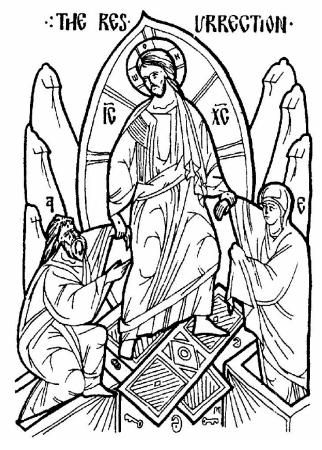


GREAT VESPERS

On Saturday Evening

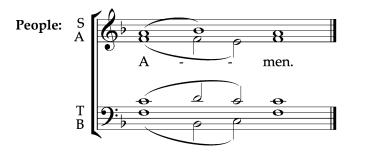


Tone 1



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Priest: May He who is risen from the dead, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, whose protection we are under, through the power of the all Holy Cross; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles; of Saint ______, whom we commemorate today; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and the lover of the human race.





GREAT VESPERS

Deacon: Bless, Master.

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

Reader: Amen. Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth who are everywhere and fill all things, Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from 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 the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

- People: Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed is Your Name. Your Kingdom come. Your 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 Yours 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. Lord have mercy. (12 times)

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

O Come, let us worship 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 Christ Himself, our King and our God!

Psalm 104

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great! You are clothed with honor and majesty, who covers Yourself with light as with a garment, who stretched out the heavens like a tent, who laid the beams of Your chambers on the waters, who makes the clouds Your chariot, who rides on the wings of the wind, who makes the winds Your messengers, fire and flame Your ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken, You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

At Your rebuke they fled; at the sound of Your thunder they took to flight. The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which You appointed for them.

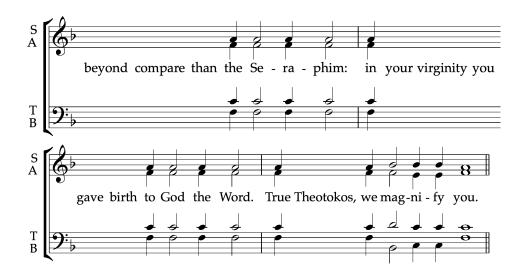
You set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

From Your lofty abode You water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your work. You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees.

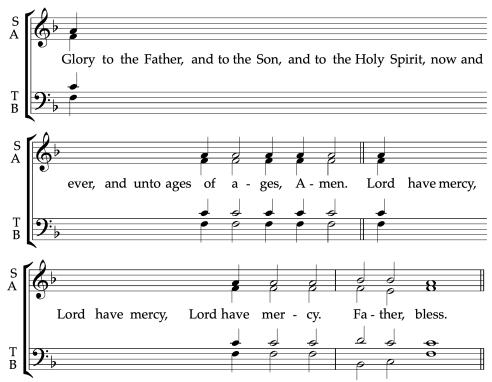
The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers. You made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.

You make darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises they get away, and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.



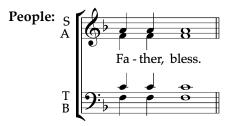
Priest: Glory to You, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to You.

People:



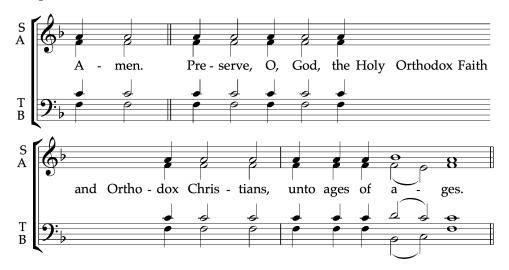
Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!



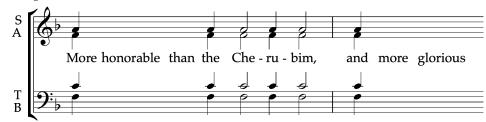
Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People:



Priest: Most holy Theotokos, save us.

People:



O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great.

There go the ships, and Leviathan which You formed to sport in it. These all look to You, to give them their food in due season.

