

eMatins powered by AGES

The Service of Matins

for Sunday, December 22, 2019

**Octoechos - Mode 2.
on Sunday Morning**

Eothion 5

**Menaion - December 18-24
Sunday Before Christmas**

Katavasias of Christmas I

Text in English

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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Octoechos

Mode 2.

On Sunday Morning

Menaion

December 22

Sunday Before Christmas

MATINS

CHOIR

Mode 2.

God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. [SAAS]

Verse 1: *Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name.*

or: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

Verse 2: *All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I defended myself against them.*

Verse 3: *And this came about from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes.*

From Octoechos ---

Resurrectional Apolytikion.

Mode 2.

When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You. [SD]

Glory. **For the Fathers.**

Mode 2.

Magnificent are the accomplishments of faith! The holy Three Servants greatly rejoiced, as they stood in the fountain of fire, as if

beside the still waters; and the Prophet Daniel appeared to be a shepherd of lions, as if they were sheep. At their entreaties, O Christ God, save our souls. [SD]

Both now. **For the Forefeast.**

Mode 4.

O Bethlehem, prepare, Eden is opened unto all. * And be ready, Ephrata, for the Tree of life * has in the grotto blossomed forth from the Virgin. * Indeed her womb is shown to be spiritually * a Paradise, in which is found the God-planted Tree. * And if we eat from it we shall live, and shall not die, as did Adam of old. * Christ is born, so that He might raise up * the formerly fallen image. [SD]

PRIEST

Again and again, in peace, 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.)

For Yours is the dominion, and Yours 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.)

From Octoechos - - -

CHOIR

Kathisma I.

Mode 2.

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day You arose, O Lord, and granted the world Your great mercy. [SD]

Glory.

The Angel standing at the sepulcher cried out and said to the ointment-bearing women: The ointments are appropriate for mortal men, but Christ has been shown to be a stranger to decay. So go and cry aloud, The Lord has risen and granted the world His great mercy. [SD]

Both now. **For the Forefeast.**

Mode pl. 2. *When the angelic powers.*

The sayings of the Prophets are being now fulfilled, * for our God shall be born in the days to come * ineffably from Mary the Virgin, and He remains * what He was before childbirth. * The Magi have been gathered, bearing their precious gifts. * In the fields are the shepherds. And we sing a hymn to Him * who from a Virgin was born, "Glory to You, O Lord." [SD]

From Octoechos - - -

Kathisma II.

Mode 2.

Not barring the stone of the tomb from being sealed shut, You rose and You granted unto all the rock of faith. Glory to You, O Lord. [SD]

Glory.

The host of Your Disciples and the ointment-bearing women are with one accord

exulting. Together with them we celebrate a common feast to glorify and honor Your Resurrection. And through them, O Lord who love humanity, bestow on Your people the great mercy. [SD]

Both now. **For the Forefeast.**

Mode pl. 4. *Automelon.*

The army of the Angels appearing silenced * the song of shepherds pipes. And the Angel uttered, * Stop in the field abiding, * O you the governors of animals. * Cry out in exaltation, * for Christ the Lord has been born today. * It is His will to save the human race, * as God, in His good pleasure. [SD]

Resurrectional Evlogetaria.

Mode pl. 1.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes.

When the hosts of the Angels saw how You were accounted among the dead, they all marveled. You, O Savior, are the One who destroyed the might of death; and when You arose You raised Adam with yourself and from Hades liberated everyone. [SD]

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes.

"Why do you mingle the ointments with your tears full of pity, O women disciples?" Thus the Angel who was shining in the tomb cried to the myrrh-bearing women. "See for yourselves the empty tomb and understand, that the Savior has risen from the sepulcher."

[SD]

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes.

Very early in the morning, the myrrh-bearing women were hastening to Your tomb lamenting. But the Angel appeared to them and uttered, "The time for lamentation has ended; weep no more. Go announce the Resurrection to the Apostles." [SD]

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes.

When the myrrh-bearing women had come with their spices to Your sepulcher, O Savior, they heard the voice of an Angel clearly speaking to them, "Why do you account among the dead the One who lives? For as God, He has risen from the sepulcher." [SD]

Glory.

We bow down in worship to the Father and His Son and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, one in essence; and we cry aloud with the Seraphim: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O Lord. [SD]

Both now.

