THE BURIAL SERVICE OF PRAISE

IN HONOR OF



THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

August 14—15 Solemn All Night Vigil of Great Vespers with Litija and Festal Matins with Candlelight Procession of the Burial Shroud Compiled for Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church, 2030 Old Alabama Road, Roswell, Georgia 30076 • 770-993-0973 • epiphanybyz.org

VESPERS

Incensation, All STAND

Deacon: Father, give the blessing!

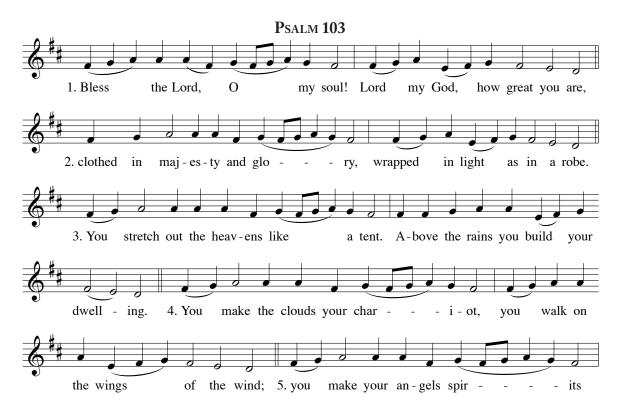
Priest: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, Always, now and ever and forever.



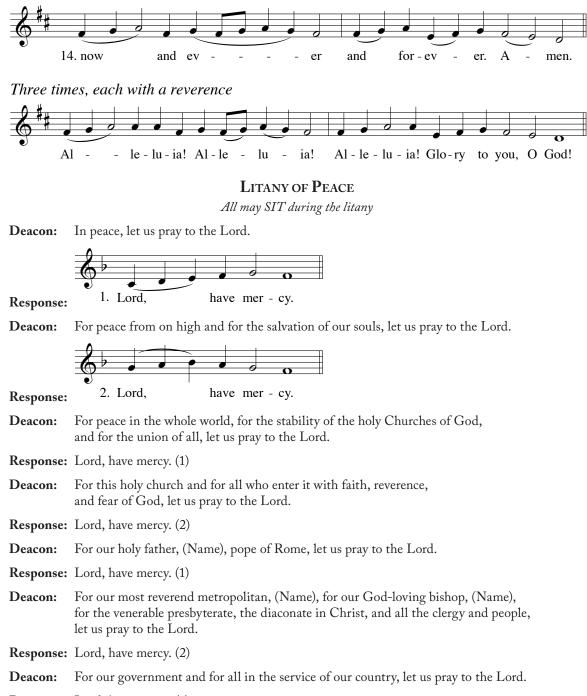
Come, let us worship our King and God. Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.



Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.







Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

| Deacon: | For this city, [or: For this holy monastery], for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord. |
|-----------|--|
| Response: | Lord, have mercy. (2) |
| Deacon: | For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord. |
| Response: | Lord, have mercy. (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 |
| Response: | Lord, have mercy. (2) |
| Deacon: | That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord. |
| Response: | Lord, have mercy. (1) |
| Deacon: | Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace. |
| Response: | Lord, have mercy. (2) |
| Deacon: | Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos |

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:

All may STAND

Evening, morning and at noon, we praise you, we bless you, we thank you, and we pray to Priest: you, Master of all and loving Lord. Let our prayer rise like incense before you, and do not let our hearts be turned to evil words or thoughts, but deliver us from all that might ensnare our souls. For to you, Lord, O Lord, our eyes are turned and in you we hope; let us not be put to shame, O our God.

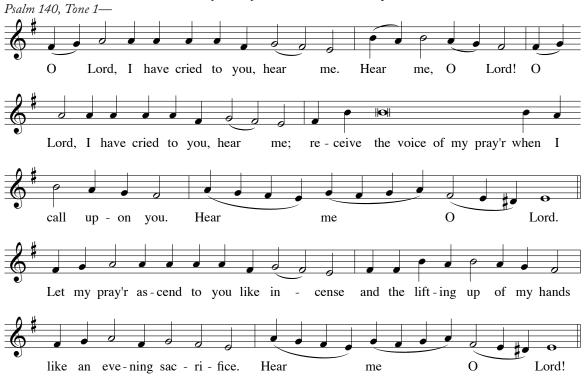
For to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship now and ever and forever.



А men. **Response:**

THE LAMP-LIGHTING PSALMS

All may SIT After the incensation is complete



O Lord, set a guard before my mouth and set a seal on the door of my lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil, nor make excuse for the sins I commit.

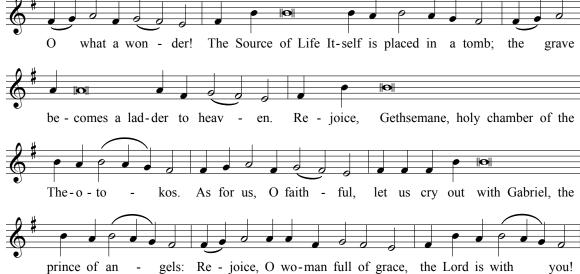
Let me never share in sinners' feasting. If a just man strikes or reproves me it is kindness

- but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head. Let my prayer be ever against their malice.
- The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock; then they understood that my words were kind.
- As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground, so their bones were strewn at the mouth of the grave.

