

Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Great Vespers with Litia & Artoklasia for 9/7

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Priest: Glory to thee, our God. Glory to thee. O heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art everywhere present and fill all things, the Treasury of good things and Giver of life; Come, and abide in us and cleanse us from every stain and save our souls, O good One.

Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (3x)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (12x)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Reader: O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.
O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.
O come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ, our King and our God.

The Psalm of Introduction (Psalm 103)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.

Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire, Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back for ever and ever.

The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand.

At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.

The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them.

Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth.

He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run.

They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst.

Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.

He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works.

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, to bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man.

To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted.

There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them.

The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.

He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down.

Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad.

Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God.

The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens.

But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labour until the evening.

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation.

So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great.

There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein.

All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it.

When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled.

Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return.

Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works, Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.

May my words be sweet unto Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord.

O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The Litany of Peace

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

All: Lord, have mercy. ①



Priest: For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ②



Priest: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God and the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ①

Priest: For this holy house and those who with faith, reverence and fear of God enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ②

Priest: For our (*metropolitan or archbishop or bishop*), *N*, the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ①

Priest: For our president, civil authorities and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ②

Priest: For this city and every city and countryside and the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ①

Priest: For healthful seasons, abundance of the fruits of the earth and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ②

Priest: For travelers by sea, by land and by air, the sick, the suffering, captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ①

Priest: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. ②

Priest: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

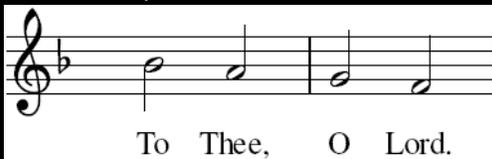
All: Lord, have mercy. ①

Priest: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos



and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

All: To Thee, O Lord.



Priest: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor and worship to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

PSALM 140

Byzantine Tone 6

Basil Kazan
(1915 - 2001)

Slow

Ison O Lord, I have cried out unto thee. Hear thou me. Hear thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto thee. Hear thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication, when I cry out unto thee. Hear thou me, O Lord. Let my pray'r be set forth before thee as the incense, and the lifting

up of my hands as the evening
sac - ri - fice. Hear thou me,
O Lord.

- + Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- + The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- + For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- + They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- + But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- + Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.

- + I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- + I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- + When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- + In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- + I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- + Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- + I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

Verse 10. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.

Verse 9. The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.

Verse 8. Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.

Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

For the Nativity of the Theotokos in Tone Six

*Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?
For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

Today hath God Who sitteth on noëtic thrones prepared Himself a holy throne on earth. He Who hath established the heavens in wisdom hath, by His love to mankind, made a living heaven; for from a barren stem He hath brought forth His Mother, a life-bearing branch. Thou God of wonders and Hope of the hopeless, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

This is the day of the Lord; wherefore, rejoice ye nations; for behold the chamber of Light, the scroll of the Word of life hath come forth from the womb; the gate facing the east hath been born. Wherefore, she awaiteth the entrance of the High Priest. And she alone admitted Christ into the universe for salvation of our souls.

Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

While there were famous barren women who bore fruit by the will of God, verily Mary hath surpassed, having been born in a strange manner from a barren mother, she herself gave birth in the flesh to the End of all, from a seedless womb in a transcendent manner. And she alone is the door of the only Son of God through which He passed and which He left closed, providing all with wisdom, as He Himself knew, and brought salvation to all mankind.

Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Today the barren gates are opened, and there cometh forth the divine, the virginal gate. Today hath grace begun to give fruit, showing forth to the world the Theotokos, through whom the earthly and the heavenly beings unite for the salvation of our souls.

Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.

Today the glad tidings go forth to the world. Today sweet fragrance is wafted forth, foretelling the glad tidings of salvation; and the barrenness of our nature hath been united: for the barren one hath become a mother to the one who remained a Virgin after giving birth to the Creator; from whom cometh God in nature, taking a foreign nature and working salvation in the flesh for the lost, Christ, the Lover of mankind, and the Deliverer of our souls.

