

The Ninth Hour

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now, and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, look upon and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: Amen. Lord have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

Psalms 83, 84, & 85 are read.

Psalm 83

How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts; my soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh have rejoiced in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the turtle-dove a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; unto ages of ages shall they praise thee. Blessed is the man whose succor is from thee, in whose heart he hath disposed to ascend to the vale of weeping, to the place which he hath set, for the Law-giver shall give a blessing. They shall go from strength to strength; the God of gods shall be seen in Zion. O Lord God of Hosts, hearken unto my prayer; give heed, O God of Jacob. Behold, O God our Defender, and look upon the face of thine anointed. For better is one day in thy courts than a thousand *elsewhere*. I have elected to be an outcast in the house of my God rather than to dwell in the tabernacles of sinner. For the Lord God loveth mercy and truth, He shall give grace and glory. The Lord shall not deprive of good things them that walk in innocence. O Lord God of Hosts, blessed is the man that hopeth in thee.

Psalm 84

Thou wert well-pleased, O Lord, with they land; thou hast turned back the captivity of Jacob. Thou hat forgiven the transgression of thy people; thou has covered all their sin. Thou hast calmed wall thy wrath; thou hast turned back from the wrath of thy displeasure. Turn us, O God of our salvation, and turn thy displeasure away from us. Wilt thou be wroth with us forever? Or wilt thou extend thy wrath from generation to generation? O God, thou shalt turn and quicken us, and thy people shall be glad in thee. Show us thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us thy salvation. I will hear what the Lord God will speak concerning me, for He shall speak peace to his people, and to his Saints, and to them that turn their heart unto him. Yet his salvation is night to them that fear him, that glory may abide in our land. Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed. Truth hath sprung out of the earth; and righteousness hath shone down from heaven. For the Lord shall give goodness, and our land shall give her fruit. Righteousness shall go before him, and he shall set his steps in the way.

Psalm 85

Bow down thine ear, O Lord, and hearken unto me, for poor and needy am I. Keep my soul, for I am holy; save thy servant, O my God, that hopeth in thee. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for unto thee I cry all the day long; make glad the soul of the servant, for unto thee have I lifted up my soul. For thou, O Lord, are good and kind, and great in mercy unto all them that call upon thee. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer, and attend to the voice of my supplication. In the

day of my tribulation I cried unto thee, for thou hast hearkened unto me. There is none like unto thee among the gods, O Lord, and there are none like unto thy works. All the nations which thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord, and shall glorify thy name: for thou art great and workest wonders; thou alone art God. Guide me, O Lord, in thy way, and I will walk in thy truth; let my heart be glad, that I may fear thy name. I will confess thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify thy name forever. For great is thy mercy toward me, and thou hast delivered by soul from the lowest hell. O God, the lawless are risen up against me, and a congregation of mighty men have sough after my soul, and have not set thee before them. But thou, O Lord my God, art compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and great in mercy, and true. Look upon me, and have mercy on me; give strength unto thy child, and save the son of thy handmaid. Work upon me a sign for good, that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed, for thou, O Lord, hast helped me and comforted me.

And again:

Work upon me a sign for good, that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed, for thou, O Lord, hast helped me and comforted me.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy (3).

When Alleluia is sung, the appointed kathisma (usually the 5th, or the 6th during the 5th week) is read. Afterwards the reader continues:

Lord, have mercy (3).

Troparion of the Ninth Hour, tone 8

Priest: O Thou who, at the ninth hour, for our sake didst taste of death in the flesh, mortify the presumption of our flesh, O Christ God, and save us.

Choir: O Thou who, at the ninth hour, / for our sake didst taste of death in the flesh, // mortify the presumption of our flesh, O Christ God, and save us.

A prostration is made as the choir concludes the prayer of the ninth hour each time.

Priest: Let my prayer come nigh before Thee, O Lord; give me understanding according to Thy word.

Choir: O Thou who, at the ninth hour...

Priest: Let my petition come before Thee, O Lord; according to Thy word, deliver me.

Choir: O Thou who, at the ninth hour...

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

Reader: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Thou who for our sakes wast born of a Virgin, and didst endure the crucifixion, O Good One, and didst despoil death by death, and as God didst manifest the Resurrection, despise not them that Thou hast fashioned with Thy hand. Manifest Thy love of man, O Merciful One; accept the Theotokos, who bare Thee, and who intercedeth for us, and save Thy despairing people, O our Savior.

In the Great Fast, the reading from The Ladder is read here.

Forsake us not till the end, for Thy name's sake, neither do away with Thy covenant, nor withdraw Thy mercy from us, for the sake of Abraham, beloved of Thee, and for Isaac Thy servant, and Israel Thy holy one.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, look upon and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: Amen.

When Alleluia is sung, we sing these troparia in tone 8.

