SERVICE OF THE GREAT HOURS
FIRST HOUR

PRIEST

Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

PRIEST

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, present in all places and filling all things, treasury of good things and giver of life: come; take Your abode in us; cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, O Good one.

READER

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name’s sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship and bow down before God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Him, Christ our King and God.

Psalm 5.

Give ear to my words, O Lord, Hear my cry. Give heed to the voice of my supplication, my King and my God, for to You will I pray, O Lord. In the morning You shall hear my voice; in the morning I will stand before You, and I will watch. for You are not a God who wills lawlessness, nor shall the evildoer dwell with You. The lawless shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all the workers of lawlessness; You shall destroy all who speak falsehood; the Lord abhors the man of violence and deceit. But as for me, in the fullness of Your mercy I will come into Your house; in fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; make straight Your way before me. for there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is vain; their throat is an open grave; they deal deceptively with their tongues. Judge them, O Lord. Let them fall by their false accusations; Cast them out in the multitude of their ungodliness; for they provoked You, O Lord. But let all who
Great Hours on Monday, January 5

hope in You be glad; they will greatly rejoice forever, for You will dwell in them; and all who love Your name will boast in You. for You will bless the righteous; O Lord, You crowned us with the shield of Your goodwill. (SAAS)

Psalm 22 (23).

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord to the end of my days. (SAAS)

Psalm 26 (27).

The Lord is my light and my savior; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defender of my life; whom shall I dread? when the wicked drew near against me to eat up my flesh, those who afflict me and are my enemies, they weakened and fell. Though an army should array itself against me, my heart shall not be afraid; though war should rise up against me, in this I shall hope. One thing I ask from the Lord; this I will seek, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, and behold the delights of the Lord, and visit His temple. for He hid me in His tabernacle in the day of my troubles; He sheltered me in the secret place of His tabernacle; He set me high upon a rock. And now, behold, He has lifted up my head above my enemies; I went around and offered in His tabernacle a sacrifice of joy; I will sing to the Lord, and praise Him with the harp. O Lord, hear my voice, wherein I cry; have mercy on me and hear me. My heart speaks to You; my face seeks You; Your face, O Lord, I will seek. Do not turn away Your face from me; do not turn away from Your servant in wrath; be my helper; do not utterly cast me away, nor forsake me, O God my savior. for my father and my mother forsook me, but the Lord laid hold of me. Instruct me, O Lord, in the way of Your law; set me on a straight path because of my enemies. Do not deliver me to the souls of those who afflict me, for unjust witnesses rise up against me; and injustice lies to itself. I believe I shall see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be courageous, and strengthen your heart, and wait on the Lord. (SAAS)

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion.

Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream * with his mantle in the wake of Elias’s ascent; * and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. * And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, * a symbol and truly a type of Baptism, * by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. * And Christ appeared at the Jordan River * to sanctify the waters.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion.

Great Hours on Monday, January 5

held in your holy embrace a Son who is the God of all. Entreat Him to save our souls.

CHOIR

Idiomela.
Mode pl. 4.

Today the nature of the waters is sanctified; * Jordan is divided and holds back its own stream, ** seeing the washing of the Master.

Twice, with no verse. Then:

Verse: Therefore I will remember You From the land of the Jordan and Hermon, from the small mountain.

Mode pl. 4.

Christ the King, You have come to the river as a Man. * because of our sins, in Your goodness, Lover of mankind, * You hasten to receive the Baptism of a servant ** at the hands of the Forerunner!

Verse: The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You and were afraid, and the depths were troubled, a multitude like the sound of waters.

Repeat the same hymn. Then:

Glory. Mode pl. 4.

At the voice of one crying in the wilderness: * prepare the way of the Lord! * You have come, Lord, in the form of a servant. * You are free from sin, yet You desire to be baptized by John! * The waters saw You and were afraid; * the Forerunner cried out with trembling, and said: * How shall the lamp illumine the Light? * How shall the servant place his hand on the Master? * Savior, as You take away the sin of the world, ** sanctify both me and the waters.

Both now. Repeat.

THE PROPHECY

READER


The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thundered; the Lord is upon the many waters.

Verse: I will love You, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my foundation, my refuge, my deliverer.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias.