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Today, Anna the barren giveth birth to the Maiden of God, forechosen from all generations as a dwelling-place for Christ God, King of all and Creator of all, for the fulfillment of His divine dispensation, through which the creation of us earthly beings was renewed, and we ourselves were renewed from corruption to life immortal.

DOXASTICON FOR NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE SIX

(pa)

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

(di)

Both now and e - ver and un - to a - ges of a - ges.

A - men.

The musical score is written in a single system with four staves. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating long notes. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The fourth staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line.

Today hath God Who sitteth on noëtic thrones prepared Himself a holy throne on earth. He Who hath established the heavens in wisdom hath, by His love to mankind, made a living heaven; for from a barren stem He hath brought forth His Mother, a life-bearing branch. O Thou God of wonders and Hope of the hopeless, O Lord, glory to Thee.

The Holy Entrance

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend!

O Gladsome Light – Tone 2



DAILY PROKEIMENA

SUNDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE EIGHT

Reader: Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. (2x)

Verse. *Ye who stand in the temple of the Lord, in the courts of the House of our God!*

Reader: Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. (cadence)

MONDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE FOUR

Reader: The Lord will hear me, when I cry unto Him. (2x)

Verse. *When I called upon Thee, O God of my righteousness, Thou didst hearken unto me!*

Reader: The Lord will hear me, when I cry unto Him. (cadence)

TUESDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE ONE

Reader: Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life. (2x)

Verse. *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; He makes me to lie down in green pastures!*

Reader: Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life. (cadence)

WEDNESDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE FIVE

Reader: Save me, O God, by Thy Name, and judge me by Thy strength. (2x)

Verse. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth!

Reader: Save me, O God, by Thy Name, and judge me by Thy strength.
(cadence)

THURSDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE SIX

Reader: My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and earth.
(2x)

Verse. I lift up my eyes to the hills, from where my help will come!

Reader: My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and earth.
(cadence)

FRIDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE SEVEN

Reader: Thou O God art my helper, and Thy mercy shall go before me. (2x)

Verse. Rescue me from mine enemies, O God, and from them that rise up against me; redeem me.

Reader: Thou O God art my helper, and Thy mercy shall go before me.
(cadence)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

The First Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Genesis (28:10-17).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader:

Jacob went out from the well of the oath (Beersheba), and went toward Haran. And he came upon a certain place, and slept there, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold, a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to Heaven, and behold, the Angels of God ascending and descending on it. And behold, the Lord stood above it and said: I am the God of Abraham thy father and the God of Isaac, fear not; the land whereon thou list, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; and thy seed shall be as the sand of the earth, and it shall spread abroad to the sea, and to the south, and to the north, and to the east; and in thee and thy seed shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed. And behold, I am with thee, and I will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not forsake thee, until I have done all that which I have spoken to thee of. And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said: The Lord is in this place, and I knew it not. And he was afraid and said: How dreadful is this place! This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven.

The Second Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Prophecy of Ezekiel the Prophet (43:27-44:4).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader:

Upon the eighth day and so forward, the priests shall make your whole-burnt offerings upon the altar, and your peace offerings, and I will accept you, saith the Lord. Then He brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary, which looketh toward the east; and it was shut. And the Lord said unto me: This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the Lord, the God of Israel, shall enter in by it, and it shall be shut. For this Prince shall sit on it to eat bread before the Lord; He shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall come forth by the way of the same. And He brought me by the way of the north gate before the house, and I looked, and behold, the house of the Lord was full of glory.

