

PALM SUNDAY

Divine Liturgy, with Blessing of Palms



Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
February 2008

The Divine Liturgy of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom

The faithful STAND when the preparatory rites are completed and the great incensation of the church takes place. Then the clergy quietly say the prayers before commencing the Divine Liturgy, and the holy doors are opened.

Blessing of Palms

Celebrant: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: 
1. Lord, have mer - cy.

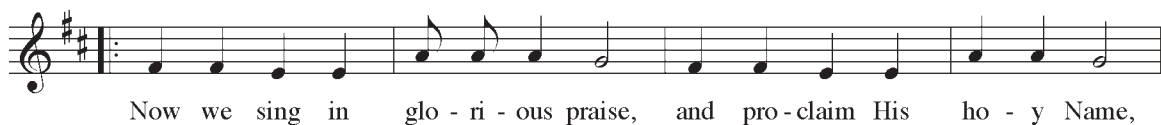
Celebrant: O Lord our God, who sit upon the Cherubim, and who restored the might of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that through his cross and burial and resurrection he might save the world; who, also, when today he entered Jerusalem to embark upon his voluntary passion, was met by the people who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, bearing the symbols of victory, boughs of trees and branches of palms, emblematic of the resurrection; keep and preserve us also who on this prefestal day in imitation of them bear in our hands palms and boughs. And like those nations and children who cried to you: "Hosanna!" may we likewise with hymn and spiritual song be made worthy of the life-giving resurrection through Christ Jesus, our Lord, with whom you are blessed together with your all-holy, gracious, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

Celebrant: These palms are blessed by the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn

melody: Iže cheruvimy #1



Deacon: Reverend Father, give the blessing.

Celebrant: Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

The faithful may SIT as the Litany of Peace begins:

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, Benedict, pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our most reverend metropolitan, (*Name*), for our God-loving bishop, (*Name*), 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)

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.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

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

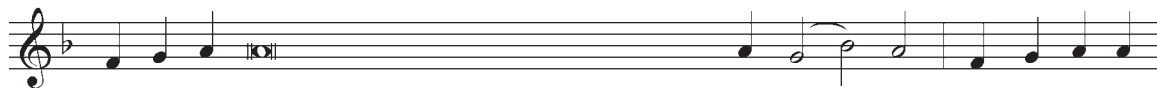
First Antiphon (Psalm 114:1):



I love the Lord, for he has heard the cry of my ap - peal.



Through the pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos, O Sav - ior, save us.



Glo-ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir - it; now and ev - er



and for - ev - er. A - men. Through the pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos,



O Sav - ior, save us.

Second Antiphon (Psalm 115:1):



I trust - ed e - ven when I said: I am sore - ly af - flict - ed.



O Son of God, seat - ed on a colt, save us who sing to you:



Al - le - lu - - - ia.

The faithful STAND as the Second Antiphon concludes with the Hymn of the Incarnation:

Hymn of the Incarnation



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,



now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men. O on - ly - begotten Son and



Word of God, who be - ing im - mor - tal, deigned for our sal - va - tion



to be - come in - car - nate of the ho - ly Theotokos and ever - Vir - gin Mar - y,



and be - came man with - out change; you were al - so crucified, O Christ our God,

and by death have tram-pled Death, be-ing One of the Ho-ly Trin-i-ty,
 glo - rified with the Father and the Ho-ly Spir - it, save us.

The Third Antiphon follows, while the Little Entrance with the holy gospel book is made through the northern door and the holy doors.

Third Antiphon - Tone 1 Troparion (Psalm 117:1):

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his mer-cy en-dures
 for - ev - er.

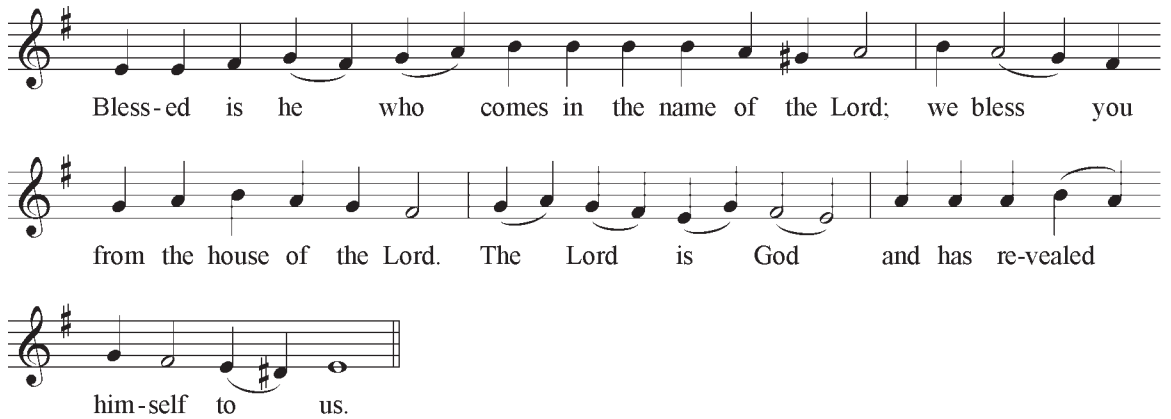
Christ our God, be-fore your pas-sion you confirmed our common res-ur-rec - tion
 when you raised Laz-a-rus from the dead. There-fore, like the chil-dren, we
 car-ry the symbols of vic-to-ry and cry out to you, the Vic-tor o-ver death:

Ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

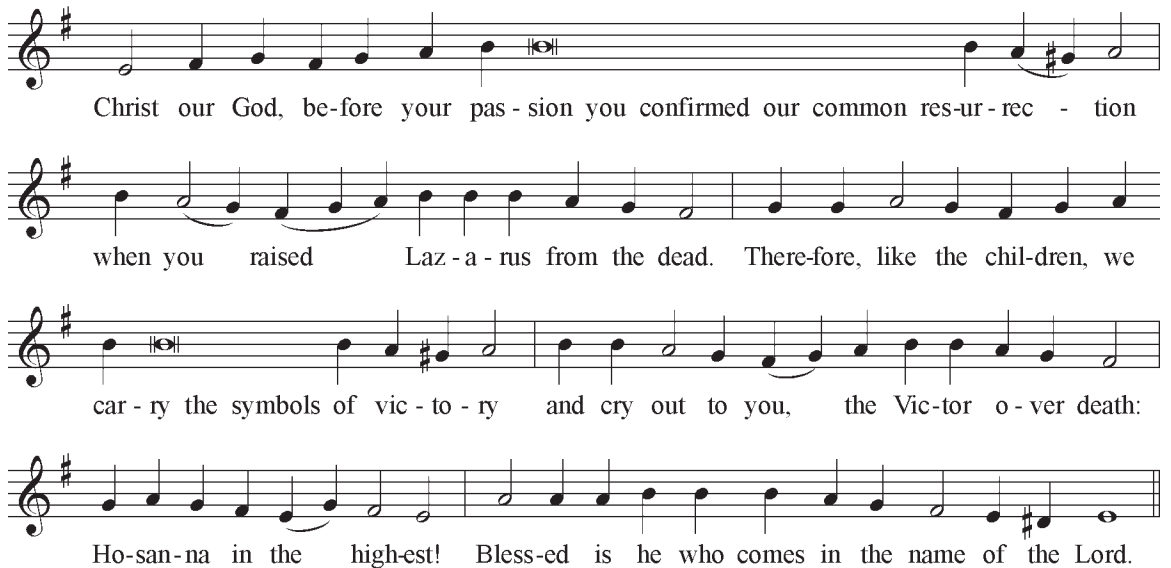
The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as the Third Antiphon continues with the Entrance Hymn.

Entrance Hymn - Tone 1 Troparion (Psalm 117:26,27):



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you
from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God and has re-vealed
him-self to us.

Troparion of Lazarus - Tone 1:



Christ our God, be-fore your pas-sion you confirmed our common res-ur-rec-tion
when you raised Laz-a-rus from the dead. There-fore, like the chil-dren, we
car-ry the symbols of vic-to-ry and cry out to you, the Vic-tor o-ver death:
Ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

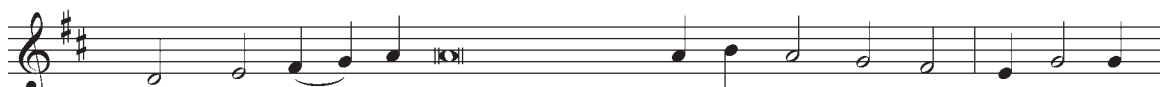
Cantor:

Tone 4




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

Troparion - *Tone 4:*




Through bap - tism we were buried with you, O Christ our God, and we have



be - come worthy of immortal life by your res - ur - rec - tion. There - fore, we raise our



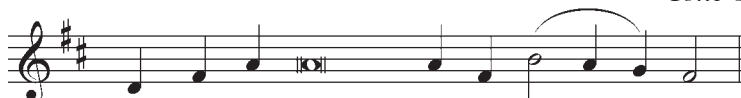
voic - es in praise to you: Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord.

