

Lord, have mercy. (*Three times*)

Father, bless.

Priest: May He Who arose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercession of His all-pure Mother; of the holy glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of the *saints whose memories we celebrate today*; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.



Protection of the Holy Virgin, Russian Orthodox Church
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THE VIGIL

Priest: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-creating and Indivisible Trinity, always, now and ever and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Clergy: O come, let us worship our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ, our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Him.

VESPERS

THE PROEMIAL PSALM [verses from psalm 103, with refrains]

Choir: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord.

O Lord, my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord.

Confession and majesty hast Thou put on.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord.

Upon the mountains shall the waters stand.

How wondrous are Thy works, O Lord.

Between the mountains will the waters run.

How wondrous are Thy works, O Lord.

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Glory to Thee, O Lord, Who hast created all!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Glory to Thee, O Lord, Who hast created all!

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, glorious Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ, our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For a God of mercies and compassions and love for mankind art Thou, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thine is to have mercy and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Wisdom.

Choir: Father, bless.

Priest: Blessed is He that is, even Christ our God, always, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

O God, make steadfast the holy Orthodox Faith of the Orthodox Christians unto the ages of ages.

Priest: Most holy Birthgiver of God, save us.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, thee, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Birthgiver of God, do we magnify.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ God, our hope, glory to Thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for them that bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for them that labor and them that sing, and for all the people here present that await Thy great and abundant mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: An Angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *(Three times)*

THE GREAT LITANY

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God, and the union of the faithful, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this holy temple, and for them that with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our great lord and father, his holiness patriarch Cyril; for our lord the most reverend metropolitan Hilarion; for our lord the right reverend archbishop Cyril; for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the God-preserved land of Russia and its Orthodox people both in the homeland and the diaspora, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That He may deliver His people from enemies both visible and invisible, and confirm in us oneness of mind, brotherly love and piety, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this country, its authorities, and all who in faith and piety dwell therein and in every country, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city, for every city and countryside, and for the faithful that dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For seasonable weather, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For them that travel by sea, land and air, for the sick, the afflicted, for captives, and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our deliverance from all sorrow, wrath and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, glorious Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ, our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee is due all glory, honor and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

ANTIPHON FROM FIRST KATHISMA [VERSES FROM PSALMS 1 - 3]

Choir: Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are they that put their trust in Him.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Arise, O Lord; save me, O my God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salvation is the Lord's: Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

TROPARION

Today is salvation come unto the world. Let us sing to Him, Who arose from the grave, and Who is the Author of our life. For, destroying death by death, He granted us the victory and great mercy.

THE AUGMENTED LITANY

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy:

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for our great lord and father, his holiness patriarch Cyril; for our lord the most reverend metropolitan Hilarion; for our lord the right reverend archbishop Cyril; and for all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for the God-preserved land of Russia and its Orthodox people both in the homeland and the diaspora, and for their salvation.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray to the Lord our God that He may deliver His people from enemies both visible and invisible, and confirm in us oneness of mind, brotherly love and piety.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for this country, its authorities, and all who in faith and piety dwell therein and in every country.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy orthodox patriarchs, and for the pious kings and faithful queens, and for the founders of this holy temple, and for all our fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters gone to their rest before us and for all the Orthodox here and everywhere laid to rest.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon and remission of the sins for the servants of God, our brethren of this holy Temple.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Choir: *Holy is the Lord our God.*

Deacon: Above all people is the Lord our God.

Choir: *Holy is the Lord our God.*

EXAPOSTILARION

THE LAUDS

[verses from psalms 148, 149 and 150 with hymns of the day]

THE GREAT DOXOLOGY

Priest: Glory to Thee, Who hast shown us the light.

Choir: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, by reason of Thy great glory: O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty, O Lord, the Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: Thou, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; Thou, that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou, that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou alone art holy, Thou alone art Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of the Father. Amen. Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name for ever, yea, for ever and ever. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name unto the ages. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. O Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: O Lord, have mercy on me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. Lord, unto Thee have I fled for refuge; teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God, for in Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light. Continue Thy mercy unto them that know Thee.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *(Three times)*

THE LITTLE LITANY

Deacon: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, glorious Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ, our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thine is the dominion, and Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

LORD, I HAVE CRIED

[verses from psalms 140, 141, 129 and 116 with hymns of the day]

Choir: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; hearken unto me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry unto Thee: hearken unto me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice; hearken unto me, O Lord.

