

The Order of Vespers on Pentecost Sunday



Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

May 2019

According to the decision of the First Ecumenical Council at Nicaea in 325 AD, Christians are not to kneel for prayer on the Lord's Day (Sunday) or on the days from Pascha to Pentecost, in honor of the Lord's Resurrection.

The service of Vespers on the day of Pentecost marks the end of fifty days of rejoicing, and in the Byzantine tradition a special series of prayers is said at this service by the priest, who kneels with the people before the Lord. This celebration may be held in the afternoon or evening of Pentecost Sunday, but in some places it is celebrated shortly after the day's Divine Liturgy.

This booklet provides the complete service of Vespers on the afternoon or evening of Pentecost, including the full text of the so-called "kneeling prayers." The translation used here was prepared by the Inter-Eparchial Liturgical Commission of the Byzantine (Ruthenian) Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh. Musical settings were done by the Metropolitan Cantor Institute.

Like the other publications of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, this setting of the service of Vespers on Pentecost Sunday is UNOFFICIAL and subject to change or revision by the Cantor Institute, the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission, or the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Church. We hope that it provides spiritual benefit to all who use it.

The Order of Sunday Evening Vespers on Palm Sunday

The celebrant, vested in bright epitrachilion, stands before the closed holy doors. The deacon remains in the sanctuary. The faithful STAND.

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

Response: 
A - men.

Glory to you, our God,
glory *to* you.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
everywhere present and filling all things,
Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life,
come and dwell within us,
cleanse us of all stain,
and save our souls, O *gracious* One.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal,
have mercy *on* us. (*3 times*)

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions;
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for *your* name's sake.

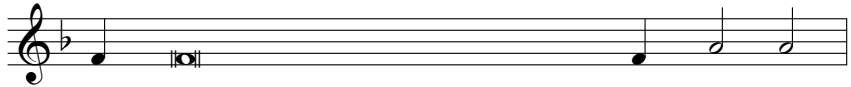
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, *have* mercy.


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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us *from* evil.

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.


Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. (*sung twice*)


Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Call to Worship

Come, let us worship our King and God. (*bow*)

Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God. (*bow*)

Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ,
the King and *our* God. (*bow*)

*The celebrant quietly recites the Prayers of Light of Vespers before the holy doors,
while the faithful sing Psalm 103.*

Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul! Lord my God, how great you are,
clothed in maj-es - ty and glo - - - ry, wrapped in light as in a robe.
You stretch out the heav-ens like a tent. A-bove the rains you build your
dwell - ing. You make the clouds your char - - i - ot, you walk on
the wings of the wind; you make your an - gels spir - - - its
and your min - is - ters a flam - ing fire. You found-ed the earth
on its base, to stand firm from age to age. You make the grass grow for
the cat - - - tle and the plants to serve man's needs, that he may
bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer man's heart;

oil, to make his face shine and bread to strength-en
 man's heart. I will sing to the Lord all my life, make mu-sic
 to my God while I live. You made the moon to mark the months;
 the sun knows the time for its set-ting. How man-y are your
 works, O Lord! In wis-dom you have made them all. 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.


Three times, with a bow each time:

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

*The deacon goes to his place before the ambon, and the celebrant returns to the sanctuary. The faithful may **SIT** for the Litany of Peace.*

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 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, [*or:* For this holy monastery], 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: For the people here present awaiting the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For those who bend their hearts and their knees before the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For us to be strengthened for the fulfillment of what is well-pleasing, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For his rich mercies to be sent down upon us, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For the bending of our knees to be accepted like incense before him, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For those who need help from him, 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 faithful STAND.

Celebrant: Evening, morning, and at noon we praise you, we bless you, we thank you, and we pray to you, Master of All and loving Lord. Let our prayer rise like incense before you and do not let our hearts be turned to evil words or thoughts, but deliver us from all that might ensnare our souls. For to you Lord, O Lord, our eyes are turned and in you we hope; let us not be put to shame, O our God.