When the thief saw the Author of life hanging on the Cross, / he said: If it were not God incarnate who is crucified with us, / then the sun would not hide its rays, nor would the earth quake and shake. // But Thou, O all-enduring One, remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom.

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

In the midst, between two thieves, was Thy Cross found to be the balance beam of righteousness: the one was brought down to hell by the heaviness of his blasphemy, while the other's offenses were made light unto the knowledge of theology. O Christ God, glory to Thee.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Contemplating Thee, the Lamb, Shepherd, and Savior of the world on the Cross, she that bare Thee said tearfully: While the world rejoiceth receiving redemption, my heart burneth beholding Thy crucifixion, which Thou dost endure for all, O my Son and my God.

Lord, have mercy. (40)

O Thou, who at all times and at every hour, both in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ God, long-suffering, great in mercy and goodness of heart; who lovest the righteous and hast mercy on sinners; who callest all men to salvation through the tidings of good things to come: do thou, the same Lord, receive also our prayers at this hour, direct our lives in Thy commandments, sanctify our souls, cleanse our bodies, direct our thoughts, cleanse our minds, and deliver us from every tribulation, wickedness, and affliction; encompass us by Thy holy angels, that guarded and guided by their host, we may become worthy of the unity of the faith and of the understanding of Thine unapproachable glory, for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious without compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, verily Theotokos, we magnify thee.

In the name of the Lord, Father [*or Master*] bless.

Priest: O God, be compassionate unto us, and bless us, and make Thy face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

Prayer of St. Ephraim (*said once with three prostrations*)

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, the spirit of idleness, of despondency, of love of power, and of idle words, grant me not. *prostration*

But the spirit of continence, of humility, of patience, and of love, do Thou grant unto me, Thy servant. *prostration*

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to perceive mine own offenses, and not to judge my brother; for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen. *prostration*

Reader:

The Prayer of St. Basil the Great

O Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, who art longsuffering toward our offenses and hast led us even to this present hour, at which Thou didst hang upon the life-creating tree, and didst make the way of entry into Paradise for the wise thief, and by death didst abolish death: Cleanse us sinners and Thine unworthy servants, for we have sinned and transgressed, and we are not worthy to lift up our sight and look upon the height of heaven, inasmuch as we have forsaken the way of Thy righteousness, and have walked according to the will of our own hearts. But, we implore of

Thine incomparable goodness, spare us, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy mercies, and save us for Thy holy name's sake, for our days are vanished in vanity. Redeem us from the hand of the adversary, and forgive our sins, and mortify our fleshly desires, that having put off the old man, we may be clothed upon with the new, and may live unto Thee, our Master and Protector, so that, following Thine ordinances, we may attain unto unceasing rest, wherein is the dwelling-place of them that are glad. For thou art in truth the true gladness and joy of them that love Thee, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory, together with Thy Father who is without beginning, and thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Typica

(Our current practice is to sing only the Beatitudes from this appointed service.)

The Beatitudes

In Thy Kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom

Refrain: Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. *refrain*

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted. *refrain*

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. *refrain*

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be sated. *refrain*

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. *refrain*

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. *refrain*

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God. *refrain*

Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say every evil against you falsely for My sake. *refrain*

Rejoice and be glad, for great is your reward in heaven. *refrain*

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

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *refrain*

Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

Remember us O Holy One, when thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

By local custom, we often skip the rest of the Typica, and go directly to "Blessed is the Kingdom.." at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.

Reader (Isaiah 6:3): The heavenly choir doth hymn Thee and say: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Draw nigh to Him and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed.

The heavenly choir doth hymn Thee and say: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

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

The choir of the holy angels and archangels, with all the heavenly powers, hymn Thee and say: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

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

The Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father; by whom all things were made. Who for us men and our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; of His kingdom there shall be no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.

In one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church; I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins; I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Remit, forgive, pardon, O God, our transgressions voluntary and involuntary, in word and in deed, in knowledge and in ignorance, by night and by day, in mind and intention: pardon us all, for Thou art good and lovest man.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

We say the kontakion of the Transfiguration, that of the day of the week, and that of the temple.

Reader: Amen.

Kontakion of the Transfiguration, tone 1

Upon the mountain wast Thou transfigured, O Christ God, and Thy disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; so that when they would behold Thee crucified, they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

On Monday, of the Bodiless Powers, tone 2

Supreme Commanders of God and ministers of the Divine Glory, guides of men and leaders of angels, ask for what is to our profit and for great mercy,

since ye are the Supreme Commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

On Tuesday, of the Forerunner, tone 2

O Prophet of God and Forerunner of grace, having found in the earth thy head as a most sacred rose, we always receive healing, for as before in the world, thou dost again preach repentance.

