

The Order of Matins

**The Feast of the Holy, Glorious, and Illustrious
Prime Apostles Peter and Paul**


June 29

Revised June 2009

The priest, vested in epitrachilion and phelonion, incenses the Holy Table, Icon Screen, the whole church, and the people. The deacon precedes him with a lighted candle. The priest then stands before the Holy Doors, holding the censer. The deacon stands to his right and says:

Deacon: In the name of the Lord, Father, give the blessing.

While making the sign of the cross with the censer, the priest says:

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

Response: 
A - men.

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

O Lord, open my lips *
and my mouth will declare your praise. (*twice*)

The Lector, holding a lighted candle and standing in the midst of the church, reads Psalm 3. During this psalm, the priest, having removed his phelonion, says the Prayers of Light of Matins in front of the Royal Doors. The deacon returns to the altar.

Psalm 3 How many are my foes, O Lord!
How many are rising up against me!

How many are saying about me:
"There is no help for him in God."

But you, Lord, are a shield about me,
my glory, who lift up my head.

I cry aloud to you, Lord.
He answers from his holy mountain.

I lie down to rest, and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord upholds me.

I will not fear even thousands of people
who are ranged on every side against me.

Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us!

Response:



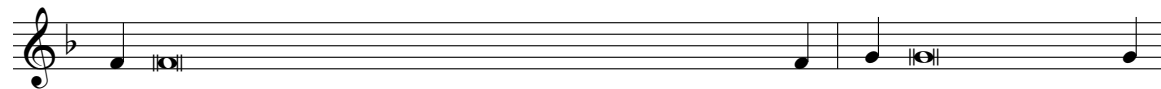
More honorable than the cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim,



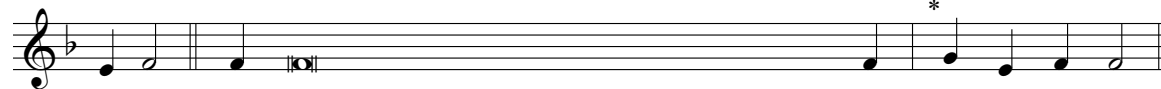
who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we mag-ni - fy.

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

Response:

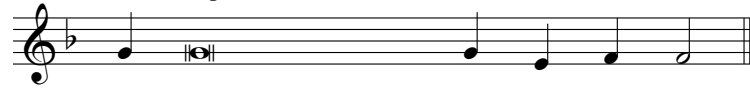


Glo-ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir-it; now and ever and forev-er.



A-men. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer-cy. Give the bless-ing.

* Or, when a bishop serves:



Most reverend [arch]bishop, give the bles - sing.

Priest: May Christ our true God have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; and of the holy, glorious, and illustrious prime apostles Peter and Paul whose feast we gloriously celebrate today; and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response:



A - - - - - men.

Arise, Lord; save me, my God,
you who strike my foes on the mouth,
you who break the teeth of the wicked!

O Lord of salvation,
bless your people!

I lie down to rest, and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord upholds me.

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

And then three times, with a bow each time:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God!

The third time, with melody:



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

The deacon comes to the ambon to say the Litany of Peace. He and the priest bow to each other, and the priest returns to the altar. If there is no deacon, the priest says this litany before the Holy Doors, remaining outside the altar.

Litany of Peace

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

Response:



1. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Response:



2. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

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

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

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

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our most reverend metropolitan, (*Name*), for our bishop, (*Name*), whom God loves, for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

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

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

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

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

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


Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

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


Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Prayer over Bowed Heads

Priest: Peace ☩ be to all!

Response: 
And to your spir - it.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord!

Response: 
To you, O Lord.

Priest: Holy Lord, you dwell on high and look upon the lowly, and with your all-seeing eye you watch over all creation. To you we bend our neck in spirit and body and we implore you, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling place and bless us all. If we have sinned voluntarily or involuntarily forgive us as a good God who loves mankind and gives us earthly and heavenly gifts. For yours are mercy and salvation, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you, with your eternal Father and your life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

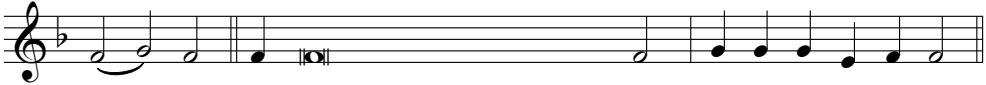
Response: 
A - men.

Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response: 
Give the bless-ing!

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

Response: 
A - men. O God, strengthen the true faith, for-ev - er and ev - er.

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

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

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

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (4)

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

Response: To you, O Lord.

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

Response: A - men.

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

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

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

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

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

Response: To you, O Lord.

Priest: We thank you, Lord, our God, for you have wakened us from our sleep,
and have filled our lips with praise that we might worship you and call
upon your holy name. We beg of your compassion that you have always
shown towards us, hear us now and send help to those who stand before
your holy glory, awaiting your abundant mercy. O Lord, grant that those
who serve you in fear and love may praise your ineffable goodness.
For to you is due all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy
Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: A - men.

"The Lord is God" is intoned recto-tono by the deacon, and then sung by the faithful in the Tone of the Troparion that follows it. The deacon remains at the ambon and chants the verses (also recto-tono); the faithful repeat "The Lord is God" after each verse. If there is no deacon, the priest remains at the Royal Doors and chants the verses.

"The Lord is God" with Troparion and Theotokion

Tone 4



The Lord is God and has re-vealed him-self to us; bless-ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord.

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

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

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

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

Troparion of the Apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 4 (sung twice)



Lead-ers of the apostles, teach-ers of the world, in-ter-cede with the Lord of all



to grant peace to the world and a-bun-dant mer-cy to our souls.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Festal Theotokion - Tone 4



The mys-ter-y hid-den from all a-ges and un-known to the an-gels

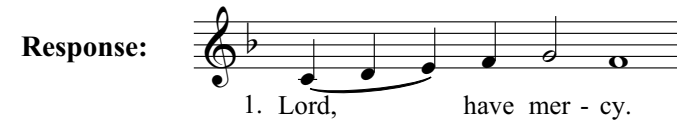


has been made known to those on earth through you, O The-o-to-kos.

The deacon says the following litany at the ambon. If there is no deacon, the priest says this litany at the Holy Doors.

Litany of Supplication

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



1. Lord, have mer-cy.

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



2. Lord, have mer-cy.

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



3. Grant this, O Lord.

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



4. Grant this, O Lord.

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

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

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

Response: Grant this, O Lord (4)

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

Three times, each with a reverence:
Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y, Ho - ly and Im-mort-al have mer-cy on us.

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

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

reverence, and sung more slowly
Ho - ly and Im-mort-al have mer-cy on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y,

Ho - ly and Im - mort - al have mer - cy on us.

Troparion

Troparion of the holy apostles Peter and Paul - Tone 4

Lead-ers of the apostles, teach-ers of the world, in-ter-cede with the Lord of all

to grant peace to the world and a-bun-dant mer-cy to our souls.

God has taken flesh in a union with-out con-fu - sion, and will-ing - ly ac-cept-ed

the Cross for us; where-by he raised the first-formed Ad - am and saved

our souls from death.

First Psalter Reading

The deacon returns to the altar. Psalm 18 is read by the lector

Psalm 18 The heavens proclaim the glory of God,
and the firmament shows forth the work of your hands.
Day unto day takes up the story
and night unto night makes known the message.

No speech, no word, no voice is heard
yet their span extends through all the earth,
their words to the utmost bounds of the world.

There he has placed a tent for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent,
rejoices like a champion to run its course.

At the end of the sky is the rising of the sun;
to the furthest end of the sky is its course.
There is nothing concealed from its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.

They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb.

So in them your servant finds instruction;
great reward is in their keeping.
But who can detect all his errors?
From hidden faults acquit me.

From presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule me.
Then shall I be blameless, clean from grave sin.

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favor in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock!

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

And then three times, with a bow each time:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God!

Third time, with melody:



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

The deacon (or priest) stands before the Holy Doors and says the Small Litany at the ambon.




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



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



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



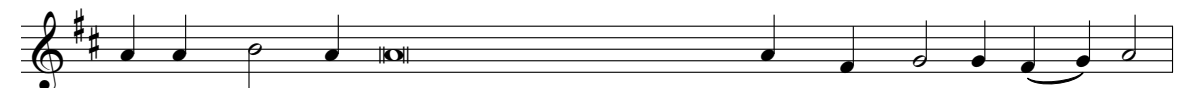
Bless - ed are you, O Mas - ter; make me understand your com - mand - ments.