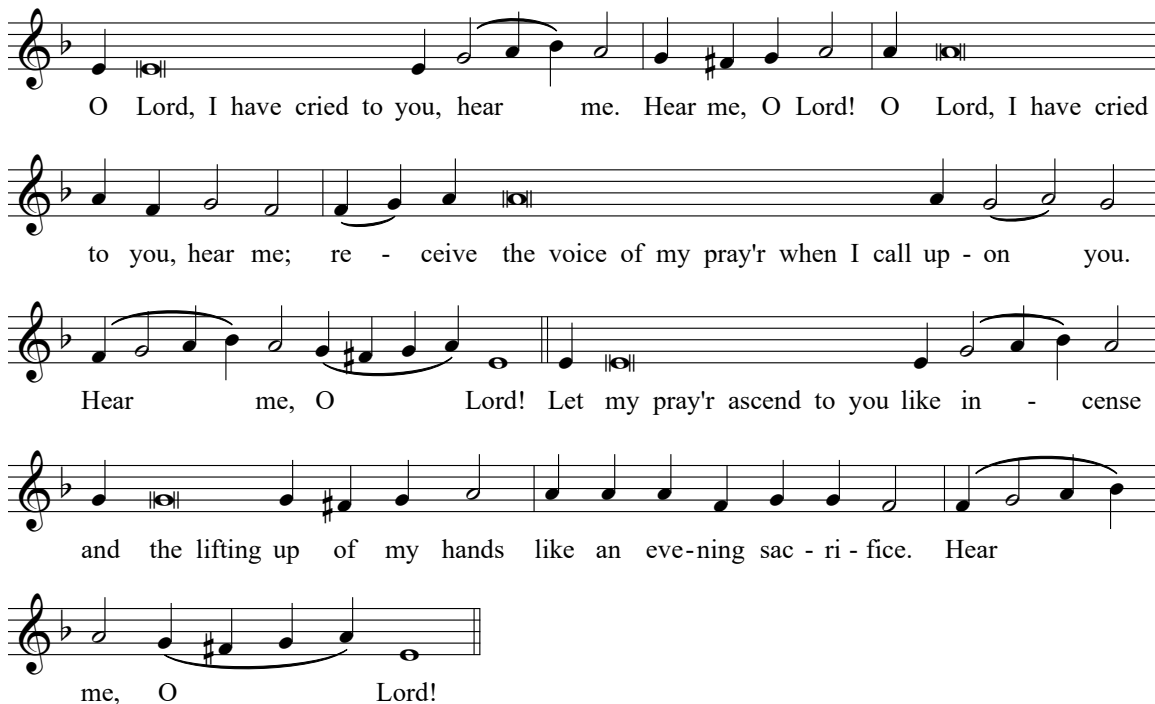
For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

The faithful REMAIN STANDING for the beginning of the Lamp-lighting Psalms and the great incensation of the church; they SIT when the incensation is complete.

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140 - Tone 2 samohlasen



O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried
to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I call up - on you.
Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like in - cense
and the lifting up of my hands like an eve-ning sac - ri - fice. Hear
me, O Lord!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.
Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuse for the sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness
but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;
then they understood that my words *were* kind.
As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!
From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way *un*harmed.

Psalm 141

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.
I pour out my trouble before him;
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *within* me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.
Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes *my* part.

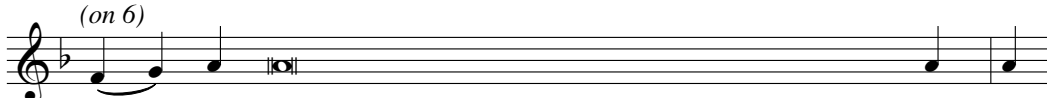

I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for *my* soul.
I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths of *distress*.
Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger *than* I.


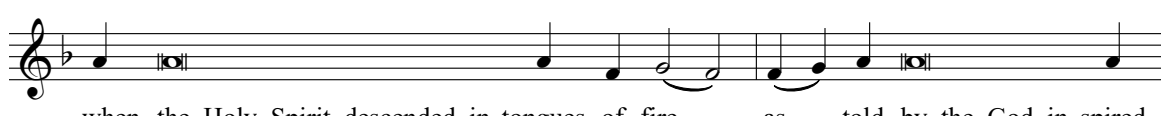
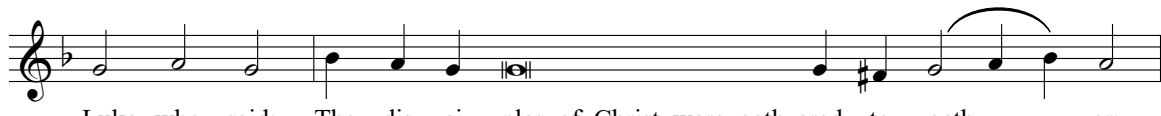
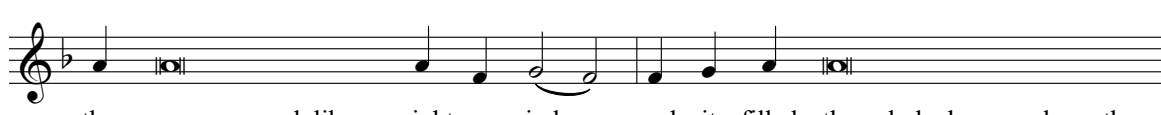


Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise *your* name.
Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness *to* me.

Psalm 129

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord hear *my* voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of *my* pleading.

(on 6)
 Cantor:  If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would sur-vive? But
 with you is found forgive-ness: for this we re - vere you.


Stichera of Pentecost Monday - Tone 4 samohlasen

 ⁶ & ⁵
 All the peoples have seen won - ders to - day in the ci - ty of Da - vid,
 when the Holy Spirit descended in tongues of fire, as told by the God-in-spired
 Luke, who said: The dis - ci - ples of Christ were gath-ered to - geth - er;
 there was a sound like a might-y wind, and it filled the whole house where they
 were sit - ting. And they be - gan to speak in for - eign tongues, teach-ing the
 doc - trine of the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

(on 5)

Cantor: 


My soul is wait - ing for the Lord. I count on his word. My soul



is longing for the Lord more than watch - man for day - break.


All repeat: "All the peoples have seen wonders today..."