On Wednesday & Friday, of the Cross, tone 4

As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, O Christ God, so grant mercy to those who are called by Thy name; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over the enemy, by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

On Thursday, of the Apostles & St. Nicholas, tone 2, 3

Thou didst receive into the enjoyment of Thy good things and rest, O Lord, the steadfast and God-inspired preachers, the heads of Thy disciples; Thou didst accept their afflictions and death as above whole burnt offerings, O Thou who alone knowest the heart.

In Myra, O holy one, thou wast shown to be a performer of the sacred Mysteries, for, fulfilling the Gospel of Christ, thou didst lay down thy life for thy people, O venerable one, and didst save the innocent from death. Wherefore thou hast been sanctified as a great initiate of the grace of God.

Kontakion to St. Maximus, tone 8

Let us the faithful praise with fitting hymns that lover of the Holy Trinity, great Maximus, who clearly taught the

divinely-given Faith: that we should give glory unto Christ our God, Who, but one person, hath in very truth two natures, wills, and energies. Let us cry to him: Rejoice, divine herald of the Faith.

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

With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of Thy servants, where there is neither sickness, nor sadness, nor sorrow, but life without end.

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

O Protection of Christians that is not put to shame, unchanging Mediation before the Creator: despise not the voice of the sinners' prayer, but in that thou art good, come quickly to help us who call upon thee in faith. Make speed to intercede and make hast to supplicate, O Theotokos, who dost ever protect those that honor thee.

Lord, have mercy (40)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious without compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, verily Theotokos, we magnify thee.

In the name of the Lord, Father [*or* Master] bless.

Priest: O God, be compassionate unto us, and bless us, and make Thy face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

Prayer of St. Ephraim (*Said twice with four prostrations.*)

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, the spirit of idleness, of despondency, of love of power, and of idle words, grant me not. *prostration*

But the spirit of continence, of humility, of patience, and of love, do Thou grant unto me, Thy servant. *prostration*

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to perceive mine own offenses, and not to judge my brother; for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen. *prostration*

Then twelve bows with the prayer O God, cleanse Thou me a sinner. *Or as per the practice of some:*

O God, have mercy on me a sinner (3),

O God, cleanse Thou me a sinner and have mercy on me (3),

Thou hast created me, O Lord, have mercy on me (3),

Countless times have I sinned, O Lord, forgive me (3),

and then the whole prayer with one prostration.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, look upon and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine are the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: Amen. Lord have mercy. (12)

O All-holy Trinity, consubstantial Might, Kingdom undivided, Source of all good things, be gracious also unto me, a sinner. Establish and give understanding to my heart, and take away from me every defilement. Enlighten my mind that I may continually glorify, hymn, and worship Thee, and say: One is Holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Choir: Meet it is in truth to bless thee, O Theotokos, who art ever blessed and all blameless and the Mother of our God.

Priest: O Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Choir More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious without compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, verily Theotokos, we magnify thee.

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

Choir: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

The Priest gives the dismissal.

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

If the Ninth Hour and/or the Typica was read immediately before the Liturgy of the Presanctified, the Reader begins with "Come let us worship..." otherwise, he continues immediately below.

Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, look upon and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: Amen. Lord have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

The Priest reads the seven prayers of light bareheaded before the Royal Doors while the Reader reads Psalm 103.

Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding great; with confession and with majesty art thou clothed. Who dost robe thyself with light as with a garment; who spreadest out the heaven like a curtain. Who covereth with waters its upper rooms; who doth fix the clouds for his chariot; who walketh upon the wings of the wind. Who maketh his angels spirits, and his servers a flaming fire. Who foundeth the earth upon its firmness; it shall not be bowed down forever and ever. The abyss, like a garment, is its robe; upon the mountains shall stand the waters. At thy rebuke they shall flee; at the voice of thy thunder, they shall be afraid. The mountains go up, and the plains go down to the place which thou hast founded for them. Thou hast set a bound which they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. Who sendeth forth fountains into the valleys; among the mountains shalt the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the

field; the wild asses shall await in their thirst. Over them shall the birds of the heavens have their habitation; from the midst of the rocks shall they give forth their voices. Thou waterest the mountains from thy upper rooms; with the fruit of thy works is the earth sated, making grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, that thou mayest bring forth bread out of the earth, and wine that gladdeneth the heart of man; to make his face cheerful with oil; and bread that strengtheneth man's heart. The trees of the plain shall be sated, the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted. There the sparrows shall make their nest. The dwelling of the heron precedeth them. The high mountains are for the hart; the rocks a refuge for the conies. He made the moon for seasons; the sun hath known its setting. Thou didst set the darkness, and it became night; in it shall run all the beasts of the forest, the young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking of God their meat. The sun hath arisen, and they have gathered together; and in their dens shalt thou lay them down. Man shall go forth to his work and to his labor until the evening. How great are thy works become O Lord; in wisdom hast thou made them all. The earth is full of thy creation. This is the sea, great and wide; there are creeping things without number, animals both small and great. There the ships go across; and that serpent which thou hast formed to play in it. All wait upon thee to give them their food in due season. When thou givest it them, they shall gather it; when thou openest thine hand, all things shall be filled with goodness. When thou turnest away thy face, they shall be troubled; thou takest away their spirit, they shall vanish and to their dust shall they return. Thou sendest forth thy spirit and they shall be created; and thou shalt renew the face of the