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




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



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



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



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

glo - ry. Lord God, heav'n - ly King, Fa - ther Al - might - y;
 Lord, on - ly be - got - ten Son, Jesus Christ, and Ho - ly Spir - it. Lord God,
 Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sin of the world,
 have mer - cy on us. You take a - way the sins of the world, hear our pray'r.
 You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us.
 For you a - lone are ho - ly, you a - lone are Lord, Je - sus Christ,
 to the glory of God the Fa - ther. A - men. I will bless you day aft - er
 day, and praise your name for - ev - er. Make us wor - thy, O Lord,
 to be kept sin - less this morn - ing. Bless - ed are you, O Lord,

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

Response: 1. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Response: 2. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Response: To you, O Lord.

Priest: For yours are the might and the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: A - men.

Sessional Hymn 1

Tone 8 podoben: Premudrosti

Hav - ing put a - side fish - ing in the deep, you re - ceived from the Father himself
 the revelation of the In - car - na - tion of the Word. Thus you con - fi - dent - ly

cried out to your Cre - a - tor: I know that you are the Son of God,
 con-sub-stan-tial with him. There-fore you were tru - ly revealed as the rock of faith
 and a trus-tee of the keys of grace. In - ter-cede, there-fore, O apostle Peter, with
 Christ our God, to grant for-give-ness of our sins to those who loving-ly
 cel - e - brate your ho - ly mem - o - ry.

Cantor: Glory...

Tone 1 troparion

We wor - thi - ly ex - alt the all-praiseworthy Pe-ter and Paul,
 the de - fend - er of the rock of the Church, and the net of the world.
 They have the keys of heav - en from Christ, be-cause they have
 il - lu - mined the world in the belief of the Trin - i - ty. Glo - ry to

Theotokion

O Theo-o - to-kos, you are the true vine laden with the fruit of life.
 There-fore, we im-plore you, O La - dy, to in - tercede together with the apos-tles
 and the saints so that we may ob - tain mer - cy for our souls.

The Great Doxology

During the Psalms of Praise, the priest vests in the phelonion. At the “Glory to the Father...” of the Psalms of Praise, the deacon (or priest) opens the Holy Doors. After the last sticheron, the priest stands before the Holy Table, facing east, raises his hands, and intones:

Deacon: Glory to you who show us the light!

And the faithful continue the Great Doxology. At “Holy God,” the priest takes the Gospel Book from the tetrapod and processes with it through the Holy Doors and replaces it on the Holy Table.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and to peo - ple on earth
 peace and good will. We praise you, we bless you,
 we wor-ship you, we glo - ri - fy you, we thank you for your great

and en-light - en our souls.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

The most hon - orable feast has ar-rived, the feast of the Church of Christ,
 the feast of the interces-sors of our sal-va - tion. There-fore, let us mystic'ly rejoice
 and say to them: Re - joice, for you have become the light of those in dark - ness,
 shin-ing splen-dors of the Spir - it - ual Sun. Re - joice, O Peter and Paul, unshakable
 foundations of di-vine teach - ings, friends of Christ and cho-sen ves - sels. Be pres-ent
 a - mong us in an in-vis - i - ble man - ner and grant spir - it - ual gifts
 to those who praise your feast with hymns.

Cantor: Now and ever...

him who glo - ri - fied you! Glo - ry to him who strength-ened you.

Glo - ry to him who gave you gifts for e - ter - nal life.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion

O most ho - ly Vir - gin, heaven-ly are your hands with which you car-ried
 the Cre - a - tor who be-came in - car - nate through his good - ness.
 Now ex - tend your hands and be-seech him to de - liv - er from
 temp - ta - tion, passion, and dan - ger all those who lov - ing - ly praise you and
 cry out: Glo-ry to him who dwelled in you! Glo-ry to him who came forth
 from you! Glo-ry to him who delivered us through your birth-giv - ing.

Second Psalter Reading

The lector reads Psalm 19.

Psalm 19 May the Lord answer in time of trial;
may the name of Jacob's God protect you.

May he send you help from his shrine
and give you support from Zion.
May he remember all your offerings
and receive your sacrifice with favor.

May he give you your heart's desire
and fulfill every one of your plans.
May we ring out our joy at your victory
and rejoice in the name of our God.
(May the Lord grant all your prayers.)

I am sure now that the Lord
will give victory to his anointed,
will reply from his holy heaven
with the mighty victory of his hand.

Some trust in chariots or horses,
but we in the name of the Lord.
They will collapse and fall,
but we shall hold and stand firm.

Give victory to the king, O Lord,
give answer on the day we call.

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

And then three times, with a bow each time:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God!

rec - og - nized Christ our God who brought light out of dark - - - ness.
En - treat him to save and en - light - en our souls.

Cantor: O praise him with resounding cymbals,
(on 1) praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to the Lord.

O preach - er of Christ and proud bear - er of his cross, you great - ly
de - sired the di - vine love be - fore all things since it binds its lovers to the
Be - lov - ed. You were al - so called a pris - on - er for Christ; you were
strength - ened by temp - ta - tions, which you con - sidered sweeter than all
nour - ish - ment. Be - cause you lived for your Mas - ter a - lone,
you were made wor - thy of for - give - ness at death. En - treat him to save

of God, for you preached the word of God to all. Je-sus re-plied:
 Bless-ed are you, Simon, son of Jo-nah. You re-ceived your reward from God
 because you glori-fied him in faith. In re-turn, he has called you to
 re-ceive rich-es. He placed you as the sol-id rock and foun-da-tion
 of the Church.

Cantor: Praise him with timbrel and dance,
 (on 2) praise him with strings and pipes.

Your call came from on high and not from mor-tals. When the dark-ness
 of the earth covered the eyes of your bod-y and the sad-ness
 of evil flourished o-pen-ly, then the heav-enly Light shone forth with-in
 your mind's eye, re-veal-ing the beau-ty of pi-e-ty. There-fore you

The third time, with melody:

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

The deacon (or priest) stands before the Holy Doors and says the Small Litany at the ambon:

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

Response:
 1. Lord, have mer-cy.

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

Response:
 2. Lord, have mer-cy.

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

Response:
 To you, O Lord.

Priest: For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:
 A-men.

Sessional Hymn 2

Tone 8 podoben: Premudrosti



Hav-ing re-ceived from Christ a call-ing from heav'n, you were re-vealed as a
 preach-er of the Light. By your teach-ings, you enlightened the good will of all
 be-cause you up-root-ed the servi-tude to the writ-ten law. You il-lu-mined
 the faithful in their knowledge of the Spir-it. Be-cause of this, you ascended
 worthily to the third heav-en and at-tained Par-a-dise. There-fore, O a-pos-tle
 Paul, intercede with Christ our God to grant for-give-ness of sins
 to those who loving-ly cel-e-brate your ho-ly mem-o-ry.

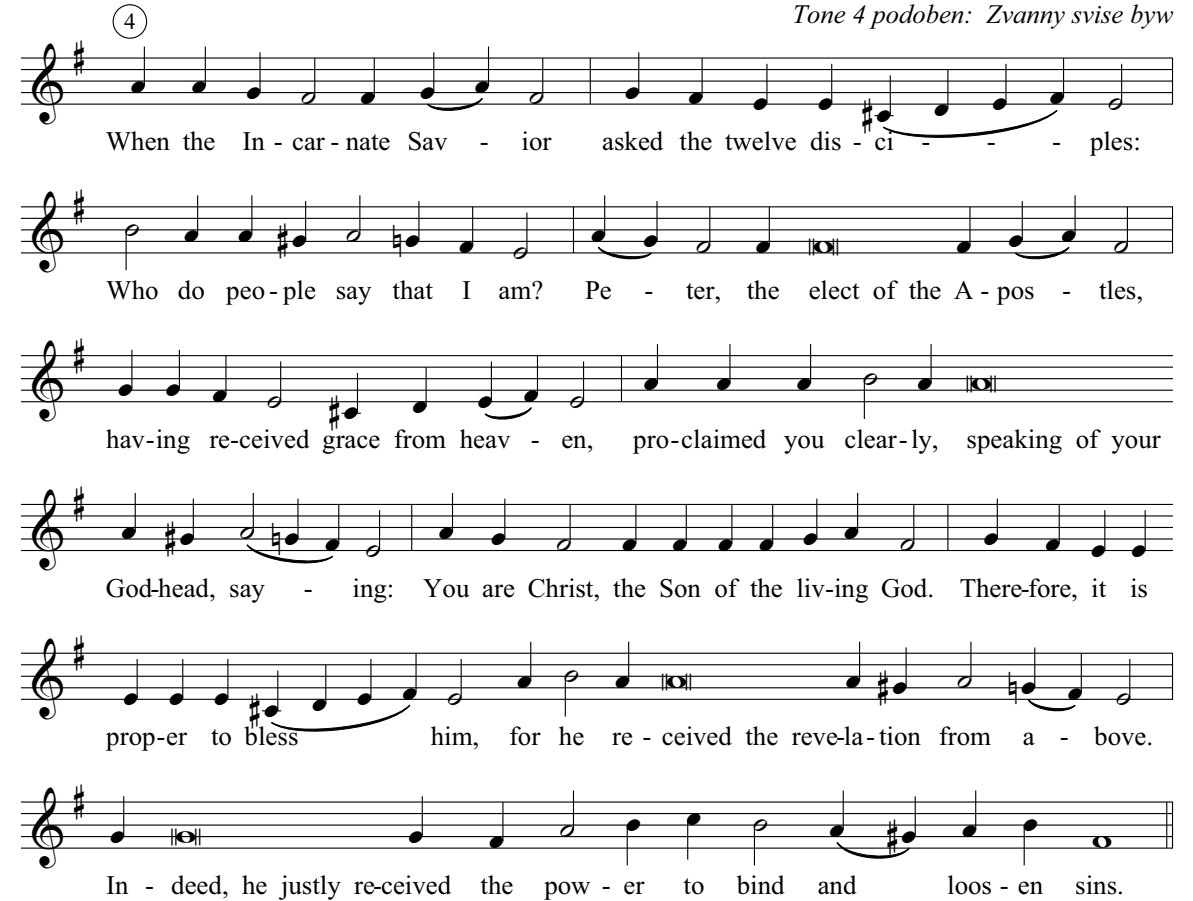
Cantor: *(Tone 4) Glory...*

Tone 4 podoben: Javilsja jesi



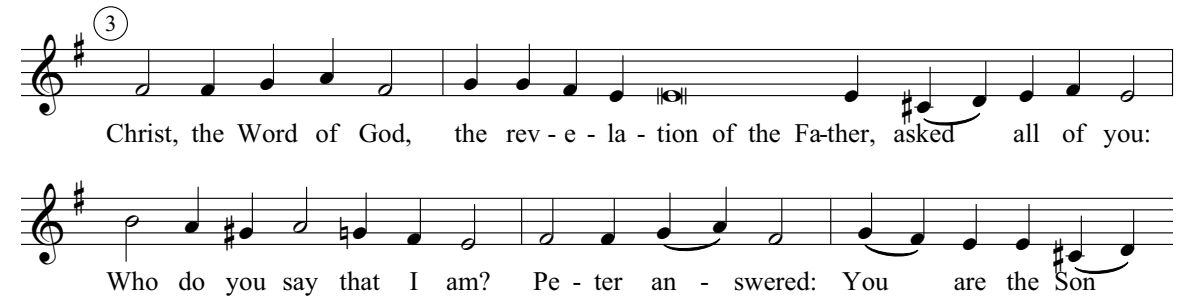
As the stars bright-en the whole earth, you give light by your shin-ing rays,

Tone 4 podoben: Zvanny svise byw



When the In-car-nate Sav-ior asked the twelve dis-ci-ples:
 Who do peo-ple say that I am? Pe-ter, the elect of the A-pos-tles,
 hav-ing re-ceived grace from heav-en, pro-claimed you clear-ly, speaking of your
 God-head, say-ing: You are Christ, the Son of the liv-ing God. There-fore, it is
 prop-er to bless him, for he re-ceived the reve-la-tion from a-bove.
 In-deed, he justly re-ceived the pow-er to bind and loos-en sins.

Cantor: O praise him with sound of trumpet
(on 3) praise him with lute and harp.



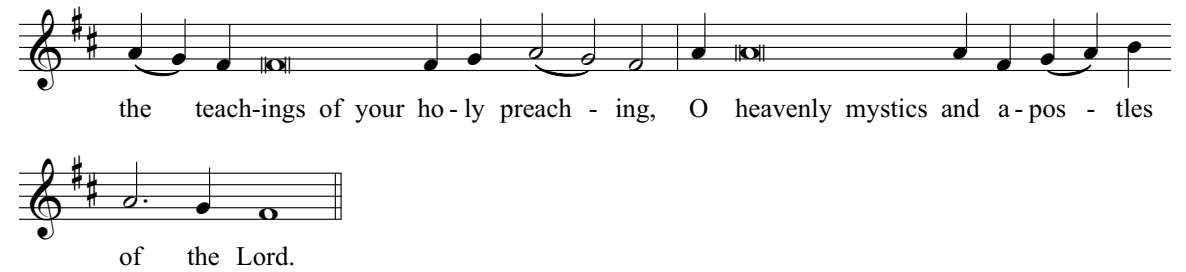
Christ, the Word of God, the rev-e-la-tion of the Fa-ther, asked all of you:
 Who do you say that I am? Pe-ter an-swered: You are the Son

beasts, wild and tame, *
 reptiles and birds on the wing;
 all earth's kings and peoples,
 earth's princes and rulers.
 young men and maidens, *
 old men together with children.
 Let them praise the name of the Lord *
 for he alone is exalted.
 The splendor of his name *
 reaches beyond heaven and earth.
 He exalts the strength of his people, *
 he is the praise of all his saints,
 of the children of Israel, *
 of the people to whom he comes close.

Psalm 149 Sing a new song to the Lord, *
 his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
 Let Israel rejoice in its Maker, *
 let Zion's sons exult in their king.
 Let them praise his name with dancing *
 and make music with timbrel and harp.
 For the Lord takes delight in his people. *
 He crowns the poor with salvation.
 Let the faithful rejoice in their glory, *
 shout for joy and take their rest.
 Let the praise of God be on their lips *
 and a two-edged sword in their hand,
 to deal out vengeance to the nations *
 and punishment on all the peoples;
 to bind their kings in chains *
 and their nobles in fetters of iron.
 to carry out the sentence pre-ordained: *
 this honor is for all his faithful.

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

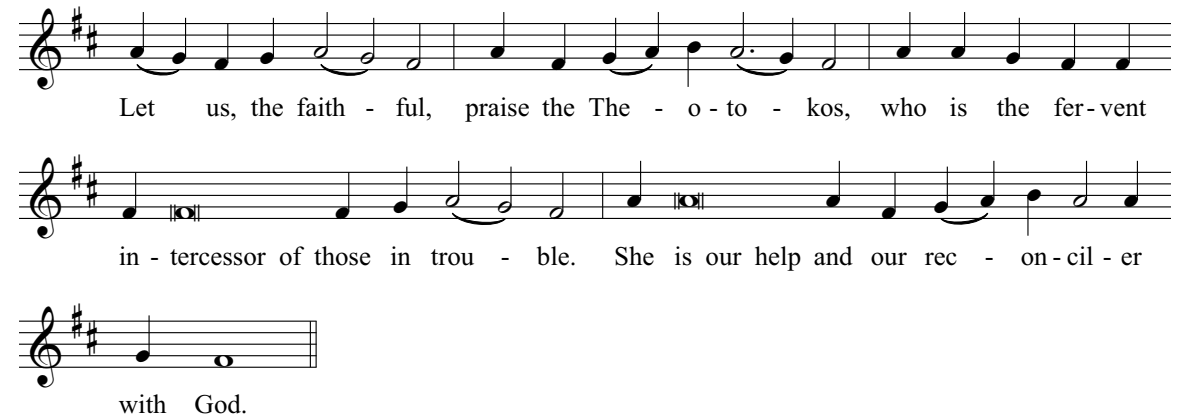
Cantor: Praise him for his powerful deeds,
 (on 4) praise his surpassing greatness.



the teach-ings of your ho-ly preach - ing, O heavenly mystics and a-pos - tles
 of the Lord.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion

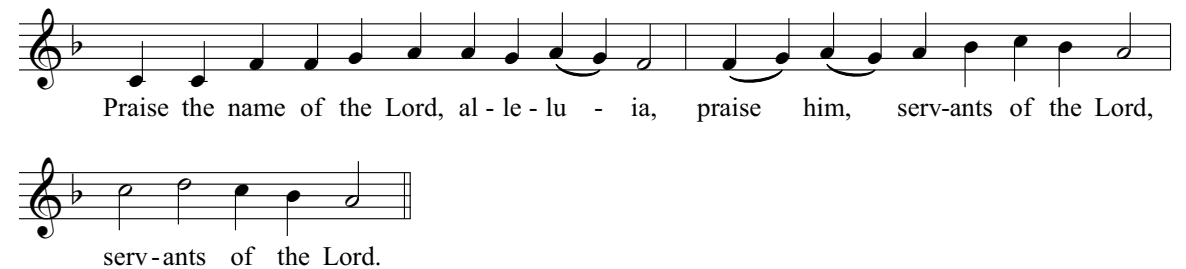


Let us, the faith - ful, praise the The - o - to - kos, who is the fer - vent
 in - tercessor of those in trou - ble. She is our help and our rec - on - cil - er
 with God.

Third Psalter Reading

Before the Polyeleos, the priest vests in the phelonion. The deacon opens the Holy Doors, and, when the Polyeleos is sung, the priest incenses the Holy Table, the icon screen, the church, and the people, proceeded by the deacon carrying a lighted candle.

