



The Lesser Blessing of Water

**Mount Saint Macrina
Uniontown, Pennsylvania**

THE LESSER BLESSING OF WATER

STAND

The water is placed in a container and placed on a tetrapod and covered with a prepared cloth. The priest wears the epitrachilion and phelonion. The priest holds the hand cross with a sprig of basil. If basil is not available, use another green. The priest is accompanied by a deacon carrying the censer and by two candle bearers. He places the hand cross on the tetrapod and incenses around it in the form of a cross once.

Deacon: Reverend Father [*or:* Most Reverend (Arch)Bishop], give the blessing!

Celebrant: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

Glory to you, our God,
glory *to* you.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
everywhere present and filling all things,
Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life,
come and dwell within us,
cleans us of all stain,
and save our souls, O *gracious* One.

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen*.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions;
Holy One, come to us
and heal our infirmities for *your* name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord *have* mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, 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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us *from* evil.

Celebrant: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.


Response: 
A - men.

Stichera for the Blessing of Water - Tone 6 Samohlasen


The time that sanc-ti-fies us is at hand and the Just Judge is a-wait-ing us;


but turn to re-pent - ance, O my soul, and as the har-lot, cry out with tears:


Lord have mer - - - cy up - on me.


On this day in the Church of the Ho-ly Vir-gin, O Christ, fountain of healing, you



rain down streams. By the sprink - ling of your grace, you cast



out the sickness of the in - firm, for you are the Phys - i - cian of our souls and



bod - - - ies.



You gave birth and yet re-mained a vir-gin, O spouseless Mary, The-o - to - kos;



pray to Christ our God to save our souls.



All - ho - ly Vir-gin The - o - to - kos, di - rect the works of our hands and pray



for the for-give - ness of our sins that we may ever sing the hymn of



the an - gels: Ho - ly God, ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal,



have mer - cy on us.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: + Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful sing the Prokeimenon, and the lector chants the verse:

Prokeimenon - Tone 3 (Psalm 26:1):

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
Whom shall I fear?

Verse: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

SIT

The lector chants Hebrews 2: 11-18. (It is highly recommended that the lector read the Apostolic Reading from the Epistle Book.)

Brothers and Sisters: He who consecrates and those who are consecrated have one and the same Father. Therefore, he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, "I will announce your name to my brothers, I will sing your praise in the midst of the assembly"; and [he says], "I will put my trust in him"; and again, "Here am I, and the children God has given me!" Now, since the children are men of blood and flesh, Jesus likewise had a full share in ours, that by his death he might rob the devil, the prince of death, of his power, and free those who through fear of death had been slaves their whole life long. Surely, he did not come to help angels, but rather the children of Abraham; therefore, he had to become like his brothers in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful

high priest before God on their behalf, to expiate the sins of the people. Since he was himself tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are tempted.

Celebrant: + Peace be to you, reader!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

STAND

The faithful sing the Alleluia, and the lector chants the verses:

Alleluia - Tone 6 (Psalm 44: 1)

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - - - - - le - lu - - - - ia!

Al - le - lu - - - - ia!

Verse: My heart overflows with noble words.

Verse: To the king I must speak the song I have made

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the holy Gospel.

Celebrant: + Peace be to all!

Response:

And to your spi - - - rit.

Celebrant: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Response:


Glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo - ry to you.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The celebrant proclaims the holy Gospel (John 5: 1-4) even when a deacon is serving. (It is highly recommended that the celebrant read the holy Gospel from the Gospel Book, fitting for the solemnity of the words of our Lord.)

At that time: Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem at the Sheep Gate a pool called in Hebrew Bethesda, with five porticoes. In these lay a large number of ill, blind, lame, and crippled.

For from time to time an angel of the Lord used to come down into the pool; and the water was stirred up, so the first one to get in after the stirring of the water was healed of whatever disease afflicted him.

Response: 
Glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo - ry to you.

REMAIN STANDING

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

Celebrant: Majestic God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you alone work wonders beyond number. Your voice is on the many waters; the waters saw and were afraid. The depths were troubled and great was the sound of the waters. Your way led through the sea, and your paths through the mighty waters and no one saw your footprints. By the baptism of your only-begotten incarnate Son, and by the descent of the all-holy Spirit on him in the form of a dove, and by your fatherly voice, you sanctified the streams of the Jordan.

