

eMatins powered by AGES

# Small Compline and Akathist Hymn

on Friday Evening

on the eve of Saturday, April 13, 2019

Text in English

## Sources

**VPA** Copyright © 2016 by Virgil Peter Andronache

**RB** Copyright © 2019 by Richard Barrett

**SD** Copyright © 2018 by Fr. Seraphim Dedes

**GKD** Copyright © 2017 by Geroge K. Duvall

**GOA** © The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

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

**EL** Copyright Archimandrite Ephrem ©

**KW** © Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

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

**OCA** Copyright © 1996–2015. All rights reserved.

**JR** Copyright © 2014 by Fr. Juvenaly Repass

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

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

**vol** Orthodox Monastery of the Veil of our Lady

## Disclaimer

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

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

## AGES DCS Website

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

**Horologion  
Triodion**

Saturday of the Fifth Week. Akathist  
Hymn.

**Small Compline with Akathist**

**PRIEST**

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

**READER**

Amen.

**PRIEST**

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,  
present in all places and filling all things,  
treasury of good things and giver of life: come;  
take Your abode in us; cleanse us of every  
stain, and save our souls, O Good one. [HC]

**READER**

**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. [GOA]

**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.*)

**READER**

Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

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.

**Psalms 50 (51).**

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. [SAAS]

**Psalm 69 (70).**

O God, [give heed] to help me. [O Lord, make haste to help me.] May those who seek my soul be dishonored and shamed; may those who plot evils against me be turned back and disgraced; may those be turned back immediately who shame me, saying, "Well done! Well done!" May all who seek You greatly rejoice and be glad in You, and let those who love Your salvation always say, "Let God be magnified." but I am poor and

needy; O God, help me. You are my helper and deliverer, O Lord; do not delay. [SAAS]

**Psalm 142 (143).**

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear to my supplication in Your truth; answer me in Your righteousness; do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul; he humbled my life to the ground; he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, and my spirit was in anguish within me; my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me; turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning, for I hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for to You I flee for refuge. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life; in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies; You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

[SAAS]

**Doxology**

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you,

and we thank you, for your great glory. Lord, King, Heavenly God, Father Almighty; only-begotten Son, Lord Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit. Lord God, the Lamb of God, the 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 of the Father, and have mercy on us. For you are the only Holy One, you are the only Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. Every evening I shall bless you, and I shall praise your name forever, and unto the ages of ages. Lord, you have become for us a refuge from generation to generation. I have said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you. Lord, to you I have fled; 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. Extend your mercy to those who know you. Grant, O Lord, that in this night we may be kept without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is your name unto the ages. Amen. Let your mercy, Lord, come upon us, just as we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed are you, O Master, make me understand your commandments. Blessed are you, O Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments. Lord, your mercy remains forever, do not turn away from the works of your hands. To you belongs praise, to you belongs a hymn, to you belongs glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

### **The Creed**

I believe in one God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages; Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father through Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried; And He rose on the third day, according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge the living and dead. His kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets. In one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen. [GOA]

It is truly right to bless you, Theotokos, ever blessed, most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Logos. We magnify you, the true Theotokos. [GOA]

**CHOIR**

**Apolytikion. Mode pl. 4.**

When he perceived what had secretly been ordered, \* to the abode of Joseph urgently reported \* the unbodied one saying unto the Unwedded: \* "The Lord who has bowed the heavens in His descent, \* in you is contained completely and without change; \* and beholding Him in your womb \* taking the form of a slave, \* astounded I cry out to you: \* Rejoice, O unwedded Bride." (3)

**First Stanza.**

**PRIEST**

An Angel of supreme rank was sent down from heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice. (3) And perceiving You take bodily form at the sound of his bodiless voice, O Lord, he was astounded and he stood shouting to her such salutations:

Rejoice, through whom is the joy to shine forth. Rejoice, through whom is the curse to vanish.

Rejoice, restoration of Adam the fallen one. Rejoice, liberation of Eve from tears.

Rejoice, height to which the thoughts of men are hardly able to ascend. Rejoice, depth which for the Angels' eyes is very hard to apprehend.

Rejoice, for you are a throne for the King. Rejoice, for you hold the One who holds everything.

Rejoice, the star causing the Sun's manifestation. Rejoice, the womb of the divine incarnation.