Polyeleos (Psalms 134 and 135)



Praise the name of the Lord, al - le - lu - ia, praise him, serv-ants of the Lord,
 serv-ants of the Lord.


Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God,




the house of our God.

Refrain



Lord, your name stands for - ev - - - er, un - for - got - ten from age to age,



from age to age.

Refrain




From Zi - on may the Lord be blessed, he who dwells in Je - ru - sa - lem,



in Je - ru - sa - lem.

Refrain




O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,



It is praised by the an - gels and wor-shipped by hu - man be - ings

Psalms of Praise


Tone 4 samohlasen




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



from the heav - ens, praise him in the heights. To you is



due a hymn, O God. Praise him, all his an - gels, praise him, all his host.



To you is due a hymn, O God.

Praise him, sun and moon, *
 praise him, shining stars.
 Praise him, highest heavens *
 and the waters above the heavens.
 Let them praise the name of the Lord, *
 He commanded; they were made.
 He fixed them forever, *
 gave a law which shall not pass away.
 Praise the Lord from the earth, *
 sea creatures and all oceans,
 fire and hail, snow and mist, *
 stormy winds that obey his word;
 all mountains and hills, *
 all fruit trees and cedars,

u ni-verse, the preach ers of the faith, and two
trum - pets of the Word of God, the in - ter - pret-ers
of teach-ings, pil - - - lars of the Church,
and those who re - fute er - ror.

Cantor: Glory... *All repeat "Come, let us extol..."*

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion

The great and a - maz - ing mys - te - ry of your birth - giv-ing,
O Vir - gin The - o - to - kos, fav - - - ored of God, was
preached by the proph - ets, taught by
the a - pos-tles, and con fessed by the mar - - - tyrs.

Refrain

al - le - lu - ia, for his love en-dures for - ev - er. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

who fixed the earth firm - ly on the seas,

Refrain

and he snatched us a - way from our foes,

Refrain

To the God of heav - en, give thanks,

Refrain

Exaltation

We ex - tol you, O Pe - ter and Paul, A - pos - tles of Christ. By your teach-ings,
you have en - light - ened the whole world and have drawn the ends of the
earth near to Christ.

verse: The heavens proclaim the glory of God, and the firmament shows forth the work of his hands.

verse: For the kingdom is the Lord's; he is ruler of the nations.

verse: Through all the world their voice resounds; their message reaches to the ends of the earth.

verse: God stands in the divine assembly; in the midst of the gods he gives judgment.

verse: Glory...now and ever...

Three times

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

Bulgarian Verse

Let us, the cit - i - zens of the high er, the heav - en - ly Je - ru - sa - lem,

praise the pre - em - i - nent Pe - ter and Paul, the

dis - - - ci - ples of Christ.

Sessional Hymn 3

Tone 8 podoben: Premudrosti

Let us praise Pe - ter and the most wise Paul, great lamp - stands and lights,

Response:

2. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon:

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

Response:

To you, O Lord.

Priest:

O God, our God, who have placed all spiritual and intellectual powers under your will, we pray and beg you: accept these hymns of praise which we offer to you according to our ability together with all your creatures. Give us in exchange the riches of your goodness, for before you all beings in the heavens, or on earth and under the earth bend their knees, and everything that lives or that breathes gives praise to your glory beyond reach, for you are the one true God, full of mercy. For all the heavenly powers praise you, and we give glory to you: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

A - men.

Hymns of Light

Podoben: Ženy uslyšite

Come, let us ex - tol the a - pos - tles Pe - ter and Paul, those di - vine

lead - ers of the a - pos - tles and lights of the



and for - ev - er. A - men.

You received the bodiless Word when he willed to recreate my nature; you gave birth to him in the flesh, O Virgin; wherefore, O Theotokos, we ceaselessly magnify you.

Katavasia



May ev - 'ry child of the earth ex - ult in spir - it and hold a - loft



the burn - ing lamp; may the an - gels in heav - en praise with joy the ho - ly



feast of the Mother of God and sing to her: Re - joice, O blessed and ev - er - Vir - gin,



ho - ly The - o - to - kos.

After the Ninth Ode, the deacon (or priest) stands before the Holy Doors and says the Small Litany at the ambon:

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



1. Lord, have mer - cy.

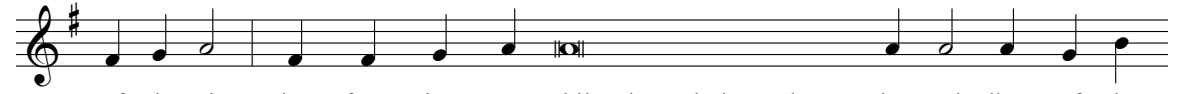
Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.



who were re - vealed as the first of the dis - ci - ples. They glis - tened



by means of the fire of the di - vine Spir - it and burned up the whole cloud



of de - ceit. There - fore, they wor - thily showed themselves to be sol - diers of the



king - dom on high and shar - ers of the throne of grace. We, there - fore, cry



out to them: O A - pos - tles of Christ our God, ob - tain re - mis - sion of the sins



of those who loving - ly cel - e - brate your ho - ly mem - o - ry.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Theotokion



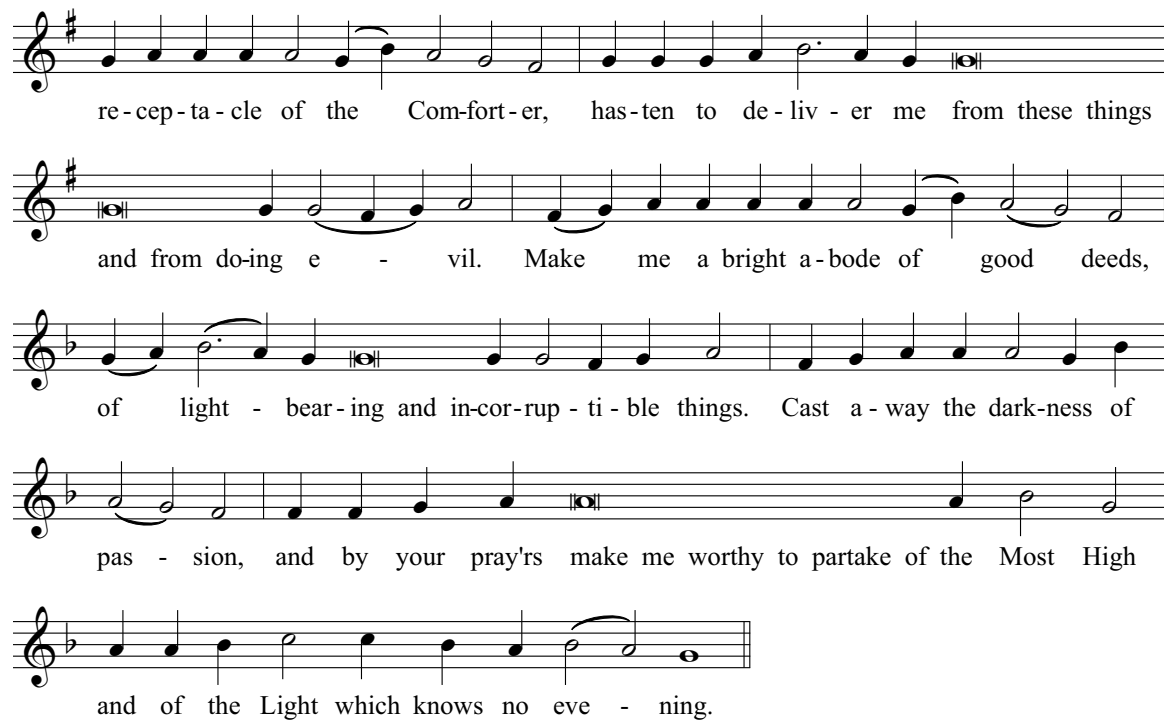
O Vir - gin, most hon - ored in song, I am de - filed be - cause of in - i - qui - ty,



for I have en - tertained e - vil thoughts in my mind. O im - mac - u - late bride