Cantor:

Tone 6

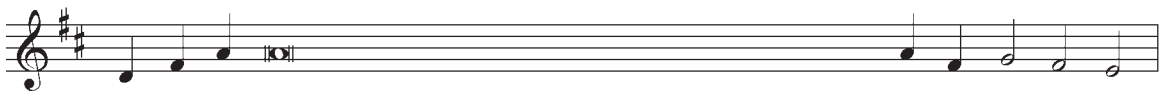


Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - men.

Kontakion - *Tone 6:*



In heav - en you are seat - ed on a throne; but on earth upon a colt, O Christ our God.



You ac-cept-ed the praise of angels and the song of the children cry-ing out to you:



Bless-ed is he who comes to re-store A - dam.

Celebrant: For you are holy, our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever

Deacon: And forever.



A - men.

The faithful STAND for the Thrice-holy Hymn.



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal,



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



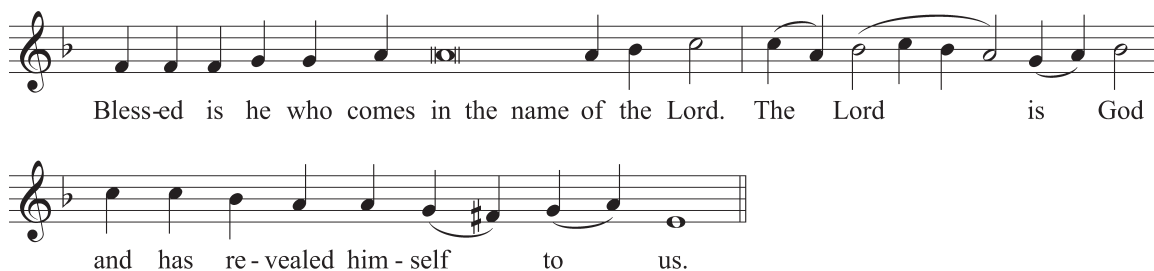
for - ev - er. A - men. Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 117:26,27,1):



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God
and has re-vealed him - self to us.

Deacon: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his mercy endures forever.

All repeat the Prokeimenon.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from the Epistle of Saint Paul the Apostle to the Philippians.

Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Lector: [Philippians 4: 4 - 9]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Alleluia - Tone 1 (Psalm 97:1,3):

Al - le - lu - - - ia! Al - - - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - - - ia!

Reader: Sing a new song to the Lord, for the Lord has worked wonders.
All repeat the Alleluia.

Reader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
All repeat the Alleluia.

The holy gospel book is incensed along with the faithful.

Deacon: Reverend Father, bless the proclaimer of the Gospel of the holy apostle and evangelist John.

Celebrant: May God, through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostle and evangelist John, grant that you proclaim the word with great power for the fulfillment of the Gospel of his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen.

Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the holy Gospel. Peace be to all.


Response: And to your spir - it.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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

Celebrant: Let us be attentive!

Deacon: [John 12: 1 - 18]

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

*The faithful SIT during the homily
and may also sit during the Litany of Fervent Supplication which follows:*

Deacon: Let us all say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say:

Response: 
1. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: O Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response: 
2. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy,
we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response: 
3. Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Again we pray for our holy father, (*Name*), pope of Rome, and for our most reverend metropolitan, (*Name*), for our God-loving bishop, (*Name*), for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Response:



4. Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon:

Again we pray for our government and for all in the service of our country.

Response:

Lord, have mercy. (*three times, using response 4.*)

Deacon:

Again we pray for the people here present who await your great and abundant mercy, for those who show us mercy, and for all Christians of the true faith.

Response:

Lord, have mercy. (*three times, using response 3.*)

Celebrant:

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

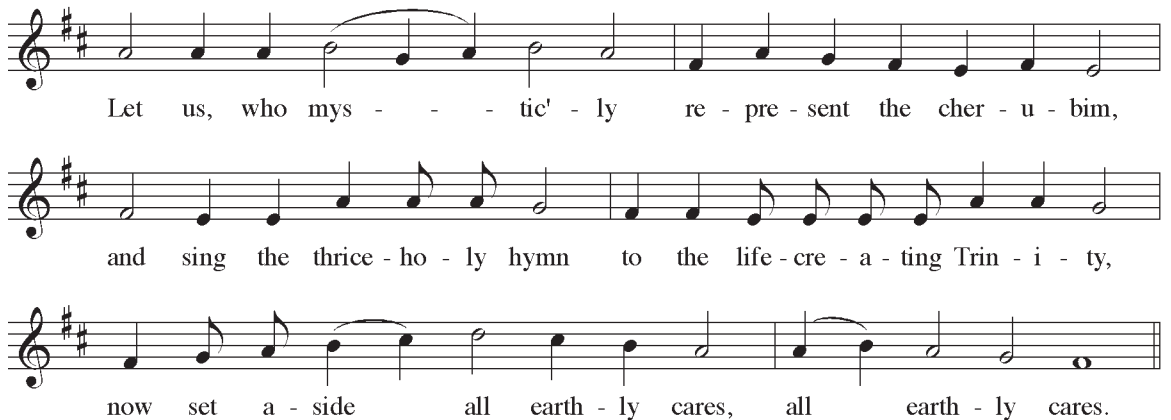
Response:



A - men.

