

PARAKLESIS

Office of Consolation to the Most Holy Theotokos

**Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
July, 2009**

Dismissal

Canon of Supplication to the Most Holy Theotokos sung in the case of any spiritual or physical need, the work of the Monk Theostiriktus. Foundational text: Iereiskij Molitvoslov, Rome, 1950, pp. 369-390.

No rubrics are given in the foundational text. The basic rubrics for a Moleben are presupposed. The priest may wear phelonion and epitrachilion for the whole service, or he may wear them only for the reading of the Gospel. The deacon is fully vested. Bright vestments are usually worn.

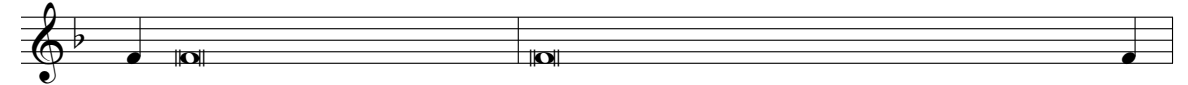
A recording of this service has been prepared and is available through the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great, Mount Saint Macrina, Uniontown, PA.

This text, and harmonizations for the music, can be found on the Metropolitan Cantor Institute website:

<http://metropolitancantorinstitute.org>

Deacon: Wisdom!

Response:



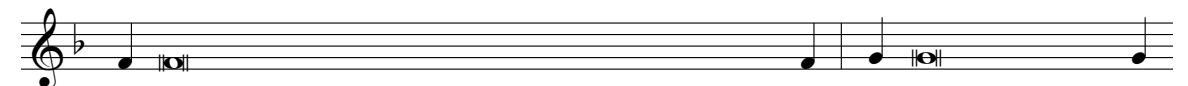
More honorable than the cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim,



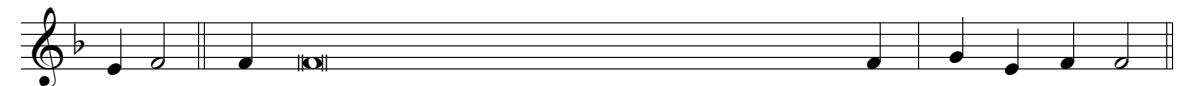
who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we mag-ni-fy.

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

Response:



Glo-ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir-it; now and ever and for ev-er.



A-men. Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord, have mer-cy. Give the bless-ing.

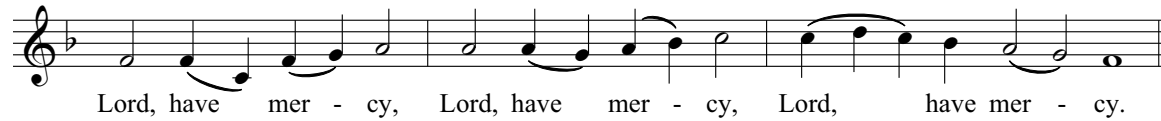
Priest: May Christ our true God, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers and Mothers, and of our holy fathers, Cyril and Methodius, equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, and of holy (*the saint of the day*), and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response:



A - - - - - men.

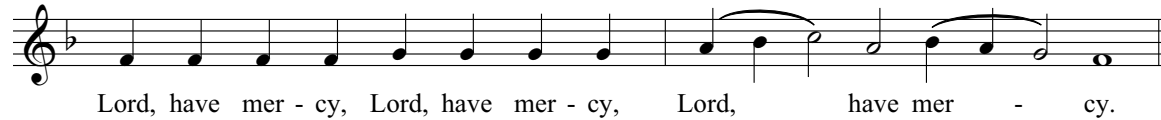
Response:



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

Deacon: Again we pray that the Lord our God may hear the prayer of us sinners, and have mercy on us.

Response:



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

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, hope of all bounds of the earth and those far away at sea. In your goodness be merciful to us sinners, O Master. For you are a merciful God and you love us all, and we glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

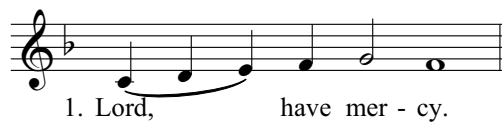
Response:



A - men.

Deacon: In humility bending our necks (*knees*), let us pray to the Lord.

Response:



1. Lord, have mer - cy.

Priest: O our most gracious Lady, O Theotokos, our hope, friend of orphans, defender of strangers, joy of those in sorrow, protection of those treated unjustly, look upon our troubles, look upon our grief, help us in our weakness, guide us who are strangers, you know our offenses, free us from them as you wish, for we have no other help but you, no other defender, no good consoler except you, O Mother of God, for you guard and protect us forever.

Response:



A - men.

The priest stands before the Royal Doors, the deacon to his right.

Deacon: Reverend Father, give the blessing!

Priest: Blessed is our God, ✠ now and ever and forever.

Response:



A - men. *

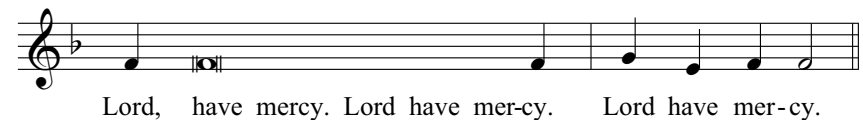
Glory to you, our God,
glory *to* you.

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.

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



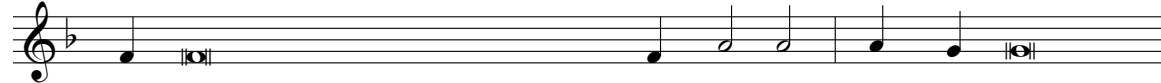

Lord, have mercy. Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy.

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.


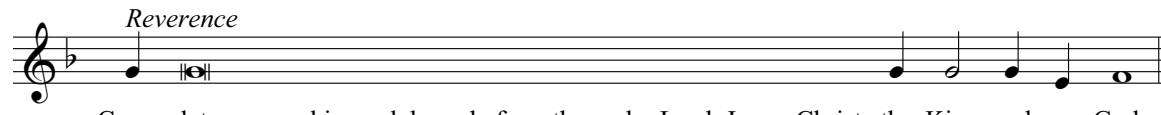
Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
 A - men.




 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
 (sung twice)
 have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Call to Worship


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

The priest returns to the altar. If there is no deacon, the priest remains before the Royal Doors.



 per-ish who place our trust in you, but rath-er through you be de-liv-ered from

 mis - for - tune. For you are the sal - va - tion of all Chris - tians.

The priest and deacon leave the altar. The priest stands before the Royal Doors, the deacon before the Icon of our Lord. The deacon chants the following litany:

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response: 
 Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: Again we pray to the Lord our God, that he may hear the prayer of us sinners, and have mercy on his servants (*Name of those praying this service*), and protect them from every trial and distress, trouble and sorrow, and from every spiritual and physical pain, bestowing on them health and a long life, we all pray: quickly hear us and have mercy.

Response: 
 Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

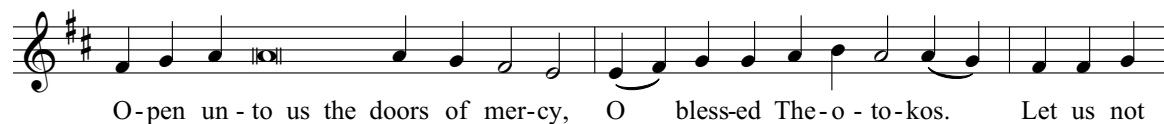
Deacon: Again we pray for the protection of this city (*or: this place*), and this holy church, and every city and countryside, from famine and pestilence, earthquake and flood, fire and sword, foreign invasion and civil unrest: that our loving and good God may be gentle, merciful and placable, and that he may avert from us all threatening danger and save us from his just anger that hangs over us, and that he may have mercy on us.

Kontakion - Tone 6 Troparion (adapt.):



Lord, have mer - cy on us, for in you we place our hope.
Be not ex - ceed - ing - ly an - gry with us, nor mind - ful of our
trans - gres - sions, but look up - on us even now with mer - cy,
and de - liv - er us from our en - e - mies. For you are our God
and we are your peo - ple: we all are the work of your hands,
and we call up - on your name.
Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Theotokion - Tone 6 Troparion (adapt.):



O - pen un - to us the doors of mer - cy, O bless - ed The - o - to - kos. Let us not

Psalm 142

Lord, listen to my prayer:
turn your ear to my appeal.
You are faithful, you are just; *give* answer.

Do not call your servant to judgment
for no one is just in *your* sight.

The enemy pursues my soul;
he has crushed my life to *the* ground;

he has made me dwell in darkness
like the dead, long *forgotten*.

Therefore my spirit fails;
my heart is numb *within* me.

I remember the days that are past:
I ponder all *your* works.

I muse on what your hand has wrought
and to you I stretch out *my* hands.

Like a parched land my soul thirsts for you.
Lord, make haste and answer;
for my spirit fails *within* me.

Do not hide your face
lest I become like those in *the* grave.

In the morning let me know your love
for I put my trust *in* you.

Make me know the way I should walk:
to you I lift up *my* soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies;
I have fled to you *for* refuge.

Teach me to do your will
for you, O Lord, are *my* God.

Let your good Spirit guide me
in ways that are level *and* smooth.

For your name's sake, Lord, save my life;
in your justice save my soul from *distress*.

In your love make an end of my foes;
destroy all those who oppress me
for I am your servant, *O* Lord.

and again:

You are faithful, you are just; give answer.
Do not call your servant *to* judgment.

You are faithful, you are just; give answer.
Do not call your servant *to* judgment.

Let your good Spirit guide me
in ways that are level *and* smooth.

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

Each time with a reverence:

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

Third time, with melody:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to you, O God.

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.

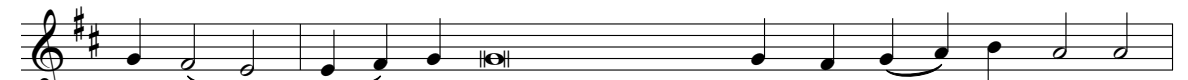
Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and glory,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - - men.


Troparion - Tone 6 (adapt.):



Have mer - cy on us, O Lord, have mer - cy on us: since we have no



de-fense, we sin - ners offer this supplica-tion to you, our Mas - ter;



have mer - cy on us.



Glo - ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

that your Son, our Redeem-er, may have mer - cy on us.

