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# The Service of Vespers

**on Friday Evening**

**for Saturday, October 26, 2019**

**Menaion - October 26**

**Memory of the Holy Great Martyr Demetrios, the Myrrh-streamer;  
and Commemoration of the Earthquake.**

**Text in English**

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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**Menaion - October 26**

Memory of the Holy Great Martyr  
Demetrios, the Myrrh-streamer; and  
Commemoration of the Earthquake.

**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. 4.**

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.

### **Stichera Prosomia for the Saint.**

From Menaion - - -

#### **Mode pl. 4. What a paradoxal.**

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

What a paradoxical miracle! \* For both  
in heaven and earth \* is rejoicing perceived  
today \* clearly for the memory \* of the Martyr  
Demetrios. \* He is by angels enwreathed  
with hymns of praise, \* while from the  
faithful receiving sacred songs. \* Such was his  
martyrdom! \* Oh, how well did he compete!  
Through him the foe \* now has fallen utterly,  
for Christ defeated him. [SD]

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

What a paradoxical miracle! \* Unto the  
ends of the earth \* does Demetrios ever shine  
\* brighter than the sun by means \* of the rays  
of his miracles. \* He is illumined by never-  
setting light, \* and he enjoys the unsetting  
radiance. \* Clouds of barbarians \* by his own  
illuminations are expelled; \* illnesses are  
warded off; demons are driven away. [SD]

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

What a paradoxical miracle! \* Having  
been pierced with a spear \* for the sake of the  
name of Christ, \* thrice-blessed Demetrios \*  
every day is a two-edged sword, \* smiting the  
arrogance of the enemies, \* and also cursing  
the demons' insolence. \* Let us cry out to



him: \* "Beneath your protection keep us who observe \* your time-honored memory, O St. Demetrios." [SD]

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

You were manifestly seen as a tower of pious belief, \* firmly fixed on the rock of faith, \* in temptations resolute, \* and in perils unshakable. \* For though the mighty flood and the surging waves \* of the ungodly heavily beat on you, \* yet they did not bring down \* your unyielding perseverance. For you longed \* to be decorated with the crown of martyrdom. [SD]

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

Martyr, you have imitated Christ's life-bearing Passion by means \* of the suff'rings that you endured. \* Therefore you received His grace \* of performance of miracles. \* And you preserve those who run to you for help; \* from many dangers do you deliver them. \* Noble Demetrios, \* you have pleasing freedom in speaking with Christ. \* You are filled with glory now as you stand close to Him. [SD]

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

Dripping with your blood did you present yourself, O Martyr, to Christ \* God the Giver of life who had \* poured out His own precious blood \* for your sake, O Demetrios. \* To you He granted to share His majesty, \* and to partake in His uncreated rule \* as a reward; for you \* valiantly contended with the

cursed foe, \* totally destroying his torturous instruments. [SD]

Glory.

From Menaion - - -

### Mode pl. 2.

Today the worldwide festival of the Champion calls us together. Come then, all who are fond of feasts, let us radiantly celebrate his memorial, and salute him, saying: "Rejoice, you who by faith tore apart the tunic of impiety, and robed yourself in the courage of the Spirit. Rejoice, you who destroyed the purposes of the iniquitous with the strength that was given you by the only God. Rejoice, for when your limbs were pierced by the lance, you spiritually depicted for us the blessed Passion of Christ. Implore Him, O Demetrios, you ornament of Athletes, and pray that He rescue us from visible and invisible enemies, and that He save our souls."

[SD]

Both now.

From Menaion - - -

### Mode pl. 2.

O all-holy Lady, the help of the world and the hope of Christians, we now importune you, O good one, and we implore you, that you make your Son and Lord be gracious to us, who have sinned and are in despair. For you, O Theotokos, are able to do this, using your motherly freedom in speaking to Him. Come quickly, O immaculate one, come quickly and intervene, and deliver your people from the impending threat. In your tender mercy, despise not those who extol you. [SD]

**DEACON** *(in a low voice)*

Let us pray to the Lord.