The faithful STAND following the Litany of Fervent Supplication.

Cherubic Hymn



Let us, who mys - - - tic' - ly re - pre - sent the cher - u - bim,
and sing the thrice - ho - ly hymn to the life - cre - a - ting Trin - i - ty,
now set a - side all earth - ly cares, all earth - ly cares.

Deacon: May the Lord God remember in his kingdom all you Christians of the true faith, always, now and ever and forever.

Celebrant: May the Lord God remember in his kingdom ... now and ever and forever.

Response:

A - men. That we may re-ceive, re-ceive the King of All,
in - vis - i - bly es-cort-ed by an - gel - ic hosts. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

Deacon: For the precious gifts placed before us, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

1. Lord, have mer - cy.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: Grant this through the mercies of your only-begotten Son with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

A - men.

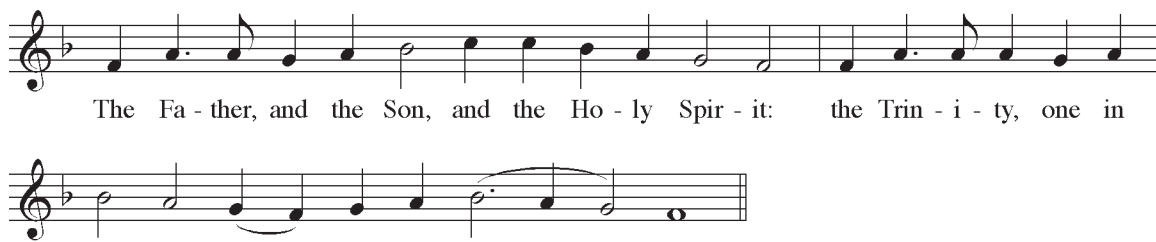
*Before the profession of the Symbol of Faith,
the assembly is invited to be reconciled with one another:*

Celebrant: Peace be to all.

Response: 
And to your spir - it.

Celebrant: Let us love one another that with one mind we may profess.


Response:



The Fa - ther, and the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it: the Trin - i - ty, one in
es - sence and un - di - vid - - - ed.

Deacon: [The doors! The doors!] In wisdom let us be attentive!

Symbol of Faith



I be-lieve in one God, the Father Al-might-y, Cre - a - tor of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and in - vis - i - ble. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,



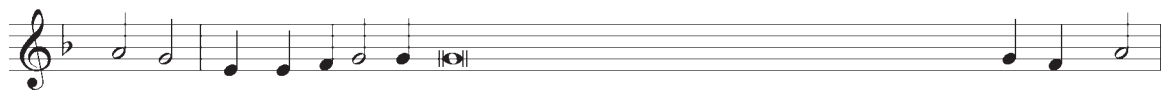
the only-be-got-ten, born of the Fa-ther be-fore all a-ges. Light from light, true



God from true God, be-got-ten, not made, one in essence with the Fa-ther;



through whom all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from



heav-en, and was in-car-nate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and be-came man.



He was cru-ci-fied for us under Pon-tius Pi-late, and suf-fered, and was bur-ied.



He rose on the third day ac-cord-ing to the scrip-tures. He as-cend-ed into heaven



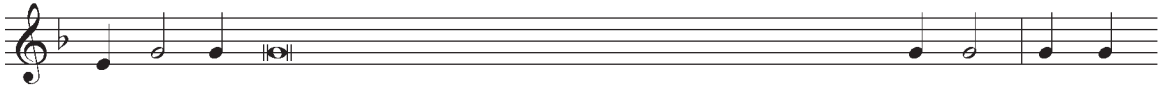
and is seated at the right hand of the Fa-ther. And he is com-ing again in glory



to judge the living and the dead, and his king-dom will have no end. And in the



Ho-ly Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of Life, who proceeds from the Fa-ther.



To- geth - er with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glo-ri - fied; he spoke



through the proph - ets. In one, ho - ly, catholic, and a-po - stol - ic Church.



I pro-fess one baptism for the remis-sion of sins. I ex - pect the resurrection of



the dead and the life of the world to come. A - men.

Anaphora

Deacon: Let us stand aright, let us stand in awe, let us be attentive to offer the holy Anaphora in peace.



Mer - cy, peace, a sac - ri - fice of praise.

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.



And with your spir - - - it.

Celebrant: Let us lift up our hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.

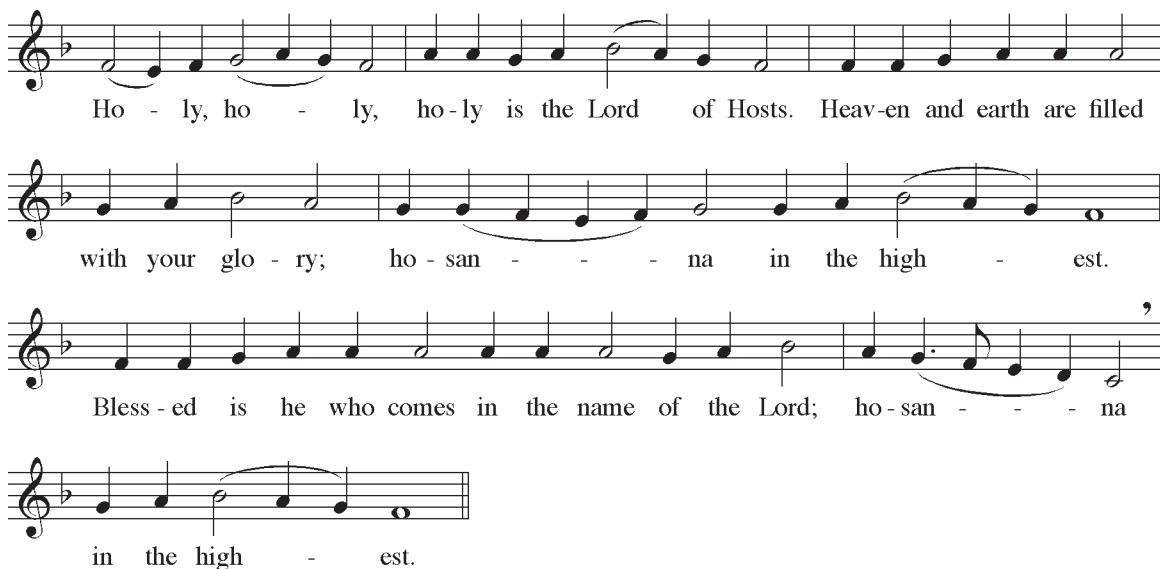
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

Response: 
It is prop - er and just.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: Singing, shouting, crying aloud, and saying the triumphal hymn:

The proper liturgical posture is to stand.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of Hosts. Heav - en and earth are filled
with your glo - ry; ho - san - - - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; ho - san - - - na
in the high - est.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you for the remission of sins.

All make a profound bow.

Response: 
A - men.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: Drink of this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins.

All make a profound bow.

Response:



The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: Offering you your own from your own always and everywhere.

All bow reverently and sing:

Anamnesis Acclamation

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: 'We praise you, we bless you, we thank you, O Lord, and we pray to you, our God, pray to you, our God.' The first staff ends with a double bar line.

The celebrant prays the Epiklesis, invoking the Holy Spirit upon the gifts and the faithful.

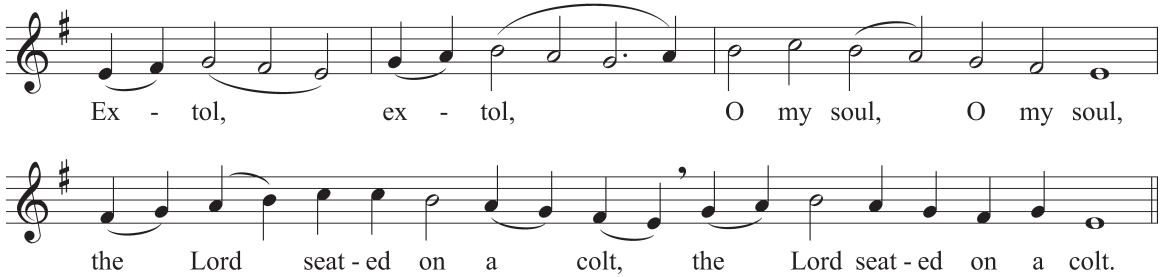
The clergy and faithful make a profound bow.

The celebrant then offers incense on behalf of all saints and all the faithful departed.