(on 4)


Cantor: 

Let the watch - man count on day - break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

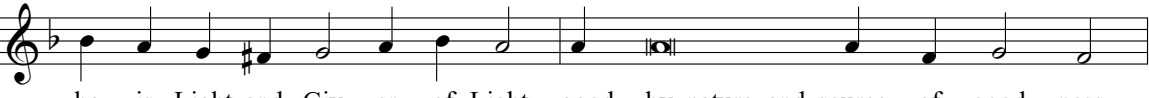
④ & ③



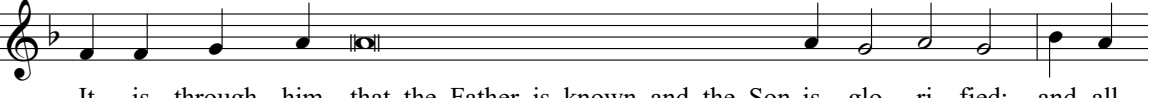
The Holy Spirit was, is, and al - ways will be with - out beginning and with - out end,



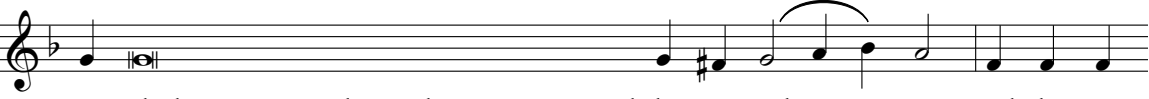
but always one with the Father and the Son. He is Life and Giv - er of Life;



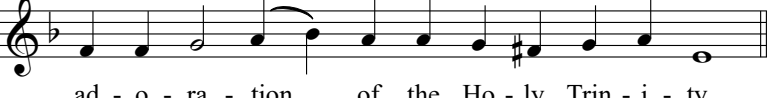
he is Light and Giv - er of Light, good by nature and source of good - ness.



It is through him that the Father is known and the Son is glo - ri - fied; and all

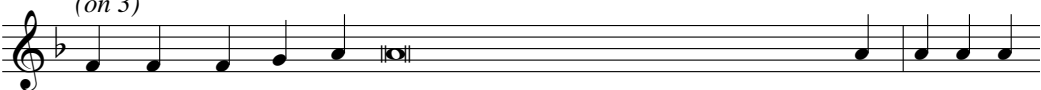


peo - ple have come to know the one power and the one sub - stance and the same




ad - o - ra - tion of the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

(on 3)

Cantor: 

Be-cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp-tion, Is - ra - el



indeed he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.


All repeat: "The Holy Spirit, was, is, and always will be..."

(on 2)


Cantor: 

Praise the Lord, all you na-tions, ac-claim him all you peo - ples!


② & ①




The Holy Spirit is Light and Life, the Living Spring mystic-'ly gush - ing forth,



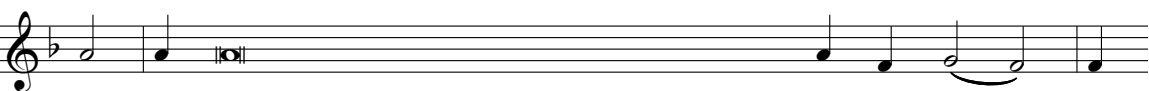
the Spirit of Wisdom and Spi-rit of Knowl - edge, good and up - right and



un-der-stand - ing, maj - es - tic, and pu - ri - fy - ing from sin. He is God and



de - i - fies us; Fire pro-ceed-ing from fire, speak-ing, act-ing, and dis-trib - ut - ing



gifts. It is through him that all the prophets and the apos-tles of God have



re - ceived the crown, together with the mar - tyrs. A strange report to hear and

strange to see: the fire is di - vid - ed for the shar - ing of gifts.

(on 1)
 Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith-ful for - ev - er.

All repeat: "The Holy Spirit, is Light and Life..."

The faithful STAND.

Cantor: Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir-it,
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A-men.

Doxastikon of Pentecost Monday - Tone 6 samohlasen

Heav-en - ly King, Com-fort - er, Spir-it of Truth, ev - 'ry - where pres - ent

and fill - ing all things, Treas-ur - y of Bles - sings and Giv - er of Life,

come and dwell with - in us, cleanse us of all stain, and save

our souls, O gra - cious One.

The Festal Entrance

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Hymn of the Evening



O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,
the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have
reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise
a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the
Giv - er of Life. There - fore, the u - ni - verse sings your glo - ry.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The Evening Prokeimenon

Great Prokeimenon - Tone 7 (Psalm 76: 14-16, 11, 12)

What God is as great, is as great as our God? You are the
God, you are the God who works won - - - ders!

Deacon: You showed your power among the peoples. Your strong arm redeemed your people.

Deacon: I said: Now I begin, and this is the will of the Most High

Deacon: I remember the deeds of the Lord. I remember your wonders of old.

First Kneeling Prayer

The faithful kneel. The celebrant kneels before the holy doors, facing East, with the deacon to his right, and says this prayer aloud.

Deacon: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

Lord, have mer - cy.

Celebrant: O Lord, most pure, undefiled, without beginning, invisible, incomprehensible, unsearchable, unchangeable, unsurpassable, immeasurable, and long-suffering: you alone have immortality; you live in unapproachable light; you made heaven and earth and the sea and all things created in them. You grant the requests of all even before they ask. We pray to you, and we beseech you, O Master who love us all, the Father of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ. For our sake and for the sake of our salvation, he came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and Mary, the ever-Virgin and the most glorious Theotokos.

At first he taught us with words which were then later confirmed through deeds when he endured the saving passion, giving us, your humble, sinful, and unworthy servants, the example of offering supplications to you, with necks

bowed and on bended knees, for our sins and for the people's failings done in ignorance. As you alone are most merciful and the Lover of humanity, hear us on whatever day we call upon you, but especially on this present day of Pentecost on which, after our Lord Jesus Christ had ascended into heaven and was seated at your right hand, O God and Father, he sent down the Holy Spirit upon his holy disciples and apostles. The Holy Spirit came upon each of them, and filling all of them with his inexhaustible grace, they spoke of your grandeur in various tongues, and they prophesied.

Now, therefore, hear us who are praying to you, and remember us, lowly and judged as we are, and overturn the captivity of our souls for we have your compassion interceding for us. Accept us who fall down before you, calling out: We have sinned! Upon you we were thrust from the womb, from our mother's womb you are our God. But because we have spent our days in vanity, we have been stripped of your help, having been deprived of every defense. But trusting in your mercies, we cry out: Do not remember the sins of our youth and acts done in ignorance, and cleanse us of our secret faults; do not reject us when we become elderly; do not forsake us when our strength weakens; do not return us to the earth before you have made us worthy to return to you, and until you have prepared us, making us acceptable through grace. Measure our iniquities by your mercies. Against the multitude of our transgressions, place the depths of your mercies. O Lord, look down from the heights of your holiness upon your people here present who are waiting for rich mercy from you. Visit us with your goodness. Deliver us from the assaults of the devil. Secure our life around your holy and sacred commandments. Entrust your people to a faithful guardian angel. Gather all of us into your kingdom. Grant pardon to those who hope in you; forgive their sins and ours. Purify us by the action of your Holy Spirit. Destroy the enemy's intrigues against us.


Blessed are you, O Lord, Master, Almighty, you illumine the day with the light of the sun and brighten the night with rays of fire, and you have enabled us to pass through the length of the day and to draw near to the beginning of the night. Hear our petitions and those of all your people; and having forgiven all of our voluntary and involuntary sins. Accept our evening prayers, and send down the multitude of your mercies and your compassion upon your inheritance. Like a wall, surround us with your holy angels. Arm us with the armor of your righteousness. Encompass us with your truth. Guard us with your power. Deliver us from every assault and from every trick of the Enemy.

Grant to us that this present evening and the approaching night and all the days of our lives may be perfect, holy, peaceful, without sin, without temptation, and without evil imaginings, through the prayers of the most holy Theotokos and of all the saints who have been well-pleasing to you from the beginning of time.


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

Response: 
 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.

Celebrant: For it is you who show mercy to us and save us, O our God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:  *The clergy and faithful STAND.*
 A - men.

Litany of Fervent Supplication


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

Response: 
 Lord, have mer - cy.


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

Response: 
 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.

Second Kneeling Prayer

The faithful kneel. The celebrant kneels before the holy doors, facing East, with the deacon to his right, and says this prayer aloud.

Deacon: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, our God, you bestowed your peace upon us and you granted us the gift of the All Holy Spirit while you were still present with us in this life, yet you continue to bestow upon the faithful this inheritance that can never be taken away. On this day, in a more manifest way, you sent down this grace upon your disciples and apostles and gave eloquence to their lips with fiery tongues so that, through them, the whole human race has received the knowledge of God through hearing in our own language. We have been enlightened by the light of the Spirit and have been delivered from error, as from darkness, by the distribution of visible and fiery tongues. Through this supernatural action we have been taught faith in you and have been enlightened to speak of you, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as one divinity and power and authority.

You are also the splendor of the Father, the unchangeable and immutable imprint of his essence and nature, and the source of wisdom and grace. Open my sinful mouth and teach me how and for what I should pray. For you know the great multitude of my sins, but their enormity can be vanquished by your compassion. For behold, I stand before you with fear, casting the despair of my soul into the ocean of your mercy. Govern my life, for you govern all creation by a word with the ineffable power of your wisdom; show me the way in which I should walk. Grant the Spirit of your wisdom to my thoughts. Give the Spirit of understanding to my ignorance, with (the) Spirit of your fear overshadow my deeds and put a steadfast spirit within me. With a spirit of fervor sustain my unstable mind, that being guided every day by your good Spirit toward those things that are profitable for me, I may be worthy to observe your commandments, and always keep in mind your glorious coming when you will search out all our deeds. Do not despise me, that I might be deceived by the dissolute pleasures of this world; but strengthen me with the desire to reach for the treasures of the world to come. For you said, O Master, whatever anyone asks for in your name will be received without hindrance from your coeternal God and Father. Therefore, I also, a sinner, in the descent of your Holy Spirit, entreat your goodness that you would grant me whatever I have asked for salvation. Yes, Lord, the generous good giver of all blessings, you give a superabundance of those things for which we ask. You are the compassionate and merciful one who sinlessly shared our flesh; and to those who bend their knees to you, you bend down in loving compassion, becoming the atonement of our sins.

