# SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2026
## Beginning of Christmas Fast
## Martyrs Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos of Edessa C3-C4
## [Venerable Father Paisius Velichkovsky C18]
## 24th Sunday Tone 7 & Eothinón 2

## VESPERS

### Lord I have cried

Tone 7
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. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord who destroyed the dominion of death and enlightened the human race. Let us sing to him with the bodiless hosts, "Our Maker and Saviour, glory to you!"

S9: The just will wait for me until you reward me.
O Saviour, you endured the cross and burial for our sake. As God you destroyed death by your death. We fall down before your resurrection on the third day. O Lord, glory to you!

S8: O Lord, I have cried to you from the depths;
O Lord listen to my voice.
When the Apostles saw the resurrection of the Maker, they were amazed and sang the angelic praise, "This is the glory of the Church; this is the wealth of the kingdom." O Lord who suffered for our sake, glory to you!

S7: Let your ears note the voice of my plea.
O Christ, you were held by lawless men, but you are my God and I am not ashamed. You were struck on the cheek, but I do not deny you. You were

nailed to the cross and I do not conceal it, for I glorify your resurrection and your death is my life. O almighty Lord, Lover of the human race, glory to you!

S6: O Lord, if you mark offences, who will stand?
But there is forgiveness with you.
Christ fulfilled the prophecy of David and revealed his own greatness in Zion to the disciples. He is praised and always glorified, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit. At first, as the Word, he was bodiless, but later he took flesh and was killed for our sake as man. He rose with power, *for he is* the Lover of the human race.

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 Christ, you descended into Hades as you freely determined; you overthrew death as God and Master. You rose on the third day and with you raised Adam from the bonds of Hades and from corruption. Glory to your resurrection, only Lover of the human race!

Tone 4
S4: Let Israel hope in the Lord
from the morning watch until night,
from the morning watch.
The holy martyr Ávidos, the amazing Samonás and the renowned Gourías now gather in a choir with every believer and rejoice with those of us who share their mutual joy, for God allows the souls of his witnesses to the power to see what happens below.

S3: For there is mercy with the Lord
and abundant redemption with him.
He will redeem Israel
from all his offences.
O three martyrs, equal in number to the divine Trinity, Samonás, Gourías and Ávidos, since you have suffered the pains of intolerable punishments and have fought courageously, you now enjoy the fruit of your labours. *You have received* the joy and eternal blessedness which Christ has given you. Implore him to save our souls.

S2: Every nation, praise the Lord;
every people, acclaim him!
O holy martyrs, after you had acknowledged the Three-Person Unity, you ended pagan polytheism and foolish wisdom through the power of the cross, which counted as foolishness in their eyes. You, however, were strengthened by it and bravely endured the cruel beatings of your punishments.

S1: For he has strengthened his mercy over us
and the truth of the Lord remains for ever.
O victorious martyrs, you discovered the harbour unassailed by waves, the peaceful life and the tranquil haven. Therefore, O blessed athletes, you gained as a prize for your deeds, the passionless home with its eternal changelessness, when you received from our God the reward merited by your anguish.

Glory: Tone 2
Edessa rejoices because it has the relics of the martyrs Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos. She summons the people who love Christ and says, "O friends of the martyrs, come and be radiant with joy on their memorial. O feast-lovers, shine! Come and see these heavenly lights who illuminate the earth. Come and hear what a death these noble diamonds have suffered for the eternal life." These genuine holy *martyrs* saved a young girl who was thrown alive into a grave; they handed over to perdition the sordid man who broke his promises to them, for *he was* a callous murderer. They continually implore the all-holy Trinity that the faithful who celebrate their sacred memory may be saved from mortal trials and dangers.

Both now: Tone 7
O Theotokos, you were revealed as a mother above nature, for you remained a virgin beyond reason and understanding. No tongue can speak about your wonderful childbearing, for the order of nature was overruled by God. O pure *Lady*, your conceiving was most glorious. O Virgin, the manner of your giving birth was ineffable. We know that you are the Mother of God and pray fervently to you, "Plead with him to save our souls."

**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.

## 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 7

O Saviour of the world, you rose from the tomb and raised the human race with your body. O Lord, glory to you!

S1: The Lord reigns *and* is clothed with majesty;
the Lord has put on power and clothed himself. Ps 92
Come and worship *the Lord* who rose from the dead. He has enlightened all creation and saved us from the torments of Hades by his death. He has granted us eternal life and great mercy through his third-day resurrection.

S2: For he founded the world which will not be moved. Ps 92
O Christ, you descended into Hades and captured death. O Lord, Lover of the human race, you rose again on the third day and have raised us who glorify your all-powerful resurrection.

S3: O Lord, holiness is right for your house to length of days. Ps 92
O Lord, when you were placed in the tomb like someone asleep, you appeared awesome. But, when you rose on the third day as the almighty *Lord*, you raised Adam with you. Glory to your resurrection, only Lover of the human race!