earth. May the glory of the Lord be forever; the Lord shall be glad in his works. Who looketh down upon the earth, and maketh it to tremble; who touchest the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord in my life; I will sing psalms unto my God as long as I shall be. Let my conversation please him; and I shall be glad in the Lord. Let sinners vanish from the earth, and transgressors, so that they shall be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul. The sun hath known its setting. Thou didst set the darkness, and it became night. How great are thy works become O Lord; in wisdom hast thou made them all.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to thee, O God. (*thrice*)

The Great Litany

Deacon (or Priest): In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the Most Blessed Metropolitan *N.*, for our Most Reverend Archbishop *N.*, [*or* Right Reverend Bishop *N.*] for

the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this God-protected land, its President, all civil authorities, and for those who serve in the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and country, and for those who in faith dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For travellers by land, by sea, and by air, for the sick and the suffering, for captives, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

First Stasis of the 18th Kathisma (*Psalms 119-123*)

Reader: Unto the Lord did I cry when I was afflicted, and He hearkened unto me. O Lord, deliver my soul from unrighteous lips, and from a deceitful tongue. What shall be given unto thee, and what shall be added unto thee, against a deceitful tongue? Sharpened arrows of the powerful one, with coals of the desert broom. Woe is me, for my sojourn hath been prolonged; I have pitched my tent among the tents of Kedar; my soul hath long sojourned. With them that hate peace I was peaceful; when I spake to them, they warred against me without a cause.

I lifted up mine eyes unto the mountains, whence cometh my help. My help is from the Lord, who hath made heaven and earth. Let not my foot be given to wavering, nor He that keepeth thee slumber. Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord shall keep thee; the Lord is thy shield upon thy right hand. By day the sun shall not smite thee, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall keep thee from all evil; the Lord shall keep thy soul. The Lord shall keep thy coming in and thy going out henceforth and forevermore.

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet were standing within thy courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city, which is shared by all together. For there did the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, a testimony of Israel, to confess the name of the Lord. For there are set thrones for judgment, thrones

over the house of David. Plead then for the peace of Jerusalem, and plenteousness for them that love thee. Let there be peace then in thy power, and plenteousness within thy towers. For my brethren and neighbors' sakes have I spoken peace concerning thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I sought out thy good.

Unto thee do I lift up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens. Behold, as the eyes of servants are upon the hands of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden are upon the hands of her mistress, even so our eyes are upon the Lord our God, until He be compassionate unto us. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for long have we been filled with despitefulness. Yet more is our soul filled with the reproach of the wealthy and the despitefulness of the proud.

If the Lord had not been with us, let Israel now say, if the Lord had not been with us, when men rose up against us, then they would have swallowed us up alive; when their anger was wroth with us, then the waters would have drowned us. Our soul passed through a torrent; then our soul passed through overwhelming waters. Blessed be the Lord, who hath not given us a prey to their teeth. Our soul is delivered as a sparrow out of the hunter's snare; the snare is crushed, and we are delivered. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who hath created heaven and earth.

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

Choir: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God (3).

Little Litany

Deacon (or Priest): Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Second Stasis of the 18th Kathisma (Psalms 124-128)

They that trust in the Lord are as Mount Zion; he shall not be moved for ever that dwelleth at Jerusalem. Mountains are round about her; and the Lord is round about his people henceforth and for evermore. For the Lord will not suffer the rod of sinners to rest upon the lot of the righteous, lest the righteous stretch forth their hands unto iniquity. Do good, O Lord, unto them that are good, and to them that are upright in their hearts. But them that turn aside unto crooked ways shall the Lord lead away with the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel.

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we became like them that are comforted. Then was our mouth filled with joy and our tongue with rejoicing; then will they

say among the nations: The Lord hath done great things for them. The Lord hath done great things for us; we are become glad. Turn again our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south. They that sow in tears shall reap with rejoicing. They went forth and wept, casting their seed, but in coming again, they shall rejoice, bringing their sheaves with them.

Except the Lord build the house, in vain have the builders labored; except the Lord keep the city, in vain hath the keeper watched. In vain do ye rise up early. Arise after sitting down, ye who eat the bread of sorrow, while He giveth sleep to His beloved. Lo, the inheritance of the Lord are sons, the reward of the fruit of the womb. Like arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are sons to them that were outcasts. Blessed is the man whose desire is fulfilled in them; they shall not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies at the gates.