Giving birth to the Giver of life, O Virgin, you delivered Adam from sin, and to Eve you have rendered joy in place of sorrow. He who from you became incarnate, God and man, has directed to life him who fell from it. [SD]

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

DEACON

Again and again, in peace, 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 blessed is your name, and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

READER

From Octoechos - - -

Hypakoe. Mode 2.

After the Passion, O Christ God, the women went to the tomb to anoint Your body, and they saw Angels in the sepulcher, and they were amazed. For they heard them saying that the Lord has risen and granted the world the great mercy. [SD]

CHOIR

Anavathmoi.

Antiphon I. Mode 2.

Savior, I direct the eyes of my heart unto You in heaven. Save me, I pray, shining on me Your resplendence. [SD]

Have mercy, O my Christ, on us who hourly commit sin against You manifoldly; and give us means before the end to turn to You in repentance. [SD]

Glory. Both now.

To the Holy Spirit is it proper to rule and to hallow and to move creation; for He is God, coessential with the Father and the Logos. [SD]

Antiphon II.

If the Lord were not among us, who would be sufficient to preserve himself uninjured from the enemy and murderer of mankind? [SD]

Hand me not to the teeth of my enemies, O my Savior; for in the manner of a lion they come against me Your servant. [SD]

Glory. Both now.

In the Holy Spirit is life-source and honor: being as He is God, in the Father through the Son He strengthens and sustains every creature. [SD]

Antiphon III.

They whose confidence is in the Lord are like the holy mountain: they are in no way shaken by the assaults of Belial. [SD]

Let those who live for God not stretch forth their hands in unlawful acts; for Christ will not suffer His lot to be oppressed by the rod of sinners. [SD]

Glory. Both now.

From the Holy Spirit does in addition all wisdom also issue; whence is grace to the Apostles, and the Martyrs for their contests receive the crowns, and the Prophets are seers. [SD]

Prokeimenon.

Awaken, O Lord my God, in the ordinance You commanded, so the

congregation of the peoples shall surround You. (2)

Verse: *O Lord my God in You I hope.*

Awaken, O Lord my God, in the ordinance You commanded, so the congregation of the peoples shall surround You. [SAAS]

From Menaion - - -

READER

Hypakoe. Mode pl. 4.

An Angel turned the furnace of the Youths to dew, while now he halts the women's lamentation, saying: Why do you bring sweet spices here? Whom do you seek in a tomb? Christ God has risen, for he is the life and salvation of the human race. [EL]

From Octoechos - - -

Resurrectional Kontakion.

You rose from the tomb, O Savior all-powerful, and Hades beheld the marvel and was struck with fear, and the dead were rising up, and creation beholds and rejoices with You, and Adam is also exultant; O my Savior, and the world ever sings Your praise. [SD]

Oikos.

You are the light of those in darkness, You are the resurrection of all and the life of mortals, and with yourself You resurrected everyone, O Savior, despoiling the dominion of death, and smashing the gates of Hades, O Word. The mortals, beholding the miracle, marvelled, and all creation rejoices in Your Resurrection, O Lover of mankind. Therefore we all glorify and extol Your condescension; O my Savior, and the world ever sings Your praise. [GKD]

From Menaion - - -

Kontakion. For the Forefeast.

O Bethlehem, be glad, Ephrata, now be ready. * Behold, the human Ewe comes in haste to deliver * the great Shepherd, whom she bears * as a babe in her virgin womb. * And beholding Him, God-bearing Fathers and Shepherds * now exult in Him, and they sing praises extolling * the Virgin who nurses Him.

[SD]

Oikos.

Perceiving the splendor of your childbirth shine forth, O Virgin, God-loving Abraham and the renowned Isaac and Jacob and the entire choir of saints assembled by God all rejoice. They have brought creation to greet you with joyful words. For you are the cause of joy for all, having conceived in your womb the very One who was seen in Babylon of old, and in a manner passing all understanding preserved unscathed the Servants who were thrown unjustly into the furnace. Therefore they sing praises to the One who was seen in the arms of the Maiden, extolling the Virgin who nurses Him. [SD]

Synaxarion.

From the Menaion.

On December 22, we commemorate the holy Great Martyr Anastasia Pharmacolytria.

On this day we also commemorate the holy Martyr Chrysogonos.

On this day we also commemorate the holy Martyr Theodota and her children.

On this day we also commemorate the holy Martyr Zoilos.

On this day was the door-opening of the Great Church of God.

