



The Office of Matins

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*The Beginning of the Church Year;
Our Venerable Father Simeon the Stylite*

Sunday, September 1, 2024

The Office of Matins

STAND

The holy doors are opened, and the celebrant, vested in the epitrachilion and phelonion, incenses the holy table, the apsidal icon, icon screen, the whole church, and the faithful. The deacon precedes him with a lighted candle. The celebrant then stands before the holy table with the censer. The deacon stands at his customary place on the ambon and intones:

Deacon: Give the command!

Response: In the name of the Lord,
Father, give *the* blessing!

The celebrant makes the sign of the cross with the censer and intones:

Celebrant: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, +
always, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

The holy doors are closed and the celebrant removes the phelonion.

Glory to God in the highest
and to people on earth, peace and *good* will. (*Three times*)
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare *your* praise. (*Two times*)

The celebrant, vested in epitrachilion, remains in front of the holy doors and reads the Prayers of Light of Matins (pages 48-49). The deacon returns to the sanctuary. The lector, holding a candle and standing in the middle of the Church, chants an excerpt from the Hexapsalmos, without melody, while the faithful listen.

Psalm 62

God, my God, in the morning I awake for you;
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
 like a dry, weary land without water.
So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
 to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
 my lips will speak your praise.
So I shall bless you all my life,
 in your name I shall lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
 my mouth shall praise you with joy.
On my bed I remember you.
 On you I muse through the night
For you have been my help;
 in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
 your right hand holds me fast.
Those who seek to destroy my life
 shall go down to the depths of the earth.
They shall be put into the power of the sword
 and left as the prey of the jackals.
But the king shall rejoice in God;
(all that swear by him shall be blessed,)
 for the mouth of liars shall be silenced.

And again:

On you I muse through the night; for you have been my help;
 in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
 your right hand holds me fast.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever and forever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Glory to you, O God! (*Three times*)

The celebrant returns to the sanctuary, and the deacon returns to the ambon for the Litany of Peace. If there is no deacon, the celebrant intones the Litany before the holy doors.



Litany of Peace

SIT

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

①



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

Response:

②



Deacon: For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord. ①

Deacon: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord. ②

Deacon: For our holy father (*Name*), Pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord. ①

Deacon: For our most reverend Metropolitan (*Name*), for our God-loving Bishop[s] (*Name/s*), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. ②

Deacon: For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the Lord. ①

Deacon: For this holy monastery, for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord. ②

Deacon: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord. ①

Deacon: For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord. ②

Special petitions may be inserted here.

Deacon: That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord. ①

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us and preserve us, O God, by your grace. ②

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: 
To you, O Lord.

STAND

Celebrant: We thank you, Lord our God, for you have raised us from our beds, and have put into our mouth a word of praise that we may worship and call upon your holy name. By your mercy which you always bestow upon our lives, we pray: now send forth your help to those who stand before the presence of your holy glory and await your rich mercy. Grant that they may always serve you with fear and love, praising your inexpressible goodness.

For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

The Lord is God

"The Lord is God..." is sung in the tone of the Troparion that follows it. The deacon remains at the ambon and chants the verses. If there is no deacon, the celebrant remains at the holy doors and chants the verses.

Deacon: The Lord is God and has revealed himself to us; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Tone 6 Troparion

The Lord is God and has revealed him-self to us; bless-ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.

The same response is given to each of the following verses:

Deacon: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
for his love endures *forever*.

Deacon: They compassed me, compassed me about;
in the Lord's name *I* crushed them.

Deacon: The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
I shall not die, I shall live and recount *his* deeds.

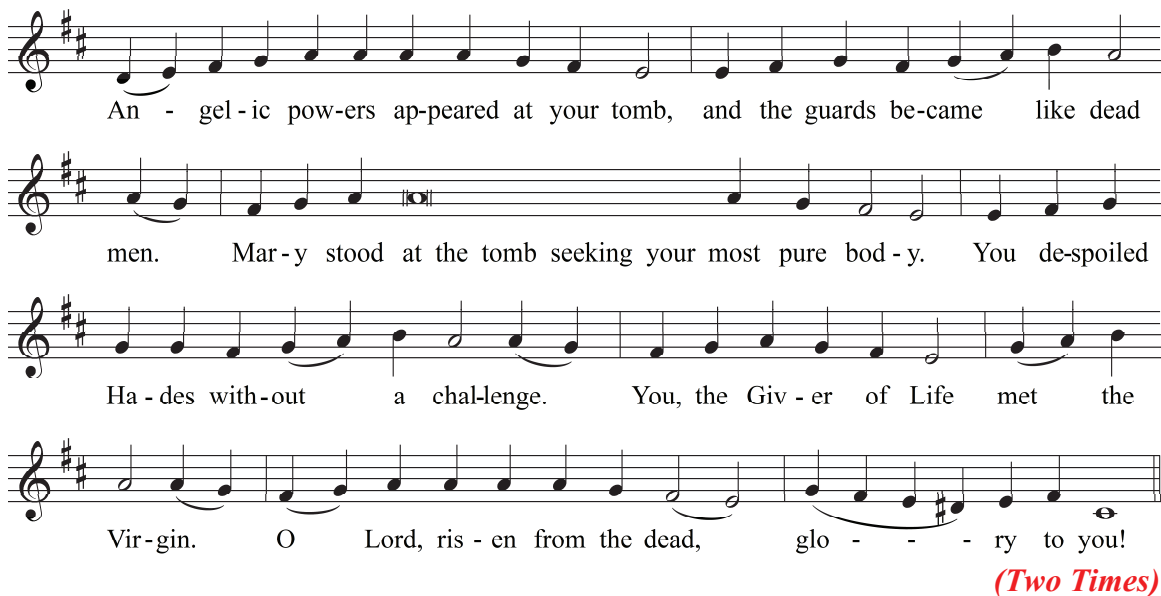
Deacon: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in *our* eyes.



Troparion & Theotokion

SIT

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 6:



An - gel - ic pow - ers ap - peared at your tomb, and the guards be - came like dead
men. Mar - y stood at the tomb seeking your most pure bod - y. You de - spoiled
Ha - des with - out a chal - lenge. You, the Giv - er of Life met the
Vir - gin. O Lord, ris - en from the dead, glo - - - ry to you!

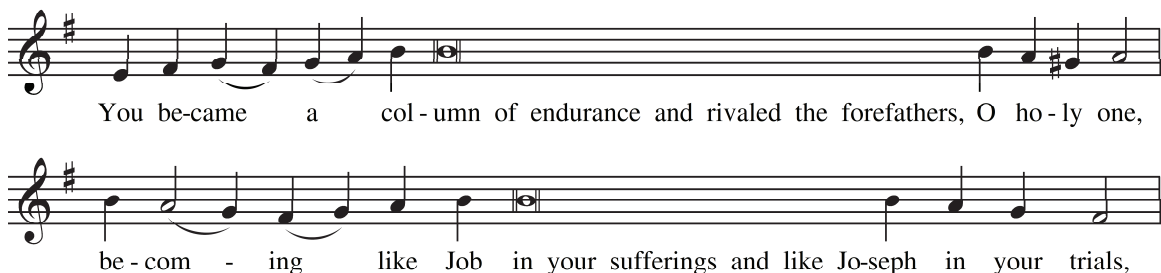
(Two Times)

Cantor:



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

Troparion of Our Venerable Father Simeon the Stylite – Tone 1:



You be - came a col - umn of endurance and rivaled the forefathers, O ho - ly one,
be - com - ing like Job in your sufferings and like Jo - seph in your trials,



like the bod - i - less an - gels, though you lived in the flesh.



O Si - me - on, our ho - ly fath - er, in - ter - cede with Christ our God



that he may save our souls.