Blessed are all they that fear the Lord, that walk in His ways. Of the fruit of thy labors shalt thou eat. Blessed art thou, and it shall be well with thee. Thy wife shall be like a fruitful vine on the sides of thy house; thy sons like a newly planted olive orchard round about thy table. Behold, so shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord. The shall bless thee out of Zion, and thou shalt see thy children's children. Peace be upon Israel.

Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, let Israel now say. Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, yet they have not prevailed against me. Upon my back did the sinners plot; they have prolonged their iniquity. The Lord is righteous; He hath severed the necks of sinners. Let them all be ashamed and

turned back that hate Zion. Let them be like grass upon the housetops, which afore it is plucked up is withered away. Wherewith the reaper filleth not his hand, nor he that gathereth sheaves his bosom. Neither did they which go by say: The blessing of the Lord be upon you; we bless you in the name of the Lord.

Reader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Choir: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (3).

Little Litany

Deacon (or Priest): Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Third Stasis of the 18th Kathisma (Psalms 129-133)

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice. Let Thine ears give heed to the voice

of my prayer. If Thou observest transgression, Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee is propitiation. For Thy name's sake, I have waited upon Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word; my soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch till the night, let Israel hope in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He shall redeem Israel from all his transgression,

O Lord, my heart is not exalted, nor are mine eyes elevated. I have not walked in things too wondrous for me. Had I not been humble-minded, but had I exalted my soul, like as a child that is weaned from his mother, so shalt Thou reward my soul. Let Israel hope in the Lord from this time forth and for evermore.

Remember David, O Lord, and all his meekness. How he swore unto the Lord, and made a vow unto the God of Jacob. I shall not come within the tabernacle of my house, nor go up to the couch of my bed; I shall not give sleep to mine eyes nor slumber to mine eyelids, nor rest to my temples, until I find a place for the Lord, a tabernacle for the God of Jacob. Lo, we have heard of it in Ephrata and found it in the fields of the wood. We will go into his tabernacle; we will worship upon the place where his feet have stood. Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness. Thy priests shall clothe themselves with righteousness, and Thy saints shall rejoice. For Thy servant David's sake, turn not away the face of Thine anointed. The Lord hath sworn truth unto David, and He will not cast it aside: Of the fruit of thy bosom shall I set upon thy throne. If thy children will keep My covenant and My testimonies, those things shall I teach them. Their children also shall sit upon thy throne unto the age. For the

Lord hath elected Zion; He hath chosen her for His dwelling-place. This shall be my rest for ever; here shall I dwell, for I have chosen her. I will bless her victuals with a blessing and will satisfy her poor with bread. I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her saints shall rejoice with joy. There will I make a horn for David to spring up; I have made ready a lamp for mine anointed. As for his enemies, I shall clothe them with shame, but upon him My holiness shall flourish.

Behold, how good and joyful it is for brethren to dwell together. Like myrrh upon the head, that runneth down upon the beard, even upon Aaron's beard, which runneth down to the hem of his robe. Like the dew of Hermon, which came down upon Mount Zion, for the Lord commanded the blessing and life forevermore.

Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. In the nights lift up your hands in the sanctuaries, and bless ye the Lord. May the Lord bless thee out of Zion, He that made heaven and earth.

Reader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Choir: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (3).

Little Litany

Deacon (or Priest): Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art our God, the God who hath mercy and saveth, and to Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

And immediately thereafter, "Lord, I have cried..." during which the Deacon or Priest makes a full censuring of the church.

Lord, I Have Cried (*Psalms 140, 141, 129, 116*)

Choir (in tone of first sticheron):

Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hear me; / Hear me, O Lord. / Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hear me; / attend to the voice of my prayer, / when I cry unto Thee; // Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be directed / as incense before Thee, / the lifting up of my hands / as an evening sacrifice. // Hear me, O Lord.

Reader:

Set a watch, O Lord upon my mouth, and a gate of enclosure about my lips. Incline not my heart to words of evil, to contrive excuses for sins. With men that work iniquity, and I shall not join with their elect. The righteous man shall correct me in mercy and reproach me, but the oil of the sinner shall not anoint mine head. For my prayer is still against their pleasure; their judges are swallowed up

among the stones. They shall hear my words that have prevailed as clods of earth are broken upon the earth, so our bones are scattered on the brink of hell. To thee, O Lord; Lord, I turn mine eyes, in thee I hope take not away my soul. Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and from the pitfalls of the workers of iniquity. Let sinners fall into their own net, whilst I alone shall pass. With my voice I have called unto the Lord, with my voice I have prayed to the Lord. I pour forth my prayer before him, and before him I declare my sorrow. When my spirit departed from me thou knewest all my paths. In this way where I was walking, they have hid a snare for me. I looked to the right and I saw, and there is none that knew me. A way of escape faileth me, and there is none that seeketh my soul. I have called unto thee, O Lord, and said, thou art my hope, my portion in the land of the living. Attend to my prayer for I am exceedingly humbled. Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are become stronger than I.

