Ninth Hour

The curtain is **not** opened. The priest stands before the Holy Table:

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

Reader: Amen.

Reader: Glory to You, our God; glory to You!

Heavenly king, comforter, Spirit of the Truth, who are everywhere present and fill all things, treasury of good things and giver of life, come and tabernacle in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

The Trisagion Prayers

Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!

O Master, pardon our transgressions!

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake!

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

All: 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 the evil one.

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 ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

Reader: Come, let us worship God our King.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Him.

Psalm 83 (84)

How lovely is Your tabernacle,

O Lord of hosts!

My soul longs, yes, even faints

For the courts of the Lord;

My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

Even the sparrow has found a home,

And the swallow a nest for herself,

Where she may lay her young -

Even Your altars, O Lord of hosts,

My King and my God.

Blessed are those who dwell in Your house;

They will still be praising You.

Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, Whose heart is set on pilgrimage.

As they pass through the Valley of Baca,

They make it a spring;

The rain also covers it with pools.

They go from strength to strength;

The God of gods shall be seen.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob! O God, behold our shield, And look upon the face of Your anointed. For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord will give grace and glory: No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You! Psalm 84 (85) Lord, You have been favorable to Your land; You have brought back the captivity of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin. You have taken away all Your wrath: You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger. Restore us, O God of our salvation, And cause Your anger toward us to cease. Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations? Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You? Show us Your mercy, Lord, And grant us Your salvation. I will hear what God the Lord will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints; But let them not turn back to folly. Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land. Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed. Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven. Yes, the Lord will give what is good: And our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before Him, And shall make His footsteps our pathway. Psalm 85 (86) Bow down Your ear, O Lord, hear me; For I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am holy; You are my God; Save Your servant who trusts in You! Be merciful to me, O Lord, For I cry to You all day long. Rejoice the soul of Your servant, For to You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; And attend to the voice of my supplications.

In the day of my trouble I will call upon You,

For You will answer me.

Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord;

Nor are there any works like Your works.

All nations whom You have made

Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name.

For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth;

Unite my heart to fear Your name.

I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart,

And I will glorify Your name forevermore.

For great is Your mercy toward me,

And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

O God, the proud have risen against me, And a mob of violent men have sought my life, And have not set You before them.

But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious,

Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.

Oh, turn to me, and have mercy on me!

Give Your strength to Your servant,

And save the son of Your maidservant.

Show me a sign for good,

That those who hate me may see it and be ashamed,

Because You, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

(Troparion from the Menaion – Ss. Eutropius, Cleonicus, and Basiliscus, Tone 4)

Your holy martyrs Eutropius, Cleonicus, and Basiliscus, O Lord,

through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, our God.

For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,

and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//

Through their intercession, save our souls!

Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O Lord, Who for our sake were born of a virgin and have endured crucifixion, trampling down death by death and as God revealing the Resurrection: Despise not the works of Your hands, but show Your love for mankind, O merciful one. Accept the prayers made on our behalf by her who gave You birth, and save Your despairing people, O our Savior.

For Your holy name's sake, do not abandon us forever; do not annul Your covenant; do not take Your mercy from us, for the sake of Abraham Your beloved, and Isaac Your servant, and Israel Your holy one.

The Trisagion Prayers

Reader: Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x)

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

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!

- O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!
- O Master, pardon our transgressions!

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake!

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, 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 the evil one.

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 ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

On Non-Lenten days, if there is a Kontakion of the day: (Kontakion from the Menaion – Ss. Eutropius, Basiliscus, and Cleonicus – Tone 4)

Reader:

Eutropius, Basiliscus and Cleonicus, bound together in unity of faith, by their noble contest speedily destroyed the enemies' ranks!

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Prayer of the Hours

Reader: You who at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, are worshipped and glorified, O Christ our God, who are long-suffering, merciful, and compassionate; who loves the just and shows mercy upon the sinner; who calls all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come: O Lord, in this hour receive our supplications, and direct our lives according to Your commandments; sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds, deliver us from all tribulations, evil, and distress. Compass us about with Your holy Angels, that guided and guarded by them, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of Your unapproachable glory, for You are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious, beyond compare, than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify you.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless.

Priest: O God, be merciful to us and bless us, and show the light of Your countenance upon us, and have mercy upon us.

Reader: Amen.

Open Curtain.

The Prayer of the Ninth Hour (by St. Basil the Great):

Reader: O Master and Lord, Jesus Christ our God, Who are long-suffering towards our sins and have brought us even to this present hour, in which, hanging upon the life-creating Cross, You have opened to the good thief the way into Paradise, and destroyed death by death: be merciful to us, Your humble and sinful and unworthy servants. For we have sinned and transgressed, and we are not worthy to lift up our eyes and look upon the height of heaven, since we have forsaken the path of Your righteousness and have walked according to the desires of our own hearts. But we implore You: in Your boundless goodness, spare us, O Lord, according to the abundance of Your mercy, and save us for Your holy name's sake, for our days are consumed in vanity. Deliver us from the hand of the adversary, forgive us our sins, and kill the passions of the flesh, that putting off the old man, we may be clothed with the new, and may live for You, our master and protector; and that so, following Your ordinances, we may attain to eternal rest in the place where all the joyful dwell. For You, O Christ our God, are indeed the true joy and gladness of those that love You, and to You we ascribe glory, together with Your Father, Who is without beginning, and Your most holy, good, life-creating Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Daily Vespers

At the end of the Ninth Hour, there is no dismissal. The priest remains before the Holy Table, bows three times, and says:

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

Reader: Come, let us worship God our King.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Him.

Psalm 103(4) is typically read (chanted) at Daily Vespers.

Reader: Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD my God, You are very great:

You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment.

Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain.

He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters,

Who makes the clouds His chariot,

Who walks on the wings of the wind,

Who makes His angels spirits,

His ministers a flame of fire.

You who laid the foundations of the earth, So that it should not be moved forever,

You covered it with the deep as with a garment;

The waters stood above the mountains.

At Your rebuke they fled;

At the voice of Your thunder they hastened away.

They went up over the mountains;

They went down into the valleys,

To the place which You founded for them.

You have set a boundary that they may not pass over,

That they may not return to cover the earth.

He sends the springs into the valleys;

They flow among the hills.

They give drink to every beast of the field;

The wild donkeys quench their thirst.

By them the birds of the heavens have their home;

They sing among the branches.

He waters the hills from His upper chambers;

The earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works.

He causes the grass to grow for the cattle,

And vegetation for the service of man,

That he may bring forth food from the earth,

And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine,

And bread which strengthens man's heart.

The trees of the LORD are full of sap,

The cedars of Lebanon which He planted, Where the birds make their nests;

The stork has her home in the fir trees.

The high hills are for the wild goats;

The cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers.

He appointed the moon for seasons; The sun knows its going down.

You make darkness, and it is night,

In which all the beasts of the forest creep about.

The young lions roar after their prey,

And seek their food from God.

When the sun rises, they gather together

And lie down in their dens.

Man goes out to his work And to his labor until the evening. O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions -This great and wide sea, In which are innumerable teeming things, Living things both small and great. There the ships sail about; There is that Leviathan Which You have made to play there. These all wait for You, That You may give them their food in due season. What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. You hide Your face, they are troubled: You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the LORD endure forever; May the LORD rejoice in His works. He looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the hills, and they smoke. I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the LORD. May sinners be consumed from the earth, And the wicked be no more. Bless the LORD, O my soul! The sun knows its going down. You make darkness, and it is night, O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amin.

Alliluia, Alliluia, Alliluia. Glory to You, O God! (x3)

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord. People: Lord, have mercy.



For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. *People:* Lord, have mercy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.



For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.



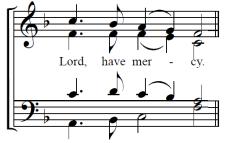
For our Archbishop *Alexander*, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.



For the civil authorities of this country and for those serving in its armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.



For this holy city, for every monastery, city, and countryside, and for those who in faith dwell in them, let us pray to the Lord.



For good temperance of the air, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful seasons, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.



For travelers by land, sea, and air, the sick, the suffering, the imprisoned, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.



For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord. *People:* Lord, have mercy.



Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

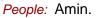
People: Lord, have mercy.

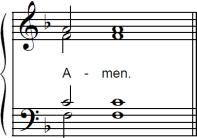


Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God. *People:* To You O Lord.



Priest (Ekphonisis): For to you is due all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.





Clergy reenter the sanctuary.



Reader (chanted after the first sticharion is completed by the people): Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth, and a door of enclosure round about my lips.

Incline not my heart unto words of evil, to make excuse with excuses in sins, with men that work iniquity; and I will not join with their chosen.

The righteous man will chasten me with mercy and reprove me; as for the oil of the sinner, let it not anoint my head.