Rejoice, through whom is creation re-created. Rejoice, by whom is the Creator procreated.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Beholding herself wholly kept in chastity, boldly says to Gabriel she who is holy: The exceptional tidings of your voice seem difficult for my soul to accept. For what do you mean, pregnancy by unseeded conception, crying, Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

Curious to know knowledge that is knowable to no one, the Virgin cried to the serving Angel: How is it possible for a son to be born of inviolate loins? Tell me please. And he with fear replied to her, albeit shouting thusly:

Rejoice, initiate of secret counsel. Rejoice, assurance of what calls for silence.

Rejoice, introduction to the miracles of Christ. Rejoice, consummation of His articles of faith.

Rejoice, heavenly ladder by which did God himself descend. Rejoice, bridge that conveys unto heaven earthborn men.

Rejoice, the wonder most renowned among Angels. Rejoice, the wound greatly bemourned by the demons.

Rejoice, who bear the Light inexplicably.  
Rejoice, who declare the manner to nobody.

Rejoice, transcending the knowledge  
of scholars. Rejoice, illumining minds of  
believers.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Divine power of the Most High, to effect  
her conception, overshadowed the unwedded  
Damsel; and it made her luxuriant womb  
to appear as a luscious field for everyone  
who desires to reap salvation while chanting,  
Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

Eagerly did the Virgin, hosting God  
in her body, then hasten to visit Elizabeth,  
whose own infant recognized the voice  
of her greeting at once and rejoiced in the  
womb; and with leaps and bounds for songful  
sounds, he shouted to the Theotokos:

Rejoice, the branch with its shoot  
unwithered. Rejoice, the ranch with its fruit  
unblemished.

Rejoice, for the man-loving Husbandman  
you cultivate. Rejoice, for the Gardener of our  
life you germinate.

Rejoice, arable land yielding tender  
mercies hundredfold. Rejoice, banquet table  
whereupon has forgiveness overflowed.

Rejoice, for the meadow of delight you  
make flourish. Rejoice, for a haven of our  
souls do you furnish.

Rejoice, accepted incense of intercession.  
Rejoice, the universe's expiation.

Rejoice, the good pleasure of God unto  
mortals. Rejoice, the confidence of mortals  
before God.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Fraught within with confusion brought  
about by doubtful thoughts, the temperate  
Joseph was troubled as he looked upon  
you the unwed and suspected adultery, O  
blameless one. But when he learned that your  
conception was by the Holy Spirit, he uttered,  
Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**The Canon of the Akathist**  
**By Joseph the Hymnographer.**  
**Ode i. Mode 4. Heirmos.**

I open my mouth and pray the Spirit  
fill it, like David said, \* to pour out a good  
word to the Queen and Mother of God. \* I will  
celebrate \* her feast with joy and gladness \*  
and sing to her merrily, lauding her miracles.  
(2)

**Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

O Maiden and Virgin pure, the great  
Archangel saluted you, \* "Rejoice, living book  
of Christ, of which Isaiah foretold \* that it



would be sealed \* to all men by the Spirit. \*  
O vessel of joy, through you the curse on Eve  
shall be loosed." [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

Rejoice, Virgin Bride of God! Through  
you was Adam restored to life \* and Hades  
was put to death. O blameless one, rejoice! \*  
Since you bore the King, \* we say you are His  
palace, \* the fiery throne of the Ruler of all.  
Rejoice! [SD]

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

Rejoice! You have budded forth a holy  
Son, the unfading rose, \* the One whom the  
Song has likened to a sweet apple tree. \* Ever-  
virgin Bride, \* rejoice! You are the fragrance  
\* beloved by the King of all. Through you the  
world is saved. [SD]

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

We cry out, Rejoice, to you who are the  
treasure of chastity. \* Through you we have  
risen from our fall. O Lady, rejoice! \* We  
believers sense \* the fragrances you send  
forth, \* sweet lily and frankincense, costly  
anointing oil. [SD]

### **Ode iii. Heirmos.**

Establish your servants who extol you,  
\* O Mother of God, for they have formed  
\* a spiritual choir for you \* the living and  
abundant fount; \* and graciously in your  
divine glory give glorious crowns to them. (2)

### **Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

Rejoice, blessed Virgin! You have borne  
Christ, \* the Wheat that came forth from land

unploughed. \* The Table symbolizes you, \*  
who held the Lord, the Bread of life. \* Rejoice,  
O never empty well \* of living water, O Bride  
of God! [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