Beginning the commemorations, he prays, concluding:

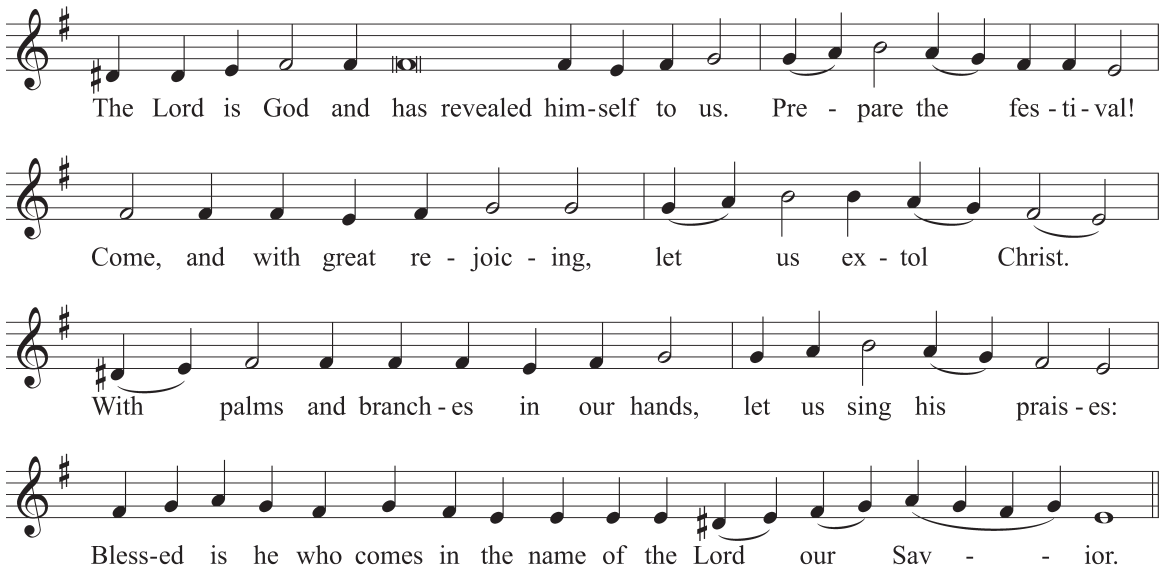
Celebrant: . . . our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

Magnification



Ex - tol, ex - tol, O my soul, O my soul,
the Lord seat - ed on a colt, the Lord seat - ed on a colt.

Irmos - Tone 6, simple setting



The Lord is God and has revealed him-self to us. Pre - pare the fes - ti - val!
Come, and with great re - joic - ing, let us ex - tol Christ.
With palms and branch - es in our hands, let us sing his prais - es:
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord our Sav - - ior.

The clergy commemorate the living.

Celebrant: Among the first, O Lord, remember our holy father (*Name*), pope of Rome, our most reverend metropolitan (*Name*), our God-loving bishop (*Name*); preserve them for your holy churches in peace, safety, honor, and health for many years as they faithfully impart the word of your truth.

Response:



The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant:

And grant that with one voice and one heart we may glorify and praise your most honored and magnificent name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Preparation for Communion

Celebrant:

May the mercies of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ be with all of you.

Response:



Deacon:

Now that we have commemorated all the saints, again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:



Deacon:

For the precious gifts offered and consecrated, that our God who loves us all may receive them on his holy, heavenly, and mystical altar as an aroma of spiritual fragrance, and send down upon us in return his divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Response:



Deacon:

Asking for unity in the faith and for communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response:



To you, O Lord.

The celebrant prays, concluding with the introduction to the Lord’s Prayer:

Celebrant: And make us worthy, O Lord God of heaven, that we may with confidence and without condemnation dare call you “Father” and say:

Tone 4 podobn: Udivisja Josif



Our Fa ther, who art in heav en, hal - lowed be thy name. Thy king dom come,



thy will be done on earth, as it is in heav-en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread;



And for-give us our tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who tres-pass a-against us.



And lead us not in - to temp-ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.


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

Response:



A - men.

Celebrant: Peace be to all.

Response: 
And to your spir - it.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Response: 
To you, O Lord.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

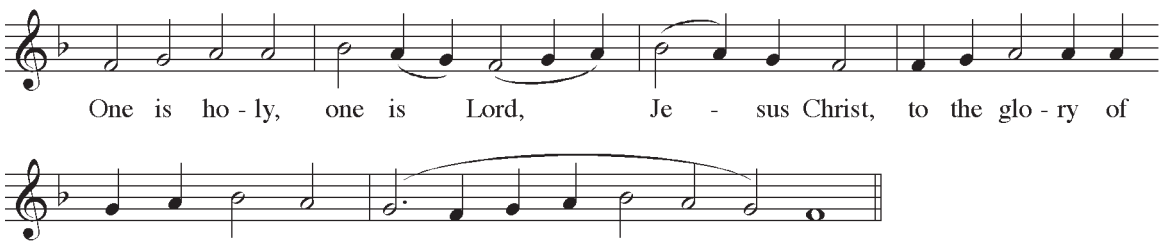
Celebrant: Through the grace, the mercies, and the loving-kindness of your only-begotten Son with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - - - - - men.