| | To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned; in you I take refuge; spare my soul! |
|------------|--|
| | From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe; keep me from the snares of those who do evil. |
| | Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set while I pursue my way unharmed. |
| Psalm 141— | With all my voice I cry to the Lord, with all my voice I entreat the Lord. |
| | I pour out my trouble before him; I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints within me. |
| | But you, O Lord, know my path. On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to entrap me. |
| | Look on my right and see: there is no one who takes my part. |
| | I have no means of escape, not one who cares for my soul. |
| | I cry to you, O Lord. I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of the living." |
| | Listen, then, to my cry for I am in the depths of distress. |
| | Rescue me from those who pursue me for they are stronger than I. |
| | Bring my soul out of this prison and then I shall praise your name. |
| | Around me the just will assemble because of your goodness to me. |
| | Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice! |
| | |

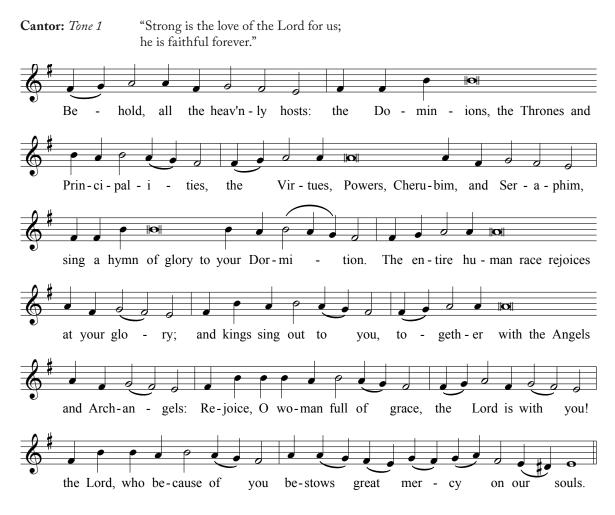
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading.

| | Bring my soul out of this prison, and then I shall praise, your name. |
|----------------|---|
| | Around me the just will assemble, because of your goodness to me. |
| | Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice! |
| | Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. |
| | If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness; for this we revere you. |
| | My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on His word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. |
| | Let the watchman count on daybreak, and Israel on the Lord. |
| Cantor: Tone 1 | "Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity." |
| å | |



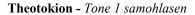


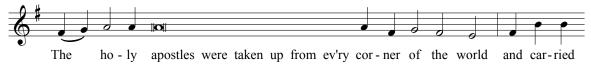




All may STAND at the "Glory"

Cantor: *Tone 1* "Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and forever. Amen."









THE FESTIVE ENTRANCE

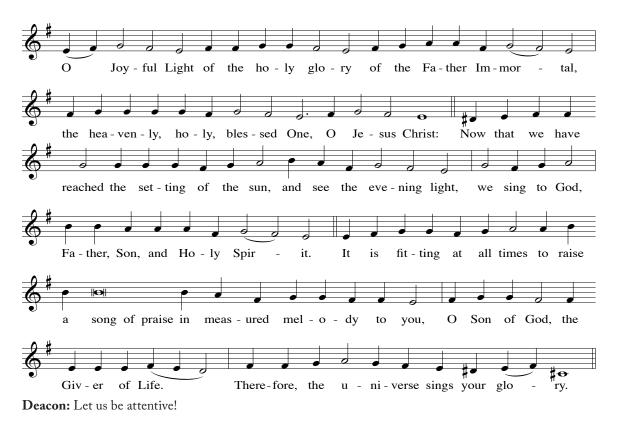
Silently

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Priest: O gracious King, you love us all and bless all things. With contrite heart and humble spirit we pray to you, O Christ our true God, to bless our going and coming. For your coming and dwelling among us and your going are blessed, always, now and ever and forever. Amen. **Deacon**: Reverend Father, bless the holy entrance!

Priest: Blessed is the entrance into your Holy of Holies, always, now and ever and forever. **Deacon**: Amen.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!



Priest: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

PROKEIMENON



Deacon: Robed is the Lord and girt about with strength.

Deacon: The world he made firm, not to be moved.

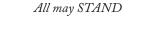
Deacon: Holiness is fitting to your house, O Lord, until the end of time.