All you ranks and or - ders of the an-gels, and you, ho - ly

Fore-run-ner, with the twelve apostles of Christ and you, ho - ly mar - tyrs,

with the The - o - to - kos, pray ea - gerly to the Sav-ior, that

he may save our souls.

Trisagion Prayers

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal,
have mercy *on* us. (3 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 mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy.

The Lord is God

The deacon remains at the ambon and chants the verses. If there is no deacon, the priest remains at the Royal Doors and chants the verses.

Tone 4

The Lord is God and has re-vealed him-self to us; bless-ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord.

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his love endures forever.
All repeat "The Lord is God..."

Verse: They encircled me, compassed me about; in the Lord's name I crushed them.
All repeat "The Lord is God..."

Verse: I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.
All repeat "The Lord is God..."

Verse: The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.
All repeat "The Lord is God..."

Troparion - Tone 4

Now to God's Moth-er let us humble sin-ners run in haste and in re-pent-ance let us

fall down be-fore her feet, cry-ing a-loud with fervor from the depths of our souls:

Sov-'reign La - dy, help us now, have com-pas-sion up - on us, has-ten, for

we perish from our man-y of-fen - ces. Let not your serv-ants go emp-ty a-way;
we have you as our on - ly hope.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever...

Theotokion - Tone 4

Though most un - wor-thy, may we nev-er by si-lence fail to pro-claim your might-y
deeds and ac-com-plish-ments, for if you do not stand to intercede for us all, O
The-o - to - kos, who then will pre-serve us in free - dom? Who would
have delivered us from such ter-ri-ble dan - gers? O Sov-'reign Lady, from all kinds
of threats you save your serv - ants, may we not a - ban-don you.

My whole bod - y ails and my soul is sick be-cause of my e - vil deeds
and the mul - ti-tude of my sins. To you I come for shel-ter, O Ma - ry,
full of grace, O hope of the hope-less, help me and save me.
O La - - - dy and Moth - er of the Sav - ior,
re-ceive now the hum-ble pray'rs of your poor, un - wor-thy serv-ants.
In - ter-cede, we beg you, be - fore your Son, our Sav - ior,
and be our me - di - a - trix, Queen of the u - ni-verse.
O Moth-er of God, wor-thy of all praise, we sing this hymn to you
and ex-alt you with joy-ful voice. Pray the Fore-run-ner and all the saints to-geth-er

All

Re - joice, glo-ry of the whole world; Re - joice, Temple of the Lord; Re-joyce,
 o - ver-shad-owed moun-tain; re - joice, ref-uge of all; re - joice, gol-den
 can - de - la - bra; Re - joice, pre - cious glory of true be - liev - ers;
 Re-joyce, Ma - ry, Mother of Christ our God; Re-joyce, par - a - dise;
 Re-joyce, di - vine al - tar; Re - joice, entryway; Rejoyce, all-gold-en hand;
 Re-joyce, Hope of all.

Other stichera in the same tone:

Let us sing the praise of the Vir - gin more loft - y than heav - en
 and more pure than the shin - ing stars. Let us praise, O faith-ful, the Queen of
 all cre - a - tion who has de - liv - ered us from our an - ces - tral curse.

Psalm 50

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

O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from *my* sin.

My offenses truly I know them;
my sin is always *before* me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I *have* done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence
and be without reproach when *you* judge,

O see, in guilt I was born,
a sinner was I *conceived*.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;
then in the secret of my heart teach *me* wisdom.

O purify me, then I shall be clean;
O wash me, I shall be whiter *than* snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you have crushed *may* thrill.

From my sins turn away your face
and blot out all *my* guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God;
put a steadfast spirit *within* me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your *holy* spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervor *sustain* me,

that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return *to* you.

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

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

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

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

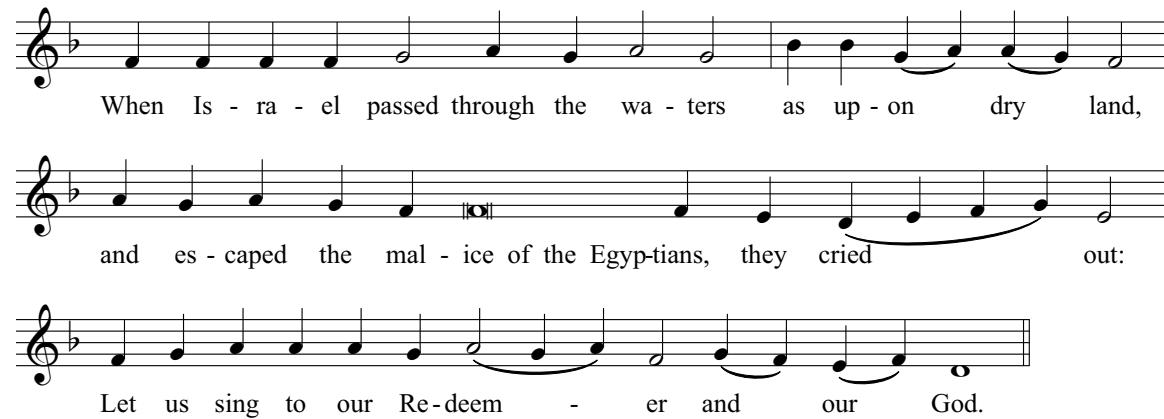
In your goodness, show favor to Zion:
rebuild the walls of **Jerusalem**.