(On 10) Lead forth my soul from prison, that I may confess thy name;

The choir begins singing the appointed stichera (verses) from the Triodion and the Menaion.

The righteous await me, till thou shalt reward me.

Choir: Sticheron

(On 8) Out of the depths have I cried unto thee; O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

Choir: Sticheron

Let thine ears give heed to the voice of my prayer

Choir: Sticheron

(On 6) If thou observest transgressions, Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with thee is propitiation.

Choir: Sticheron

For thy name's sake, I have waited upon thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon thy word; my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Choir: Sticheron

(On 4) From the morning watch even to the night, let Israel hope in the Lord.

Choir: Sticheron

For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel from all his transgression.

Choir: Sticheron

O praise the Lord all ye nations, praise him, all ye people.

Choir: Sticheron

For his mercy hath been confirmed upon us, and the truth of the Lord remaineth forever.

Choir: Sticheron

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

The choir sings the doxasticon, if there be one.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: Theotokion

Entrance

Deacon: Wisdom! Attend!

Gladsome Light

Choir: O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the Immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed, O Jesus Christ. Having

come to sunset and beholding the evening light, we hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: God. Meet it is at all times that Thou art hymned with fitting voices, O Son of God, Thou Giver of Life; where for the world doth glorify Thee.

Two prokeimena and two readings are appointed, unless there is a feast, when up to five readings may be read.

First Weekday Evening Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader The prokeimenon in the __ tone:

The choir sings the prokeimenon.

Our local custom, with our bishop's blessing, is to add here the appointed reading for the day from the Prophecy of Isaiah, which is properly read at the Sixth Hour.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

Deacon: Let us attend!

First Reading (Genesis or Exodus)

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from _____.

Deacon: Let us attend!

The Reader reads the appointed lesson from Genesis (during Fast) or Exodus (during Holy Week).

Second Weekday Evening Prokeimenon

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader The prokeimenon in the __ tone:

The choir sings the prokeimenon.

Deacon: Command!

All in the Church do a prostration while the priest brings out a lighted candle and says:

Priest: Wisdom! Attend. The light of Christ enlighteneth all men.

Second Reading (*Proverbs or Job*)

Reader: The Reading from _____.

Deacon: Let us attend!

The Reader reads the appointed lesson from Proverbs (during the Fast) or Job (during Holy Week)

Priest: Peace be to thee.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Customarily all kneel for the singing of the following, going down all the way into full prostration during the refrains, and standing on the knees during the verses; or one may stay down in a prostration the whole time.

Choir: Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Refrain: Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Lord, I have cried to Thee, hear me; hear the voice of my prayer, when I cry to thee.

Refrain: Let my prayer arise ...

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth and keep the door of my lips.

Refrain: Let my prayer arise ...

Incline not my heart to any evil thing, nor to practice wicked deeds.

Refrain: Let my prayer arise ...

Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Prayer of St. Ephraim (*Read once with three prostrations.*)

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, the spirit of idleness, of despondency, of love of power, and of idle words, grant me not. *prostration*

But the spirit of continence, of humility, of patience, and of love, do Thou grant unto me, Thy servant. *prostration*

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to perceive mine own offenses, and not to judge my brother; for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen. *prostration*

If it be the feast of a saint, or if the feast of the temple occurs on a fasting day, then the priest says, Let us attend, and the reader reads the Prokeimenon of the Epistle. After that he reads the Epistle, the Alleluia is sung. Then the Gospel is read.

The Augmented Litany

Deacon (or Priest): Let us all say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say:

Choir: Lord, have mercy (*once*).

O Lord Almighty, God of our father, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (*once*).

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy (*thrice*).

Again we pray for pious Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (*thrice*).

Again we pray for the Most Blessed Metropolitan *N.* for our Most Reverend Archbishop *N.* [*or the Right Reverend Bishop N.*], and for all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (*thrice*).

Again we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, that we all may spend the season of the joyful Fast in profound peace, and that Thou wouldest destroy the beguilement of bitter sin, grant us contrition, compunction, tears of healing, and forgiveness of our trespasses, that, fasting with a fervent

spirit and undoubting soul, we may join the angels to sing the praises of Thy power, we pray Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (thrice).

Again we pray for this God-protected land, its President, all civil authorities, and for those who serve in the armed forces.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (thrice).

Again we pray for our brethren, the priests, the hieromonks, the hierodeacons, and for all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (thrice).

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable most holy Orthodox Patriarchs, the founders of this holy church, for NN., and all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox gone to rest before us, who lie here and everywhere.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (thrice).

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon, and forgiveness of sins of the servants of God NN., and of our brethren of this holy temple.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (thrice).

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and revered temple, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people present, who await of Thee great and rich mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (thrice).

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

Choir: Amen.