O Lord, grant then your mercies to your people. Hear us from your holy heaven. Sanctify us by the power of your saving right hand. (cf. Ps 19:7) Hide us in the shadow of your wings [Ps 16:8, this is our liturgical translation], and despise not the works of your hands. [Psalm 137:8, Grail] Against you alone have we sinned (=Ps 50:6), but we worship only you; we do not know how to worship a strange god, nor do we stretch out our hands, O Master, to any other god. (= Ps 43:21,) Pardon our transgressions and accept our prayers that we offer on bended knees. Extend your helping hand to all of us. Accept the prayer of all as acceptable incense, rising before your supremely good kingdom.

And then another prayer:

Lord, O Lord, who delivered us from all the arrows that fly by day, deliver us also from every plague that prowls in the darkness. To you we raise our hands in prayer; accept the lifting up of our hands like an evening sacrifice. Make us worthy to pass through the course of the night blamelessly, not tempted by evils, and deliver us from all confusion and cowardice coming to us from the devil. Grant our souls compunction and our thoughts care in the scrutiny of your fearful and righteous judgment. Nail our flesh out of fear of you, and put to death our earthly members that in the quiet of sleep, we may be enlightened by the contemplation of your judgments. Keep from us all carnal dreams and all harmful desires. Awaken us at the proper time for prayer, strengthened in the faith and advancing in your commandments.

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

Response: 
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.

Celebrant: By the good pleasure and goodness of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, with your all-holy and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

The clergy and faithful STAND.


The Hymn of Glorification




Make us wor - thy, O Lord, to be kept sin - less this eve - ning.




Bless-ed are you, O Lord, 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



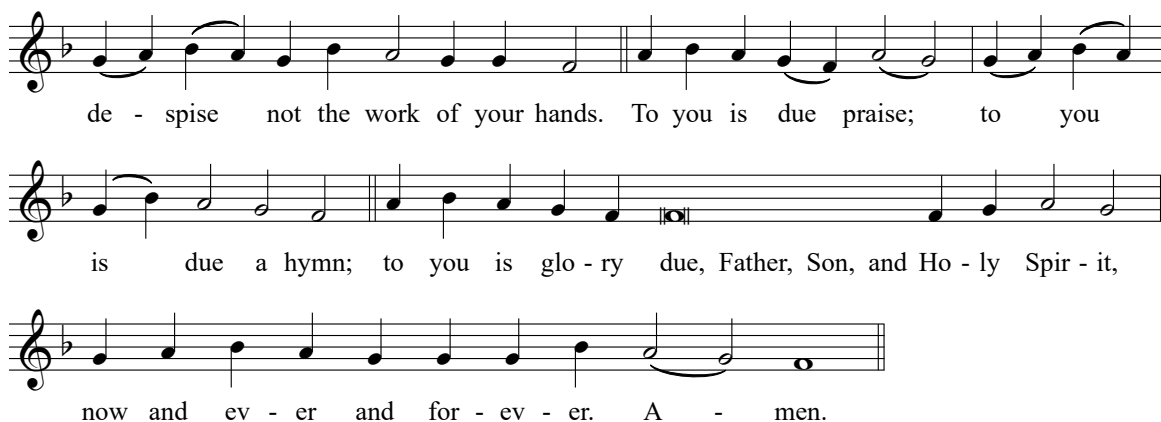
Lord; teach me your com - mand - ments. Bless-ed are you, O Mas - ter;



make me un - der - stand your com - mand - ments. Bless-ed are you, O Ho - ly One;



en - light - en me with your com - mand - ments. O Lord, your mer - cy is for - ev - er;



de - spise not the work of your hands. To you is due praise; to you
 is due a hymn; to you is glo - ry due, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it,
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Third Kneeling Prayer

The faithful kneel. The celebrant kneels before the holy doors, facing East, with the deacon to his right, and says this prayer aloud.

Deacon: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:



Lord, have mer - cy.

Celebrant: Ever-flowing spring, fountain of life and light, creative power, co-eternal with the Father, O Christ our God, you perfectly fulfilled the whole plan for the salvation of mortals. You shattered the unbreakable bonds of death and tore apart the bars of Hades: you trampled down a multitude of evil spirits. You offered yourself for us as a blameless victim, and gave your most pure Body, untouchable and unapproachable by any sin, as a sacrifice. And, through this fearful and inexpressible sacred act, you gave us eternal life.

Descending into Hades, you smashed the eternal gates and to those who were sitting in darkness you showed the way up. You then hooked the author of evil and serpent of the deep with a divinely wise lure, and with your infinitely powerful strength you bound him with the cords of gloom in the netherworld in unquenchable fire and utter darkness. Majestic wisdom of the Father, you showed yourself to be the great ally of those maltreated, and enlightened those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Lord of everlasting glory and beloved Son of the most high Father; eternal light from the eternal light; Sun of righteousness: hear us praying to you and give rest to the souls of your servants, our family and our other relatives according to the flesh who have fallen asleep before us, and give rest to all the household of the faith for whom we now make remembrance, for in you is the strength of all, and in your hands, you hold all the ends of the earth.

Almighty Master, God of our fathers and Lord of mercy; Creator of the race of mortals and of immortals, and of all human nature that is composed and then dissolved, of life and its completion, of the course of life here and its transference there. You measure out years to the living, and establish the time of death, bringing down into Hades and raising up, binding in weakness and releasing in power, ordering present things usefully and arranging future things profitably, giving life in the hope of resurrection to those wounded by the sting of death.

You, indeed, Master of all, our God and Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those far off at sea, on this last and great saving day of the feast of Pentecost, showed us the mystery of the Holy Trinity, one in essence and coeternal, without division or confusion. You showed us the visitation and coming of your holy and life-creating Spirit poured out in the form of fiery tongues on your holy apostles. You established them as evangelists of our holy faith, and showed them to be confessors and preachers of the true theology. On this perfect and saving feast, you saw fit to accept atonement, granting great hopes to us for those held fast by their constraining grief, that you will grant them forgiveness and send down your consolation.

Hear us, your humble servants who pray to you, and grant rest, O Lord, to the souls of your servants departed before us in a place of light, joy, and peace where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning. Place the souls of your departed servants in the abode of the just and make them worthy of peace and rest. For the dead do not praise you, O Lord, nor do those in Hades have the freedom to offer confession to you. But we, the living, bless you, pray to you, and offer you atoning prayers and sacrifices for their souls.

Another prayer:

Great and eternal God, you are holy and love us all, and have made us worthy in this hour to stand before your unapproachable glory so that we may sing and praise your

wonders. Cleanse us, your unworthy servants, and grant your grace that, with contrite hearts, we may without distraction offer to you the thrice-holy hymn of glorification and thanksgiving for your great gifts that you have made and always make for us. Remember, O Lord, our weakness, and do not destroy us for our transgressions; but show us your great mercy as we humble ourselves, so that fleeing from the darkness of sin, we may walk in the daylight of righteousness; and having been clothed with the weapons of light, we may remain unassailed by every assault of the evil one, and we may with confidence glorify in all things you, the only true God who love all.

Truly great is your mystery of the temporal dissolution of your creatures to be reconstituted in everlasting rest, O Master and maker of all. In everything, we confess your grace: for our entrances into this world and for our departures; for our hopes of resurrection into an imperishable life, which you pre-ordained by your certain promises, to be received in your future second coming. For you are the originator of our resurrection and the unbribable and loving judge of those who have lived. You are the Master and Lord of recompense.

In ultimate condescension you shared with us our very same flesh and blood and our blameless passions. In compassionate mercy, you submitted willingly to temptation. You suffered being tempted, offering yourself so that you would become a helper to us, leading us to freedom from passions.

Therefore, O Master, receive our prayers and supplications, and grant repose to all the fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters and children of each of us; to our relatives and countrymen; and to all those souls who have already fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection of eternal life.

Inscribe their souls and names in the book of life, in the bosoms of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the land of the living, in the kingdom of heaven, in the paradise of delights, leading all by your radiant angels into your holy mansions. And raise our bodies together with them on the day that you have appointed according to your holy and unerring promises. Then, O Lord, there is no death for your servants when we depart from the body. Departing to you, O God, we transfer from things most sorrowful to things that are most useful and most delightful, and rest and joy. If we have in any least way sinned against you, be merciful to us and to them, because there is no one who is pure from stain before you, even if his life is but a single day: you alone, O Jesus Christ our Lord, while on earth showed yourself to be sinless. Through you, we all hope to receive mercy and forgiveness of sins.

For this reason, because you are a good and loving God, remit, pardon, and forgive our transgressions, voluntary and involuntary; those committed knowingly or in ignorance, those manifest or hidden, whether in deed, or in thought, or by word, whether in our mode of life or emotions. To those gone before us, grant freedom and forgiveness, but bless us who are yet alive, granting to us and to all your people a good and peaceful end of our lives, opening to us your compassionate and loving mercy and, at your fearful and dreaded coming, making us worthy of your kingdom.

And then another prayer:

Great and most high God, you alone possess immortality and dwell in unapproachable light. You made all creation with wisdom, dividing light from darkness, establishing the sun to rule the day and the moon and stars to rule the night. You have allowed us sinners to approach your presence with thanksgiving in this present hour and to offer you evening praise. O loving Lord, make our prayer ascend to you like incense and accept it as a sweet fragrance. Grant that we may spend the present evening and the coming night in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; deliver us from the fears of the night and from everything that lurks about in darkness. Grant that the sleep you have given us to refresh our fatigue may be free from all illusions of the devil. Yes, O Master of All, Giver of good things, let us feel contrition as we lie on our beds, remembering your name throughout the night. Enlightened by meditation on your commands, may we rise with gladdened soul to give glory to your goodness, offering to your compassion prayers and supplications for our sins and those of all your people. Visit us with mercy through the intercession of the holy Theotokos.


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

Response: 
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.

Celebrant: For you are the repose of our souls and bodies, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:  *The clergy and faithful STAND.*
A - men.

Litany of Supplication

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer 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: That this whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 
3. Grant this, O Lord.

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

Response: 
4. Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord. (3)

Deacon: For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord. (4)

For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world, let us beseech the Lord. (3)

That we spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech the Lord. (4)

For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgement seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord. (3)

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. (4)

Response:



To you, O Lord.