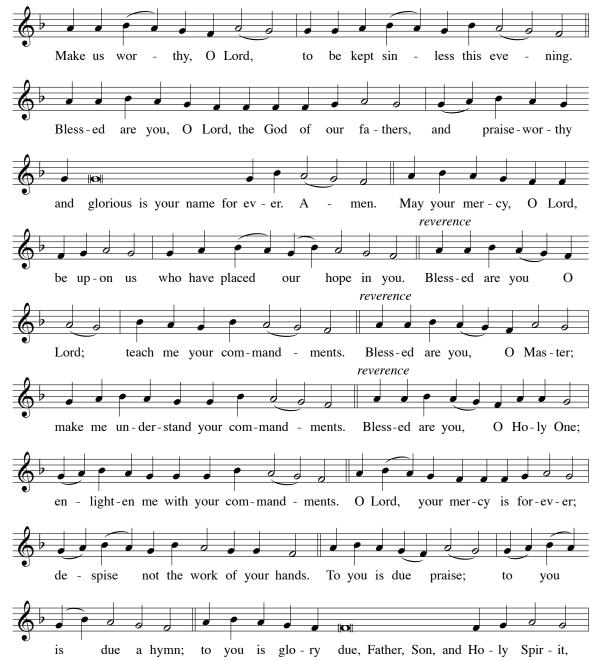
All may SIT during the readings

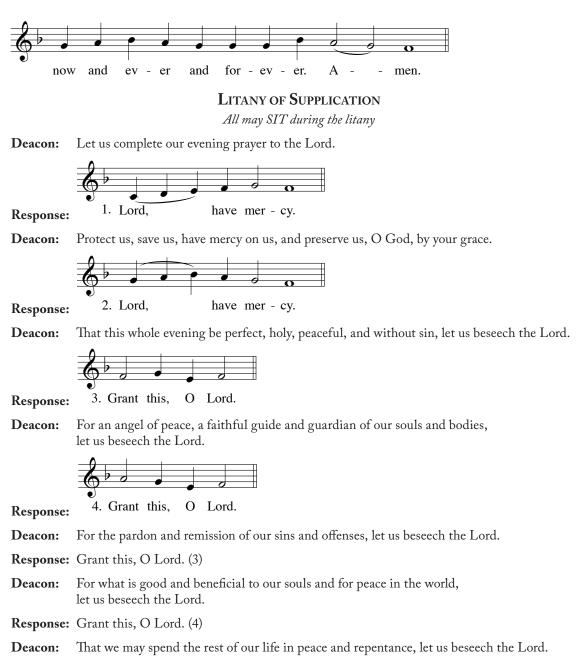
READINGS

Genesis 28:10-17 (EOT 304-305) Ezekiel 43: 27-44: 4 Proverbs 9: 1 - 11

HYMN OF GLORIFICATION







Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

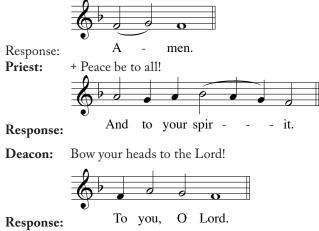
- **Deacon:** For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord.
- Response: Grant this, O Lord. (4)
- **Deacon:** Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.



Response:

Priest: Great and most high God, you alone possess immortality and dwell in unapproachable light. You made all creation with wisdom, dividing light from darkness, establishing the sun to rule the day and the moon and stars to rule the night. You have allowed us sinners to approach your presence with thanksgiving in this present hour and to offer you evening praise. O Lord, Lover of us all, make our prayer ascend to you like incense and accept it as a sweet fragrance. Grant that we may spend the present evening and the coming night in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; deliver us from the fears of the night and from everything that lurks about in darkness. Grant that the sleep you have given us to refresh our fatigue may be free from all illusions of the devil. Yes, O Master of All, Giver of good things, let us feel contrition as we lie on our beds remembering your name throughout the night. Enlightened by meditation on your commands, may we rise with gladdened soul to give glory to your goodness, offering prayers and supplications to your compassion for our sins and those of all your people. Visit us with mercy through the intercession of the holy Theotokos.

For you, O God, are good and love us all, and we glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Priest: Lord our God, you bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race. Look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for they have bowed their heads and bent their necks to you, the awesome Judge who love us all. They do not expect human help, but await your mercy and long for your salvation. Protect them at all times, this evening and tonight, from every enemy, from all the devil's assaults, from vain thoughts and evil imaginings. May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

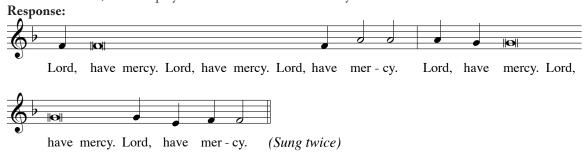




LITANY OF THE LITIJA

Deacon: Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, and angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy

equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Prešov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.



- **Deacon:** Again we pray for our Holy Father (Name), pope of Rome, for his health and salvation, and that the Lord God may hasten and assist him in everything; O Lord, hear and have mercy.
- Response: Lord, have mercy. (as above)
- **Deacon:** Again we pray for our most reverend metropolitan (Name), for our God-loving bishop (Name); for our spiritual fathers and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ, and for every Christian soul that is troubled and afflicted and in need of God's mercy and help; for the protection of this city and those who dwell here; for the peace and serenity of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God; for the salvation and assistance of our fathers and brothers and sisters who labor and serve with diligence and fear of God; for those who are absent and for those who are traveling; for the healing of those who are confined by illness; for the repose, blessed memory, and remission and forgiveness of sins of all our true-believing fathers and brothers and sisters who have gone before us; and for all our brothers and sisters who are present at these services; and for all who have served and now serve in this holy church, let us say:
- Response: Lord, have mercy. (as above)
- **Priest:** Hear us, O God our Savior, hope of the ends of the earth and of those far off at sea, and be merciful to us, O merciful Master, on account of our sins, and have mercy on us. For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response:

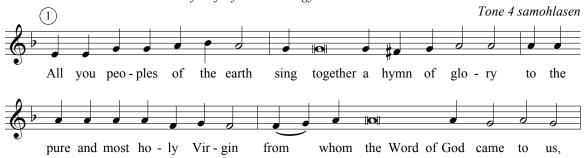


Priest: All-merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, make our prayer acceptable: through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, and angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Prešov, and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints; grant us remission of our faults; shelter us under the shadow of your wings; drive far from us every enemy and adversary and make our life peaceful. Lord, have mercy on us and on your world and save our souls, for you are good and you love us all.



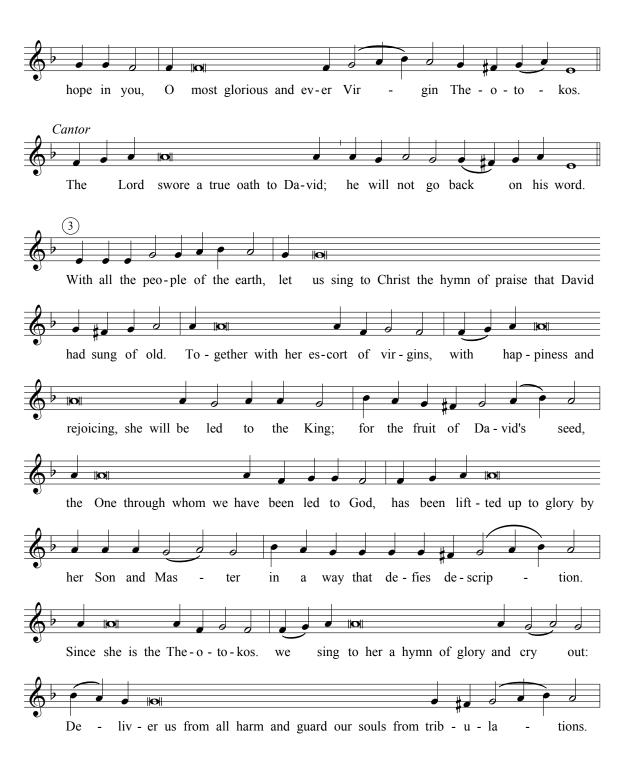
Response:

Aposticha



All faithful follow the clergy back into the Nave

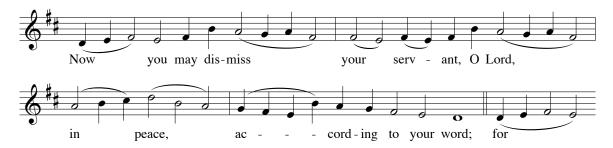


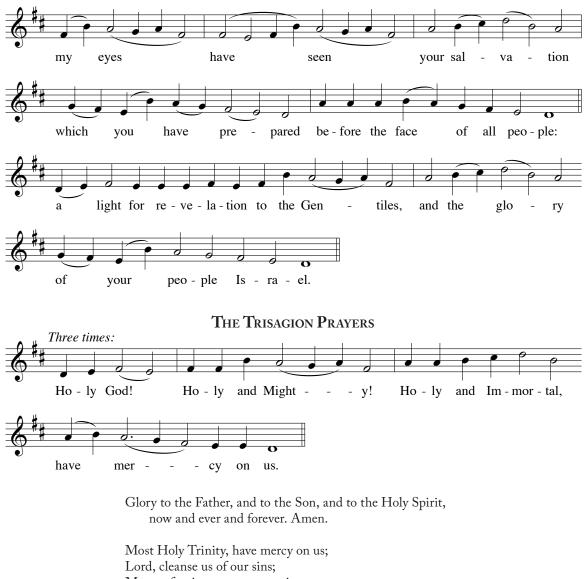






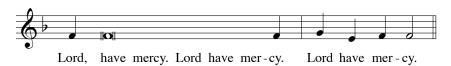
THE PRAYER OF THE HOLY PROPHET SIMEON





Master, forgive our transgressions,

Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.



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.

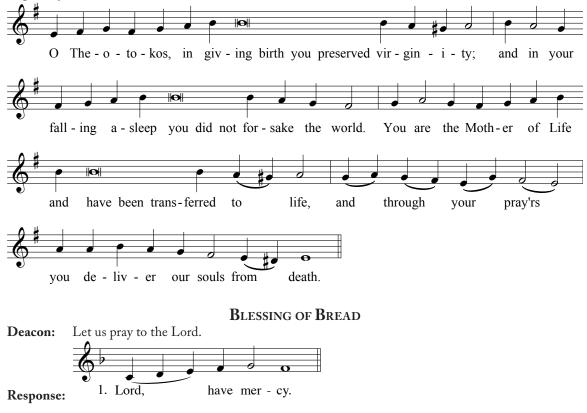
Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response:

TROPARIA

Priest sings Once, then the People sing Once, then Glory...Now and ever...Then People sing again Troparia of the Dormition, Tone 1—

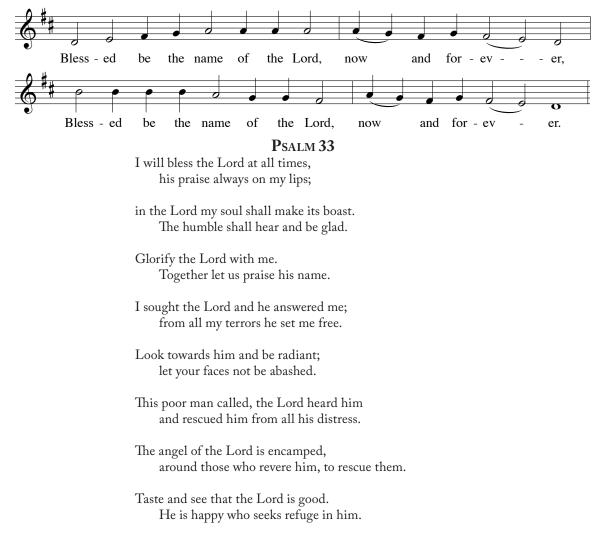


Priest: Lord Jesus Christ our God, you blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and fed the five thousand. Likewise bless these loaves, wheat, wine, and oil, and multiply them in this city and through your whole world. Sanctify your faithful who will partake of them, for you yourself bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you with your eternal Father and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.









Revere the Lord, you his saints. They lack nothing, those who revere him.

Strong lions suffer want and go hungry but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Come, children, and hear me that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.

Who is he who longs for life and many days, to enjoy his prosperity?

Then keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

Turn aside from evil and do good; seek and strive after peace.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth.

The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal.

The just cried out and the Lord heard them, and rescued them from all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Many are the trials of the just, but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

He will keep guard over all their bones, not one of their bones shall be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed.

The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through his grace and loving-kindness, always, now and ever and forever.