Litany of the Catechumens

Pray unto the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Ye faithful, pray for the catechumens.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That the Lord may have mercy on them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may instruct them in the Word of truth.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may reveal unto them the Gospel of righteousness.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may unite them unto His holy Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Save them, have mercy on them, help them, and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Bow your heads unto the Lord, ye catechumens.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Prayer for the Catechumens

O God our God, the Creator and Maker of all things, who willest that all men should be saved and should come to the knowledge of the truth: look upon Thy servants the catechumens and deliver them from their former delusion and from the wiles of the adversary. And call them unto life eternal, enlightening their souls and bodies and numbering them with Thy rational flock, which is called by Thy holy name –

Exclamation

That with us the also may glorify Thine all-honorable and magnificent name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: As many as are catechumens, depart.

Catechumens, depart. As many as are catechumens, depart.

Let no catechumen remain. As many as are of the faithful, again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

The above dismissal is said only until Wednesday of the fourth week of the Fast. Beginning with Wednesday of Mid-fast, after the priest says That with us they also may glorify..., the following petitions are said:

As many as are catechumens, depart. Catechumens, depart.

As many as are preparing for illumination, draw near.

Pray, ye who are preparing for illumination.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Ye faithful, for the brethren who are making ready for holy illumination and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That the Lord our God may establish and strengthen them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may enlighten them with the light of knowledge and piety.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may vouchsafe unto them in due time the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the robe of incorruptibility.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may beget them with water and the Spirit.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may bestow upon them the perfection of the faith.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That He may number them with His holy and elect flock.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Save them, have mercy on them, help them, and keep them, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

As many as are preparing for illumination, bow your heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Prayer for Those Preparing for Holy Illumination

Reveal, O Master, Thy countenance to those who are preparing for holy illumination and who long to put away the pollution of sin. Enlighten their minds. Secure them in the faith. Establish them in hope. Perfect them in love. Show them to be honorable members of Thy Christ, who gave Himself as a deliverance for our souls.

Exclamation

For Thou art our Illumination, and to Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: As many as are preparing for illumination, depart; ye who are preparing for illumination, depart; as many as are catechumens, depart. Let no catechumen remain. As

many as are of the faithful, again and again in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

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

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

When the priest serves alone, the following are not said.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Priest: Through the gift of Thy Christ, with whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Hymn of the Entrance

Choir: Now the Powers of Heaven invisibly with us do serve. Lo, the King of glory enters. Lo, the mystical sacrifice is upborne, fulfilled.

The Entrance with the Presanctified Holy Gifts is made in silence, while the people make a prostration until the Gifts have been set on the altar.

Choir: Let us draw near in faith and love, and become communicants of life eternal. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of St. Ephraim (*Said once with three prostrations.*)

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, the spirit of idleness, of despondency, of love of power, and of idle words, grant me not. *prostration*

But the spirit of continence, of humility, of patience, and of love, do Thou grant unto me, Thy servant. *prostration*

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to perceive mine own offenses, and not to judge my brother; for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen. *prostration*

The Litany before the Lord's Prayer

Deacon (or Priest): Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For the precious Gifts set forth and presanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

That our God, the Lover of man, accepting them upon His holy, most heavenly, and ideal Altar for an odor of spiritual sweetness, might send down upon us in return the divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Pardon and forgiveness of our sins and offenses, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

All things good and useful for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

A Christian ending to our life, painless, unashamed, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgement seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Remembering our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: And vouchsafe, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation we may dare to call upon Thee, the heavenly God and Father and to say: *prostration*

The Lord's Prayer (*The people customarily kneel.*)

Choir and People: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: O God, who alone art good and tenderhearted, who dwellest on high, who lookest upon the humble, look with the eye of Thy tenderheartedness upon all Thy people and

keep them. Make us all worthy without condemnation to partake of these Thy life-creating Mysteries, for unto Thee have we bowed our heads, awaiting from Thee Thy rich mercy.

Exclamation

Through the grace and compassion and love of man of Thine only-begotten Son, with whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Priest prays: Attend, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, from Thy holy dwelling place and from the glorious throne of Thy kingdom, and come to sanctify us, O Thou who sittest together with the Father above, and who art invisibly present here with us. And vouchsafe, by Thy strong hand, to impart to us Thine immaculate Body and Thy precious Blood, and through us, to all Thy people.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: The Presanctified Holy things are for the holy.

Choir: One is holy, One is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Communion Hymn (Koinonikon)

Choir: O taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

If readings from the Apostle and Gospel for a saint or for the temple are prescribed, then also the other koinonikon is sung.

Prayers Before Holy Communion

By local custom, these prayers are sung by all during the priests' communion rather than said by all when the Gifts are brought out.

O Lord born of the Virgin, / regard not my transgressions: / cleanse Thou my heart, / and make of it a temple of Thy most pure Body and Blood; / cast me not away from Thy presence, // O Thou who hast mercy without measure.