On this day was the procession with lights at the Church of God.

On this day, the Sunday before the Nativity of Christ, we have been enjoined by our holy and God-bearing Fathers to commemorate all those who from the beginning of time were well-pleasing to God, from Adam to Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, according to the genealogy, as the Evangelist Luke enumerated in historical order; and also the Prophets and Prophetesses.

We commemorate Adam and Eve, the first fashioned.

We commemorate the righteous Abel, the son of Adam.

We commemorate the righteous Seth, the son of Adam.

We commemorate the righteous Enosh, the son of Seth.

We commemorate the righteous Cainan, the son of Enosh.

We commemorate the righteous Mahalalel, the son of Cainan.

We commemorate the righteous Jared, the son of Mahalalel.

We commemorate the righteous Enoch, the son of Jared.

We commemorate the righteous Methuselah, the son of Enoch.

We commemorate the righteous Lamech, the son of Methuselah.

We commemorate the righteous Noah, the son of Lamech.

We commemorate the righteous Shem, the son of Noah.

We commemorate the righteous Japheth, the son of Noah.

We commemorate the righteous Arphaxad, the son of Shem.

We commemorate the righteous Cainan, the son of Arphaxad.

We commemorate the righteous Shelah, the son of Cainan.

We commemorate the righteous Eber, from whom the Jews were called Hebrews.

We commemorate the righteous Peleg, the son of Eber.

We commemorate Reu, the son of Peleg.

We commemorate the righteous Serug, the son of Reu.

We commemorate the righteous Nahor, the son of Serug.

We commemorate the righteous Terah, the son of Nahor.

We commemorate the righteous Patriarch Abraham, the son of Terah.

We commemorate the Patriarch Isaac, the son of Abraham.

We commemorate the Patriarch Jacob, the son of Isaac.

We commemorate the Patriarch Reuben, the son of Jacob.

We commemorate the Patriarch Simeon, the son of Jacob.

We commemorate the Patriarch Levi, the son of Jacob.

We commemorate the Patriarch Judah, the son of Jacob, from whose tribe Christ was born.

We commemorate the Patriarch Zebulun, the son of Jacob, whose tribe was by the sea.

We commemorate the Patriarch Issachar, the son of Jacob, whose tribe cultivated the earth.

We commemorate the Patriarch Dan, the son of Jacob, whose tribe was the tribe of Judges.

We commemorate the Patriarch Gad, the son of Jacob, whose tribe is plundered and plundering.

We commemorate the Patriarch Asher, the son of Jacob, whose tribe was wealthy in wheatlands.

We commemorate the Patriarch Naphtali, the son of Jacob, whose tribe became a great multitude.

We commemorate the Patriarch Joseph, the son of Jacob, whose tribe was right glorious and illustrious.

We commemorate the Patriarch Benjamin, the son of Jacob, whose tribe, though once fierce, became gentle.

We commemorate Perez and Zerah, the twins, the sons of Judah the Patriarch.

We commemorate Hezron, the son of Perez.

We commemorate Ram, the son of Hezron.

We commemorate Amminadab, the son of Ram.

We commemorate Nahshon, the son of Amminadab.

We commemorate Salmon, the son of Nahshon.

We commemorate Boaz, the son of Salmon.

We commemorate Obed, the son of Boaz by Ruth.

We commemorate Jesse, the son of Obed.

We commemorate David the King, the son of Jesse.

We commemorate Solomon the King, the son of David.

We commemorate Rehoboam the King, the son of Solomon.

We commemorate Abijah the King, the son of Rehoboam.

We commemorate Asa the King, the son of Abijah.

We commemorate Jehoshaphat the King, the son of Asa.

We commemorate Joram the King, the son of Jehoshaphat.

We commemorate Uzziah the King, the son of Joram.

We commemorate Jotham the King, the son of Uzziah.

We commemorate Ahaz the King, the son of Jotham.

We commemorate Hezekiah the King, the son of Ahaz.

We commemorate Manasseh the King, the son of Hezekiah.

We commemorate Amon the King, the son of Manasseh.

We commemorate Josiah the King son of Amon.

We commemorate Jeconiah the King, the son of Josiah.

We commemorate Shealtiel, the son of Jeconiah.

We commemorate Zerubbabel, who again raised up the Temple in Jerusalem when it had been burned.

We commemorate Abiud, the son of Zerubbabel.

We commemorate Eliakim, the son of Abiud.

We commemorate Azor, the son of Eliakim.

We commemorate Zadok, the son of Azor.

We commemorate Achim, the son of Zadok.

We commemorate Eliud, the son of Achim.

We commemorate Eleazar, the son of Eliud.

We commemorate Matthan, the son of Eleazar.

We commemorate Jacob, the son of Matthan.

We commemorate Joseph the Betrothed,
the son of Jacob.

We commemorate the righteous
Melchizedek.

We commemorate the righteous Job.

We commemorate the Prophet Moses, and
Hur and Aaron the Priests.

We commemorate Joshua the son of Nun.

We commemorate the holy Prophet
Samuel.

We commemorate the Prophet Nathan.

We commemorate the holy Prophet
Daniel.

We commemorate the holy Three
Servants.

We commemorate the righteous Sarah, the
wife of Abraham.

We commemorate the righteous Rebecca,
the wife of Isaac.

We commemorate the righteous Leah, the
first wife of Jacob.

We commemorate the righteous Rachel,
the second wife of Jacob.

We commemorate the righteous Asenath,
the wife of Joseph the All-comely.

We commemorate the righteous Miriam,
the sister of Moses.

We commemorate the righteous Deborah,
who judged Israel.

We commemorate the righteous Ruth.

We commemorate the righteous Widow of
Zarephath, unto whom Elijah was sent.

We commemorate the righteous
Shunammite Woman, the gave hospitality to
Elisha.

We commemorate the righteous Judith,
who slew Holofernes.

We commemorate the righteous Esther,
who delivered Israel from death.

We commemorate the righteous Hannah,
the mother of Samuel the Prophet.

We commemorate the righteous Susanna.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have
mercy on us and save us. Amen.

CHOIR

Katavasia of Christmas I

Ode i. Mode 1.

Christ is born; glorify Him! * Christ is
come from heaven; go and meet Him. * Christ
is on earth; arise to Him. * Sing to the Lord, all
you who dwell on the earth; * and in merry
spirits, O you peoples, praise His birth. * For
He is glorified. [SD]

Ode iii.

To the Son, begotten * without flux, of the
Father, before the ages, * and who was lately
made incarnate * of the Virgin without seed; *
to Christ God now let us cry aloud: * You have
exalted the horn of our strength. Only You are
holy, O Lord. [SD]

Ode iv.

Jesse's root produced a branch, O Christ, *
and You its flower blossomed forth, * from the
Virgin who by Habakkuk prophetically once
was called * overshadowed, dense mountain.

* From her who knew not man You came

incarnate, * the immaterial God. * Glory to
Your power, O Lord. [SD]

Ode v.

God of peace and Father of mercies,
Your Son * You have sent unto us as Your
messenger, * the Angel of great counsel who
is granting peace. * Therefore having been
guided to the light of godly knowledge, *
waking from the night to dawn, we sing Your
glory, O Lover of man. [SD]

Ode vi.

Such as it received * Jonah as an embryo,
the sea beast disgorged him from its bowels
intact. * With the Virgin, though, when the
Logos had dwelt in her taking on flesh, *
He came forth from her preserving her yet
incorrupt. * For from her no fluxion suffered
He, * and He kept her unaltered in childbirth.
[SD]

Ode vii.

The Servants nurtured piously together,
* with contempt regarding the impious
king's decree, * intrepidly faced the threat of
holocaust, * and while standing in the midst of
flames they chanted thus, * saying: O God of
the fathers, You are blessed. [SD]

Ode viii.

*We praise and we bless and we worship the
Lord.*

Babylon's bedewing furnace bore the
image * of an extraordinary wonder. * For
it did not burn the youths it accepted, *
nor did the fire of Divinity consume the
Virgin's womb wherein it went. * So let us
melodiously chant in praise: * Let all creation

bless and extol the Lord, * and let it exalt Him
supremely to the ages. [SD]

DEACON

Let us pray to the Lord.
(Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

For you are holy, our God, who rest
among the Saints, 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.

CHOIR

Amen.

Mode 2.

Let everything that breathes praise the
Lord. (2) Let everything that breathes praise
the Lord. [SAAS]

DEACON

Let us pray to the Lord our God that we
may be made worthy to hear the holy Gospel.
*(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy.)*

DEACON

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the Holy
Gospel.

PRIEST

Peace be with all.
(And with your spirit.)

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel
according to Luke.

DEACON

Let us be attentive.
(Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.)

PRIEST *(from the altar table)*

Eothinon 5
Luke. 24:12-35

At that time, [Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home wondering at what had happened. That very day] two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing Him. And He said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" and they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered Him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And He said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered Him up to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. But we had hoped that He was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since this happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find His body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that He was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but Him they did not see."

And He said to them, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was not it necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into this glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, but they constrained Him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So He went in to stay with them. When He was at table with them, He took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished out of their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how He was known to them in the breaking of the bread. [RSV]

(Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.)

READER

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. Your Cross, O Christ, we venerate, and Your holy Resurrection we praise and glorify. For You are our God; apart from You we know no other; we call upon Your name. Come, all faithful, let us venerate the holy Resurrection of Christ; for behold, through

the Cross, joy has come to the whole world.
Ever blessing the Lord, let us praise His
Resurrection; for having endured the Cross for
us, He destroyed death by death. [GOA]

CHOIR

Psalm 50 (51).

Mode 2. *(or the Mode of the week)*

[Merciful,] Have mercy on me, O God,
according to Your great mercy; and according
to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out
my transgression.

Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my lawlessness, and my sin is
always before me.

Against You only have I sinned and done
evil in Your sight; that You may be justified
in Your words, and overcome when You are
judged.

For behold, I was conceived in
transgressions, and in sins my mother bore
me.

Behold, You love truth; You showed
me the unknown and secret things of Your
wisdom.

You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I
will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will
be made whiter than snow.

You shall make me hear joy and gladness;
my bones that were humbled shall greatly
rejoice.

Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out
all my transgressions.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and
renew a right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from Your presence,
and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
and uphold me with Your guiding Spirit.

I will teach transgressors Your ways, and
the ungodly shall turn back to You.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall
greatly rejoice in Your righteousness.

O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my
mouth will declare Your praise.

For if You desired sacrifice, I would give
it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt
offerings.

A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a
broken and humbled heart God will not
despise.

Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure
to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.

Then You will be pleased with a sacrifice
of righteousness, with offerings and whole
burnt offerings.

Then shall they offer young bulls on Your
altar. And have mercy on me, O God. [SAAS]

Glory.

At the intercession of the Apostles, O Lord
of mercy, blot out my many offences. [SD]

Both now.

At the intercession of the Theotokos, O
Lord of mercy, blot out my many offences. [SD]

Verse: *Have mercy on me, O God, according
to Your great mercy; and according to the*

abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression.

Jesus, having risen from the grave as He foretold, has granted us eternal life and great mercy. ^[SD]

DEACON

O God, save your people and bless your inheritance. Look upon your world with mercy and compassion. Raise the Orthodox Christians in glory, and send down upon us your rich mercies, 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, Demetrios the Myrobletes, 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, all those who from the beginning of time were well-pleasing to God, from Adam to Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, whose memory we observe; and of all your Saints. We beseech

you, only merciful Lord, hear us sinners who pray to you and have mercy on us.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy. **(12)**

PRIEST

Through the mercy, compassion, and love of mankind of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

DEACON

Let us honor and magnify in song the Theotokos and the Mother of the light.

CHOIR

Ode ix.

Megalynarion. Mode 1.

Verse: *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.* ^[NKJV]

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. ^[SD]

Verse: *For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.* ^[NKJV]

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. ^[SD]

Verse: *For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His*

mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Verse: *He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.* [NKJV]

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. [SD]

Ode ix. Katavasia. Mode 1.

O my soul, magnify her who is greater in honor and in glory than the armies of heaven.

I see here a strange and paradoxical mystery. * For, behold, the grotto is heaven; * cherubic throne is the Virgin; * the manger a grand space * in which Christ our God the uncontainable reclined as a babe; * Whom in extolling do we magnify. [SD]

DEACON

Again and again, in peace, 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 all the powers of heaven praise You and give You glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Mode 2.

Holy is the Lord our God. (2) [SAAS]

Holy is the Lord our God. Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at the footstool of His feet.

For He is holy.

From Octoechos - - -

Exaposteilarion.

The Fifth Eothinon.

Mode 2. *On the mountain.*

When Christ who is the life and way *
had from the dead arisen, * He went with
Luke and Cleopas, * who dining recognized
Him * breaking the bread in Emmaus. * Their
souls and hearts within them * were burning
while He talked to them * on the road and
interpreted unto them * in the scriptures all
the things He had suffered. * With them cry
out that He arose * and has appeared to Peter.

[SD]

From Menaion - - -

For the Forefathers.

Mode 2. *On the mountain.*

The foremost of the Patriarchs,* Fathers
before the Law came,* brightly shone forth by
means of faith,* Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,*
as very bright luminaries.* Thereafter all the
Prophets* and all the Righteous were from
them* lit up as lamps, and thus they began
to shine;* Therefore by the rays of their God-
inspired* Prophecy they illumined all* the
bedarkened creation. [SD]

From Menaion - - -

For the Forefeast.

Mode 2. *On the mountain.*

O Bethlehem, rejoice; and you * Ephrata,
now make ready. * The Theotokos comes to
give * birth unto God ineffably * in a cave and
a manger. * O! what an awesome mystery. *
Prophets and all the Patriarchs, * Abraham,
Isaac, Jacob and all the rest, * now together
merrily keep the Forefeast * of His divine
Nativity* with mankind and the angels. [SD]

Lauds. Mode 2.

Let everything that breathes praise the
Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise
Him in the highest. It is fitting to sing a hymn
to You, O God. [SAAS]

Praise Him, all you His angels; praise
Him, all you His hosts. It is fitting to sing a
hymn to You, O God. [SAAS]

Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you
stars and light.

Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you
waters above the heavens. Let them praise the Lord's
name.

For He spoke, and they were made; He
commanded, and they were created.

He established them forever and unto ages of ages;
He set forth His ordinance, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you dragons and all
the deeps.

Fire and hail, snow and ice, stormy wind, which
perform His word.

Mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees and all
cedars.

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and
flying birds.

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all
judges of the earth.

Young men and maidens, elders with younger,
let them praise the Lord's name, for His name alone is
exalted.

His thanksgiving is in earth and heaven. And He
shall exalt the horn of His people.

A hymn for all His saints, for the children of Israel,
a people who draw near to Him.

Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the
assembly of His holy ones.

Let Israel be glad in Him who made him, and let
the children of Zion greatly rejoice in their King.

Let them praise His name with dance; with tambourine and harp let them sing to Him.

For the Lord is pleased with His people, and He shall exalt the gentle with salvation.

The holy ones shall boast in glory, and they shall greatly rejoice on their beds.

The high praise of God shall be in their mouth and a two-edged sword in their hand.

To deal retribution to the nations, reproof among the peoples.

To shackle their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron.

From Octoechos - - -

Resurrectional Stichera.

Sticheron 1. Mode 2.

To fulfill among them the written judgment: this glory have all His holy ones. [SAAS]

Every breath and all creation glorifies You, O Lord. For by means of the Cross You rendered death powerless, so that You might show the peoples Your Resurrection from the dead, as the only One who loves humanity. [SD]

Sticheron 2. Mode 2.

Praise God in His saints; praise Him in the firmament of His power. [SAAS]

Let the Judeans explain it, how the soldiers lost the King, since they were watching. And why did not the stone guard the Rock of life? Let them surrender Him who was buried or, if He has risen, let them worship Him and say with us: Glory to the abundance of Your tender mercies. O our Savior, glory to You. [SD]

Sticheron 3. Mode 2.

Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the abundance of His greatness. [SAAS]

Rejoice, O peoples, and be exultant. An Angel sat on the stone of the tomb. And he announced to us the good news and said: Christ has risen from the dead, as the Savior of the world; and He has filled the universe with sweet fragrance. Rejoice, O peoples, and be exultant. [SD]

Sticheron 4. Mode 2.

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet; praise Him with the harp and lyre. [SAAS]

An Angel before Your conception, O Lord, conveyed the salutation Rejoice to the Maiden full of grace. And an Angel at Your Resurrection rolled away the stone of Your glorious sepulcher. The one, instead of sorrow, was disclosing tokens of gladness. The other, instead of death, proclaimed to us the Master and Giver of life. Therefore we cry aloud unto You the Benefactor of all: O Lord, glory to You. [SD]

For the Forefathers.

Mode pl. 1. Rejoice.

Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and flute. [SAAS]

Zion the holy city of God, * lift up your voices, truly heralding the divine * memorial of the Fathers, * as you pay honor to them, * Abraham and Isaac, with Jacob the acclaimed. * With Judah and Levi, behold we now also magnify * Moses the great one, along with Aaron the God-inspired, * and we honor David and Joshua and Samuel. * All of us, striking up divine * and sacred forefestal hymns * in praise of Christ, are in earnest *

entreating Him that we may obtain * the gift of His goodness * that derives from Him who grants His great mercy to the world. [SD]

Praise Him with resounding cymbals; praise Him with triumphant cymbals; let everything that breathes praise the Lord. [SAAS]

Zion the holy city of God, * lift up your voices, truly heralding the divine * memorial of the Fathers, * as you pay honor to them, * Abraham and Isaac, with Jacob the acclaimed. * With Judah and Levi, behold we now also magnify * Moses the great one, along with Aaron the God-inspired, * and we honor David and Joshua and Samuel. * All of us, striking up divine * and sacred forefestal hymns * in praise of Christ, are in earnest * entreating Him that we may obtain * the gift of His goodness * that derives from Him who grants His great mercy to the world. [SD]

Verse: *Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, for You are praiseworthy and exalted beyond measure unto the ages.* [SAAS]

Come now Prophet Elias who once * became the rider of the divine fiery chariot, * Elisha the godly-minded, * and Hezekiah as well, * with Josiah also, together rejoice. * And you the august band of dozen Prophets inspired by God, * join in the chorus for the Savior's Nativity, * and you Righteous all sing His praises in holy song. * Trinity of the blessed Youths * who put out the furnace fire * with the dew of the Spirit, * make supplication on our behalf * to Christ importunately * and implore Him that great mercy be given to our souls. [SD]

Verse: *For You are righteous in all You did for us* [SAAS]

She who from all the ages on earth * in the predictions of the Prophets is heralded, * the Virgin and Theotokos, * has now appeared, whom the wise * Patriarchs and Righteous openly declare. * With them joining chorus is the adornment of womanhood, * Sarah, Rebecca, also Rachel and Hannah too, * as well as Moses' sister the glorious Miriam. * With them together now exult * the far reaches of the world, * and all creation rejoices. * For His nativity in the flesh * is God himself coming, * and in order to bestow His great mercy on the world. [SD]

From Menaion - - -

Glory. **For the Forefathers.**

Mode pl. 4.

The collection of the teachings of the Law makes Christ's divine Nativity in the flesh apparent to those who preached the gospel of Grace before the Law was given and were above the Law by virtue of their faith. Therefore to the souls held in Hades, they announced the Nativity beforehand, that it would be the cause of the deliverance from corruption, through the resurrection. Glory to You, O Lord. [SD]

From Octoechos - - -

Both now. **Theotokion.**

You are supremely blessed, O Virgin Theotokos. For through Him who from you became incarnate was Hades taken prisoner, and Adam has been summoned back; the curse has been neutralized, and Eve has been liberated; death has been put to death, and we have been brought to life. Therefore extolling we cry out: O Christ our God, You are blessed,

for so was Your good pleasure. Glory to You!

[SD]

Great Doxology

Glory be to You who showed the light.
Glory in the highest to God. His peace is on
earth, His good pleasure in mankind. [SD]

We praise You, we bless You, we worship
You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You
for Your great glory.

Lord King, heavenly God, Father, Ruler
over all; Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
and You, O Holy Spirit.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father, who take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us, You who take away the sins
of the world.

Accept our supplication, You who sit at
the right hand of the Father, and have mercy
on us.

For You alone are holy, You alone are
Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the
Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and Your name
will I praise to eternity, and to the ages of
ages.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, this day, that we be
kept without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our
fathers, and praised and glorified is Your
name to the ages. Amen.

Let Your mercy be on us, O Lord, as we
have set our hope on You.

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your
statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your
statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord. Teach me Your
statutes.

Lord, You have been our refuge from
generation to generation. I said: Lord, have
mercy on me. Heal my soul, for I have sinned
against You.

Lord, I have fled to You. Teach me to do
Your will, for You are my God.

For with You is the fountain of life; in
Your light we shall see light.

Continue Your mercy to those who know
You.

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.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal,
have mercy on us.

*After the Doxology, sing the following Resurrectional
Troparion.*

Mode 4. (or the Mode of the week)

Today has salvation come to pass in the
world. Let us sing to Him who resurrected
from the tomb and is the Author of our life.
For, destroying death by death, He gave us the
victory and the great mercy. [SD]