Cantor:




Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Troparion of the Beginning of the Church Year – Tone 2:



O Lord, mak - er of the u - ni - verse, who a - lone has power o - ver



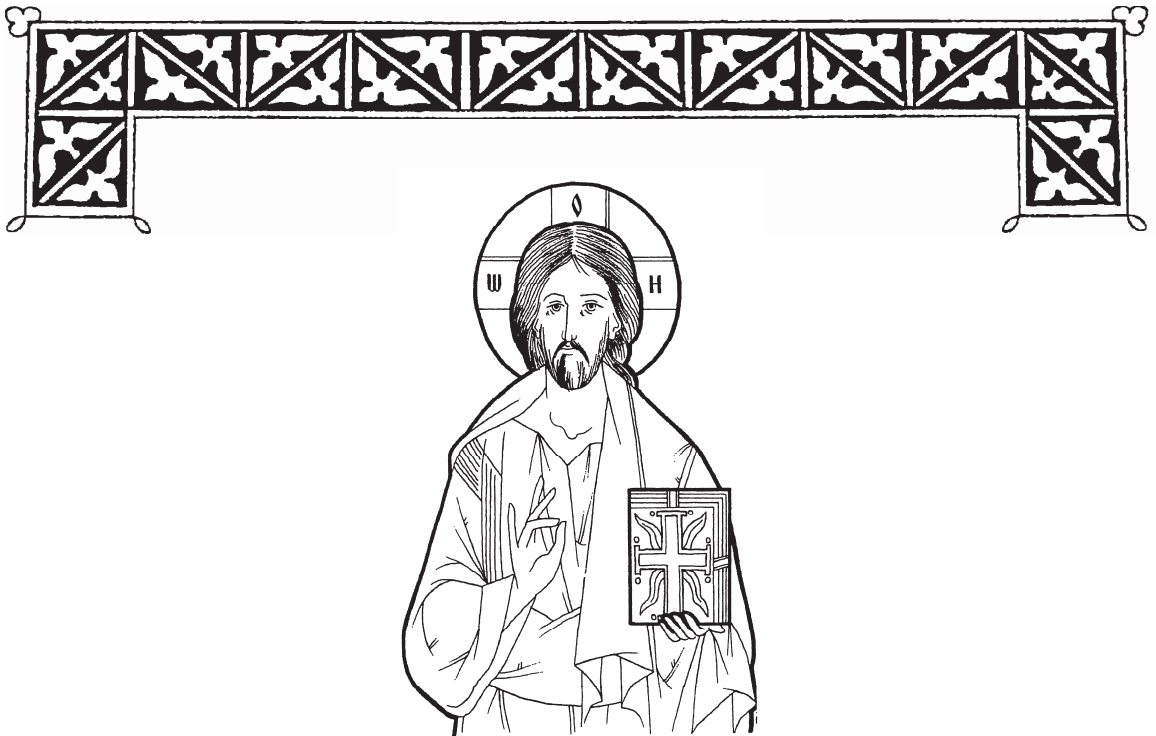
times and sea - sons, bless this year with your boun - ty, pre - serve



our country in safety, and keep your peo - ple in peace, save us through the



pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos.



Psalm 118

The following selected verses of Psalm 118 are now chanted by the faithful:

They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow **God's** law!

They are happy who do his will,
seeking him with all **their** hearts,

Who never do anything evil
but walk in **his** ways.

You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed **with** care.

May my footsteps be firm
to obey **your** statutes.

Then I shall not be put to shame
as I heed your **commands**.

I will thank you with an upright heart
as I learn your *decrees*.

I will obey your statutes;
do not *forsake* me.

Had your law not been my delight
I would have died in my *affliction*.
I will never forget your precepts
for with them you give *me* life.


Save me, for I am yours
since I seek *your* precepts.
Give life to my soul that I may praise you.
Let your decrees give *me* help.

I am lost like a sheep; seek your servant
for I remember your *commands*.

STAND

The Host of Angels

The celebrant vests in the phelonion, the holy doors are opened, and he incenses the sanctuary and the church, preceded by the deacon carrying a candle. The faithful sing the following:

Cantor: 
Bless-ed are you, O Lord teach me your com-mand ments.

All: 
The host of an-gels was a-mazed to see you a-mong the dead, O Sa - vior,

de - stroy-ing the po - wer of death. You raised up A - dam with your - self,

and freed all from Ha - des.

Cantor:
Bless-ed are you, O Lord teach me your com-mand ments.

All:

The ra - di - ant an - gel said to the myrrh - bear - ers at the grave

O wo - men disciples, why do you mingle the myrrh with tears? Look at the grave

and un - der - stand that the Sa - vior is ri - sen from the tomb.

Cantor:
Bless-ed are you, O Lord teach me your com-mand ments.

All:

At ear - ly dawn the myrrh - bear - ers la - ment - ed as they ran to your grave,

But the an-gel stood be-fore them and said: The time for la-ment-ing is o - ver.

Do not cry, but announce the Re-sur-rec-tion to the a - pos - tles.

Cantor:

Bless-ed are you, O Lord teach me your com-mand - ments.

All:

When the myrrh-bear-ing wo - men came to your tomb with myrrh, O Sa - vior.

They heard the an - gel say to them: "Why do you count the liv - ing

a-mong the dead? For, be - ing God, he has ri - sen from the tomb."

Cantor:

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi - rit.

All:

We wor-ship the Fa - ther and his Son and the Ho - ly Spi - rit,

the Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty one in es - - - sence; and we cry out
with the Ser - a - phim: Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly are you, O Lord.

Cantor: **Now and e - ver and for e - ver. A - men.**

All:

O Vir - gin, by giving birth to the Gi - ver of Life, you de - li - vered
A - dam from his sin, and grant - ed joy to Eve in place
of pain. The God and man in - car - nate of you led back A - dam
who had strayed a - way from life.

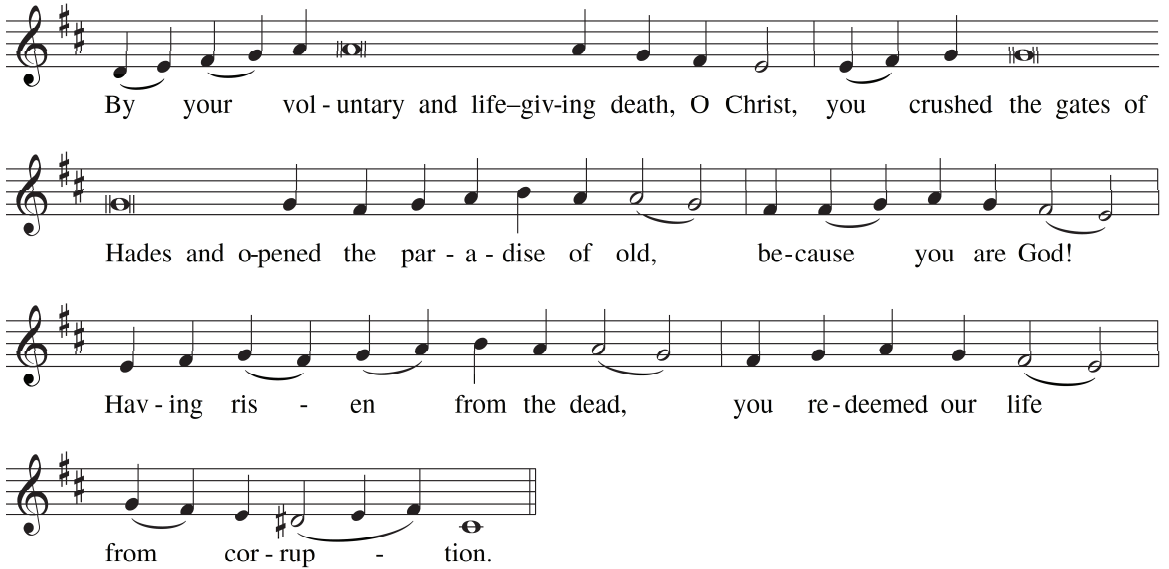
Then three times, with a bow each time:

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to you, O God.

Hypakoe

REMAIN STANDING

Tone 6 Troparion



By your vol - untary and life - giv - ing death, O Christ, you crushed the gates of
Hades and o - pened the par - a - dise of old, be - cause you are God!
Hav - ing ris - en from the dead, you re - deemed our life
from cor - rup - tion.



Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: + Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Matins Prokeimenon of the Resurrection – Tone 6 (Psalm 79: 3, 2):

O Lord, rouse up your might! O Lord, come to our help!

O Lord, come to our help.

Deacon: Shepherd of Israel, hear us;
you who lead Joseph's flock. (*Repeat Prokeimenon*)

Preparation for the Holy Gospel

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

Lord, have mer - cy.

Celebrant: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

A - men.

The deacon (or the celebrant, if there is no deacon) incenses the sanctuary, icon screen, and the faithful while the following is chanted.

Deacon: Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord!

Tone 6 Prokeimenon Melody

Let ev - 'ry - thing that lives and that breathes give praise to the
Lord, give praise to the Lord.

The faithful repeat “Let everything that lives” after each of the following verses:

Deacon: Praise God in his holy place.

Deacon: Praise him in his mighty heavens.



Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, God.

Response:

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - - - cy.

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

Celebrant: + Peace be to all!

Response:

And to your spir - - - it.

