Divine Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts

WEDNESDAY EVENING IN SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and

ever and unto ages of ages!

People: Amen!

OPENING PRAYERS

Priest: Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee! O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things; Treasury of good things and Giver of life: come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us! (x 3)

Glory ... Now and ever ...

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us! Lord, cleanse us from our sins! Master, pardon our iniquities! Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake!

Lord, have mercy! (x 3) Glory... Now and ever...

Our Father ...

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

People: Amen.

Come, let us worship and fall down before 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 the very Christ, our King and our God!

PSALM 104 (103)

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, Thou art very great; Thou hast clothed Thyself with praise and majesty, robing Thyself with light as with a garment, spreading out the heaven as a curtain.

Who covers His chambers with waters; who makes the clouds His chariot; who walks on the wings of the wind. Who makes His angels spirits, and His ministers a flaming fire. Who establishes the earth on its sure foundation: it shall not be moved forever and ever. The deep, like a cloak is its garment; the waters shall stand on the mountains.

At Thy rebuke they shall take flight; at the voice of Thy thunder they shall be afraid. The mountains will rise and the plains descend to the place which Thou hast established for them. Thou hast set a boundary which they shall not pass, nor shall they return to cover the earth.

He sends forth his fountains among the valleys: the waters shall run between the mountains. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field: the wild asses shall await them to quench their thirst. By them shall the birds of the sky have their dwelling: out of the midst of the rocks shall they utter their song. He waters the mountains from His chambers: the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works.

He makes grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of mankind; to bring food out of the earth, and wine makes glad the human heart; to make the face cheerful with oil, and bread strengthens the human heart. The trees of the plain shall be full of sap; even the cedars of Lebanon which Thou hast planted. There the sparrows will build their nests; and the heron's dwelling is at their head. The high mountains are for the deer; rocks a refuge for hares.

He made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows the hour of its setting. Thou hast appointed darkness, and it was night, in which all the beasts of the forest will prowl; young lions roaring to plunder and to seek their food from God. The sun arises, and they are gathered together, and they will lie down in their dens. Man will go out to his work; and to his laboring until evening.

How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In Wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is full with Thy creation. Behold this great and spacious sea; there are creeping things without number, living creatures small and great. There ships go to and fro; and this dragon which Thou hast fashioned to play therein.

All things look to 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 will be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy Face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take away their spirit, and they shall cease and return to their dust; 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 shall rejoice in his works—the Lord Who looks upon the earth, and makes it tremble; who touches the mountains, 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. Let my words be pleasing to Him: and I will rejoice in the Lord. O, that sinners and transgressors would cease from the earth, so that they are no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

[Louder, and recited on one pitch:] Thou hast appointed darkness, and it was night. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; in Wisdom hast Thou made them all! Glory ... Now and ever ...

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God!

Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God!

Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! Our God and our hope, glory to Thee!



After the Litany, the chanters take turns reading the Psalms:

<u>Psalm 119</u> Unto the Lord in mine affliction have I cried, and He heard me. O Lord, deliver my soul from unrighteous lips and from a crafty tongue. What shall be given unto thee and what shall be added unto thee for thy crafty tongue? The arrows of the mighty one, sharpened with coals of the desert. Woe is me, for my sojourning is prolonged; I have tented with the tentings of Kedar; my soul hath long been a sojourner. With them that hate peace I was peaceable; when I spoke unto them, they warred against me without a cause.

<u>Psalm 120</u> I have lifted up my eyes to the mountains, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth. Give not thy foot unto moving, and may He not slumber that keepeth thee. Behold, He shall not slumber nor shall He sleep, He that keepeth Israel. The Lord shall keep thee; the Lord is thy shelter at thy right hand. The sun shall not burn thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall keep thee from all evil; the Lord shall guard thy soul. The Lord shall keep thy coming in and thy going out, from henceforth and forevermore.

