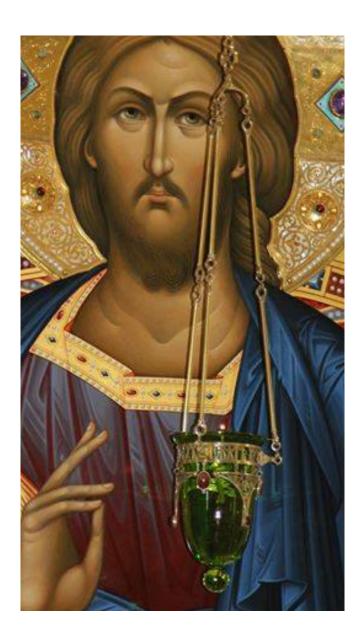
The Service of Vespers



Holy Wisdom Orthodox Church, Grand Junction, Colorado ©2021

Liturgical Calendar and Rubrics Divine Services According to the Revised Julian Calendar [New Style]

Compiled and revised by Sergei D. Arhipov with the assistance of Paul Kappanadze and the Brotherhood of the Monastery of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk.

The Lectionary as set forth in the 2021 Liturgical Calendar and Rubrics is in accordance with the practice of The Orthodox Church in America to follow the Lectionary as established in the practice of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Approved by and printed with the blessing of +Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington D.C., Metropolitan of All America and Canada.

Special Notes

Concerning Great Vespers (if served apart from Matins)

If Great Vespers must be served separately from Matins during All-night vigil, as is commonly the case in Parish life (and also in those Churches following the so-called Byzantine Practice, such as the Albanian, Romanian and Bulgarian Churches), it should conclude as follows: After the Troparia"

PRIEST (OR DEACON): Wisdom!

CHOIR: Father, bless!

PRIEST: Blessed be He Who is...

CHOIR: Amen. Preserve, O God, the Holy Orthodox Faith and Orthodox Christians unto ages of

ages!

PRIEST: Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

CHOIR: More honorable....

PRIEST: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God....

CHOIR: Glory. now and ever. Lord, have mercy (thrice). Father, bless!

PRIEST: (appropriate Dismissal).

Concerning the Singing of the Dismissal Troparia at Great Vespers

When Great Vespers is sung apart from Matins (not as part of an All-night Vigil) the order for chanting the Troparia is the same as that at Matins after "*The Lord is God...*," except that at Great Vespers never more than three troparia are to be sung.

If at Matins <u>four</u> different troparia are prescribed, at Great Vespers only the first <u>two</u> are sung then the dismissal Theotokion.

If at Sunday Matins <u>three</u> troparia are prescribed (the Resurrection troparion to be repeated), at Great Vespers the Resurrection troparion is sung only once (the Rubrics must be consulted).

Note that the Troparion "Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos..." is prescribed to be sung only at Allnight Vigil for Sunday and certain feasts.

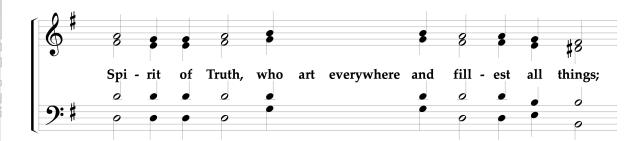
Concerning Scripture Readings

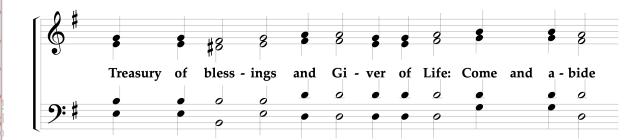
Some of the prescribed Old Testament Readings used at Vespers and certain other Services are of a composite nature and hence are difficult to read from the ordinarily-available English-language texts. These are printed in full in the annual Liturgical Calendar.

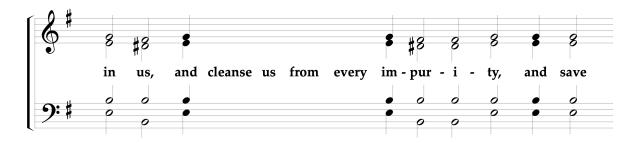
THE SERVICE OF VESPERS

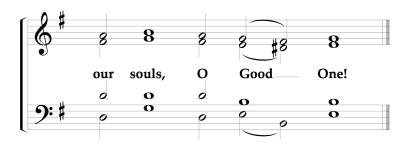
PRIEST: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.











Note: "O Heavenly Kings..." may be read instead of sung. If so, the order is:

PRIEST: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Note: From Pascha until its Leave-Taking, "Glory to Thee..., O Heavenly Kings:" is omitted. Instead we sing "Christ is risen..." (3); Priest $2\frac{1}{2}$, Choir $\frac{1}{2}$.

Trisagion

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; 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 the ages of ages.

Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

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.



Proemial Psalm (Psalm 103)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.

Confession and majesty hast Thou put on.

Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain.

Who supported His chambers in the waters, Who appointed the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds.

Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.

Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back for ever and ever.

The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand.

At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.

The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them.

Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth.

He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run.

They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field: the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst.

Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.

He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works.

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, To bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man.

To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted.

There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them.

The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.

He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down.

Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad.

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Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God.

The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens.

But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labour until the evening.

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation.

So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great.

There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein.

All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it.

When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled.

Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return.

Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works.

Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.

May my words be sweet unto Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord.

O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down; Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night.

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord; In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

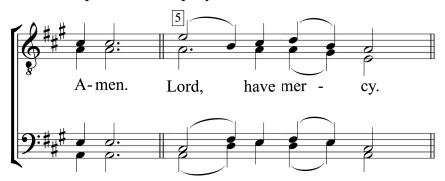
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (3)

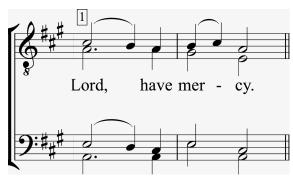


Great Litany

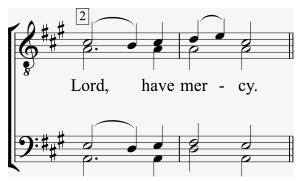
DEACON: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



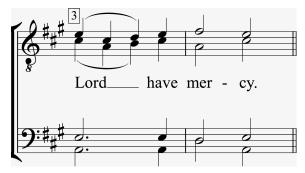
For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.



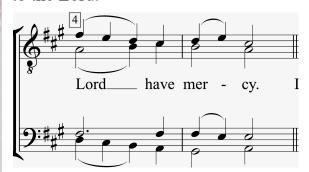
For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.



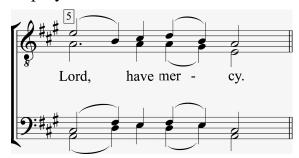
For this holy house and for those who enter it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.



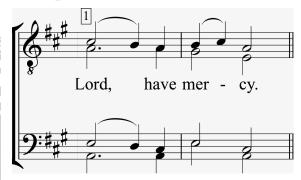
For our Metropolitan Tikhon, for our Archbishop Benjamin, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.



For this country, its President, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.



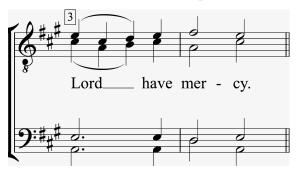
For this city, for every city and countryside, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.



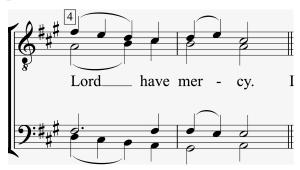
For seasonable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.



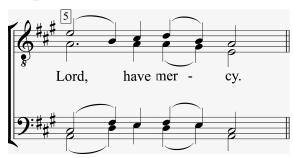
For travelers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



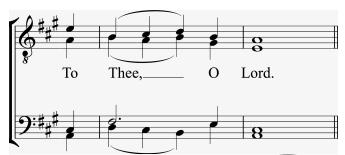
That we may be delivered from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.



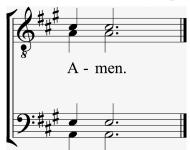
Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.



Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.



PRIEST: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.



Psalter Kathisma

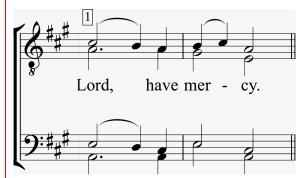
Note: The Psalter kathisma may be read at Daily Vespers. At Great Vespers the following is chanted from the First Kathisma:



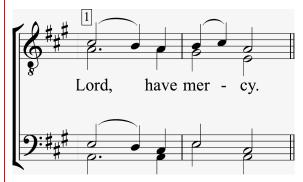


Small Litany After the Kathisma Reading

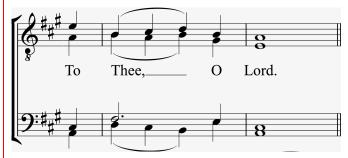
DEACON: Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.



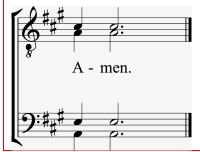
Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.



Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.



PRIEST: For Thine is the dominion, and 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 the ages of ages.



Psalms 140, 141, 129, and 116

Master, I have cried to Thee, incline Thine ear and hear me; • incline Thine ear and hear me, Lord. • Master, I have cried to Thee, incline Thine ear and hear me: • hearken to the voice of my soul's entreaty, • When I lift my fervent prayer to Thee: • incline Thine ear and hear me, Lord.

Now unto Thee my prayer is ascending • as incense arising in Thy presence. • Heavenward my hands are lifted • an vespertime offering; • incline Thine ear and hear me, Lord.

These verses are simply intoned antiphonally until the beginning of the stichoi.

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; \bullet 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, mine affliction before Him will I declare.

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 Thee, O Lord, O Lord, are mine eyes, in Thee have I hoped; • take not my soul away.

When my spirit was fainting within me, then Thou knewest my paths; • in this way wherein I have walked they hid for me a snare.

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

Flight hath failed me, \bullet and there is none that watcheth out for my soul.

I have cried unto Thee, O Lord; • I said: Thou art my hope, my portion art Thou in the land of the living.

Attend unto my supplication, • for I am brought very low.

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

For 10 stichera: Bring my soul out of prison,... • that I may confess Thy name.

Stichos (10)

The righteous shall wait patiently for me • until Thou shalt reward me.

Stichos (9)

For 8 stichera: Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; • O Lord, hear my voice.

Stichos (8)

Let Thine ears be attentive • *to the voice of my supplication.*

Stichos (7)

For 6 stichera: If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? • For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Stichos (6)

For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath patiently waited for Thy word, • my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Stichos (5)

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch • let Israel hope in the Lord.

Stichos (4)

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; • and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

Stichos (3)

O praise the Lord, all ye nations; • praise Him, all ye peoples.

Stichos (2)

For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, • and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

Stichos (1)

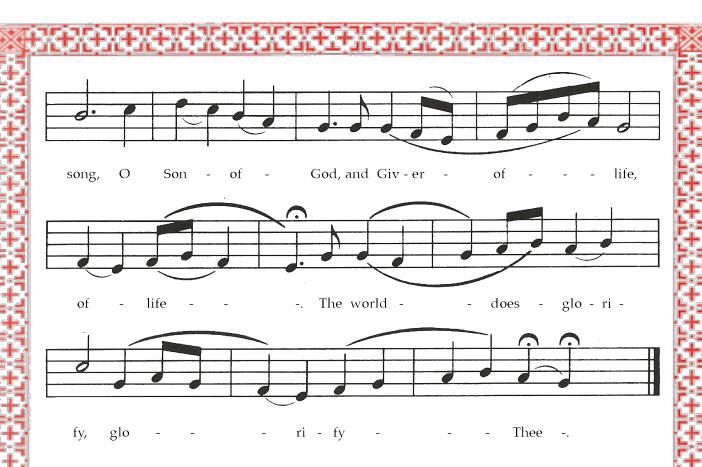
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit...

Doxastikon or Dogmatikon, if prescribed.

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokíon or Stávrotheotokion.







Prokeimenon

DEACON: Let us attend.

PRIEST: Peace be unto all.

[And with Thy spirit.] *This response is not said in most parishes.