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

Response:



Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The celebrant reads Luke 24: 1-12, the Fourth Resurrection Gospel. [The celebrant reads the holy Gospel even if a deacon is serving.]

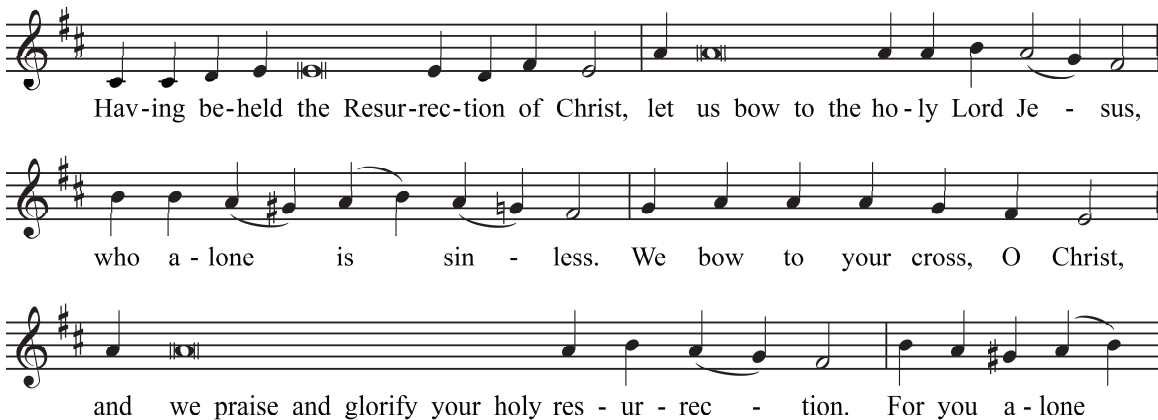
Response:



After reading the holy Gospel, the celebrant closes the holy Gospel, kisses it, and takes it to the center of the church to place it upon the tetrapod. The holy Gospel remains on the tetrapod until the Great Doxology.

Hymn of the Resurrection

Tone 6 Samohlasen

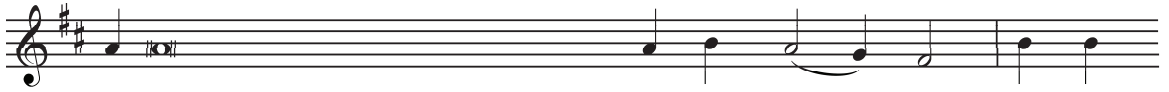




are our God, and we know no o - ther. We call you by name.



Come, all you faith - ful, let us bow to the holy resur-rec - tion of Christ,



for behold, through the cross joy has come to the whole world! Al - ways



bles - sing the Lord, let us praise his re - sur - rec - tion.



By en - dur - ing the cross for us, he de - stroyed Death by death.

Psalm 50

During Psalm 50, the faithful come forward to kiss the holy Gospel. When all have venerated the holy Gospel, the holy doors are closed, and the celebrant removes the phelonion.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my *offense*.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from *my* sin.

My offenses truly I know them;
my sin is always *before* me
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I *have* done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence
and be without reproach when *you* judge,

O see, in guilt I was born,
a sinner was I *conceived*.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;
then in the secret of my heart teach *me* wisdom.
Sprinkle me with hyssop, then I shall be clean;
O wash me, I shall be whiter *than* snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you have crushed *may* thrill.
From my sins turn away your face
and blot out all *my* guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit *within* me.
Do not cast me away from your presence
nor deprive me of your *Holy* Spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervor *sustain* me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return *to* you.

Deliver me from blood-guilt, O God, my saving God,
and my tongue shall ring out *your* goodness.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare *your* praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,
burnt offering from me you would *refuse*,
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit,
a contrite, humbled heart you will *not* spurn.

In your goodness, O Lord, show favor to Zion;
rebuild the walls of *Jerusalem*.
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,
burnt offerings wholly consumed;
then you will be offered young bulls on *your* altar.


Cantor:




Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

All:

Tone 6 Samohlasen



Through the pray'rs of the ho-ly a - pos - tles, O Mer - ci - ful One,



cleanse us of our man - y sins.


Cantor:




Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

All:

Tone 6 Samohlasen

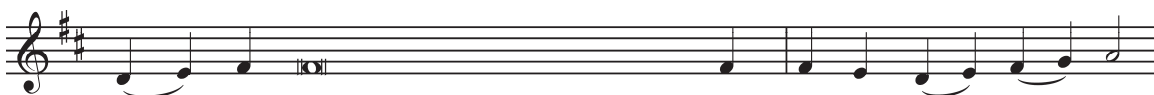


Through the pray'rs of the The-o - to - kos, O Mer-ci - ful One, cleanse us



of our man - y sins.

Cantor:



Have mer - cy on me, O God, in your kind-ness. In your com - pas - sion

blot out my of-fense.

All:

Tone 6 Samohlasen (adapted)

Je - sus is ri - sen from the tomb as he fore - told,
grant - ing us et - er - nal life and great mer - - - cy.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

Lord, have mer - cy.

Celebrant: Lord our God, you have given us forgiveness through repentance, and as a model of knowledge and confession of sins, you have revealed the repentance of the prophet David that led to pardon. Now, O Master, to us who have fallen into so many and so great sins: have mercy, in your kindness in your compassion blot out our offenses, for against you have we sinned, O Lord, who alone know the hidden depths of our hearts, and who alone have the power to forgive sins. A pure heart you have created for us; a steadfast spirit you have put within us; and you have made known to us the joy of your salvation. Do not cast us away from your presence, but in your goodness and love for all, grant that we may offer a sacrifice of righteousness and oblation on your holy altars until our last breath. Through the mercies and goodness and love of your only begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

A - men.



REMAIN STANDING

The celebrant and deacon enter the sanctuary. The Canon is sung according to the Typikon, and according to the custom of the community.

The Canon

Ode 1 – The Hymn of Moses (Exodus 15:1-19)

Irmos of the First Ode – Tone 6:

When Is - ra - el walked on the waves of the a - byss as on dry
land, they watched Pha - raoh, their pur - su - er, drown, and they
shou - ted: let us sing a vic - to - ry hymn to God.

Refrain:

Glo - ry to your ho - ly Res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

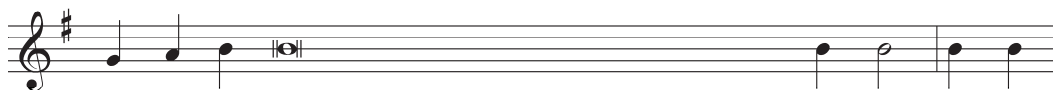
Lector (recitando): When you stretched out your hands on the cross, O God of goodness, you fulfilled the good will of your Father. With one heart we now sing a hymn of victory to you.

Refrain:



Glo - ry to your ho - ly Res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

Lector (recitando): At your order, O Master of life, death approached you as a servant who is filled with fear; and through death you have granted us resurrection and eternal life.



Verse:

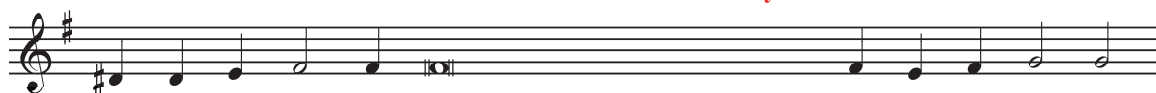
Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and



ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Lector (recitando): You have received your Creator as he himself willed; he took flesh ineffably in your womb without seed; O pure Virgin, you are truly the Queen of all creation.

