The Office of Matins for

The Ascension of Our Lord, God, & Savior Jesus Christ



Matins for the Ascension of Our Lord, God, & Savior Jesus Christ

Stand

Deacon: In the name of the Lord, Father, give the blessing.

Priest: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, + always, now

and ever and forever.

Response:



+Glory to God in the highest, and to people on earth, peace and *good* will. *(3 times)*

O Lord, open my lips and my mouth will declare **your** praise. **(twice)**

Faithful may sit

Hexapsalmos

Psalm 62 O God, you are my God, for you I long; For you my soul *is* thirsting.

My body pines for you
Like a dry, weary land with out water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary

To see your strength and *your* glory.

For your love is better than life, My lips will speak of **your** praise.

So I will bless you all my life, In your name I will lift up **my** hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, My mouth shall praise you *with* joy.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through *the* night

For you have been my help; In the shadow of your wings I *re*joice. My soul clings to you; Your right hand holds **me** fast.

Those who seek to destroy my life
Shall go down to the depths of *the* earth.

They shall be put into the power of the sword And left as the prey of *the* jackals.

But the king shall rejoice in God; (all that swear by him shall be blessed) for the mouth of liars shall **be** silenced.

And again:

On you I muse through the night For you have been my help; In the shadow of your wings I *re*joice.

My soul clings to you; Your right hand holds **me** fast.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. *A*men.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to You, *O* God! *(twice)*

The third time, all sing:



Litany of Peace

Faithful may sit

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



Deacon: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.



Deacon: For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God,

and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear

of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our holy father, (Name), pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our most reverend metropolitan, (Name), for our God-loving bishop,

(Name), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the

clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to

the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this city, for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them,

let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for

peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the

captive, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the

Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your

grace.

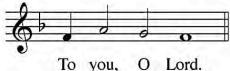
Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious

Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God

Response:



Priest: We thank you, Lord, our God, for you have wakened us from our sleep, and

have filled our lips with praise that we might worship you and call upon your holy name. We beg of your compassion that you have always shown towards us, hear us now and send help to those who stand before your holy glory, awaiting your abundant mercy. O Lord, grant that those who serve

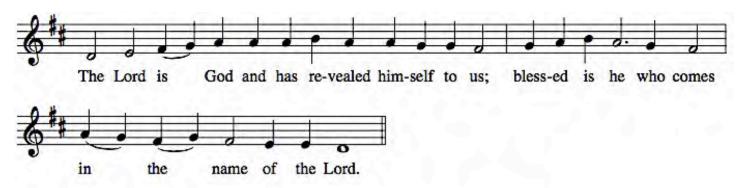
you in fear and love may praise your ineffable goodness.

Priest: For to you is due all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy

Spirit, now and ever and forever.



The Lord is God



verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his love endures forever.

verse: They encircled me, compassed me about; in the Lord's name I crushed them.

verse: I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

verse: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

Troparion of Ascension - Tone 4



Cantor: Glory... (All repeat the Troparion)

Cantor: Now and ever... (All repeat the Troparion)