Saturday Evening

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone. The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty.





Deacon: The Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself.

The Lord is King, He is clothed in majesty.

Deacon: For He established the universe which shall not be shaken.

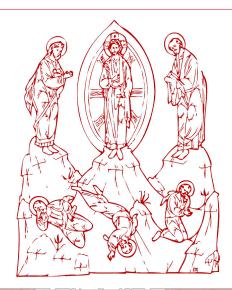
The Lord is King, He is clothed in majesty.

Deacon: Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days.

The Lord is King, He is clothed in majesty.

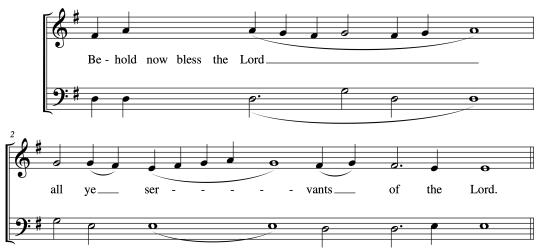
DEACON: The Lord is King...

He is clothed in majesty.



Sunday Evening

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone. Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.



Deacon: Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.

Behold now, bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.

DEACON: Behold now, bless the Lord...

All ye servants of the Lord.

Monday Evening

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone. The Lord will hearken unto me • when I cry unto Him.



Deacon: When I called upon Thee, O God of my righteousness, Thou didst hearken unto me.

The Lord will hear me • when I call to Him.

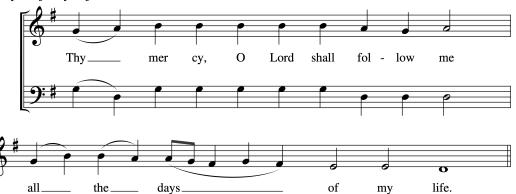
Deacon: The Lord will hearken unto me...

When I call to Him.



Tuesday Evening

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the First Tone. Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.



Deacon: The Lord is my shepherd, and I shall not want. In a place of green pasture, there hath He made me to dwell.

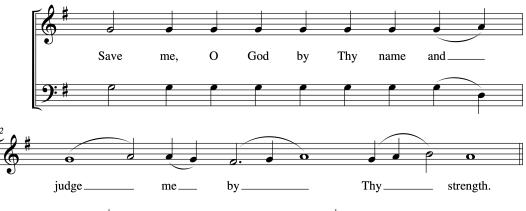
Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

Deacon: Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me...

All the days of my life.

Wednesday Evening

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Fifth Tone. Save me, O God, by Thy name, and judge me by Thy strength.



Deacon: O God, hearken unto my prayer, give ear unto the words of my mouth.

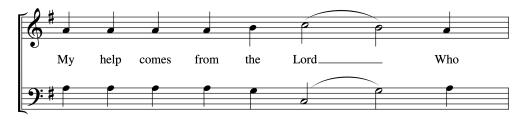
Save me, O God, by Thy name and judge me by Thy strength.

Deacon: Save me, O God, by Thy name...

And judge me by Thy strength.

Thursday Evening

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone. My help cometh from the Lord, • Who hath made heaven and the earth.





Deacon: I have lifted up mine eyes to the Mountains, from whence cometh my help.

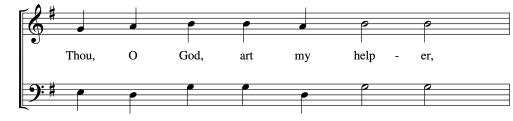
My help cometh from the Lord, • Who hath made heaven and the earth.

Deacon: My help cometh from the Lord...

Who hath made heaven and the earth.

Friday Evening

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone. Thou, O God, art my helper, and Thy mercy shall go before me.





DEACON: Rescue me from mine enemies, O God, and from them that rise up against me redeem me.

Thou, O God, art my helper, and Thy mercy shall go before me.

Deacon: O God, my helper art Thou...

And Thy mercy shall go before me.

Readings on Certain Feasts

Before each reading:

DEACON: Wisdom.

The Reading from...

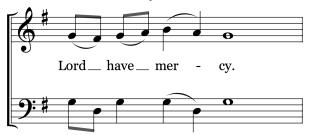
DEACON: Let us attend.

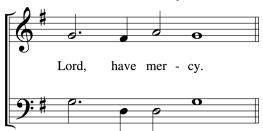
The Reader intones the prescribed reading.

At Daily Vespers, omit the following Litany; read the Evening Prayer, (page 25).

Augmented Litany at Great Vespers

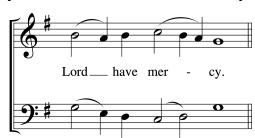
DEACON: Let us all say, with all our soul, and with all our mind, let us say:





O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.





Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.



Again we pray for our Metropolitan Tikhon, for our Archbishop Benjamin, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brethren in Christ.



Again we pray for this country, its President, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.



Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox Patriarchs; and for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church; [for NN.;] and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.



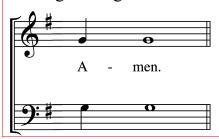
Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, for the servants of God, [for NN.; and for] the brethren of this holy temple, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.



Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.



PRIEST: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and to Thee do we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.



Evening Prayer

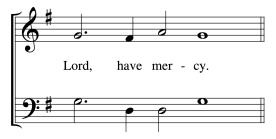
Vouchsafe, O Lord, that we may be kept this evening without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy Statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, make me to understanding Thy Statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy Statutes.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endures to the ages; despise not disregard the works of Thy hands. Unto Thee is due praise. Unto Thee is due a song. Unto Thee is due glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Evening Litany

DEACON: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.



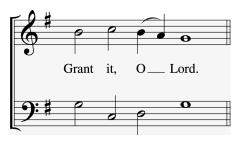
Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.



That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.



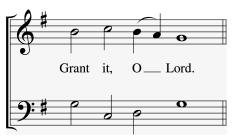
An Angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.



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



All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.



That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.



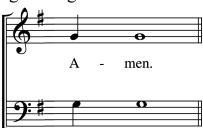
A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.



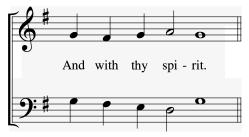
Commemorating our all-holy, most-pure, most-blessed, and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.



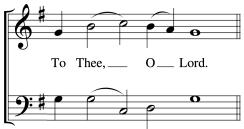
PRIEST: For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and to Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.



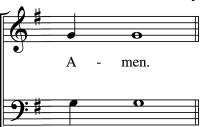
PRIEST: Peace be unto all.



DEACON: Bow your heads unto the Lord.



PRIEST: Blessed and most-glorified be the might of Thy Kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.



Aposticha

Saturday Evening

Stichos

The Lord is King: He is clothed with majesty. * The Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself.

Stichos

For He established the universe * which shall not be shaken.

Stichos

*Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, * unto length of days.*

Stichos

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

Doxastikon if prescribed

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokíon or Stávrotheotokion

Daily Vespers

Stichos

Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, unto Thee that dwellest in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaid look unto the hands of her Mistress, so do our eyes look unto the Lord our God, • until He take pity on us.

Stichos

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for greatly are we filled with abasement. Greatly hath our soul been filled therewith; let reproach come upon them that prosper, • and abasement on the proud.

Stichos

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

Doxastikon if prescribed

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Theotokíon or Stávrotheotokion



Trisagion

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

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

O All-Holy Trinity: Have mercy on us. Lord: Cleanse us from our sins. Master: Pardon our transgressions. Holy One: Visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, 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 the ages of ages.

Amen.

Troparia

Tropárion(a)

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

Theotokíon or Stávrotheotokion



At Great Vespers, omit the following Litany and straightaway go to the Dismissal (page 33).

Litany at Daily Vespers

DEACON: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.



Again we pray for our Metropolitan Tikhon, for our Archbishop Benjamin, for priests, deacons, and all other clergy, and for all our brethren in Christ.



Again we pray for this country, its President, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.



Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox Patriarchs; and for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church; [for NN.;] and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.



Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, for the servants of God, [for NN.; and for] the brethren of this holy temple, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.



Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.



PRIEST: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and to Thee do we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