<u>Psalm 121</u> I was glad because of them that said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet have stood in thy courts, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city which its dwellers share in concord. For there the tribes went up, the tribes of the Lord, as a testimony for Israel, to give thanks to the Name of the Lord. For there are set thrones unto judgment, thrones over the house of David. Ask now for the things which are for the peace of Jerusalem, and for the prosperity of them that love thee. Let peace be now in thy strength, and prosperity in thy palaces. For the sake of my brethren and my neighbors, I spoke peace concerning thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I have sought good things for thee.

<u>Psalm 122</u> Unto Thee have I lifted up my 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. 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.

Psalm 123 Had it not been that the Lord was with us, let Israel now say, had it not been that the Lord was with us, when men rose up against us, then had they swallowed us up alive. When their wrath raged against us, then had the water overwhelmed us. Our soul hath passed through a torrent; then had our soul passed through the water that is irresistible. Blessed be the Lord Who hath not given us to be a prey to their teeth. Our soul like a sparrow was delivered out of the snare of the hunters. The snare is broken, and we are delivered. Our help is in the Name of the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth.

Glory ... Now and ever ...

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE); Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

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



After the Litany, the people take turns reading the Psalms:

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

<u>Psalm 124</u> They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Sion; he that dwelleth at Jerusalem, nevermore shall he be shaken. Mountains are round about her, and the Lord is round about His people from henceforth and forevermore. For the Lord will not permit the rod of sinners to be upon the lot of the righteous, lest the righteous stretch forth their hands unto iniquities. Do good, O Lord, unto them that are good and unto the upright of heart. But them that turn aside unto crooked ways shall the Lord lead away with the workers of iniquity; peace be upon Israel.

<u>Psalm 125</u> When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion, we became as men that are comforted. Then was our mouth filled with joy, and our tongue with rejoicing. Then shall they say among the nations: The Lord hath done great things unto them. The Lord hath done great things among us, and we are become glad. Turn again, O Lord, our captivity, like streams in the south. They that sow with tears shall reap with rejoicing. In their going they went, and they wept as they cast their seeds. But in their coming shall they come with rejoicing, bearing their sheaves.

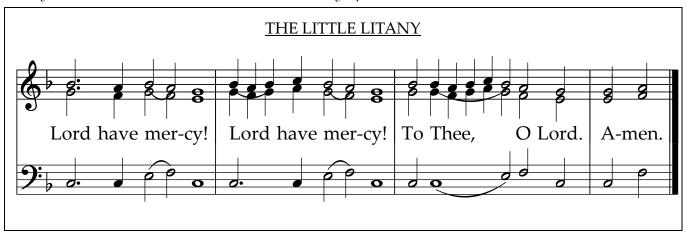
<u>Psalm 126</u> Except the Lord build the house, in vain do they labor that build it. Except the Lord guard the city, in vain doth he watch that guards her; it is vain for you to rise at dawn. Ye that eat the bread of sorrow, rouse yourselves after resting, when He hath given sleep to His beloved. Lo, sons are the heritage of the Lord, the reward of the fruit of the womb. Like arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are the sons of them that were outcasts. Blessed is he that shall fulfill his desires with them; they shall not be put to shame when they speak to their enemies in the gates.

<u>Psalm 127</u> Blessed are all they that fear the Lord, that walk in His ways. Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy labors; blessed art thou, and well shall it be with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine on the sides of thy house, thy sons like young olive trees round about thy table. Behold, so shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord. The Lord bless thee out of Sion, and mayest thou see the good things of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. And mayest thou see thy children; peace be upon Israel.

<u>Psalm 128</u> Many a time have they warred against me from my youth, let Israel now say, many a time have they warred against me from my youth, and yet they have not prevailed against me. The sinners wrought upon my back, they lengthened out their iniquity. The Lord is righteous; He hath cut asunder the necks of sinners. Let them be put to shame and turned back, all they that hate Sion. Let them be as the grass upon the housetops, which before it is plucked up is withered away. Wherefore the reaper filleth not his hand, nor he that gathereth sheaves his bosom. Nor have they that passed by said: The blessing of the Lord come upon you; we have blessed you in the Name of the Lord.