PRIEST

Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

READER

[35,1-10]

Thus says the Lord: Rejoice, thirsty desert. Let the desert be glad and flower like a lily. The deserts of Jordan will blossom and be overgrown and be glad. The glory of Lebanon has been given to it and the honour of Carmel. And my people will see the glory of the Lord and the majesty of God. Be strong, enfeebled hands and palsied knees. Give comfort and say to the faint-hearted, ‘Be strong and do not fear. See, our God is giving judgement and will give it. He himself will come and save us. Then the eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf will hear. Then the lame will leap like a deer and the tongue of stammerers will speak clearly, because water has burst out in the desert and a channel in a thirsty land. And the waterless land will become pools and there will be a spring of water for the thirsty land. There will be joy of birds there, roosts of owls and reed beds and pools. And there will be a pure way there, and it will be called a holy way, and no one unclean may pass along it. There will be no
unclean way there. But the scattered will walk upon it and not go astray. There will be no lion there, nor will any of the evil wild beasts go up on it or be found there. But the redeemed and gathered by the Lord will walk on it. And they will return and come to Sion with joy and exultation, and everlasting joy will be upon their head. For on their head will be praise and rejoicing, and gladness will possess them. Pain, grief and sighing have fled away. (Lash)

THE EPISTLE

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive! Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

READER

(13:25-32)

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

PRIEST

Peace be to you the reader.

CHORUS

PRESBUTERUS
Wisdom! Arise! Let us hear the holy Gospel.

PRESBUTERUS
Peace be with all.

(m. with your spirit.)

PRESBUTERUS
The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. Let us be attentive!

(13:25-32)

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

READER

Direct my steps according to Your teaching and let no lawlessness rule over me.
Ransom me from the slander of men, and I will keep Your commandments.
Make Your face shine upon Your servant and teach me Your ordinances.
Let my mouth be filled with Your praise, O Lord, that I may sing of Your glory and of Your magnificence all the day long.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Kontakion.

To the flowing streams today * of River Jordan * comes the Lord and cries aloud * to John the Baptist, and He says, * "Be not afraid to baptize me now; * for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Lord, have mercy. (40)

O Christ our God, who at all times and at every hour, both in heaven and on earth, are worshipped and glorified, long suffering and plenteous in mercy and compassion; who love the just and show mercy to the sinners; who call all men to salvation through the promise of the blessings to come: Do you, the same Lord, receive also our suplications at this present time, and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set our minds right; clear up our thoughts, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and distress. Surround us with your holy Angels so that being guarded and guided by their presence, we may arrive at the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your ineffable glory; for blessed are you unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

May God have compassion on us and bless us; may his face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

READER

Amen.

O Christ, the true light that enlightens and sanctifies every man who comes into the world, let the light of Your countenance shine on us, that in it we may behold the unapproachable light. And direct our steps to keep Your commandments, by the
intercessions of Your all-immaculate Mother and all the saints. Amen.

THIRD HOUR

READER

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name’s sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship and bow down before God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ God our King.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Him, Christ our King and God.

Psalm 28 (29).

Bring to the Lord, O you sons of God, bring to the Lord the sons of rams; bring to the Lord glory and honor. bring to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in His holy court. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thundered; the Lord is upon the many waters. The voice of the Lord is strong; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord shatters cedars, and the Lord shall grind to powder the cedars of Lebanon; and He shall grind them fine like the young bull, and like Lebanon, but His beloved shall be like a son of unicorns. The voice of the Lord cuts through fiery flames; the voice of the Lord shakes the desert, and the Lord will shake the desert of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord causes deer to calve, and uncovers the thickets; and in His temple, everyone speaks of His glory. The Lord shall dwell in the deluge, and the Lord shall sit as King forever. The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace. (SAAS)

Psalm 41 (42).

As the deer longs for the springs of waters, so my soul longs for You, O God. My soul thirsts for the living God; when shall I come and appear before the face of God? My tears were my bread day and night, when they said to me each day, "Where is your God?" I remembered these things, and poured out my soul within me; for I shall enter the place of the wondrous tabernacle, even the house of God, to celebrate a festival with a voice of great joy and praise. Why are you so sad, O my soul? and why do you trouble me? Hope
in God, for I will give thanks to Him; my God is the salvation of my countenance. My soul within me was troubled; therefore I will remember You From the land of the Jordan and Hermon, from the small mountain. Deep calls to deep at the sound of Your waterfalls; all Your waves and billows went over me. By day the Lord shall command His mercy, and by night His ode will be with me, a prayer to the God of my life. I will say to God, "You are my protector. Why have You forgotten me? Why do I go about with a sad face when my enemies afflict me?" Those who afflict me revile me when they break my bones, when they speak to me each day, saying, "Where is your God?" Why are you so sad, O my soul? and why do you trouble me? Hope in God, for I will give thanks to Him. My God is the salvation of my countenance. (SAAS)

Psalm 50 (51).