For us the believers you have mothered  
\* the unblemished Bull, the Lamb of God,  
\* who takes away the sins of the world; \*  
we therefore call you Heifer and Ewe. \*  
Rejoice! You are the Mercy Seat, \* from which  
forgiveness has come to us. [SD]

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

Christ the Sun of Righteousness has risen  
\* from you, Bride of God and shining Dawn. \*  
Rejoice, for as the dwelling place \* of Him who  
is the Light of the world, \* you drove away the  
night of sin, \* and darkest demons now fade  
away. [SD]

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

The East Gate, through which the Prince  
alone went, \* prefigured your body; for the  
Lord \* alone came forth from you. Rejoice! \*  
Your Son has shattered Hades' gates. \* Rejoice,  
all-lauded and divine \* gateway of those who  
are being saved! [SD]

### **Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.**

O Champion General, I your City now  
inscribe to you  
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my  
gratitude,  
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.  
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,  
From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto  
you



I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**Second Stanza.**

**PRIEST**

Gloriously extolling the incarnate appearance of Christ did the shepherds hear the Angels. And running as though to a shepherd, they perceived Him to be as it were a blameless lamb that had been pastured in the womb of Mary whom they lauded saying:

Rejoice, O Mother of the Lamb and Shepherd. Rejoice, O sheepfold of sheep with reason.

Rejoice, who ward off invisible enemies. Rejoice, who open the portals of Paradise.

Rejoice, for the things of heaven are now exulting with the earth. Rejoice, for the things of earth along with heaven dance for joy.

Rejoice, indefatigable voice of the Apostles. Rejoice, undefeatable valiance of the Martyrs.

Rejoice, the mighty foundation of faith. Rejoice, the bright indication of grace.

Rejoice, through whom is Hades divested. Rejoice, through whom we are vested in glory.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Having visibly sighted the star proceeding Godward, the Magi followed after its brightness; and thereto clinging as to a light did they search thereby for a mighty King; and reaching the Unreachable they rejoiced and shouted to Him: Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

In the hands of the Virgin saw the Chaldeans' children Him who fashioned mankind with His own hand; and perceiving that He was the Lord, even though He had taken the form of a slave, they hastened to pay tribute with gifts and salute the blessed Maiden:

Rejoice, O Mother of the unsetting Star. Rejoice, O dawn of the mystical Day.

Rejoice, who extinguished the furnace of fallacy. Rejoice, who enlighten initiates of the Trinity.

Rejoice, for you have deposed the inhuman tyrant from his reign. Rejoice, for you have disclosed Christ the Lord who is humane.

Rejoice, O redeemer from Magian religion. Rejoice, who deliver from the clay of the burdens.

Rejoice, for the cult of fire you terminate. Rejoice, from the flame of passions you liberate.

Rejoice, the guide of believers to temperance. Rejoice, the gladness of all generations.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Keeping to the oracles that bore on You, the Magi, having now become God-bearing

heralds, proclaimed to all that You are the Christ as they journeyed back to their own country Babylon, abandoning Herod as a babbling king who knew not how to sing, Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

Lightening in Egypt the true illumination, You dispelled the darkness of delusion; O Savior, for the idols thereof, unable to endure Your might, tumbled down, while they who were delivered from them shouted to the Theotokos:

Rejoice, man's rehabilitation. Rejoice, the demons' ruination.

Rejoice, who crushed the delusion of fallacy. Rejoice, who uncovered the ruse of idolatry.

Rejoice, sea that caused the spiritual Pharaoh to drown. Rejoice, rock that gave those thirsting for life to drink.

Rejoice, pillar of fire that guides those in darkness. Rejoice, shelter of the world that is wider than the cloud was.

Rejoice, supplanting manna as edibles. Rejoice, supplying holy delectables.

Rejoice, for you are the land of promise. Rejoice, from you flow the milk and the honey.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Master, You were presented as a babe unto Symeon on the threshold of being transported out of this present beguiling age, but also perceived by him to be perfect God; for which cause did he marvel at Your ineffable wisdom, crying: Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**Ode iv. Heirmos.**

He who sits in holy glory \* on the throne of divinity, \* Jesus our most high God, \* on a swift and light cloud has come to us, \* and by the might of His undefiled hand has saved \* those who cry to Him: Glory to Your power, O Christ.

**Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

David saw you as the Mountain, \* in the Spirit fertile and rich, \* where God dwelt, O Lady; \* therefore we salute you and sing: Rejoice! \* The golden jar with the honey-flavored manna of old \* points to you who held the sweetest heavenly Bread of life. <sup>[SD]</sup>

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

We extol you, blameless Virgin, \* Mercy seat for the world: Rejoice! \* Jacob's dreamt-of ladder \* points to you, for God came to earth by you \* and elevates all to heaven by an act of grace. \* You are likewise a bridge that has conveyed us from death to life. <sup>[SD]</sup>

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

You are higher than the heavens, \* O immaculate Maid. Rejoice! \* Painlessly you carried \* in your womb the Lord who founded the earth. \* We call you Seashell: its dye was

used in royal cloth, \* and your own blood dyed the divine flesh of the King of Hosts. [SD]

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

God the Word is the Lawgiver \* who blots out the iniquities \* of all people freely. \* O the depth and height of the love of Christ! \* Surpassing knowledge! And now we sing, "Rejoice!" to you, \* who gave birth to Him. Lady, through you we were deified! [SD]

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

Crown of hope woven of glory \* is your Son, who is Lord of hosts. \* So Isaiah said it. \* We say, you have woven it for the world. \* To you, O Virgin, the fortress and defense of all \* and protective wall and sacred refuge, we sing, "Rejoice!" [SD]

### **Ode v. Heirmos.**

Amazed was the universe by your divine magnificence. \* You who were perpetually virgin \* carried the heavenly God of all in your womb \* and gave birth to the eternal Son, \* who awards salvation to all who sing hymns of praise to you.

### **Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

Rejoice, Virgin, Bride of God! You carried in your womb the Way \* and the Life. O Mother of the Savior, \* the world is saved from the flood of sin through you. \* Awe-inspiring tidings and good news! \* Rejoice! For the Master of all creation abode in you. [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

Rejoice, mighty fortress of humanity, O spotless Maid! \* Holy place of glory, as the

Psalm says; \* bright bridal chamber, from which your Son came forth \* as the Sun of Righteousness! Rejoice! \* Joy of Angels! Aid for all \* who with faith pray to you! Rejoice! [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

Rejoice, fiery chariot of God the Logos, whom you bore! \* Paradise prefigured you, O Lady. \* For in its midst was the tree of life; now the Lord, \* the fruit of your womb, is giving life \* to us who were subject once \* to corruption and eat in faith. [SD]

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

Enabled by strength you give, we faithfully cry out: Rejoice! \* Unhewn mountain, from which came the Stone, Christ. \* Concerning you, City of the great King of all, \* were glorious things indeed declared, \* in the Psalms and Prophecies. \* O immeasurable depth, rejoice! [SD]

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

O Mother of God, rejoice! You are the oyster that produced \* Christ, the divine Pearl of great value. \* You are the spacious, all-wondrous dwelling place \* of the Word. O Virgin pure, rejoice! \* We extol you every day, \* and you pray to the Lord for us. [SD]

### **Ode vi. Heirmos.**

O godly-minded believers, come \* and celebrate this sacred and venerable feast and thus extol \* the Theotokos, and clap our hands, \* and glorify our God who was truly born of her. (2)

**Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

O bridal chamber of God the Word, \* we credit the theosis of all to you. O Virgin pure, rejoice! \* The Prophets' echoing prophecies, \* fulfilled in you, adorned what Apostles then proclaimed. [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

The fleece upon which alone the dew \* for Gideon dripped down once prefigured you, to whom we sing: Rejoice! \* From you, O Virgin, did Christ come forth \* as healing Dew, extinguishing pagan passions all. [SD]

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

Behold, we greet you and sing: Rejoice! \* As we are tossed about on the stormy sea of life's adversities \* and all the snares of our enemy, \* become for us the port and Fair Haven we desire. [SD]

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

O cause of joy, you inspire us \* to call you unconsumed burning bush and shining pillar of a cloud, \* because the Lord was in you as well. \* You always guard the faithful, who sing to you: Rejoice! [SD]

**Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.**

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you  
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude,  
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.  
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,  
From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you

I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**Third Stanza.**

**PRIEST**

New creation was shown by the Creator in showing himself unto us whom He created, sprouting up from an unseeded womb, while preserving it just as it was, inviolate, so that beholding the miracle we might extol her, exclaiming:

Rejoice, O flower of incorruptness.  
Rejoice, O crown of laurel for continence.

