

**READER'S GUIDE
FOR THE DIVINE SERVICES OF**

THE ROYAL HOURS

HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE, DAYTON

THE ROYAL HOURS OF THEOPHANY

FIRST HOUR	2
THIRD HOUR	10
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ROYAL HOURS: RUBRICAL NOTES

N.B.: Before the service begins, the icon is removed from the center analogion.

N.B.: The priest vests in the epitrachilion and phelonion, and the Deacon vests in stikharion, orarion, and Cuffs.

THE FIRST HOUR

While the bell is sounding, the priest and deacon open the royal doors, make three bows, and kiss the altar table. Then the priest takes up the Gospel and, preceded by the deacon who holds a candle, exits the altar through the royal doors. After placing the Gospel on the center analogion, he begins:

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

Reader: Amen. Glory to you, our God, glory to you.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who are everywhere and fill all things; Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life: Come and abide in us and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Reader: Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12x) 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

During the chanting of the Psalms, the priest, accompanied by the deacon with a candle, makes a full censuring of the Church, beginning by censuring around the Gospel, and concluding by censuring before it. The reader should be mindful of this and adjust the pace of chanting accordingly.

Psalm 5

Give ear to my words, O Lord; give heed to my groaning. Hearken to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray. O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you, and watch. For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not sojourn with you. The boastful may not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors bloodthirsty and deceitful men. But I through the abundance of your steadfast love will enter your house, I will worship toward your holy temple in the fear of you. Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me. For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is destruction, their throat is an open sepulcher, they flatter with their tongue. Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; because of their many transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you. But let all who take refuge in you rejoice, let them ever sing for joy; and defend them, that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield.

Psalm 22 [23]

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; he makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 26 [27]

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me, uttering slanders against me, my adversaries and foes, they shall stumble and fall. Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though

war arise against me, yet I will be confident. One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent, he will set me high upon a rock. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me; and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, Lord, do I seek." Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger; you have been my help. Cast me not off, forsake me not, O God of my salvation! For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me up. Teach me your way, O Lord; and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yea, wait for the Lord!

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 you O God. (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Troparion- Tone 4

Choir: The river Jordan was turned back by the mantel of Elisha,
after Elijah had been taken up to heaven.
The waters were parted in two,
and the stream became a dry path.
This was truly a type of baptism,
by which we pass over the stream of life.//
Christ has shone forth in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

Reader: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. What shall we call you O full of Grace? Heaven, for from you shone forth the sun of righteousness;

Paradise, for you have budded forth the flower of immortality; Virgin, for you have remained undefiled; Pure Mother, for you have held in your arms the Son, who is God of all. Beseech him to save our souls.

Stichera - Tone 8

Choir: Today the nature of the waters is sanctified.
The Jordan is parted in two.
It holds back the flow of its waters, //
as it beholds the washing of the Master.

Reader: Therefore, I remember you, from the land of the Jordan and of Hermon.

Choir: You have come to the river as a man, O Christ the King,
and hasten to be baptized like a servant by the Forerunner //
on account of our sins, O good and loving God.

Reader: The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and were afraid.

Choir: *You have come to the river...*

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

Choir: To the voice of one crying the wilderness,
"Prepare the way of the Lord,"
You came, O Lord, taking the form of a servant.
You asked to be baptized though you have no knowledge of sin.
The waters saw you and were afraid.
The forerunner trembled and cried aloud:
"How will the Lamp illumine the Light?
How will a servant lay his hand on the Master?
You take away the sin of the world, O Savior. //
Sanctify both me and the waters."

Prokeimenon and Scripture Readings

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 4th tone: The Lord thundered in the heavens, the Most High gave forth His voice. (*Ps. 18:13*)

Choir: The Lord thundered in the heavens, the Most High gave forth His voice.

Reader: I will love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my support. (*Ps. 18:2-3*)

Choir: The Lord thundered in the heavens, the Most High gave forth His voice.