Reader: *Bring my soul out of prison*

Choir: *that I may confess Thy Name.*

Accept our evening prayers, O holy Lord, and grant us remission of our sins, for only Thou hast revealed to the world the Resurrection.

The following verses are read with verses in between commemorating the Resurrection (for Sunday), the feast day being celebrated, and the Theotokos.

Reader: *The righteous shall wait patiently for me until Thou shalt reward me.
Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.
Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication
If Thou shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For
with Thee there is forgiveness.*

*For Thy Name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath
waited patiently for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel
hope in the Lord.*

*For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption;
and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.*

O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him all ye peoples.

*For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord
abideth forever.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Choir: *both now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Deacon: Wisdom. Upright.

EVENING SONG TO THE ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD

Choir: O joyous Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed
Father, O Jesus Christ: we that come to the setting of the sun, when we beheld
the evening light, praise Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for Thee at
all times to be praised with gladsome voices, O Son of God, Giver of life.
Therefore, the world doth glorify Thee.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Deacon: Peace be to all.

Deacon: Wisdom. The prokimenon is in the sixth tone:

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty.

Choir: The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty.

Deacon: *The Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girded Himself.*

Choir: The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the
Seraphim, thee, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very
Birthgiver of God, do we magnify.

*For he hath looked upon the lowliness of His handmaiden; for behold, from
henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.*

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the
Seraphim, thee, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the
very Birthgiver of God, do we magnify.

*For the Mighty One hath done great things to me, and holy is His Name;
and His mercy is on them that fear Him unto generation and generation.*

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the
Seraphim, thee, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very
Birthgiver of God, do we magnify.

*He hath showed strength with His arm, He hath scattered the proud in the
imagination of their heart.*

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the
Seraphim, thee, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very
Birthgiver of God, do we magnify.

*He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them that are
lowly; He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He hath sent
away empty.*

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than
the Seraphim, thee, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the
very Birthgiver of God, do we magnify.

*He hath helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy, as He
spake to our fathers, to Abraham and his seed forever.*

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than
the Seraphim, thee, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the
very Birthgiver of God, do we magnify.

After Odes 9: the little litany

Deacon: Holy is the Lord our God.

Choir: *Holy is the Lord our God.*

Deacon: For holy is the Lord our God.

Trimythun; of our Fathers among the Saints, wonder-workers of all Russia and Hierarchs Peter, Alexis, Jonah and Philip; of our Fathers among the Saints John the wonderworker of Shanghai, San Francisco and all America; *(other Hierarchs among the Saints [especially Russian] may be mentioned here)*; of the holy Equal-to-the apostles Methodius and Cyril, evangelizers of the Slavs, prince Vladimir, evangelizer of Russia, Nina, evangelizer of Georgia and Innocent, Metroplitan of Moscow and evangelizer of America; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Martyrs; of the Great-martyrs George, Panteleimon, Catherine, Barbara and Tatiana; of the holy Hierarchs Tikhon, Nicholas and all the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia; *(here other Martyrs may be mentioned)*; of the holy Monks Sergius of Radonezh and Seraphim of Sarov, the wonderworkers of all Russia and Herman of Alaska, wonderworker of all America; *(here other holy Monks may be mentioned)*; the holy righteous Father John of Kronstadt, wonderworker of all Russia and Xenia of St. Petersburg; *(here other Saints may be mentioned ad lib,)*; of the holy hierarchs Amphilochius, bishop of Iconium, and Gregory, bishop of Agrigentum; hierarch Metrophanes, bishop of Voronezh; prince Alexander Nevsky; martyr Sisinius, bishop of Cyzicus; martyr Theodore of Antioch; venerable Ischyron, bishop in Egypt; new hieromartyrs Boris, bishop of Ivanovsk, and Philip: whose memories we celebrate today; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; and of all Thy Saints: we beseech Thee, O greatly merciful God, hearken unto us sinners, who pray to Thee, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

Priest: By the mercy and bounties and love for mankind of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine All-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now, and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE CANON

After Odes 3 And 6: The Little Litany After Canticle 9: The Song Of The Birthgiver Of God

Deacon: Let us magnify with hymns the Birthgiver of God and Mother of the Light.

Choir: *My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.*

Deacon: *For He established the world which shall not be shaken.*

Choir: The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty.

Deacon: *Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, forever.*

Choir: The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty.

