



LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

THE GNARXIS

Priest: Blessed is the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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

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

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

INTRODUCTORY PSALM (103/104)

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great! You are clothed with honor and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent, you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken. You cover 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 that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, giving

drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst. By the streams 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 people to use, to bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart. The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has its home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers.

You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting. You make darkness and it is night, when all the animals of the forest come creeping out. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises they withdraw and lie down in their dens. People go out to their work and to their labor until the evening.

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 that 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!

[And again] 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 the Son and the Holy Spirit; now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to you, O God. (3)

Our hope, O Lord, glory to you.

GREAT SYNAPTE & FIRST LAMP-LIGHTING PRAYER

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For peace throughout the world, the well-being of the holy churches of God, and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our Archbishop (*Name*), the honorable priests, the deacons in the service of Christ, and for all the clergy and laity, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our nation and all its people, for those who work in its service, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city, for every city and land, and for all the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For those who travel by land, sea, and air; for the sick, the suffering, the captives and oppressed, and for their safety and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos

and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and full of mercy, listen to our prayer and attend to the voice of our supplication. Make for us a sign for good. Guide us in your way, to walk in your truth. Make glad our hearts to fear your holy Name, because you are great and do wondrous things. You alone are God, and there is none like you, O Lord, among gods: powerful in mercy and loving in strength to help and to console and to save all who hope in your holy Name. **For to you belong all glory, honor, and worship** to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

MONASTIC PSALMODY
KATHISMA 18
SECTION ONE

Psalm 119

When I was afflicted I called to the Lord, and he heard me. O Lord, deliver my soul from unjust lips and from a deceitful tongue. What should be given you, what added to you against a treacherous tongue? The sharpened arrows of the powerful, with the coals of desolation. Woe is me! For my sojourning has been prolonged, I have camped among the encampments of Kedar; my soul has long been a sojourner. With those who hate peace I was peaceable; when I spoke with them, they made war on me for nothing.

Psalm 120

I have lifted up my eyes to the mountains. From where will my help come? My help is from the Lord, who made heaven and

earth. Do not let your foot waver; may he who guards you not slumber. See, he who guards Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord will guard you, the Lord is protection for you on your right hand. By day the sun will not scorch you, nor the moon by night. The Lord will guard you from every evil, the Lord will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your coming in, and your going out, from now and for ever more.

Psalm 121

I rejoiced at those who said to me: we shall go to the house of the Lord. Our feet were standing in your courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem built as a city, shared by all together. For there the tribes went up, the tribes of the Lord, a testimony for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. For there thrones were set for judgment, thrones over the house of David. Ask then for the things which are for Jerusalem's peace, and prosperity for those who love you. May there be peace then in your power and prosperity in your citadels. For the sake of my family and neighbors, I have spoken peace concerning you. For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought good things for you.

Psalm 122

I have lifted my eyes to you who dwell in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look to their lords' hands; as the eyes of a maid to her mistress's hands, so do our eyes to the Lord our God, until he take pity on us. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for we have had our fill of contempt, our soul has been filled to overflowing. Let reproach be for the prosperous, and contempt for the proud.

Psalm 123

If the Lord had not been among us, let Israel now say: if the Lord had not been among us when enemies rose up against

us, they would have swallowed us down alive. When their fury raged against us; the water would have drowned us, our soul would have passed through the torrent; our soul would have passed through irresistible water. Blessed is the Lord, who has not given us as a prey to their teeth. Our soul was delivered like a sparrow from the snare of the hunters; the snare was shattered, and we were delivered. Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia; glory to you, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

SMALL SYNAPTE & SECOND LAMP-LIGHTING PRAYER

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: Lord, do not rebuke us in your anger, nor chastise us in your wrath, but deal with us in accordance with your kindness, physician and healer of our souls. Guide us to the harbor of your will. Enlighten the

eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of your truth and grant that the rest of the present day and the whole time of our life may be peaceful and without sin, at the prayers of the holy Theotokos and of all the Saints. **For yours is the might, and yours is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory,** of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

MONASTIC PSALMODY SECTION TWO

Both now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Psalm 124

Those who trust in the Lord are as Mount Sion; one who dwells in Jerusalem will never be shaken. Mountains encircle her, and the Lord encircles his people from now and for ever. For the Lord will not leave the rod of sinners upon the heritage of the just, lest the just stretch out their hands in iniquities. Do good, O Lord, to the good and to the honest in heart. But the Lord will drive away with those who work iniquity those who turn aside to extortions; peace upon Israel.

