

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS
PRE-FESTIVE DAY OF THE ANNUNCIATION
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

THE LAMP-LIGHTING PSALMS

When Psalm 140 begins, the deacon, having had the incense blessed by the celebrant, incenses the whole church as usual: the holy table on all four sides, the apsidal icon, the icon screen, the interior of the church, the faithful, and again the icons of Christ and the Theotokos. After returning to the sanctuary, he incenses the front of the holy table and the celebrant. Meanwhile, the server lights the candles.

*The opening verses of Psalm 140 are sung according to **Tone 1 Samohlasen**:*

Psalm 140:

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me.

Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me;

receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon you.

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer ascend to you like incense

and the lifting up of my hands

like an evening sacrifice.

Hear me, O Lord!

The remaining verses are chanted alternately:

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth

and set a seal on the door of my lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,

nor make excuse for the sins I commit.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.

If a just man strikes or reproves me it is kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.

Let my prayer be ever against their malice.

The princes were thrown down

by the side of the rock;

then they understood that my words were kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,

so their bones were strewn

at the mouth of the grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;

in you I take refuge; spare my soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;

keep me from the snares of those who do evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set

while I pursue my way unharmed.

Psalm 141:

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,

with all my voice I entreat the Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;

I tell him all my distress

while my spirit faints within me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk
they have hidden a snare to entrap me.

Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes my part.

I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for my soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge,
all I have in the land of the living."

Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths of distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger than I.

10. Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise your name.

Tone 1 Samohlasen

Clothed in the God-woven purple of freedom * and in the fine linen of incorruption, * you have mocked your own dignity, O my soul. * You have sought pleasure and wealth in sin, * looking down on your friends as the rich man on Lazarus the poor. * That you may not be chastised with him, * become poor in spirit * and cry to the Lord who became poor for your sake: * O Lord, who wore the purple of mockery before your crucifixion * and who were stripped and crucified for my sake, * grant me the robe of your kingdom * and deliver me from eternal shame.

9. Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness to me.

Tone 1 Samohlasen

Clothed in the God-woven purple of freedom * and in the fine linen of incorruption, * you have mocked your own dignity, O my soul. * You have sought pleasure and wealth in sin, * looking down on your friends as the rich man on Lazarus the poor. * That you may not be chastised with him, * become poor in spirit * and cry to the Lord who became poor for your sake: * O Lord, who wore the purple of mockery before your crucifixion * and who were stripped and crucified for my sake, * grant me the robe of your kingdom * and deliver me from eternal shame.

Psalm 129:

8. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice!

Tone 2 Samohlasen

All the arrows of the Enemy have pierced my over-burdened heart: * it now lies in the tomb of laziness, * hardened as the rock of the tomb. * But you, O Savior who by the wood of your Cross * have given life to the captives in Hades, * awaken me and give me life, * that in fear I may glorify your divinity.

7. Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

Tone 2 Samohlasen

I have always loved the treasure of my deadly pleasures, * and with the aid of the Evil One, * without conscience, I have delighted in trivialities. * I have disregarded my groaning spirit as another Lazarus, & and I

hunger for food from on high. * Save me, O Word of God, from the threatening fire, * that I may glorify your mercy and your love for us all.

6. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord,
who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.

Tone 3 Samohlasen

Today Lazarus gives up his spirit. * Bethany laments and cries for the one * whom you, O Savior, shall raise from the dead, * to strengthen, by your friend, the belief in your divine Resurrection, * which vanquishes death and gives us life. * Therefore, we glorify and praise you.

5. My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.

Tone 6 Podoben, "Vsju Otloživše"

Gabriel stood before you, O Maiden, * revealing the plan from of old. * He greeted you and said: * Rejoice, Unsown Land; rejoice, Unburnt Bush; * rejoice, Unfathomable Depth; * rejoice, Bridge leading to heaven * and Ladder raised on high whom Jacob saw; * rejoice, Divine Jar of Manna; * rejoice, Release from the curse; * rejoice, Restoration of Adam, the Lord is with you.

4. Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.