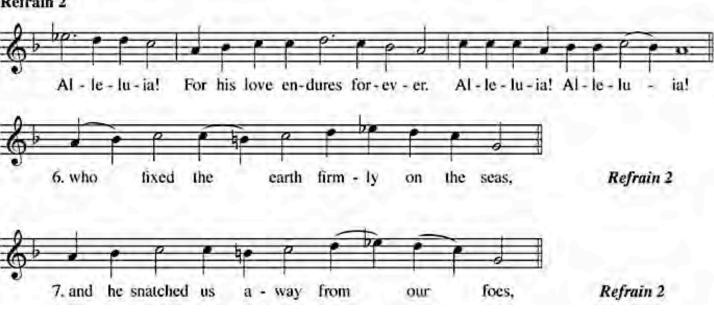








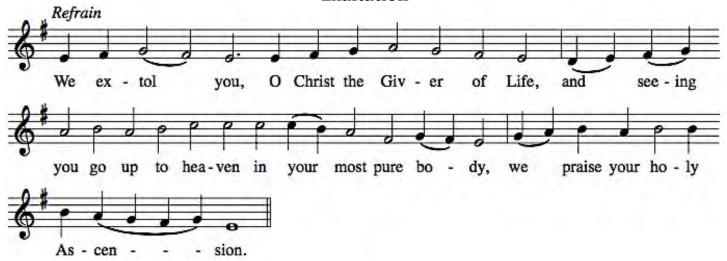
Refrain 2





Refrain 2

Exaltation



Cantor:

God ascends amid shouts of joy; the Lord amid trumpet blasts. Refrain

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let Him enter, the King of glory. Refrain

The Lord has set his throne in heaven and his kingdom is ruling over all. Refrain

Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and let your glory be over all the earth! Refrain

Glory...now and ever ...

Three times, each with a reverence:



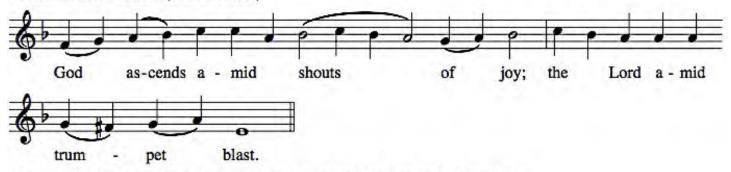
Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace + be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon - Tone 4 (Psalm 46:6.2)



Verse: All you peoples, clap your hands; shout to God with cries of gladness!

Stand

Preparation for the Gospel

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

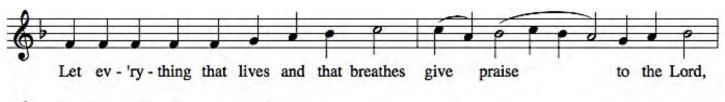
Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

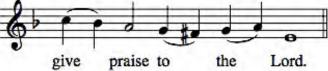
Priest: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you

we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: A - men.

Deacon: Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord!

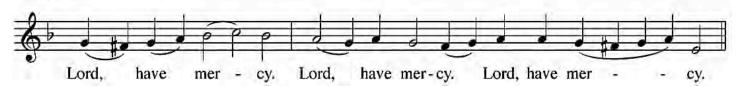




Verse: Praise God in his holy place; praise him in his mighty heavens. Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to

the Lord, our God.

Response:



Deacon: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace : be to all!

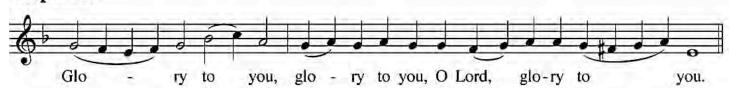
Response:

And to your spir - it, to your spir - - it.

Priest: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to the holy apostle and evangelist

(Name).

Response:



The Gospel is Read. After the Gospel, the faithful respond:







Psalm 50

- Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my *of* fense.
- O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.
- My offenses truly I know them; my sin is always **be**fore me.
- Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I *have* done.
- That you may be justified when you give sentence and be without reproach when you judge,
- O see, in guilt I was born, a sinner was I *con*ceived.
- Indeed you love truth in the heart; then in the secret of my heart teach *me* wisdom.
- O purify me, then I shall be clean; O wash me, I shall be whiter *than* snow.
- Make me hear rejoicing and gladness, that the bones you have crushed *may* thrill.
- From my sins turn away your face and blot out all my guilt.
- A pure heart create for me, O God; put a steadfast spirit within me.
- Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.
- Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervor sustain me,
- that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper, and my tongue shall ring out *your* goodness.