Rejoice, for in you resurrection is typified.  
Rejoice, for angelical life you exemplified.

Rejoice, fertile tree with luscious fruit,  
by which believers are sustained. Rejoice,  
foliated tree beneath which are many  
sheltered in its shade.

Rejoice, for you were pregnant with the  
Guide for the errant. Rejoice, for of the Freer of  
captives you are the parent.

Rejoice, who plead till the just Judge  
surrenders. Rejoice, forgiveness for many  
offenders.

Rejoice, the vesture of those stripped  
of confidence. Rejoice, the tender love that  
conquers every longing.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

On seeing the strange childbirth, let's be  
estranged from the mundane, transporting  
our mind unto heaven. For this purpose the  
supernal God as a humble human being

appeared down on earth, intending to attract unto the summit those who cry out to Him, Alleluia. [SD]

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

Present below completely and above nowise absent was the uncircumscribable Logos. For it was no migration through space, but divine condescension that had taken place, and childbirth from a God-possessed Virgin who hears this that follows:

Rejoice, the uncontainable God's container. Rejoice, the magnificent mystery's doorway.

Rejoice, for unbelievers a doubtful story. Rejoice, for the believers the doubtless glory.

Rejoice, all-holy vehicle of Him who rides the Cherubim. Rejoice, exquisite domicile of Him who mounts the Seraphim.

Rejoice, who integrate in yourself a contradiction. Rejoice, who incorporate both virginity and parturition.

Rejoice, through whom the trespass was nullified. Rejoice, through whom was Paradise opened wide.

Rejoice, the opener to Christ's kingdom. Rejoice, the hope of eternal blessings.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Quite amazed by the great deed of Your incarnation was the entire nature of

Angels. For the once inaccessible God they beheld accessible to all as a man, with us together sojourning while thusly hearing from everyone: Alleluia. [SD]

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

Richly eloquent rhetors we see speechless as fishes when they contemplate you, O Theotokos. For at a loss are they to explain how you managed childbirth and a virgin yet remain. But we, in marveling at the mystery, cry out with conviction:

Rejoice, God's Wisdom's repository. Rejoice, His providence's depository.

Rejoice, who prove the philosophers wisdomless. Rejoice, who reprove the sophists as ridiculous.

Rejoice, for the fierce debaters becoming fools lost their taste. Rejoice, for the creators of the myths have faded away.

Rejoice, you who rend the webs of the Athenians. Rejoice, you who fill the nets of the Fishermen.

Rejoice, who drag out from the deep of ignorance. Rejoice, who illumine many with cognizance.

Rejoice, the barge for those seeking salvation. Rejoice, the harbor for life's navigators.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Set on saving the cosmos, He who set all things in order came down to it of His own volition. And though being the Shepherd as God, for us He appeared like us, as a man; and having called His own, like by like, as God He hears, Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**Ode vii. Heirmos.**

Godly-minded three \* did not adore created things in the Creator's stead; \* rather, disdaining the threat \* of fire, they trampled it, and joyfully they sang: \* "O supremely praised \* and most exalted Lord and God \* of the fathers, You are blessed."

**Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

We salute you: Rejoice! \* You bore the Sun of Righteousness, and thus the mythical type \* of chariot applies to you. \* Old Testament images of vines and ripened grapes \* point to you, who brought forth \* the Lord whose blood now gladdens hearts \* of the faithful who extol you. <sup>[SD]</sup>

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

In your womb you held \* the One who heals humanity. Rejoice, O Bride of God! \* Isaiah called you the rod \* of Jesse, for you brought forth the flower that is Christ, \* the unfading Word. \* Rejoice! Through you we too rejoice \* and inherit life, O Lady. <sup>[SD]</sup>

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

Insufficient are \* all languages for poetry and hymns extolling you, \* for you, O Lady, were raised \* higher than the Seraphim for

bearing Christ the King. \* Now entreat Him for us, \* who honor you, to rescue us \* from disasters that befall us. <sup>[SD]</sup>

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

From the ends of the earth \* the faithful are extolling you, singing, "O Virgin, Rejoice!" \* Isaiah called you a book, \* on which by the Father's finger was the Word inscribed. \* Pray Him earnestly \* to write your servants in the Lamb's \* book of life, O Theotokos. <sup>[SD]</sup>

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

We your servants pray, \* entreating you, and like Manasseh bend the knee of our hearts: \* O Pure One, lend us an ear, \* and save us, for we are drowning in adversities. \* And preserve the Church \* from schism and from heresy, \* O all-holy Theotokos. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**Ode viii. Heirmos.**

Guiltless were those Servants in the furnace. \* The Son of the Theotokos went and rescued them. \* He who was prefigured then, \* having been incarnate now, \* is gathering the whole wide world into His Church to sing: \* "O all you works of the Lord, to all ages \* sing praises to the Lord and exalt Him beyond measure."

**Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

You welcomed into your womb the Logos. \* You held in your arms the One who holds all things. \* You, O Virgin, nursed the One \* who by His divine command \* gives food to all, O Maiden pure. And now we sing to Him: \* "O all you works of the Lord, to all ages \*



sing praises to the Lord and exalt Him beyond measure." [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

The glorious mystery of your childbirth \* did Moses perceive within the burning bush. \* Servants of the Most High God \* vividly prefigured this; \* for standing in the fiery furnace, they remained unburnt, \* O undefiled and all-holy Virgin. \* Therefore we sing praises of you to all the ages. [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

We who were left naked through deception \* now wear an imperishable robe through you, \* who bore the immortal God, \* holy Virgin, house of the light; \* and we who sat in darkness of our sins have seen the light, \* as once foretold by the Prophet Isaiah. \* Therefore we sing praises of you to all the ages. [SD]

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

Through you who gave birth to Life in Person \* were we who were dead in sin brought back to life. \* Through you those who once were mute \* have become most eloquent. \* Through you are those afflicted by disease and cancer cured; \* defeated are the hosts of the demons. \* Humanity is saved through your childbirth, O Virgin. [SD]

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

You gave birth to Christ, the world's salvation. \* Through you has humanity been lifted up \* from the earth to heaven. Rejoice! \* O all-blessed Virgin, rejoice, \* O mighty fortress and protection of the faithful who

sing: \* "O all you works of the Lord, to all ages \* sing praises to the Lord and exalt Him beyond measure." [SD]

### **Ode ix. Heirmos.**

All you born on earth, \* with festival lamps in hand, in spirit leap for joy; \* and all you the heavenly angelic orders, join in and celebrate; \* and honoring the sacred feast of the Mother of God, \* sing the joyful salutation, "O rejoice, \* Theotokos, all-blest, ever-virgin pure!"

### **Troparia.**

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

Rescue us, we pray, \* from foreign invasion and from every other scourge \* that we might experience \* as a result of the multitude of sins \* committed by humanity, so that we faithful, who share \* the divine and everlasting joy through you, \* might salute you, O Virgin, and sing: Rejoice! [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

We who are confirmed \* in faith and illumined through you, Lady, sing to you. \* Rejoice! O unsetting star: \* you brought the great Sun into the world. Rejoice! \* O Pure One, you reopened Eden that was closed of old. \* Fiery pillar, ushering humanity \* out of bondage to heavenly life, rejoice! [SD]

*Most-holy Theotokos, save us.*

In the house of God \* let us stand with reverence as we sing with sacred joy: \* Queen of all the world, rejoice! \* Rejoice, O Mary, the Lady of us all! \* The only blameless and the fairest among women, rejoice! \* Living vessel, that received the unemptied Word, \* who like ointment was poured into you, rejoice! [SD]

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

Only perfect dove, \* who brought forth the Lord of mercy as an olive branch, \* ever-virgin Mary, rejoice! \* You are the boast of devout monastics Saints. \* Rejoice! You are the glory of the holy Martyrs. Rejoice! \* And the Righteous pride themselves in knowing you. \* We the faithful have you as our rescuer. [SD]

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

Pity us, O God, \* and spare Your inheritance by overlooking now \* all of our iniquities, \* for this accepting the fervent prayers of her \* who without seed gave birth to You on earth, O Christ our God, \* who in Your great mercy willed to take on flesh, \* thus assuming the form that was not Your own. [SD]

**Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.**

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you  
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude,  
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.  
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,  
From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you  
I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**Fourth Stanza.**

**PRIEST**

Theotokos, O Virgin, you are the fortress for virgins and all who to you run for refuge. For the Maker of heaven and earth, O immaculate Maiden, thus constructed you. He

inhabited your womb and instructed all how to address you:

Rejoice, O pillar of the virgin station.

Rejoice, O portal of man's salvation.

Rejoice, initiator of interior renaissance.

Rejoice, administrator of God's beneficence.

Rejoice, for you regenerated those who were shamefully conceived. Rejoice, for you reeducated those whose intellects had been seized.

Rejoice, incapacitator of the deflowerer of sanity. Rejoice, procreator of the Sower of chastity.

Rejoice, of ungamic union the bridal room. Rejoice, who unite believers to the Lord as Groom.

Rejoice, O beautiful nursemaid of virgins. Rejoice, O bridesmaid of souls that are holy.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Unsuccessful is every hymn that hastens to pay tribute to the multitude of Your tender mercies. For even if we offer You odes in number equal to the sands, O holy King, yet we do nothing worthy of what You have given us who cry to You: Alleluia. [SD]

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

Viewing the holy Virgin, we see a light-bearing lantern that shone upon those who were in darkness. For she lit the immaterial

light, and to divine knowledge thus conducts everyone, enlightening the intellect, and honored by such acclamations:

Rejoice, the ray of the intelligible daystar.  
Rejoice, the beam of the unwaning luster.

Rejoice, flash of lightning that brightly illumines souls. Rejoice, who like thunder have stunned our enemies.

Rejoice, for you cause the rising up of the light that brightly glows. Rejoice, for you cause the gushing up of the stream that mightily flows.

Rejoice, who illustrate the baptismal font's image. Rejoice, who eliminate the stain of sin's stigma.

Rejoice, the laver washing out consciences. Rejoice, the krater serving what gladdens hearts.

Rejoice, the fragrance of Christ's aroma. Rejoice, the life of mystical feasting.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

Wishing to grant remission of ancient obligations, He who cancels the debts of all people came himself as a stranger and dwelt among those who were from His divine grace estranged; and tearing up the bond of sin, He hears from everyone, Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

Extolling your birthgiving with songs, we all praise you as a live temple, O Theotokos. For the Lord who encompasses all in His hand, having made His abode in your womb, sanctified you and glorified you and taught all people to cry to you:

Rejoice, O tabernacle of God the Logos. Rejoice, O holier than the holies.

Rejoice, ark that was gilt by the Spirit. Rejoice, life's inexhaustible treasure.

Rejoice, exquisite diadem of kings with true beliefs. Rejoice, reverential pride of profoundly pious priests.

Rejoice, the Church's unshaken citadel. Rejoice, the Empire's fortress that never fell.

Rejoice, through whom rise trophies of victory. Rejoice, through whom fall enemies utterly.

Rejoice, my bodily health's restoration. Rejoice, my soul's everlasting salvation.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**PRIEST**

You, all-laudable Mother who gave birth to the Logos Who is holiest of all who are holy: (3) O accept this offering now, and from calamities all deliver everyone, and redeem from the future torments of hell those who cry out with zeal: Alleluia. <sup>[SD]</sup>

**CHOIR**

Alleluia.

**PRIEST**

An Angel of supreme rank was sent down from heaven to say to the Theotokos, Rejoice. And perceiving You take bodily form at the sound of his bodiless voice, O Lord, he was astounded and he stood shouting to her such salutations:

Rejoice, through whom is the joy to shine forth. Rejoice, through whom is the curse to vanish.

Rejoice, restoration of Adam the fallen one. Rejoice, liberation of Eve from tears.

Rejoice, height to which the thoughts of men are hardly able to ascend. Rejoice, depth which for the Angels' eyes is very hard to apprehend.

Rejoice, for you are a throne for the King. Rejoice, for you hold the One who holds everything.

Rejoice, the star causing the Sun's manifestation. Rejoice, the womb of the divine incarnation.

Rejoice, through whom is creation recreated. Rejoice, by whom is the Creator procreated.

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**CHOIR**

Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**Kontakion. Mode pl. 4. Automelon.**

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you  
Triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude,  
Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos.  
Inasmuch as you have power unassailable,

From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you  
I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

**READER**

**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. [GOA]

**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.*)

**READER**

**READER**

**Kontakion.**

O Champion General, I your City now ascribe to you \* triumphant anthems as the

tokens of my gratitude, \* being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. \* Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, \* from all kinds of perils free me so that unto you \* I may cry aloud: \* Rejoice, O unwedded Bride. [SD]

Lord, have mercy. (40)

O Christ our God, who at all times and at every hour, both in heaven and on earth, are worshipped and glorified, long suffering and plenteous in mercy and compassion; who love the just and show mercy to the sinners; who call all men to salvation through the promise of the blessings to come: Do you, the same Lord, receive also our supplications at this present time, and direct our lives according to your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set our minds right; clear up our thoughts, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and distress. Surround us with your holy Angels so that being guarded and guided by their presence, we may arrive at the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your ineffable glory; for blessed are you unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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**

May God have compassion on us and bless us; may his face shine upon us and have mercy on us.

## **READER**

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

*Save us, all-holy Theotokos.*

## **Prayer to the Virgin** **by Paul the Monk of the** **Monastery of Evergetis**

O spotless, unstained, incorruptible, undefiled, pure Virgin, Lady Bride of God, who through your wondrous birth-giving united God the Word with mankind, and linked the fallen nature of our human race with the heavenly; the only hope of the hopeless and the help of the persecuted; the ready support of those who seek refuge in you, and the shelter of all the Christians: do not despise me, the wretched sinner who have defiled myself with shameful thoughts and words and deeds, and through negligence of thought have become slave to the pleasures of life. But as the Mother of our compassionate God, and a friend of man, have compassion on me the sinner and prodigal, and accept this prayer from my impure lips; and using your motherly standing, entreat your Son and our Master and Lord to open unto me the depths of his loving goodness and, overlooking my innumerable faults, to return me to repentance and make me a worthy servant of his commandments. Stand by me forever; in this life as a merciful and compassionate and good and lovingly warm protector and helper, by repulsing the assaults of the adversary and leading me toward salvation; and at the time



of my death, by embracing my miserable soul and driving far away from it the dark faces of the evil demons; and at the awesome day of judgment by redeeming me from eternal hell, and proclaiming me an heir of the ineffable glory of your Son and our God. May I enjoy such fate, my Lady, most-holy Theotokos, through your intercession and protection; through the grace and love for mankind of your only begotten Son, our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. To whom belong all glory, honor and worship, together with his beginningless Father, and the all holy and good and life giving Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [HC]

**Prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ**  
**by Antiochus, Monk of Pandektos**

And grant to us, Master, as we depart for sleep, rest of body and soul, and preserve us from the gloomy slumber of sin, and from every dark and nocturnal pleasure. Arrest the drives of passion; extinguish the burning arrows of the Evil One which insidiously fly in our direction; suppress the rebellions of our flesh, and calm our every earthly and material thought. And grant to us, O God, alert mind, prudent thinking, sober heart, light sleep free of any satanic fantasy. Awaken us at the time of prayer rooted in your commandments and having unbroken within us the remembrance of your ordinances. Grant that we may sing your glory through the night by praising and blessing and glorifying your most honorable and majestic name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. [HC]

Most glorious, ever virgin, blessed Theotokos, bring our prayer before your Son and our God, and entreat him, through you, to save our souls. [HC]

The Father is my hope, the Son is my refuge, the Holy Spirit is my shelter, Holy Trinity, glory to you. [HC]

O Mother of God, I have committed my every hope wholly unto you. Keep me under your shelter. [SD]

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, (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.

Let us pray for the peace of the world.

*(Lord, have mercy.)*

For all pious and Orthodox Christians.

For our (episcopal rank) (name).

For our nation.

For the armed forces.

For our departed fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers.

For those who have mercy on us and serve us.



For those who hate us and those who love  
us.

For those who have asked us the  
unworthy to pray for them.

For the release of captives.

For those who are traveling.

For those who are ill.

Let us pray also for the abundance of the  
fruits of the earth.

And for all our family and friends who  
have fallen asleep before us, the Orthodox  
here and everywhere piously laid to sleep.

Let us also say for ourselves: Lord, have  
mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

#### CHANTER

##### Mode 3.

Seeing how beautiful was your  
virginity, \* and how your purity shone forth  
resplendently, \* amazed was Gabriel who  
cried to you thus, O Theotokos: \* "What shall  
I present to you \* as a worthy encomium? \*  
What shall I address you as? \* At a loss and  
perplexed am I. \* And therefore I, as ordered,  
cry out to you: \* Rejoice, O Maiden full of  
grace!" [SD]

#### PRIEST

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

*(Amen.)*