Celebrant: Great and most high God, you alone possess immortality and dwell in unapproachable light. You made all creation with wisdom, dividing light from darkness, establishing the sun to rule the day and the moon and stars to rule the night. You have allowed us sinners to approach your presence with thanksgiving in this present hour and to offer you evening praise. O loving Lord, make our prayer ascend to you like incense and accept it as a sweet fragrance. Grant that we may spend the present evening and the coming night in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; deliver us from the fears of the night and from everything that lurks about in darkness. Grant that the sleep you have given us to refresh our fatigue may be free from all illusions of the devil. Yes, O Master of All, Giver of good things, let us feel contrition as we lie on our beds remembering your name throughout the night. Enlightened by meditation on your commands, may we rise with gladdened soul to give glory to your goodness, offering to your compassion prayers and supplications for our sins and those of all your people. Visit us with mercy through the intercession of the holy Theotokos.

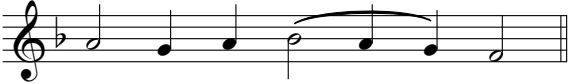
For you are a good and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

:

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.

Celebrant: Lord our God, you bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race. Look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for they have bowed their heads and bent their necks to you, the awesome Judge who love mankind. They do not expect human help, but await your mercy and long for your salvation. Protect them at all times, this evening and tonight, from every enemy, from all the devil's assaults, from vain thoughts and evil imaginings. May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 

A - men.

Aposticha

Tone 3 samohlasen

from whom Christ came in the flesh, were di - vid - ed by lack of faith.

They fell from the di - vine grace and di - vine light which we the

Gen - tiles have at - tained. For we are strengthened by the words of the

dis - ci - ples, who pro - claim the glo - ry of God, the Benefactor of

all, with whom we bend our hearts as well as our knees, and worship the

Ho - ly Spir - it in faith, be - ing strengthened by the Sav - ior of our souls.

Cantor: A pure heart create for me, O God; put a stead - fast spir - it with - in me.

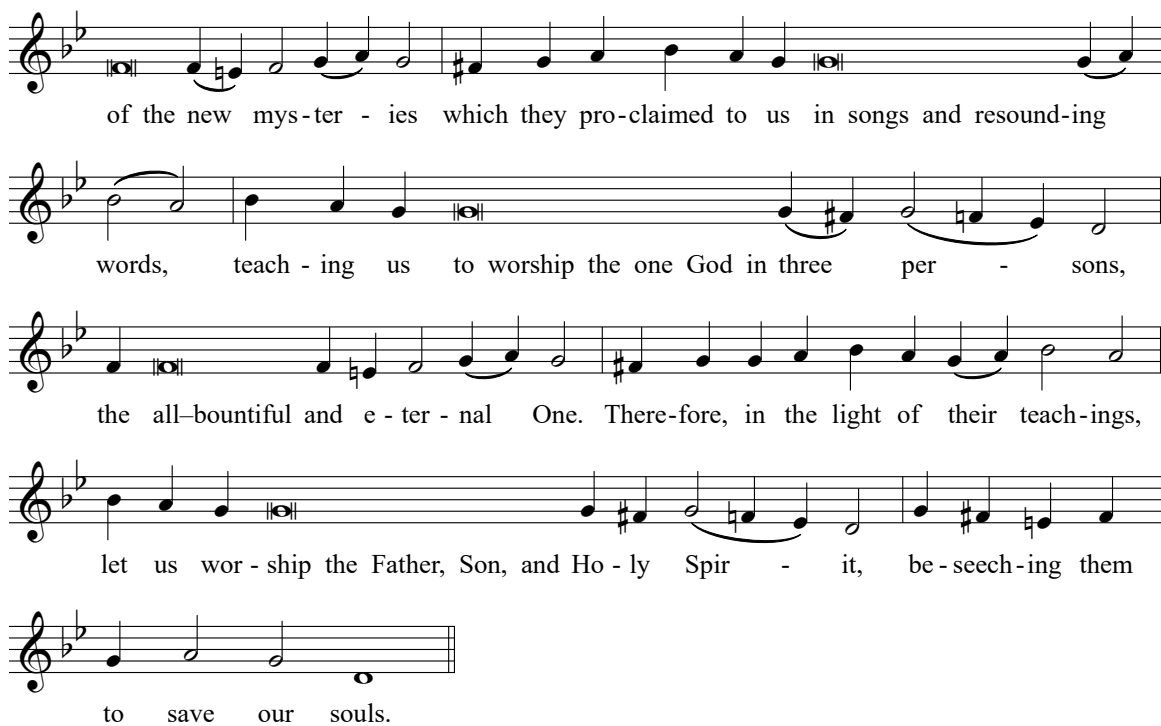
② The com - fort - ing Spir - it has now been poured out on all flesh, for be - gin - ning