MATINS

Glory to God in the highest, and to people on earth, peace and good will. (*3 times*)

O Lord, you shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. (*2 times*)

The Lector, holding a candle and standing in the middles of the church, reads the Hexapsalmos. Beginning with Psalm 87, the priest, having removed his phelonion, says the Prayers of Light of Matins in front of the Royal Doors. The deacon returns to the altar.

Psalm 87— Lord my God, I call for help by day; I cry at night before you. Let my prayer come into your presence. O turn your ear to my cry.

For my soul is filled with evils; my life is on the brink of the grave. I am reckoned as one in the tomb; I have reached the end of my strength,

Like one alone among the dead, like the slain lying in their graves, like those you remember no more, cut off, as they are, from your hand. You have laid me in the depths of the tomb, in places that are dark, in the depths. Your anger weighs down upon me; I am drowned beneath your waves.

You have taken away my friends and made me hateful in their sight. Imprisoned, I cannot escape; my eyes are sunken with grief. I call to you, Lord, all the day long; to you I stretch out my hands. Will you work your wonders for the dead? Will the shades stand and praise you?

Will your love be told in the grave or your faithfulness among the dead? Will your wonders be known in the dark or your justice in the land of oblivion?

As for me, Lord, I call to you for help; in the morning my prayer comes before you. Lord, why do you reject me? Why do you hide your face?

Wretched, close to death from my youth, I have borne your trials; I am numb. Your fury has swept down upon me; your terrors have utterly destroyed me.

They surround me all the day like a flood, they assail me all together. Friend and neighbor you have taken away: my one companion is darkness. *Psalm 102*— Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion, who fills your life with good things, renewing your youth like an eagle's.

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgment for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry forever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him; for he knows of what we are made, he remembers that we are dust.

As for man, his days are like grass; he flowers like the flower of the field; the wind blows and he is gone and his place never sees him again.

But the love of the Lord is everlasting upon those who hold him in fear; his justice reaches out to children's children when they keep his covenant in truth, when they remember his commands and do them. The Lord has set his throne in heaven and his kingdom is ruling over all. Bless the Lord, all his angels, mighty in power, fulfilling his word, who heed the voice of his word.

Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his servants who do his will. Bless the Lord, all his works, in every place where he rules. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Psalm 142—

O Lord, listen to my prayer; turn your ear to my appeal You are faithful, you are just; give answer. Do not call your servant to judgment for no one is just in your sight.

The enemy pursues my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me dwell in darkness like the dead, long forgotten.

Therefore my spirit fails; my heart is numb within me. I remember the days that are past: I ponder all your works.

I muse on what your hand has wrought and to you I stretch out my hands. Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you.

Lord, make haste and answer; for my spirit fails within me. Do not hide your face lest I become like those in the grave.

In the morning let me know your love for I put my trust in you. Make me know the way I should walk: to you I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies; I have fled to you for refuge. Teach me to do your will for you, O Lord, are my God.

Let your good spirit guide me in ways that are level and smooth. For your name's sake, Lord, save my life; in your justice save my soul from distress.

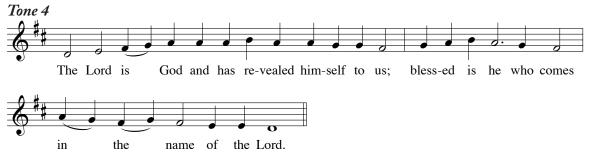
In your love make an end of my foes; destroy all those who oppress me for I am your servant, O Lord.

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! (2x)



THE LORD IS GOD WITH TROPARIA



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

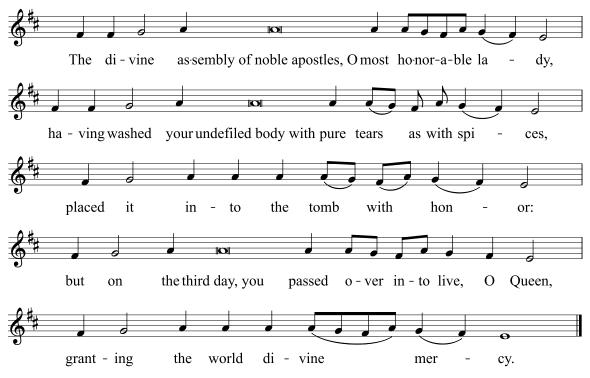
verse: They encircled me, compassed me about; in the Lord's name I crushed them.

verse: I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

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

TROPARIA

The priest processes out of the northern door preceded by the deacon and altar servers and exits through the north door of the church. The faithful follow with lighted candles singing the Troparia and verses



Repeat Troparion after each verse:

- Delicate is the fragrance of your perfume, your name is an oil poured out,
 Draw me in your footsteps, we will follow you eagerly!
 The King has brought me into His rooms; you will be our joy and our gladness.
 We shall praise your love above wine; how right it is to love you.
- 2. I am the rose of Sharon, the lily of the valleys.
 As a lily among the thistles, so is my love among maidens.
 As an apple tree among the other trees of the woods, so is my Beloved among the young men.

In his longed-for shade I am seated and His fruit is sweet to my taste. He has taken me to His Banquet Hall, and the banner he raises over me is love! 3. My Beloved lifts up His voice, he says to me: Come, then, my love, my lovely one, come. For see, the winter is past, the rains are over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth. The season of glad songs has come, and the song of the dove is heard in our land. The fig tree is forming its first figs and the blossoming vines give out their fragrance. Come then, my love, my lovely one, come! 4. She is a garden enclosed, my sister, my promised bride; a garden enclosed, a sealed fountain. Your shoots form an orchard of pomegranate trees, the rarest essences are yours:

nard and saffron,

calamus and cinnamon,

with all the incense-bearing trees;

myrrh and aloes,

with the subtlest of fragrances.