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness and cleanse me from my sin. for I know my lawlessness, and my sin is always before me. Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight; that You may be justified in Your words, and overcome when You are judged. for behold, I was conceived in transgressions, and in sins my mother bore me. Behold, You love truth; You showed me the unknown and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow. You shall make me hear joy and gladness; my bones that were humbled shall greatly rejoice. Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out all my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your guiding Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. for if You desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built; then you will be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar. (SAAS)

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion.

Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream * with his mantle in the wake of Elias’s ascent; * and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. * And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, * a symbol and truly a type of Baptism, * by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. * And Christ appeared at the Jordan River * to sanctify the waters.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion.

Theotokos, you are the true vine that produced the fruit of life. Lady, we fervently entreat you to intercede along with the
Apostles and all the saints, that our souls be treated mercifully.

**CHOIR**

Idiomela.
Mode pl. 4.

The right hand of the Forerunner and Baptist, * the prophet honored above all the prophets, * trembled as he beheld You, * for You are the Lamb of God Who cleanses the sins of the world! * He was seized with fear and he cried: * I dare not touch your head, O Word! * In your mercy, sanctify and enlighten me: ** for You are the life and the light and the peace of the world.

Twice, with no verse. Then:

Verse: Therefore I will remember You From the land of the Jordan and Hermon, from the small mountain.

Mode 4.

Today the Trinity, our God without division, * has made Itself manifest to us. * For the Father in a loud voice bore clear witness to His Son; * the Spirit in the form of a dove came down from the sky; * while the Son bent His immaculate head before the Forerunner. ** By receiving Baptism He delivered us from bondage, in His love for mankind!

Verse: The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You and were afraid, and the depths were troubled, a multitude like the sound of waters.

Repeat the same hymn. Then:

Glory. Mode pl. 1.

In your desire to receive Baptism, Lord and Giver of life, * You have come with Your flesh in man's form to the Jordan * to enlighten us when we had gone astray. * You deliver us in Your compassion from every delusion and snare of the dragon. * Then the Father bore witness to You, * and the divine Spirit in the form of a dove came down upon You. ** Make Your dwelling in our souls, Lover of mankind!

Both now. Repeat.

**THE PROPHECY**

**READER**


The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You and were afraid, and the depths were troubled, a multitude like the sound of waters.

Verse: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thundered; the Lord is upon the many waters.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias.

**PRIEST**

Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

**READER**

[1:16-20]

Thus says the Lord: Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove your evil doings from your souls; before my eyes cease from your evil doings. Learn to do good; seek judgement, deliver the oppressed; give judgement for the orphan, do right for the widow. And come and let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them white as snow; though they are red like crimson, I will make them white like wool. If you are willing and listen to me, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you are not willing and do not listen to me, a sword will devour you; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken this. (Lash)
THE EPISTLE

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive! Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

READER

(19:1-8)

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

PRIEST

The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Mark. Let us be attentive!

(1:1-8)

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (RSV)

READER

Blessed is the Lord from day to day; the God of our salvation will bring prosperity upon us; our God is the God Who saves us.

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our
transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name’s sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Kontakion.

To the flowing streams today * of River Jordan * comes the Lord and cries aloud * to John the Baptist, and He says, * "Be not afraid to baptize me now; * for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Lord, have mercy. (40)

O Christ our God, who at all times and at every hour, both in heaven and on earth, are worshipped and glorified, long suffering and plenteous in mercy and compassion; who love the just and show mercy to the sinners; who call all men to salvation through the promise of the blessings to come: Do you, the same Lord, receive also our supplications at this present time, and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set our minds right; clear up our thoughts, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and distress. Surround us with your holy Angels so that being guarded and guided by their presence, we may arrive at the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your ineffable glory; for blessed are you unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

May God have compassion on us and bless us; may his face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

READER

Amen.

