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The Service of Vespers

on Monday Evening

for Tuesday, March 12, 2019

**Triodion - On Monday of the First Week
at Vespers**

**Menaion - March 12
Memory of our St. Theophanis of Sigriani**

Text in English

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vol Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

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Triodion

On Monday of the First Week at Vespers

Menaion - March 12

Memory of our St. Theophanis of Sigriani

VESPERS

*If preceded by the Ninth Hour, Vespers begins without
"Blessed is our God..."*

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.)

After the Peace Litany and the exclamation comes the reading of the appointed Kathisma of the Psalter. In parishes today it is customary to omit the recitation of the Psalter except on festal Vespers and at Presanctified Liturgy. Many will also keep the order of reciting the First Kathisma at vespers on Saturday evening.

The appointed Psalms are offered here on separate pages for those who wish to include them.

READER

KATHISMA 18.

First Stanza.

Psalm 119 (120).

To the Lord in my affliction I cried out,
and He heard me. [SAAS]

O Lord, deliver my soul from unjust lips
and from a deceitful tongue.

What should be given You, and what
added to You, against a deceitful tongue?

The arrows of the Mighty One are
sharpened with hot coals from the desert.

Woe is me! My sojourning was prolonged;
I dwelt with the tents of Kedar. My soul
sojourned a long time as a resident alien.

With those who hate peace, I was
peaceful; when I spoke to them, they made
war against me without cause.

Psalm 120 (121).

I lifted my eyes to the mountains; from
where shall my help come? [SAAS]

My help comes from the Lord, who made
heaven and earth.

Let not your foot be moved; neither let
Him who keeps you slumber.

Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither
slumber nor sleep.

The Lord shall keep you; the Lord is your
shelter at your right hand.

The sun shall not burn you by day nor the
moon by night.

The Lord shall keep you from all evil; the
Lord shall keep your soul.

The Lord shall keep your coming in and
your going out from this present time and
unto the ages.

Psalm 121 (122).

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us
go into the house of the Lord." [SAAS]

Our feet stand in your courts, O
Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city whose
compactness is complete.

There the tribes went up, the tribes of the
Lord, a testimony to Israel, to give thanks to
the name of the Lord.

For thrones sat there for judgment,
thrones over the house of David.

Ask now for things regarding the peace
of Jerusalem, and there is prosperity for those
who love you.

Let there now be peace in your power and
prosperity in your citadels.

For the sake of my brothers and my
neighbors, I indeed spoke peace concerning
you.

For the sake of the house of the Lord our
God, I sought good things for you.

Psalm 122 (123).

I lift my eyes to You, who dwell in
heaven. [SAAS]

Behold, as the eyes of servants look to
the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the
maidservant look to the hands of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the Lord our God until He
shall have compassion on us.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy
on us, for we are greatly filled with contempt.
Our soul is greatly filled with it. We are a
disgrace to those who prosper, and a contempt
to the arrogant.

Psalm 123 (124).

"If the Lord had not been with us," let
Israel now say. [SAAS]

If the Lord had not been with us, when
men rose up against us.

Then they would have swallowed us
alive, when their anger raged against us.

Then the water would have drowned us;
our soul would have passed through a torrent.

Then our soul would have passed through
a water that is overwhelming.

Blessed is the Lord, who did not give us as
prey to their teeth.

Our soul was delivered like a sparrow
from the snare of the hunters; the snare was
broken, and we were delivered.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who
made heaven and earth.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

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)

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.

Second Stanza.

Psalm 124 (125).

Those who trust in the Lord are like
Mount Zion; he who dwells in Jerusalem shall
be unshaken forever. [SAAS]

The mountains surround her, and the
Lord surrounds His people from this present
time and unto the ages.

The Lord will not permit the rod of
sinners to be upon the inheritance of the
righteous, lest the righteous stretch out their
hands in lawlessness.

Do good, O Lord, to the good, and to the
upright in heart.

But those who turn aside to crooked ways,
the Lord shall lead away with the workers of
lawlessness. Peace be upon Israel.

Psalm 125 (126).

When the Lord returned the captives
of Zion, we became like those who are
comforted. [SAAS]

Then our mouth was filled with joy, and
our tongue with exceeding joy.

Then they shall say among the Gentiles,
"The Lord did great things with them."

The Lord has done great things with us;
we were glad.

Return, O Lord, our captivity like streams
in the south.

Those who sow with tears shall reap with
exceeding joy.

They went forth and wept, carrying their
seeds with them.

But they shall return with exceeding joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Psalm 126 (127).

Unless the Lord builds the house, those
who build it labor in vain; unless the Lord
guard the city, those who guard it stay awake
in vain. [SAAS]

It is in vain for you to rise early, to
awaken from your rest, you who eat the bread
of grief, when He gives His beloved ones
sleep.

Behold, children are the Lord's
inheritance; the fruit of the womb His reward

Like arrows in the hand of a mighty one,
so are the children of those who were outcasts.

Blessed is the man who shall fulfill his
desire with them; they shall not be ashamed,
when they speak to their enemies at the gate.

Psalm 127 (128).

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who
walk in His ways. [SAAS]

You shall eat the fruits of your labor; you
are blessed, and it shall be well with you.

Your wife shall be like a vine, prospering
on the sides of your house; your children like
newly planted olive trees around your table.

Behold, so shall the man be blessed who
fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion, and
may you see the good things of Jerusalem all
the days of your life.

May you see your children's children.
Peace be upon Israel.

Psalm 128 (129).

"Many times they warred against me from
my youth," let Israel now say. [SAAS]

Many times they warred against me from
my youth, yet they did not overcome me.

The sinners schemed behind my back;
they prolonged their lawlessness.

The righteous Lord cut in pieces the necks
of sinners.

Let all who hate Zion be shamed and
turned back.

Let them become like grass on the
housetops, which withers before it is plucked
up.

Like grass with which the reaper does not
fill his hand, nor the gatherer of sheaves, his
bosom.

Neither do those who pass by say to
them, "The Lord's blessing be upon you; in the
Lord's name, we bless you."

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

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)

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.

Third Stanza.

Psalm 129 (130).

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

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

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

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

From the morning watch until night; from the morning watch until night, let Israel hope in the Lord.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his transgressions.

Psalm 130 (131).

O Lord, my heart is not exalted, neither are my eyes raised up. [SAAS]

Neither am I carried along in great things, nor in things too marvelous for me.

If I were not humble-minded, but exalted my soul, like a child weaned from his mother, so You would reward my soul.

Let Israel hope in the Lord from this present time and unto the ages.

Psalm 131 (132).

Remember David, O Lord, and all his meekness. [SAAS]

How he swore to the Lord, how he vowed to the God of Jacob.

I shall not enter my dwelling, I shall not recline on my bed.

I shall not close my eyes in sleep nor my eyelids for dozing, nor give any rest to my temples.

Until I find a place for the Lord, a tabernacle for the God of Jacob.

Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the plains of the wood.

Let us enter into His tabernacles; let us worship at the place where His feet stood.

Arise, O Lord, into Your rest, You and the ark of Your holiness.

Your priests shall clothe themselves in righteousness; Your saints shall greatly rejoice.

For Your servant David's sake, do not turn away from the face of Your anointed.

The Lord swore to David this truth, and He shall not reject it.

I shall set upon your throne one from the fruit of your loins.

If your sons keep My covenant and these testimonies I shall teach them.

Then their sons shall sit upon your throne forever.

For the Lord has chosen Zion; He chose her for His dwelling.

This is My place of rest unto ages of ages. Here I shall dwell, for I have chosen her.

Blessing, I shall bless her provision; I shall satisfy her poor with bread.

And I shall clothe her priests with salvation, and her saints shall rejoice exceedingly with great joy.

There I shall cause to spring up a horn for David; there I prepared a lamp for my anointed.

His enemies I shall clothe with shame; upon him shall My sanctification flourish.

Psalm 133 (134).

Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. [SAAS]

In the nights, lift up your hands to the holy of holies and bless the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion, He who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 133 (134).

Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. [SAAS]

In the nights, lift up your hands to the holy of holies and bless the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion, He who made heaven and earth.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

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.

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 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.)

CHOIR

Mode 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 Triodion - - -

Mode 2.

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

Having engaged in every sin,/having surpassed all men in immorality,/although I wish to repent I do not have a flow of tears./ Since now I live in laziness/I am condemned to tortures/but grant me repentance, O Good One//and have mercy on me. [OCA]

Mode 2.

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

On the beautiful day of the fast/grant me clouds of tears, O Christ,/that I may weep and wash away the filth of my desire for sweet things/and appear before you as one who

is clean/when you, Lord, will descend from the heavens to judge all men//as the only righteous Judge! [OCA]

Mode pl. 1. N/M (God-bearing Father.)

