

THE SIXTH HOUR

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

The priest, vested in epitrachilion, and 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.

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 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:*

Christ is ris - en from the dead! By death he tram - pled Death;
and to those in the tombs he grant - ed life.

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.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
 have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. *(Twice)*

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 53

O God, save me by your name,
 by your power, uphold my cause.
 O God, hear my prayer;
 listen to the words of my mouth.
 For strangers have risen against me,
 ruthless men seek my life.
 They have no regard for God.
 But I have God for my help.
 The Lord upholds my life.

Let the evil recoil upon my foes;
 you who are faithful, destroy them.
I shall sacrifice to you with willing heart
 and praise your name for it is good:
for you have rescued me from all distress
 and my eyes have seen the downfall of my foes.

Psalm 54

O God, listen to my prayer,
 do not hide from my pleading.
Attend to me and reply;
 with my cares, I cannot rest.
I tremble at the shouts of the foe,
 at the cries of the wicked;
for they bring down evil upon me.
 They assail me with fury.
My heart is stricken within me,
 death's terror is on me.
Trembling and fear fall upon me
 and horror overwhelms me.
O that I had wings like a dove
 to fly away and be at rest.
So I would escape far away
 and take refuge in the desert.
I would hasten to find a shelter
 from the raging wind,
from the destructive storm, O Lord,
 and from their plotting tongues.
For I can see nothing
 but violence and strife in the city.

Night and day they patrol
 high on the city walls.
It is full of wickedness and evil;
 it is full of sin.
Its streets are never free
 from tyranny and deceit.
If this had been done by an enemy
 I could bear his taunts.
If a rival had risen against me,
 I could hide from him.
But it is you, my own companion, my intimate friend!
 How close was the friendship between us.
We walked together in harmony
 in the house of God.
May Hades fall suddenly upon them!
 Let them go to the grave;
for wickedness dwells in their homes
 and deep in their hearts.
As for me, I shall cry to God,
 and the Lord will save me.
Evening, morning and at noon I shall cry and lament,
 but he hears my voice.
He will deliver my soul in peace in the attack against me;
 for those who fight me are many,
God will hear and will humble them,
 the eternal judge;
for they will not amend their ways.
 They have no fear of God.
He has stretched out his hands to pay them back,
 for they have profaned his covenant,

They have been divided by the anger of his face,
and their heart has drawn near.
Their words are smoother than oil,
but they are naked swords.
Entrust your cares to the Lord
and he will support you.
He will never allow
the just man to stumble.
But you, O God, will bring them down
to the pit of death.
Deceitful and bloodthirsty men shall not live half their days.
O Lord, I shall trust in you.

Psalm 90

The one who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
abides in the shadow of the God of heaven.
He says to the Lord: "You are my Protector, my Refuge,
and my God in whom I trust."
It is he who will free you from the snare of the fowler
who seeks to destroy you.
He will conceal you with his pinions
and under his wings you will find refuge.
You will not fear the terror of the night
nor the arrow that flies by day,
nor the plague that prowls in the darkness
nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.
A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand fall at your right,
you, it will never approach;
his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eyes have only to look
to see how the wicked are repaid,
you who have said: "Lord, my refuge!"
and have made the Most High your dwelling.
Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels,
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you upon their hands
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread
and trample the young lion and the dragon.
Since he clings to me in love, I will free him;
protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: "I am with you,"
I will save him in distress and give him glory.
With length of days I will content him;
I shall let him see my saving power.

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.

Since we have no one in whom to confide because of our many sins, O Virgin Theotokos, * intercede for us with the one who was born of you; * for a mother's prayer is a powerful means for obtaining the Master's favor. * You are most worthy of veneration, * so do not turn away from the pleading of us sinners; * for the one who willed to suffer for our sake is full of mercy, ** and his power is sufficient to save us.

Then we chant the following verses (Ps. 78:8-9):

Let your compassion hasten to meet us;
we are left in the depths of distress.
O God our savior, come to our help.
Come for the sake of the glory of your name.
O Lord our God, forgive us our sins;
rescue us for the sake of your name.

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


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:




Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer-cy.



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer-cy.



Hó - spodi pomíluj. Hóspodi pomíluj. Hóspodi pomíluj. Hóspodi pomíluj. Hóspodi po - mí - luj.



Hó-spo - di pomíluj. Hóspodi pomíluj. Hóspodi pomíluj. Hóspodi pomíluj. Hóspo-di po - mí-luj.

Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham.

Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham. Ya rub-bur-ham.

Ky - rie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyri - e e - lei - son.

Prayer of the Hours

Priest: 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:

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
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.

The service concludes here.

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

Priest: God and Lord of Powers and Maker of all creation, through your compassion beyond our understanding, you sent down your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, for the salvation of our race. Through his honorable cross he canceled the debt of our sins and triumphed over the powers and masters of darkness. Now, O loving Master, accept from us sinners these prayers of thanksgiving and petition, and preserve us from any deadly fall in the darkness and against every visible and invisible enemy who may seek our harm. Pierce our bodies with fear of you, and let not our souls fall into evil words or thoughts, but, instead, wound them with love for you so that, looking upon you at all times and guided by the light that emanates from you, we may contemplate the unapproachable eternal light. May we ever address our profession and thanksgiving to you, O eternal Father, to your only-begotten Son, and to your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

If Typika or the Ninth Hour 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. 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 & Saturday: through the protection of the honorable and heavenly angelic powers;
On Tuesday & Saturday: (through the prayers) of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John;
Daily: (through the prayers) of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles;
On Thursday & Saturday: of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, 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:

