

Menaion - February 2

The Meeting of our Lord, God and Savior
Jesus Christ.

LITURGY

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Antiphon I. Mode 2. Psalm 44.

Verse 1: *My heart overflowed with a good word; I tell my works to the King.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 2: *My tongue is the pen of a swift-writing scribe.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Verse 3: *You are more beautiful than the sons of men.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Verse 4: *Therefore God blessed You forever.*
[SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Glory. Both now.

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Antiphon II. Mode 2. Psalm 44.

Verse 1: *Gird Your sword upon Your thigh,
O Mighty One, in Your splendor and Your beauty.*
[SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were held in
the arms of righteous Symeon. we sing to You,
Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 2: *Stretch Your bow, and grant
prosperity, and reign, because of truth and
goodness.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were held in
the arms of righteous Symeon. we sing to You,
Alleluia.

Verse 3: *Your arrows are sharp, O Mighty
One. The peoples shall fall under You.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were held in
the arms of righteous Symeon. we sing to You,
Alleluia.

Verse 4: *Your throne, O God, is forever and
ever; Your royal scepter is a scepter of uprightness.*
[SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, who were held in
the arms of righteous Symeon. we sing to You,
Alleluia.

*Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy
Spirit.* [HC]

*Both now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.* [HC]

Only begotten Son and Logos of God,
being immortal, You condescended for
our salvation to take flesh from the holy
Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary and, without
change, became man. Christ, our God, You
were crucified and conquered death by death.

Being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with
the Father and the Holy Spirit: Save us. [GOA]

Antiphon III. Mode 1. Psalm 44.

Verse 1: *Listen, O daughter, behold and
incline your ear, and forget your people and your
father's house.* [SAAS]

Verse 2: *The rich among the people shall
entreat your favor.* [SAAS]

Verse 3: *I will remember your name from
generation to generation.* [SAAS]

Apolytikion of the Feast. Mode 1.

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin
Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun
of righteousness has risen from you and
He illumined those in darkness. And you,
righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving
in your embraces the One who liberates our
souls and bestows on us the Resurrection. [SD]

An optional alternative to the Antiphons are the Typika (Psalms 102 and 145), and the Beatitudes with the appointed troparia, which are provided here.

Psalm 102.

Psalm 145.

The Beatitudes.

Mode 3.

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

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

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. [RSV]

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

Canon of the Feast.

Ode iii. Mode 3. Heirmos

From Menaion - - -

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. [RSV]

O Lord, the firm foundation of those trust in you, confirm the Church, which you purchased with your precious blood. [EL]

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

The First-born of the Father before the ages has appeared from an undefiled Maiden as a first-born babe, and he stretches out his hands to Adam. [EL]

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

To set right again the first formed man, who through deception had become childish

in mind, God the Word has appeared as a child. [EL]

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

The Creator, having become a child without change, has reshaped according to the form of his godhead our nature born of earth and destined to return to earth again. [EL]

Canon of the Feast.

From Menaion - - -

Ode vi. Mode 3. Heirmos

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely [for my sake]. [RSV]

The Elder having seen with his eyes, the salvation that had come to the people, cried aloud to you, 'O Christ, who come from God, You are my God!' [EL]

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

You have been set up in Sion as a stumbling stone and rock of offence for the disobedient, unbreakable salvation of believers. [EL]

Glory.

Truly bearing the imprint of him who begot you before the ages, through compassion for mortals you have now put on their weakness. [EL]

Both now.

I have worshipped you, Son of the Most High, Son of a Virgin, God become a little child. Now release me in peace.' [EL]

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

The Lord made known His salvation in the sight of all the Gentiles. Save us, O Son of God, who were held in the arms of righteous Symeon. we sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Hymns After the Small Entrance. Apolytikion.

From Menaion - - -

Mode 1.

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection. [SD]

From Menaion - - -

Kontakion. Mode 1.

You sanctified the virginal womb by Your birth, O Lord, and blessed the hands of Symeon fittingly, O Christ God; and even now You came and saved us. Now, give peace to our Nation in time of war, and empower our Leaders, so loved by You, the only one who loves humanity. [SD]

THE TRISAGION HYMN

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

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The Epistle

For the Feast.

Prokeimenon. Mode 3. Ode ix.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. [RSV]

Verse: *For he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.* [RSV]

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

(7:7-17)

Brethren, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of

him, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek." [RSV]

Alleluia. Mode 4.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples.* [RSV]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel.* [RSV]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel

For the Feast.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

(2:22-40)

At that time, the parents brought the child Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Symeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now let your

servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Symeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. [RSV]

Hymn to the Theotokos.

Ode ix. Heirmos.

Mode 3.

*Theotokos, as the hope * of us Christians, one and all, * guard and shelter and protect * those who put their hope in you.* [GKD]

O believers, come let us perceive * a type in the law, and the shadow and the letter. *
Every male that opens the womb shall be holy

to God. * So the unoriginate Father's firstborn Logos and Son, * who is the firstborn of the Mother who knew not man, we magnify. [SD]

Communion Hymn. Psalm 115.

I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia. [SAAS]

Selected Psalm Verses for the Feast of the Theotokos

Psalm 44

1. My heart overflowed with a good word. (44:2) [SAAS]

2. I tell my works to the King. (44:2) [SAAS]

3. My tongue is the pen of a swift-writing scribe. (44:2) [SAAS]

4. You are more beautiful than the sons of men. (44:3) [SAAS]

5. Grace was poured out on Your lips. (44:3) [SAAS]

6. Therefore God blessed You forever. (44:3) [SAAS]

7. Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One. (44:4) [SAAS]

8. In Your splendor and Your beauty. (44:4) [SAAS]

9. Stretch Your bow, and grant prosperity, and reign. (44:5) [SAAS]

10. Because of truth and goodness. (44:5) [SAAS]

11. Therefore God, Your God, anointed You. (44:8) [SAAS]

12. With the oil of gladness more than Your companions. (44:8) [SAAS]

13. The queen stood at Your right hand. (44:10) [SAAS]

14. Adorned and embroidered with various colors. (44:10) [SAAS]

15. Listen, O daughter, behold and incline your ear. (44:11) [SAAS]

16. And forget your people and your father's house. (44:11) [SAAS]

17. The rich among the people shall entreat your favor. (44:13) [SAAS]

18. I will remember your name from generation to generation. (44:18) [SAAS]

Hymn after Holy Communion. Mode 2.

We have seen the true light; we have received the heavenly Spirit; we have found the true faith, worshiping the undivided Trinity, for the Trinity has saved us. [GOA]

THE DISMISSAL

May He who condescended to be held in the arms of righteous Symeon, for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, of the holy, glorious, and triumphant martyrs, of our righteous and God-bearing fathers, **(local patron saint)**; 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 loves mankind.

Fasting Rule

Fast Free: All foods allowed.