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

Come, O faithful!/With great fervor; having the mighty weapon of the fast as a shield,/let us turn away all charms of the enemy./Let us not be scorched by the sweetness of our passions,/nor fear the fires of temptations,/for Christ the Lover of mankind will crown us with honor for patience./Let us fall down, praying with boldness, and crying out://asking peace for our souls and great mercy. [OCA]

Stichera from the Menaion.

From Menaion - - -

Mode pl. 4. What a paradoxal.

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

Father Theophanis, you were named for the Theophany * and appearance of Christ the Lord, * and you followed faithfully * in His steps that are full of life. * And you renounced the delights of earthly life, * you fixed your gaze on the beauty you so loved. * O godly-minded Saint, * through divine attraction to Him you who are * excellent were deified * indeed most perfectly. [SD]

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

Father Theophanis, you endured most bitter banishment * with great fortitude, even though * you were physically infirm; * you

neglected your body's needs. * All-lauded Saint, by the savage lions' wrath * you were exiled for the sake of the august * Icons. Triumphantly * you displayed the madness of their silly plans * and their vain unstable thoughts, * and their conceited mind. [SD]

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

Truly has the Giver of good things richly bestowed on you * the rewards for your labors all: * He gave you authority * over demons to drive them out, * and grace for curing diseases and to heal, * thrice-blessed Saint, and He granted you the joy, * which is ineffable, * where angelic regiments forever dance, * as you gaze upon the face of God the Ruler of all.

[SD]

Glory. Both now. **Theotokion.**

Mode pl. 4. What a paradoxal.

Come now, O my soul, and heave a sigh, and from the bottom of your heart * offer torrents of burning tears * to the Virgin and cry out * to the Mother of Christ our God, "In your immense tender-love deliver me * from that most frightening punishment of hell, * pure Maiden, settle me * in the place where there is rest and also joy, * holy comforts and delights for all eternity." [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.

The Readings

PRIEST

The evening...

From Triodion ---

READER

Prokeimenon. Mode pl. 2.

Psalm 3.

Salvation is of the Lord, and Your blessing is upon Your people.

O Lord, why do those who afflict me multiply?

[SAAS]

The reading is from the book of Genesis.

PRIEST

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

READER

1:1-13

In the beginning God made heaven and earth. The earth was invisible and unfinished; and darkness was over the deep. The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the water. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. God saw the light; it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day; the darkness He called Night; and there was evening and morning, one day. Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the water, and let it divide the water from the water"; and it was so. Thus God made the firmament, and God divided the water under the firmament from the water above the firmament. So God called the firmament Heaven, and God saw that it was good ; and there was evening and morning, the second day. Then God said, "Let the water under heaven be gathered together

into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. The water under heaven was gathered into its places, and the dry land appeared. So God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas; and God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the herb of grass, bearing seed according to its kind and likeness. Let the fruit tree bear fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind on earth." It was so. Thus the earth brought forth the herb of grass, bearing seed according to its kind and likeness. The fruit tree bore fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind on earth. God saw that it was good. So evening and morning were the third day. [SAAS]

Prokeimenon. Mode pl. 1.

Psalm 4.

The Lord will hear me when I cry to Him.

You heard me when I called, O God of my righteousness. [SAAS]

The reading is from the Proverbs of Solomon.

PRIEST

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

READER

1:1-20

The Proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, who reigned in Israel, to know wisdom and instruction, and to understand words of discernment; to receive both subtlety of words, and to understand true righteousness and upright judgment; so as to give astuteness to the simple, and both perception and understanding to a young man; for a wise man who hears these things will be wiser, and the man of understanding will gain direction.

He will understand both a parable and a hidden saying, both wise words and riddles. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, and there is good understanding in all who practice it; and godliness toward God is the beginning of perception, but the ungodly despise wisdom and instruction. Hear, my son, the instruction of your father, and do not reject the laws of your mother. For you will receive a crown of grace on your head and a gold chain around your neck. My son, do not let the ungodly lead you astray, and do not consent if they invite you, saying, "Come with us; take part in bloodshed, and let us hide a righteous man in the earth unjustly; and let us swallow him, just as Hades does the living, and let us take away his remembrance from the earth; let us seize his valuable property, and let us fill our houses with spoils; cast your lot with us and let us acquire a common bag; let there be one purse for us." Do not walk in the way with them, but turn away your foot from their paths. For their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood. For nets are not spread before birds for no reason, for those who participate in murder store up evils for themselves; and evil is the destruction of lawless men. These are the ways of all who accomplish lawless things, for they take away their own soul in ungodliness. Wisdom sings in the streets; she moves boldly in the squares.

[SAAS]

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 Triodion - -

CHOIR

Aposticha. From the Triodion.

Idiomelon. Mode 3.

Let us present a good fast, well-pleasing to the Lord! / A true fast is alienation from the evil one; / the holding of one's tongue, the laying aside of all anger, / the removal of all sensuality, / of accusation, falsehood and sins of swearing. // The weakening of these will make the fast true and well-pleasing. [OCA]

Verse: *I lift my eyes to You, who dwell in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the maidservant look to the hands of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God until He shall have compassion on us.* [SAAS]

Let us present a good fast, well-pleasing to the Lord! / A true fast is alienation from the evil one; / the holding of one's tongue, the laying aside of all anger, / the removal of all sensuality, / of accusation, falsehood and sins of swearing. // The weakening of these will make the fast true and well-pleasing. [OCA]

For the Martyrs.

Mode 3.

Verse: *Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for we are greatly filled with contempt; our soul is greatly filled with it. We are a disgrace to those who prosper, and a contempt to the arrogant.* [SAAS]

Great is the might of your martyrs, O Christ, / for though they lie in their tombs they drive away demons / and defeat the power

of the enemy.//They have lived their lives in battle for piety//by faith in the Trinity. [OCA]

Glory. Both now. **Theotokion.**

Mode 3.

Theotokos, protection of all who pray to you,/we have boldness, and exult in you!/
We put all our hope in you;//pray for your corrupt servants, to the One whom you bore.

[OCA]

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

From Horologion ---

Apolytikia. Mode pl. 1.

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 [SD]

O Baptist of Christ, be mindful of us all, that we may be delivered from our iniquities; for unto you was given the grace to intercede for us. [SD]

Glory.

Entreat earnestly for us, O holy Apostles and all Saints, that we be delivered from peril and affliction; for you are our fervent advocates before the Savior. [SD]

This final troparion, according to older rules, is simply recited by the Reader. In current practice, however, it is usually, sung much like the preceding hymns.

Both now.

Beneath your tender compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos. Despise not our supplications in distress, but deliver us from

all peril. You alone are pure; you alone are blessed. [SD]

READER

Lord, have mercy. (40)

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

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

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

(Amen.)

O heavenly King, uphold our rulers, strengthen the Faith, calm the nations, give peace to the world. Protect this holy Church (or, Monastery); grant our departed fathers and brethren that they may dwell with the righteous, and accept us in repentance and confession; for You are good and love mankind.

(Amen.)

Prayer of St. Ephraim

O Lord and Master of my life, do not permit the spirit of laziness and meddling, the lust for power and idle talk to come into me.

Instead, grant me, your servant, the spirit of prudence, humility, patience and love.

Yes, Lord and King, give me the power to see my own faults and not to judge my brother.

For you are blessed unto the ages of ages. Amen. [HC]

READER

Lord, have mercy. (12)

All-Holy Trinity, the consubstantial dominion, the indivisible rule, and cause of every good: be well pleased, even with regard to me a sinner. Strengthen my heart and grant it understanding, and take away all my defilement. Illumine my mind, so that I may ever glorify, praise, worship, and say: One is Holy, One is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord from this present time and unto the ages. (3)

Psalm 33 (34).

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall be praised in the Lord; let the gentle hear, and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together. I sought the Lord, and He heard me; and He delivered me from all my sojourning. Come to Him, and be enlightened, and your face shall never be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him from all his afflictions. The Angel of the Lord shall encamp around those who fear Him, and He will deliver them. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who hopes in Him. Fear the Lord, you His saints, for there is no want for those who fear Him. Rich men turned poor and went hungry; but those who seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is the man who desires life, who loves to see good days? Keep

your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. Shun evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open to their supplications. The Lord's face is against those who do evil, so as to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them; and He delivered them from all their afflictions. The Lord is near those who are brokenhearted, and He will save the humble in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but He will deliver them from them all. The Lord shall guard all their bones; not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and those who hate the righteous shall go wrong. The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants, and all who hope in Him shall not go wrong.

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. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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.)