

Menaion - November 21

The Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos

LITURGY

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Antiphon I. Mode 2. Psalms 144, 86, 47.

Verse 1: *Great is the Lord and exceedingly praiseworthy.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 2: *Glorious things were said concerning you, O city of God.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 3: *God is known in her palaces.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Verse 4: *As we heard, so we saw.* [SAAS]

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Glory. Both now.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us. [GOA]

Antiphon II. Mode 2. Psalms 45, 95, 117, 64.

Verse 1: *The Most High sanctified His tabernacle.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 2: *Holiness and majesty are in His holy place.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 3: *This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall go in through it.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Verse 4: *Holy is Your temple, wondrous in righteousness.* [SAAS]

Save us, O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You, Alleluia. [GOA]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. [HC]

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. [HC]

Only begotten Son and Logos of God, being immortal, You condescended for our salvation to take flesh from the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary and, without change, became man. Christ, our God, You were crucified and conquered death by death. Being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: Save us. [GOA]

Antiphon III. Mode 4. Psalm 44.

Verse 1: *The rich among the people shall entreat your favor.* [SAAS]

Verse 2: *All her glory as the King's daughter is within, adorned and embroidered with golden tassels.* [SAAS]

Verse 3: *The virgins behind her shall be brought to the King.* [SAAS]

Apolytikion of the Feast. Mode 4.

Today is the prelude of God's good pleasure, and the proclamation of humanity's

salvation. In the temple of God, the Virgin is presented openly, and in herself she announces Christ to all. Let us, then, with a great voice cry aloud to her: "Rejoice, you are the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation."

[SD]

An optional alternative to the Antiphons are the Typika (Psalms 102 and 145), and the Beatitudes with the appointed troparia, which are provided here.

Psalm 102.

Psalm 145.

The Beatitudes.

Mode 4.

In Your kingdom. Remember us, O Lord, when You come in Your kingdom. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven [RSV]

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. [RSV]

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. [RSV]

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

[RSV]

Canon 1 of the Feast.

Ode iii. Mode 4. N/

M (Establish your servants.)

From Menaion - - -

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. [RSV]

Today the Temple has become a wedding hall;/a fair chamber for the Virgin./It receives the living Bridal Chamber of God,/the pure and spotless One Who shines more brightly than all creation. [OCA]

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. [RSV]

David leaps in gladness, leading the dance,/and rejoicing with us, he calls you the Queen,/clad in raiment of many-colored needlework,/undefiled and all-pure Virgin,/

standing in the Temple before the King and God. [OCA]

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. [RSV]

The transgression came upon mankind of old from Eve,/and now from Eve's stock our restoration and incorruption blossoms:/the Theotokos who is brought today into the house of God. [OCA]

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [RSV]

Theotokion.

The ranks of angels and all mankind/dance today before your face, all-pure Lady,/and they go before you bearing lamps,/proclaiming your greatness in the house of God. [OCA]

Canon 2 of the Feast.

From Menaion - - -

Ode vi. Mode 1. (N/M)

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely [for my sake]. [RSV]

Faithful, let us celebrate the Mother of God in spirit,/singing her praises with goodness/for she is indeed more holy than the heavenly powers. [OCA]

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. [RSV]

Faithful, let us praise the Mother of Light in spiritual songs,/for today she is manifested to us/entering the Temple of God. [OCA]

Glory.

The ewe-lamb without blemish,/the pure dove is brought as an offering to dwell in the

House of God:/the undefiled Virgin who was
fore-ordained to become the Mother of God.

[OCA]

Both now.

The Temple of God,/the heavenly
Tabernacle,/fulfilled her entry into the
Temple of the Law,/and from her the Light
has shone on us who are in darkness. [OCA]

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

Come, let us worship and bow down
before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who
are wondrous in Your saints. We sing to You,
Alleluia. [GOA]

Hymns After the Small Entrance.

From Menaion - - -

Apolytikion of the Feast.

Mode 4.

Today is the prelude of God's good
pleasure, and the proclamation of humanity's
salvation. In the temple of God, the Virgin
is presented openly, and in herself she
announces Christ to all. Let us, then, with a
great voice cry aloud to her: "Rejoice, you are
the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation."

(3) [SD]

From Menaion - - -

Kontakion.

Mode 4. *You who were lifted.*

The Savior's most pure and immaculate
temple, the very precious bridal chamber and
Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory
of God, on this day is introduced into the
House of the Lord, and with herself she brings
the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled
by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle
is she. [SD]

THE TRISAGION HYMN

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

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

The Epistle

For the Feast.

Prokeimenon. Mode 3. Ode ix.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit
rejoices in God my Savior. [RSV]

Verse: *For he has regarded the low estate
of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all
generations will call me blessed.* [RSV]

Heb. 9:1-7

Brethren, the first covenant had
regulations for worship and an earthly
sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer
one, in which were the lamp stand and the
table and the bread of the Presence; it is called
the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain
stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having
the golden altar of incense and the ark of
the covenant covered on all sides with gold,
which contained a golden urn holding the
manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and
the tables of the covenant; above it were the
cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy
seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in
detail. These preparations having thus been
made, the priests go continually into the outer
tent, performing their ritual duties; but into
the second only the high priest goes, and he
but once a year, and not without taking blood
which he offers for himself and for the errors
of the people. [RSV]

Alleluia. Mode pl. 4. Psalm 44.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *Listen, O daughter, behold and
incline your ear, and forget your people and your
father's house.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 1: *The rich among the people shall entreat your favor.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Gospel

For the Feast.

Lk. 10:38-42; 11:27-28

At that time, Jesus entered a village; and a woman called Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve you alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As he said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!" But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!" [RSV]

Hymn to the Theotokos.

Ode ix. Heirmos.

Mode 4.

When they saw the Entry of the Virgin Maiden, the Angels were astonished, at how she entered with glory into the Holy of Holies. [SD]

Now let no uninitiated hand * approach the living Ark of God to touch it. * Rather let believers' lips sing out in exultation * the Angel's salutation unceasingly * to the Theotokos and cry out: * You, O pure and virgin Maiden, are truly superior to all. [SD]

Communion Hymn. Psalm 115.

I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia. [SAAS]

Hymn after Holy Communion.

Mode 2.

We have seen the true light; we have received the heavenly Spirit; we have found the true faith, worshiping the undivided Trinity, for the Trinity has saved us. [GOA]

THE DISMISSAL

May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, whose Entry into the Temple we celebrate, 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.

Fasting Rule

Fish: fish, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs.

It is the Christmas fast.