When You give to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things. When You hide Your face, they are dismayed; when You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the ground. May the glory of the Lord endure forever, may the Lord rejoice in His works, who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke! I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

May my meditation be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the Lord. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the Lord, O my soul!

The sun knows its time for setting. You make darkness and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are Your works. In wisdom You have made them all! Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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

The Great Litany

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

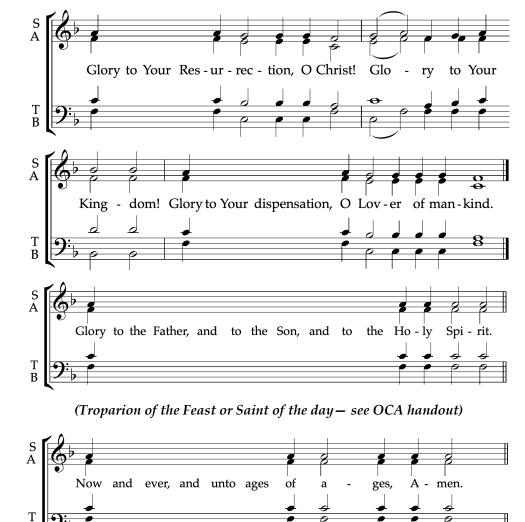
Deacon: For our Metropolitan Tikhon, for our Archbishop Michael, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.



(Resurrectional Theotokion in the tone of the preceding Troparion or Troparion of the Feast or Saint of the day – see OCA handout)

Resurrectional Dismissal Theotokion, Tone 1:

When <u>Ga</u>briel announced to you, O Virgin saying "Rejoice," / with that word the Master of all was in<u>car</u>nate in you, / the holy <u>Ark</u>, spoken of by the righteous <u>David!</u> / Your womb became more spacious than the <u>heavens</u>, / for <u>you</u> carried your Cre<u>a</u>tor. / Glory to Him Who took a<u>bode</u> in you! / <u>Glory</u> to Him Who came <u>forth</u> from you! // Glory to Him Who freed us by being <u>born</u> of <u>you</u>!

Resurrectional Troparion, Tone 1



People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For seasonable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

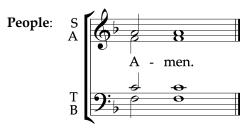
Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your Grace.

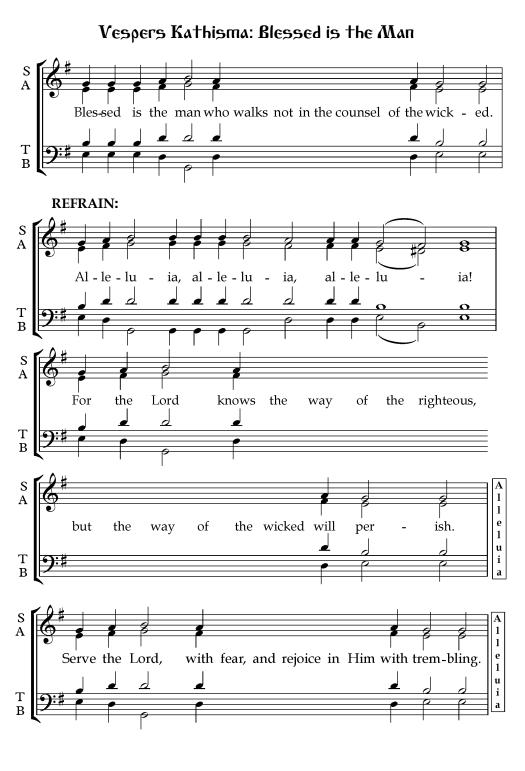
People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.



Priest: For to You belong 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.





Aposticha - Theotokion Tone 1

Be<u>hold</u>, Isaiah's <u>prophecy</u> is fulfilled, / for the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a <u>Virgin!</u> / <u>God</u> was born, and so nature was re<u>stored</u> an<u>ew</u>. / Do not despise the entreaties of your <u>ser</u>vants, O <u>Mo</u>ther of <u>God!</u> / We <u>off</u>er them to you in your <u>temple</u>. / Since you carried in your arms the com<u>pas</u>sionate One, / have com<u>pas</u>sion on your <u>ser</u>vants, // and pray that our <u>souls</u> may be <u>saved</u>!

Prayer of St. Symeon

Reader: Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all people: a light to enlighten the gentiles and for the glory of Your people Israel.

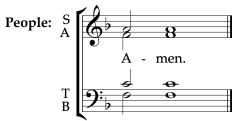
Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. {3x}

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

Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us! Lord, cleanse us from our sins! Master, pardon our transgressions! Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake. Lord, have mercy. {3x}

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

- People: Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed is Your name. Your kingdom come. Your 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 Yours 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.



The Aposticha, Tone 1

People: We have been <u>freed</u> from <u>suf</u>ferings / by Your <u>suf</u>fering, O Christ. / <u>We</u> have been delivered from cor<u>rup</u>tion / by Your <u>Res</u>ur<u>rec</u>tion.// O Lord, <u>glo</u>ry to You!

Reader: The Lord is King, He is robed in majesty.

People: Let cre<u>a</u>tion rejoice! / Let the <u>heav</u>ens be glad! / Let the <u>nations clap their hands with glad</u>ness, / for Christ our Savior has <u>nailed</u> our <u>sins</u> to the Cross. / Slaying <u>death</u>, He has given <u>life</u>.// He has resurrected fallen Adam as the <u>Lov</u>er of man.

Reader: For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved.

People: As <u>King</u> of <u>heav</u>en and earth, / You were voluntarily crucified in Your <u>love</u> for man. / <u>Hell</u> was angered when it <u>met</u> You below. / Adam rose seeing You, the Cre<u>a</u>tor, <u>un</u>der the earth. / O <u>won</u>der! How has the Life of all <u>tast</u>ed death? / You enlightened the <u>world</u> which cries:// O Lord, Who rose from the dead, <u>glo</u>ry to You!

Reader: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for evermore.

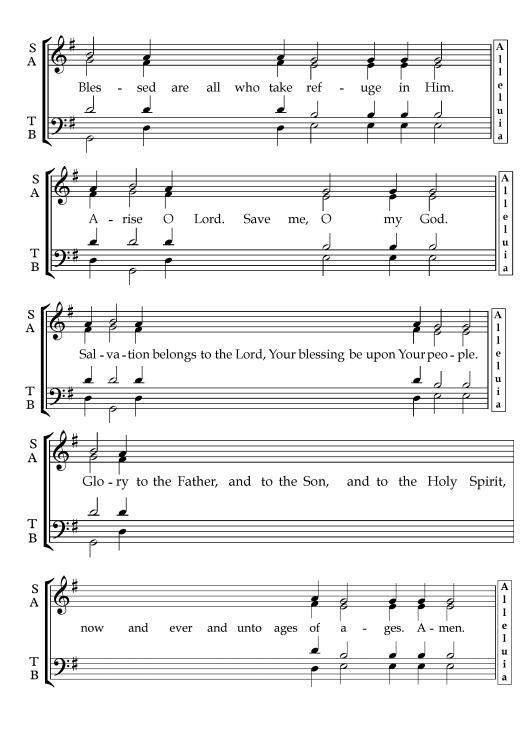
People: The <u>myrrh-bearing</u> women came with <u>haste</u> to Your tomb, / bearing myrrh and la<u>ment</u>ing. / Not <u>find</u>ing Your most pure <u>body</u>, / they learned from the angel of the new and <u>glo</u>rious <u>won</u>der./ They <u>told</u> the Apostles:// "The Lord is risen, granting the world great <u>mer</u>cy."

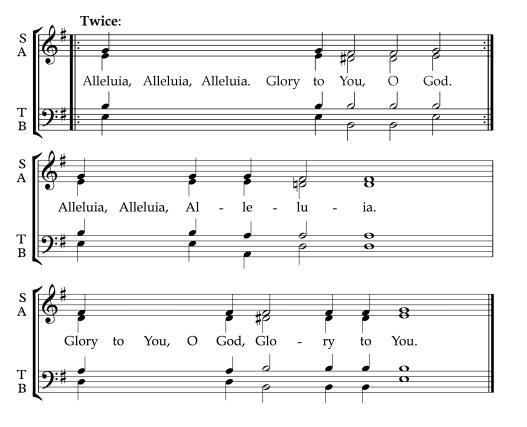
Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: (Verse of the Feast or Saint of the day - see OCA handout)

Reader: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

People: (*The Aposticha Theotokion in the tone of the preceding verse or the Theotokion of the Feast or Saint of the day – see OCA handout*)





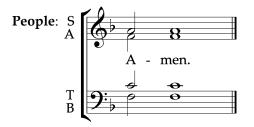
Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.



