

**Menaion - November 20**

The Forefeast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple; and Memory of our Devout Father Gregory of Decapolis; and our Father among the Saints Proclus, Archbishop of Constantinople.

**LITURGY**

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**Antiphon I. Mode 2.**

**Verse 1:** *It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing to Your name, O Most High.* [SAAS]

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

**Verse 2:** *To proclaim Your mercy in the morning and Your truth at night.* [SAAS]

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

**Verse 3:** *The Lord my God is upright, and there is no wrongdoing in Him.* [SAAS]

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

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

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

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

**Antiphon II. Mode 2.**

**Verse 1:** *The Lord reigns; He clothed Himself with majesty; the Lord clothed and girded Himself with power.* [SAAS]

*or:*

*Verse 1: Come, let us greatly rejoice in the Lord; let us shout aloud to God our savior.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

**Verse 2:** *And He established the world, which shall not be moved.* [SAAS]

*or:*

*Verse 2: Let us come before His face with thanksgiving, and let us shout aloud to Him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, a great King over all the earth.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia.

**Verse 3:** *Holiness is proper to Your house, O Lord, unto length of days.* [SAAS]

*or:*

*Verse 3: For in His hand are the ends of the earth, and the heights of the mountains are His. For the sea is His, and He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia.

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

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

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.**

**Apolytikion. For the Forefeast.**

From Menaion - - -

**Mode 4. *Come quickly.***

Today righteous Anna solicits joy for us  
all, \* the opposite of pain and sorrow, having  
brought forth her fruit, \* the only ever-virgin  
Maid; \* and today in fulfillment of her prayer  
and her promise, \* to the Temple of the Lord  
she joyfully leads her \* who is truly the temple  
and pure \* Mother of God the Word. [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 4.**

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 for the Forefeast.**

**Ode iii. Mode 4. N/**

*M (Establish your servants.)*

From Menaion - - -

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

As the maidens accompany and lead the Virgin, holding their torches, they brightly portray what will eventually follow; for the Light of knowledge will be born of her, and He will dispel the darkness of error. [SD]

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

O all-blameless Virgin, your mother Anna emulates Hannah of the Old Testament, and in a godly manner fulfills her vow; and to the sanctuary she dedicates you, who will

conceive and give birth in a most sacred manner. [SD]

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

When the sun saw the cloud of light spreading out in the Holies of Holies at God's behest, it spread out its rays. From her, He shall shower forgiveness on those who are dried up in sins. [SD]

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

**Theotokion.**

O pure and immaculate Lady, God dwelt in you for His mercy's sake, and thus He deifies me, and though once I was beguiled with food by the serpent's deceit, He restores me to incorruptible delight instead of corruption. [SD]

**Canon for the Forefeast.**

From Menaion - - -

**Ode vi. Mode 4. N/M**

*(O godly-minded believers.)*

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

The divine parents of the Virgin were invigorated by divine grace, and with longing they dedicate her like a spotless dove to be reared in the Temple. [SD]

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

O Maiden, who will receive the Light from Light, modest maidens carry bright lamps before you, and they proceed dancing to the luminous Temple of God. [SD]

Glory.

The Virgin, that palace full of glory,  
that great echoing of the Prophets, that holy  
throne, is placed in the Holy of Holies, where  
she is prepared for the King of all. [SD]

Both now.

O Maiden, I extol your conception, I extol  
your ineffable birth, I extol your protection,  
for I am rescued from all harm when I flee to  
your calm refuge. [SD]

**Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.**

Come, let us worship and bow down  
before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who  
are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You,  
Alleluia. [GOA]

**Hymns After the Small Entrance.**

**Apolytikion. For the Forefeast.**

From Menaion ---

**Mode 4. Come quickly.**

Today righteous Anna solicits joy for us  
all, \* the opposite of pain and sorrow, having  
brought forth her fruit, \* the only ever-virgin  
Maid; \* and today in fulfillment of her prayer  
and her promise, \* to the Temple of the Lord  
she joyfully leads her \* who is truly the temple  
and pure \* Mother of God the Word. [SD]

**For the Saints.**

**Mode 4.**

O God of our Fathers, since You always  
deal with us in accordance with Your  
gentleness, do not withdraw Your mercy from  
us, but at their fervent entreaties, pilot our life  
in peace. [SD]

**Apolytikion of the Parish Church**

(The text of the Apolytikion of the local  
church goes here.)

From Menaion ---

**Kontakion of the Forefest.**

**Mode 4. You appeared today.**

On this day the whole wide world is filled  
completely \* with great joy and merriment on  
the occasion of the feast \* of the Theotokos and  
cries aloud: \* "She is the heavenly tabernacle  
indeed." [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**

WEDNESDAY OF THE TWENTY-THIRD WEEK

**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. For behold, henceforth all  
generations will call me blessed.* [RSV]

1 Th. 2:1-8

Brethren, you yourselves know that our  
visit to you was not in vain; but though we  
had already suffered and been shamefully  
treated at Philippi, as you know, we had  
courage in our God to declare to you the  
gospel of God in the face of great opposition.  
For our appeal does not spring from error or  
uncleanness, nor is it made with guile; but  
just as we have been approved by God to be  
entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not  
to please men, but to please God who tests  
our hearts. For we never used either words  
of flattery, as you know, or a cloak for greed,  
as God is witness; nor did we seek glory  
from men, whether from you or from others,  
though we might have made demands as  
apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among  
you, like a nurse taking care of her children.  
So, being affectionately desirous of you, we  
were ready to share with you not only the

gospel of God but also our very own selves, because you had become very dear to us. [RSV]

**Alleluia. Mode pl. 4. Psalm 131.**

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Verse 1:** *Arise, O Lord, into Your rest, You and the ark of Your holiness.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Verse 2:** *The Lord swore to David this truth, and He shall not reject it, "I shall set upon your throne one from the fruit of your loins."* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**The Gospel**

Wednesday of the Tenth Week of Luke

Lk. 18:15-17, 26-30

At that time, they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God." And Peter said, "Lo, we have left our homes and followed you." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there is no man who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not receive manifold more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life." [RSV]

**Hymn to the Theotokos.**

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our

God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Logos. We magnify you, the true Theotokos. [GOA]

**Communion Hymn. Psalm 115.**

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

*Strict: Refrain from meat, fish, oil, dairy, and eggs.*

*It is the Christmas fast.*