Communion

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Holy gifts to holy people!

Response: 
One is ho - ly, one is Lord, Je - sus Christ, to the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - - - - - men.

The proper liturgical posture is to stand.

*The celebrant breaks the holy lamb into four parts in the form of a cross,
uniting one portion with the precious blood.*

All pray together:

All: O Lord, I believe and profess that you are truly Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first.

Accept me today as a partaker of your mystical supper, O Son of God; for I will not reveal your Mystery to your enemies, nor will I give you a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief I profess you:

Remember me, O Lord, when you come in your kingdom.
Remember me, O Master, when you come in your kingdom.
Remember me, O Holy One, when you come in your kingdom.

May the partaking of your holy Mysteries, O Lord, be not for my judgement or condemnation, but for the healing of soul and body.

O Lord, I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious body, and your life-giving blood, which, I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and for life everlasting. Amen.

O God, be merciful to me a sinner.
O God, cleanse me of my sins, and have mercy on me.
O Lord, forgive me for I have sinned without number.

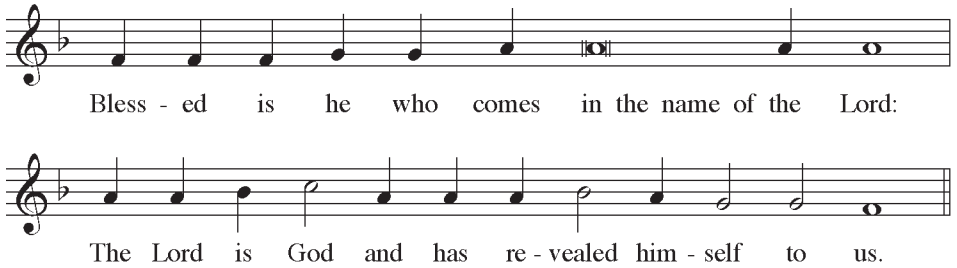
Communion Hymn (Psalm 117:26,27):

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God

Refrain
and has re-vealed him-self to us. Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Deacon: Approach with fear of God and with faith.

Response:



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord:
The Lord is God and has re - vealed him - self to us.

*The body and blood of our Lord are administered on a small spoon.
Communicants approach close to the priest or deacon and remain standing.*

The communicants say nothing.

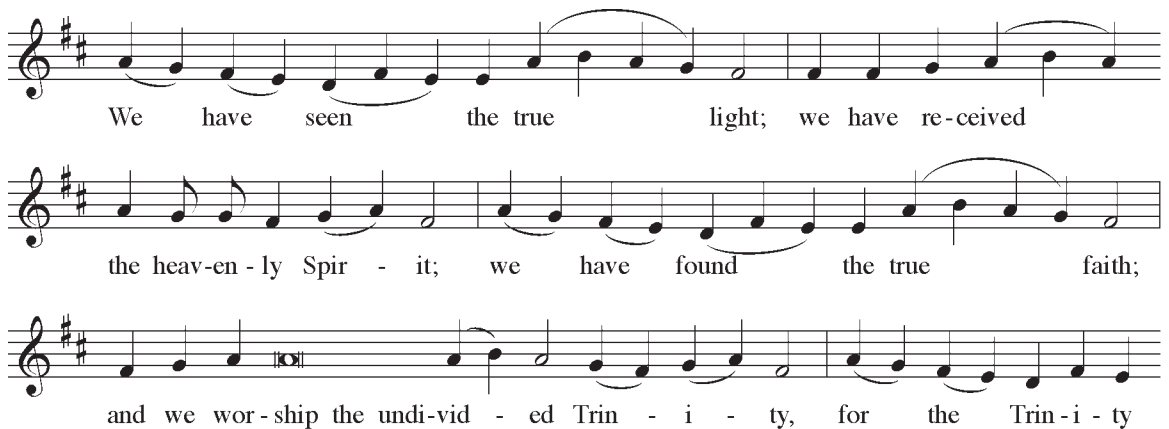
*They open the mouth widely without extending the tongue
and close the mouth only after the spoon has been withdrawn.*

*The faithful may REMAIN STANDING
while others are receiving holy communion.*

*When Holy Communion has been distributed,
the celebrant blesses with the chalice:*

Celebrant: Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance.

Response:



We have seen the true light; we have re-ceived
the heav-en - ly Spir - it; we have found the true faith;
and we wor - ship the undi-vid - ed Trin - i - ty, for the Trin - i - ty



The celebrant incenses the holy gifts.