For yet more is my prayer in the presence of their pleasures; swallowed up near by the rock have their judges been.

They shall hear my words, for they be sweetened; as a clod of earth is broken upon the earth, so have their bones been scattered nigh unto hades.

For unto You, O Lord, O Lord, are my eyes, in You have I hoped; take not my soul away.

Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and from the stumbling-blocks of them that work iniquity.

The sinners shall fall into their own net; I am alone until I pass by.

With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto the Lord have I made supplication.

I will pour out before Him my supplication, my affliction before Him will I declare.

When my spirit was fainting within me, then You knew my paths.

In this way where I have walked they hid for me a snare.

I looked upon my right hand, and beheld, and there was none that did know me.

Flight has failed me, and there is none that watches out for my soul.

I have cried unto You, O Lord; I said: You are my hope, You are my portion in the land of the living. Attend unto my supplication, for I am brought very low.

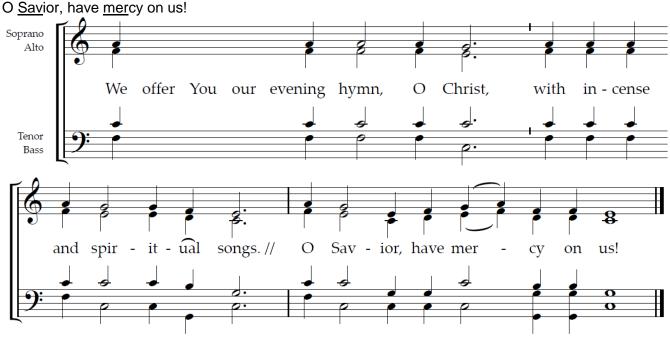
Deliver me from them that persecute me, for they are stronger than I.

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name!

Tone 3

(Penitential stichera in the Tone of the week)

We offer You our evening <u>hymn</u>, O Christ, with incense and <u>spir</u>itual songs.//



v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

Save me, O <u>Lord</u> my God: You are the Sal<u>va</u>tion of all! The storm of my passions <u>trou</u>bles me; the yoke of my sins <u>weighs</u> me down. Stretch out Your hand to <u>help</u> me; lead me to the light of re<u>pent</u>ance,// for You alone are the com<u>pas</u>sionate <u>Lov</u>er of man!



v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

O Lord, gather my scattered mind,

and cleanse my barren heart!

Grant me repentance—as You gave to Peter,

groans—as You gave the Publican, and tears—as to the Harlot,

so that I may cry to You with a loud voice://

"Save me, O God, as You alone are tender-hearted and the Lover of man!"



v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Often, when I am singing hymns,

I find myself committing sins.

With my tongue I am singing praises,

but with my soul, I am pondering evil things.//

But correct both through repentance, O Christ God, and save me!



v. (6) In the Second Tone, If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

Tone 2(from the Lenten Triodion, by Joseph)

(Joseph of Arimathea)

Let us humble the flesh by <u>ab</u>stinence,

as we follow the divine path of pure fasting!

With prayers and tears let us seek the Lord, Who saves us!

Let us put an end to anger, crying out:

"Save us for we have sinned against You!

Save us, O Christ our King, as You saved the men of Nineveh,//

and make us partakers of Your heavenly Kingdom, O compassionate One!"





v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

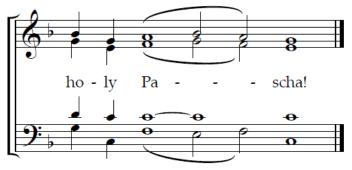
When I think of my <u>deeds</u>, O Lord, I am <u>filled</u> with despair, and <u>know</u> that I am worthy of every <u>tor</u>ment. I have despised Your commandments, O <u>Sav</u>ior. I have spent my life as a <u>prodigal</u>. I <u>pray</u> to You, O only <u>mer</u>ciful One: "Cleanse me by re<u>pent</u>ance, enlighten me through prayers and <u>fast</u>ing,// and despise me not, O most gracious Bene<u>fac</u>tor of all!"



v. (4) In the Second Tone, From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Let us begin the <u>fast</u> with joy! Let us prepare ourselves for spiritual <u>efforts</u>! Let us <u>cleanse</u> our soul and <u>cleanse</u> our flesh! Let us abstain from every passion as we ab<u>stain</u> from food! Let us rejoice in virtues of the Spirit and ful<u>fill</u> them in love, that we all may <u>see</u> the Passion of <u>Christ</u> our God,// and rejoice in spirit at the holy <u>Pa</u>scha!