Reader: The Lord thundered in the heavens,

Choir: ... the Most High gave forth His voice.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Isaiah (35:1-10)*) Thus says the Lord: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not pass over it, and fools shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Acts 13:25-33*) In those days, as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.' "Brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you that fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning him. Though they could charge him with nothing deserving death, yet they asked Pilate to have him killed. And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead; and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus.

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: (*Matthew 3:1-11*) In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit that befits repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut

down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

Reader: Order my steps in your Word, and so shall no wickedness have dominion over me. Deliver me from the wrongful dealings of men, and so shall I keep your commandments. Show the light of your countenance upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

Let my mouth be filled with your praise, O Lord, that I may sing of your glory and honor all the day long.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for your name’s sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Reader: Amen.

Kontakion- Tone 4

Choir: Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:
“Do not be afraid to baptize me.//

For I come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Christ our God, at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, you are worshipped and glorified. You are long-suffering, merciful and compassionate, loving the just and showing mercy to the sinner; calling all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come. Lord, in this hour receive our supplications and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds. Deliver us from all tribulations, evil and distress. Surround us with your holy angels, that guided and guarded by them, we may come to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of your unapproachable glory, for you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos we magnify you.

In the name of the Lord, father bless.

Priest: God be bountiful to us, and bless us, and show us the light of His countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Reader: Amen. O Christ the True Light who enlightens and sanctifies every man who comes into the world, let the light of your countenance shine upon us, that in it we may behold the unapproachable light; and guide our footsteps aright to the keeping of your commandments; through the prayers of your most pure mother, and of all your Saints. Amen.

THE THIRD HOUR

Reader: 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.

During the chanting of the Psalms, the deacon, having received a blessing, censes around the Gospel, then the altar, the sanctuary, the iconostasis, and the people, and concludes by censing before the Gospel.

Psalm 28 [29]

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy array. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, upon many waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful, the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars, the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Si'ron like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness, the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forests bare; and in his temple all cry, "Glory!" The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever. May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

Psalm 41 [42]

As a hart longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while men say to me continually, "Where is your God?" These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God. My soul is cast down within me, therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me. By day the Lord commands his steadfast love; and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. I say to God, my rock: "Why have you forgotten me? Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?" As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?" Why are you

cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

Psalm 50 [51]

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which you have broken rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. O Lord, you shall open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

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 you O God. (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Troparion- Tone 4

Choir: The river Jordan was turned back by the mantel of Elisha,
after Elijah had been taken up to heaven.
The waters were parted in two,
and the stream became a dry path.
This was truly a type of baptism,
by which we pass over the stream of life.//
Christ has shone forth in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

Reader: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. O Theotokos, you are the true vine laden with the fruit of life. We pray to you, O lady: intercede together with the Apostles and all the saints that mercy may be granted to our souls.

Stichera - Tone 8

Choir: The Prophet above all prophets in honor,
the Forerunner and Baptist,
saw you, the Lamb of God, who wash away the sins of the world.
His right hand trembled;
seized with anguish he cried aloud:
"I dare not touch your head, O Word.
Sanctify and enlighten me, O Merciful One; //
for you are the life and the light and peace of the world."

Reader: In the 4th Tone: Therefore I remember you, from the land of Jordan and of Hermon.

Tone 4

Choir: Today our God, the Trinity,
revealed Himself to us as one and undivided;
for the Father with a loud voice bore witness to His Son;
the Spirit came down from heaven in the form of a dove;
the Son bowed his spotless head before the Forerunner John
and was baptized in his love for us, //
delivering us from bondage.

Reader: The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and were afraid.

Choir: *Today our God...*

Reader: In the 5th Tone: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 5

Choir: The Father bore witness to you,
and the Divine Spirit in the form of a dove descended on you,
as you came in the flesh to the Jordan, O Lord.
You heard desire to be baptized in human form,
that in your compassion you might enlighten us who have gone astray,
and deliver us from all the snares and wiles of the dragon.//
Make your home in our souls, O Loving God.

Prokeimenon and Scripture Readings

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 6th tone: The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and were afraid.

Choir: The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and were afraid.

Reader: I cried to the Lord with my voice, even to God with my voice, and He heard me.

Choir: The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and were afraid.

