

Matins Propers
Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast
Commemoration of Our Venerable Father John Climacus

*Supplement for **The Order of Matins: Sundays and Feasts, 2006***

The Troparion of the Resurrection in the Tone of the week is sung twice. Then:

Troparion of our Venerable Father John Climacus - Tone 4



O ven - 'ra - ble John, we have found your god - ly deeds to be a divine ladder
lead - ing us to heav - en for you were a mod - el of vir - tue.
There - fore, beg Christ our God to save our souls.

Tone 4

Cantor: *(Tone 4)* Glory...now and ever...

Festal theotokion in the same tone (Tone 4, p. 163).

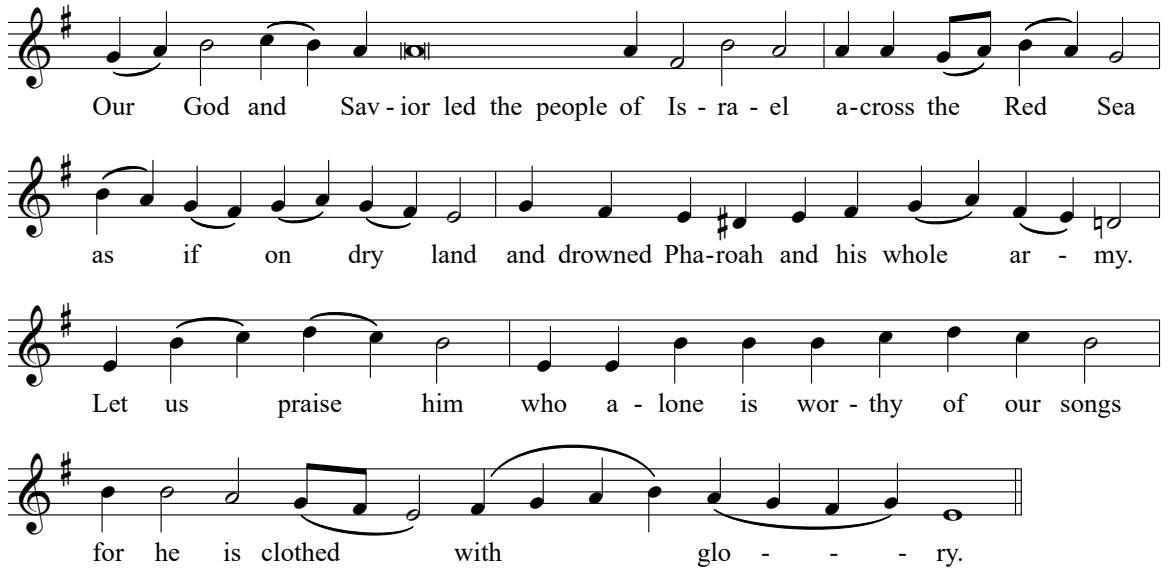
The service continues as usual for Sunday. After Psalm 50, the penitential stichera are sung (p. 317).

Canon


with *Katavasiai of the Theotokos*

Ode 1

Irmos - Tone 5



Our God and Sav-ior led the people of Is - ra - el a-cross the Red Sea
as if on dry land and drowned Pha-roah and his whole ar - my.
Let us praise him who a - lone is wor - thy of our songs
for he is clothed with glo - - - ry.

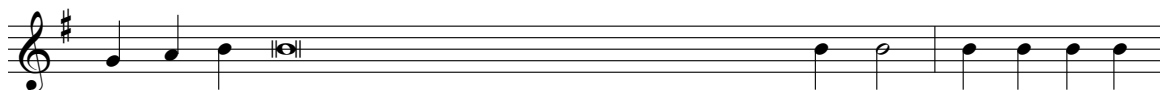
Refrain 

Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

O Christ, I am like the one who fell into the hands of thieves, left half-dead because of their blows; for I am the victim of my sins. *Refrain*

Do not despise my weakness, O God our Savior; be attentive to my cry and my sighing. I have handed over your riches to thieves; O God of mercy, I beseech you, save me. *Refrain*

You have cared for my wounded soul, injured by the thievery of sin and by evil thoughts; in your love, O Christ our Savior, save me.



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.

Intercede constantly, O Mother of Christ, before the One who is incarnate of you without leaving the fatherly bosom, that he may save his creatures from all danger.

Katavasia - *Tone 5 samopodoben*



I will o - pen my mouth; it will be filled by the Ho - ly Spir - it, and I



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



O Christ, by the pow - er of your Cross, strength - en our hearts so that we may sing



and glo - ri - fy your sav - ing A - scen - - - sion.

Refrain

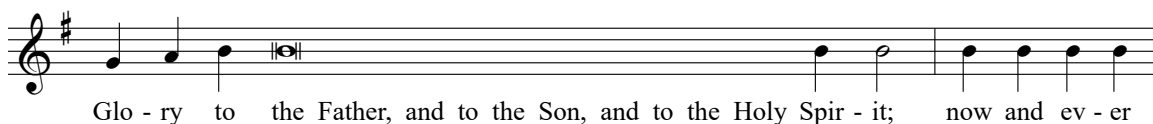


Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Traversing the path of this life, I have been sorely wounded by the thievery of passions; lift me up, O Christ, I beseech you. *Refrain*

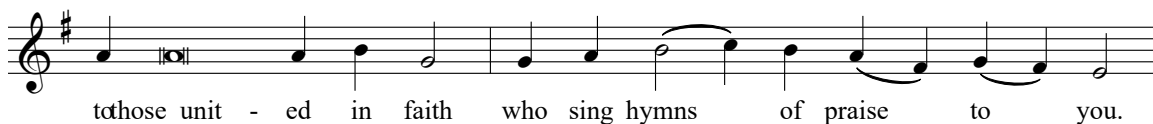
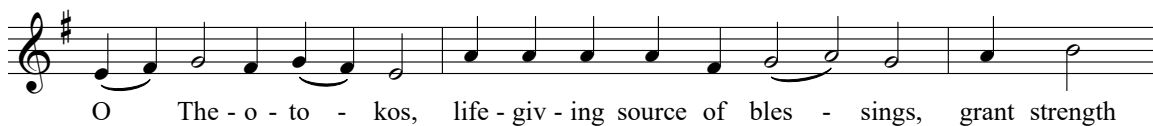
My soul has been stripped by thieves; they have left me half-dead along the path, wounded by the blows of my sins; now deign to heal me, O Lord. *Refrain*

By my passions, O Christ our Savior, I have been stripped of your commandments; sensual pleasures have struck me down; pour out the oil of your love upon me.

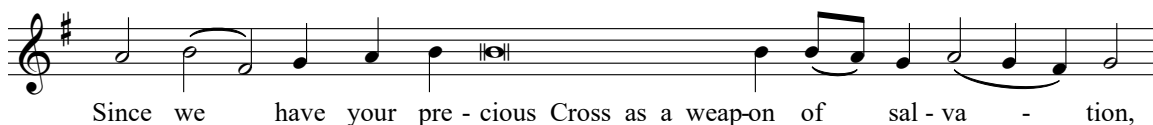


Pray constantly, O pure Virgin, to the One born of your womb, that he may save from straying, those who praise you, O holy Theotokos.

Katavasia



Sessional Hymn - Tone 5 troparion



we can cry out to you, O Christ, our Sav - ior: You free - ly
 willed to suf - fer for us; now save us, O God of the uni-verse
 and com - pas - sion - ate Lord.