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

**Prayer of the Entrance**

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 mankind: 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.

**DEACON**

Wisdom. Arise.

**CLERGY AND PEOPLE**

**Mode 2.**

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.

**The Readings**

From Menaion ---

**READER**

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

**DEACON**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

**READER**

*Is 63:15-20; 64:1-4a, 7-8*

Return from heaven, and look from Your holy and glorious dwelling-place. Where are Your zeal and Your strength; where is the multitude of Your mercy and Your compassion, so as to be patient with us? You are our Father, although Abraham did not know us, and Israel did not acknowledge us; but You, O Lord, are our Father. You delivered us, and from the beginning Your name was upon us. Why have you led us astray, O Lord, from Your path, and hardened our hearts so as not to fear You? Return for the sake of Your servants, for the sake of the tribes of Your inheritance, that we may inherit a small portion of Your holy mountain. For our adversaries trampled down Your sanctuary, and we have become as we were from the beginning, when You did not rule us, neither did we call upon Your name. If You open heaven, trembling shall take hold of the mountains before You, and they shall melt as wax melts before the fire. The fire shall burn up the adversaries, and the Lord's name shall be manifest among the adversaries; and the nations shall be troubled by Your presence. When You do glorious things, trembling shall take hold of the mountains because of You. From of old we have not heard, nor have our eyes seen any God but You, and Your works which You shall do for those who wait for Your mercy. For mercy shall meet with those who do righteousness, and they shall remember Your ways. And now, O Lord, You are our Father, and all we are clay, the work

of Your hands. Do not be exceedingly angry with us, and do not remember our sins in an opportune time. And now look upon us, for we are all Your people. [SAAS]

**READER**

The reading is from the Prophecy of Jeremiah.

**DEACON**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

**READER**

Jer 2:1-12

Thus says the Lord: 'I remember your compassion and youth and your love and maturity, so as to follow the Holy One of Israel,' says the Lord. 'Israel, the beginning of His harvest, was holy to the Lord. All who devour him shall transgress, and evils will come upon them,' " says the Lord. Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: "What transgression have your fathers found in Me, so as to go far from Me, to follow after vain and worthless things? They did not say, 'Where is the Lord, who led us out of the land of Egypt, who guided us in the wilderness, in an unknown and untrodden land, a land that was waterless and barren, in which no one traversed and where no son of man dwelt?' I brought you into Carmel to eat its fruit and its good things, but you entered and defiled My land, and made My heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?' But those who handle the law did not trust Me, and the shepherds acted profanely toward Me. The prophets prophesied by Baal and walked after unprofitable things. Therefore I will yet bring

charges against you," says the Lord, "and I will bring charges against the sons of your sons. For pass by the islands of Chettim and see. Send to Kedar and consider diligently. See if such things happened, whether nations will change their gods; though they are not gods. But My people changed their glory to a glory from which they will not profit. Heaven was amazed at this and was exceedingly horror-struck," says the Lord. [SAAS]

**READER**

The reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon.

**DEACON**

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

**READER**

WSol 3:1-9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torture will ever touch them. In the eyes of the undiscerning they seemed to have died, and their departure was considered to be misfortune, and their passage from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in man's view they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Though chastened in a few things, great kindness will be shown them, for God tested them and found them worthy of Himself. He tested them like gold in a furnace and accepted them as a whole burnt offering. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and they will run about like sparks through straw. They will judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall reign over them unto the ages. Those who trust in Him will understand truth, and the faithful shall continue with Him in

love, because grace and mercy are upon His elect [and He watches over His holy ones]. <sup>[SAAS]</sup>

**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. <sup>[HC]</sup>

*(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.)*

**Litany and Blessing of Loaves.**

**CHOIR**

**Idiomelon 1.**

*From Menaion - - -*

**Mode 1.**

Rejoice in the Lord, city of Thessaloniki; be glad and dance, resplendent by faith, for you possess as a treasure in your bosom Demetrios the all-renowned Athlete, and