The Third Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Proverbs (9:1-11).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader:

Wisdom hath builded herself a house, and hath established seven pillars. She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also prepared her table. She hath sent forth her servants, making invitation to a feast with a loud proclamation, and saying: Whoso is foolish, let him turn aside to me; as for them that want understanding, she saith: Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine which I have mingled for you. Forsake foolishness, and ye shall live, and go in search of understanding that ye may live, and achieve understanding in knowledge. He that reproveth evil men getteth to himself shame; and he that rebuketh an ungodly man shall himself be blamed, for rebukes unto the ungodly are as wounds to him. Reprove not evil men, lest they hate thee; rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give occasion to a wise man, and he will become yet wiser; teach a just man, and he will receive more learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the counsel of Saints is understanding. For to know the Law is the property of a good mind, for in this wise thou shalt live long, and years of life shall be added to thee.

The Litany

Priest: Let us say with our whole soul, and with our whole mind, let us say.

All: Lord, have mercy. ①

Priest: O Lord Almighty, the God of our Fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy. ②

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)



Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Again we pray for our (metropolitan or archbishop or bishop), N.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hieromonks, deacons, hierodeacons and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for (the servants of God, NN, and) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (and for the servants of God, NN), all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

All: Grant this, O Lord. ②



Priest: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

All: Grant this, O Lord. ①

Priest: All things good and profitable for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

All: Grant this, O Lord. ②

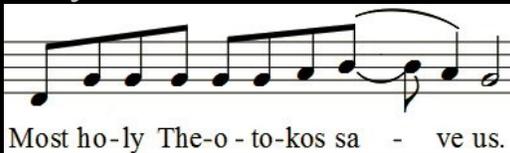
Priest: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

All: Grant this, O Lord. ①

Priest: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

All: Grant this, O Lord. ②

Priest: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos



and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

All: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The Peace

Priest: Peace be to all.

All: And to thy spirit.



Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

All: To Thee, O Lord.



Priest: ... Blessed and glorified be the might of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

The Service of the Lita and Artoklasia – 09-07
Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

AT THE LITIA PROCESSION IN TONE 8

1
Glo-ry to the Fa - - - ther and to the Son, and to the
6
Ho - - - ly Spir - - - it.

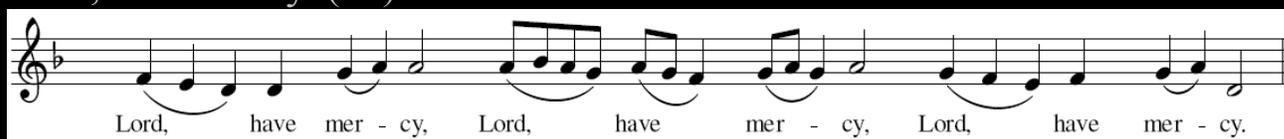
6
Both now and ev - er and un-to
11
a - - ges of a - - - ges. A - - men.

On this our illustrious feast day, let us strike our spiritual harps; for today the Mother of Life, who is the renewal of creation of Adam and the recall of Eve, the fountain of incorruption, the liberation from corruption, through whom we have been deified and delivered from death, is born of the seed of David, dispersing darkness. Wherefore, let us believers cry unto her joyfully with Gabriel: Rejoice, O full of grace! The Lord is with thee, bestowing on us through thee the Great Mercy. (cadence)

THE LITIA

Priest: Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)



Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Again we pray for our (*metropolitan or archbishop or bishop*), *N*, and all our brotherhood in Christ.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Again we pray for every Christian soul, afflicted and weary, in need of God's mercies and help; for the protection of this holy house and those who sing therein and the people here present; for the peace and stability of the whole world; for the good estate of the holy churches of God; for the salvation and help of our fathers and brethren who with diligence and fear of God labor and serve; for those who are gone away and those who are abroad; for those who travel by sea, land and air; for the healing of those who lie in infirmity; for the deliverance of captives; for those imprisoned and in danger; for our brethren who are serving and who are remembered for their labor, and for all who await the mercies of God, let us say.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

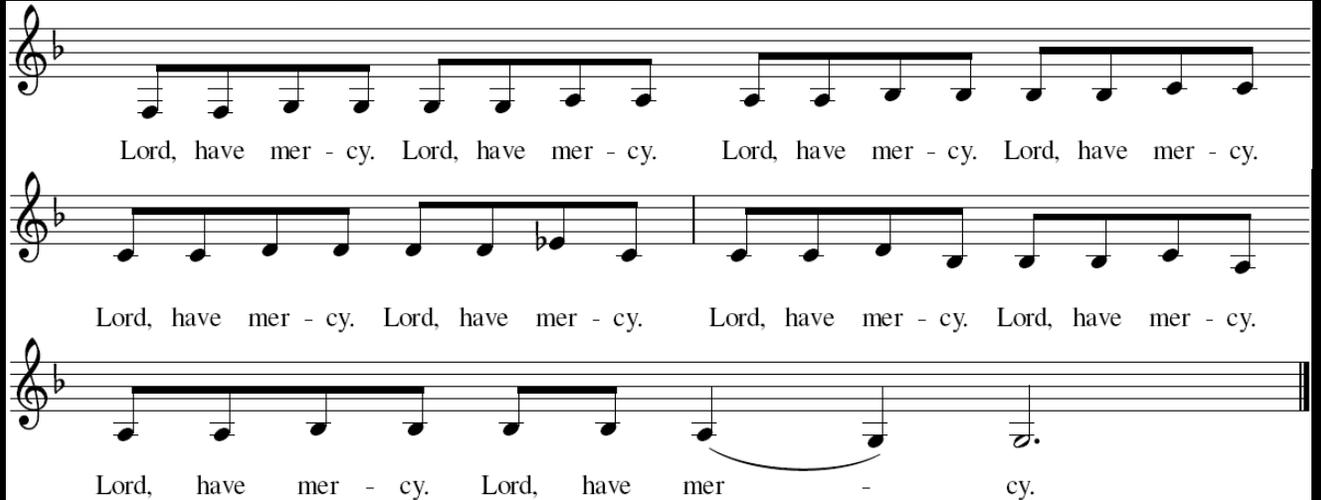
Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and forgiveness of sins for the servants of God, the parishioners, members of the parish council and organizations, donors and benefactors of this holy temple and those here present who celebrate this holy feast.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Again we pray that He may keep this holy church and this city and every city and countryside from wrath, famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, foreign invasion, civil war and sudden death; that our good God, Who lovest mankind, will be gracious, favorable and conciliatory and turn away and dispel all the wrath stirred up against us and all sickness, and may deliver

us from His righteous chastisement which impendeth on us, and have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy. (40x (4 sets of 10))



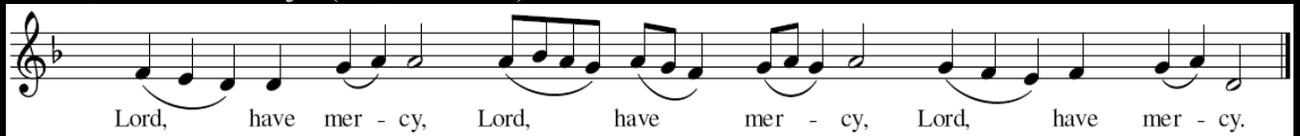
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

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

Priest: Again we pray that the Lord our God may hearken unto the voice of the supplication of us sinners, and have mercy upon us.

All: Lord, have mercy. (3x, slower)



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

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, the Hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, *be gracious*, O Master, upon our sins, and have mercy upon us. For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

THE PEACE

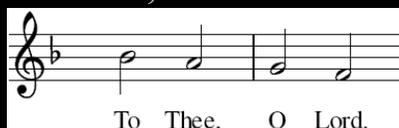
Priest: Peace be to all.

All: And to thy spirit.



Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

All: To Thee, O Lord.