How dare I take of Thy Hallowed Things, / unworthy as I am? / For if I make bold to draw near unto Thee among them that are worthy, / and it appeareth that I have no wedding garment, / I do but procure the condemnation of my most sinful soul; / cleanse my defiled soul, O Lord, and save me, // for Thou art the lover of mankind.

Great is the multitude of my transgressions, O Theotokos: / unto thy purity I have recourse, seeking salvation; / visit my soul in mine infirmity, / and pray Thy Son our God / to grant me the remission of mine evil deeds, // O Thou who alone art blessed.

I believe, O Lord, and I confess, / that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, / who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. / And I believe that this is Thine own immaculate Body, / and that this is Thine own precious Blood. / Wherefore, I pray Thee: have mercy on me, / and pardon my trespasses, voluntary and involuntary, / in word or in deed, / in knowledge and in ignorance, / and make me worthy without condemnation / to partake of Thine immaculate Mysteries, // unto forgiveness of sins and unto life eternal.

Of Thy mystical supper, O Son of God, / accept me today as a communicant, / for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, / neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss, / but like the thief will I confess Thee, // Remember me, O Lord, in Thy kingdom.

May this partaking of Thy holy Mysteries, / be neither unto my judgment nor unto my condemnation, O Lord, // but unto the healing of soul and body. *Amen.*

Priest: In the fear of God, with faith and love, draw near.

Prostration

Choir: I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise will be continually in my mouth.

The faithful commune as at the Liturgy of John Chrysostom.

After Communion, the Priest says:

O God, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

Choir: Taste the heavenly Bread and the Cup of life and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest silently: Blessed is our God

Priest aloud: always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that we may hymn Thy glory, for Thou hast made us worthy to partake of Thy holy, immortal, and life-creating Mysteries. Preserve us in Thy holiness, that all the day long we may meditate on Thy righteousness. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Litany of Thanksgiving

Deacon: Attend! Having partaken of the divine, holy, immaculate, immortal, heavenly, and dread Mysteries of Christ, let us worthily give thanks unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Having asked that the whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us commend ourselves, and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Priest: We give thanks unto Thee, O Savior, God of all, for all the good things Thou hast granted unto us, and for the communion of the holy Body and Blood of Thy Christ, and we pray Thee, O Master, who lovest man: keep us under the shelter of Thy wings. And grant that even unto our last breath we may worthily partake of thy holy Things, unto illumination of soul and body, unto inheritance of the kingdom of heaven.

Exclamation

Priest: For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee do we sent up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Let us depart in peace.

Choir: In the name of the Lord.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Prayer behind the Ambo

O Almighty Master, who in wisdom hast fashioned all creation, who through Thine ineffable providence and great goodness hast led us to these all-revered days for purification of souls and bodies, for restraint of passions, and for hope of the resurrection, who during the forty days didst put into the hands of Thy servitor Moses the tables in letters divinely inscribed, grant unto us also, O Good One, to fight the good fight, to complete the course of the fast, to preserve the faith undivided, to crush the heads of invisible

serpents, to be shown to be conquerors of sins, and, without condemnation also to attain unto and to worship thy holy Resurrection. For blessed and glorified is Thine all-honorable and magnificent name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Choir: Blessed be the name of the Lord henceforth and forevermore. (thrice)

Psalm 33

I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise will be continually in my mouth. In the Lord my soul shall make her boast. Let the meek hear and be glad. Magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord and He heard me, and delivered me from all my afflictions. Draw nigh to Him and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed. This poor one cried and the Lord heard him, and saved him from all his tribulations. The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear Him and shall deliver them. Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who hopeth in Him. Fear the Lord all ye his saints, for there is no lack for them that fear Him. The rich have become poor and hungry; but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing. Come, ye children, hearken unto me; the fear of the Lord will I teach you. Who is the man that wanteth life, loving to see good days? Withhold thy tongue from evil and thy lips that they speak no deceit. Shun evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and His ears unto their prayers. But the face of the Lord is upon them that do evil, to blot out their memory from the earth.

The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and delivered them from all their tribulations. The Lord is nigh to them that are of a broken heart, and He shall save the humble in spirit. Many are the tribulations of the righteous, but out of them all shall the Lord deliver them. The Lord keepeth all their bones, and not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and they that hate the righteous shall offend. The Lord shall deliver the souls of His servants, and none of them that hope in Him shall offend.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and His mercy be upon you, through His grace and love of man, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Dismissal

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

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

Lord, have mercy (3).

Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all immaculate Mother, and of our father among the saints Gregory Dialogus, Patriarch of Rome, of our venerable God-bearing Father Maximus the Confessor...and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth man.

The prayers of Thanksgiving for Holy Communion are said in the church after the dismissal. If they are not read or if one does not stay for the reading of them, then the commincants read them at home before bed.