Martyr for the truth; look and receive healings of wonders; and see how he strikes down the insolence of the Barbarians, and with thanksgiving cry out to the Saviour: Lord, glory to you! <sup>[EL]</sup>

**Idiomelon 2.**

**Mode 1.**

With the charm of songs let us make bright the present day, and let us make the struggles of the Martyr resound; for the great Demetrios is proposed for our praise. For bravely overpowering the attacks of tyrants, he leapt keenly into the stadium; and having triumphantly carried off the victory, he implores the Saviour that our souls may be saved. <sup>[EL]</sup>

Glory.

From Menaion - - -

**Mode 2.**

Christ God has taken your blameless spirit, wise Martyr Demetrios, to the dwellings beyond the world; for you became a champion of the Trinity, competing bravely in the stadium like tempered steel; pierced by a lance in your spotless side, O all-honoured, you imitated the One who was transfixed on a tree for the salvation of all the world; you received the power of healings and grant mortals cures without grudging. And so today, as we feast your falling asleep, we fittingly glorify the Lord who glorified you. <sup>[EL]</sup>

Both now.

**Mode 2.**

O greatest mystery! Seeing the wonders I proclaim the divinity, I do not deny the humanity; for Emmanuel opened the gates of nature as man, yet as God did not break the seals of virginity; but he came from the womb

as he had entered through the hearing; as he had been conceived, so he became incarnate. Impassibly he entered, ineffably he came forth, as the Prophet had said: This gate shall be shut, none shall go through it, except the Lord, the God of Israel, who has great mercy.

<sup>[EL]</sup>

**DEACON**

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 mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, forgiveness and remission of the sins of all pious and Orthodox Christians living and visiting in this city, the parishioners, the members of the Parish Council and every Ministry of this Parish, and the donors and benefactors of this holy church, and the servants of God [names] who celebrate this holy feast.

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

Again we pray for the protection of this holy church, this city and every city and land, from wrath, famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, foreign invasions, civil strife, and accidental death. That our good and loving God may be merciful, gracious and favorable to us by turning and keeping from

us all wrath and sickness, and deliver us from His just rebuke, and have mercy on us.

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

Again we pray that the Lord our God may hear the prayer of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

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

**PRIEST**

Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all those who live everywhere on earth and those far out at sea or in the air. Be gracious toward our sins, Master, and have mercy on us.

For you are a merciful and loving God, 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.

*(Amen.)*

Peace be with all.

*(And with your spirit.)*

**DEACON**

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

*(To You, O Lord.)*

**PRIEST**

Most merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the intercessions of our most pure Lady the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, the power of the precious and life giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless Powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable and glorious prophet, and forerunner John the Baptist, the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy Apostles, our Fathers among the Saints, the great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom, Athanasios, Cyril, and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas, bishop

of Myra, Spyridon, bishop of Trimythous, Nektarios of Pentapolis, the wonder-workers; the holy, glorious great Martyrs George the Victorious, Theodore the Teron, and Theodore the General, Menas the Wonderworker, the Hieromartyrs Haralambos and Eleftherios; the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; the glorious great Martyr and all-laudable Euphemia; the holy and glorious Martyrs Thecla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriake, Fotene, Marina, Paraskeve and Irene; of our holy God-bearing Fathers; (local patron saint); the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, of the holy and glorious Great Martyr Demetrios, the Myrrh-streamer, whose memory we celebrate; and of all your Saints.

Accept our prayer; grant us forgiveness of our transgressions; protect us under the shelter of your wings; drive away from us every enemy and adversary; grant peace to our life; Lord have mercy on us and on your world; and save our souls as a good and loving God.