A fountain is there that makes the garden fertile, a well of living water,

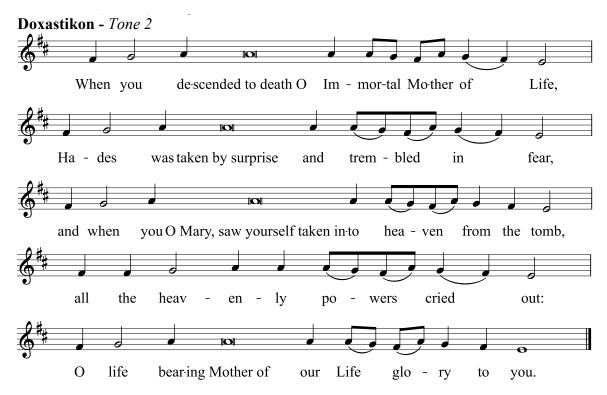
streams flowing down from Lebanon.

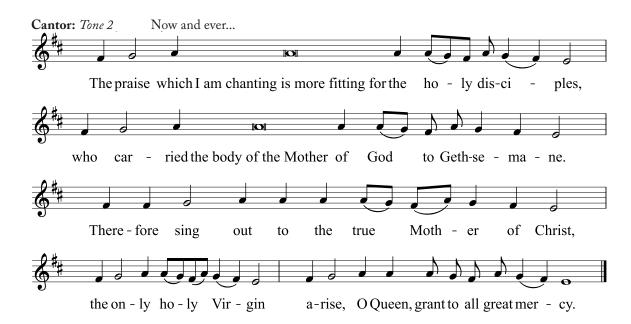
5. But my dove is unique,

mine, unique and perfect.She is the darling of her mother, the favorite of the one who bore her.The maidens saw her, and proclaimed her blessed, queens and concubines sang her praises:Who is this arising like the dawn, fair as the moon, resplendent as the sun, as awe-inspiring as bannered troops? 6. How beautiful you are, how charming, my love, my delight! In stature like the palm tree I am my Beloved's, and His desire is for me. Come, my Beloved, let us go into the fields.
Set me like a seal on your heart, like a seal on your arm.
For love is strong as death, relentless as the nether world is devotion; The flash of it is a flash of fire, a flame of the Lord God Himself.
Love no flood can quench, no torrents can drown!

> The procession ends at the grave where the priest places the burial shroud, incenses it, and venerates it while the people sing:

Cantor: Tone 2 Glory...





The clergy now gather before the tomb of the Theotokos to sing the First Station of Lamentation: The Shroud of the Theotokos is incensed throughout the chanting of Lamentations.

- **Priest:** In a grave they laid you, O Christ, who are Life, and they now have laid the Mother of Life as well: both to angels and to men a sight most strange!
- All: They are happy whose life is blameless * who follow God's law.
- **Priest:** We exalt you greatly, Theotokos most pure, and we glorify your holy dormition now, as we bow before your honored precious tomb.

All: They are happy who do his will * seeking him with all their hearts.

- **Priest:** In your womb you held him who cannot be contained; you are life to all the faithful: how can you die, and your body be contained within a tomb?
- All: Who never do anything evil * but walk in his ways.
- **Priest:** You brought forth, Pure Maiden, God the heavenly King, and today in manner royal are carried forth to the Kingdom of the Heavens as a Queen.
- All: You have laid down your precepts * to be obeyed with care.
- **Priest:** Holy Theotokos, You have passed from this world, in departing not forsaking those left on earth, but delivering this world from every ill.
- All: May my footsteps be firm * to obey your statutes.
- **Priest:** All the earth sings glory at your grave side, O Christ, with all reverence, O Master, we also praise the entombment of your Mother, ever Pure.

Then I shall be put to shame * as I heed your commands. A11: **Priest:** Overcome with wonder, are the angels in awe in beholding you, Pure Maiden, laid out as dead, for from you has Light beamed forth to all the world. A11: I will thank you with an upright heart * as I learn your decrees. **Priest:** Maiden Pure and Spotless, and our Heavenly Queen, once again has God sent Gabriel down to earth with the joyful news that you have left this life. All: I will obey your statutes * do not forsake me. Priest: Now the Bridegroom calls you, to rejoice, Bride of God, in a manner both divine and most beautiful in the Bridal Chamber, holy and divine. You, O Virgin, come now to the throne seat of God where the awesome unapproachable Light shines forth from the Trinity, and lights where you repose. A11: How shall the young remain sinless? By obeying your word. **Priest:** From the earth departing, You appeared before God. You were not, O Theotokos, removed from God, nor has God been parted from His mother's heart. Your all-holy face shines Purest Maiden, in death, and your countenance appears now as Paradise, breathing forth to all believers grace and life. A11: I have sought you with all my heart * let me not stray from your commands. Priest: Your most honored Body, Theotokos, remained uncorrupted by decay as you lay entombed but it passed with you to heaven from the earth. Look upon your children who are gathered this day: may your honored eyes be open that you behold those who glorify with honor your repose. A11: I treasure your promise in my heart * lest I sin against you. Priest: We your children offer lamentations and love unto you who are our Mother: accept our gift which we offer from the deepness of our souls. Gathered 'round your bedside, we are calling to you, our all holy Virgin Mother, with fervent voice, "Save the faithful and have mercy upon us!" A11: Blessed are you O Lord * teach me your statutes. Priest: Leave us not as orphans when you leave us on earth, for, O Mother, you are taken to heaven now, to abide there with your Son and with your God. To us grant your blessing when you open your lips O Most Holy Theotokos, departing now at the ending of your time upon the earth. A11: With my tongue I have recounted * the decrees of your lips. Priest: Mother Anna, join us Come and stand in our midst! Come and lead the celebration of this glad feast of your holy daughter, Mother of our God! Come and let us raise up praise and glory to God who has summoned to the Holy of Holies now one yet greater than the Holiest of Saints. All: I rejoiced to do your will * as though all riches were mine.