O Master God, Father Almighty, Lord only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit, one Godhead, one Power: have mercy on me a sinner, and by the judgments which You know, save me Your unworthy servant; for blessed are You to the ages of ages. Amen.

SIXTH HOUR

READER

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our
transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name’s sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

   For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

   Amen.

   Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

   Come, let us worship and bow down before God our King.

   Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ God our King.

   Come, let us worship and bow down before Him, Christ our King and God.

Psalm 73 (74).

   O God, why have You rejected us to the end? Why has Your anger raged against the sheep of Your pasture? Remember Your congregation You acquired from the beginning, that You redeemed the rod of Your inheritance, This Mount Zion, where You encamped. Lift up Your hands against their arrogance to the end, against everything the enemy prostituted in Your holy places. Those Who hate You boasted in the midst of Your feast; They set up their signs, yes, signs, and they did not know. As into an entrance hall, as in a thicket of trees, they cut down its doors with axes; With battle axes and hammers, they broke it down. They burned down Your sanctuary; They defiled the tabernacle of Your name to the ground. Their kindred said in their heart together, "Come, let us abolish all the feasts of God from the earth." We do not see our signs; there is no longer any prophet, and He will no longer know us. How long, O God, will the enemy reproach? Will the adversary provoke Your name to the end? Why do You turn away Your hand, Your right hand from the midst of Your breast to the end? But God is our King before the ages; He worked salvation in the midst of the earth. You strengthened the sea by Your power; You crushed the heads of dragons upon the water. You shattered the heads of the dragon; You gave him as food for the Ethiopian peoples. You broke apart fountains and torrents; You dried up the rivers of Etham. The day is Yours, and the night is Yours; You created the light and the sun. You made all the boundaries of the earth; Summer and winter, You formed these things. Remember this: the enemy insulted the Lord, and a foolish people provoked Your name. May You not deliver to wild beasts the soul Who gives thanks to You; may You not forget the souls of Your poor to the end. Look upon Your covenant, for the dark places of the earth are filled with the houses of lawlessness. Let not the humbled and the disgraced be turned away; The poor and needy shall praise Your name. Arise, O God, judge Your cause; Remember the insults against You by the foolish man all the day long. Do not forget the voice of Your suppliants; The arrogance of those Who hate You rises against You continually. (SAAS)
Psalm 76 (77).

With my voice I cried to the Lord, With my voice to God, and He gave heed to me. In the day of my affliction I sought out God With my hands before Him by night, and I was not deceived; my soul refused to be comforted. I remembered God and was glad; I complained, and my spirit became discouraged. I stayed awake through all the watches of the night; I was troubled and did not speak. I thought of the days of old, and I remembered the eternal years; and I meditated. By night I communed with my heart, and my spirit searched. Will the Lord cast me off unto the ages? and will He be favorable no more? Or will He cut off His mercy completely, from generation to generation? Or will God forget to be merciful? Or will He in His wrath withhold His mercies? I said, "Now I am beginning to see; This change is by the right hand of the Most High." I remembered the Lord's works, for I will remember Your wonders of old, and I will meditate on all Your works; and I will consider Your ways. O God, Your way is in the holy place; Who is so great a God as our God? You are the God Who does wonders; You made known Your power among the peoples; You redeemed Your people with Your arm, The sons of Jacob and Joseph. The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You and were afraid, and the depths were troubled, a multitude like the sound of waters. The clouds uttered their voice, for Your arrows passed through them; The voice of Your thunder was in the wheel; Your lightning gave light to the world; It was shaken, and the earth was made to tremble. Your way is in the sea, and Your paths are in many waters; and Your footsteps shall not be known. You led Your people as sheep By the hand of Moses and Aaron. (SAAS)

Psalm 90 (91).