Reader: The waters saw you, O God;

Choir: ... the waters saw you and were afraid.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Isaiah 1:16-20*) Thus says the Lord: wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins

are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Acts 19:1-8*) In those days, while Apol'los was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve of them in all. And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the kingdom of God.

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: (*Mark 1:1-8*) The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight -" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the

forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

Reader: Blessèd be the Lord God: blessèd be the Lord from day to day, and may the God of our salvation prosper us, for He is our God, the God of our salvation.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Reader: Amen.

Kontakion-Tone 4

Choir: Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:
"Do not be afraid to baptize me.//
For I come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Christ our God, at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, you are worshipped and glorified. You are long-suffering, merciful and compassionate, loving the just and showing mercy to the sinner; calling all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come. Lord, in this hour receive our supplications and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds. Deliver us from all tribulations, evil and distress. Surround us with your holy angels, that guided and guarded by them, we may come to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of your unapproachable glory, for you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos we magnify you.

In the name of the Lord, father bless.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Reader: Amen. O God the Master, Father Almighty, O Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son, and you, O Holy Spirit, one Godhead, one Power, have mercy upon me, a sinner and according to your divine judgments, save me your unworthy servant, for you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE SIXTH HOUR

Reader: 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.

During the chanting of the Psalms, the deacon, having received a blessing, censes around the Gospel, then the altar, the sanctuary, the iconostasis, and the people, and concludes by censing before the Gospel.

Psalm 73 [74]

O God, why do you cast us off forever? Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture? Remember your congregation, which you have gotten of old, which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage! Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt. Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins; the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary! Your foes have roared in the midst of your holy place; they set up their own signs for signs. At the upper entrance they hacked the wooden trellis with axes. And then all its carved wood they broke down with hatchets and hammers. They set your sanctuary on fire; to the ground they desecrated the dwelling place of your name. They said to themselves, "We will utterly subdue them"; they burned all the meeting places of God in the land. We do not see our signs; there is no longer any prophet, and there is none among us who knows how long. How long, O God, is the foe to scoff? Is the enemy to revile your name forever? Why do you hold back your hand, why do you you're your right hand in your bosom? Yet God my King is from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. You have divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the dragons on the waters. You crushed the heads of Leviathan, you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness. You cleaved open springs and brooks; you dried up ever-flowing streams. Yours is the day, yours also the night; you have established the luminaries and the sun. You have fixed all the bounds of the earth; you have made summer and winter. Remember this, O Lord, how the enemy scoffs, and an impious people reviles your name. Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild beasts; do not forget the life of your poor forever. Have regard for your covenant; for the dark places of the land are full of the habitations of violence. Let not the downtrodden be put to shame; let the poor and needy praise your name. Arise, O God, plead your cause; remember how the

impious scoff at thee all the day! Do not forget the clamor of your foes, the uproar of your adversaries which goes up continually!

Psalm 76 [77]

I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, that he may hear me. In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted. I think of God, and I moan; I meditate, and my spirit faints. You hold my eyelids from closing; I am so troubled that I cannot speak. I consider the days of old, I remember the years long ago. I commune with my heart in the night; I meditate and search my spirit: "Will the Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable? Has his steadfast love for ever ceased? Are his promises at an end for all time? Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?" And I say, "It is my grief that the right hand of the Most High has changed." I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; yea, I will remember your wonders of old. I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds. Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God? You are the God who works wonders, who has manifested your might among the peoples. With your arm you redeemed your people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid, yea, the deep trembled. The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side. The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook. Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen. You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Psalm 90 [91]

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. A Thousand may fall at your side, ten Thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord your

refuge, the Most High your habitation, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. For he will give his angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. Because he cleaves to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

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 you O God. (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Troparion- Tone 4

Choir: The river Jordan was turned back by the mantel of Elisha, after Elijah had been taken up to heaven. The waters were parted in two, and the stream became a dry path. This was truly a type of baptism, by which we pass over the stream of life.// Christ has shone forth in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

Reader: Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. We have no boldness because of the multitude of our sins, but entreat Him who was born of you, O virgin Theotokos, for the prayer of a mother has great power to win the favor of the Master. Do not despise the supplications of sinners, O all-pure one, for merciful and strong to save is He who willed to suffer for us.

Stichera - Tone 8

Choir: "O Prophet," The Lord now says to John, "come and baptized me, your Creator, who cleanse and enlighten all with grace. Touch My divine head and do not hesitate.

O Prophet, let it be so now;
for I have come to fulfill all righteousness.
Make haste; for I hasten to destroy the enemy,
the prince of darkness, hidden in the waters,
that I might deliver the world from his snares, //
and in My love grant eternal life."

Reader: In the 6th Tone: Therefore I remember you, from the land of Jordan and of Hermon.

Tone 6

Choir: Today the prophecy of the psalm is brought swiftly to fulfillment,
for, as it says, the sea looked and fled;
Jordan turned back from before the face of the Lord,
from before the face of the God of Jacob,
Who came to be baptized by a servant,
so that we might be cleansed of the filth of idolatry, //
and our souls enlightened through Him.

Reader: The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and were afraid.

Choir: *Today the prophecy...*

Reader: In the 5th Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 5

Choir: Why do you stop the flow of your waters, O Jordan?
Why do you make your streams flow back?
Why do you not follow your natural course?
"I cannot bear the fire which consumes me," it said.
"I am amazed and shudder at the extreme condescension.
I have not learned to wash the pure or cleanse the sinless.
I have learned only to wash the filthy garment.
Now Christ, who is baptized in me,
teaches me burn to the thorns of sin.
And John, the voice of the Word, bears witness with me.
He cries out: "Behold the Lamb of God,

Who takes away the sin of the world.”

Let us the faithful cry to Him://

“O God, Who shone forth for our salvation, glory to you.”

Prokeimenon and Scripture Readings

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 4th tone: your way was through the sea, and your paths through the great waters.

Choir: Your way was through the sea, and your paths through the great waters.

Reader: The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind.

Choir: Your way was through the sea, and your paths through the great waters.

Reader: Your way was through the sea,

Choir: ... and your paths through the great waters.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Isaiah 12:3-6*) Thus says the Lord: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name; make known his deeds among the nations, proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Priest: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans.

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Romans 6:3-11*) Brethren, do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the sinful body might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For he who has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. For we know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: (*Mark 1:9-15*) In those days, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased." The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

Reader: Let your tender mercies, O Lord, speedily go before us, for we have become exceedingly poor. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name: O Lord, deliver us and purge away our sins, for your name's sake.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Reader: Amen.

Kontakion-Tone 4

Choir: Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:
"Do not be afraid to baptize me.//
For I come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Christ our God, at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, you are worshipped and glorified. You are long-suffering, merciful and compassionate, loving the just and showing mercy to the sinner; calling all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come. Lord, in this hour receive our supplications and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds. Deliver us from all tribulations, evil and distress.

Surround us with your holy angels, that guided and guarded by them, we may come to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of your unapproachable glory, for you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos we magnify you.

In the name of the Lord, father bless.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers Lord Jesus Christ our God have mercy upon us and save us.

Reader: Amen. O God, the Lord of hosts, and Author of all creation, who in your boundless tender mercy have sent down your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, for the salvation of the human race, and through His holy cross have torn up the handwriting of our sins and thereby triumphed over the princes and dominions of darkness: O Master, who love mankind, accept these prayers of thanksgiving and supplication even from us sinners, and deliver us from every deadly and dark transgression and from all the visible and invisible enemies that seek to do us harm. Nail our flesh with the fear of you, and let not our hearts incline to evil words or thoughts, but wound our souls with your love that ever gazing upon you, guided by your light and beholding you, the eternal light that no man can approach, we may send up unceasing praises and thanks unto you, the Father without beginning, together with your Only-begotten Son and your most holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE NINTH HOUR

Reader: 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.

During the chanting of the Psalms, the priest, accompanied by the deacon with a candle, makes a full censuring of the Church, beginning by censuring around the Gospel, and concluding by censuring before it. The reader should be mindful of this and adjust the pace of chanting accordingly.

Psalm 92 [93]

The Lord reigns; he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength. Yea, the world is established; it shall never be moved; your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting. The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice, the floods lift up their roaring. Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, for evermore.

Psalm 113 [114, 115]

When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion. The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back. The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs. What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs? Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob, who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water. Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness! Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?" Our God is in the heavens; he does whatever he pleases. Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see. They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat. Those who make them are like them; so are all who trust in them. O Israel, trust in the Lord! He is their help and their shield. O house of Aaron, put your trust in the Lord! He is their help and their shield. You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord! He is their help and their shield. The Lord has been mindful of us; he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron; he will bless those who fear the Lord, both small and great. May the Lord give you increase,

you and your children! May you be blessed by the Lord, who made heaven and earth! The heavens are the Lord's heavens, but the earth he has given to the sons of men. The dead do not praise the Lord, nor do any that go down into silence. But we will bless the Lord from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the Lord!

Psalm 85 [86]

Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am godly; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all the day. Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; hearken to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you answer me. There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours. All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things, you alone are God. Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name. I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol. O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life, and they do not set you before them. But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Turn to me and take pity on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the son of your handmaid. Show me a sign of your favor that those who hate me may see and be put to shame because you, Lord, have 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 you O God. (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Troparion- Tone 4

Choir: The river Jordan was turned back by the mantle of Elisha, after Elijah had been taken up to heaven.

The waters were parted in two,
and the stream became a dry path.
This was truly a type of baptism,
by which we pass over the stream of life.//
Christ has shone forth in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

Reader: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. O loving Lord, who for our sakes was born of a virgin and has endured crucifixion, trampling down death by death and as God revealing the Resurrection: Despise not the work of your hands, but show your love for mankind, O merciful one. Accept the prayers made on our behalf by her who gave you birth, and you're your despairing people, O our Savior.

Stikhera - Tone 7

Choir: What wonder, to look down in the river
and see the Maker of heaven and earth standing naked.
Like a servant at the hands of a servant
He accepts to be baptized for our salvation.
The choirs of angels are astounded,
overwhelmed with fear and joy.//
With them we worship you; save us, O Lord.

Reader: In the 2nd Tone: Therefore, I remember you, from the land of the Jordan and of Hermon.

Tone 2

Choir: When he saw the Lord of glory draw near,
the Forerunner cried aloud:
“Behold, the One who redeems the world from corruption.
Behold, the One who delivers us from affliction.
Behold, the One who grants us remission of sins.
In His mercy He has come forth on the earth from a pure virgin.
He makes us children of God instead of servants;
through the waters of His baptism divine
He gives light to us in place of darkness.//
Let us all glorify Him with the Father and the Holy Spirit.”

Reader: The waters saw you, O God; the waters saw you and were afraid.

Choir: *When he saw the Lord...*

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

Tone 5

Choir: With your hand, O Baptist,
you touched the pure head of the Master.
With your hand and your finger you showed Him to us.
Stretch out this hand toward Him on our behalf,
since you have great boldness;
for He witnessed to you as greater than all the prophets.
And again, with your eyes, O Baptist,
you saw the Holy Spirit descend in the form of a dove.
Lift your eyes to Him and make Him gracious toward us.
And come and stand with us.
Come and stand with us.
Come and stand with us.//
Confirm our song and lead our feast.

Prokeimenon and Scripture Readings

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 3rd tone: The Lord is my light and my savior; whom shall I fear?

Choir: The Lord is my light and my savior; whom shall I fear?

Reader: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Choir: The Lord is my light and my savior; whom shall I fear?

Reader: The Lord is my light and my savior;

Choir: ... whom shall I fear?

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Isaiah 49:8-15*) Thus says the Lord: "In a time of favor I have answered you, in a day of salvation I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a

covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; saying to the prisoners, 'Come forth,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.' They shall feed along the ways, on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall smite them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be raised up. Lo, these shall come from afar, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene." Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his afflicted. But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me." Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Titus.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: (*Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7*) My child Titus: for the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: *(Matthew 3:13-17)* At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord. Glory to you!

After he has read the Gospel, the priest takes up the Gospel from the analogion and returns with it, being led by the deacon, through the royal doors to the altar. He places the Gospel on the altar table and closes the royal doors.

Reader: Forsake us not utterly, for your name's sake; and for the sake of Abraham whom you loved and of Isaac your servant, and of Israel your Holy One. Do not destroy your covenant and take not your mercies from us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Reader: Amen.

Kontakion- Tone 4

Choir: Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:
“Do not be afraid to baptize me.//
For I come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Christ our God, at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, you are worshipped and glorified. You are long-suffering, merciful and compassionate, loving the just and showing mercy to the sinner; calling all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come. Lord, in this hour receive our supplications and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds. Deliver us from all tribulations, evil and distress. Surround us with your holy angels, that guided and guarded by them, we may come to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of your unapproachable glory, for you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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 beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos we magnify you.

In the name of the Lord, father bless.

Priest: God be bountiful to us, and bless us, and show us the light of His countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Reader: Amen. O Master Lord Jesus Christ our God, who are long-suffering towards our sins and have brought us even unto this present hour, in which, hanging upon the life-giving cross, you have opened unto the good thief the way into paradise, and destroyed death by death: be merciful to us, your humble, sinful and unworthy servants.

For we have sinned and transgressed, and we are not worthy to lift up our eyes and look at the height of heaven, since we have forsaken the path of your righteousness and have walked according to the desires of our own

hearts. But we pray you of your boundless goodness, spare us, O Lord, according to the abundance of your mercy, and save us for your holy name's sake, for our days are consumed in vanity. Deliver us from the hand of the adversary, forgive us our sins, and kill the passions of the flesh, that putting off the old man, we may be clothed with the new, and may live for you, our Master and Protector; and that so, following your ordinances, we may attain to the eternal rest, in the place where all the joyful dwell. For you, O Christ our God, are indeed the true joy and gladness of those who love you, and unto you we ascribe glory, together with your Father, who is without beginning, and your most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(The reader continues immediately into the Typika)

THE TYPIKA

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word! Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will! Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

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

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being. Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no help. When his breath departs he returns to his earth; on that very day his plans perish. Happy is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith for ever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the sojourners, he upholds the widow and the fatherless; but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. The Lord will reign for ever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!

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

Only-begotten Son and Immortal Word of God, who for our salvation willed to be incarnate of the Holy Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, who without change became man and was crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, who are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

In your Kingdom remember us O Lord, when you come in your Kingdom. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

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

Remember us, O Lord, when you come in your Kingdom.

Remember us, O Master, when you come in your Kingdom

Remember us, O Holy One, when you come into your Kingdom

The Heavenly choir sings unto you and cries: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Come unto him and be enlightened and your faces shall not be ashamed.

The Heavenly choir sings unto you and cries: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

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

The choir of holy angels and archangels, with all the powers of Heaven, sings your praises and cries: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. (*If liturgy is to be celebrated then continue with "O God, loose, remit..."*)

Omit if liturgy is to be celebrated

People: 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 for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; And He was crucified 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 sits at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets; In One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Reader: O God, Loose remit and pardon our transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary; whether of word or of deed; whether of knowledge or of ignorance; whether of the day or of the night; whether of the mind or of the intention: forgive us all, for you are good and love mankind.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Reader: Amen.

Kontakion- Tone 4

Choir: Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:
“Do not be afraid to baptize me.//
For I come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (40x)

O All-Holy Trinity: Might, One in Essence, Kingdom Undivided, origin of all good things; be graciously inclined unto me, a sinner. Establish me; give understanding to my heart, and purge away all my vileness. Enlighten my mind, that I may glorify, sing praises, and adore you and say: you only are holy, you only are the Lord, O Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Omit if liturgy is to be celebrated

Choir: Blessed be the Name of the Lord, henceforth and forever more! (3x)

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

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together! I sought the Lord and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to Him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard Him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! O fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear Him have no want! The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Choir: It is truly meet to bless you O Theotokos, ever-blessèd and most pure and the Mother of our God.

Priest: Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos we magnify you.

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

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. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, Bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His all-pure mother, of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.