v. (3) In the First Tone, For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Tone 1(from the Menaion, for the Martyrs)

(O all-praised martyrs)

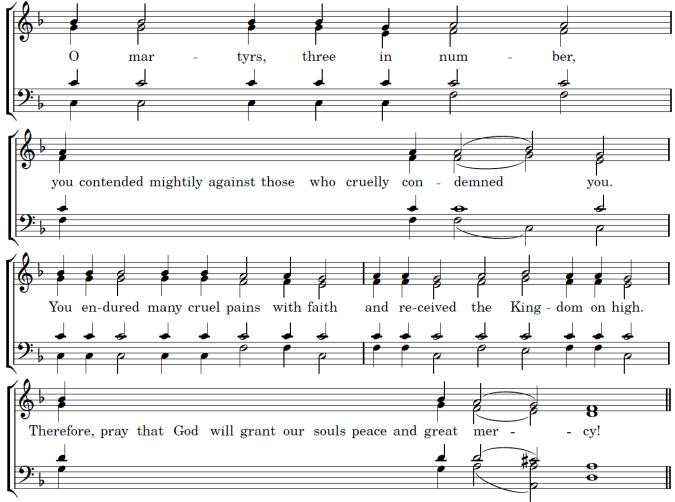
O <u>mar</u>tyrs, three in <u>num</u>ber,

you contended mightily against those who cruelly condemned you.

You endured many cruel pains with faith

and received the Kingdom on high.//

Therefore, pray that God will grant our souls peace and great mercy!



v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

Let us praise Eutropius with spiritual songs,

together with the steadfast Cleónicus and Basiliscus! By the grace of piety,

they utterly consumed the tinder of ungodliness with fire.

Now they illumine the ends of the earth

like brilliant beacons with divine and fiery radiance,//

casting all delusion into darkness.



v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

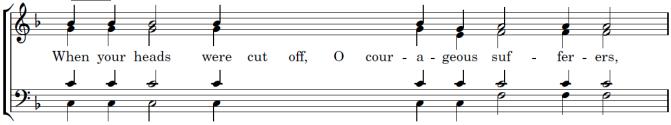
When your <u>heads</u> were cut off, O courageous <u>sufferers</u>, you crushed the head of the Enemy beneath your beautiful feet.

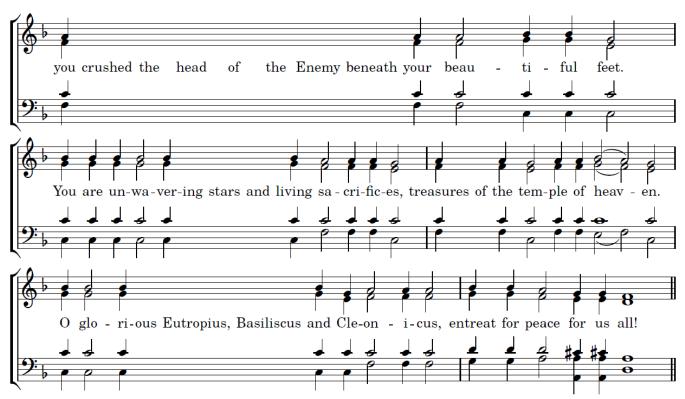
You are un<u>wav</u>ering stars and living <u>sac</u>rifices,

treasures of the temple of heaven.

O glorious Eutropius, Basiliscus and Cleonicus,//

entreat for peace for us all!





In the Same Tone, Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 1 (Theotokion)

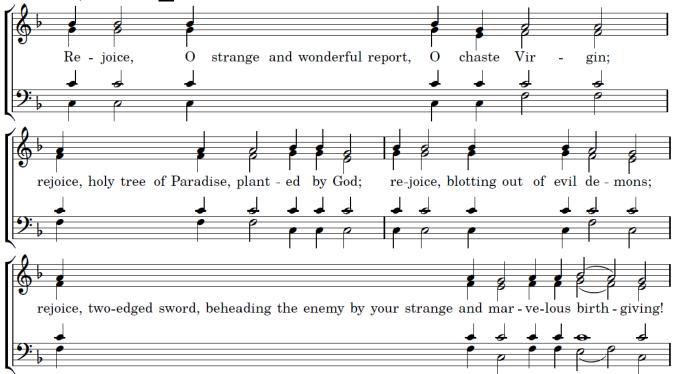
Rejoice, O strange and wonderful report, O chaste Virgin;

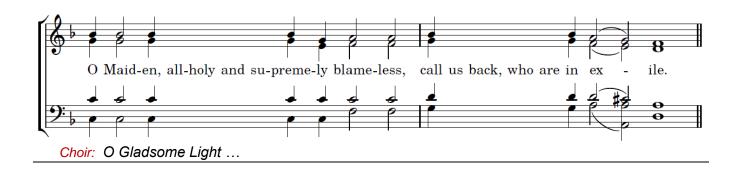
rejoice, holy tree of Paradise, planted by God;

rejoice, blotting out of evil demons;

rejoice, two-edged sword, beheading the enemy by your strange and <u>mar</u>velous <u>birth</u>-giving! O <u>Maid</u>en, all-holy and supremely <u>blame</u>less,//

call us back, who are in exile.

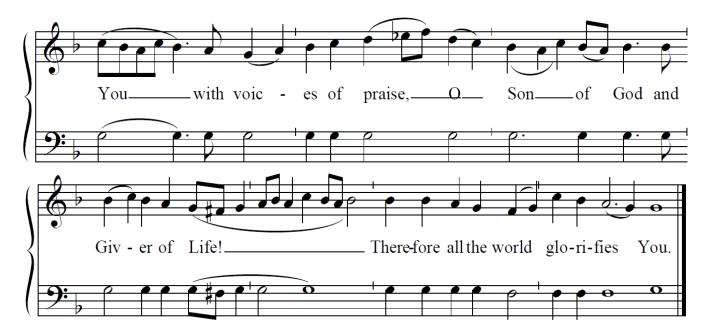




Gladsome Light, then Prokeimenon

O Gladsome Light of the Holy Glory Of the immortal Father, Heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ! Now that we have come to the setting of the sun And behold the light of evening We praise God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God. For meet it is at all times to worship You With voices of praise, O Son of God And Giver of Life! Therefore all the world glorifies You.





The Priest, standing before the Holy Table facing the People, or the Deacon standing before the Holy Doors:

Tone 8

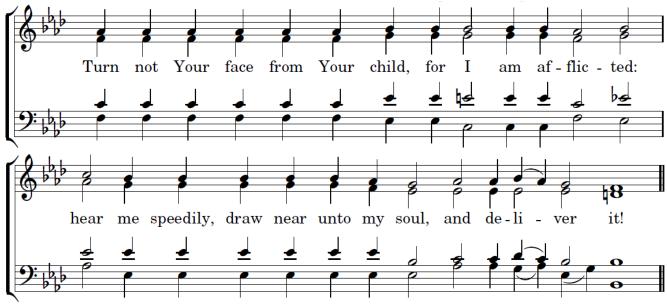
Great Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: † Peace to all.

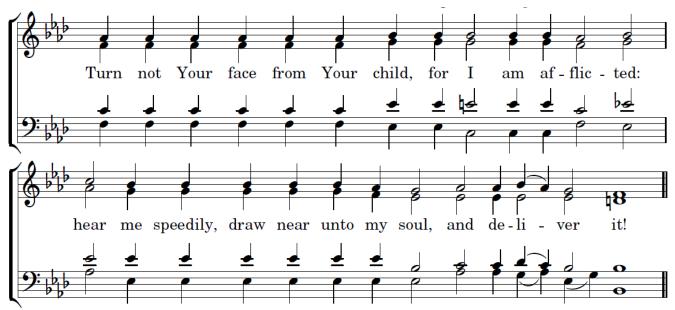
Deacon: Wisdom. The Great Prokimenon in the 8th tone. Turn not Your face from Your child, for I am afflicted: hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it!

Choir: Turn not Your face from Your child, for I am afflicted: hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it!



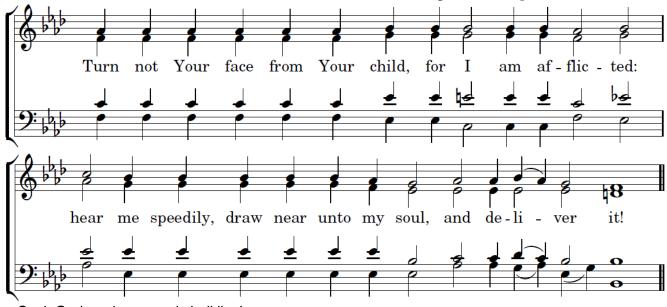
v: Let Your salvation, O God, uphold me!

Choir: Turn not Your face from Your child, for I am afflicted: hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it!