Tone 6 Podoben, "Vsju Otloživše"

Gabriel stood before you, O Maiden, * revealing the plan from of old. * He greeted you and said: * Rejoice, Unsown Land; rejoice, Unburnt Bush; * rejoice, Unfathomable Depth; * rejoice, Bridge leading to heaven

*** and Ladder raised on high whom Jacob saw; * rejoice, Divine Jar of Manna; * rejoice, Release from the curse; * rejoice, Restoration of Adam, the Lord is with you.**

- 3.** Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Tone 6 Podoben, "Vsju Otložívše"

The inviolate Maiden * said to the angelic Commander: * You appear to me as a man * but what you say to me is beyond human words, * for you are telling me that God will be with me * and that he will dwell in my womb. Tell me, how can I become the spacious container * and holy temple of the one who is borne aloft on the Cherubim? * Do not entice me deceitfully, * for I have never known pleasure, * nor have I experienced wedlock. * How then shall I bear a child?

Psalm 116:

- 2.** Praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples!

Tone 6 Podoben, "Vsju Otložívše"

The inviolate Maiden * said to the angelic Commander: * You appear to me as a man * but what you say to me is beyond human words, * for you are telling me that God will be with me * and that he will dwell in my womb. Tell me, how can I become the spacious container * and holy temple of the one who is borne aloft on the Cherubim? * Do not entice me deceitfully, * for I have never known pleasure, * nor have I experienced wedlock. * How then shall I bear a child?

1. Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
he is faithful forever.

Tone 6 Podoben, "Vsju Otloživše"

The bodiless one said: * Whenever God so wills, the order of nature is overcome, * and supernatural things are accomplished. * Believe that what I say is true, all holy and all spotless one. * She cried out: Let it be done to me according to your word * and I will give birth to the fleshless one who borrows flesh from me, * for he alone is able, by sharing in it, * to restore human nature to its ancient dignity.

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

Tone 6 Samohlasen

The Archangel Gabriel was sent from heaven to the Virgin * to announce the good news of her conception. * Coming to Nazareth he was amazed as he reflected on the mystery: * How can the One Who Is incomprehensible in the highest * be born of a virgin? * Heaven is his throne, the earth is his footstool, and in a woman's womb he is contained * The six-winged seraphim and the many-eyed cherubim cannot look upon him; * yet, with a single word, he has been pleased to take on flesh. * He remains the Word of God. * Why do I stand still and not say to the Maiden: * Rejoice, Full of Grace, the Lord is with you; * Rejoice, pure Virgin; rejoice, Unwedded Bride; rejoice, Mother of Life; * blessed is the fruit of your womb?



LITTLE ENTRANCE

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Meanwhile, the faithful chant:

O Joyful Light * of the holy glory * of the Father Immortal, * the heavenly, holy, blessed One, * O Jesus Christ, * now that we have reached the setting of the sun, and see the evening light, * we sing to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. * It is fitting at all times * to raise a song of praise in measured melody to you, * O Son of God, the Giver of Life. * Therefore, the universe sings your glory.

PROKEIMENA AND READINGS

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: + Peace be to all.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

First Prokeimenon – *Tone 4 (Psalm 110: 10a, 1a)*

To fear the Lord is the first stage of wisdom.

Verse: I shall thank you, O Lord, with all my heart;
in the meeting of the just and their assembly.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

*The lector chants **Genesis 31:3-16** (Tuesday of the Sixth Week of the Great Fast).*

When the Reading is finished, the deacon intones:

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Second Prokeimenon – *Tone 4 (Psalm 111: 4b,1a)*

**He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.**

Verse: Happy the man who fears the Lord
and greatly delights in his commands.

During the singing of the Second Prokeimenon, the celebrant returns to the holy table. The concelebrants stand at the sides of the holy table. He takes the censer with his right hand and a single candle with his left.

The deacon, facing east, intones:

Deacon: Give the command!

The celebrant crosses his hands. While continuing to hold the candle and censer and facing the holy table, he makes the sign of the cross vertically with them, intoning:

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

He then turns to the faithful, and again making the sign of the cross with the candle and censer, he intones:

Celebrant: **The light of Christ shines upon everyone.**

The faithful give no response to these words. The celebrant gives the candle and censer to the server. All present make three prostrations in silence. The celebrant and concelebrants return to their place behind the holy table.

The lector, without introduction, begins:

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

*The lector chants **Proverbs 21:3-21** (Tuesday of the Sixth Week of the Great Fast).*

Then, the Old Testament Readings for the Pre-Feast of the Annunciation:

- **Genesis 28:10-17**
- **Ezechiel 43:27-44;4**
- **Proverbs 9:1-11**

When the Reading(s) is (are) finished, the celebrant, blessing the lector, intones:

Celebrant: + **Peace be to you, reader.**

The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts continues with the Solemn Evening Psalm (“Let my prayer ascend”).