Priest: O Master, great in mercy ... God-bearing fathers who shone in the ascetic life, Anthony the Great, Seraphim of Sarov, and Herman of Alaska; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all Thy saints:

Priest: Make our prayer acceptable;

All: Amen.

Priest: Grant us forgiveness of our trespasses;

All: Amen.

Priest: Shelter us under the shelter of Thy wings;

All: Amen.

Priest: Drive away from us every enemy and adversary;

All: Amen.

Priest: Give peace to our life.

All: Amen.

Priest: O Lord, have mercy on us and on Thy world and save our souls, for Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind.

All: Amen.

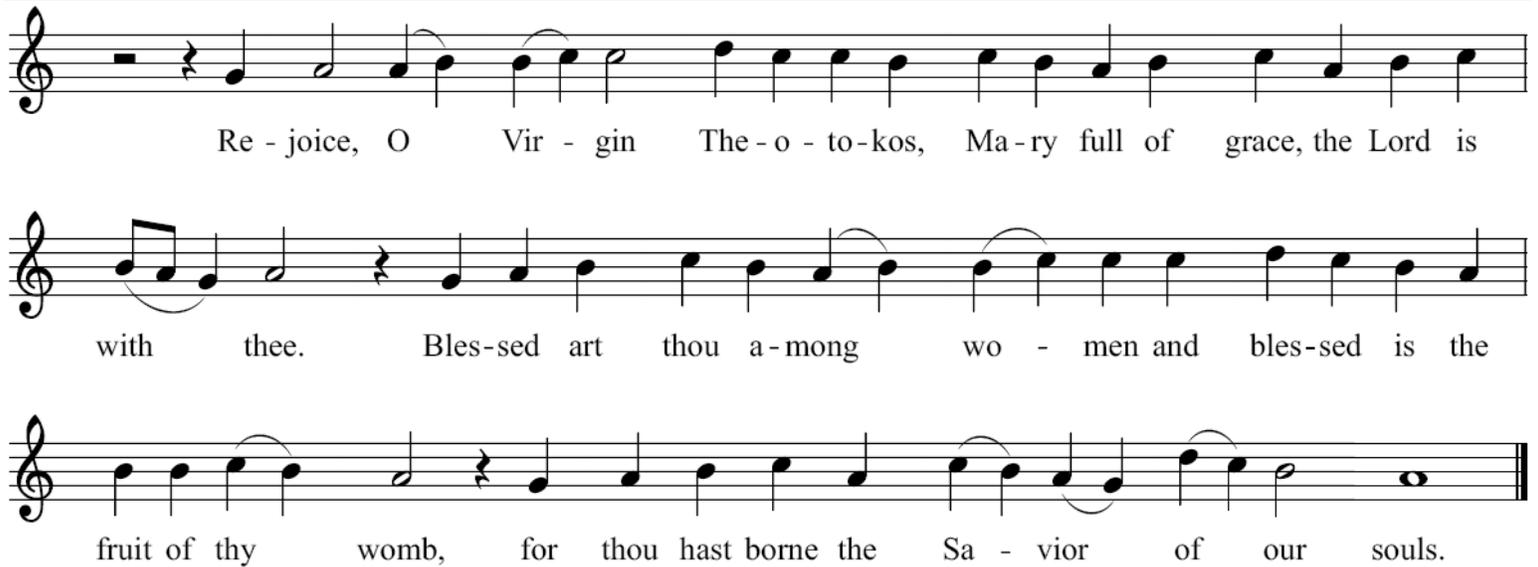
THE ARTOKLASIA

*Clergy process once around the table
(DN w/candle opposite PR) censing each side thrice.*

Priest: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb;

Reader: For thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

STONE 5



Re - joice, O Vir - gin The - o - to - kos, Ma - ry full of grace, the Lord is
with thee. Bles - sed art thou a - mong wo - men and bles - sed is the
fruit of thy womb, for thou hast borne the Sa - vior of our souls.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Who didst bless the five loaves in the wilderness and didst satisfy the five thousand therewith, Thyself bless these loaves, this wheat, wine and oil, and multiply them in this city, in the houses of those who celebrate this feast and in all thy world, and sanctify the faithful who partake of them. For it is Thou Who dost bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thine unoriginate Father and Thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

TROPARION IN TONE SEVEN

The clergy sing this Troparion once, and then the choir sings it twice.