O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare *your* praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight, burnt offering from me you would *refuse*,

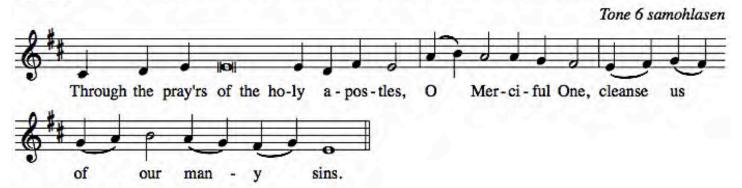
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit, a humbled, contrite heart you will *not* spurn.

In your goodness, show favor to Zion: rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

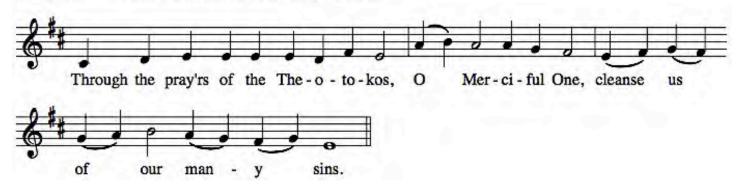
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice, burnt offerings wholly consumed, then you will be offered young bulls on your altar.

Stichera after Psalm 50

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.



Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen.



Cantor:

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offense.



Deacon:

Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, and angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the

blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Prešov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.

Response:

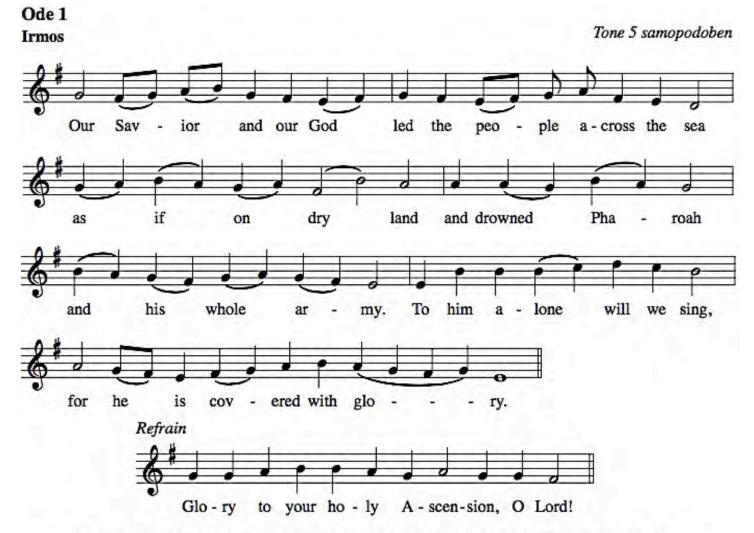


Priest:

O Lord our God, you have given us forgiveness through repentance, and as a model of knowledge and confession of sins, you have revealed to us the repentance of the prophet David that led to pardon. Master, have mercy on us who have fallen into so many and so great sins. Have mercy in your kindness, and in your compassion blot out our offenses, for against you have we sinned, O Lord, who know the hidden depths of our hearts, and who alone have the power to forgive sins. A pure heart you have created for us; you have sustained us with a spirit of fervor and have given us the joy of your help. Do not cast us away from your presence, but in your goodness and love for all, grant that we may offer a sacrifice of righteousness and oblation on your holy altar until our last breath. Through the mercies and goodness and love of your only begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.