Psalm 125

When the Lord turned back the captivity of Sion, we became as those who are comforted. Then was our mouth filled with joy and our tongue with rejoicing. Then they will say among the nations: the Lord has done great things with them. The Lord has done great things with us, we have become joyful. Turn back our captivity, O Lord, like streams in the south. Those who sow with tears, will reap with joy. They went and as they went they wept, while they sowed their seed. But when they come they will come with joy, as they gather up their sheaves.

Psalm 126

Unless the Lord build the house, the builders have toiled for nothing. Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard has kept vigil for nothing. Your getting up at dawn is for nothing, your rising after sitting, you who eat the bread of sorrow, when he gives sleep to his beloved; see, children are the Lord's inheritance, the reward of the fruit of the womb. As arrows in the hand of a powerful archer, so are the descendants of the rejected. Blessed are those whose desires will be satisfied with them; they will not be shamed when they speak with their enemies in the gates.

Psalm 127

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. You will eat the toils of your fruits; you are blessed, and it will be well with you. Your wife like a luxuriant vine against the sides of your house. Your children like new olive shoots around your table. See, that is how one who fears the Lord will be blessed. The Lord bless you from Sion, and may you see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of your life. And may you see your children's children. Peace upon Israel.

Psalm 128

Many times they have made war on me since my youth, let Israel now say. Many times they have made war on me since my youth, and yet they have not prevailed over me. The sinners have wrought upon my back, they have prolonged their iniquity. The Lord is just, he has broken the sinners' necks. Let all those who hate Sion be shamed and turned back. Let them become like grass on the housetops, which withers before it is uprooted: too sparse to fill the reaper's hand with it, nothing for the gatherer to take away. Nor have the passers-by said: The Lord's blessing be on you. We have blessed you in the name of the Lord.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia; glory to you, O God. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

SMALL SYNAPTE & THIRD LAMP-LIGHTING PRAYER

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: Lord our God, remember us, sinners and your unprofitable servants, as we call upon your holy Name, and do not put us to shame from the expectation of your mercy, but graciously grant us, Lord, all the requests that are for salvation, and count us worthy to love and to fear you from our whole heart, and in all things to do your will. **For you are good God who loves humankind and to you we give glory**, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

MONASTIC PSALMODY
SECTION THREE

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

Psalm 129

Out of the depths I have cried to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If you note our iniquities, O Lord, Lord, who will survive? Because forgiveness is with you. For your name's sake I have waited for you, O Lord; my soul has waited for your word, my soul has hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope in the Lord. Because with the Lord there is mercy and with him abundant redemption; and he will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Psalm 130

O Lord, my heart has not been exalted, nor have my eyes become lofty, I have neither walked among great affairs, nor among marvels beyond me. If I had not been humble-minded but exalted my soul, like a weaned child towards its mother, so you will requite my soul. Let Israel hope in the Lord, from now and for ever.

Psalm 131

Lord remember David and all his meekness, how he swore to the Lord, made a vow to the God of Jacob, I shall not enter the shelter of my house, climb into my bed, give sleep to my eyes, slumber to my eyelids and rest to my temples, until I find a place for the Lord, a tabernacle for the God of Jacob. See, we heard of it in Ephrata, we found it in the woodland fields. We shall enter his tabernacles, we shall worship towards the place where his feet have stood. Arise, O Lord, into your rest, you and the ark of your sanctification. Your priests clothe

themselves with justice, and your holy ones will rejoice. For David, your servant's sake, do not turn away the face of your Christ. The Lord has sworn truth to David and he will not annul it, From the fruit of your womb I shall place on your throne. If your children keep my covenant and these testimonies of mine which I shall teach them, their descendants too will sit on your throne for ever. For the Lord has elected Sion, has chosen her as a dwelling for himself. "This is my resting-place for age on age; here I shall dwell, for I have chosen her. Her door I shall bless abundantly, her poor I shall fill with bread. Her priests I shall clothe with salvation, and her holy ones will rejoice with great joy. There I shall make the horn of David flourish; I have prepared a lamp for my Christ. I shall clothe his enemies in shame, my sanctification will flower upon him."

Psalm 132

See how good and pleasant it is for kindred to dwell together. Like sweet ointment on the head which runs down upon the beard, Aaron's beard, which runs down to the hem of his garment; like the dew from Hermon, which runs down upon the mountains of Sion; for there the Lord has commanded the blessing: life for ever more.

Psalm 133

Come, now bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. Lift up your hands by night to the Holy Place, and bless the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Sion, he who made heaven and earth.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia; glory to you, O God. (3)

Our hope, O Lord, glory to you.

SMALL SYNAPTE & FOURTH LAMP-LIGHTING PRAYER

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: O Lord, who are praised by the holy Powers with never silent hymns and unceasing songs of glory, fill our mouth with your praise to give majesty to your holy Name, and give us a part and an inheritance with all who fear you in truth and who keep your commandments, at the prayers of the holy Theotokos and of all your Saints. **For you are our God, a God of mercy and salvation, and to you we give glory,** to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.of ages.

People: Amen.

LAMPLIGHTING PSALMS (PALESTINIAN STYLE) & TROPARIA

Psalm 140

People: Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; hear me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Give heed to the voice of my supplication when I cry to you. Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise before you like incense; the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

For 6 Stichera

Psalm 129/130

6. If you, Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who will stand? But there is forgiveness with you.

[a troparion from the Triodion]

5. For your name's sake I have waited for you, O Lord. My soul has waited on your word. My soul has hoped in the Lord.

[a troparion from the Triodion]

For 4 Stichera

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

[a troparion from the Triodion]

3. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with him plentiful redemption, and he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

[a troparion from the Triodion or Menaion]

Psalm 116

2. Praise the Lord, all you nations. Praise him all you peoples.

[a troparion from the Menaion]

1. For his mercy has been mighty towards us, and the truth of the Lord endures to the ages.

[a troparion from the Menaion]

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

[a troparion from the Menaion, if there is one]

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

[a troparion from the Menaion]

ENTRANCE AND EVENING THANKSGIVING

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: At evening, at morning and at midday we praise, bless and give thanks, and we pray to you, Master of all things, Lord who love humankind: Direct our prayer before you like incense, and do not incline our hearts to words or thoughts of evil, but deliver us from all that hunt down our souls. For our eyes look to you, O Lord, our Lord, and we have hoped in you. **For to you belong all glory, honor and worship**, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon: Master, bless the holy entrance.

Priest: Blessed is the entrance of your holy ones, always, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

Deacon: Amen.

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise!

People (intoned simply): Radiant light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, and blessed Father, O Christ Jesus, now, as we come to sunset, as we see the evening lights we sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. At all times are you worthy to be praised by undefiled tongues, O Son of God, who give life to the world. For this, the universe glorifies you.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Deacon: The Evening...

Reader: Prokeimenon. Tone (#). Psalm (#).

Reads the Prokeimenon and its verse.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Reading is from *(the name of the book from which the reading is taken)*.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: *Reads the designated passage.*

Reader: Prokeimenon. Tone (#). Psalm (#).

Reads the Prokeimenon and its verse.

(intoned loudly) Command!

Priest: Wisdom. Arise.

The Light of Christ illumens all.

Reader: The Reading is from *(the name of the book from which the reading is taken)*.

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend.

Reader: *Reads the designated passage.*

LAMPLIGHTING PSALMS (CONSTANTINOPOLITAN STYLE)

Priest: Let my prayer arise before you like incense; the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

Priest (intoned simply): Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; hear me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Give heed to the voice of my supplication when I cry to you. Hear me, O Lord.

People: Let my prayer arise before you like incense; the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

Priest (intoned simply): Set a guard, O Lord, on my mouth, and a strong door about my lips.

People: Let my prayer arise before you like incense; the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

Priest (intoned simply): Do not incline my heart to evil words; to make excuses for my sins.

People: Let my prayer arise before you like incense; the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

Priest (*intoned simply*): Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

People: Let my prayer arise before you like incense; the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

Priest: Let my prayer arise before you like incense; ...

People: ... the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

EPISTLE READING

(only on certain Saints' feasts)

Reader: Prokeimenon of the Apostle: Tone (#). Psalm (#).

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: *Reads the Prokeimenon and its verse.*

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from *(the name of the book from which the Apostolic reading is taken)*.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: *Reads the designated passage.*

Priest: [*blessing the reader*] Peace be with you.

GOSPEL READING

(only on certain days or feasts)

Deacon: Let us attend.

People: Alleluia. (3)

Priest: Master, Lover of humankind, make the pure light of your divine knowledge shine in our hearts and open the eyes of our

mind to understand the message of your Gospel. Implant in us the fear of your blessed commandments, so that, having trampled down all carnal desires, we may change to a spiritual way of life, thinking and doing all things that are pleasing to you. For you are the illumination of our souls and bodies, Christ God, and to you we give glory, together with your Father who is without beginning, and your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to *(name)*.

Priest: Let us be attentive.

People: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Deacon: *Reads the designated passage.*

Priest: Peace to you.

People: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

[we resume here]

LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION (EKTENE)

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

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Deacon: Let us again pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Deacon: Let us again pray for our Archbishop (*name*).

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Deacon: Let us again pray for our brethren, priests, hieromonks, deacons, and monastics, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Deacon: Let us again pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious and Orthodox Christians living and visiting in this city, the members, trustees, supporters, and benefactors of this holy church. And for the servants of God (*he now commemorates the living*).

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Deacon: Let us again pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church, and for all our fathers and mothers; sisters and brothers; grandparents; godparents; children, godchildren, and grandchildren; and for the Orthodox everywhere who are asleep in the Lord. And for the servants of God (*he now commemorates the departed*).

People: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Deacon: Let us again pray for those who do charitable work, for those who serve in this holy house, for those who labor, teach, and sing, and for all the people here present who await your great and rich mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (*once*)

Priest: Lord our God, accept this fervent supplication from your servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of your mercy; and send your compassion on us and on all your people who await your rich mercy. **For you are a merciful God who loves humankind, and to you we give glory**, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

ENTREATY FOR THE CATECHUMENS

Deacon: Catechumens, pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Believers, let us pray for the catechumens.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the Lord will have mercy on them.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Instruct them in the word of truth.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Reveal to them the Gospel of righteousness.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Unite them to his holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Save them, have mercy on them, help them and keep them, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Catechumens, bow your heads to the Lord.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: God, our God, creator and maker of all things, who wish all to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, look upon your servants the catechumens, and deliver them from the ancient error and trickery of the foe. Call them to eternal life, enlightening their souls and bodies and numbering them with your rational flock, on which your holy name has been invoked. **That they also, with us, may glorify your all-honoured and majestic name,** of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always, and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: As many as are Catechumens, depart. Catechumens, depart.

*(after the Sunday of the Veneration
of the Holy Cross)*

ENTREATY FOR THOSE
PREPARING FOR
ENLIGHTENMENT

Deacon: As many as are preparing for Enlightenment, draw near. Those who are preparing for Enlightenment pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Believers, for our brothers and sisters who are preparing for holy Enlightenment, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the Lord our God may give them strength and power.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Enlighten them with the light of knowledge and true religion.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Count them worthy in due time of the bath of rebirth, the forgiveness of sins and the garment of incorruption.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Give them rebirth through water and Spirit.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Grant them the perfection of the Faith.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Number them with his holy and chosen flock.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Save them, have mercy on them, help them and keep them, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Those preparing for Enlightenment, bow your heads to the Lord.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: Manifest your countenance, Master, to those preparing for holy Enlightenment and who long to shake off the defilement of sin. Illumine their understanding; confirm them in the Faith; establish them in Hope, perfect them in Love; show them to be honourable members of your Christ, who gave himself as a ransom for our souls. **For you are our enlightenment, and to you we give glory,** to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: As many as are preparing for Enlightenment, depart. Those who are preparing for Enlightenment, depart.

(we resume here)

Deacon: As many as are catechumens, depart.
None of the catechumens remain.

ENTREATY OF THE FAITHFUL

Deacon: As many as are believers, again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God, who are great and to be praised, who have brought us from corruption to incorruption by the life-giving death of your Christ, free all our senses from the death of the passions, setting over them as a good leader the thought that comes from within. Let the eye abstain from every evil sight, the hearing give no entrance to idle words, the tongue be cleansed of unfitting speech. O Lord, purify our lips that praise you. Make our hands keep from base actions, to perform only such things as are well-pleasing to you, making all our limbs and our mind secure by your grace.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Priest: For to you are due all glory, honour and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always, and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: Holy Master, supremely good, we implore you, the One rich in mercy, to take pity on us sinners and make us worthy of the reception of your only begotten Son and our God, the king of glory. For behold, his most pure Body and

life-giving Blood, that are entering at this present hour, are about to be set forth on this mystical table, invisibly escorted by a multitude of the heavenly host. Grant us communion in them that is without condemnation, so that, with the eye of our mind illumined through them, we may become children of the light.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Priest: According to the gift of your Christ, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

ENTRANCE OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

People: Now the hosts of heaven invisibly worship with us; for see, the King of Glory enters...