Deacon: *The Lord is King,*

Choir: He is clothed with majesty.

THE AUGMENTED LITANY

Deacon: Let us say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say:

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord Almighty, the God of our Fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy:

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for our great lord and father, his holiness patriarch Cyril; for our lord the most reverend metropolitan Hilarion; for our lord the right reverend archbishop Cyril; and for all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for the God-preserved land of Russia and its Orthodox people both in the homeland and the diaspora, and for their salvation.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray to the Lord our God that He may deliver His people from enemies both visible and invisible, and confirm in us oneness of mind, brotherly love and piety.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for this country, its authorities, and all who in faith and piety dwell therein and in every country.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy orthodox patriarchs, and for the pious kings and faithful queens, and for the founders of

this holy temple, and for all our fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters gone to their rest before us and for all the Orthodox here and everywhere laid to rest.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon and remission of the sins for the servants of God, our brethren of this holy Temple.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Furthermore we pray for them that bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for them that labor and them that sing, and for all the people here present that await Thy great and abundant mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Reader: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name unto the ages. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, grant me understanding of Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes. O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the work of Thy hands. Unto Thee is due praise, unto Thee is due song, unto Thee glory is due, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

The Gospel is read

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

HYMN TO THE RESURRECTION

Choir: Let us, who have beheld the Resurrection of Christ, worship our holy Lord Jesus, Who is alone without sin. We bow down before Thy Cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify Thy holy Resurrection. For Thou art our God, and we know none other beside Thee, and we call upon Thy Name. Come, all ye faithful, let us bow down before Christ's holy Resurrection, for behold, through the Cross joy hath come to the whole world. Forever blessing the Lord, we praise His Resurrection. He endured the Cross for us, and by death destroyed death.

Choir: *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit*

By the intercessions of the Apostles, O merciful One, blot out the multitude of my offenses.

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

By the intercessions of the Birthgiver of God, O merciful One, blot out the multitude of my offenses.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy bounties, blot out my transgression.

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He had foretold, has granted us life everlasting and great mercy.

Deacon: Save, O God, Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance; visit Thy world with mercy and bounties; exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians, and send down upon us Thy rich mercies: by the intercessions of our all-immaculate Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary; by the power of the honorable and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the venerable, heavenly Bodiless Powers; by the supplications of the venerable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of our Fathers among the Saints, the great Hierarchs and universal Teachers Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; of our Fathers among the Saints Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, the wonder-worker, and Spyridon, bishop of

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, glorious Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ, our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For blessed is Thy Name, and glorified is Thy Kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

ΥΠΑΚΟΕ
HYMNS OF ASCENT
THE READING OF THE GOSPEL

Deacon: Let us attend. Wisdom. Let us attend.

The prokimenon is in the X tone:

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For holy art Thou, O our God, who retest in the holies, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: *Let every breath praise the Lord.*

Choir: Let every breath praise the Lord.

Deacon: *Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power.*

Choir: Let every breath praise the Lord.

Deacon: *Let every breath*

Choir: *praise the Lord.*

Deacon: And that we may be deemed worthy to hear the holy Gospel, let us beseech the Lord God.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Deacon: Wisdom. Upright. Let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Deacon: An Angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, glorious Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ, our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art a gracious God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: Blessed and glorified be the dominion of Thy Kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE APOSTICHA HYMNS OF THE DAY SONG OF SAINT SYMEON

Reader: Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all the peoples: a light of revelation for the nations, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

THRICE-HOLY, TO "OUR FATHER"

Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, wash away our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Which art in the Heavens, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

TROPARION ("Dismissal Hymn")

Choir: O Birthgiver of God and Virgin, rejoice, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee. Blessed art Thou among women, and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls. *(Three times)*

Blessed be the Name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. *(Three times)*

Priest: The blessing of the Lord come upon you, by His grace and love for mankind, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

EVLOGITARIA (HYMNS) OF THE RESURRECTION

Choir: *Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.*

The assembly of the Angels was amazed to see Thee accounted among the dead, Thou Who hadst destroyed the might of death, O Savior, and didst raise up Adam with Thyself, and Who hadst freed all men from hell.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

Why do you mingle myrrh with tears of compassion, O ye women disciples? The radiant Angel in the grave addressed the myrrh-bearing women: "Behold the tomb and exult, for the Savior hath arisen from the grave."