Katavasia of the First Ode of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Tone 6 Irmos:



Af - ter in - scrib - ing the invincible weapon of the Cross up - on the wa - ters,



Mo - ses took his staff and marked a straight line be - fore him and di - vid - ed the



Red Sea, there-by o - pen - ing a path for Is - ra - el who walked



a - cross as though they were on dry land. Then Mo - ses

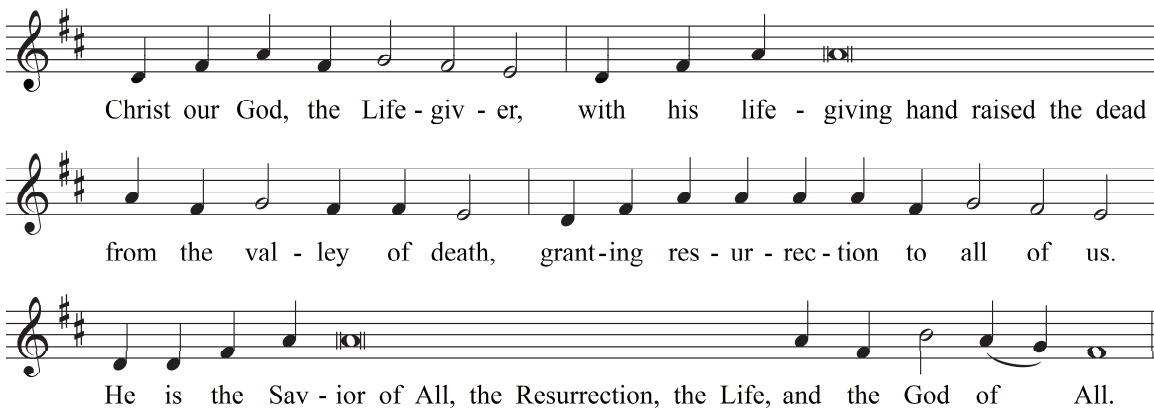
marked a second line over the wa - ters and u - nit - ed them a - gain,
 there - by o - ver - whelm - ing the chariots of Phar - aoh. There - fore, let us
 praise Christ our God, for he has been glo - ri - fied.

Kontakia

Kontakion of the New Year – Tone 2:

O Cre - a - tor and Master of time and e - ter - ni - ty, God of all,
 O merciful One, bless the course of this year, and in your bound - less
 mer - cy, save all those who worship you, our one and on - ly Mas - ter,
 and who cry out to you in fear: O Sa - vior, grant a hap - py year to
 all peo - ple.

Kontakion of the Resurrection – Tone 6:



Christ our God, the Life - giv - er, with his life - giving hand raised the dead
from the val - ley of death, grant - ing res - ur - rec - tion to all of us.
He is the Sav - ior of All, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of All.

Ikos

Lector: (*chanted on a single note*): O Source of life, we the faithful, praise and bow before your cross and your tomb; for you have chained Hades, O immortal Lord, and as the almighty God, you have raised the dead with you. You shattered the gates of Hades and destroyed the dominion of Death. We mortals now praise you with love, for you have risen and demolished the power of the deadly enemy. You have raised all those who believe in you, and you delivered the world from the arrows of the Serpent. O all-powerful One, you have freed us from the deceits of the Enemy. Therefore, in faith we praise your Resurrection by which you save us

Response: 
O God of All.

Ode 8 – The Hymn of the Three Holy Children (Daniel 3:57-88)

Cantor: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord!

Refrain:



Praise and ex - alt him a - bove all for - e - - - ver!

Cantor: Angels of the Lord and heavens of the Lord,
All waters above the heavens and all powers of the Lord
sun and moon and stars of heaven. *(Refrain)*

Cantor: Bless the Lord, every shower and dew and all you winds
fire and heat, cold and chill;
dew and rain, frost and chill;
sleet and snow, nights and days. *(Refrain)*

Cantor: Bless the Lord, light and darkness, lightning and clouds;
earth, mountains, and hills, and everything growing on earth,
Springs, seas, and rivers, sea monsters and all water creatures,
all birds of the air, all beasts, wild and tame. *(Refrain)*

Cantor: Bless the Lord, all mortals and you, O Israel;
priests of the Lord and servants of the Lord,
Spirits and souls of the just,
holy and humble of heart. *(Refrain)*

Cantor: Bless the Lord, Hananiah [HAN-UH-NAI-UH],
Azariah [AZ-UH-RAI-UH], Mishael [MEESH-AH-EHL];
Apostles, prophets, and martyrs of the Lord,
Spirits and souls of the just, holy and humble of heart. *(Refrain)*

Cantor: Let us bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Lord. *(Refrain)*

Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen. *(Refrain)*

Cantor: Let us praise, bless, and worship the Lord. *(Refrain)*

Then, the following acclamation is sung:

Cantor:

Tone 4

Let us praise, bless, and worship the Lord; sing-ing and highly exalting him a-bove

all for ev - - - er.

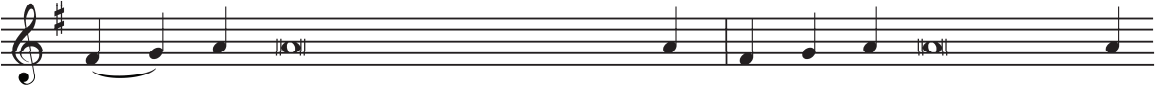
Ode 9 – The Canticle of the Theotokos (Luke 1:46-55):**Canticle of the Theotokos**

At the end of the Eighth Ode, the deacon (or celebrant), comes with the censer before the icon of the Theotokos. Censing her image, he intones:


Deacon: Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns!

Then he incenses the whole church as usual, beginning with the holy table, while the faithful sing the Canticle of the Theotokos with refrain:

Cantor:




My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spir - it rejoices in God,




my Sa - vior.


Refrain:



More hon - orable than the Cher - u - bim, and be - yond com - pare more



glo - rious than the Ser - a - phim, who, a vir - gin, gave birth to God the Word;



you, tru - ly the Theoto-kos, we mag - ni - fy!

The refrain is repeated after each of the following verses:

Cantor:



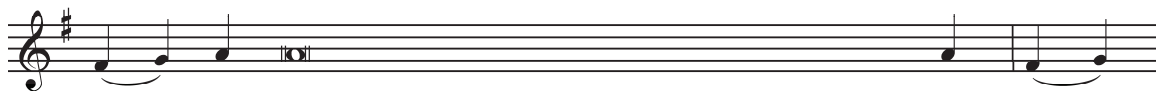
For he has looked with favor on the humility of his ser-vant, from this day for-ward,



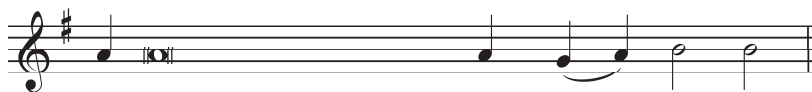
(Refrain)

all generations will call me bles - sed.

Cantor:



The Migh - ty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His



(Refrain)

mer - cy is from age to age to those who fear him.

Cantor:



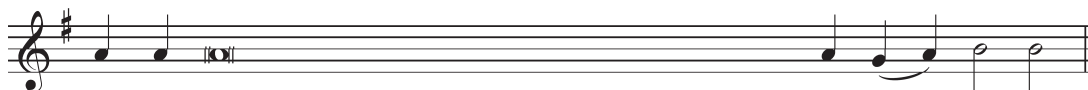
He has shown might with his arm, dis - persed the arrogant of mind and heart.

(Refrain)

Cantor:



He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the low - ly. The



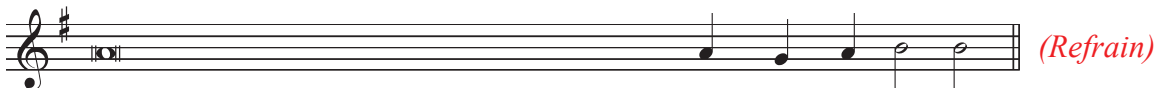
hun - gry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent a - way emp - ty.

(Refrain)

Cantor:



He has helped Is - rael his servant, remembering his mer-cy, ac - cord - ing to his



promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his de-scen - dants for - e - ver.

The Canon continues with the remainder of the Ninth Ode.

Irmos of the Ninth Ode – Tone 6 Irmos:



The burn - ing bush which was not con-sumed of - fers us an image of your



birthgiving which is im - mac - u - late. Now we pray that you extinguish in us



the furnace of vio - lent temp - ta - tions so that we may ex - tol you,



O The - o - to - kos.

Refrain:



Glo - ry to your ho - ly Res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

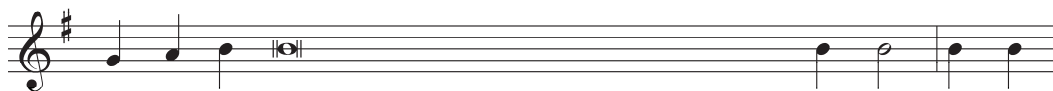
Lector (recitando): O Word of God, Power, true and hypostatic Wisdom, you sustain and direct everything in wisdom. Order in peace the year which has now dawned for your servants.

Refrain:



Glo - ry to your ho - ly Res - ur - rec - tion, O Lord.

Lector (recitando): All your works, O Lord: the heavens, the earth, light, and the sea, the waters and all springs, the sun, the moon, darkness and the stars, fire, human beings and beasts, praise you together with the angels.



Verse:

Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and



ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Lector (recitando): O Savior of all, Maker, Creator and Ruler of all creation: through the prayers of her who gave you birth without seed, grant peace to your world, keeping your Church ever undisturbed.

Katavasia of the Ninth Ode of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Tone 6 Irmos:



You are a mystical paradise, O The-o - to - kos; Christ has blos - somed forth from



you with-out till - ing. He plant - ed the life-bearing tree of the cross on the earth.



As we now ex - alt the cross and bow be - fore it, we pro - claim



your great - - - ness.

Small Litany

REMAIN STANDING

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

Response: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Response: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: 
To you, O Lord.

Celebrant: God, our God, you have placed all intellectual and spiritual powers under your will. We pray and entreat you, accept the hymn of glory which we offer to you according to our ability together with all your creatures. Give us in return the riches of your goodness, for before you all beings in the heavens or on earth and under the earth bend their knees, and everything that lives and that breathes sings of your incomprehensible glory, for you are the one true and most-merciful God.

For all the heavenly powers praise you, and we give glory to you, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

Holy is the Lord

The deacon (or celebrant) comes before the holy doors, and returns to the sanctuary after the Hymns of Light.

Deacon: Holy is the Lord our God!

Tone 6 Prokeimenon Melody

Ho - ly is the Lord our God! Ho - ly is the Lord our God!

Ho - ly is the Lord our God!

Deacon: Exalt the Lord our God! Bow before his footstool, for he is holy.

The faithful repeat “Holy is the Lord ...” as given above.



Exapostilaria

Lector (recitando): Resplendent with virtues let us behold the men standing in brilliant clothes inside the grave, giving life to the saddened myrrh-bearing women. Let us learn of the resurrection of the Lord of heaven and hasten with Peter to the tomb of Life. Let us stand before his wondrous Resurrection and contemplate the marvels of Christ.

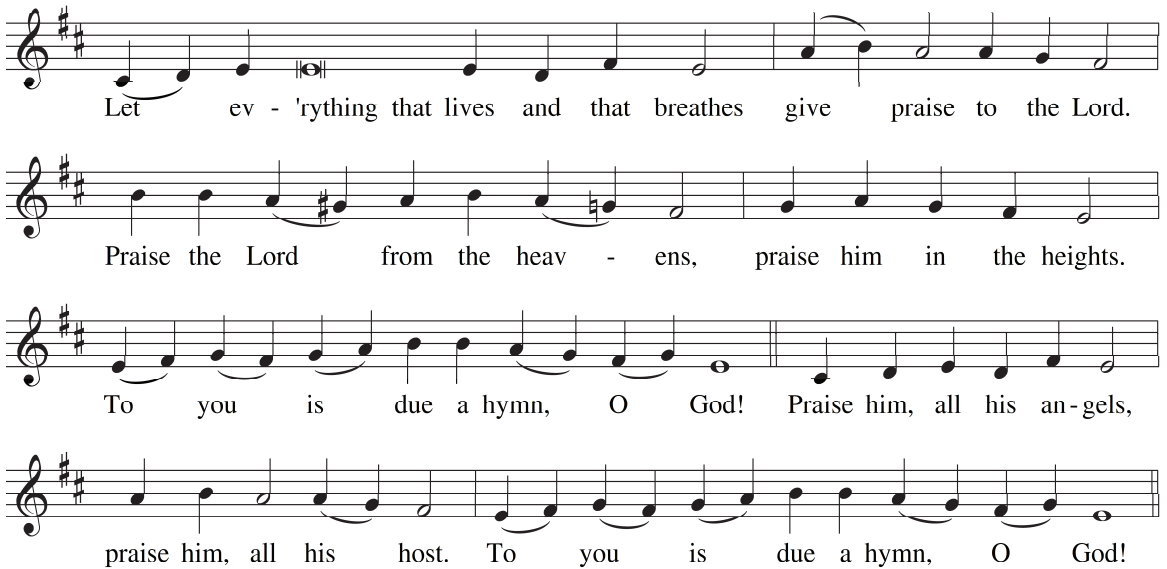
Lector (recitando): Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Lector (recitando): One nature in three persons, O Lord, you are beyond all reach, eternal and uncreated, the God of gods and all-powerful Creator of the world; before you we all bow and pray together: in your goodness, bless the present year and keep our leaders and your people in peace, O compassionate Lord.

Psalms of Praise

During the Psalms of Praise, the celebrant vests in phelonion. At the "Glory..." of the Psalms of Praise, the deacon (or celebrant) opens the holy doors.

Tone 6 Samohlasen



Let ev - 'rything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord.
Praise the Lord from the heav - ens, praise him in the heights.
To you is due a hymn, O God! Praise him, all his an - gels,
praise him, all his host. To you is due a hymn, O God!

Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, shining stars.
Praise him, highest heavens
and the waters above *the* heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
He commanded: they *were* made.
He fixed them forever,
gave a law which shall not pass *away*.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
sea creatures and *all* oceans,
fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy winds that obey *his* word;

all mountains and hills,
all fruit trees *and* cedars,

beasts, wild and tame,
reptiles and birds on *the* wing;

all earth's kings and peoples,
earth's princes *and* rulers;
young men and maidens,
old men together *with* children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord
for he alone is *exalted*.
The splendor of his name
reaches beyond heaven *and* earth.

He exalts the strength of his people,
He is the praise of all *his* saints,
of the children of Israel,
of the people to whom he *comes* close.

Sing to the Lord a new song of praise
in the assembly of *the* faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,
let Zion's sons exult in *their* king.

Let them praise his name with dancing
and make music with timbrel *and* harp.
For the Lord takes delight in his people.
He crowns the poor with *salvation*.

Let the faithful rejoice in glory,
shout for joy, and take *their* rest.
Let the praise of God be on their lips
and a two-edged sword in *their* hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations
and punishment on all *the* peoples;
to bind their kings in chains
and their nobles in fetters *of* iron;

to carry out the sentence pre-ordained:
this honor is for all *his* faithful.

Praise God in his holy place,
praise Him in his mighty heavens.

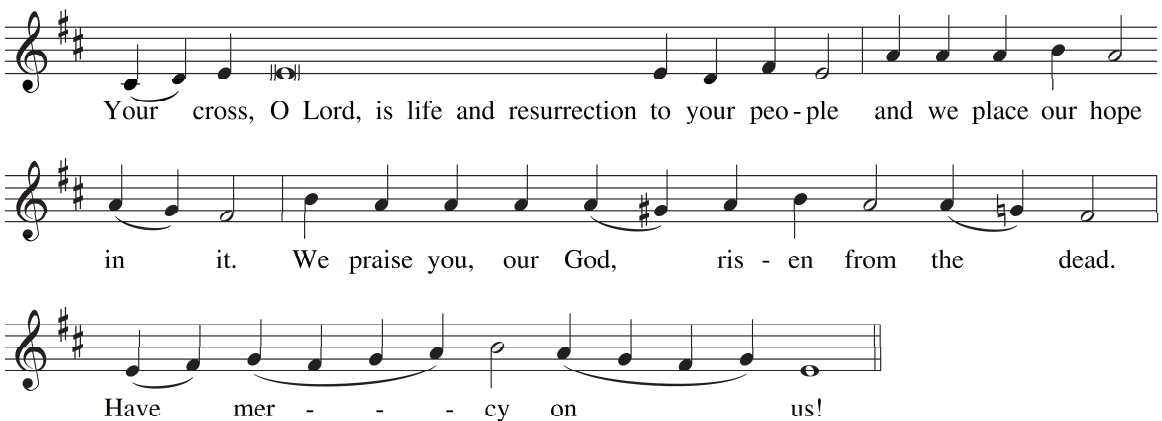
Cantor:
(on 4)



Praise him for his powerful deeds, praise his sur-pas-sing great - ness.


All:

Tone 6 Samohlasen



Your cross, O Lord, is life and resurrection to your peo-ple and we place our hope
in it. We praise you, our God, ris - en from the dead.
Have mer - - - cy on us!

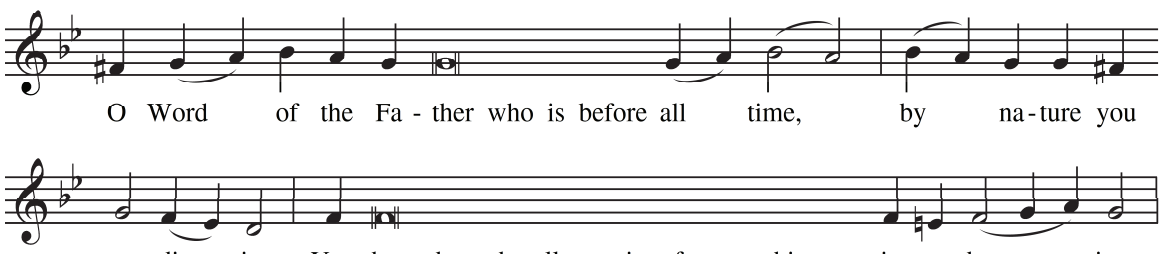
Cantor:
(on 3)



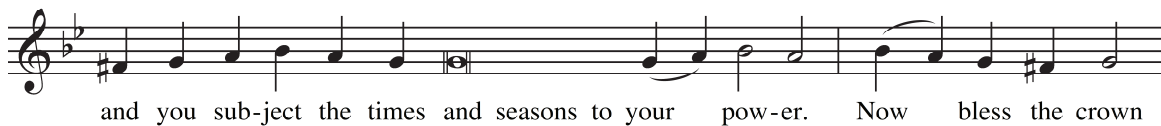
O praise him with sound of trum-pet, praise him with lute and harp.

All:

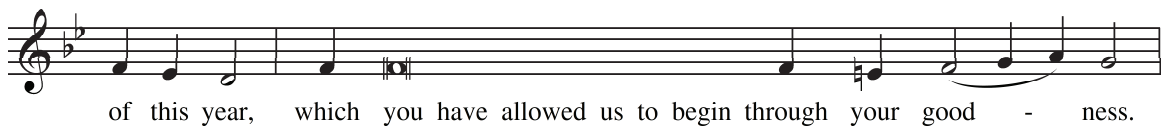
Tone 3 Samohlasen



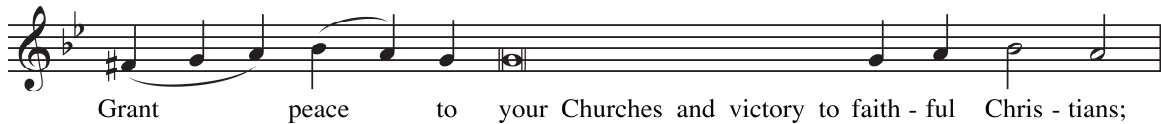
O Word of the Fa - ther who is before all time, by na-ture you
are di - vine. You have brought all creation from nothingness in - to be - ing,



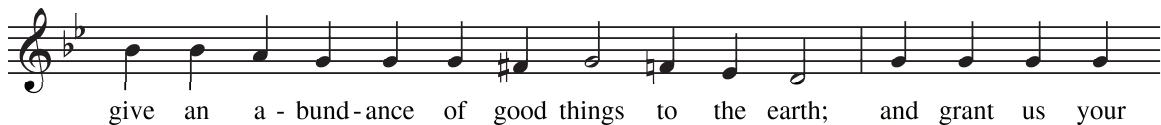
and you sub-ject the times and seasons to your pow-er. Now bless the crown



of this year, which you have allowed us to begin through your good - ness.



Grant peace to your Churches and victory to faith - ful Chris - tians;




give an a - bund-ance of good things to the earth; and grant us your



great mer - cy.

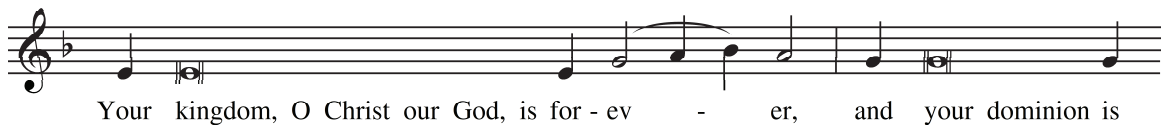
Cantor: *(on 2)*



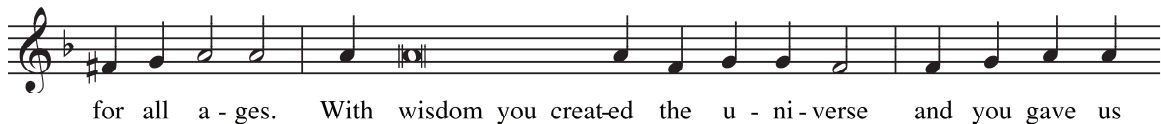
Praise him with tim-brel and dance, praise him with strings and pipes.

All:

Tone 4 Samohlasen



Your kingdom, O Christ our God, is for - ev - er, and your dominion is



for all a - ges. With wisdom you creat-ed the u - ni-verse and you gave us



the courses of the sea - sons. In be-half of all creation, we cry out in joy:



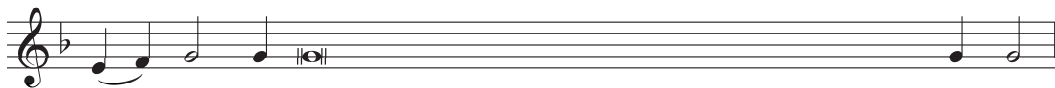
Bless the crown of this year, which you have allowed us to begin in your



good - ness. Grant that we may sing without con - dem - na - - - tion:



O Lord, glo - ry to you!



Cantor: O praise him with resounding cymbals, praise him with clashing of cym-bals.
(on 1)



Let ev'rything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord.

All:

Tone 2 Samohlasen



From the good root has come forth the most ex - cel-lent Sim - e - on; from his



in - fan - cy he was nourished more on grace than on milk. In his bod - y he



dwelt up - on the high place, but in his spir - it he was raised e-ven high - er



to God. Through his vir - tues he edified his loft - y dwell - ing. He



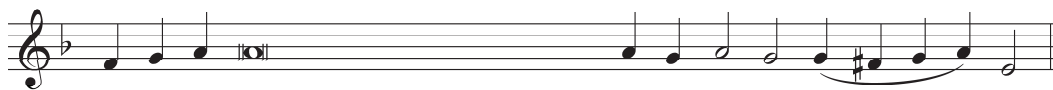
jour-neyed in high places with the pow-ers of heav-en, and he be-came a dwelling-



place of Christ our God, the Sav-ior of our souls.

Fourth Gospel Stanza

Cantor:



Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - - it.

All:

Tone 4 Samohlasen



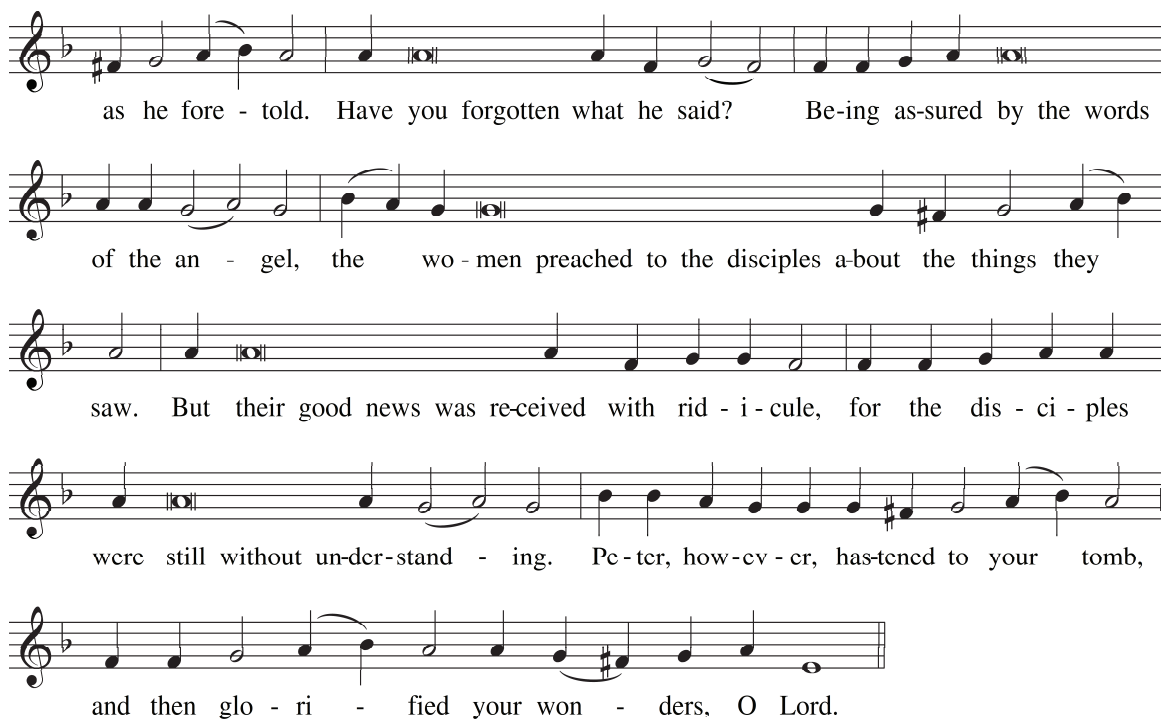
The women came at early dawn to your tomb, O Christ, but they did not find your



ven - er - a - ble bod - y. As they were perplexed, an angel in shining clothes said




to them: Why do you seek the Living a - mong the dead? He is ris - en



as he fore - told. Have you forgotten what he said? Be-ing as-sured by the words
of the an - gel, the wo - men preached to the disciples a-bout the things they
saw. But their good news was re-ceived with rid - i - cule, for the dis - ci - ples
were still without un-dcr-stand - ing. Pe-ter, how-ev - er, has-tened to your tomb,
and then glo - ri - fied your won - ders, O Lord.

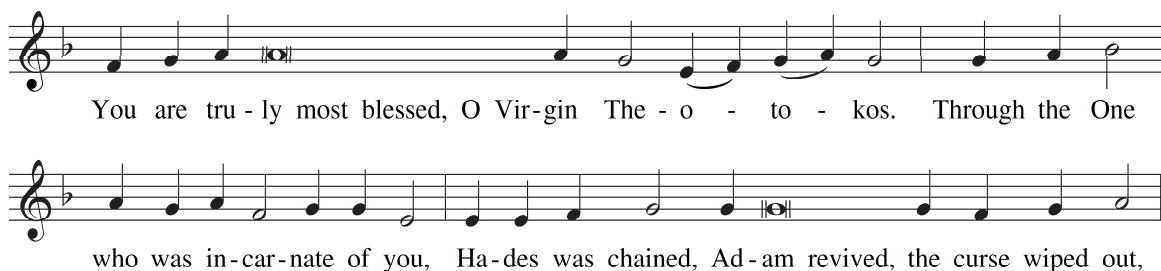
Theotokion

Cantor: 

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

All:

Tone 2 Samohlasen



You are tru - ly most blessed, O Vir-gin The - o - to - kos. Through the One
who was in-car-nate of you, Ha-des was chained, Ad-am revived, the curse wiped out,

Eve set free, Death put to death, and we our-selves were brought
back to life. That is why we cry out in praise: Bless-ed are you, O
Christ our God, who finds in this your good pleas-ure. Glo-ry to you!





The Great Doxology

Celebrant: Glory to you who show us the light!

And the faithful continue the Doxology. At "Holy God" the celebrant takes the holy Gospel from the tetrapod and processes with it through the holy doors and replaces it on the holy table.

Response:


Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and to peo - ple on earth,
 peace and good will. We praise you, we bless you,
 we wor - ship you, we glo - ri - fy you, we thank you for your great
 glo - ry. Lord God, heav'n - ly King, Fa - ther Al - might - y;
 Lord, on - ly be - got - ten Son, Jesus Christ, and Ho - ly Spir - it. Lord God,
 Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sin of the world,




have mer-cy on us. You take a-way the sins of the world, hear our pray'r.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us.



For you a-lone are ho-ly, you a-lone are Lord, Je-sus Christ,



to the glory of God the Fa-ther. A-men. I will bless you day aft-er



day, and praise your name for-ev-er. Make us wor-thy, O Lord,



to be kept sin-less this morn-ing. Bless-ed are you, O Lord,



the God of our fa-thers, and praise-wor-thy and glorious is your name for-ev-er.



A-men. May your mer-cy, O Lord, be up-on us who have placed our



(reverence)
hope in you. Bless-ed are you, O Lord; teach me your com-mand-ments.

(reverence)



Bless-ed are you, O Mas-ter; make me understand your com-mand - ments.

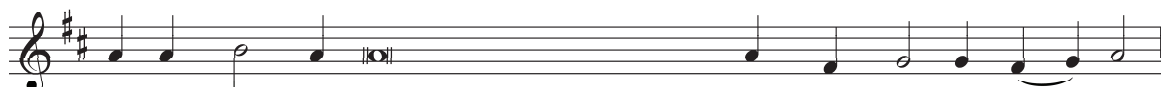
(reverence)



Bless-ed are you, O Ho-ly One; enlighten me with your com-mand - ments.




O Lord, you have been our re - fuge from one gen - er - a - tion to the next.



I said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul for I have sinned a- gainst you.



O Lord, I have fled to you for re - fuge. Teach me to do your will, for




you, O Lord, are my God. In you is the source of life and in your



light we see light. Ex-tend your mer - cy to those who know you.

(Three times)



Ho-ly God, Ho-ly and Might-y, Ho-ly and Im-mor-tal have mer-cy on us.

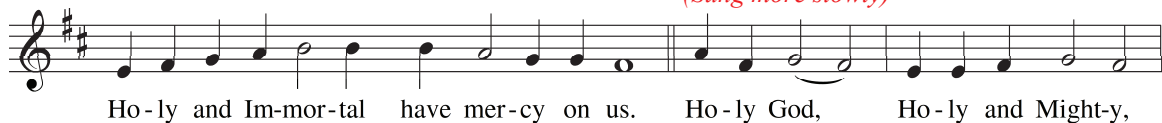


Glo-ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir - it:



now and ev - er and for ev - er. A - men.

(Sung more slowly)



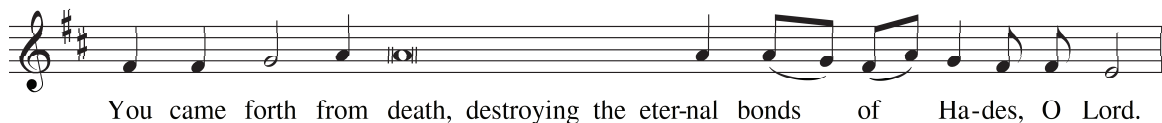
Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal have mer - cy on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,



Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal have mer - cy on us.

Troparion of the Day

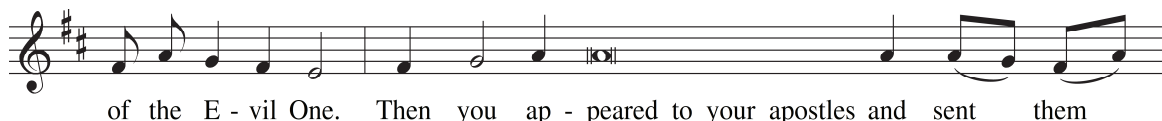
Troparion – Tone 2 (sung if the Tone of the Week is 2, 4, 6, or 8):



You came forth from death, destroying the eter - nal bonds of Ha - des, O Lord.



You broke the curse of Death and thus de - livered us from the snares



of the E - vil One. Then you ap - peared to your apostles and sent them



forth to preach, and through them you have bestowed your peace up - on



all the world, for you a - lone are rich in mer - cy.

Aitesis Litany

REMAIN STANDING

The deacon returns to his customary place at the ambon to intone the litany. (If there is no deacon, the celebrant intones the Litany standing before the holy table.)


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

Response: 
Lord, have mer - cy.


Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Response: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: That this whole day be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 
Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 
Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord. ①

Deacon: For what is good and beneficial to our souls, and for peace in the world, let us beseech the Lord. ②

Deacon: That we may spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech the Lord. ①

Deacon: For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord. ②

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: 
To you, O Lord.

The celebrant prays aloud:

Celebrant: We sing to you, we praise you, we bless you, and we thank you, God of our Fathers, for you have banished the dark of night and shown us once again the light of day. We beseech you, forgive our sins and accept our prayer in your great tenderness of heart because we take refuge in you, the merciful and all-powerful God. Shine in our hearts your true Sun of Justice. Enlighten our minds and guard all our senses, so that walking blamelessly in the path of your commandments as in daylight, we may reach eternal life, for in you is the source of life. Make us worthy to enjoy the unapproachable light.

For you are our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

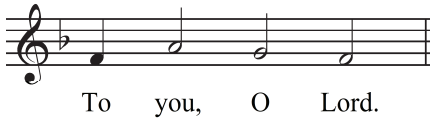
Response: 
A - men.

Celebrant: + Peace be to all!

Response: 
And to your spi - - - rit.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Response:

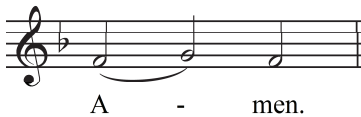


The celebrant or a concelebrant prays aloud:

Celebrant: Holy Lord, you dwell on high and look upon the lowly, and with your all-seeing eye you watch over all creation. To you we bend our neck in spirit and body and we implore you, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling-place and bless us all. If we have sinned, voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive us as a good and loving God, giving us earthly and heavenly gifts.