Celebrant: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and forever.



*The holy gifts are brought to the table of preparation.
The faithful sing:*

May our mouth be filled with your praise, O Lord, so that we may sing of your
glo-ry, sing of your glo - ry; for you have deemed us wor-thy to par-take
of your ho - ly, di-vine, im - mor - tal, pure, and life - cre - at - ing mys - ter - ies.
Keep us in your ho - li - ness so that all the day long we may live ac - cord - ing
to your truth. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Deacon: Arise! Now that we have received the divine, holy, most pure, immortal, heavenly, life-creating, and awesome mysteries of Christ, let us worthily thank the Lord.


Response: 
1. Lord, have mer - cy.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: For you are our sanctification, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

Response: 
In the name of the Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: 
Lord have mer - - - cy.

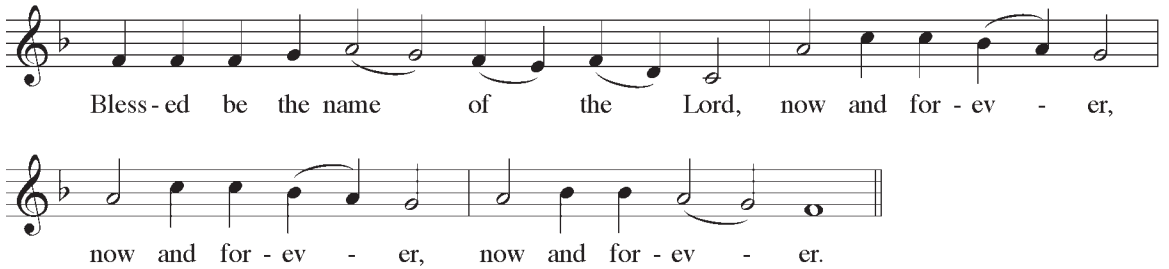
The celebrant, going before the ambon and facing East, intones the Ambon Prayer.

Celebrant: Master, Almighty Lord, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and of their just offspring, you were foretold of old by the ark which was the symbol of the Church for the just Noah. The coming of the Holy Spirit was proclaimed to him by a dove carrying in its beak a fresh olive branch. On the fourth day you raised your friend Lazarus, hastening him from death by calling, "Lazarus, come forth!" He returned to life as an image of your resurrection and all were amazed to see this. We pray you, O Master, Lover of us all, return us to life from our death in sin, and be pleased to grant us

eternal life and to be deemed worthy of your kingdom from on high, for you are our resurrection.

With this image you perfected the Jewish children, who carried palms and boughs and olive branches, shouting and crying out, "Hosanna in the highest, O Son of God, blessed are you who come to judge the whole world, O just Judge, Christ our God." For you are blessed and glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



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

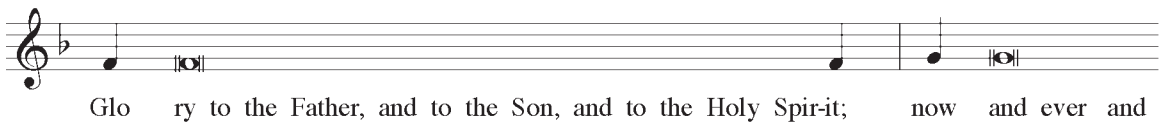
Response:

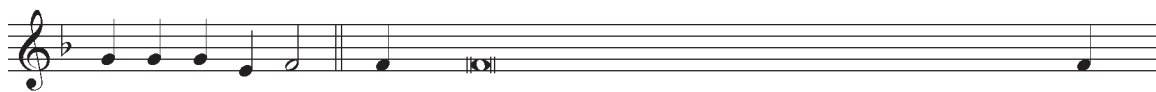


Dismissal

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

Response:





for - ev - er. A-men. Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord, have mer-cy.



Give the bless-ing. Most reverend Metropolitan, give the bless - ing.

Facing the faithful, the celebrant intones the Prayer of Dismissal.

Celebrant: May Christ our true God, who for our salvation deigned to enter Jerusalem seated on the colt of a donkey and accepted the praise of Hebrew children, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; and of our holy father John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinope; and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response:



A - - - - - men.

On more festive liturgical occasions, the deacon or celebrant, facing the faithful, intones the chant for long life:

To (*Name/s*), grant, O Lord, many years.



God grant ^{him}her them man - y years, God grant ^{him}her them man - y years,



God grant ^{him}her them man - y bless - ed years.

Added only after the final intonation for long life:



In health and hap - pi - ness, in health and hap - pi - ness,



God grant ^{him} her man - y bless - ed years.
_{them}