Glory: Tone 2

O friends of the martyrs, come and let us honour with hymns Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos, for these warriors of Christ accomplish marvellous miracles. Because of a vow they did not refuse to send a young girl to her home, but, listening to her plea, they rescued her from an unjust Goth whom they had protected. O Christ our God, in your goodness and love for the human race save our souls through their intercessions.

Both now:

All-holy Bride of God, only you carried in your unconfined womb the God whom no space can confine, when he became man in his goodness. Therefore I plead with you to banish the evil that encircles me on every side, so that following the straight and narrow path, I may discover the way that leads to life.

## 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

## Apolytíkia

Tone 7

You destroyed death by your cross, opened Paradise to the thief and changed the weeping of the myrrh-bearers into joy. O Christ our God, you commanded your disciples to proclaim that you have risen and grant the world great mercy.

Tone 5

You have granted us the wonders of your holy martyrs Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos as a stronghold and protection. O Christ our God, strengthen our country in every good deed through their prayers, for only you are merciful and the Lover of the human race.

Hail, O gate of the Lord which no one can pass! Hail, O rampart and shelter of those who come to you! Hail, O undisturbed haven who never knew man! Since you gave birth in the flesh to your Maker and God, continually intercede for those who sing a hymn of praise to your Son and worship him.

## 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 7

After the Life had been laid in the tomb and the seal had been placed on the stone, the soldiers guarded Christ like a sleeping King. The angels glorified him as the immortal God and the women cried out, "The Lord has risen and granted the world great mercy."

Glory:

You have despoiled death by your three days' burial in the tomb. You have raised corrupt man by your life-bearing resurrection. Glory to you, O Christ our God, Lover of the human race!

Both now:
O Virgin-Theotokos, continually pray to Christ our God to save our souls, for he was crucified, rose for us and destroyed the power of death.

## Kathísma 2

O Christ our God, while the sepulchre was sealed, you rose from the tomb as Life. While the doors were closed, you stood in the midst of your disciples. O Resurrection of all, you renew a right Spirit within us through them, for you are great in mercy.

Glory:
O King of all, the women ran to the tomb with tears and carried spices, while the soldiers kept their watch over you. They said to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us?" The Angel of Great Counsel has risen and tramples down death. Glory to you, almighty Lord!

Both now:
Hail, O virgin Theotokos, full of grace, harbour and protection for the race of men! The Rescuer of the world was made flesh through you. Only you are both mother and virgin, ever-blessed and glorified. Plead with Christ our God to grant peace to the world.

## 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*

## Ypakói

*Read without note*

O Christ our God, you have put on our human form and endured the cross in the body. Save me by your resurrection, for you are the Lover of the human race.

## Anaváthmi Tone 7

Antiphon 1 Ps 125
O Saviour, since you turned the captivity of Zion from error,
make me also live and raise me from slavery to passions.
The man who sows tribulation in the South with tears of fasting
will reap sheaves of eternal life-giving food.
Glory: Both now:
The fountain of divine treasury is in the Holy Spirit,
from whom come wisdom, understanding and fear;
praise, honour, glory and might are his due.

Antiphon 2 Ps 126

If the Lord does not build the house of the soul,
we labour in vain,
for no work or word is perfected without him.
The saints from the fruit of the womb, who are spiritually moved,
produce the fatherly teaching of adoption as sons.
Glory: Both now:
Everything has its being through the Holy Spirit,
for he is God before all, Master of all,
unapproachable Light and Life of all.

Antiphon 3 Ps 127
Those who fear the Lord and find the way of life
are blessed with undefiled glory both now and forever.
As you see your offspring like saplings around your table,
rejoice and exult when you offer them to Christ,
the Chief Shepherd.
Glory: Both now:
An abundance of graces, the wealth of glory
and the great depth of judgments are in the Holy Spirit.
We must worship him with the same glory
as the Father and the Son.

## Prokeímenon Ps 9

R: O Lord my God, arise, let your hand be raised;
*and* never forget the needy.
S: O Lord, I will thank you with all my heart.

## 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*

The dominion of death can no longer hold the human race captive, for Christ descended; he shattered and destroyed its powers. Hades is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry with one voice, “The Saviour has come to those with faith; O faithful, enter the resurrection.”

## Íkos

Today death, Hades and the lowest depths of the earth quake with terror at the presence of one of the Trinity. The earth shakes and the gatekeepers of Hades are struck with terror at seeing you. But all creation rejoices with the prophets and sings a song of victory to you, our Redeemer and God, for you destroyed the power of death. Let us also shout and cry aloud to Adam and to those who are sprung from him, "He has introduced the cross to him; O faithful, enter the resurrection."

## Synaxarion

Today we remember the holy martyrs and confessors Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos of Edessa who lived during the Third and Fourth Centuries. The first two were suspended with weights attached to their feet, but refused to deny their faith. Both were executed after a further hearing. Ávidos was a deacon who was burnt alive later and buried in the same grave. On the Fifteenth the three friends confessed the triune God.