with the rank of the a - pos - tles, he extended grace through the communion

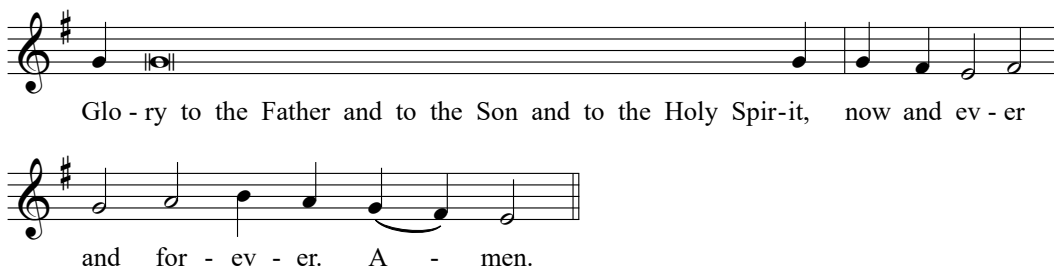
of be - liev - ers. He con - firmed the truth of his pres - ence
 by the dis - tribution of fiery tongues to the dis - ci - ples for the praise and
 glo - ry of God. With the spir - it - ual light that enlightens our hearts,
 and strength - ened in the faith by the Ho - ly Spir - it, let us be - seech
 him to save our souls.

Cantor: Do not cast me away from your pres - ence, nor de - prive me of your
 Ho - ly Spir - it.

³ The a - pos - tles of Christ have been clothed with power from on high;
 for the Com - fort - er has re - newed them, and in them renewed the knowledge

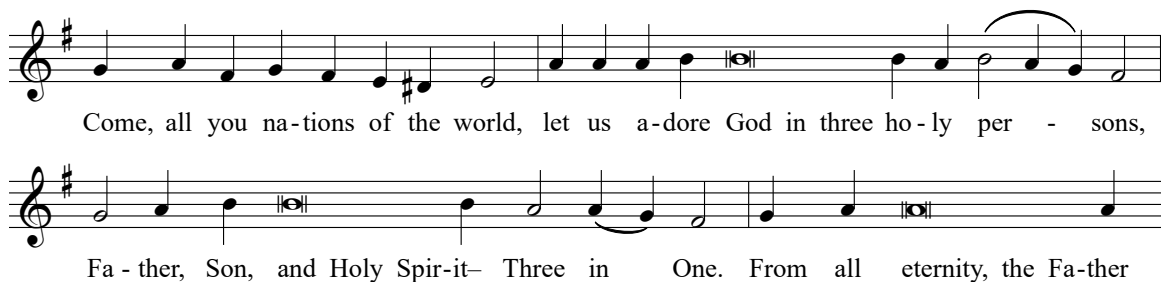


of the new mys-ter - ies which they pro-claimed to us in songs and resound-ing
 words, teach - ing us to worship the one God in three per - sons,
 the all-bountiful and e - ter - nal One. There-fore, in the light of their teach-ings,
 let us wor - ship the Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, be - seech - ing them
 to save our souls.

Cantor: 

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.

Aposticha doxastikon of Pentecost Monday - Tone 8 samohlasen



Come, all you na-tions of the world, let us a-dore God in three ho-ly per - sons,
 Fa - ther, Son, and Holy Spir-it- Three in One. From all eternity, the Fa-ther

be - gets the Son, e - qual to him in eterni-ty and maj - es - ty,
 e - qual al - so to the Holy Spirit, glorified with the Son in the Fa - ther,
 three per - sons, and yet a single power and es-sence and God - - - head.
 In deep adoration, let us cry out to God: Ho - ly is God who made all things
 through the Son with the co - op - eration of the Ho - ly Spir - it.
 Ho - ly the Might-y One, through whom the Father was re-vealed to us, and through
 whom the Holy Spirit came to this world. Ho - ly the Immortal One, the Spir-it
 and Com - fort - er who pro-ceeds from the Father and re-pos-es in the Son.
 All - ho - ly Trin - i - ty, glo - ry to you!

The Prayer of Holy Simeon the God-Bearer

Now you may dis - miss your serv - ant, O Lord,
in peace, ac - - - cord - ing to your word; for
my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all peo - ple:
a light for re - ve - la - tion to the Gen - tiles, and the glo - ry
of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The musical score is written on six staves in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Trisagion Prayers

Ho - ly God! Ho - ly and Might - y! Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal,
have mer - - - cy on us. *(3 times)*

The musical score is written on two staves in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are placed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line. The instruction *(3 times)* is written to the right of the second staff.

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions,
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for *your* name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, *have* mercy.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us *from* evil.

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

Response: A - men.

Troparion

Troparion of Pentecost - Tone 8

Bless-ed are you, O Christ our God. You have shown the fish-er-men to
be all-wise, send-ing down up - on them the Ho - ly Spir - it.

Through them you have caught the whole world in your net.

O Lov - er of us all, glo - ry to you! (3 times)

Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response:

Give the bles - sing.

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

Response:

A - men.

O God, uphold the holy and true faith,
forever *and* ever.

Celebrant: 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 magnify.

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

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

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Give *the* blessing.

Celebrant: May he who emptied himself and came forth from the bosom of God the Father, and descended from heaven upon the earth, and took upon himself our entire nature and deified it, but after that ascended again into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father, who sent down upon his holy disciples and apostles the divine and Holy Spirit one in essence, in power, in glory, and in eternity, through whom he enlightened the apostles and through them the whole world, Christ our true God, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; through the prayers of the holy, glorious, illustrious and God-proclaiming and Spirit-bearing apostles; and through the prayers of all the saints, for Christ is good and loves us all

Response:

