

**eMatins powered by AGES**

# The Service of Vespers

**on Friday Evening**

**for Saturday, September 21, 2019**

**Menaion - September 21  
Leave-taking of the Feast.**

**Text in English**

## Sources

AC Copyright © 2019 by Anthony Cook

VPA Copyright © 2016 by Virgil Peter Andronache

RB Copyright © 2019 by Richard Barrett

SD Copyright © 2019 by Fr. Seraphim Dedes

GKD Copyright © 2017 by Geroge K. Duvall

GOA © The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

HC Liturgical Texts courtesy and copyright of Holy Cross Press, Brookline, MA

JMB Copyright © 2015 by John Michael Boyer

EL Copyright Archimandrite Ephrem [Lash] ©

KW © Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

NKJV Scripture taken from the New King James Version™. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

OCA Copyright © 1996–2015. All rights reserved.

RSV Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1946, 1952, and 1971 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

SAAS Scripture taken from the St. Athanasius Academy Septuagint™. Copyright © 2008 by St. Athanasius Academy of Orthodox Theology. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

## Disclaimer

The translation, rubrics, Greek and English texts are for the purposes of worship only and is subject to change without notice and should not be construed as a commitment by the authors, translators, developers, and personnel associated with its publication. Efforts are taken to make this booklet complete and accurate, but no warranty of fitness is implied.

All rights reserved. The materials contained within this booklet remain the property of all contributing translators. It is published solely for the purpose of providing a source of worship materials to the parishes of the Orthodox Church and may be copied and otherwise reproduced as needed by the parish toward this end; however, it may not be reprinted, reproduced, transmitted, stored in a retrieval system, or translated into any language in any form by any means — electronic, mechanical, recording, or otherwise — for the purpose of sale without the express written permission.

## AGES DCS Website

<https://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs>

**The AGES Digital Chant Stand is supported in part by generous grants from Leadership 100 and the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians.**

**This document was produced using the AGES Liturgical Workbench. For more information, contact AGES Initiatives: [info@agesinitiatives.org](mailto:info@agesinitiatives.org)**

**Menaion - September 21**

Leave-taking of the Feast.

**VESPERS**

**PRIEST**

Blessed is our God always, now and ever,  
and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

**READER**

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

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

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

**Psalm 103 (104).**

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my  
God, You are magnified exceedingly; You  
clothe Yourself with thanksgiving and  
majesty, who cover Yourself with light as  
with a garment, who stretch out the heavens  
like a curtain; You are He who covers His  
upper chambers with water, who makes the  
clouds His means of approach, who walks  
on the wings of the winds, who makes His  
angels spirits and His ministers a flame of  
fire. He established the earth on its stable  
foundation; it shall not be moved unto ages of  
ages. The deep like a garment is His covering;  
the waters shall stand upon the mountains;  
at Your rebuke they shall flee; at the sound  
of Your thunder, they shall be afraid. The  
mountains rise up, and the plains sink down  
to the place You founded for them. You set  
a boundary they shall not pass over; neither  
shall they return to cover the earth. You are  
He who sends springs into the valley; the

waters shall pass between the mountains;  
they shall give drink to all the wild animals  
of the field; the wild asses shall quench their  
thirst; the birds of heaven shall dwell beside  
them; they shall sing from the midst of the  
rocks. You are He who waters the mountains  
from His higher places; the earth shall be  
satisfied with the fruit of Your works. You are  
He who causes grass to grow for the cattle,  
and the green plant for the service of man, to  
bring forth bread from the earth; and wine  
gladdens the heart of man, to brighten his face  
with oil; and bread strengthens man's heart.  
The trees of the plain shall be full of fruit,  
the cedars of Lebanon, which You planted;  
there the sparrows shall make their nests;  
the house of the heron takes the lead among  
them. The high mountains are for the deer; the  
cliff is a refuge for the rabbits. He made the  
moon for seasons; the sun knows its setting.  
You established darkness, and it was night,  
wherein all the wild animals of the forest  
will prowl about; the young lions roar and  
snatch their prey, and seek their food from  
God. The sun arises, and they are gathered  
together; and they shall be put to bed in their  
dens. Man shall go out to his work and to his  
labor until evening. O Lord, Your works shall  
be magnified greatly; You made all things  
in wisdom; the earth was filled with Your  
creation. There is this great and spacious sea:  
the creeping things are there without number;  
the living things are there, both small and  
great; there the ships pass through; there is  
this dragon You formed to play therein. All  
things wait upon You, that You may give  
them food in due season. When You give  
it to them, they shall gather it; when You

open Your hand, all things shall be filled with Your goodness. But when You turn Your face away, they shall be troubled; when You take away their breath, they shall die and return again to their dust. You shall send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be forever; the Lord shall be glad in His works; He looks upon the earth and makes it tremble; He touches the mountains, and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing to my God as long as I exist; may my words be pleasing to Him, and I shall be glad in the Lord. May sinners cease from the earth, and the lawless, so as to be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knows its setting. You established darkness, and it was night.

O Lord, Your works shall be magnified greatly; You made all things in wisdom. [SAAS]

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

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

Our hope, O Lord, glory to You.

*While the Opening Psalm is being read the Priest, bareheaded and standing in front of the Holy Table, says quietly the following Prayers at the Lighting of the Lamps.*

**PRIEST** (*inaudibly*)

### **1st Prayer**

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. [EL]

For to you belong all glory, honour and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **2nd Prayer**

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 harbour 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 Mother of God and of all the Saints. [EL]

For yours is the might, and yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **3rd Prayer**

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. [EL]

For you, O God, are good and love mankind, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **4th Prayer**

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 Mother of God and of all your Saints. [EL]

For to you belong all glory, honour and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### **5th Prayer**

Lord, Lord, who uphold the universe by your immaculate hand, who are long-suffering towards us all and who repent of evils, remember your acts of compassion and your mercy. Visit us in your loving kindness and grant that for the rest of the present day we may escape the manifold wiles of the evil one, and, by the grace of your All-holy Spirit, keep our life free from assault. [EL]

By the mercy and love for mankind of your Only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### 6th Prayer

O God, great and wonderful, who order the universe with inexpressible loving-kindness and rich providence; who have granted us also the blessings of this world and brought us near to the promised Kingdom through the blessings that have been bestowed on us already; who have made us turn aside from every evil during that part of the present day which is now over, grant us also to complete what remains without blame in the presence of your holy glory, as we sing your praise, who alone are our God, good and the Lover of mankind. [EL]

For you are our God and to you we give glory, to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

### 7th Prayer

Great and most high God, who alone possess immortality, who dwell in unapproachable light, who fashioned all creation with wisdom, who made the separation between the light and the darkness and who placed the sun to have authority over the day and the moon and the stars to have authority over the night, who have counted us sinners worthy even at this present hour to come into your presence with confession and thanksgiving and to offer you our evening hymn of glory; do you, O Lord who love mankind, direct our prayer like incense

before you and accept it as a savour of sweet fragrance. Grant us that the present evening and the coming night may be peaceful, clothe us with weapons of light, deliver us from every night-time fear and from every deed that walks in darkness. And give us sleep, which you have bestowed on us for our rest in our weakness, freed from every fantasy of the devil. Yes, Master of all things, giver of blessings, may we also be filled with compunction on our beds and call to mind your Name in the night, and enlightened by meditation on your commandments may we rise with gladness of soul to give glory to your loving-kindness, as we bring to your compassion supplications and entreaties on behalf of our own sins and those of all your people. At the prayers of the holy Mother of God visit them with mercy. [EL]

For you, O God, are good and love mankind, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [EL]

*When the Opening Psalm is completed the Priest, in front of the Holy Table, or the Deacon in his usual place outside the Holy Doors, says the Litany of Peace.*

**DEACON**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For pious and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For (episcopal rank) (name), for the honorable presbyterate, for the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For our country, for the president, and for all in public service, let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(To You, O Lord.)*

**PRIEST**

For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

**CHOIR**

**Mode pl. 2.**

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. [SAAS]

Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord. [SAAS]

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, a door of enclosure about my lips.

Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.

With men who work lawlessness; and I will not join with their choice ones.



The righteous man shall correct me with mercy,  
and he shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner  
anoint my head.

For my prayer shall be intense in the presence of  
their pleasures. Their judges are swallowed up by the  
rock.

They shall hear my words, for they are pleasant.  
As a clod of ground is dashed to pieces on the earth, so  
their bones were scattered beside the grave.

For my eyes, O Lord, O Lord, are toward You; in  
You I hope; take not my soul away.

Keep me from the snares they set for me, and from  
the stumbling blocks of those who work lawlessness.

Sinners shall fall into their own net; I am alone,  
until I escape.

I cried to the Lord with my voice, with my voice I  
prayed to the Lord.

I shall pour out my supplication before Him; I  
shall declare my affliction in His presence.

When my spirit fainted within me, then You knew  
my paths.

For on the way I was going, they hid a trap for me.

I looked on my right, and saw there was no one  
who knew me.

Refuge failed me, and there was no one who cared  
for my soul.

I cried to You, O Lord; I said, "You are my hope,  
my portion in the land of the living."

Attend to my supplication, for I was humbled  
exceedingly.

Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are  
stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of prison to give thanks to Your  
name, O Lord.

The righteous shall wait for me, until You reward  
me.

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; O  
Lord, hear my voice.

Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my  
supplication.

From Menaion - - -

**Mode pl. 2. When the saints deposited.**

*If You, O Lord, should mark transgression, O  
Lord, who would stand? For there is forgiveness  
with You.* [SAAS]

The Cross is exalted now \* and it invites  
all creation \* to praise the immaculate \*  
Passion of the Lord who was lifted up on  
it. \* For when He slew thereon \* him who  
had murdered us, \* He gave life again to  
us the dead, \* and made us beautiful, \* and  
He granted us to be citizens \* of heaven,  
as Compassionate, \* due to His exceeding  
benevolence. \* Therefore let us greatly \*  
rejoice as we exalt His holy name, \* and let us  
magnify His divine \* extreme condescension  
to us. [SD]

*Because of Your law, O Lord, I waited for You;  
my soul waited for Your word. My soul hopes in  
the Lord.* [SAAS]

The Cross is exalted now \* and it invites  
all creation \* to praise the immaculate \*  
Passion of the Lord who was lifted up on  
it. \* For when He slew thereon \* him who  
had murdered us, \* He gave life again to  
us the dead, \* and made us beautiful, \* and  
He granted us to be citizens \* of heaven,  
as Compassionate, \* due to His exceeding  
benevolence. \* Therefore let us greatly \*  
rejoice as we exalt His holy name, \* and let us  
magnify His divine \* extreme condescension  
to us. [SD]



*From the morning watch until night; from the morning watch until night, let Israel hope in the Lord.* [SAAS]

Moses once prefigured you \* when he extended his arms up \* and he routed utterly \* Amalek the tyrant king, \* O most precious Cross; \* the believers' pride and joy, \* Martyr-athletes' support, \* the Apostles' badge and ornament, \* defender of the Just \* and the preservation of the Devout. \* And all creation seeing you \* lifted high is therefore rejoicing now, \* and is celebrating \* and glorifying Christ who has through you \* united those that were separate, \* in His extreme benevolence. [SD]

*For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption; and He shall redeem Israel from all his transgressions.* [SAAS]

Moses once prefigured you \* when he extended his arms up \* and he routed utterly \* Amalek the tyrant king, \* O most precious Cross; \* the believers' pride and joy, \* Martyr-athletes' support, \* the Apostles' badge and ornament, \* defender of the Just \* and the preservation of the Devout. \* And all creation seeing you \* lifted high is therefore rejoicing now, \* and is celebrating \* and glorifying Christ who has through you \* united those that were separate, \* in His extreme benevolence. [SD]

*Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; praise Him, all you peoples.* [SAAS]

O Cross, most revered by all, \* and which the orders of Angels \* joyously surround, today \* at your exaltation now \* by divine command, \* you exalt everyone \* who had been evicted \* and who fell completely into

death \* for having stolen fruit; \* therefore we are faithfully kissing you \* with hearts and lips caressing you \* and thus are deriving the sanctity; \* and shouting, "Exalt Christ \* the Lord our God who is exceeding good, \* and also worship and venerate \* His divine footstool, the Cross." [SD]

*For His mercy rules over us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.* [SAAS]

O Cross, most revered by all, \* and which the orders of Angels \* joyously surround, today \* at your exaltation now \* by divine command, \* you exalt everyone \* who had been evicted \* and who fell completely into death \* for having stolen fruit; \* therefore we are faithfully kissing you \* with hearts and lips caressing you \* and thus are deriving the sanctity; \* and shouting, "Exalt Christ \* the Lord our God who is exceeding good, \* and also worship and venerate \* His divine footstool, the Cross." [SD]

Glory. Both now.

From Menaion - - -

## Mode 2.

Come, all you nations, let us worship the blessed tree, through which has come the eternal vindication. For he who deceived our forefather Adam by means of a tree is himself ensnared by the Cross. And he falls headlong tumbling down, who formerly held the royal masterwork in tyranny. By the blood of God, the venom of the serpent is washed away, and the curse is lifted of the just sentence by the unjust sentence on the Righteous One who was condemned. For it was necessary to remedy tree by tree, and to put an end to the passions suffered by the condemned at the tree by the Passion of the Passionless

One. And therefore, glory, O Christ the King, glory to the awesome plan for our salvation, by which You saved everyone, since You are good and You love mankind. [SD]

*(No Entrance)*

**READER**

Gladsome light of holy glory of the holy, blessed, heavenly, immortal Father, O Jesus Christ: arriving at the hour of sunset and having seen the evening light, we praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. It is worthy for You to be praised at all times with happy voices, O Son of God and Giver of life; \* and therefore the world glorifies You. [SD]

**DEACON**

The evening Prokeimenon.

**CHOIR**

**Prokeimenon. Grave Mode.**

You are my protector, O God. Your mercy shall go before me. (2) [SAAS]

**Verse:** *Rescue me from my enemies, O God, and redeem me from those who rise up against me.*

You are my protector, O God. Your mercy shall go before me.

**DEACON**

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

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)*

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)*

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)*

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians residing and visiting in this city: the parishioners, the members of the parish council, the stewards, and benefactors of this holy church.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)*

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church, and for all our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep before us, who here have been piously laid to their rest, as well as the Orthodox everywhere.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)*

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable church, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people here present who await Your great and rich mercy.

*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)*

**PRIEST**

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

**READER**

O Lord, keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is your name to the ages. Amen. O Lord, let your mercy be upon us for we have set our hope in you. Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed are you, Master, grant me understanding of your commandments. Blessed are you, Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments. Lord, your mercy is forever. Do not despise the works of your hands. To you is due praise, to you is due song, to you is due glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. [HC]

*(Amen.)*

**DEACON**

Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

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

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

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

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

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

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

For that which is good and beneficial for our souls, and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

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

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

And let us ask for a Christian end to our life, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ.

*(Grant this, O Lord.)*

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

*(To You, O Lord.)*

**PRIEST**

For You, O God, are good and love mankind, and to You we offer glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

**PRIEST**

Peace be with all.

*(And with your spirit.)*

**DEACON**

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

*(To You, O Lord.)*

**PRIEST** (*in a low voice*)

Lord our God, who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race, look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for to you, the fearful Judge who love mankind, your servants have bowed their heads and inclined their necks, not waiting for any human help, but awaiting your mercy and looking for your salvation. Guard them at every moment, during both the present evening and the approaching night, from every foe, from every hostile operation of the devil and from vain thoughts and evil desires.

**PRIEST**

May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(*Amen.*)

From Menaion - - -

**CHOIR**

**Aposticha. For the Cross.**

**Mode pl. 1. Rejoice.**

Rejoice, life-bearing Cross of the Lord, \* of true religion the invincible monument, \* the door to the blessed Garden, \* support for those who believe, \* and the Church's wall of defense all around. \* Corruption has vanished and is abolished because of you. \* Through you the power that was death's has been swallowed up, \* and from earth have we been exalted to the heavens' heights; \* panoply unassailable, \* opponent of demons all, \* the Martyrs' glory that truly adorns devoutest ascetic saints; \* the port of salvation, \* O all-precious Cross, bestowing great mercy on the world. [SD]

**Verse:** *Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at the footstool of His feet; for He is holy.* [SAAS]

Rejoice, O precious Cross of the Lord. \* Through you mankind has been released from

the primal curse; \* the sign indicating true joy, \* O wood respected by all, \* in your exaltation cursing enemies. \* For us you are help in need, and the strength of the Emperors, \* might of the righteous, and the dignity of the priests, \* for when you are signed, you redeem us from miseries. \* Rod of the power from above, \* by which we are shepherded; \* the shield of peace that the Angels in fear attend to respectfully; \* divine holy glory \* of the Master Christ who grants His great mercy to the world. [SD]

**Verse:** *God is our King before the ages; He worked salvation in the midst of the earth.* [SAAS]

Rejoice, you are the guide for the blind, \* and the physician of the sick, O most precious Cross, \* and also the resurrection \* of all who died, lifting up \* all of us who had succumbed to corruption. \* Corruption has been destroyed, and incorruptibility \* through you has blossomed, and we mortals were deified, \* and the Slanderer has been utterly stricken down. \* Seeing you lifted up today \* in the hands of the Hierarchs, \* we in turn now exalt Him who was exalted by means of you, \* and bowing before you \* we adore you, and great mercy we draw abundantly. [SD]

Glory. Both now.

From Menaion - - -

**Mode pl. 4.**

That which Moses of old prefigured in himself and thereby struck down and routed Amalek; and which David the melodist ordered to be adored, calling it Your footstool, namely Your precious Cross, O Christ our God, today we sinners venerate, kissing it with lips unworthy. And as we now extol You who deigned to be nailed thereon, to You we

cry out saying, "Count us also worthy of Your Rule, O Lord, together with the Robber, we pray." <sup>[SD]</sup>

**PRIEST**

**Song of Simeon.**

Lord, now You are letting 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 peoples. A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel. <sup>[NKJV]</sup>

**PEOPLE**

**Trisagion Prayers.**

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive 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 the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**PRIEST**

For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

*(Amen.)*

**CHOIR**

*From Menaion - - -*

**Apolytikion. For the Cross.**

**Mode 1.**

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth. (3) <sup>[GOA]</sup>

**DEACON**

Wisdom.

*(Father, bless!)*

**PRIEST**

Blessed are You, Christ our God, always now and forever and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

Make firm, Lord our God, the holy and pure faith of the pious Orthodox Christians, together with the Holy Church and this city forever.

**READER**

Amen.

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3) Father, bless!

**PRIEST**

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.

Through the prayers of our holy fathers,  
Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us  
[and save us].

*(Amen.)*