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

Supplicatory Canon to the Theotokos

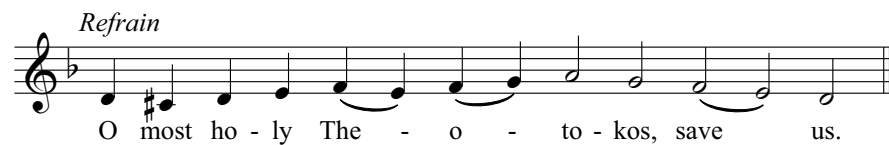
Tone 8

Ode 1 Irmos



When Is - ra - el passed through the wa - ters as up - on dry land,
and es - caped the mal - ice of the Eryp-tians, they cried out:
Let us sing to our Re - deem - er and our God.

Refrain



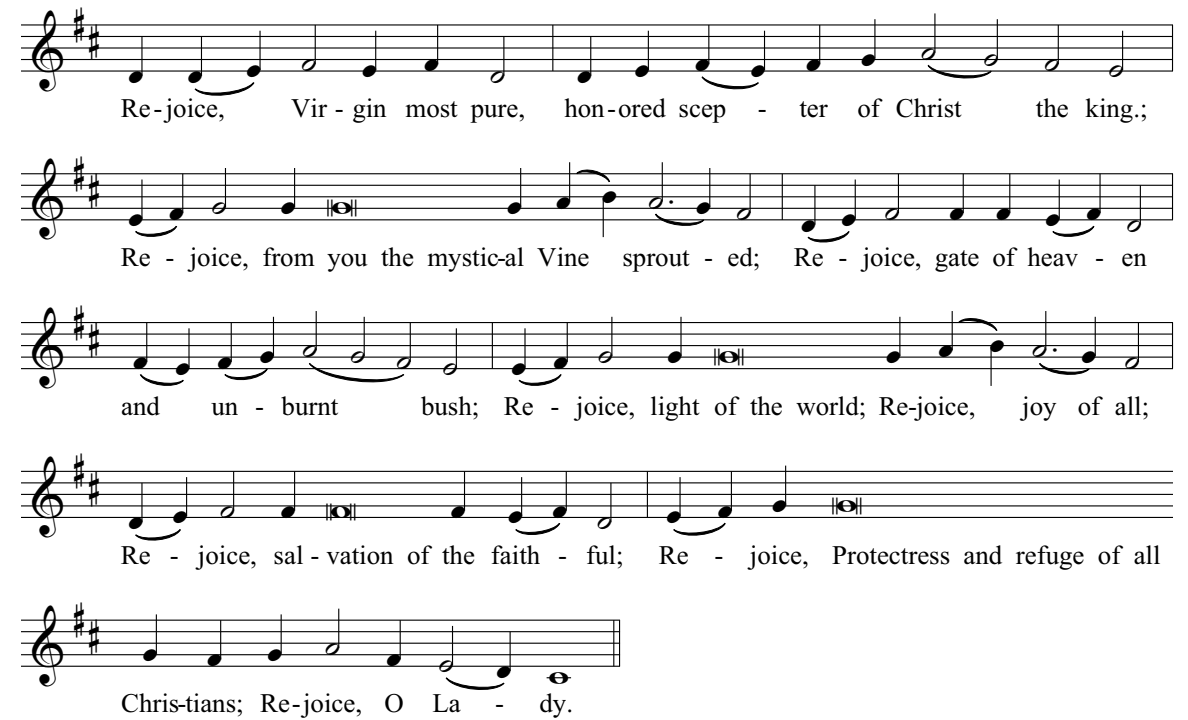
O most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

Cantor



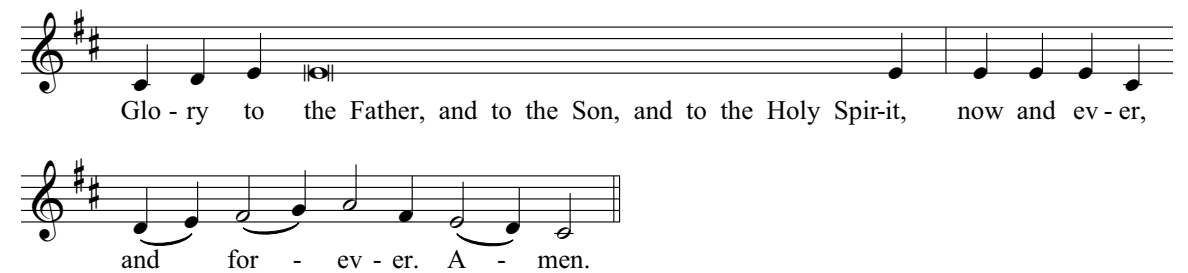
Lis - ten, O daugh - ter, give ear to my words.

All



Re-joyce, Vir - gin most pure, hon - ored scep - ter of Christ the king;
Re - joyce, from you the mystic-al Vine sprout - ed; Re - joyce, gate of heav - en
and un - burnt bush; Re - joyce, light of the world; Re-joyce, joy of all;
Re - joyce, sal - vation of the faith - ful; Re - joyce, Protectress and refuge of all
Chris-tians; Re-joyce, O La - dy.

Cantor



Glo - ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir-it, now and ev - er,
and for - ev - er. A - men.

with man - y sins, Moth - er of God on high. There - fore, we pros - trate
 our - selves be - fore you: save your serv - ants from all ca - lam - i - ties.

Cantor

I will re - mem - ber your name for - ev - er and ev - er.

All

O joy of all who are trou - bled, pa - tron - ess of the persecuted and
 sus - tain - er of the hun - gry, con - sol - er of wan - der - ers,
 har - bor of the storm - tossed, vis - i - tor of all the sick, pro - tec - tress
 and pa - troness of the weak, staff of the a - ged, O Moth - er of God
 on high, you are most pure, has - ten, we pray, that your serv - ants may be saved.

Many temptations have surrounded me, O Virgin. To you I come for shelter and salvation. O Theotokos, deliver me from all trouble and affliction! *Refrain*

The assaults of my passions disturb me; they fill my soul with great discouragement. O Maiden, preserved from all stain, restore the balance of my soul through the peace of your Son and your God!

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

O Virgin, I beseech you who have given birth to God the Savior, deliver me from my afflictions. It is to you I now come for shelter, to you I lift up my heart and thoughts.

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

You alone are the Theotokos; you are good and the Mother of Goodness. Take away the disease of my body and soul; make me worthy of your good care and of the coming of God.

Ode 3
Irmos

O Lord, who cov - ered the dome of the heav - ens and who built up your
 Church in three days, make me firm in the love of you,
 for you love us all. You are the sum - mit of our de - sires

and the for - tress of be - liev - - - ers.

Refrain

O most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

O Virgin Theotokos, I choose you to be my protection and the shelter of my life. Direct me towards your haven, for you are the channel of all good things and the support of the faithful, and you alone are worthy of every praise. *Refrain*

I beseech you, O Virgin, dispel the troubles of my soul, quiet the surge of my despair; for you, O Bride of God, have carried the Prince of Peace, and you alone are perfectly pure.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

You gave birth to the Doer of Good, to the Cause of All Delight. Let the wealth of his generosity abound within all souls; for since you have borne the Almighty Christ, you have power to act as you please, O you who are blessed of God.

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

O Virgin, help me, who am pressed by incurable ills and distressing passions; for I know that you, All-blameless Lady, are a perfect and abundant treasury of healing.

Tone 6, adapt.

It is tru - ly prop - er to glo - ri - fy you, O The - o - to - kos,

the ever-blessed, immaculate, and the moth - er of our God. More honora-ble

than the Cher-u - bim and beyond compare more glori-ous than the Ser - a - phim,

who, a Vir - gin, gave birth to God the Word; you, tru - ly the

The - o - to - kos, we mag - ni - fy.

The priest, preceded by the deacon with a candle, censes the altar and the people, as they sing the following Theotokia, Tone 2, Podoben, Jehda ot dreva:

O Gra-cious La - dy, you pray for all who with faith take ref - uge

in your pow - er - ful pro - tec - tion, for we sin - ners, ever in affliction and

misery, have no oth - er re - course to God; we are bur - dened

Refrain

O most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

O Virgin, despise not the flowing of my tears, for you have given birth to the Lord, who wipes away all tears. *Refrain*

O Virgin, be a haven and a help, an indestructible fortress and a harbor, a shelter and a joy to those who come to you.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

O Virgin, cast away the darkness of unknowing; enlighten with your rays of light those who proclaim that you are truly the Theotokos.

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

O Virgin, come to me in this time of pain; raise me from my sickness and restore my health.

Troparia - Resurrection Tone 2

Save your serv-ants from every danger, O The - o - to - kos, for af - ter

God, we all fly for ref - uge to you as an un-breach-a - ble wall

and pro-tec - tion.

With kind-ness, all-praised The - o - to - kos, look on the dire af-flic-tion of my

bod - y and heal the pain of my soul.

Litany of Fervent Supplication

The deacon chants this litany at the ambon.

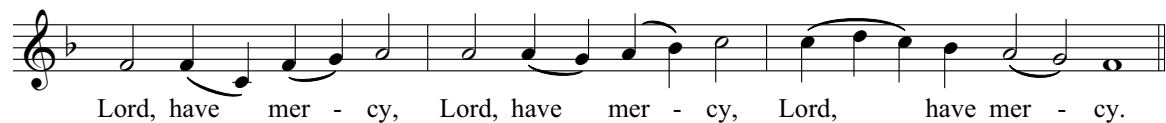
Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:

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

Deacon: Again we pray for our holy father (*Name*), pope of Rome, and for our most reverend metropolitan (*Name*), for our God-loving bishop (*Name*), for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Response:



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

Deacon: Again we pray for our government and for all in the service of our country.

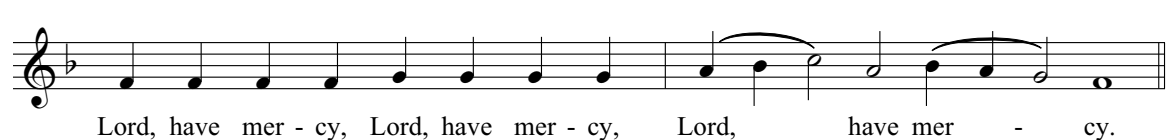
Response:



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

Deacon: Again we pray for the people here present who await your great and abundant mercy, for those who show us mercy, and for all Christians of the true faith.

Response:



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

Celebrant: For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



A - men.

O Virgin, do not turn away from those who seek your help, who praise and exalt your maidenhood forever. *Refrain*

O Virgin, abundant healing flows from you upon all those who sing your wondrous birth with faith and praise.



Let us bless the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly, Spir - it, Lord.

O Virgin, you shall heal the sorrows of my soul, you shall cure the illness of my body, and I shall sing your praise, O Woman Full of Grace!



Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

O Virgin, you drive away the dangers of temptation, you restrain the fire of passion, and so we sing your praise forevermore.

Ode 9

Irmos



We in-deed ac - knowl-edge you as the Moth-er of God; through you we



have found sal - va - tion. O most pure Vir - gin, with the choirs of an - gels,



we ex - tol you.

In your desire to save our souls, you dwelt in the womb of the Virgin, and established her as the intercessor of creation. Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers! *Refrain*

O most pure Mother, may your prayer go up to the Source of Mercy to whom you have given birth, so that we may be preserved from weakness and impurity, who cry out with faith: Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers!



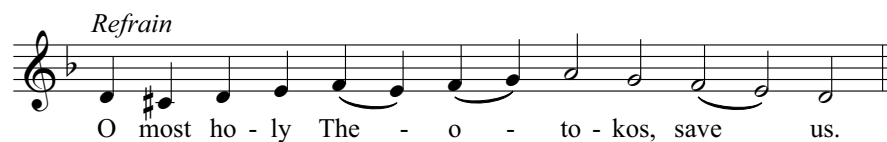
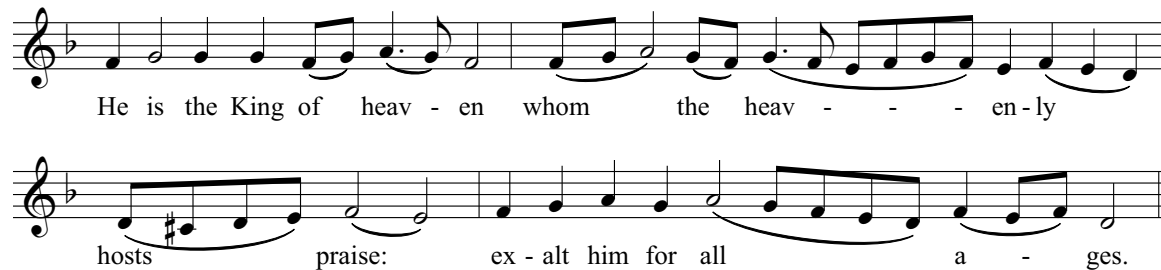
You have taken the one who gave you birth, establishing her as a Treasury of Salvation, a Source of Immortality, and Indestructible Fortress, a Door Open for Repentance to those who cry out: Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers!



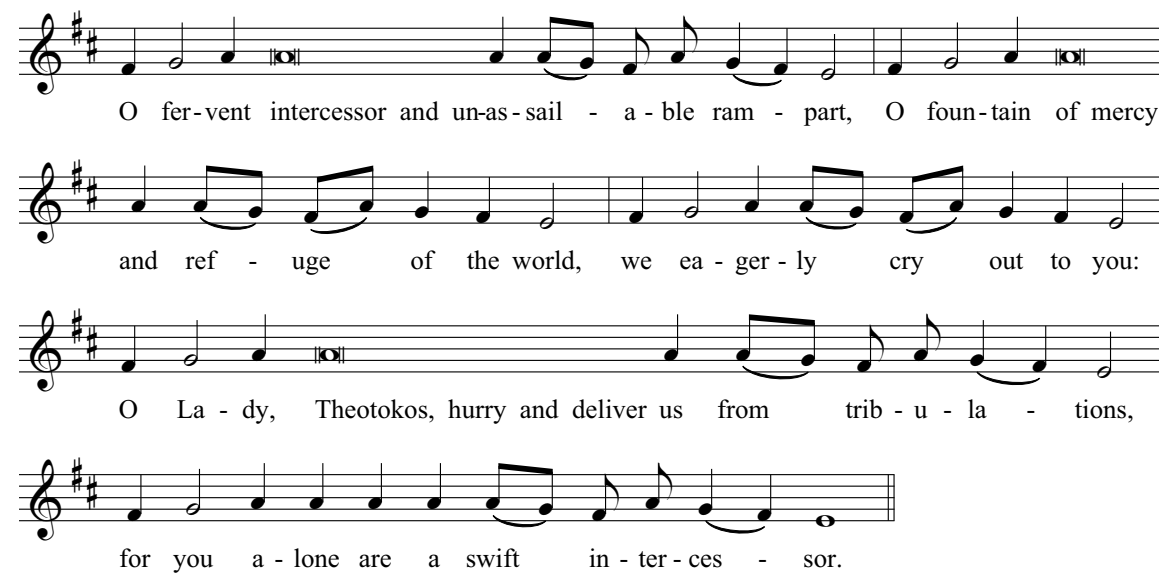
O Mother of God who gave us Christ, grant to those who anxiously seek your divine shelter, that they deserve to be healed of the illness of body and soul.

Ode 8

Irmos

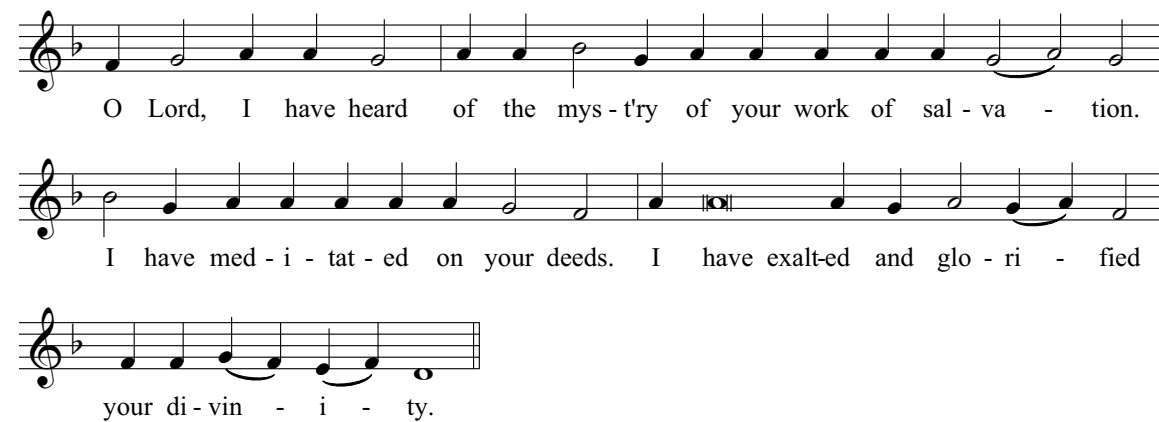


Troparion - Tone 2



Ode 4:

Irmos:




Quiet the seething of my passions and calm the storm of my sins, for you are the Bride of God who gave birth to the good Lord. *Refrain*

O Virgin who gave birth to the compassionate Lord, the Savior of those who praise you, grant that I who cling to you may enjoy the depth of your compassion.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

We who rejoice on account of your gifts are aware that you are the Theotokos, and so we sing a hymn of gratitude to you who are perfectly pure.



Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

You whom we possess as our hope, our supporting strength, our indestructible wall of salvation, are worthy of all praise. Grant that we may be worthy to be delivered from all affliction.

**Ode 5:
Irmos:**



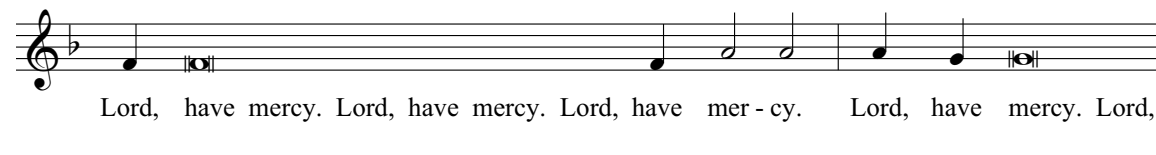
En - lighten us with your pre - cepts, O Lord, and by the strength of your al - might - y arm,
grant peace to the world, for you a - lone love us all.

Refrain



O most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

Response:



Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,
have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. (*sung twice*)

Priest: Through the mercies and goodness and love of your only begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

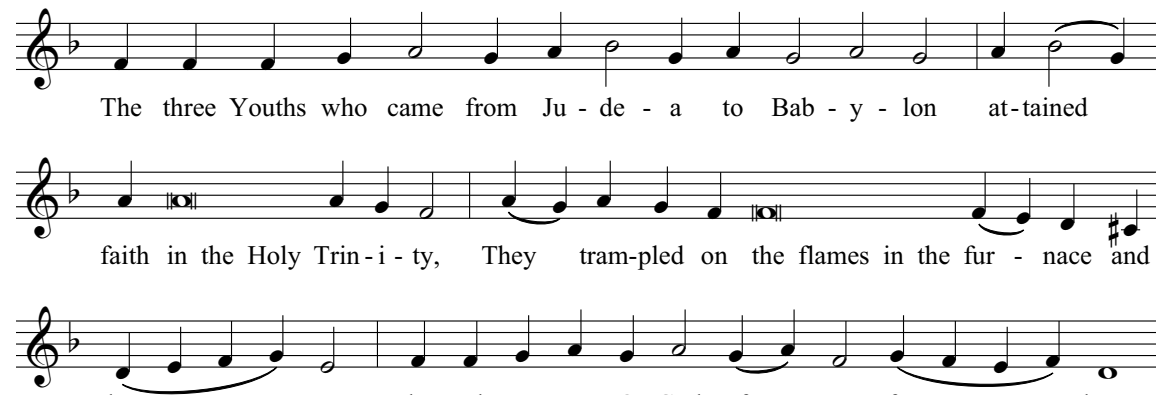
Response:



A - men.


The Royal Doors are closed. [If he wishes, the priest removes his phelonion.]

**Ode 7
Irmos**



The three Youths who came from Ju - de - a to Bab - y - lon at - tained
faith in the Holy Trin - i - ty, They tram - pled on the flames in the fur - nace and
they sang: Bless - ed are you, O God of our fa - - - thers.

Refrain



O most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

no longer can I bear the darts of the de - mons. I have no shel-ter and no
 place to hide. My foes are on all sides, I have no relief but in you a - lone!
 O Queen of the whole world, the hope and support of all the faith - ful,
 turn not a-way from my pray'r, but do for me what-ev - er is the best.

Deacon Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, and angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; [OR: of the holy apostle and evangelist (*name*), and of all the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles;] of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukaevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Preaov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of (*patron of the Church*), of (*saint of the day*) and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.

O Immaculate Lady, give me your pure happiness. You gave birth to the Cause of Joy; fill my heart with joy! *Refrain*

Deliver us from dangers, O Immaculate Theotokos, for you gave birth to Eternal Salvation and to Peace beyond our understanding.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

With the brightness of your light, dispel the darkness of my sins, O Bride of God who gave birth to the Divine and Eternal Light.

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Heal the misery of my passions, make me worthy of your assistance, and through your intercession, grant me health.

**Ode 6:
Irmos:**

I pour out my sup-pli - ca - tion to God; be-fore the Lord I lay bare my grief;
 for my soul is filled with e - vil, and my life is close to Hades so that I cry
 out as Jo - nah: De - liv - er me from the pit, O Lord.

Refrain

O most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

O Virgin, beseech your Lord and your Son who delivered himself to death and saved my nature from death and corruption to which it had been bound, that he may deliver me from the hands of the enemy. *Refrain*

I believe, O Virgin, that through your intercession you save and protect my life, dispelling many temptations and casting out the cunning snares of the devil. Now I implore you without ceasing: Deliver me from my corrupting passions.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.

O Maiden, you have been given to us as a wall behind which we may seek refuge, as a perfect means of salvation for our souls, as a joy in our tribulations; for we always find delight in your light. O Lady, save us always from every danger and evil desire.

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Behold how sick I am; I lie upon my bed, and there is no healing for me. I come to you in your goodness, for you have given birth to the Savior of the World. Deliver me from my disease and raise me from the pain of my affliction.

Troparia - Tone 2

Save your serv-ants from every danger, O The - o - to - kos, for af - ter

And immediately:

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

All: *Tone 6 samohlasen*

O Fa - ther, Word, and Spir - it, Ho - ly Trin - i - ty, cleanse us

of our man - y sins.

Cantor: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

All:

Through the pray'rs of the The - o - to - kos, O Mer - ci - ful One, cleanse us

of our man - y sins.

Cantor: Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offense.

All:

O most ho - ly La - dy, do not entrust me to an - y hu - man help,

but re - ceive the pray'r of your serv - ant. Dis - tress is all a - round me,

Deacon: Praise God in his holy place, praise him in his mighty heavens.

Response: *All repeat "Let everything that lives..."*

Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord, our God.

Response:



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

Deacon: Wisdom, let us stand and listen to a reading of the Holy Gospel.

Priest: ✠ Peace be to all!

Response:



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

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to the holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke.

Response:




Glo - ry to you, glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you.


Deacon: Let us be attentive.

The Priest reads the Gospel (Luke 1:39-49,56, Common at Matins for the Theotokos) [Or: Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28 (Common at Liturgy for the Theotokos); or: Luke 1:24-38 (Annunciation); or: John 2:1-11 (Monday of Thomas Week)]

Response:



Glo - ry to you, glo - ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you.



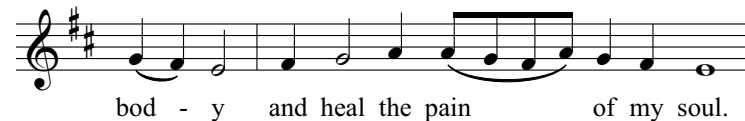
God, we all fly for ref - uge to you as an un-breach-a - ble wall



and pro-tec - tion.



With kind-ness, all-praised The - o - to - kos, look on the dire af-flic-tion of my



bod - y and heal the pain of my soul.

Small Litany

The deacon chants this litany at the ambon.

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



Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

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



Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Response: To you, O Lord.

Priest: For you are the King of Peace, and the Savior of our souls, and we give glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever,

Response: A - men.

During the following Kontakion, the deacon opens the Royal Doors. [The priest vests in the phelonion.]

Theotokion - Tone 6 Kontakion

Stead-fast Pro-tec-tress of Chris - tians, un - shak - able Mediatrix before the
 Cre - a - tor, do not de - spise the prayerful voic-es of sin - ners;
 but in your good - ness hurry to assist those who faith-ful-ly cry out to you.
 Has - ten to in - tercede and heed our sup - pli - ca - tion, in - ter - ced-ing
 al - ways, Theotokos, in behalf of those who hon - or you.

[If the priest wishes, the Akathist may be said now, before the tetrapod.]

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: ☩ Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon -Tone 4: (Ps 44:18.11)

I shall make your name re - mem - bered in all gen-er - a - tions.

Verse: Listen, O daughter, and see and incline your ear. *All repeat the Prokeimenon.*

The deacon censes the altar and the people.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord:

Response: Lord, have mer - cy.

Priest: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever.

Response: A - men.

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

Response: Let ev - 'ry-thing that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord,
 give praise to the Lord.