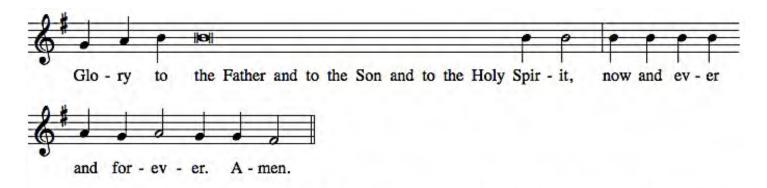




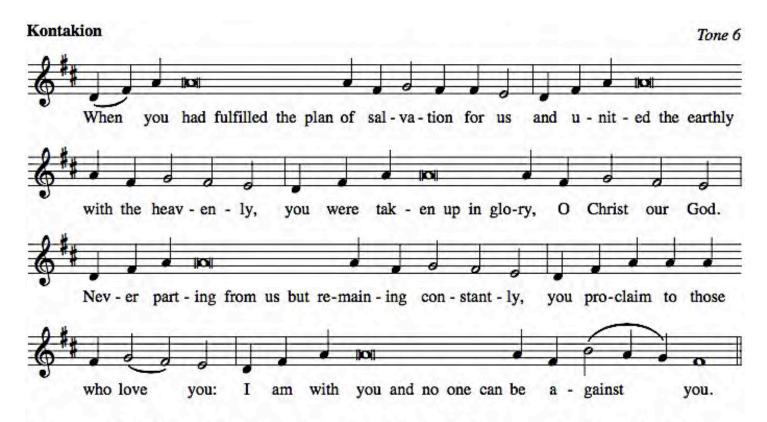
All you peoples, let us praise Christ, * who is gloriously raised upon the wings of the Cherubim, * to seat us with Him at the right of the Father. * Let us sing our hymn of victory, * for He is covered with glory.

Seeing Christ, the mediator between God and mortals, * now raised on high in his flesh, * the choir of angels was seized with fear * and with one voice began to sing a hymn of victory.

God, who appeared on Mount Sinai * and gave the Law to Moses the prophet, * is now raised up bodily from the Mount of Olives. * Let us praise Him all together, * for He is covered with glory.

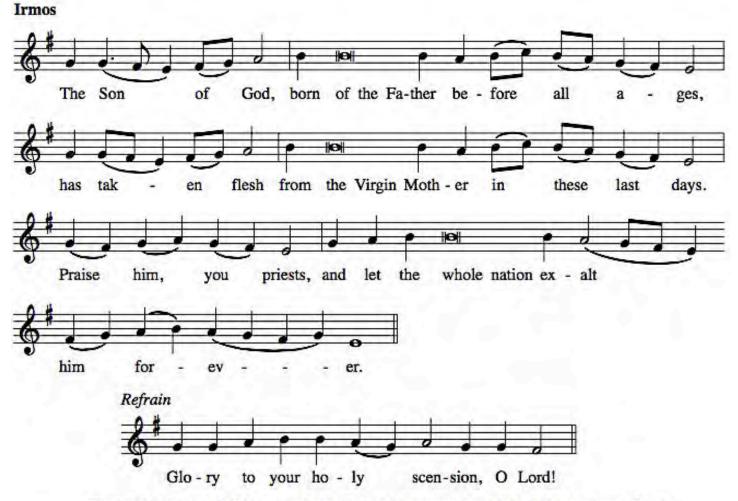


O pure Virgin and Mother of God, * intercede constantly before God who took flesh in your womb * without leaving the bosom of the Father in heaven, * that He may save from all danger * those whom He created with his own hands.



Leaving earthly cares to the earth and that which is waste and refuse to the dust, come, let us arise from sleep and with our eyes and hearts let us go towards higher things. Let us also lift up our thoughts and our attention from the earth to the gates of heaven, as if we were on the Mount of Olives, where we fix our eyes on the Redeemer as He is carried away to heaven. For it is there that the Lord departs for heaven; it is there also that He distributes his great gifts to the apostles, giving them strength and comforting them as a Father, guiding them as sons and saying to them: I am not separating myself from you; I shall always be with you, and no one shall ever have power over you.

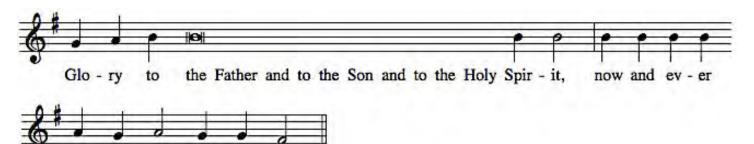
Ode 8



Christ the Giver of life ascends in glory to heaven; * with both his natures, He is seated at the right hand of the Father. * Praise Him, you priests, * and let the whole nation exalt Him forever.

You have redeemed the work of your hands from the slavery of the false gods; * You have presented it in freedom to your Father. * O Savior, we praise and exalt You forever.

The One who descended among us * and trampled down our Enemy * now raises up our humanity by his Ascension. * Praise Him, you priests, * and let the whole nation exalt Him forever.



and for - ev - er. A - men.

You appeared more venerable than the Cherubim, O holy Mother of God, * when you carried in your womb * the One whom they carry on their wings in heaven; * and with the bodiless angels, we mortals glorify Him forever.



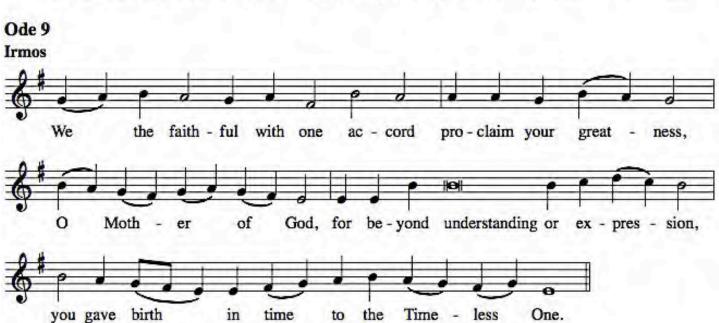
Let us praise, bless, and worship the Lord, sing-ing and highly exalting him a-bove



Deacon: Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns!

Magnification - sing this refrain before the irmos and each troparion





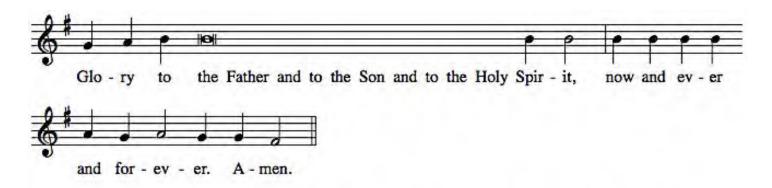
Surpassing our spirit and our understanding, * you gave birth in the world and in time to the timeless Lord; * with one voice and one heart, O Mother of God, * we the faithful extol you.

O Redeemer of the world, Christ our God, * the apostles contemplate your divine exaltation; * and in fear and in joy, they extol You.

Seeing your divinized flesh, O Christ, * the angels on high said to each other: *
Truly this man is our God!

Seeing You raised upon the clouds, O Christ our God, * the choir of angels cried out: * Lift up the gates of heaven for the King of glory!

You have descended to the depths of the earth; * You have saved humanity; * and You have raised it up by your holy Ascension. * O Christ our God, we extol You!



Rejoice, O holy Mother of Christ our God, * for today you extol the One whom you bore * as you see Him carried by the angels from earth to heaven.

Little Litany

Deacon: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

1. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Response:

2. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response:

To you, O Lord.

Priest:

O God, our God, who have placed all spiritual and intellectual powers under your will, we pray and beg you: accept these hymns of praise which we offer to you according to our ability together with all your creatures. Give us in exchange the riches of your goodness, for before you all beings in the heavens, or on earth and under the earth bend their knees, and everything that lives or that breathes gives praise to your glory beyond reach, for you are the one true God, full of mercy. For all the heavenly powers praise you, and we give glory to you: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

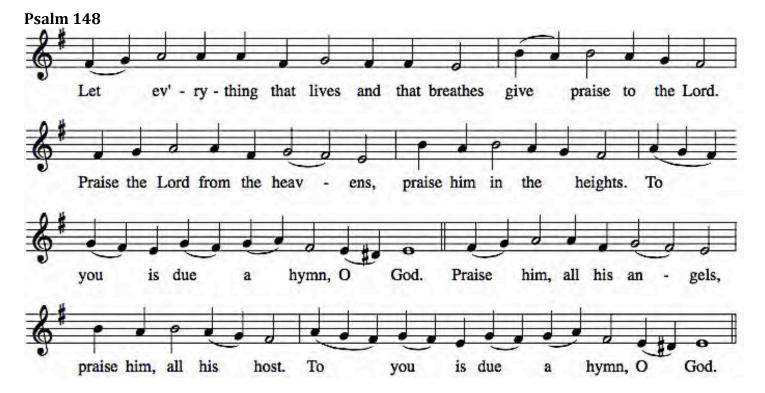


Stand

Hymns of Light

O Christ, You were raised up to heaven in the sight of your disciples; * You again went up to share your Father's throne. * The angels who came to meet You at the heavenly gate cried out: * Open your gates and lift up your lintels * so that the King of glory may come in, * for our King comes again to the Source of light.

Psalms of Praise



Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, shining stars. Praise him, highest heavens and the waters above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord, He commanded; they were made. He fixed them forever, gave a law which shall not pass away. Praise the Lord from the earth, sea creatures and all oceans, fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy winds that obey his word; all mountains and hills, all fruit trees and cedars. beasts, wild and tame, reptiles and birds on the wing; all earth's kings and peoples, earth's princes and rulers. young men and maidens, old men together with children. Let them praise the name of the Lord for he alone is exalted. The splendor of his name reaches beyond heaven and earth. He exalts the strength of his people, he is the praise of all his saints, of the children of Israel, of the people to whom he *comes* close.

Psalm 149

Sing a new song to the Lord,
his praise in the assembly of *the* faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,
let Zion's sons exult in *their* king.

Let them praise his name with dancing and make music with timbrel *and* harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.
He crowns the poor with *sal* vation.

Let the faithful rejoice in their glory, shout for joy and take *their* rest.

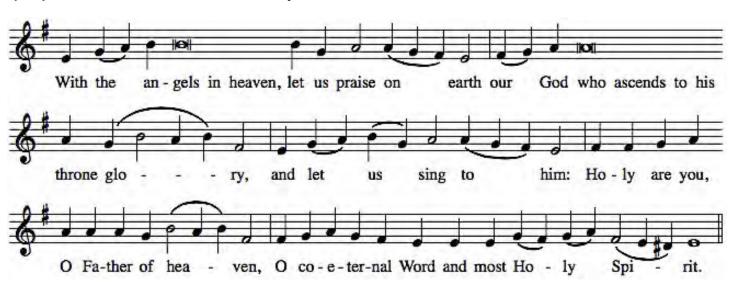
Let the praise of God be on their lips and a two-edged sword in *their* hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations and punishment on all *the* peoples; to bind their kings in chains and their nobles in fetters *of* iron. To carry out the sentence pre-ordained: This honor is for all *his* faithful.

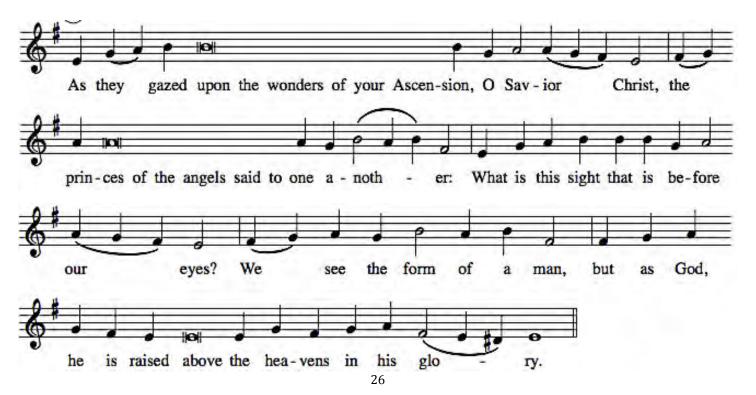
Psalm 150

Praise God in his holy place,
Praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his powerful deeds,
Praise his surpass**ing** greatness.

Cantor: O praise him with sound of trumpet (on 3) Praise him with lute **and** harp.

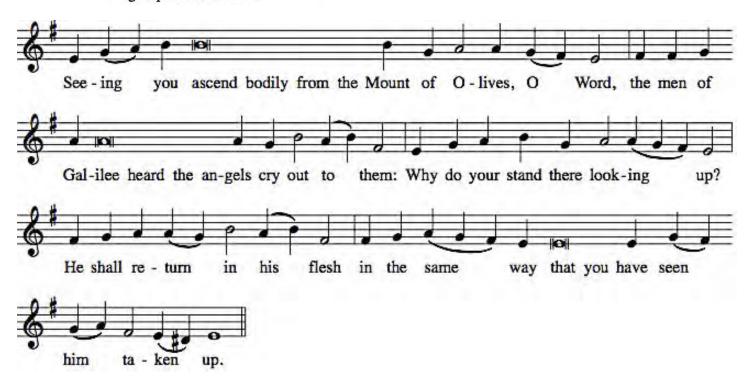


Cantor: Praise him with timbrel and dance, (on 2) Praise him with strings **and** pipes.

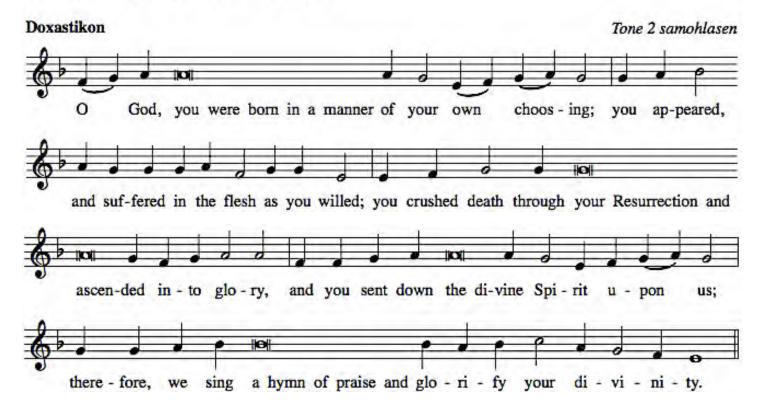


Cantor: O praise him with resounding cymbals, (on 1) praise him with clashing of cymbals.

Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord.



Cantor: (Tone 2) Glory...now and ever...

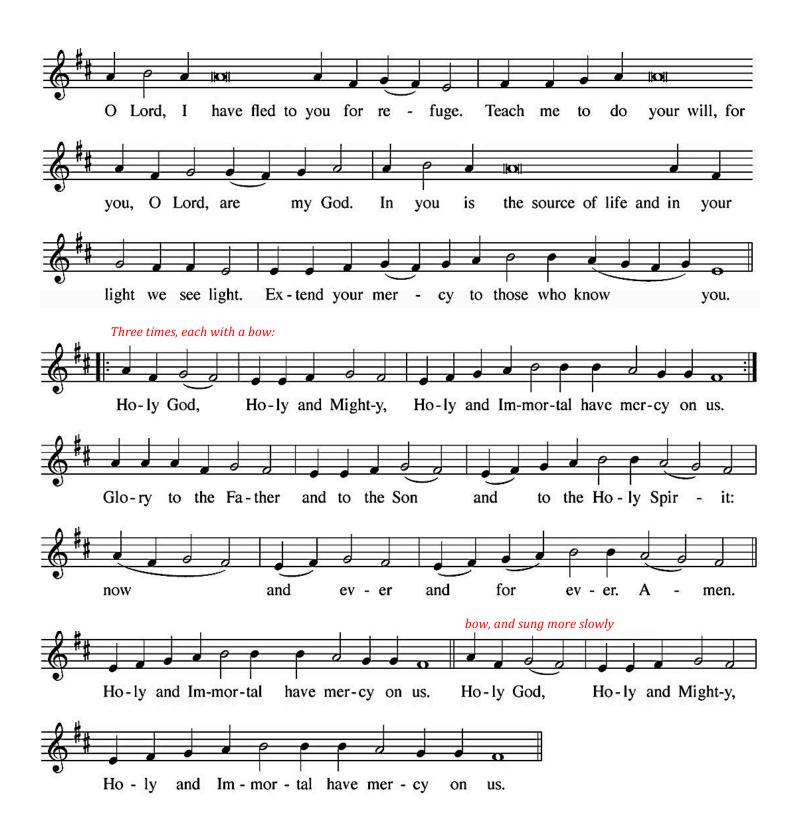


The Great Doxology

Priest: Glory to you who show us the light!







Troparion of the Day

Troparion of Ascension - Tone 8



Litany of Supplication

Deacon: Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord



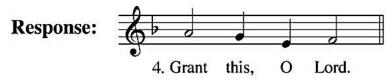
Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.



Deacon: That this whole day be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.



Deacon: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us beseech the Lord.



Deacon: For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the

Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

Deacon: For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world, let

us beseech the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord (4)

Deacon: That we spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech

the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

Deacon: For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a

good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us beseech

the Lord.

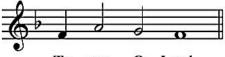
Response: Grant this, O Lord. (4)

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious

Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us

commit ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response:



To you, O Lord.

Priest: We sing to you, we praise you, we bless you, and we thank you, God of our

Fathers, for you have banished the dark of night and shown us once again the light of day. We beseech you, forgive our sins and accept our prayer in your great tenderness of heart because we take refuge in you, the merciful and all-powerful God. Shine in our hearts your true Sun of Justice. Enlighten our minds and guard all our senses, so that walking blamelessly in the path of your commandments as in daylight, we may reach eternal life, for in you is the source of life. Make us worthy to enjoy the unapproachable light. For you are our God and we give glory to you,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Prayer over Bowed Heads

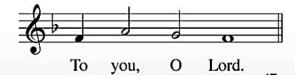
Priest: Peace : be to all!

Response:



Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord!

Response:



Priest:

Holy Lord, you dwell on high and look upon the lowly, and with your all-seeing eye you watch over all creation. To you we bend our neck in spirit and body and we implore you, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling place and bless us all. If we have sinned voluntarily or involuntarily forgive us as a good God who loves mankind and gives us earthly and heavenly gifts. For yours are mercy and salvation, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you, with your eternal Father and your life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.



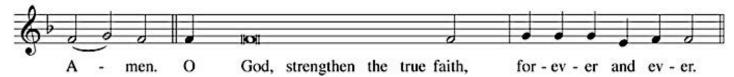
Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!



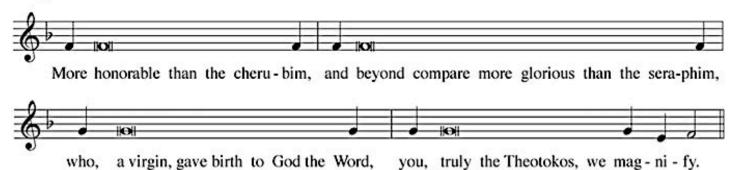
Priest: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:

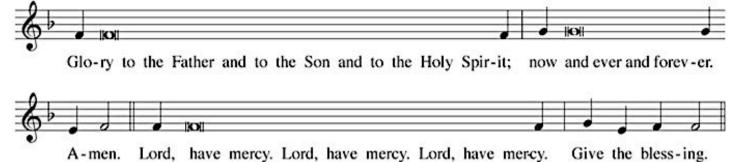


Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us!

Response:



Priest: Glory to you, O Christ our God, our hope; glory to you!



Priest:

May Christ our true God, who for our salvation, ascended in glory from us to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God and Father, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; through the prayers of (Name), (patron of the church) and of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

