

# THE NINTH HOUR

If this Hour is not appended to Sixth Hour, we begin with the blessing and Trisagion Prayers as follows. If this Hour is appended to Sixth Hour, we begin with the Call to *Worship* ("Come let us worship..." on page 4).

The priest, vested in epitrachilion, and | If a priest is not present: deacon, fully vested, come before the Royal Doors.

Deacon: Reverend Father,

give the blessing.

**Priest:** Blessed is our God,

always, now and ever

and forever.

**Response:** Amen.

Leader: Through the prayers of

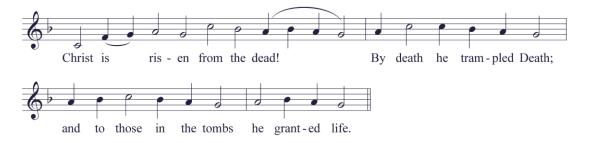
> our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God,

have mercy on us.

**Response:** Amen. Glory to you, our God, glory to you!

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things. Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

From Pascha until Pentecost, "Glory to you..." and "Heavenly King..." are not said. From Pascha until Ascension, the following Paschal Troparion is sung three times:



#### **Trisagion Prayers**

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (*Three times*)

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions;
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

**Priest:** 

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

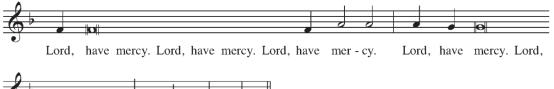
*If a priest is not present:* 

**Leader:** Through the prayers

of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy

on us.

**Response:** Amen.





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

# Call to Worship

#### *Making three reverences:*

Come, let us worship our King and God.
Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.
Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord
Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

The priest and deacon return to the altar, and go to the presbyteral chairs behind the altar.

# Psalm 83

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God.

The sparrow herself finds a home
and the swallow a nest for her brood.

She lays her young by your altars,
Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

They are happy, who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in you, in whose hearts are the roads to Zion.

As they go through the Bitter Valley,

they make it a place of springs;

the autumn rain covers it with blessings.

They walk with ever growing strength, they will see the God of gods in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer, give ear, O God of Jacob.

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed.

One day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

The threshold of the house of God

I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked.

For the Lord loves mercy and truth; he will give us his favor and glory.

The Lord will not refuse any good to those who walk without blame.

Lord, God of hosts, happy the man who trusts in you!

# Psalm 84

You have favored your land, O Lord; you have restored the well-being of Jacob.

You forgave the guilt of your people and covered all their sins.

You averted all your rage, you calmed the heat of your anger.

Revive us now, God, our helper!

Put an end to your grievance against us.

Will you be angry with us forever;

will your anger never cease?

Will you not restore again our life that your people may rejoice in you?

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

I shall hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace;

Peace for his people and his friends and those who turn to him in their hearts.

His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met; justice and peace have kissed.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

#### Psalm 85

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give answer for I am poor and needy.

Preserve my life, for I am faithful; save the servant who trusts in you.

You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

- Give joy to your servant, O Lord, for to you I lift up my soul.
- O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
- Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice.
- In the day of distress I shall call and surely you will reply.
- Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord; nor work to compare with yours.
- All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord.
- For you are great and do marvelous deeds, you who alone are God.
- Show me, Lord, your way so that I may walk in your truth. Guide my heart to fear your name.
- I shall praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart and glorify your name forever;
- For your love to me has been great: you have saved me from the depths of the grave.
- The proud have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life; to you they pay no heed.
- But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord,
- Abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me.
- O give your strength to your servant and save your handmaid's child.
- Show me the sign of your favor
- that my foes may see to their shame that you console me and give me your help.

and again:

Show me the sign of your favor that my foes may see to their shame that you console me and give me your help.

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! (*Three times, each with a bow*)

#### *Third time, with melody:*



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

## **Troparion**

If the Typikon appoints more than one Troparia, all but the final Troparion are sung before the "Glory..."

**Cantor**: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

The Troparion of the patron, day, saint, or feast is sung as appointed by the Typikon.

#### Theotokion of the Hour

## Continuing in the same tone as the Troparion:

**Cantor**: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

For the sake of all you were born of the Virgin, \* and you endured the cross, O good one. \* You conquered death by death, and through your resurrection \* you revealed yourself as God. \* Do not disdain those whom you have created with your own hands, \* but show forth your loving-kindness, O merciful one. \* Accept the intercession which the Theotokos makes in our behalf. \* O our Savior, save a despairing people.

#### *Then we chant the following verses (Daniel 3:34-35):*

For your name's sake, do not deliver us up forever, or make void your covenant.

Do not take away your mercy from us, for the sake of Abraham, your beloved, Isaac your servant, and Israel your holy one.

# **Trisagion Prayers**

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (*Three times*)

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

**Priest:** For thine is the

kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and

ever and forever.

*If a priest is not present:* 

**Leader:** Through the prayers

of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy

on us.

**Response:** Amen. **Response:** Amen.

#### **Kontakion**

The kontakion of the patron, day, saint, or feast is sung as appointed by the Typikon.

The priest and deacon, leaving the altar by the northern door, come in front of the Royal Doors.

# "Lord, have mercy" is now sung forty times. It may be sung in several languages:



## **Prayer of the Hours**

Priest: or Leader:

O good God, in all times and places you are worshiped and glorified both in heaven and on earth. You are long-suffering and generous in your mercy and compassion. You love the just and show mercy to the sinner, calling all to repentance through the promise of blessings to come. Deem, O Lord, at this very hour, to receive our supplications and to direct our lives in the path of your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set aright our minds; cleanse our thoughts; deliver us from all affliction, trouble, and distress; surround us with your holy angels so that, guided and guarded in their camp, we may attain oneness of faith and the knowledge of your unspeakable glory. For you are blessed forever and ever.

**Response:** Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who, a virgin, gave birth to God, the Word; you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.

## *If a priest is present:*

**All:** Give the blessing, Father,

in the name of the Lord

**Priest:** May God be merciful to us

and bless us; may he cause his countenance to shine upon us, and have mercy

upon us, and have mercy

on us.

**Response:** Amen.

# *If a priest is not present:*

**Leader:** Through the prayers

of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on

us.

**Response:** Amen.

If there is no priest, Ninth Hour concludes here.

If it is a day of Alleluia on Monday through Friday, Ninth Hour continues with the Prayer of St. Ephrem.

Priest: or Leader: Master Lord Jesus Christ, our God, you patiently endured our sins and led us to this very hour at which you were hung upon the lifegiving wood. You opened a way to paradise for the penitent thief and destroyed death by death. Now forgive the trespasses that we your servants have committed, unworthy sinners that we are. We have sinned indeed and transgressed your law. We are unworthy even to lift up our eyes to heaven, for we have abandoned the path of your righteousness and pursued the desires of our hearts. But now we implore your immense goodness: Spare us, O Lord, in the multitude of your mercies, save us for the sake of your most holy name. Our days were spent in vanity; wrest us from the hands of our enemy and forgive our sins. Subdue in us the cravings of our flesh, so that, after putting off the old self, we may put on the new and live for you, our Master and Benefactor; and that,

obeying your commandments, we may reach eternal repose in the place where all the blessed abide. For you are truly joy and delight to those who love you, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you, with your eternal Father, and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

If Vespers is to follow immediately, begin with the Call to Worship ("Come, let us worship..."). Otherwise, the following Dismissal.

#### **Dismissal**

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

glory to you!

**Response:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

now and ever, and forever. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Give the blessing.

Throughout **Pascha**, the following is sung in place of "Glory to the Father... Give the blessing."

**Response:** Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled Death;

and to those in the tombs he granted life.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Give the blessing.

**Priest:** May Christ our true God,

On Sunday &

throughout Pascha: risen from the dead,

Daily: have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of

his most pure Mother;

On Wednesday,

*Friday, & Saturday:* by the power of the precious and life- creating cross;

*On Monday &* through the protection of the honorable and heavenly

Saturday: angelic powers;

On Tuesday & (through the prayers) of the honorable and glorious

Saturday: prophet, forerunner, and baptist John;

Daily: (through the prayers) of the holy, glorious, and

illustrious apostles;

*On Thursday &* of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker,

Saturday: archbishop of Myra;

On Saturday: of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our

venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and

just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna;

*Daily:* of the holy (*Name/s*), the patron[s] / [patroness] of this

church; of the holy (*Name/s of the saint/s whose day it is*); and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is

good and loves us all.

Response:

A - - - - men.