| Priest: | Filled with gladness, Heaven is receiving her Queen for the Mother of creation in glory comes and appears in glory, reigning with her God. |
|--------------|--|
| All: | I will ponder all your precepts * and consider your paths. |
| Priest: | Now the God of Glory takes His mother to Him and the Son who has received you, O Purest One, has prepared for you a seat at His right Hand. |
| All: | I take delight in your statutes * I will not forget your word. |
| Priest: | Now unto the Father and the Holy Spirit we with gladness sound forth hymns, Word and God of all, and we glorify your countenance divine. |
| All: | Glory to the Father and to the Son * and to the Holy Spirit. |
| Priest: | Every generation comes to know you as blest, and your holy pure dormition we glorify The- otokos, ever-Virgin, Sovereign Queen! In a grave they laid you, O Christ, who are Life, and they now have laid the Mother of Life as well: both to angels and to men a sight most strange! |
| All: | Now and ever * and forever. Amen. |
| Priest: | In a grave they laid you, O Christ, who are Life, and they now have laid the Mother of Life as well: both to angels and to men a sight most strange! |
| Small Litany | |

SMALL LITANY

The faithful may SIT during the litany

- **Deacon:** Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **Response:** Lord, have mercy. (1)
- **Deacon:** Protect us, save us, have mercy on us and preserve us, O God, by your grace.
- Response: Lord, have mercy. (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:

Priest: From the depths of night our soul longs for You, our God, for your commandments are a light upon the earth. Give us understanding that we may be perfect 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. 0 Lord remember each one present and praying with us by their own name and save them by your might. Bless your people and sanctify your inheritance. Give peace to your world, to your churches, to the priests, and to all your people. For blessed and glorified is your most honored and magnificent name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

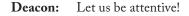
The faithful may STAND



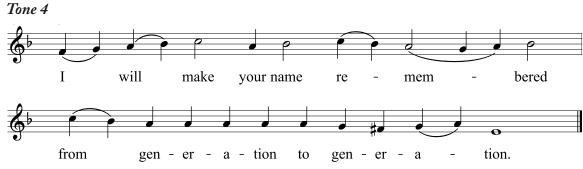








Priest: Peace + be to all!



PROKEIMENON

Deacon: v. Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words.

PREPARATION FOR THE GOSPEL

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.



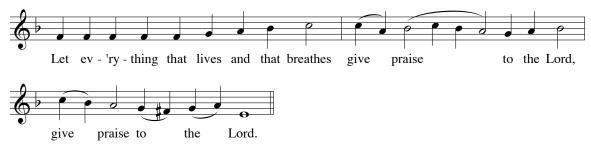
Response:

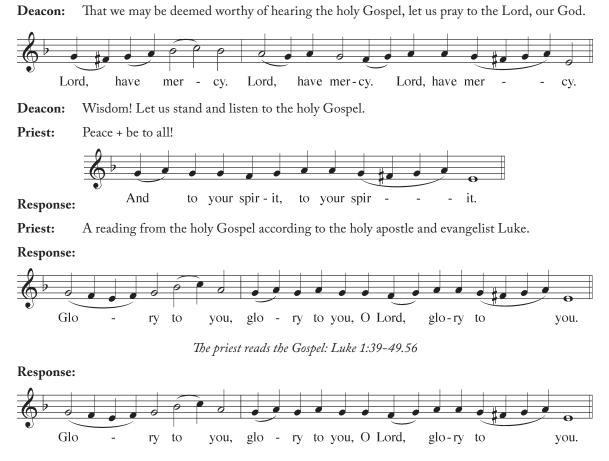
Priest: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



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

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Tone 4
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After reading the Gospel, the priest closes the Gospel Book, kisses it, and takes it to the center of the church and places it on the tetrapod. The Gospel book remains on the tetrapod until the Great Doxology.

The faithful are now invited to come forward and kiss the Gospel book. They then approach the priest to be anointed with the oil blessed during Litija and to receive the blessed bread.

PSALM 50

Have mercy on me, 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.

O purify me, 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, 0 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.

O rescue me, God, my helper, and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.

O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.

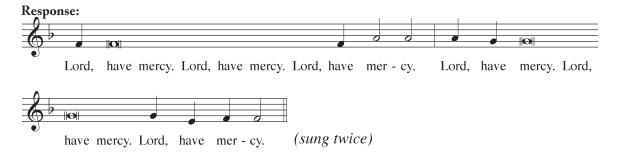
For in sacrifice you take no delight, burnt offering from me you would refuse,

my sacrifice, a contrite spirit, a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. In your goodness, 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.

The deacon, standing before the icon of the Lord, says

Deacon: Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, and angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukacevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Presov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of our Holy Father Theodosius, of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.



The priest, standing before the Holy Doors, says

Priest: O Lord our God, you have given us forgiveness through repentance, and as a model of knowledge and confession of sins, you have revealed to us the repentance of the prophet David that led to pardon. Master, have mercy on us who have fallen into so many and so great sins. Have mercy in your kindness, and in your compassion blot out our offenses, for against you have we sinned, O Lord, who know the hidden depths of our hearts, and who alone have the power to forgive sins. A pure heart you have created for us; you have sustained us with a spirit of fervor and have given us the joy of your help. 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 altar 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:

THE CANON The faithful may SIT during the Canon

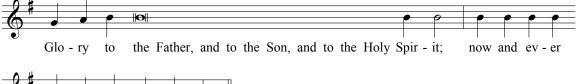
ODE 4



Lector: Come all you faithful, and behold the mystery; for the holy Mountain of the Lord is raised above the heavens as we look on. The earthly heaven takes up her dwelling in a heavenly and immortal land.

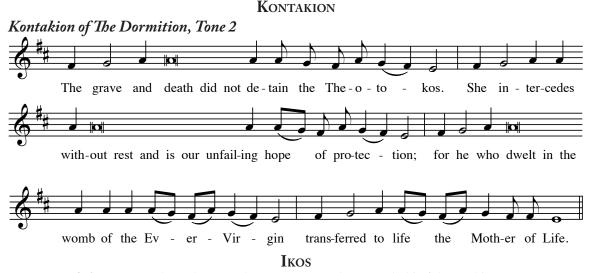
Refrain: Most holy Theotokos, save us!

Lector: O pure Virgin, your death was a passing over into a better and eternal life. It transported you from this earthly life to one that is divine and knows no end; now behold your Son and Lord in joy.

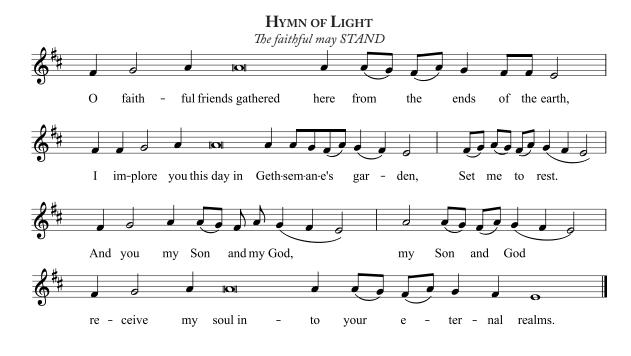




Lector: The heavenly gates opened wide and the heavenly choirs sang as Christ welcomed the virgin treasure of his own mother. The Cherubim served you in gladness, and the Seraphim praised you in joy.

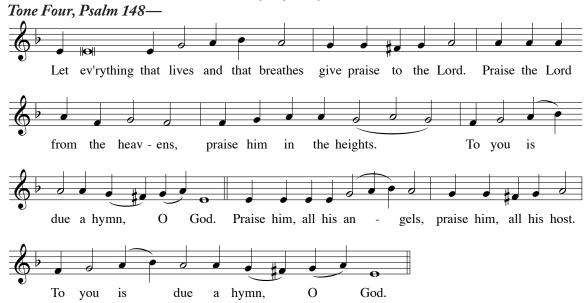


Lector: O Savior, encircle my heart so that I may praise this stronghold of the world, your most pure Mother; may my words be as strong as a fortress, and may my thoughts acquire power and strength. You always fulfill the petitions of those who come to You in faith. Therefore, grant me the words, the tongue, and the thoughts that are without shame; for every gift that enlightens us comes from You, the Enlightener of our souls, and the Lord who dwelt in a virginal womb.



PSALMS OF PRAISE

The faithful may SIT



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 and 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, the 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 sons of Israel, of the people to whom he comes close.

Psalm 149—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;

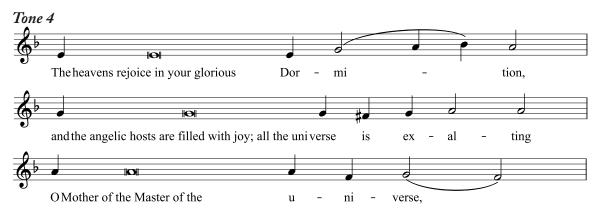
to bind their kings in chains and their nobles in fetters of iron;

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

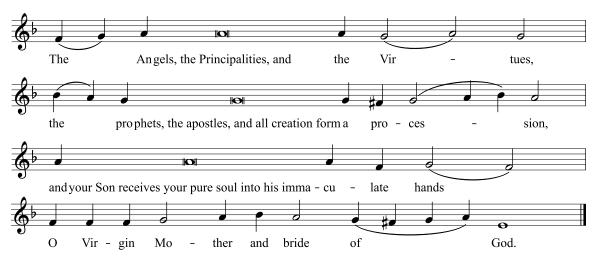
Psalm 150—Praise God in his holy place, praise him in his mighty heavens.

Praise him for his powerful deeds, praise his surpassing greatness.

Cantor: "O Praise Him with sound of trumpet, praise Him with lute and harp."

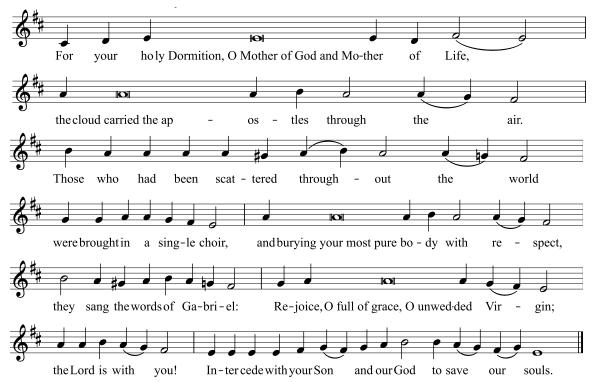






The faithful may STAND

Cantor: Tone 6 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever Amen.









TROPARIA



all. If we have sinned voluntarily or involuntarily forgive us as a good God who loves mankind and gives us earthly and heavenly gifts. For yours are mercy and salvation, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you, with your eternal Father and your life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response:

DISMISSAL