For you have mercy and save us, O our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



Dismissal

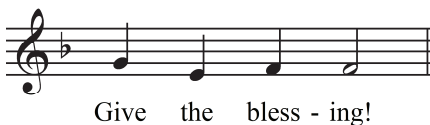
REMAIN STANDING

The deacon leaves the sanctuary through the southern door and stands near the icon of Christ the Lord.

Looking towards the faithful and elevating the orarion, he intones:

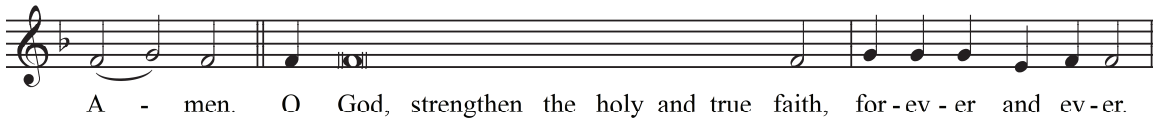
Deacon: Wisdom!

Response:



Celebrant: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is,
always, now and ever and forever.

Response:



Celebrant: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

Response: More honorable than the Cherubim
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim,
who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word;
you, truly the Theotokos, we *magnify*.

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*.

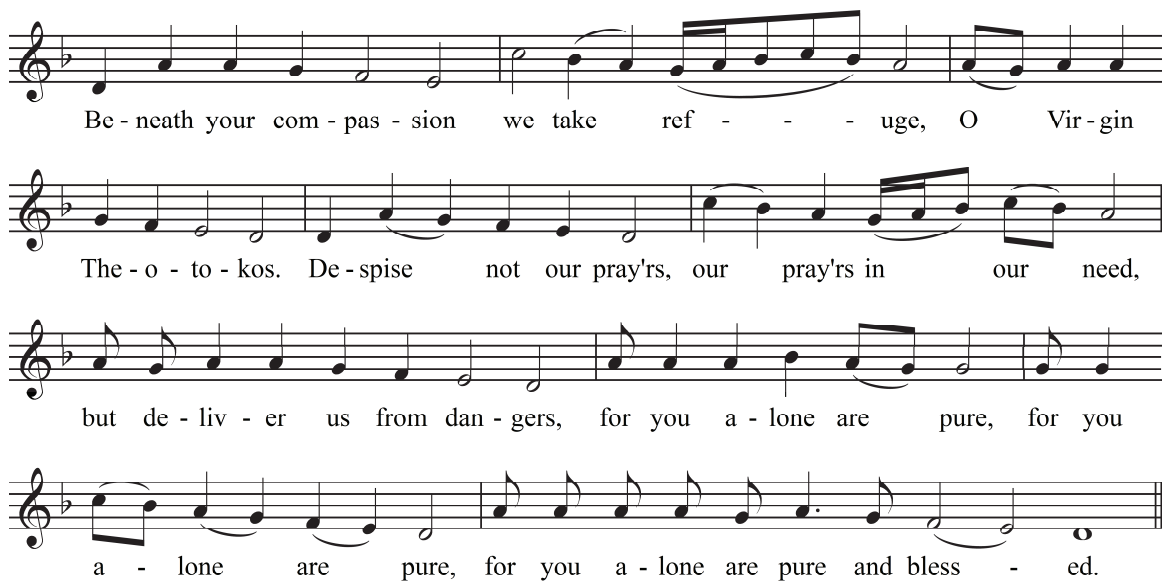
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Give *the* blessing!

Facing the faithful, the celebrant intones the Prayer of Dismissal:

Celebrant: May Christ our true God, risen from the dead, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; and of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our Venerable Mother Macrina, the patroness of this holy monastery; of our Venerable Father Simeon the Stylite and his Mother; of the Holy Martyr Aeithalas; of the Forty Holy Women martyred with their Instructor Ammon the Deacon; of the Holy Martyr Callista and her two Brothers, Evodius and Hermogenes; of Joshua the Just, Son of Nun; and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.



Then the faithful sing the following hymn:



Be - neath your com - pas - sion we take ref - - - uge, O Vir - gin
The - o - to - kos. De - spise not our pray'rs, our pray'rs in our need,
but de - liv - er us from dan - gers, for you a - lone are pure, for you
a - lone are pure, for you a - lone are pure and bless - ed.



Matins Prayers of Light

During the chanting of the Hexapsalmos, the celebrant quietly reads all of the Matins Prayers of Light before the holy doors. Upon completion of the Hexapsalmos, the celebrant returns to the altar via the southern door and, standing before the holy table, finishes the recitation of the Prayers of Light (if not already completed).

1. Prayed aloud following the **Litany of Peace** (page 4).
2. From the night our soul rises to you, our God, for your commandments are a light upon the earth. Give us understanding that we may be perfected in righteousness and holiness in fear of you, for it is you whom we glorify as our true God. Turn your ear and hear us. O Lord, remember by name each one present and praying with us, and save them by your power. Bless your people and sanctify your inheritance. Grant peace to your world, to your churches, to the priests, to the government and to all your people. For sanctified and glorified is your most honored and magnificent Name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
3. From the night our soul rises to you, our God, for your commandments are a light. Teach us, O God, your righteousness, your commandments and your statutes. Enlighten the eyes of our minds, that we may not fall asleep in sin and die. Dispel all darkness from our hearts, favor us with the Sun of righteousness, and keep our life free from all harm by the seal of your Holy Spirit. Direct our steps in the way of peace. Grant that we may see the dawn and the whole day in joy, and that we may offer you our morning prayers. For yours are the might and the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
4. Master and God, holy and incomprehensible, you said, let light shine out of darkness; you have given us rest in the sleep of night; and have raised us to glorify and praise your goodness. We beg of your own compassion, accept us who now worship you and thank you with all our strength, and grant all that we ask for our salvation. Show us to be children of the light and of the day and heirs of your eternal good gifts. In the abundance of your mercy, O Lord, remember all your people, those here present and who pray with us and those traveling on land, sea, and air, in every place of your dominion, who pray for your loving-kindness and help, and grant to all your great mercy. Being saved in soul and body, may we always persevere, to glorify with confidence your magnificent and blessed name. For you are a merciful, kind, and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
5. Treasury of good, ever-flowing fountain, Holy Father, Wonderworker, all-powerful and almighty, all worship you and we pray to you, calling upon your mercy and compassion, for help and support in our lowliness. O Lord, remember your servants praying to you.

Let our morning prayer rise like incense before you. Let no one of us be put to shame, but keep us all safe through your compassion. O Lord, remember those who keep watch and sing of your glory, and that of your only-begotten Son and our God, and of your Holy Spirit. Be their help and support and accept their prayers upon your heavenly and spiritual altar. For you are our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

6. We thank you, O Lord, God of our salvation, for you have done everything that is good for our lives, and that we may look always to you, Savior and Benefactor of our souls. For you have given us rest in that part of the night which has passed, and now have raised us from our beds to worship your honored name. Therefore, O Lord, we pray: give us the grace and power to be found worthy to sing to you with understanding and to pray without ceasing and work for our own salvation in fear and trembling with the help of your Christ to work for our own salvation in fear and trembling. O Lord, remember those who shout to you in the night. Hear them and have mercy on them and crush under their feet invisible and malicious enemies. For you are the King of peace and the Savior of our souls, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
7. God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have raised us from our beds and gathered us for this time of prayer. Give us grace that we may open our mouth in praise. Accept the thanksgiving we offer with all our strength. Teach us your commandments, for we do not know how to pray as we should, unless you guide us by your Holy Spirit. Therefore, we pray to you, that if until now we have sinned in any way, in word, deed, or thought, voluntarily or involuntarily, remit, pardon, and forgive us; for if you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found redemption. You alone are holy, a mighty helper, and the stronghold of our lives, and our hymns are for you always. May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
8. Lord our God, you have shaken from us the sluggishness of sleep; you have gathered us by a holy calling to lift up our hands in the night, and to confess you for your just decrees. Receive our prayers, petitions, confessions, and night-time worship. Bestow on us, O Lord, a faith that cannot be confounded, a hope that does not waiver, and a love that does not pretend. Bless our comings and goings, our deeds, works, words, and thoughts. Grant that we may come to the beginning of the day praising, singing, and blessing the goodness of your ineffable kindness. For blessed is your all-holy name and glorified is your kingdom, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
9. Prayed aloud following **Psalm 50** (*page 20*).
10. Prayed aloud before the **Psalms of Praise** (*page 30*).
11. Prayed aloud to conclude the **Aitesis Litany** (*page 45*).



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