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

At early morn, the myrrh-bearers hastened to Thy grave with lamentation; but the Angel came to them and said: "The time for sorrow is ended; weep ye no longer. And tell the Apostles of the Resurrection".

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

The myrrh-bearing women came with myrrh to Thy tomb, O Savior, and they heard the Angel saying to them: "Why do ye count the Living among the dead? For, as God, He is risen from the grave.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Let us worship the Father, and His Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, one in essence, crying out with the Seraphim: "Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord".

Both now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

By giving birth to the Giver of life, O Virgin, thou didst rescue Adam from sin, and thou didst grant Eve joy instead of sorrow; for He, Who was incarnate of thee, God and Man, guided back to life him that had fallen away therefrom.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (Three times)

THE LITTLE LITANY

Deacon: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *(Three times)*

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit..

Reader: ...both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Reading from Psalter

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *(Three times)*

THE LITTLE LITANY

Deacon: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, glorious Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ, our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thine is the dominion, and Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

SESSIONAL HYMN

POLYELEOS [praises from psalms 134 and 135]

Choir: Praise ye the Name of the Lord; praise Him, O ye servants of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord out of Zion, Who dwelleth in Jerusalem.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

O, give thanks unto the Lord of heaven: for His mercy endureth forever.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir: Amen.

MATINS

THE SIX PSALMS

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. *(Three times)*

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise.
(Twice)

PSALM 3

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me, many say to my soul: "There is no salvation for him in his God". But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me roundabout. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who, without cause, are mine enemies; the teeth of the sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

PSALM 37

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath, for Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath, and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen up higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My wounds are become foul and rotten in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face, for my loins are filled with mockings, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is

troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and deceit all day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth; and I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spoke boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live, and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They, that rendered me evil for good, slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me; be attentive to my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me, be attentive to my help, O Lord of my salvation.

PSALM 62

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn; my soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory. For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy Name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips of rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee, for Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered to the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

At the dawn I meditated on Thee, for Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee, Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

GOD IS THE LORD

Deacon: God is the Lord, and hath appeared to us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever.

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared to us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Deacon: *All the nations compassed me round about, and by the Name of the Lord I warded them off.*

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared to us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Deacon: *I shall not die but live, and declare the works of the Lord.*

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared to us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Deacon: *The stone that the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.*

Choir: God is the Lord, and hath appeared to us. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

TROPARIONS THE KATHISMA (READINGS FROM THE PSALTER)

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit...

Reader: ...both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Reading from Psalter

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit...

Choir: ...both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (Three times)

Lord, have mercy. (Three times)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit...

Reader: ...both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Reading from Psalter

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit...

Choir: both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon: For the God-preserved land of Russia and its Orthodox people both in the homeland and the diaspora, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That He may deliver His people from enemies both visible and invisible, and confirm in us oneness of mind, brotherly love and piety, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this country, its authorities, and all who in faith and piety dwell therein and in every country, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city, for every city and countryside, and for the faithful that dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For seasonable weather, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For them that travel by sea, land and air, for the sick, the afflicted, for captives, and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our deliverance from all sorrow, wrath and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, glorious Lady the Birthgiver of God and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ, our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee is due all glory, honor and worship, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *(Three times)*

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

PSALM 87

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear before my supplication, for filled with evils is my soul, and my life to hell hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead, like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination to themselves; I have been delivered up, and have not come forth. Mine eyes are grown weak from poverty; I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Wilt Thou work wonders for the dead? or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks to Thee? shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Why, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me; they came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances, because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear before my supplication.

PSALM 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is

gracious to all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His way known to Moses, to the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Magnanimous and merciful is the Lord, long suffering and plenteous in mercy. Not to the end will He be angered, neither to eternity will He be wroth; not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon those that fear Him. For He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth; for when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him; and His righteousness is upon the sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in Heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.

PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear to my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness; and enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath set me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord the way wherein I

should walk, for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness. For Thy Name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me, in Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies; and Thou shalt cut off all of them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

Hearken unto me in Thy righteousness; and enter not into judgment with Thy servant.

Hearken unto me in Thy righteousness; and enter not into judgment with Thy servant.

Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *(Three times)*

THE GREAT LITANY

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God, and the union of the faithful, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this holy temple, and for them that with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our great lord and father, his holiness patriarch Cyril; for our lord the most reverend metropolitan Hilarion; for our lord the right reverend archbishop Cyril; for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.