(The People kneel as the Entrance takes place in silence. When the Presanctified Gifts are placed on the holy Table and the Beautiful Gates are closed the troparion is resumed.)

People: ... see, the perfected mystical sacrifice is being borne in. With faith and love, let us draw near that we may become partakers of everlasting life. Alleluia.

SYNAPTE WITH AITHESEIS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the presanctified precious gifts here set forth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That our God, who loves humankind, having accepted them on his holy, heavenly and spiritual altar, as a sweet-smelling savour of spiritual fragrance would send down upon us his divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

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 upon us, and guard us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Pardon and remission of our sins and offences, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: The completion of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For a Christian end to our lives, without shame and suffering, and for a good account before the awesome judgment seat of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Having asked for the unity of the faith and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commit ourselves, and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: O God of ineffable and unseen mysteries, with whom are the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge, who have revealed to us the service of this ministry and through your great love for humankind appointed us sinners to offer you gifts and sacrifices for our own sins and those committed in ignorance by the people, do you, invisible king, who do great and unfathomable things, things glorious and extraordinary that are without number, look upon us, your unworthy servants, who stand before this your holy altar, as before the throne of the Cherubim, on which, through the awesome mysteries here set forth, rests your Son and our God. And, having freed us and your faithful people from all uncleanness, sanctify the souls and bodies of us all with a sanctification that cannot be taken away, so that receiving communion of these divine and holy things with a pure conscience, a face unashamed, an enlightened heart and being given life by them, we may be united to your Christ, our true God, who said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them." So that, with your Word, O Lord, dwelling in us and living among us, we may become a temple of your holy and adorable Spirit, having been rescued from every wile of the devil effected by word or

deed or in the mind; and that we may obtain the good things promised to us, with all your Saints, who have been well-pleasing to you since time began. **And count us worthy, Master, with boldness and without condemnation**, to dare to call upon you, the God of heaven, as Father, and to say:

People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as 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, the power and the glory, of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

PEACE AND INCLINATION

Priest: Peace to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: O God, alone good and compassionate, who dwell on high and watch over lowly things, with a compassionate eye look upon all your people, guard them and make us all worthy to partake uncondemned of these your life-giving mysteries. For to you we have bowed our heads, awaiting from you rich mercy. **Through the grace and mercy and love for humankind of your only-begotten Son**, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and always and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

PREPARATION AND COMMUNION

Priest: Give heed, Lord Jesus Christ our God, from your holy dwelling-place and from the glorious throne of your kingdom; and come to sanctify us, you who are enthroned on high with the Father and invisibly present here with us. And with your mighty hand grant communion in your most pure Body and precious Blood to us, and through us to all the people.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: The holy [things] for the holy [ones].

People: One is holy, one is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

(In some places, the People recite the following pre-Communion Prayers.)

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that you are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. Also I believe that this is indeed your most pure Body, and this indeed your precious Blood. Therefore I beseech you, have mercy on me and forgive me my offences, voluntary and involuntary, in word and in deed, in knowledge and in ignorance, and count me worthy to partake uncondemned of your most pure Mysteries for forgiveness of sins and for eternal life. Amen.

How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of your saints? If I dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. Lord, cleanse the vileness of my soul and save me as one who loves humankind.

Master, Lover of humankind, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these holy

Mysteries be for my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but rather for the cleansing and sanctification of both soul and body, and as a pledge of the life and kingdom to come. It is good for me to cleave to God, to place in the Lord the hope of my salvation.

Of your mystical Supper, O Son of God, receive me today as a communicant; for I will not tell of the Mystery to your enemies; I will not give you a kiss, like Judas; but like the Thief I confess you: Remember me, O Lord, in your Kingdom.

(And the People sing the Communion troparion.)

People: Taste and see that the Lord is good, Alleluia. (3)

Deacon: With fear of God, with faith and love, draw near.

The Priest gives Communion to the People.

While the People receive Communion, they sing «Taste and see.»

After all have communed, the Priest blesses the People, saying:

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

POST-COMMUNION & THANKSGIVING

People: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall always be in my mouth. Taste the heavenly Bread and the Cup of life, and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest: Blessed is our God. Always, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Let our mouth be filled with your praise, O Lord, that we may sing your glory, for you

have allowed us to share in your holy, divine, immortal and life-giving mysteries. Keep us in your holiness, that we may meditate on your justice all the day long. Alleluia.

Priest: Arise. Having received the divine, holy, pure, immortal, heavenly, life-giving and awesome Mysteries of Christ, let us give worthy thanks to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy upon us and keep us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Having asked that the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us entrust ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord.

Priest: We thank you, God the Savior of all things, for all the good things you have granted us and for the communion of the holy Body and Blood of your Christ. And we pray you, O Master who love humankind, guard us under the shadow of your wings and grant us, until our last breath, to partake worthily of your holy gifts, for enlightenment of soul and body and for inheritance of the kingdom of heaven. **For you are our sanctification, and to you we give glory,** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us go forth in peace.

People: In the name of the Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Master almighty, who fashioned creation with wisdom and through your ineffable forethought and great goodness have brought us to these most holy days for the cleansing of souls and bodies, for mastery of the passions, for hope of resurrection; who through forty days entrusted to your servant Moses the Tables of the Law in letters divinely traced, grant us also, good Master, to fight the good fight, to finish the course of the fast, to keep the faith intact, to smash the heads of invisible serpents and without condemnation to reach and to worship your holy Resurrection. **For blessed and glorified is your all-honoured and majestic name**, of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Blessed be the name of Lord, both now and to the ages. (3)

Priest: Lord our God, who have brought us to these most holy days, and have made us communicants of your awesome mysteries, join us to your rational flock and declare us to be heirs of your kingdom, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord be upon you, through his divine grace and love for humankind, always, now and ever, and to ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Glory to you, Christ God, our hope, glory to you.

May Christ our true God, as a good God who loves humankind, have mercy on us and save us, through the intercessions of his most pure and holy Mother; by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the protection of the honored, bodiless powers of heaven; through the intercessions of the honoured, glorious prophet, forerunner and baptiser, John; of the holy, glorious and all-praised apostles; of the holy, glorious and triumphant martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers and mothers; of Saint *(of the church)*; of the holy and righteous forebears of God, Joachim and Anna; of Saint *(of the day)*, whose memory we celebrate; and of all the saints.

(The Priest distributes Antidoron while the People recite the following Psalms.)

Psalm 33

I will bless the Lord continually, his praise will always be in my mouth. My soul will be praised in the Lord; let the meek hear it and rejoice. Magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt his name together.

I sought the Lord and he heard me, and delivered me from all my afflictions. Come to him and be enlightened, and your faces will not be ashamed. The poor cried out, and the Lord heard them, and saved them from all their afflictions. The angel of the Lord will encamp round those who fear him, and deliver them. Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed those who hope in him! Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones, for those who fear him never want. The rich have become poor and gone hungry, but those who seek the Lord will not be deprived of any good.

Come, children, listen to me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is there who wants life, loves to see good days? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Turn away from evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of the Lord are on the just, and his ears towards their supplication. The Lord's face is set against those who do evil, to destroy their memory from the earth. The just cried and the Lord heard them, and delivered them from all their afflictions. The Lord is close to those who are broken-hearted, and will save the humble in spirit.

The afflictions of the just are many, but the Lord will deliver them from them all. The Lord guards all their bones, not one of them will be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and those who hate the just will go astray. The Lord will rescue the souls of his servants, and no one of those who hope in him will go astray.

Psalm 144

I will exalt you, my God, my King; and I will bless your name for ever and to age on age. Every day I will bless you; and praise your name for ever and to age on age. The Lord is great and highly to be praised; and there is no limit to his greatness.

Generation after generation will praise your works; and will declare your power. They will tell of the majesty of the glory of your holiness; and will recount your wonders. They will speak of the power of your awesome deeds; and will recount your greatness. They will proclaim the memory of the multitude of your goodness; and rejoice in your justice.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful; long-suffering and full of mercy. The Lord is good to all; and his acts of compassion are for all his works.

May all your works confess you, Lord; and all your holy ones bless you. They will speak of the glory of your kingdom; and tell of your power, to make known your power and of the glory the majesty of your kingdom to the children of humankind. Your kingdom is a kingdom for all the

ages, and your dominion for every generation.

The Lord is faithful in all his words, and holy in all his works. The Lord supports all who are falling, and sets upright all who are broken down. The eyes of all hope in you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand, and fill every living thing with your good pleasure.

The Lord is just in all his ways, and holy in all his works. The Lord is close to those who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He will do the will of those who fear him, and hear their supplication and save them. The Lord guards all who love him, and all sinners he will destroy.

My mouth will tell the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and to age on age.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Holy father, bless.

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

People: Amen.