The Prayer with Bowed heads

Priest: O Lord our God, Who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race; look upon Your servants and Your inheritance; for to You, the awesome Judge, Who yet love mankind, have Your servants bowed their heads and submissively bent their necks, not waiting for help from men, but asking for Your mercy and looking confidently for Your salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse powers of the Devil, from vain thoughts, and from evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the majesty of Your Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of ages.



People: Grant it, O Lord.

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

People: Grant it, O Lord.

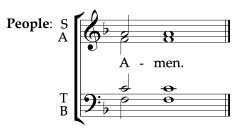
Deacon: For a Christian ending to our life; pain-less, blameless and peaceful: and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life to Christ our God.



Priest: For You are a good God and love mankind, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.



Priest: Peace be unto all.



Little Litany

Deacon: Again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.



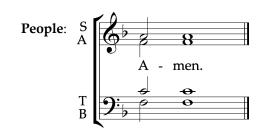
Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us and keep us, O God, by Your grace.



Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, 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.



Priest: For Yours is the majesty and Yours 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.





The Gvening Litany

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.



Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.



Deacon: That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.



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

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Deacon: For pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant it, O Lord.

Deacon: For all things that are good and profit- able for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Deacon: Again we pray for the blessed and ever memorable founders of this holy house; for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, _____, (and all those we call to mind) who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

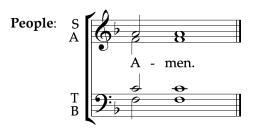
Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God ______, (and all those we call to mind) and for the pardon and remission of then sins.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Priest: For You are a merciful God, and love mankind, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.



The Grening Prayer

Reader: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen. Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on You. Blessed are You, O Lord: teach me Your statutes. Blessed are You, O Master: make me to understand Your commandments. Blessed are You, O Holy One: enlighten me with Your precepts. Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the works of Your hands. To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs glory; to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

PSALM 140

Reader: Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord, keep watch over the door of my lips. Incline not my heart to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity; and let me not eat of their dainties. Let a good man strike or rebuke me in kindness, but let the oil of the wicked never anoint my head; for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds. When they are given over to those who shall condemn them, then they shall learn that the word of the Lord is true. As a rock which one cleaves and shatters on the land, so shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of Sheol. But my eyes are toward You, O Lord God; in You I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless. Keep me from the trap which they have laid for me, and from the snares of evildoers. Let the wicked together fall into their own nets, while I escape.

PSALM 141

I cry with my voice to the Lord, with my voice I make supplication to the Lord, I pour out my complaint before Him, I tell my trouble before Him. When my spirit is faint, You know my way. In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me. I look to the right and watch, but there is none who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me, no man cares for me. I cry to You, O Lord; I say, You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living. Give heed to my cry; for I am brought very low. Deliver me from my persecutors; for they are too strong for me.

Reader: (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name.

People: Ac<u>cept</u> our evening prayer, O <u>ho</u>ly Lord! / Grant us re<u>mis</u>sion of sins, // for You alone have manifested the Resur<u>rec</u>tion to the world.

Reader: (9) The righteous will surround me, for You will deal bountifully with me.

People: Encircle Zion, /

and surround her, O <u>people!</u> / Give <u>glory</u> in her to the One Who <u>rose</u> from the dead! / For <u>He</u> is <u>our</u> God, // Who has delivered us from our trans<u>gres</u>sions! Reader: (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice.

People: <u>Come</u>, O <u>people</u>, / let us hymn and fall <u>down</u> before <u>Christ</u>, / <u>glorifying His Resurrection from the dead</u>! / For <u>He</u> is <u>our</u> God, // who has delivered the world from the <u>En</u>emy's de<u>ceit</u>!