Now we, your unworthy servants, humbly pray and beseech you: send the grace of your all-holy Spirit upon this water. ✚ Bless, purify and sanctify this water by your heavenly blessing. Grant it the grace and blessing of the Jordan, and the power to cleanse all defilements, to heal all illnesses, and to drive out evil spirits and their deceits and snares.

By the power, action, and grace of your all-holy Spirit, show this water to be for the forgiveness of sins, the calming of passions, the expulsion of all evil, the increase of virtue, the healing of illnesses, the sanctification of homes and of all places, the driving out of all destructive and evil-doing spirits, and the reception of your grace for those who drink this water in faith or receive it or are sprinkled with it.

For you bless and sanctify all, O God, and we give glory to you, with your only-begotten Son and all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



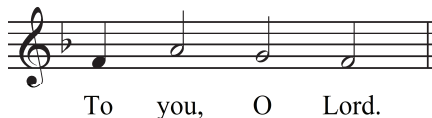
Celebrant: + Peace be to all!

Response:



Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Response:



Celebrant: Incline your ear and hear us, O Lord, for you have accepted baptism in the Jordan and have sanctified the waters. Bless all of us who now bow our heads and show our servitude to you. Count us worthy to be filled with your sanctification through partaking of this water. May it bring us health of soul and body, O Lord.

For you are the sanctification of our souls and bodies, and to you we give glory, thanksgiving and worship, with your eternal Father and your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



The celebrant takes the hand cross and blesses the water in this manner: He submerges the cross, holding it upright and makes the sign of the cross with it in the water. He does this three times, once at each singing of the Troparion of the Holy Cross.

*The celebrant sings the Troparion **once**, and the faithful sing it **twice**.*

Troparion of the Holy Cross – Tone 1:

Save your peo - ple, O Lord, and bless your in - her - i - tance. Grant vic - to - ry
to your Church o - ver e - vil, and pro - tect your peo - ple by your cross.

The faithful then sing the following:

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Theotokion - Tone 2:

Make us wor - thy of your gifts, O Vir - gin The - o - to - kos; o - ver - look
our sins and give heal - ing to those who accept your blessing with faith,
O all - pure one.

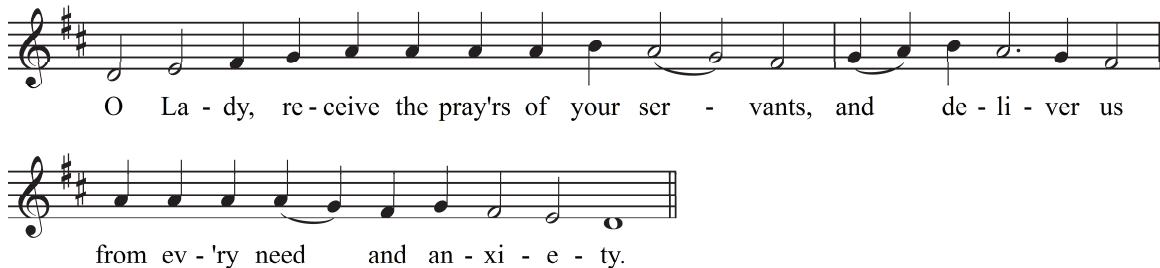
The celebrant then kisses the holy cross and sprinkles the faithful with the water, as they sing the following:

Troparion - Tone 4:



O All- Pure La - dy look upon the pray'rs of your ser - vants, sub-due
the fierce up-ris-ings a- gainst us, and re-lieve us of all af-flic - tion.
For we who call upon you have you as our only firm and true pro - tec - tion.
We have sought your protection so that we may not be put to shame. Heed our
supplication as we cry out in faith: Re-joice, O Lady, O help of all, O joy
and protection and sal - va - tion of our souls!

Troparion - Tone 4:



O La - dy, re-ceive the pray'rs of your ser - vants, and de - li - ver us
from ev - 'ry need and an - xi - e - ty.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope; glory to you!

Response: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. *Amen.*

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
[Most Reverend (Arch)Bishop,] Give *the* blessing!

Celebrant: May Christ our true God have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; by the power of the precious and life-creating cross; of our venerable Mother Macrina, the patroness of this holy monastery; and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response:



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