Glory ... Now and ever ... Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE) Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

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



After the Litany, the chanters take turns reading the Psalms:

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

Psalm 129 Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; Lord hear my voice. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness, that Thou mayest be feared. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

<u>Psalm 130</u> O Lord, my heart is not exalted, nor are mine eyes become lofty. Nor have I walked in things too great or too marvelous for me. If I were not humble-minded but exalted my soul, as one weaned from his mother, so wouldst Thou requite my soul. Let Israel hope in the Lord, from henceforth and forevermore.

<u>Psalm 131</u> Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness. How he made an oath unto the Lord, and vowed unto the God of Jacob: I shall not go into the dwelling of my house, I shall not ascend upon the bed of my couch, I shall not give sleep to my eyes, nor slumber to my

eyelids, nor rest to my temples, until I find a place for the Lord, a habitation for the God of Jacob. Lo, we have heard of it in Ephratha, we have found it in the plains of the wood. Let us go forth into His tabernacles, let us worship at the place where His feet have stood. [Together, louder] Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness!

<u>The reader stops and all kneel</u>. The Priest takes up the diskos upon which rests the Lamb and carries it to the Prothesis, while the Deacon, candle in his left hand, censes it. After the diskos has been placed on the Prothesis, the Priest censes the Presanctified Lamb three times, all rise and the reader continues.

Psalm 131 (continued) Thy priests shall be clothed with righteousness, and Thy righteous shall rejoice. For the sake of David Thy servant, turn not Thy face away from Thine anointed one. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and He will not annul it: of the fruit of thy loins will I set upon thy throne. If thy sons keep My covenant and these testimonies which I will teach them, their sons also shall sit forever on thy throne. For the Lord hath elected Sion, He hath chosen her to be a habitation for Himself. This is My rest forever and ever; here will I dwell, for I have chosen her. Blessing, I will bless her pursuit; her beggars will I satisfy with bread. Her priests will I clothe with salvation, and her saints with rejoicing shall rejoice. There will I make to spring forth a horn for David, I have prepared a lamp for My Christ. His enemies will I clothe with shame, but upon Him shall My sanctification flourish.

<u>Psalm 132</u> Behold now, what is so good or so joyous as for brethren to dwell together in unity? It is like the oil of myrrh upon the head, which runs down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, which runs down to the fringe of his raiment. It is like the dew of Hermon, which comes down upon the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

<u>Psalm 133</u> Come now, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord. Ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God, in the nights lift up your hands to the holies and bless the Lord. The Lord bless thee out of Zion, He that made heaven and earth.

Glory... Now and ever... Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! (THRICE) O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!



LORD, I HAVE CRIED PSALM 140 [141]

*Tone 1



"O LORD, I HAVE CRIED" (Tone 1)

[sung by the people or by the priest:] O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord! Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord!

People take turns reading these verses of Ps. 140-141:

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth and a door round about my lips.

Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.

With men that work iniquity, and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.

The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.

For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.

They shall hear my words, for they are sweet. As when the thickness of the earth is broken up upon the ground, our bones are scattered by the side of hell.

But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes: in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.

Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.

Let the wicked fall into their own nets while I alone escape.

I cried unto the Lord with my voice; with my voice unto the Lord did I make my supplication.

I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.

When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.

In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.

I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me;

Refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul.

I cried unto thee, O Lord; I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.

Attend unto my cry; for I am brought very low.

Deliver me from my persecutors; for they are stronger than I.

Verse **10.** *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.* Having undertaken the spiritual fast, brethren, let us speak no lies with our tongues, nor give each other a cause for scandal. But illuminating the light of our souls through repentance, let us cry to Christ with tears: Remit our falls in sin, O Lover of mankind.

Verses 9.+8. The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me. Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice. O most-laudable martyrs, the earth did not hide you, for heaven received you. The gate of Paradise was opened unto you, where ye now delight in the tree of life. Entreat Christ that peace and Great Mercy be granted to our souls.

Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. Through the prayers of Thy divine Apostles, O Lord, enable us to perform a proper fast with compunction of mind. That, being saved by Thee, we may glorify Thee, O gracious and merciful God.

Verse 6. If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness. Thy coming will be great and fearful, O Lord, when Thou wilt come in righteous judgment. Do not condemn me, though I stand condemned, but spare me as the compassionate God, through the acceptable prayers of Thine Apostles.

Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord. O Apostles of Christ, the lights of those born on earth, and treasures for the world of the knowledge of God. Through your prayers deliver those, who praise you, from temptation. Enable us to pass the time of fasting in peace, as children. So that having attained the passions of Christ, with boldness we may offer songs of praise to our God.

Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.

Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Verse **2.** *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

Glory ... Now and ever ... [THEOTOKION]: Behold the sighs of my broken heart, O Bride of God. Accept the lifting up of my hands, O pure Virgin Mary. In thy love for mankind do not cast me away, that I may praise and magnify him who in thee magnified mankind.

THE ENTRANCE

While the Theotokion is chanted, the Priest comes before the Altar and together with the Deacon, makes three metanias, then they process outside the altar, taking their stand on the solea, for "Gladsome Light" and the entrance.

O GLADSOME LIGHT [sung or recited together]: O, gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O, Jesus Christ! Lo now that we have come to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light, we praise Thee Father, Son, Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be magnified by joyous voices, O Son of God and Giver of life; therefore the whole world glorifies Thee!

"Gladsome Light" can be sung or recited together.

O, Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O, Jesus Christ! Now that we have come to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light, we praise Thee—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be magnified by joyous voices, O Son of God and Giver of Life. Therefore the whole world glorifies Thee!

GLADSOME LIGHT



THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

The First Reading

Priest: The Evening Prokeimenon!

Reader: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous; and glory, all ye that are upright of heart.

Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from Genesis (4:16-26).

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: So Cain went away from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch; and he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael the father of Methushael, and Methushael the father of Lamech. And Lamech took two wives; the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have cattle. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah bore Tubalcain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubalcain was Naamah. Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, hearken to what I say: I have slain a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain is avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy-sevenfold." And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another child instead of Abel, for Cain slew him." To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time men began to call upon the name of the Lord.

At the end of the first reading, the Priest holds a lighted candle and the censer in his right hand, and the reader reads the Prokeimenon for the second reading.

The Second Reading

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have put our hope in Thee.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright.

Deacon: Command!

The people kneel.

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend!

Priest: The Light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The Reading from Proverbs. (5:15-6:3)

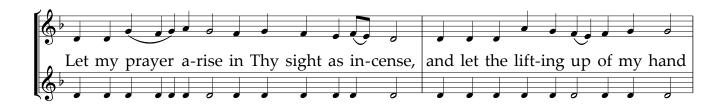
Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well. Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely hind, a graceful doe. Let her affection fill you at all times with delight, be infatuated always with her love. Why should you be infatuated, my son, with a loose woman and embrace the bosom of an adventuress? For a man's ways are before the eyes of the Lord; and he watches all his paths. The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him, and he is caught in the toils of his sin. He dies for lack of discipline, and because of his great folly he is lost. My son, if you have become surety for your neighbor, have given your pledge for a stranger; if you are snared in the utterance of your lips, caught in the words of your mouth; then do this, my son, and save yourself, for you have come into your neighbor's power: go, hasten, and importune your neighbor.

"LET MY PRAYER ARISE"

At the end of the readings, the Priest takes up the censer as the Deacon, holding a lighted candle, goes to stand behind the Holy Table, opposite the Priest. On each of the following verses, the Priest moves to and continuously censes a side of the Holy Table; and the Deacon, holding the candle, moves to stand opposite him. While standing, the people bow at "Let my prayer" and again at "evening sacrifice."

Byzantine, Tone 5





Priest: Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an

evening sacrifice.

People: [repeat]: Let my prayer arise ...

Priest: Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear me; attend to the voice of my supplication

when I cry unto Thee.

People: Let my prayer arise ...

Priest: Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth, and a protecting door about my lips.

People: Let my prayer arise ...

Priest: Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.

People: Let my prayer arise ...

The Deacon exits the Altar through the Holy Doors and stands in the center of the Solea, facing the Holy Altar, as the Priest moves to the Prothesis, censes and intones:

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

People: Let my prayer arise ...

While chanting, the Priest moves in front of the Holy Table and censes it, as he intones:

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

People: Let my prayer arise...

Then, from the Holy Doors, the censes the iconostasis and the people. He chants the first half of the hymn:

Priest: Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense ...

People: and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENT

Priest: Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an

evening sacrifice.

Deacon: Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear me; attend to the voice of my supplication

when I cry unto Thee.

Priest: Let my prayer arise ...

Deacon: Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth, and a protecting door about my lips.

Priest: Let my prayer arise ...

Deacon: Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.

Priest: Let my prayer arise ...

The Deacon exits the Altar through the Holy Doors and stands in the center of the Solea, facing the Holy Altar, as the Priest moves to the Prothesis, censes and intones:

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

Priest: Let my prayer arise ...

While chanting, the Priest moves in front of the Holy Table and censes it; then, from the Holy Doors, he censes the iconostasis and the people.

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

Priest: Let my prayer arise ...

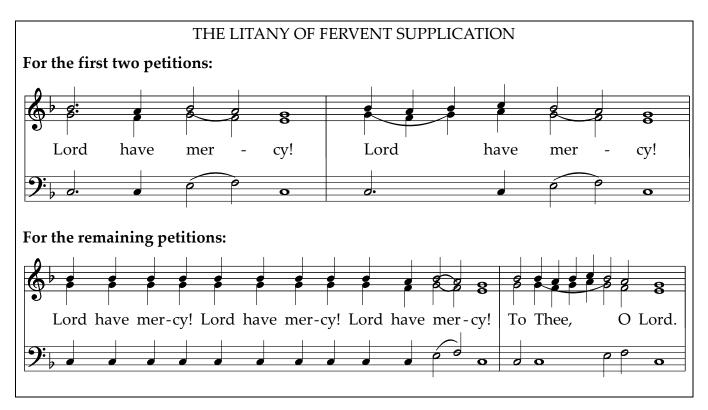
THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

Priest:

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power, and idle talk. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Thy servant. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother; for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)





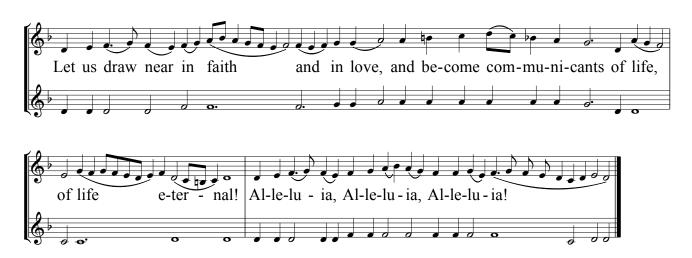
After the last AMEN, the Cherubic Hymn.

CHERUBIC HYMN

Byzantine, tone 5



[Silent procession with the Holy Gifts. As the Priest reenters the Altar, the choir concludes the hymn]



THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

Priest:

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power, and idle talk. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Thy servant. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother; for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*The clergy and people prostrate.*)





Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord. [People: Lord, have mercy.]

For the precious Gifts which have been offered and Presanctified, let us pray to the Lord.

That our Lord God, Who loveth mankind, receiving them upon His holy, heavenly, and ideal Altar for an odor of spiritual sweetness, will send down upon us in return His divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

For this Holy House, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God, enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, 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.

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

[People: Grant this, O 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 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, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Asking for the unity of the Faith, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Priest: O God of ineffable and unseen mysteries, with Whom are hidden treasurers of wisdom and knowledge, Who hast revealed unto us the ministry of this service and hast appointed unto us sinners through Thy great love toward mankind, to offer unto Thee gifts and sacrifices for our sins and for the ignorance of the people: Do Thou the same invisible King, Who doeth things great and inscrutable, glorious and marvelous, which cannot be numbered, look upon us, Thine unworthy servants who stand at this holy altar as at Thy cherubic throne, upon which lieth Thine only-begotten Son and our God, in the dread mysteries spread forth thereon; and having delivered us and all Thy faithful people from every impurity, sanctify all our souls and bodies with the sanctification which cannot be taken away. That partaking with a pure conscience with face unashamed, with heart illumined of these divine, hallowed things and, being enlivened through them, we may be united unto Christ Himself, our true God, Who hath said: Whosoever eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood abideth in Me, and I in him; that, Thy Word, O Lord, making an abode in us and sojourning among us, we may become a temple of Thine all-holy and adorable Spirit, redeemed from every wile of the devil, wrought either by deed or word or thought, and may obtain the good things promised unto us with all Thy saints who in all ages have been well-pleasing unto Thee. And vouchsafe, O Master, that with boldness and without condemnation, we may dare to call upon Thee, the heavenly God, as Father, and to say: OUR FATHER ...

Priest: Peace be to all. **People**: And to Thy spirit.

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

Priest: O God, Who alone art good and compassionate, Who dwellest in the heights and regardest the humble: Look with the eyes of Thy tenderness upon all Thy people, and preserve them. And make us all worthy to partake without condemnation of these Thy life-giving mysteries; for unto Thee have we bowed our heads in the hope of Thy rich mercy. Through the grace and compassion and love toward man of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. [People: Amen.]



Priest: The Presanctified Holy Things are for the holy.

People: One is Holy, One is Lord: Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen!



The Priest divides the Lamb into four parts with great reverence and care, saying:

Priest: Divided and distributed is the Lamb of God, who is divided, yet not disunited; who is ever eaten, yet never consumed, but sanctifies those who partake thereof.

Prayers of preparation for the Holy Communion

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, Who didst come into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord in Thy Kingdom.

May the communion of Thy Holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

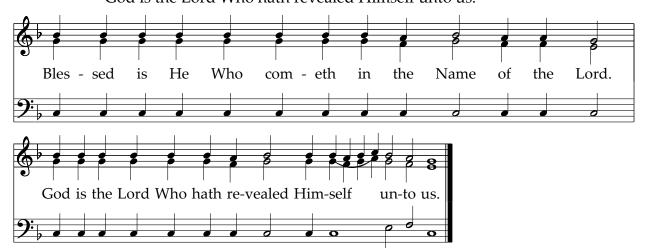
People: O taste and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia. Alleluia.

[music on next page]

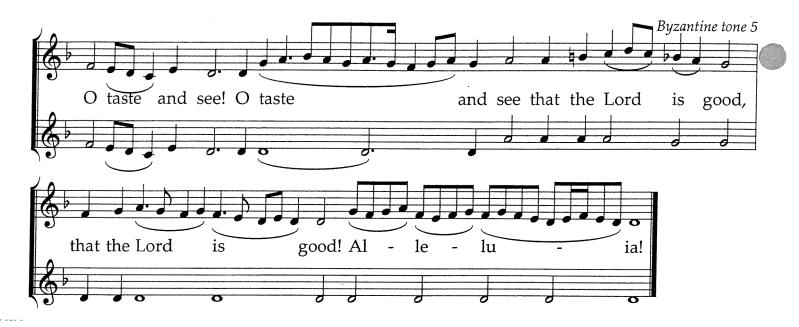
The Priest covers the chalice with the kalima and hands the chalice and spoon to the Deacon. <u>The Priest opens</u> the Holy Doors. Standing in the holy doors facing west, the Deacon elevates the chalice to the people, saying:

Priest: With fear of God and faith and love, draw near.

People: **[sung or recited together**]: Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord Who hath revealed Himself unto us.



O TASTE AND SEE



I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall always be in my mouth.

My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; the humble shall hear and be glad.

O, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His Name together.

I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to Him and be radiant, and your faces shall not be ashamed.

This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

The angel of the LORD will encamp around those who fear Him, and will deliver them.

O, taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

O, fear the LORD, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.

The rich have become poor and hungry;

but those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing.

Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it!

The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears open to their cry.

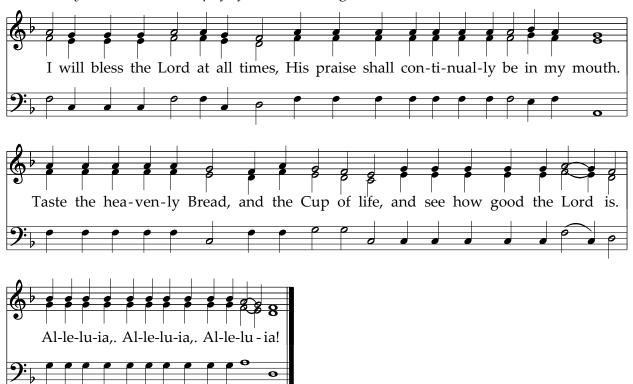
The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.

The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves those of contrite spirit.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. He guards all his bones; not one of them is broken.

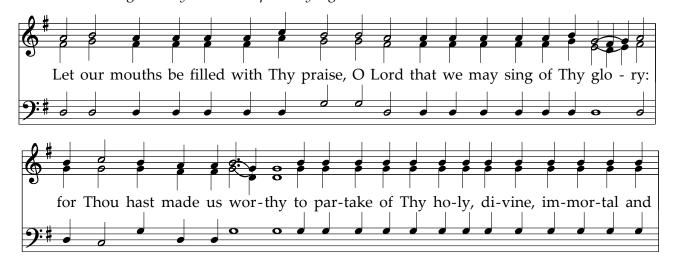
The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, None of those who trust in Him shall be condemned. Priest: O God, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

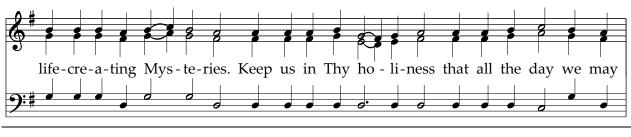
People: I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Taste ye the heavenly Bread, and the Cup of life, and see how good the Lord is. Alleluia. Alleluia.



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

People: Amen. [sung or recited together]: Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise, O Lord that we may sing of Thy glory: for Thou hast made of worthy to partake of Thy holy, divine, immortal and life-creating Mysteries. Keep us in Thy holiness that all the day long we may meditate upon Thy righteousness. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.







THE LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Priest: Let us go forth in peace. People: In the Name of the Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord. People: Lord, have mercy.

THE PRAYER BEHIND THE AMVON

Priest: O almighty Master, Who hast made all creation and by Thine inexpressible providence and great goodness hast brought us to these all-revered days, for the purification of soul and body, for the controlling of passions and for hope of resurrection, Who, during the forty days didst give into the hands of Thy servant Moses the tablets of the Law in characters divinely traced by Thee: Enable us also, O good One, to fight the good fight, to complete the course of the fast, to preserve inviolate the faith, to crush underfoot the heads of invisible serpents, to be accounted victors over sin; and, uncondemned, to attain unto and worship the Holy Resurrection. For blessed and glorified is Thine all-honorable and majestic Name: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen. [sung or recited together]:

Blessed be the Name of the Lord, henceforth and forevermore. (<u>Thrice</u>)

Priest: O Christ our God, Who hast brought us to these all-revered days and hast made us communicants of Thy dread mysteries: Unite us to Thy rational flock, and make us heirs of Thy Kingdom, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and His mercy come upon you through His grace and

love towards mankind, always: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and

unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (thrice). Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of [...] have mercy upon us

and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

People: Amen.