He Who dwells in the help of the Most High Shall lodge in the shelter of the God of heaven. He shall say to the Lord, "You are my protector and my refuge, my God; I will hope in Him; for He shall free me from the snare of the hunters, and from every troubling word." He shall overshadow you with His shoulders, and under His wings you shall hope; His truth shall encircle you with a shield. You shall not be frightened by fear at night, nor from an arrow that flies by day, nor by a thing moving in darkness, nor by mishap and a demon of noonday. A thousand shall fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, yet it shall not come near you; but you shall observe with your eyes, and you shall see the reward of sinners. for You, O Lord, are my hope; You made the Most High your refuge. Evils shall not come to you, and a scourge shall not draw near your dwelling; for He shall command His angels concerning you, to keep you in all your ways; in their hands they shall bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone; You shall tread upon the asp and the basilisk, and you shall trample the lion and the dragon. "For he hoped in Me, and I will deliver him; I will shelter him, because he knew My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will hear him; I am with him in affliction, and I will deliver and gloriﬁy him. With length of days I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation." (SAAS)

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion.

Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream * with his mantle in the wake of Elias’s ascent; * and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. * And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, * a symbol and truly a type of Baptism,
* by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. * And Christ appeared at the Jordan River * to sanctify the waters.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Theotokion.**

Since we may not presume to speak because of our many sins, will you beseech your Son, O Virgin Theotokos. For the request of a mother can do much to pacify the Master. Do not despise the prayers of us sinners, all-noble Lady. He is merciful and able to save us; after all, He accepted to suffer for our sake.

**CHOIR**

**Idiomela.**

**Mode pl. 4.**

The Lord spoke to John and said: *
Prophet, come and baptize Me, your Creator!
* For by grace I enlighten and cleanse all men.
* Touch my divine head and do not doubt. *
Prophet, let it be so now: * For I have come to fulfill all righteousness. * Do not have any doubt at all, * for I hasten to slay the enemy, *
* the prince of darkness hidden in the waters, *
* that I may now deliver the world from his snares, ** granting eternal life in My love for mankind!

Twice, with no verse. Then:

**Verse: Therefore I will remember You From the land of the Jordan and Hermon, from the small mountain.**

**Mode pl. 2.**

Today the prophecy of the psalms swiftly approaches its fulfillment: * the sea looked and fled: * Jordan was driven back * before the face of the Lord, * before the face of the God of Jacob! * He came to receive Baptism from His servant, * so that our souls washed clean from the defilement of idolatry, ** might be enlightened through Him!

**Verse:** The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You and were afraid, and the depths were troubled, a multitude like the sound of waters.

Repeat the same hymn. Then:

**Glory. Mode pl. 1.**

Jordan, why do you turn back your waters? * Why do you stop your streams? * Why do you no longer flow in your natural course? * I cannot bear the Fire that consumes me, he said. * Before His great condescension I am filled with wonder and dread. * For I am not used to washing One Who is clean: * I have learned to cleanse filthy vessels, * but not to bathe the sinless! * Christ Who is baptized in me teaches me to burn the thorns of sin.

* John, the voice of the Word, bears witness with me and cries: * Behold the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world! * Let us, the faithful cry aloud to Him: ** O God, You are manifest for our salvation; glory to You!

Both now. Repeat.

**THE PROPHECY**

**READER**

**Prokeimenon. Mode 4.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thundered; the Lord is upon the many waters.

**Verse:** Bring to the Lord, O you sons of God, bring to the Lord the sons of rams; bring to the Lord glory and honor.
The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias.

PRIEST
Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

READER

[12,3-6]
Thus says the Lord: Draw water with gladness from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day, 'Sing praise to the Lord and cry out his name. Proclaim among the Nations his glorious deeds. Remind them that his name has been exalted. Sing praise to the name of the Lord, for he has done mighty things. Proclaim these in all the earth. Rejoice and be glad, you that dwell in Sion, because the Holy One of Israel has been exalted in the midst of her. (Lash)

THE EPISTLE
The reading is from Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

PRIEST
Let us be attentive! Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

READER

(6:3-11)
Brethren, all who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death. We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the sinful body might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For he who has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him. For we know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. The death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life

He lives He lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (RSV)

PRIEST
Peace be to you the reader.

CHORUS

PRIEST
Wisdom! Arise! Let us hear the holy Gospel.

PRIEST
Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

PRIEST
The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Mark. Let us be attentive!

(1:9-11)

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when He came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (RSV)

(1:9-11)

READER

Let Your mercies quickly overtake us, for we have become very poor. Help us, O God our savior; because of the glory of Your name, O Lord, save us, and be merciful to our sins because of Your name.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)
Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name’s sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Kontakion.

To the flowing streams today * of River Jordan * comes the Lord and cries aloud * to John the Baptist, and He says, * "Be not afraid to baptize me now; * for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Lord, have mercy. (40)

O Christ our God, who at all times and at every hour, both in heaven and on earth, are worshipped and glorified, long suffering and plenteous in mercy and compassion; who love the just and show mercy to the sinners; who call all men to salvation through the promise of the blessings to come: Do you, the same Lord, receive also our supplications at this present time, and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set our minds right; clear up our thoughts, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and distress. Surround us with your holy Angels so that being guarded and guided by their presence, we may arrive at the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your ineffable glory; for blessed are you unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

May God have compassion on us and bless us; may his face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

READER

Amen.

God and Lord of hosts and Maker of all creation, in Your unfathomable compassion and mercy You sent down Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, for the salvation of the human race; and by His precious Cross You tore up the record of our sins, and triumphed over the principalities and powers of darkness. O Lord and Lover of mankind, accept the thanksgiving and fervent prayers even of us sinners. Deliver us from every dark and destructive transgression and from all the visible and invisible enemies that seek to harm us. Nail our flesh with the fear of You, and do not incline our hearts to evil...
words or thoughts; but rather prick our souls
with love for You, so that always looking to
You, and guided by Your light, and gazing on
You, the eternal and ineffable Light, we may
send up unceasing praise and thanksgiving to
You, the Father without beginning, and Your
Only-Begotten Son, and Your all-holy, good
and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to
ages of ages. Amen.

NINTH HOUR

READER

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us.
Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our
transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our
infirmities for your name's sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power
and the glory of the Father, and the Son and
the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the
ages of ages.

READER

Amen.
hands are truth and judgment; Faithful are all His commandments, Established unto ages of ages, Made in truth and uprightness. He sent redemption to His people; He commanded His covenant forever; Holy and fearful is His name. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord; a good understanding is in all who practice it. His praise continues unto ages of ages. (SAAS)

Psalm 85 (86).

Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear me, for I am poor and needy. Guard my soul, for I am holy; O my God, save Your servant, Who hopes in You. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for all the day long I will cry to You. Gladden the soul of Your servant, O Lord, for to You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. for You, O Lord, are kind and good, and very merciful to all Who call upon You. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer and heed the voice of my supplication. In the day of my affliction I cried to You, for You heard me. There is none like You among the gods, O Lord, and there are no works like Your works. All the Gentiles You made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and they shall glorify Your name; for You are great, doing wonders; You alone are the great God. Lead me in Your way, O Lord, and I will walk in Your truth; Gladden my heart so as to fear Your name. I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my Whole heart, and I shall glorify Your name forever; for great is Your mercy to me, and You rescued my soul from the lowest Hades. O God, lawless men rose up against me, and a gathering of strong men sought my soul; and they did not set You before them. But You, O Lord, are compassionate and merciful, Longsuffering and very merciful and truthful. Look upon me and have mercy; give Your strength to Your servant, and save the son of Your handmaid. Work a sign in my midst for good, and let those Who hate me see it and be disgraced; for You, O Lord, helped me and comforted me. (SAAS)

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Troparion.

Jordan River once turned back when Elisha struck its stream * with his mantle in the wake of Elias’s ascent; * and the water was parted to the one side and to the other. * And thus the fluid stream became a dry way for him, * a symbol and truly a type of Baptism, * by which we now pass over the streaming passage of the present life. * And Christ appeared at the Jordan River * to sanctify the waters.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokion.

Born of a Virgin, O Good One who also endured crucifixion for our sake, who by death took the spoils of death as plunder and showed resurrection, being God, O despise not the ones that You formed with Your own hand. Demonstrate Your love for man, O Lord of mercy, and accept Your Mother, the Theotokos, who intercedes on our behalf, O Savior, and save us a despairing people.

CHOR

Idiomela.

Grave Mode.

What strange wonder to see the Maker of heaven and earth * stand naked in the river! * As a servant He receives Baptism from
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a servant for our salvation! * The choirs of angels were filled with amazement, fear and joy. ** Joining with them, we worship You: O Lord, save us.

_Twice, with no verse. Then:_

_**Verse:** Therefore I will remember You From the land of the Jordan and Hermon, from the small mountain._

**Mode 2.**

When he saw the Lord of glory draw near to him * the Forerunner cried out: * Behold the One Who redeems the world from corruption. * Behold the One Who delivers us from affliction! * Behold the One Who in His mercy has come forth upon earth from a pure Virgin, * granting remission of sins. * Instead of servants, He makes us the sons of God; * instead of darkness He gives light to mankind * Through the water of His divine Baptism.

**Come, let us glorify Him together with the Father and the Holy Spirit!**

_**Verse:** The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You and were afraid, and the depths were troubled, a multitude like the sound of waters._

_Repeat the same hymn. Then:_

_Glory. Both now. **Mode pl. 1.** _

_Note that the following Idiomelon is first solemnly intoned in a loud voice by the Canonarch in the middle of the Church. Then it sung melodically by the two Choirs._

That hand of yours that touched the immaculate head of the Master (3), with the finger of which you pointed Him out to us, lift it up to Him on our behalf, O Baptist, as one who has great freedom to speak. Indeed, that you are greater than all the Prophets has He born witness concerning you. Again those eyes of yours that beheld the all-holy Spirit when it descended in the form of a dove, cast them up to Him, O Baptist, making Him merciful to us. Then come and stand with us (3), and set the seal on our song, and be the leader of the festivities.

**THE PROPHECY**

**READER**

_Prokeimenon. Mode 3._

The Lord is my light and my savior; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defender of my life; whom shall I dread?

_**Verse:** The Lord is the defender of my life; whom shall I dread?_

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias.

**PRIEST**

Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

**READER**

_[49:8-15]_

Thus says the Lord: In an acceptable time I heard you, in a day of salvation I helped you. I fashioned you and I gave you and set you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion inheritances for the desolate s; saying to the prisoners, ‘Come forth’; to those who are in darkness, ‘Reveal yourselves.’ They shall feed along the ways, on all the paths shall be their pasture. They shall not hunger nor thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall smite them, but he who has mercy on them will comfort them, and will lead them through springs of waters. And I will make every mountain a way, and every path a pasture for them. See, some shall come from afar, some from the North and from the Sea, and others from the land of the Persians. Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad; let the mountains break out into joy and the
hills into justice! For God has had mercy on his people, and has comforted the lowly of his people. But Sion said, 'The Lord has forsaken me and the Lord has forgotten me.' Will a woman forget her child, or have no mercy on the offspring of her womb? Even though a woman may forget, yet I will not forget you, says the Lord Almighty. (Lash)

THE EPISTLE

The reading is from Paul's Letter to Titus.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive! Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

READER

(2:11-14; 3:4-7)

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

PRIEST

Peace be to you the reader.

CHOIR


PRIEST

Wisdom! Arise! Let us hear the holy Gospel.

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

PRIEST

The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Luke. Let us be attentive!

(Glory to You, O Lord. Glory to You.)

PRIEST

(3:1-18)

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, in the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness; and he went into all the region about the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." He said therefore to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits that befit repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the multitudes asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "He who has two coats, let him share with him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more
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than is appointed you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Rob no one by violence or by false accusation, and be content with your wages." As the people were in expectation, and all men questioned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he were the Christ, John answered them all, "I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he preached good news to the people. (RSV)

(For Your name's sake, do not hand us over to he end, and do not reject Your covenant. Do not withdraw Your mercy from us for the sake of Abraham, who is loved by You, and for the sake of Isaac, Your servant, and of Israel, Your holy one. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

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

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

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Kontakion.

To the flowing streams today * of River Jordan * comes the Lord and cries aloud * to John the Baptist, and He says, * "Be not afraid to baptize me now; * for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

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Lord, have mercy. (3)
Glory to Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

May God have compassion on us and bless us; may his face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

READER

Amen.

O Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, who are long-suffering in the face of our transgressions, and have led us to the present hour, in which, as You hung upon the life-giving tree, You made a way into Paradise for the penitent robber, and destroyed death by death: Cleans us, Your humble, sinful and unworthy servants. For we have sinned and transgressed and are not worthy to lift up our eyes and look at the height of heaven, for we have abandoned the path of righteousness and followed the desires of our hearts. So we implore Your incomparable goodness: Spare us, O Lord, according to the abundance of Your mercy, and save us for Your holy name's sake, for our days have passed in vanity. Rescue us from the hand of the adversary and forgive our sins, and mortify our mind set on the flesh; so that we may put off the old man be clothed with the new, and live for You, our Master and Benefactor. And thus may we follow Your commandments, and arrive at the eternal rest, where the dwelling is of all those who rejoice. For You are the true joy and exultation of those who love You, Christ our God, and we send up glory to You and Your unoriginate Father and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages. Amen.

Psalm 102 (103).

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards: Who is merciful to all your transgressions, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from corruption, Who crowns you with mercy and compassion, Who satisfies your desire with good things; and your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord shows mercies and judgment to all Who are wronged. He made known His ways to Moses, the things He willed to the sons of Israel. The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not become angry to the end, nor will He be wrathful forever; He did not deal with us according to our sins, nor reward us according to our transgressions; for according to the height of heaven from earth, so the Lord reigns in mercy over those Who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so He removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those Who fear Him, for He knows how He formed us; He remembers we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass, as a flower of the field, so he flourishes; for the wind passes through it, and it shall not remain; and it shall no longer know its place. But the mercy of the Lord is from age to age upon those Who fear Him, and His righteousness upon children's children, to such as keep His covenant and remember His commandments, to do them. The Lord prepared His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, all you His angels, mighty in strength, Who do His word, so as to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, His ministers Who do His will; Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion; Bless the Lord, O my soul. (SAAS)
Glory.

Psalm 145 (146).

Praise the Lord, O my soul. I shall praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God as long as I exist. Do not trust in rulers and in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation. His breath shall go out of him, and he shall return to his earth; on that day all his thoughts shall perish. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob; His hope is in the Lord his God, Who made heaven and earth, The sea and everything in them, Who keeps truth forever, Who executes justice for the wronged, Who provides food for the hungry. The Lord frees those bound. The Lord restores those broken down. The Lord gives wisdom to the blind. The Lord loves the righteous. The Lord keeps watch over resident aliens. He shall adopt the orphan and the widow, But He shall destroy the way of sinners. The Lord shall reign forever: Your God, O Zion, to all generations. (SAAS)

Both now.

Only begotten Son and Word of God, who are immortal, and for our salvation condescended to become incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, and, without change became man, and were crucified, O Christ our God, and trampled on death by death, being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified together with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us.

THE BEATITUDES

In Your kingdom. Remember us, O Lord, when You come in Your kingdom. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

Remember us, O Lord, when You come in Your kingdom.

Remember us, O Master, when You come in Your kingdom.

Remember us, O Holy One, when You come in Your kingdom.

The heavenly choir extols you and says: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Come to Him, and be enlightened, and your face shall never be ashamed.

The heavenly choir extols you and says: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Glory.

The choir of holy Angels and Archangels, with all the heavenly Powers, extols you and
Great Hours on Monday, January 5

says: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Both now.

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten not created, of one essence with the Father through Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge the living and dead. His kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets. In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Pardon, remit, forgive, O God, our offences, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by night and by day, in mind and thought; forgive us all things, since You are good and love mankind.

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

PRIEST

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Kontakion.

To the flowing streams today * of River Jordan * comes the Lord and cries aloud * to John the Baptist, and He says, * "Be not afraid to baptize me now; * for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Lord, have mercy. (12)

Blessed be the name of the Lord From this present time and unto the ages. (3)

Glory. Both now.

Psalm 33 (34).

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall be praised in the Lord; let the gentle hear, and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and He heard me; and He delivered me from all my sojourning. Come to Him, and be enlightened, and your face shall never be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him from all his afflictions. The Angel of the Lord shall encamp around those who fear Him, and He will deliver them. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who hopes in Him. Fear the Lord, you His saints, for there is no want for those who fear Him. Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is the man who desires life, who loves to see good days? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Shun evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are
upon the righteous, and His ears are open to their supplications. The Lord's face is against those who do evil, so as to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them; and He delivered them from all their afflictions. The Lord is near those who are brokenhearted, and He will save the humble in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but He will deliver them from them all. The Lord shall guard all their bones; not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and those who hate the righteous shall go wrong. The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants, and all who hope in Him shall not go wrong. (SAAS)

Glory. Both now. Lord, have mercy. (3) Father, bless!

PRIEST

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his most pure and holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles, the holy, glorious, and triumphant Martyrs, our holy and God-bearing Fathers, (local patron saint); the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, as a good, loving and merciful God.

Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

(Amen.)