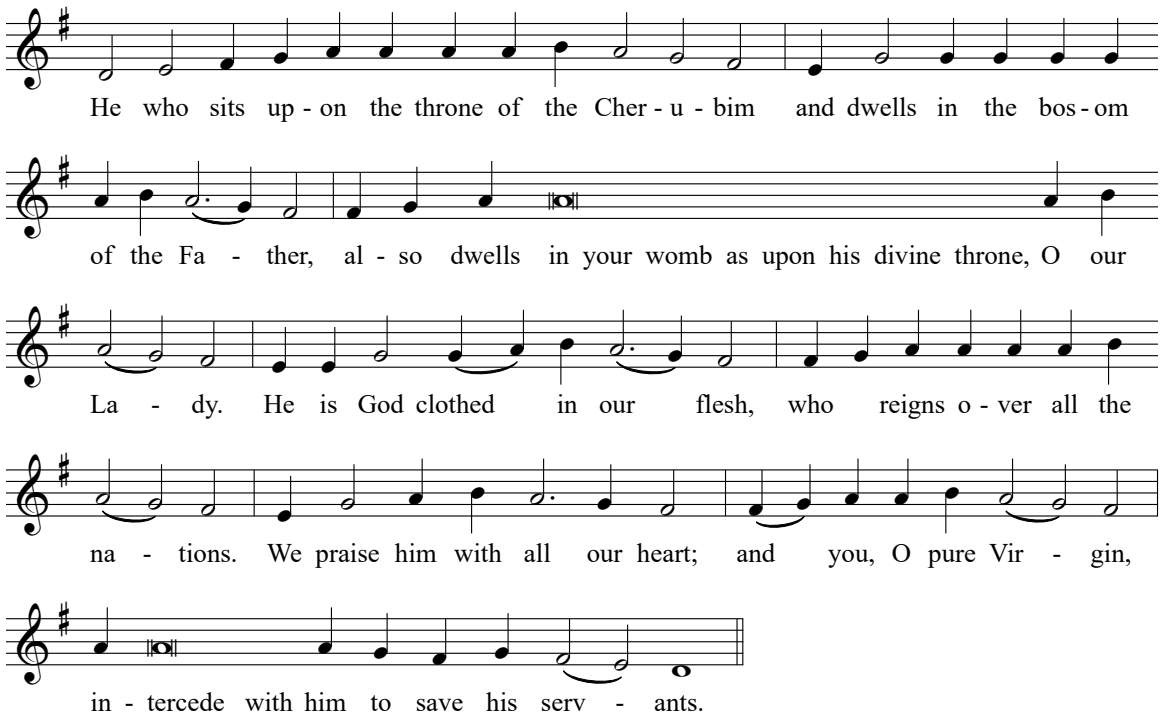
Cantor (Tone 4 troparion) Glory...

Tone 4 troparion

Hav - ing gone up to heaven in the brightness of your vir - tues, and be - ing
 firm - ly sup - port - ed on sol - id ground, in faith you have ascended in the
 boundlessness of con - tem - pla - tion; de - noun - cing the tricks of de - mons,
 you have shel - tered mor - tals from their mis - deeds, O ho - ly John, venerable
 lad - der of vir - tues, in - tercede with the Lord to save his serv - ants.

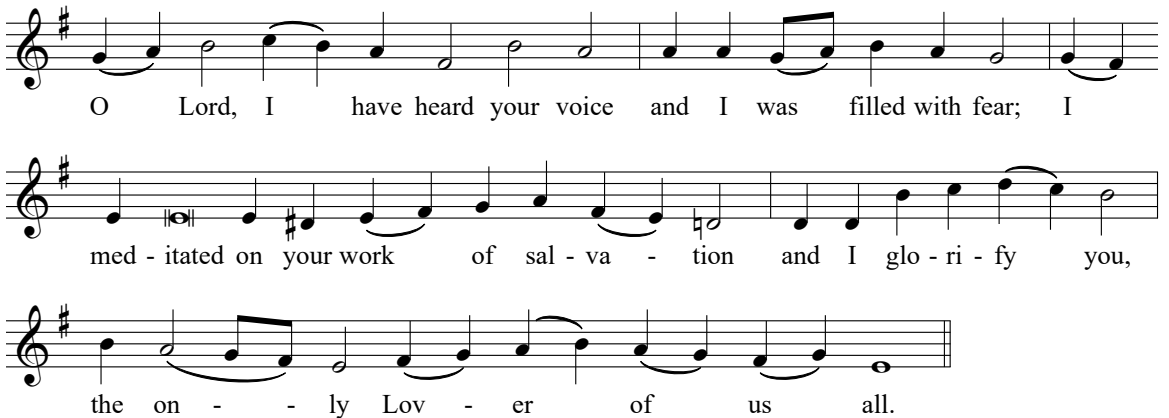
Cantor: Now and ever...

Tone 4 troparion



He who sits up - on the throne of the Cher - u - bim and dwells in the bos - om
of the Fa - ther, al - so dwells in your womb as upon his divine throne, O our
La - dy. He is God clothed in our flesh, who reigns o - ver all the
na - tions. We praise him with all our heart; and you, O pure Vir - gin,
in - tercede with him to save his serv - ants.

Ode 4
Irmos



O Lord, I have heard your voice and I was filled with fear; I
med - itated on your work of sal - va - tion and I glo - ri - fy you,
the on - - ly Lov - er of us all.

Refrain

Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Stripping me, the thieves have carried off my divine likeness; they have abandoned me covered with bruises by their blows. *Refrain*

O Savior, my restless thoughts have defrauded me of your commandments, and I am flogged by my sins, *Refrain*

Seeing me completely wounded, and not noticing my bruises, the Levite passed by, but you, O Savior, will stop and save me.

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 Theotokos and unwedded Spouse, we justly glorify you, taking refuge in your harbor of salvation.

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!

Ode 5

Irmos



As we watch in the night and wait for mon - ing, O Lord, we cry to you:



Have mer - cy on us and save us, for you are tru - ly our God,



and we know no oth - er god but you.

Refrain

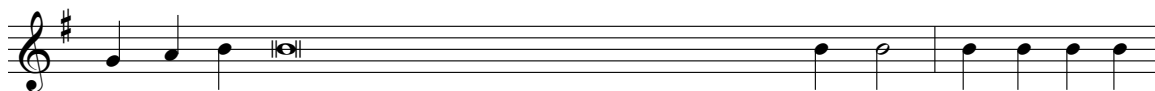


Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Look mercifully upon the wounds of my soul, as you once did, O Lord, for the traveller who fell into the hands of brigands; deign to heal my sorrow, I pray you. *Refrain*

Beneath the scourges of my sins my soul is in agony and pain; and I am lying here stripped of virtue; I pray you, O Christ, save me.

The priest and the Levite pass by, not having the courage to help me; but you, O Lord, in your incomparable compassion, grant me your great mercy.



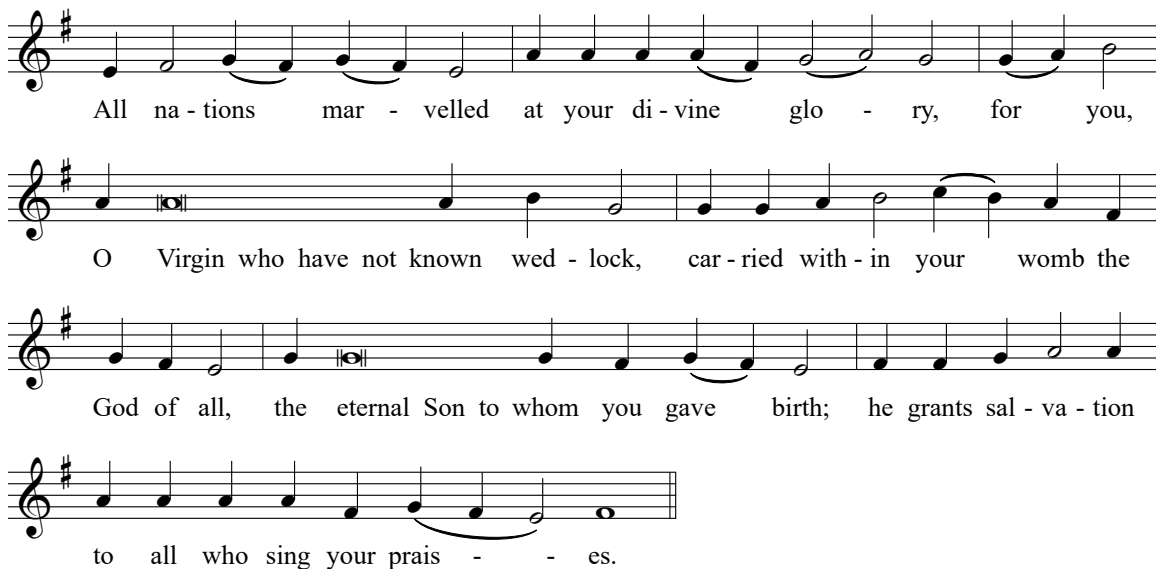
Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men.

Turn not your eyes from my distress; see the wounds inflicted by the thieves. Have mercy on me, O Savior, through the prayers of her who bore you,

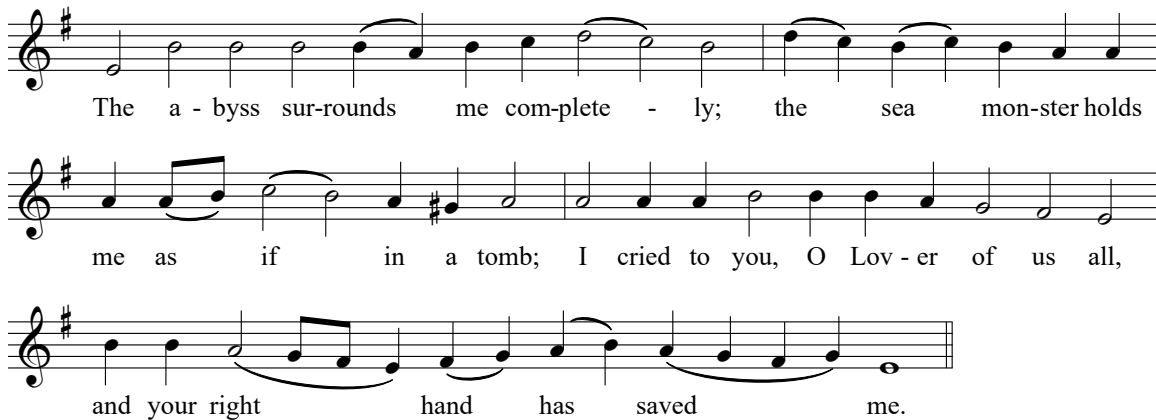
Katavasia



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 6

Irmos



The a - byss sur-rounds me com-plete - ly; the sea mon-ster holds
me as if in a tomb; I cried to you, O Lov - er of us all,
and your right hand has saved me.

Refrain

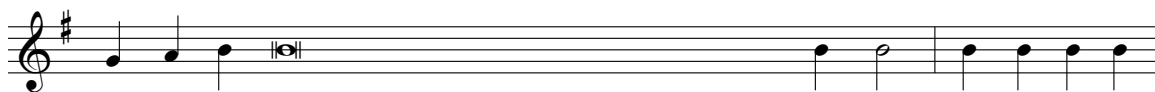


Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

My divine life has been overcome by my passions; left half-dead beneath the blows of my sins, I have found refuge in you; have mercy on me, O Lord. *Refrain*

Thieves have plundered my treasure; beaten unmercifully, they have left me half-dead. Have pity on my soul, wounded by my passions, and save me, O Lord.

Seeing my misery, the Levite passed by, unable to bear the defilement of my wounds; but you, O Lord and Lover of us all, have poured out the oil of your rich mercy.




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.

Truly we glorify you, O burning bush that is not consumed, O mountain, living ladder and gate to heaven, O Virgin Mary, the glory of Christians.

Katavasia




Come, all you faith-ful, and clap your hands, as we cel - e - brate this holy and sol-enn




feast of the The - o - to - kos. Glo - ri - fy him who was born of her.

Kontakion - Tone 4



John, our teach - er and fa - ther, the Lord has raised you to the heights of



self-con-trol, to be a true guid-ing star en-light-en-ing the ends of the earth.

Ikos O John, our leader and father, you have become the dwelling place of God; you shine with your virtues as the most pure gold; you are adorned with faith, hope, and love; expounding the divine precepts, you practiced asceticism and were liberated from the flesh; you acquired wisdom, courage, chastity, and humility, by which you were raised up; illuminated by constant prayer, you attained the tabernacles on high.

Ode 7

Irmos



The Most High, the Lord and God of our fa - thers, ex - tin - guished the flame



and cov - ered the Youths with dew; and with one voice they sang:



Bless - ed are you, O Lord God of our fa - - - thers.



Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Thieves have fallen upon me for my misfortune, and their blows have left me half-dead; therefore, I pray to you: Have mercy on me, O Lord. *Refrain*

My restless thoughts have despoiled me, and the assault of my passions have left me half-dead, buffeted by my many sins; save me, O God my Savior. *Refrain*

Seeing my wounds and my grief, my bruises that have no hope of healing, a Levite passed by me in disgust; but you, O Savior, attend to me and heal me.

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.

You were born of a Virgin to save me, O Christ; you have poured out the oil of your mercy and your compassion; therefore I glorify you, O Lord.

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

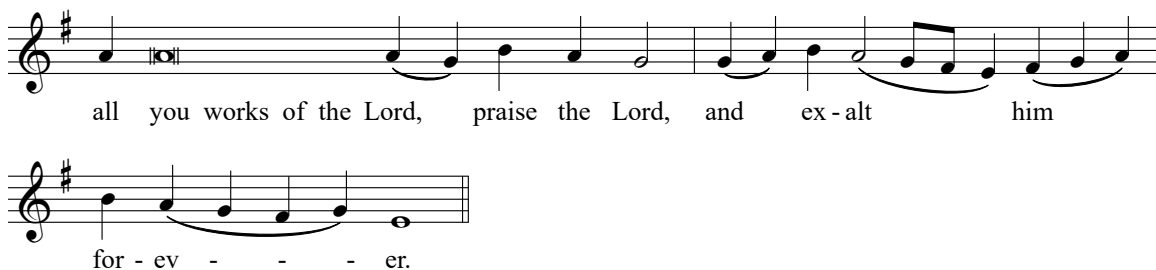
of our fa - thers.

Ode 8

Irmos


In the fur - - - - nace the Youths wove a dance

with the whole u - niverse for you, O God and Cre - a - tor, and they sang:



all you works of the Lord, praise the Lord, and ex-alt him
for - ev - - - er.

Refrain

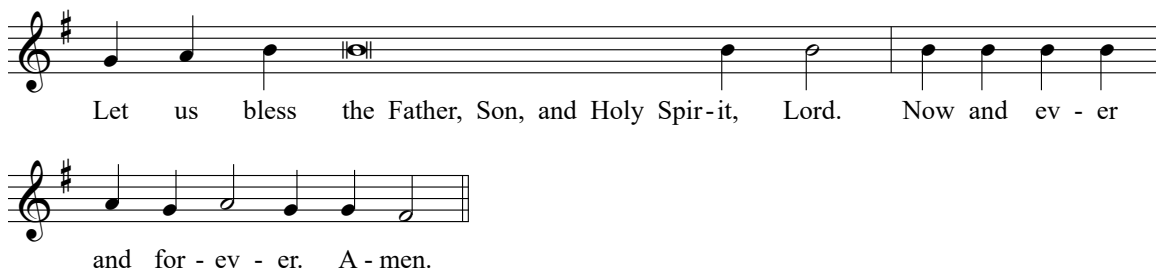


Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

Because of the thievery of my thoughts and the scourges of my sins, my life is squandered and I am deprived of your divine image, O Savior; but in your love for us, have mercy on us. *Refrain*

You have come from heaven to earth, O my Savior, and in your mercy, you poured out the balm of your compassion over my wounds, O Christ; for I am covered with bruises because of the assault of my sins. *Refrain*

You have given your body and soul to redeem me, O God our Savior, to save me who am completely wounded by the multitude of my sins; for I have no other hope of healing, but your mercy, O Lord.



Let us bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spir-it, Lord. Now and ev - er
and for - ev - er. A - men.

At the word of God, you gave birth to the Lord in an ineffable manner, and you remained a virgin after giving birth; all of us, the works of the Lord, now bless and exalt you forever.



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



for - ev - - - er.

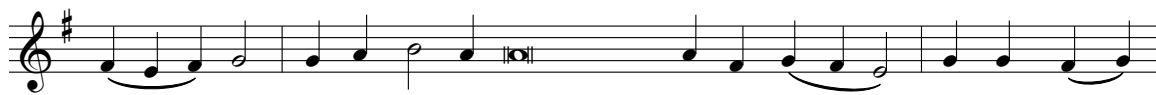
Katavasia



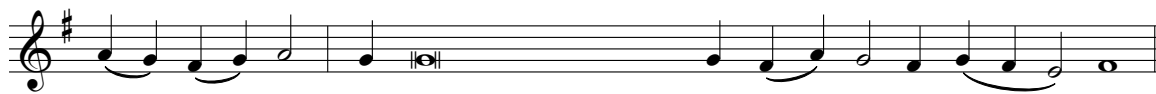
The three youths in the fur - nace were saved by the



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.

The Canticle of the Theotokos is sung (p. 34).

Ode 9

Irmos



Re-joyce, O I - sai - ah! The Vir - gin was with child



and bore a Son, Em - ma - nu - el. He is God and man:

His name is Ris - ing of the Sun. By ex - tol - - - ing him,

we bless, we bless the Vir - - - gin.

Refrain

Glo - ry to you, our God, glo - ry to you.

I have not observed your commandments, O Lord, but I have followed my own will, giving in to my passions and sensual pleasures; I have been stripped of grace; naked, and covered with sores, I beseech you to save me, O God and Savior. *Refrain*

Neither the priest nor the Levite could wash my wounds, but only you, O God of goodness; in your compassion, you have come to me; you poured out the oil of your love upon me, and, as a wise physician, O Christ our Savior, you have attended to me and healed me. *Refrain*

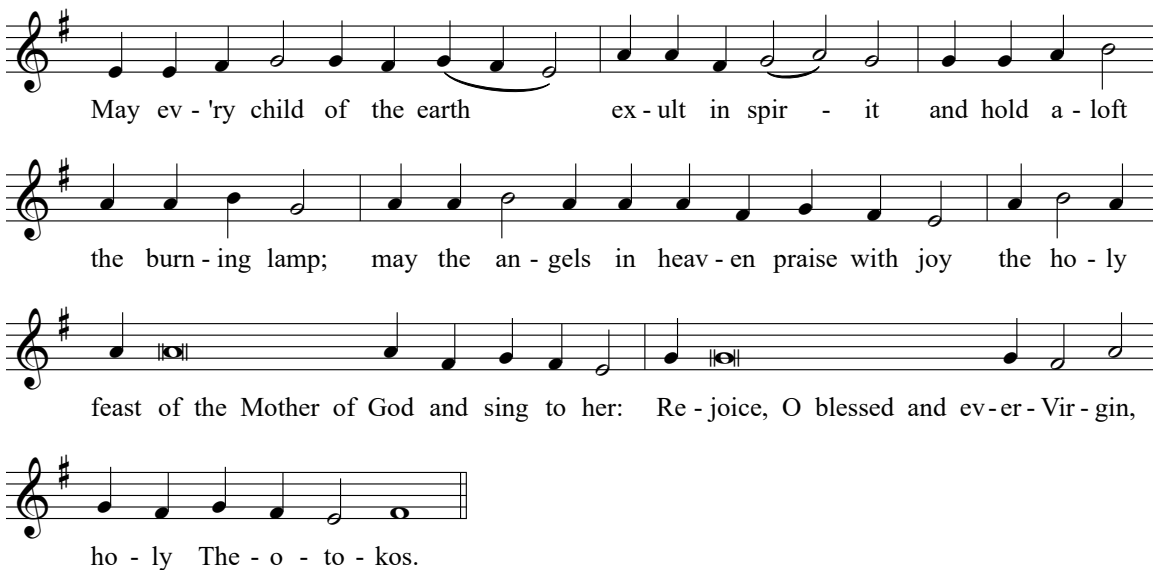
In your compassion, O Christ, full of tenderness, you have saved me when I was suffering, flailed by the lashes of the brigands; and, as the Good Samaritan who gave two silver coins, you gave your body and your blood to save me.

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.

Wondrous was your childbearing! You conceived without seed, O Theotokos, and in virginity, you gave birth to your Son; for God himself is born, and we who glorify him, call you blessed, O Virgin.

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.

Hymns of Light

“Holy is the Lord our God” is sung in the Tone of the Week, and the Sunday Resurrection Gospel is read. Then continue with the Hymns of Light from the Triodion:

Glory...

The sensual pleasures of this world only bring disgust, and by fasting, your flesh has wasted away; but you renewed the strength of your soul, and you gained eternal glory in heaven. O venerable Father John, do not cease to intercede for us.

Now and ever...

We truly recognize you as the Theotokos, for we have been saved through you; ineffably, you conceived the God who saved us from death by his Cross, drawing to himself the assembly of the saints, with whom we praise your glory, O Virgin Theotokos.

Psalms of Praise (148, 149, 150)

The Psalms of Praise are sung in the Tone of the Week, with eight stichera of the Resurrection. Then:

Cantor: (Tone 1) Glory...

Doxastikon - Tone 1 samohlasen



Come, let us labor in the mystical vine - yard of the Lord, and in it,
we shall gather the fruit of con-ver - sion; for we do not work to fill our-selves
with food and drink, but to cul - tivate vir-tue through fast - ing and pray'r.
Thus, we shall please the Lord, and the Mas - ter of the vineyard will give
us the re - com - pense by re - deem - ing our souls from the debt of sin;
for he a - lone is all - good.

Cantor: (Tone 2) Now and ever...

The service continues with the Sunday theokion in Tone 2, "You are truly most blessed..." (p. 40).