Together with them we remember:
Martyrs Elpídios, Márkellos and Efstóchios C4
Martyr Dimítrios of Thráki C4
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 2

From the Holy Gospel according to Mark (16:1-8)
When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. [2] And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. [3] And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" [4] And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; -- it was very large. [5] And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white

robe; and they were amazed. [6] And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. [7] But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." [8] And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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 holy martyrs and confessors Gourías, Samonás and Ávidos of, 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 entrance 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 2

The myrrhbearing women greatly rejoiced when they saw that the stone had been rolled away, for they saw a young man who sat at the grave and said to them, "Christ is risen. Go and tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. You, his dear ones, will see him there as he told you."

Tone 3

O holy martyrs, because you once saved from a frightening death the young girl *who was* enclosed in a tomb and delivered the unjust Goth to death, rescue me also from my rebellious passions so that I may joyfully celebrate your light-bearing memory.

O Virgin, the boundless God who fills the inhabited earth with his divinity, in his love was ineffably incarnate in you in order to put right the ancient fall; he became the new Adam. O divine mother, since he is your Son, plead with him for us.

## Praises

Tone 7

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.
Christ is risen from the dead; he has shattered the chains of death. O earth, proclaim great joy; O heavens, praise the glory of God.

S7: Praise God in his saints;
praise him in his mighty firmament.
Now that we have seen the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless *being*.

S6: Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him for the abundance of his majesty.
We continually praise the resurrection of Christ, for the holy Lord Jesus, who has revealed the resurrection, has saved us from our sins.

S5: Praise him with the trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp.
What shall we give to the Lord in return for all his bounty to us? For our sake God came and lived among men. The Word became flesh and lived among us because of our corrupt nature. He is the Benefactor of the ungrateful, the Rescuer of captives, the Sun of justice of those sitting in darkness, the passionless *Lord* on the cross, the Light in Hades and the Resurrection for the fallen. Let us cry out to him, "Our God, glory to you!"

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

O Lord, you have destroyed the gates of Hades and abolished the dominion of death by your great power. By your divine and glorious resurrection you have raised with you the dead who slept for ages in darkness, for you are the King of all and the almighty God.

S3: Praise him with tuneful cymbals;
praise him with joyful cymbals.
Let everything with breath praise the Lord.
Come, rejoice in the Lord and be glad in his resurrection. For he has raised with him the dead who were held by the indestructible bonds of Hades and, as God, has granted the world eternal life and great mercy.

S2: O Lord God, rise; let your hand be exalted
and never forget the poor.
The shining angel sat on the stone of your life-bearing tomb and announced the glad news to the myrrh-bearing women, "The Lord has risen as he told you. Announce to the disciples that he goes before you into Galilee and has granted the world eternal life and great mercy."

S1: O Lord, I will thank you with all my heart;
I will recount all your wonders.
O lawless Jews, why have you rejected the Cornerstone? God, who made water flow from the rock, has placed it in Zion and has caused immortality to flow from his side for us. This is the Stone cut from a virgin mountain without desire of man. He is the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven before the Ancient of Days, as Daniel has said, and his kingdom is everlasting.

Glory: Tone 2
The women, together with Mary, went to the tomb carrying spices and said to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us?" But they found that it had been rolled away. A white-robed angel removed every care and trouble from their souls when he said, "The Lord Jesus has risen." So they told the disciples to hurry to Galilee in order to see the one who had risen from the dead, for he is the Lord and Giver of life.

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 7

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

R: You destroyed death by your cross, opened Paradise to the thief and changed the weeping of the myrrh-bearers into joy. O Christ our God, you commanded your disciples to proclaim that you have risen and grant the world great mercy.

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!"

## Apolytíkia

Tone 7

You destroyed death by your cross, opened Paradise to the thief and changed the weeping of the myrrh-bearers into joy. O Christ our God, you commanded your disciples to proclaim that you have risen and grant the world great mercy.

*Of the Church*

## Kontakion

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 to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit which the angels of God praise. Truly this woman is the dwelling place of Heaven.

## Trisagion

## Prokeímenon Ps 28 Tone 7

R: The Lord will give strength to his people;
the Lord will bless his people with peace.
S: Bring to the Lord, O sons of God;
Bring to the Lord glory and honour.

## Apóstolos – Sunday Week 24

From the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (2:14-22)
Brothers, Christ is our peace, who has united us both and broken down the dividing wall of hostility. 15 *This was* by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two and so make peace. 16 *It was also so* that he might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross and so bring the hostility to an end. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18 for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and lodgers, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. 20 *You are* built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets and Christ Jesus himself is the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are built into it for a home of God in the Spirit.

## Alleluia Ps 91 Tone 7

S1: It is good to thank the Lord,
and make music to your name, O Most High,
S2: To announce your mercy in the morning
and your truth at night.

Lk 8 Eng

From the Holy Gospel according to Luke (10:25-37)
At that time a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" 27 And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." 28 And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." 29 But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and

departed, leaving him half dead. [31] Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. [32] So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. [33] But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, [34] and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. [35] And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, `Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' [36] Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?" [37] He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." and Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

## Communion Ps 148

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