granted great mercy to the world.

Tone 3

O victorious Dimitrios, you were given to the world as a powerful protector against dangers and as an invincible soldier of Christ. As you inspired Nestor to overcome the pride of Lyeos, so intercede with Christ our God to grant us his great mercy.

Of the Church

Kontákion

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

Trisagion

Prokeimenon Ps 63 Tone 7

- ¹¹ The just will rejoice and hope in the Lord;
all the upright in heart will be praised.
¹ God, listen to my prayer when I plead with you;
rescue my soul from *the* fear of the enemy.

Apostolos

From the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy (2:1-10)

My son Timothy, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²Entrust what you have heard from me before many witnesses to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. ⁵An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. ⁸Remember Jesus Christ, *who is* risen from the dead *and* descended from David, as I preached in my gospel. ⁹*This is* the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing shackles like a criminal. But the word of God is not shackled. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the chosen *people*, so that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

Alleluia Tone 2

- ¹³ The just *person* will flourish like a palm tree
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
¹⁴ 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 (15:17-16:2)

The Lord said to his disciples: This I command you, to love one another.
¹⁸ "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹
 If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. ²¹ But all this they will do to you on my account, because they do not know the one who sent me. ²²
 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³ The one who hates me hates my Father also. ²⁴ If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵ It is to fulfil the word that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.' ²⁶ But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me; ²⁷ and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning. ¹ "I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.

Communion Ps 148

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
 praise him in the heights. Alleluia!