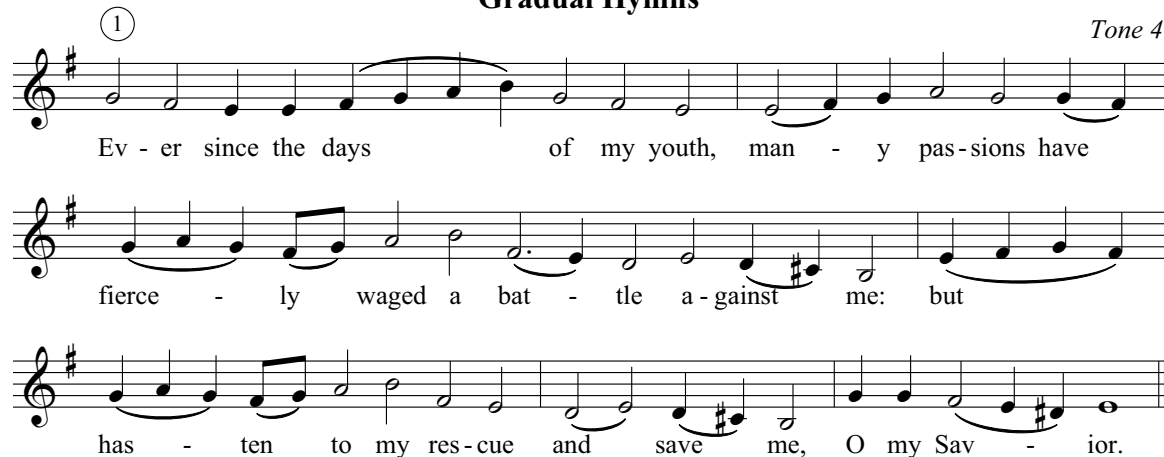
of the Trin - i - ty, and in - vi - o - late mother of the De - liv - er - er, and the



re-cep-ta-cle of the Com-fort-er, has-ten to de-liv-er me from these things
and from do-ing e - vil. Make me a bright a-bode of good deeds,
of light - bear-ing and in-cor-rup - ti - ble things. Cast a - way the dark-ness of
pas - sion, and by your pray'rs make me worthy to partake of the Most High
and of the Light which knows no eve - ning.


Gradual Hymns

① Tone 4



Ev - er since the days of my youth, man - y pas-sions have
fierce - ly waged a bat - tle a - gainst me: but
has - ten to my res-cue and save me, O my Sav - ior.

②



All of you that hate Zi - on shall be put to

Refrain



Ho - ly A - pos - tle Pe - ter, pray to God for us.

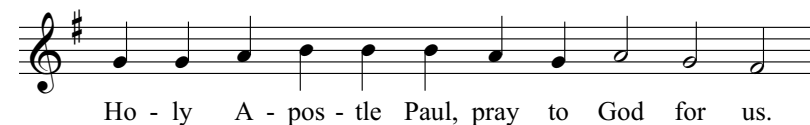
Your very flesh healed the sick of their illnesses, O holy Peter, manifesting your great power; thus we magnify you. *Refrain*

By his prodigies, contrary to God, Simon Magus exalted himself to the heavens; but by the ineffable power of God, O holy Peter, you have put him down; and we call you blessed. *Refrain*

By your intercessions, O holy Apostle, obtain remission of sins, enlightenment of heart and joy in spirit for those who celebrate your sacred memory. *Refrain*

O Virgin who conceived our God, you are truly called Theotokos; as is right, we the faithful glorify you with one accord, and in hymns we magnify you. *Refrain*

You surpassed our limited nature in conceiving the Lord, your Creator, and you became the gateway to salvation for the world; thus, O Theotokos, with ceaseless hymns we magnify you!

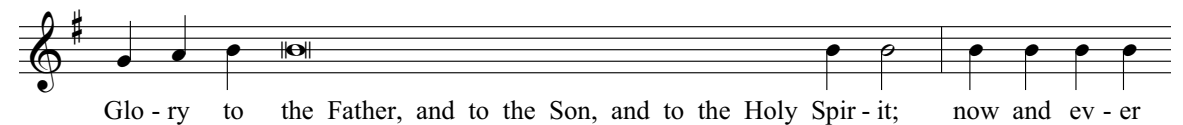


Ho - ly A - pos - tle Paul, pray to God for us.

O holy Paul, we bow down and honor the chains that you bore, condemned as an evildoer for the sake of Christ; and we venerate on your body the wounds you bear as a wondrous conqueror. *Refrain*

Having lifted your anchor to pass to Him who cherished above all things, you dwell with him now as his servant. We entreat you to draw us to yourself by your prayers. *Refrain*

No longer in dark sayings nor as in a mirror do you see Christ, but now he is seen face to face, revealing to you a perfect understanding of his Divinity.

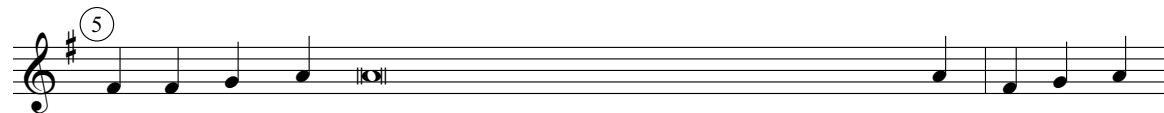


Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er

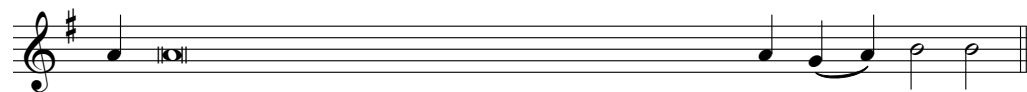


their heart.

Refrain

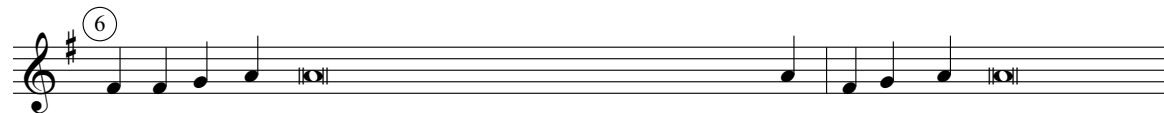


He has put down the mighty from their seat and exalted the hum-ble; he has filled

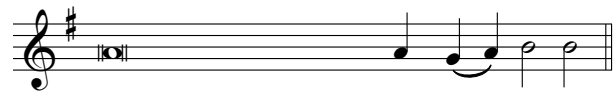


the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent a-way emp-ty.

Refrain



He has re-ceived Israel his servant, being mindful of his love, as he spoke to our fathers:



to Abraham and to his seed for - ev-er.

Refrain

Ode 9

Irmos



We ex - tol you in hymns, O most glo-rious Bride, and all - ho - ly



The - o - to - kos, for you have giv - en birth to



the Cre - a - - - tor of all things vis - i - ble and in - vis - i - ble.



shame by the Lord: all of you shall be with - - - ered up,



as the grass is by the fire. Glo-ry to the Father and to the Son and



to the Ho - ly Spir - it: The Ho - ly Spir - - - it



gives his life to ev-'ry soul; it is ex-alt - ed in pu-ri - ty;



it is il - lu - - - mined by the one God in three Per-sons



in a sa - cred mys - ter - y. Now and ev - er and



for ev - er. A - men. The Ho - ly Spir - - - it



caus - es streams of grace which are flow - ing for us all,



and they wa - ter the whole cre - a - - - tion that we



Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace ☩ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon - Tone 4



The deacon chants the verse.

verse: The heavens proclaim the glory of God,
and the firmament shows forth the work of his hands.

Preparation for the Gospel

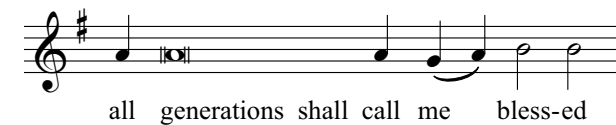
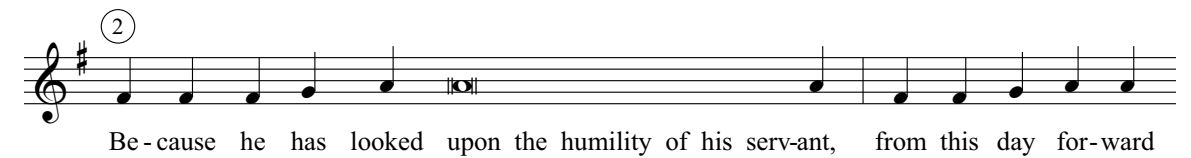
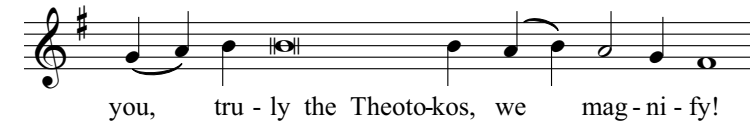
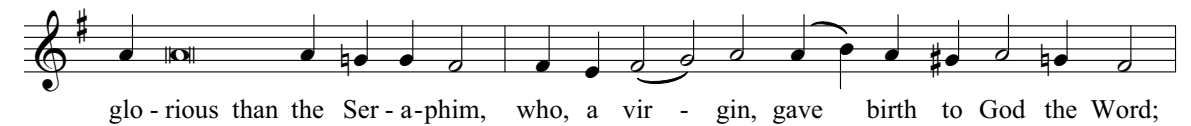
Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.



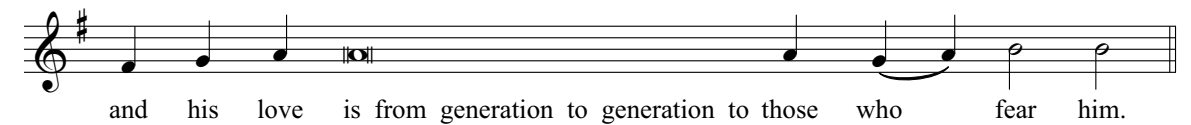
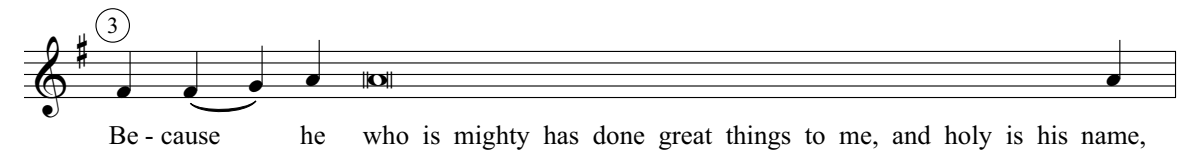
Priest: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



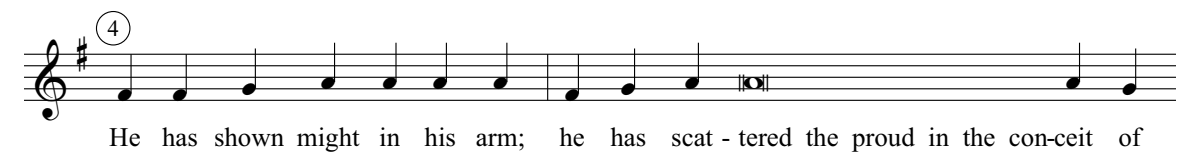
Refrain:



Refrain



Refrain



Katavasia

The three youths in the fur - nace were saved by the
 Off - spring of the The-o - to - kos. He who was foretold has been born
 on earth, and he joins to - gether a crea-tion to sing: All you works
 of the Lord, bless the Lord and praise him a-bove all for-ev - er.

Canticle of the Theotokos

At the end of the Eighth Ode, the deacon (or priest if there is no deacon) comes with the censer before the icon of the Theotokos on the icon screen. Incensing her icon, he intones:

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

Then he incenses the whole Church as usual, beginning with the Holy Table, while the faithful sing the Canticle of the Theotokos.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spir - it rejoices in God, my Sav - ior.

Let Everything That Lives and That Breathes

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

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

The deacon chants the verse.

verse: Praise God in his holy place; praise him in his mighty heavens.

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

Response:

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

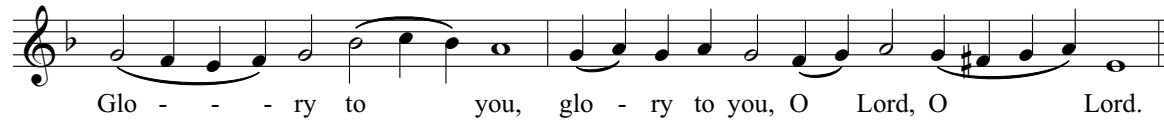
Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace ☩ be to all!

Response: And to your spir - it, to your spir - - - it.

Priest: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to the holy apostle and evangelist John.

Response:

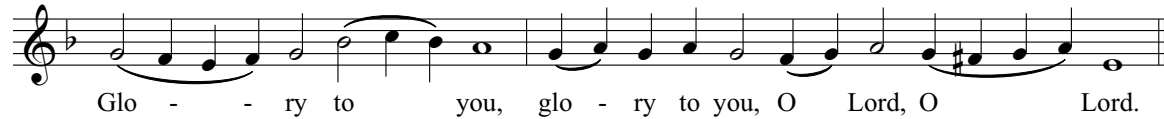


Glo - - - ry to you, glo - ry to you, O Lord, O Lord.

The priest reads the Gospel, even when a deacon is present.

Priest: *John 21: 15-25*

Response:



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

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. *
In your compassion blot out my offense.

O wash me more and more from my guilt *
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offenses truly I know them; *
my sin is always before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned; *
what is evil in your sight I have done.

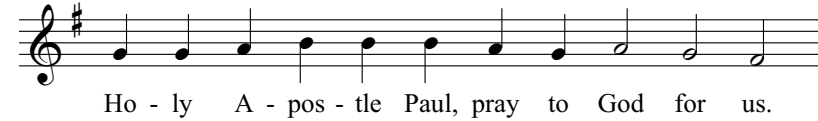
That you may be justified when you give sentence *
and be without reproach when you judge,

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

Indeed you love truth in the heart; *
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.

O purify me, then I shall be clean; *
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

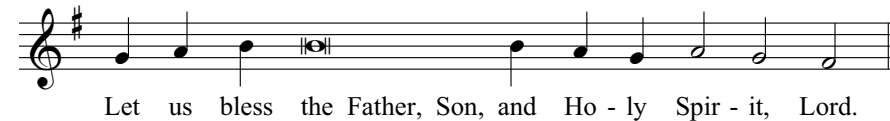
He who was glorified on the holy mountain and revealed to Moses in the burning bush the mystery of the ever-Virgin Mother, is the Lord: sing to him and exalt him throughout all the ages!



Ho - ly A - pos - tle Paul, pray to God for us.

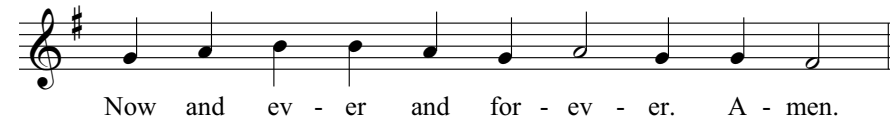
Captured by your love, Paul underwent a wondrous change; for it was no longer he who lived, O God of compassion, but you lived within him throughout all the ages. *Refrain*

You betrothed the Church, as a Bride presented to Christ, her Bridegroom, O Apostle Paul, and you led her to the wedding banquet; therefore she glorifies you throughout all the ages.



Let us bless the Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Lord.

You fought the good fight and ran the race in faith; joyfully you went to Christ, O holy Paul, and from him you received the merited crown for your justice.



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

Hail fiery throne of the Lord, unwedded Bride, radiant cloud which bore Christ, the Sun of Justice, whom we exalt throughout all the ages!



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



all for ev - - - er.

Ode 8

Irmos

O Christ, who did bear all things by your un - ap - proach-a - ble
 pow - er, you sprin-kled with dew the ho - ly youths
 in the flame as they sang: Bless the
 Lord, all you works of the Lord.

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Pe - ter, pray to God for us.

O Peter, the Master foretold that they would stretch out your hands and fasten you to a cross; he commanded you to follow him as you sang, "All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord!" *Refrain*

By a word of grace, you raised up Aeneas, who had been paralyzed; and by a miracle you made Tabitha rise from the dead; then both cried aloud, "All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord!" *Refrain*

O Christ, you showed Peter that the nations were to be cleansed by the light of the Holy Spirit; cleanse my heart as I sing aloud, "All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord!" *Refrain*

By One of the Divine Persons dwelling in your womb, God has been totally united to myself, O Virgin; and we all magnify you as the Theotokos. *Refrain*

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness, *
 that the bones you have crushed may thrill.

From my sins turn away your face *
 and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God; *
 put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, *
 nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help; *
 with a spirit of fervor sustain me.

that I may teach transgressors your ways *
 and sinners may return to you.

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

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

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

my sacrifice, a contrite spirit, *
 a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

In your goodness, show favor to Zion: *
 rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,
 burnt offerings wholly consumed, *
 then you will be offered young bulls on your altar.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory...

Tone 6 samohlasen

Through the in - tercession of the prime apostles, Pe - ter and Paul,

O Mer - ci - ful One, cleanse us of our man - y sins.

Cantor Now and ever...

Through the in - tercession of the The - o - to - kos, O Mer - ci - ful One,

cleanse us of our man - y sins.

Cantor: Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offense.

With hymns of praise let us venerate Peter, the rock of faith, and Paul, a true

teach - er and mys - tic of Christ. Both were preach - ers of true pi - e - ty

and ver - y brilliant stars of the Church, be - cause they sowed the true word in the

hearts of the faith - ful, be - stow - ing fruit - ful - ness to all.

Now they en - treat Christ our God that our souls be saved.

Taken up in ecstasy, you reached the third heaven, O blessed one, and heard ineffable words, as you cried aloud, "Glory to the Most High Father, and to the Son, his image, enthroned with him, and to the Spirit of God who searches all depths!"

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

and for - ev - er. A - men.

Christ our God descended upon you, O Virgin, like dew on the fleece; and he came forth from you bearing our flesh, uniting that which had been separated formerly, and granting peace on earth as in heaven, as the blessed God of our Fathers.

Katavasia

The three youths cou - rageously walked about in the flam - ing fur - nace,

pre - fer - ring to wor - ship the Creator rather than cre - a - ted things, and they sang

out in joy: Bless - ed are you and praised a - bove all, O God

of our fa - thers.

Refrain

Having learned through divine Providence how to imitate the compassion of Christ, O Peter, you were able to endure the storm of your denial before his Passion. *Refrain*

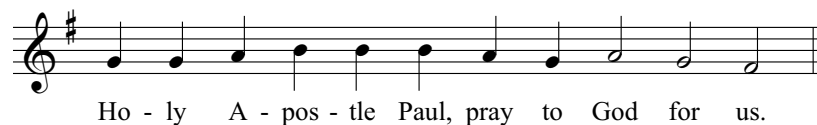
Christ called you first and loved you greatly; risen from the tomb, he first appeared to you as the illustrious prince of the Apostles. *Refrain*

By questioning you three times, the Master strengthened your love for him, thus healing your triple denial before his Passion. *Refrain*

As witness to your love for Christ, O Peter, you took the Word who knows all things, being eternal; and he entrusted to your care his beloved flock. *Refrain*

You conceived in the flesh God the Word, who shone forth from the Father from before all ages; we call you blessed, as the Mother of the God of all! *Refrain*

On the plain of Dura of old, the tyrant enkindled a furnace to punish those faithful to the Lord; but in it, the three young men sang hymns to the one true God, triply praising him and saying, "Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers!"

Refrain

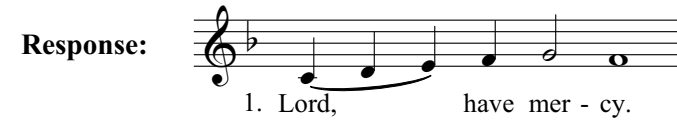
O Christ, he whom you called last has become the crown and perfection of your apostles, for he surpassed them all in his zeal. Together with him, the people of the Church sing out to you: "Blessed are you, O God of our fathers!" *Refrain*

Although Paul, who ended as a captive, had once persecuted your Church, his former impudence was surpassed by his zeal in his last days; for he gathered together the nations to sing to Christ, "Blessed are you, O God of our fathers!" *Refrain*

Leaving Jerusalem, you preached the Gospel to all; then you went around the whole world, O holy Paul, teaching even to the boundaries of Illyricum and crying aloud: "Blessed are you, O God of our fathers!"

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

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.



The priest, standing before the Holy Doors, says

Priest: O Lord our God, you have given us forgiveness through repentance, and as a model of knowledge and confession of sins, you have revealed to us the repentance of the prophet David that led to pardon. Master, have mercy on us who have fallen into so many and so great sins. Have mercy in your kindness, and in your compassion blot out our offenses, for against you have we sinned, O Lord, who know the hidden depths of our hearts, and who alone have the power to forgive sins. A pure heart you have created for us; you have sustained us with a spirit of fervor and have given us the joy of your help. Do not cast us away from your presence, but in your goodness and love for all, grant that we may offer a sacrifice of righteousness and oblation on your holy altar until our last breath.

Through the mercies and goodness and love of your only begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Response:

Canon

with Katavasiai of the Theotokos

Ode 1

Irmos

Tone 4

None is like you, O all-glorious Lord,
for by your strong hand you have delivered
the people whom you have acquired, O Lover
of us all.

Refrain

Ho-ly A-pos-tle Pe-ter, pray to God for us.

Today, with inspired hymns let us sing fitting praises to the leader of the Apostles, who was among the first called by Christ. *Refrain*

O blessed Apostle Peter, the Lord God foreknew you from all eternity, and he chose you to preside as the first among equals over his Church. *Refrain*

Neither flesh nor blood, but the Father, inspired you to confess the divinity of Christ as you acknowledged him to be the true Son of God Most High. *Refrain*

Let us sing of the Mother of our God, as the ineffable divine chariot and holy mountain, who remained a virgin after giving birth. *Refrain*

your good gifts and re-*pose*. You pre-ferred their sufferings and death a-bove
an-y sac-ri-fice, for you a-lone know the se-crets of the heart.

Ikos O Savior, grant eloquence to my tongue and open my mouth: fill it with your Spirit and grant my heart compunction that I may be the first to follow the things that I say and do the things that I teach; for you have said that whoever does that which he teaches is truly great among me. For if I do not do what I say, then I am only a sounding brass. Therefore, teach me what to speak and grant that I may do what is right,

for you a-lone know the se-crets of the heart.

Ode 7

Irmos

Tone 4

O un-o-rig-in-ate Word, O on-ly be-got-ten Son,
who ex-ist-ed in the begin-ning with the Fa-ther and the Spir-it:
bless-ed are you and su-preme-ly ex-alt-ed,
O God of our fa-thers.

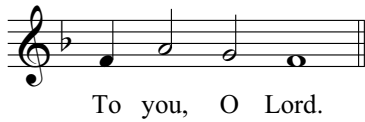
Deacon: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Response: 

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

Response: 

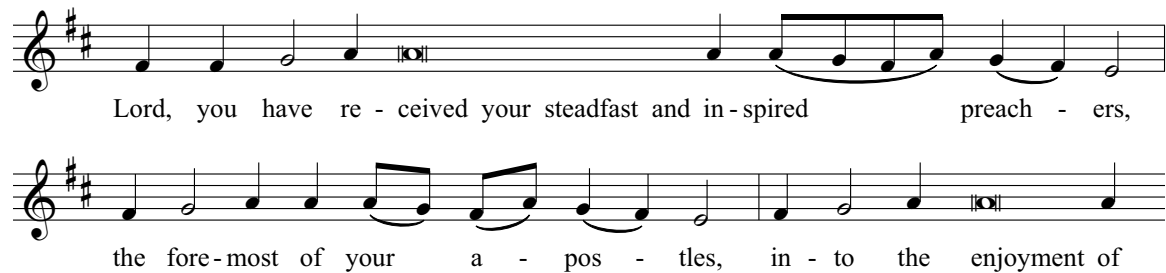
Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: 

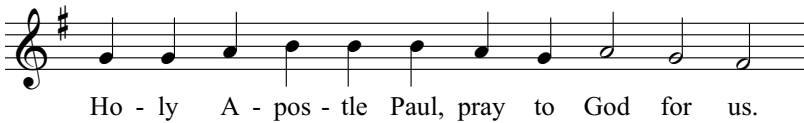
Priest: For you are the King of peace, and the Savior of our souls, and we give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 

Kontakion Tone 2



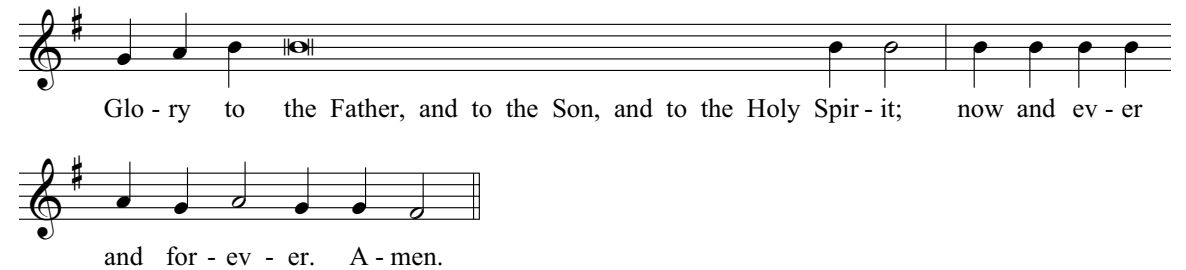
The staff which Moses cut divided the element which cannot be divided; and the sun shone upon soil it had never seen before; the waters swallowed up the treacherous enemy; Israel crossed over the impassible sea, with the hymn, "Let us sing to the Lord, for he is gloriously triumphant!"



O blessed Apostle Paul, as Christ had called things out of nothingness into being, so in his divine knowledge did he choose you from your mother's womb to carry his name, which is above all names, to the Gentiles, for he is gloriously triumphant. *Refrain*

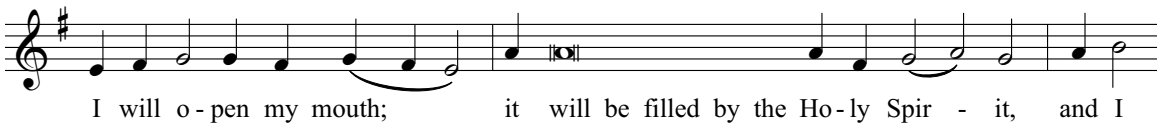
Announcing to you the disappearance of error and the future enlightenment in the Faith, Christ who had been radiant in light on the mountain, blinded your bodily eyes; but he allowed your soul to see the Trinity, for he is gloriously triumphant! *Refrain*

Circumcised on the eighth day, filled with zeal for the traditions of your fathers, of the race of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, as regards the Law, a Pharisee; but you counted all of that as dung that you might gain Christ, for he is gloriously triumphant!