Reader: (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

People: Be <u>glad</u>, O <u>heavens!</u> / Sound trumpets, O foun<u>da</u>tions of the <u>earth</u>! / Sing in <u>glad</u>ness, O <u>moun</u>tains! / Behold Emmanuel has <u>nailed</u> our <u>sins</u> to the <u>Cross</u>! / Granting <u>life</u>, He has <u>slain</u> death. // He has resurrected Adam as the <u>Lov</u>er of <u>man</u>.

Reader: (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

People: Let us praise Him /

who was voluntarily crucified in the <u>flesh</u> for our <u>sake</u>. / He <u>suff</u>ered, was buried, but <u>rose</u> from the dead. / By Orthodoxy con<u>firm</u> Your <u>Church</u>, O <u>Christ</u>. // Grant peace for our life as the gracious <u>Lov</u>er of <u>man</u>.

Reader: (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

People: We <u>stand</u> before your life-bearing tomb unworthily, O <u>Christ</u> God, / offering glory to Your ineffable com<u>pas</u>sion. / You have ac<u>cep</u>ted the Cross and death O <u>sinless One</u> // to grant Resurrection to the world as the <u>Lover of man</u>.

Reader: (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord.

People: Let us praise the Word, / co-eternal with the Father. / He ineffably came forth from the virginal womb. / He freely accepted the Cross and death for our sake. / He was raised in glory. // Glory to you, O Life-giving Lord, the Savior of our souls.

Litany of Fervent Supplication

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



Deacon: O Lord almighty, the God of our fathers, we implore You, hear us and have mercy.



Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we implore You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)



Deacon: Again we pray for [His Beatitude] Metropolitan _____,' for [His Grace] our Bishop _____; for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brethren in Christ.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Deacon: Again we pray for the President and all civil authorities of this country and for those serving in its Armed Forces.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

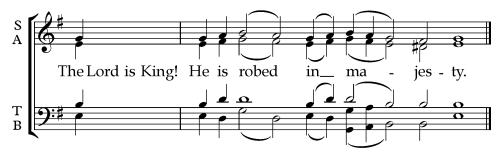
The Gvening Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto all!

Deacon: Wisdom! The Prokeimenon in the sixth tone. The Lord is King! He is robed in majesty!

People: The Lord is King! He is robed in majesty!



Deacon: The Lord is robed, He is girded with strength!

People: (repeat prokeimenon)

Deacon: For He has established the world so that it should never be moved!

People: (repeat prokeimenon)

Deacon: Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

People: (repeat prokeimenon)

Deacon: The Lord is King!...

People: ... He is robed in majesty!

Reader: (3) For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

People: (Verse of the Feast or Saint of the day - see OCA handout)

Reader: (2) Praise the Lord, all nations. Praise Him, all peoples.

People: (Verse of the Feast or Saint of the day - see OCA handout)

Reader: (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

People: (Verse of the Feast or Saint of the day - see OCA handout)

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

People: (*Theotokion-Dogmatikon Tone 1 or of the Feast or Saint of the day - see OCA handout*)

Theotokion-Dogmatikon Tone 1

Let us <u>praise</u> the Virgin <u>Mary!</u> / The gate of heaven the <u>glo</u>ry of the world! / The <u>song</u> of the angels, the beauty of the <u>faithful!</u> / She was born of <u>man</u>, yet gave <u>birth</u> to <u>God!</u> / She was re<u>vealed</u> as the heaven, as the temple of the <u>God</u>head! / She destroyed the wall of <u>en</u>mity! / She com<u>menced</u> the peace; she opened the <u>King</u>dom! / Since she is <u>our</u> foundation of <u>faith</u>, / our de<u>fen</u>der is the <u>Lord</u> Whom she <u>bore</u>! / Courage! Courage! O <u>Peop</u>le of God! / For Christ will destroy our <u>en</u>emies // since He is all <u>pow</u>erful.

The Entrance

Deacon: Bless, Master, the Entrance!

Priest: Blessed is the entrance always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Hymn of the Entrance: O Gladsome Light