Rich men have turned poor and gone hun - gry, but the - y that see -
k the Lord shall not be de - pri - ved of a - ny good thing.

continue with Great Vespers with the Aposticha...

THE APOSTICHA FOR NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

The joy of the whole world hath shone forth to us from the two righteous ones, Joachim and Anna; the all-extolled Virgin, who because of her surpassing purity became a living temple of God, and alone is known as truly Theotokos. Wherefore, by her intercessions, O Christ God, send forth safety to the world, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

Verse 1. Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear.

Today, O Virgin, thou hast been born a most noble child from the righteous ones, Joachim and Anna, as angels foretold, O paradise and throne of God, O vessel of purity who went before and proclaimed joy unto all the world, O cause of our life and annihilation of the curse, and the bestowal of blessing. Wherefore, O Maiden, called forth from God, seek, through thy birth-giving, safety to our souls and Great Mercy.

Verse 2. The rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance.

Verily, Anna the barren, the fruitless, doth today clap her hands with joy. Let the terrestrial ones enwrap themselves with light, let the kings be happy and the priests rejoice with blessings; let the whole world celebrate; for behold, the Queen, the blameless Bride of the Father, hath sprouted from the stem of Jesse. Wherefore, thereafter, women do not bring forth children in sorrow; for joy hath blossomed forth, and life shall dwell in the world, and the offerings of Joachim shall no more be rejected; for the wailing of Anna hath been turned into joy, who saith, Rejoice with me, all ye chosen of Israel; for the Lord hath given me the living palace of His divine glory for universal joy and gladness, and for the salvation of our souls.

DOXASTICON FOR NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE EIGHT

1
Glo-ry to the Fa - - - ther and to the Son, and to the

6
Ho - - - ly Spir - - - it.

6
Both now and ev - er and un - to

11
a - - ges of a - - - ges. A - - men.

Come, all ye believers, let us hasten to the Virgin; for behold she who was forechosen a Mother to our God before she was conceived in the womb, was of the stem of Jesse. Yea, she who is the treasure of virginity, the budding rod of Aaron, the gospel of the Prophets, and branch of Joachim and Anna the righteous ones, is now given birth. Verily, the world hath been renewed by her. She is born, and the Church shall be adorned in her splendor, who is the holy temple and the vessel of the Godhead, the stay of virginity and the kingly chamber, through whom the strange mystery of the union of the two Natures of Christ hath come about, Whom we worship, praising the blameless nativity of the Virgin.

The Hymn of St. Simeon the God-Receiver

Tone 6

Lord, now let-test Thou Thy ser - vant de - part in peace ac - cord-ing to Thy
word, for mine eyes have seen Thy sal - va - tion which Thou hast pre -
pared be - fore the face of all peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen -
tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in a single system. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Lord, now let-test Thou Thy ser - vant de - part in peace ac - cord-ing to Thy'. The second staff continues with 'word, for mine eyes have seen Thy sal - va - tion which Thou hast pre -'. The third staff continues with 'pared be - fore the face of all peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen -'. The fourth staff concludes with 'tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el.' The music features various note values, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs. The final note of the fourth staff is a whole note, indicating the end of the phrase.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE

FOUR

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting. (3x)

If Matins follows, go to the next page.

The Great Dismissal

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and His mercy come upon you through His divine grace and love towards mankind, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (3x).
Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God ... forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind. Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

All: Amen.

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and his mercy come upon you through his divine grace and love toward mankind, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Begin matins at the introduction to the Six Psalms