Holy Mother of the Most High God, being of a royal tribe, you conceived the God who rules over all, O Lady, and ineffably gave birth to him in the flesh; preserve me from danger as I sing to your Son, for he is gloriously triumphant!

Katavasia Tone 4



will offer my praise to the Queen Moth-er. I will cel-e-brate in joy;
in my re-joic-ing I will sing of these won-ders.

Ode 3
Irmos

Not in wis-dom nor in strength nor in rich-es do we boast,
but in you, O Wisdom in Person of God the Fa-ther, O Christ: for none is
ho-ly save you, O Lov-er of all of us.

Refrain

Ho-ly A-pos-tle Pe-ter, pray to God for us.

O apostle Peter, the sweet lips of Christ our God declared you blessed, and he designated you to be the steward of his Kingdom; thus we sing to you. *Refrain*

Upon the rock of your confession of faith in God, the Lord Jesus has placed the unshakable foundation of his Church in which we glorify you. *Refrain*

Although he has a body, Peter surpasses the ranks of the angels, for Christ said that he would be seated as a judge with him at his glorious Second Coming. *Refrain*

O pure Virgin who bore God in the flesh, strengthen me who am tossed about by the assault of my passions; for there is no other helper but you. *Refrain*

You renounced all pleasures here below, being rapt with love for Christ, your Master; and in your desire that all come to salvation, you were willing to be lost yourself, separated from him, O blessed Paul, intercede for us all.

O blessed apostle Paul, Christ rightly granted you citizenship in heaven, for you had no desire for this passing city here below, O faithful servant of the Lord and steward of his divine Mysteries.

As a noble imitator of his Master, holy Paul put on Christ and became all things to all men in order to win and save all peoples. He truly caught the very ends of the earth in his nets for Christ.

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

The Lord regarded you when he was renewing my being; for he is mighty and has done great things, as you said, O pure Theotokos. In his love for mankind, he has saved me from the pit through you.

Katavasia

Come, all you faith-ful, and clap your hands, as we cel-e-brate this holy and sol-enn
feast of the Moth-er of God. Glo-ri-fy him who was born of her.

After the Sixth Ode, the deacon (or priest) stands before the Holy Doors and says the Small Litany at the ambon:

Ode 6

Irmos

O Christ, Jo - nah who spent three days in the whale pre-fig-ured you,
 the im - mor-tal One, who hav-ing died will-ing - ly, did
 spend three days in the heart of the earth.

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Pe - ter, pray to God for us.

O Christ, as you once stretched out your hand and saved Peter walking on the waters, bear me up as I sink in a storm of temptations. *Refrain*

O Peter, like the merchant in the Gospel, you abandoned all for the sake of true goods, and you obtained Christ, the Pearl of great price. *Refrain*

O Peter, you brought about an end to those who foolishly tried to tempt the All-Holy Spirit, whose Divinity you were the first to make clear, O blessed Apostle. *Refrain*

For us, you have brought into the world in the flesh the Word of God, who transcends all being; therefore, with our lips and heart, we proclaim your divine maternity. *Refrain*

I pour out my prayer before the Lord and tell Him of all my affliction. For my soul is filled with evils, and my life has drawn near to the grave. Like Jonah, I beseech you, O God: "Snatch my life from corruption!"

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Paul, pray to God for us.

You are the strength of those who run to you, O Lord; you are the Light of those in darkness, and my spirit sings your praise!

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Paul, pray to God for us.

As a foundation for the souls of the faithful, you have given the Pearl of Great Price, the Cornerstone, the Lord and Savior. *Refrain*

Ceaselessly bearing the death of Jesus in your body, you have been made worthy to share also in his true Life. *Refrain*

O blessed Paul, intercede that the splendor of the believers be built upon the foundation of your virtues.

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

and for - ev - er. A - men.

O pure Virgin, as you foretold, all generations call you blessed for in you they have found salvation.

Katavasia

O The o - to - kos, life-giv - ing source of bles - sings, grant strength

to those unit-ed in faith who sing hymns of praise to you.

In your glo - ry, grant them the crowns of vic - to - ry.

Hypakoe

Tone 8 troparion

O A - pos - tle Paul, was there a pris - on that did not see you chained,
 or a church that did not hear you preach? Da - mas - cus
 glo - ries for hav - ing been a wit - ness when you were thrown to the ground
 by a heav - en - ly light, Rome ex - ults in pride for pos - ses - sing your blood.
 Tar - sus, your birth - place, o - ver - flows with joy, for it re - veres
 your swad - dling - clothes. To - geth - er with Pe - ter, the Rock of Faith,
 O Paul, glo - - - ry of the world, come forth from Rome and
 strength - en us!

You chose true glory, O holy Apostle Paul, by ceaselessly carrying the Cross of Christ our King as your only sign of victory. *Refrain*

For you, to live is Christ; and to die is great profit. By love, you have been crucified with him who was crucified for us, O most glorious Paul. *Refrain*

In truth, you rejoice always in the Lord, O honorable Paul, who have put off the body and gone away to Christ our God, the Giver of Life. *Refrain*

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

Hail, true treasure of virginity! Through you, our first father was delivered from the curse, and our first mother was called back to Paradise.

Katavasia

All na - tions mar - velled at your di - vine glo - ry, for you,
 O Virgin who have not known wed - lock, car - ried with - in your womb the
 God of all, the eternal Son to whom you gave birth; he grants sal - va - tion
 to all who sing your prais - - - es.

Ode 5

Irmos

O you who have pur-chased us as a cho-sen peo-ple by your blood,
 grant us your peace, O Lord, pre - serv - ing
 your flock in u - ni - ty of mind.

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Pe - ter, pray to God for us.

Having acquired intimacy with God through love, the unlettered fisherman was filled with his favor to the point of working wondrous miracles through divine grace. *Refrain*

For love of you, O Lord, your divine Apostle possessed neither gold nor silver, but only his virtues as his treasure; and he was enriched with the power to work miracles. *Refrain*

Your powerful word restored the legs and steps of the lame man: for through the divine Spirit, you worked wondrous miracles. *Refrain*

O pure Virgin, in uniting himself to the flesh which was taken from you, God became man in the Person of the Son, but he remained unchanged in his bodiless nature. *Refrain*

Enlighten us, O Lord, by your commandments; lift your mighty arm, O Lover of us all, and grant us your peace.

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Paul, pray to God for us.

After the Third Ode, the deacon (or priest) stands before the Holy Doors and says the Small Litany at the ambon:

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

Response:
 1. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Response:
 2. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Response:
 To you, O Lord.

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

Response:
 A - - men.

Ode 4

Irmos

Tone 4

This is our God, who took flesh of the Vir - - - gin
and de - i - fied our na-ture. We cry out a - loud and
sing to him: Glo-ry to your pow - er, O Lord!

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Pe - ter, pray to God for us.

As Christ promised, he made you a divine fisher of men, and he placed in your hands the helm of his Church. *Refrain*

O Peter, the life-giving Lord Jesus granted you the power to loose and to bind; at your prayer, may he grant me pardon. *Refrain*

O Peter, pray earnestly that the Kingdom of Christ be opened to those who honor your divine memory with faith. *Refrain*

O Lady worthy of our hymns, divine Mother of God, cleanse my thoughts through your intercessions and make me fruitful, O Mother of the God of all. *Refrain*

You tread the sea with the Apostles as your steeds, O Lord, taking their reins in your hands; and your descent has become salvation for the faithful who sing, "Glory to your power, O Lord!"

Refrain

Ho - ly A - pos - tle Paul, pray to God for us.

Like a ravaging lion, Saul once came down upon the Church of Christ; but, seized by the voice of the Lamb of God, he became a shepherd of the flock which he had once persecuted. *Refrain*

He who was to enlighten the universe became blind; Ananias was sent to him to give him sight in body and soul, O God, who revealed him to be a chosen vessel of election. *Refrain*

Damascus was rightly glorified because of Paul: for from it, as once from Paradise, a great river of divine waters has gone forth and has refreshed the whole earth with the knowledge of God.

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

As the Virgin Mother said, the Lord has put down the mighty from their seat and has filled the hungry with good things; and they sing in faith, "Glory to your power, O Lord!"

Katavasia

Je - sus the true God, who sits in glory upon the di - vine throne,
now ap-pears rid - ing on a swift cloud; and with his pure hand
he saves those who cry: Glo - ry to your pow-er, O Christ!