**PRIEST or: CHOIR**

**Hymn to the Theotokos.**

O Virgin Theotokos, rejoice, Mary full of grace. The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb; for you have borne the Savior of our souls <sup>[SD]</sup>

**DEACON**

Let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

**PRIEST**

**Blessing of the Loaves.**

Lord, Jesus Christ. our God, You blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and from them five thousand men were filled. Bless now these loaves, the wheat, the wine and



oil and multiply them in this holy church, this city, in the homes of those who celebrate today, and in Your whole world. And sanctify Your faithful servants who partake of them.

For You are He who blesses and sanctifies all things, Christ our God, and to You we offer up glory together with Your eternal Father and Your holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

### CLERGY

Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. [SAAS]

### CHOIR

Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. (2) [SAAS]

From Menaion - - -

### CHOIR

#### Aposticha.

#### Idiomelon 1. Mode 2.

When the earth was troubled in fear of your rage, hills and mountains were shaken, Lord; but having looked upon us with an eye of compassion, in your anger do not be enraged at us; but with compassion for the creation of your hands free us from the dread threat of earthquake, as you are good and love mankind. [EL]

#### Idiomelon 2. Mode pl. 2.

**Verse:** *You made the earth quake, and You troubled it; repair its ruins, for it was shaken.* [SAAS]

Fearful are you, Lord, and who can stand against your just rage? Or who can entreat you, or who can supplicate you, good Lord, on behalf of a people that has sinned and is in despair? The heavenly armies,

Angels, Principalities and Powers, Thrones, Dominions, the Cherubim and the Seraphim cry out to you on our behalf: Holy, Holy, Holy are you, O Lord; do not despise the works of your hands; through your compassionate mercy save a city endangered! [EL]

#### Idiomelon 3. Mode pl. 2.

**Verse:** *He looks upon the earth and makes it tremble; He touches the mountains, and they smoke.* [SAAS]

The Ninevites by their transgressions heard they would be submerged through the threat of earthquake; but by the mediating sign of the whale, repentance summoned resurrection through Jonas; but as you took pity and accepted them, at the cry of your people with the children and beasts, through your Resurrection on the third day spare us too who are being punished, and have mercy.

[EL]

Glory.

From Menaion - - -

#### Mode pl. 4.

Your most divine and blameless soul has its dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem, whose walls have been adorned by the immaculate hands of the invisible God, O honorable Demetrios. And on earth your famous church holds your all honored and most valiant body, a secure treasure of miracles, and a protection against disease. When we come to it we receive the cures. O all praised Saint, guard the city which magnifies you from enemy assaults; for you have confidence towards Christ who glorified you. [SD]

From Octoechos - - -

Both now. **Theotokion.**

**Mode pl. 4.**

O Virgin who did not know man and yet ineffably conceived God in the flesh, Mother of the Most High God, accept entreaties from your supplicants, All-blameless one. To all you grant purification of their offenses. We pray you now accept our supplications, and entreat Him, to save us all. [SD]

**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. [NKJV]

**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**

**Apolytikion.**

From Menaion - - -

**Mode 3. Your confession.**

All the world has you, its mighty champion, \* fortifying us in times of danger, \* and defeating our foes, O Victorious One. \* So, as you humbled Lyaïos's arrogance \* by giving courage to Nestor in the stadium, \* thus, O holy Great Martyr Demetrios, \* to Christ our God pray fervently, \* beseeching Him to grant us His great mercy. [SD]

Glory. Both now. **For the Earthquake.**

From Menaion - - -

**Mode pl. 4.**

You who look upon the earth and make it tremble, deliver us from the frightful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. Send down Your abundant mercies on us, at the intercession of the Theotokos, O Lord and only Friend of humanity. [SD]

**DEACON**

Let us pray to the Lord.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

**PRIEST**

May the blessing and the mercy of the Lord come upon you by His divine grace and

love for mankind, 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.

*Optional:*

**PRIEST**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

**READER**

*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.*

**PRIEST**

Glory to You, O Christ God, our hope.  
Glory to You.

**READER**

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, of the

holy and glorious Great Martyr Demetrios, the  
Myrrh-streamer, whose memory we celebrate;  
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.)*