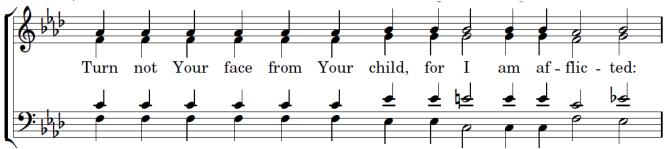
v: Let the poor see and be glad!

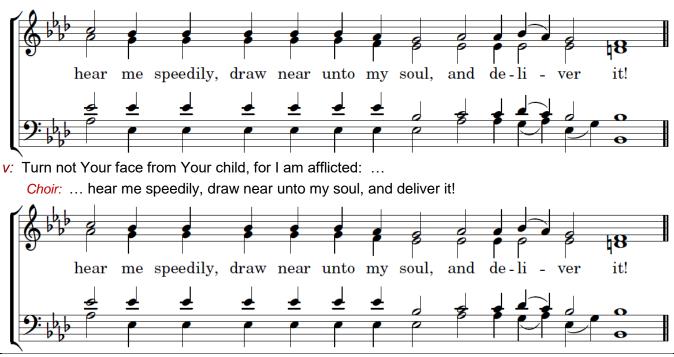
Choir: Turn not Your face from Your child, for I am afflicted: hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it!



v: Seek God, and your soul shall live!

Choir: Turn not Your face from Your child, for I am afflicted: hear me speedily, draw near unto my soul, and deliver it!





The Holy Doors are closed. If not already completed, during the "Vouchsafe ..." the priest removes his vestments and puts on a dark epitrahelion. The Church vestments are changed to dark.

Vouchsafe, O Lord ...

Chanted very slowly and deliberately, to give time to change vestments:

Reader: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen. Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on You.

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

Blessed are You, O Master: make me to understand Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One: enlighten me with Your precepts.

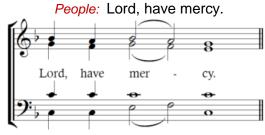
Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever. O despise not the works of Your hands.

To You belong worship, to You belong praise, to You belong glory; to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Deacon out, if no deacon, the priest says the litany from inside the altar, before the Holy Table. From this point forward, the responses are sung to the Lenten melody.

Litany of Fervent Supplication

First Deacon: Let us complete our evening supplication to the Lord.



Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.



The whole evening, perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.



An angel of peace, faithful guide, guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord. *People:* Grant it, O Lord.



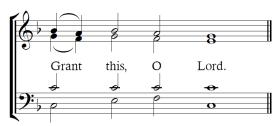
Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.



The things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord. *People:* Grant it, O Lord.



To complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord. *People:* Grant it, O Lord.



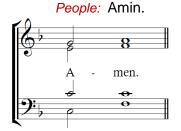
The completions of our life to be Christian, painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.



Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.



Priest (Ekphonisis): For you are a good God and love mankind and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.



Priest (facing the people): † Peace to all. People: And to Your spirit.

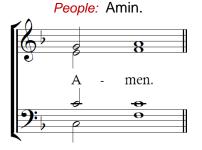


Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord. *People:* To You, O Lord.



Priest (Prayer at the Bowing of Heads): 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, have your servants bowed their heads and bent their necks, not awaiting help from men, but looking for your mercy and longing for your salvation; keep them at every moment, both during this present evening and the approaching night from every enemy, from every adverse work of the devil, and from vain thoughts and evil imaginations.

Priest (Ekphonisis): Blessed and glorified be the dominion of your kingdom, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.



Aposticha – Tone 4

Idiomelon

Your grace hath shone <u>forth</u>, O Lord: the grace which ill<u>u</u>mines our soul. <u>This</u> is the ac<u>cept</u>able time! This is the time of re<u>pent</u>ance! Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put <u>on</u> the <u>ar</u>mor of light, that passing through the Fast as through a <u>great</u> sea we may reach the Resurrection on the <u>third</u> day// of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of our souls.



v. I lift up mine eyes to You, enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He have mercy upon us.

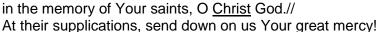


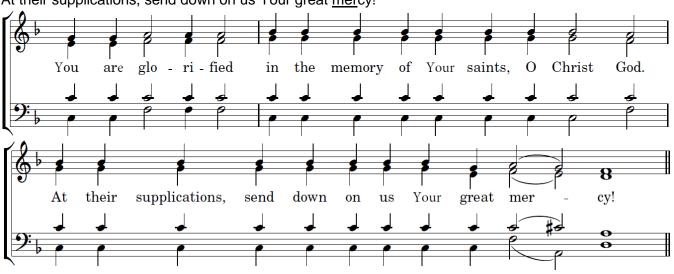
v. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Too long our soul has been sated with the scorn of those who are at ease, the contempt of the proud.

Tone 4

(for the Martyrs)

You are <u>glo</u>rified in the memory of Y





Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 4

(from the Lenten Triodion)

The angelic hosts glorify you, O Mother of God,

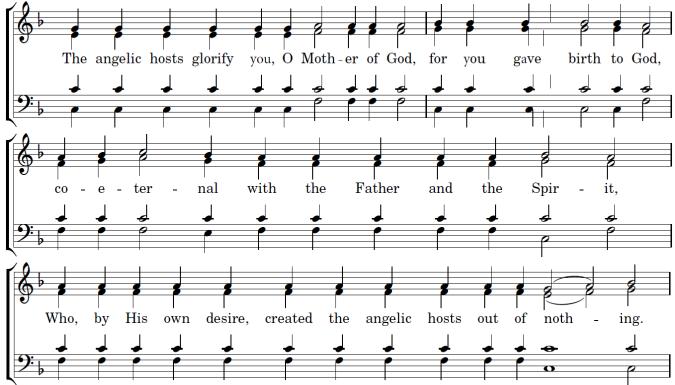
for you gave birth to God,

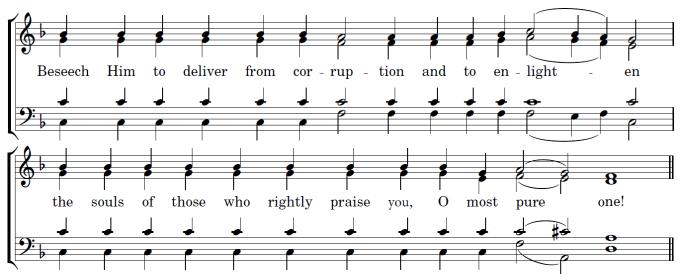
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,

Who, by His own desire, created the angelic hosts out of nothing.

Beseech Him to deliver from corruption and to enlighten//

the souls of those who rightly praise you, O most pure one!





The Prayer of St. Simeon

Reader (read, not sung or chanted):

Lord, now let 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 people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of your people Israel.

Trisagion Prayers

Reader (chanted): Holy God! Holy Mighty! Holy Immortal! Have mercy on us. (3x) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us!

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins!

O Master, pardon our transgressions!

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your name's sake!

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

All: 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 the evil one.

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 ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Tone 8

The Lenten Troparia

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, 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 <u>Sav</u>ior of our souls. *(prostration)*



O Baptiser of Christ, remember us all,

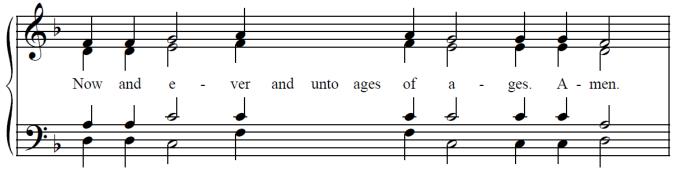
that we may be delivered from our iniquities;//

for to you is given grace to intercede for us! (prostration)

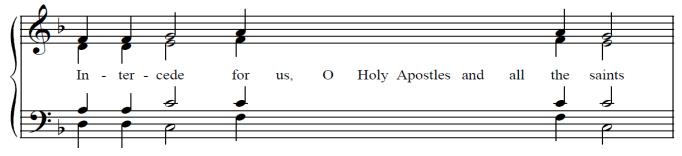


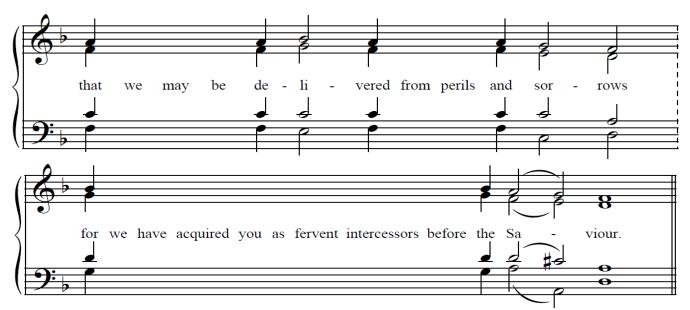
At the "now and ever ..." the priest exists by the South Door and offers the Augmented Litany **in front of the Holy Doors**.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.



Inter<u>cede</u> for us, O holy Apostles and all the <u>saints</u>, that we may be de<u>liv</u>ered from perils and <u>sor</u>rows;// for we have acquired you as fervent intercessors before the <u>Sav</u>ior! (*prostration*)

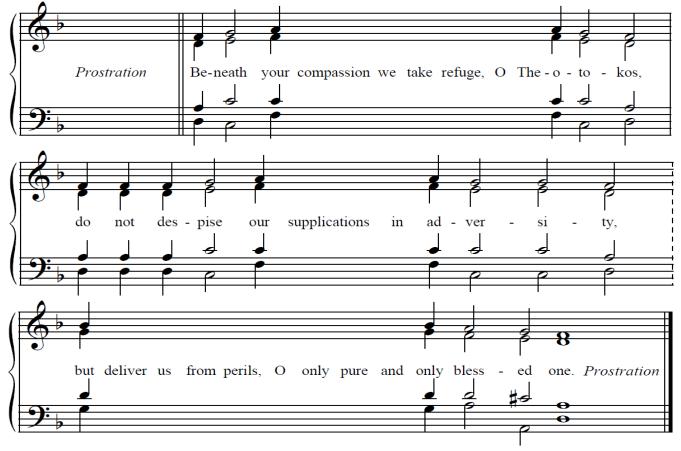




Beneath your compassion we take refuge, O Theotokos.

Do not despise our supplications in adversity,//

but deliver us from perils, O only pure and only <u>bless</u>ed one! (prostration)



Augmented Litany

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear us and have mercy.



Again we pray for our Archbishop *Alexander*, and for all our brotherhood in Christ. *People:* Lord, have mercy. (x3)



Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God (*N.N., and of*) all pious and right-glorifying Christians who dwell in or visit this town, and the members, stewards, founders, and benefactors of this holy church.



Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house and for all our rightglorifying fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters who are in their rest before us *(especially remembering N.N.)*, who piously lie asleep here and everywhere.



Again, we ask Your great mercy on our brothers and sisters who are presently involved in conflict. Remove from their midst all hostility, confusion and hatred. Lead everyone along the path of reconciliation and peace, we pray You, hear and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. (3x)



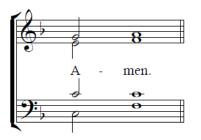
Again we pray for those who bring offerings and those who make acceptable sacrifices in this holy and all-venerable temple, for those who labor, those who sing, and all the people standing here, awaiting the great and rich mercy that is from you.

People: Lord, have mercy. (x3)



Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amin.



Reader: Lord, have mercy! (x 40)

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word, true Birthgiver of God, we magnify You.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

Priest: Blessed is He-who-is, Christ our God, always, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. O Heavenly King, establish the Orthodox Christians, confirm the faith, quiet the heathen, give peace to the world, place our departed fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, in the tabernacles of the Righteous, and accept us who sorrow and repent, for You are good and love mankind.

The Prayer of St. Ephraim

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of laziness, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. *(prostration)*

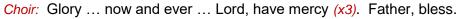
But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Your servant. (prostration)

O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions and not to judge my brother, for blessed are You unto ages of ages. Amen. *(prostration)*

O God, cleanse me a sinner! (x12, with bows at each repetition)

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of laziness, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Your servant. O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions and not to judge my brother, for blessed are You unto ages of ages. Amen. *(prostration)*

Priest: Glory to You, Christ God, our Hope, glory to You.

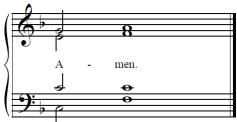




And the priest pronounces the dismissal.

Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-pure and all-blameless holy Mother; by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; by the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John, of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles, of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, of the holy *Martyr Eutropius of Amasea*, whose remembrance we also fulfill, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, as one who is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.



A brief homily is given, then follows the ceremony of mutual forgiveness. The priest stands beside the analogion, and the faithful come up one by one and venerate the ikon, after which each makes a bow before the priest, saying "Forgive me, a sinner." The priest also makes a bow before each "May God forgive you. Forgive me." The person responds, "May God forgive you" and receives a blessing from the priest. Meanwhile the choir sings quietly the Irmoi of the Paschal Canon, or else the Paschal Aposticha. After receiving the priests blessing, the faithful also ask forgiveness of each other.

When all have asked forgiveness, the priest says:

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Choir: Amen.

