



# READER'S VESPERS FOR THE ANNUNCIATION (2020)

*The order presented in the Typikon when the appointed to be served on the evening of the March 25<sup>th</sup>,  
when the appointed Vespers Liturgy cannot be served.*

## The Ninth Hour

*In which Christ gave up the ghost upon the Cross.*

**Presiding Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

**Reader:** Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,  
who art everywhere present and fillest all things;  
Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life;  
come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity,  
and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

O Master, pardon our transgressions.

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 the evil one.

**Presiding Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

**Reader:** Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

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

O come, let us worship God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself,  
our King and our God.

### **Psalm 83 [84]**

How lovely are thy tabernacles,

O Lord of hosts!

My soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord;

my heart and my flesh have rejoiced in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found herself a house,

and the turtledove a nest for herself, where she may lay her young:

even thine altars, O Lord of hosts,

my King, and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house;

for ever and ever will they praise thee.

Blessed is the man whose help is from thee;

in his heart he hath made ascent into the vale of tears;

unto the place which he hath appointed.

For the lawgiver shall give a blessing;

they shall go from strength to strength,

the God of gods shall be seen in Sion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;

give ear, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our shield,

and look upon the face of thine anointed.

For a day in thy courts is better than thousands elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God,

than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the Lord loveth mercy and truth;

God will give grace and glory:

the Lord will not withhold good things from them that walk in innocence.

O Lord God of hosts,

blessed is the man that trusts in thee.

### **Psalm 84 [85]**

O Lord, thou hast been favourable unto thy land;

thou hast turned back the captivity of Jacob.

Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people,

thou hast covered all their sins.

Thou hast taken away all thy wrath;

thou hast turned thyself from the fierceness of thine anger.

Turn us back, O God of our salvation,  
and turn thine anger away from us.  
Wilt thou be angry with us for ever?  
or wilt thou draw out thy wrath to all generations?  
O God, thou wilt turn and bring us to life;  
and thy people shall rejoice in thee.  
Show us thy mercy, O Lord,  
and grant us thy salvation.  
I will hear what God the Lord will speak concerning me;  
for he will speak peace to his people, and to his saints,  
and to them that turn their hearts unto him.  
Surely his salvation is nigh them that fear him;  
that glory may dwell in our land.  
Mercy and truth are met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.  
Truth is sprung out of the earth;  
and righteousness has looked down from heaven.  
For the Lord will give goodness;  
and our land shall yield her fruit.  
Righteousness shall go before him;  
and shall set us in the way of his steps.

### **Psalm 85 [86]**

Bow down thine ear, O Lord, and hear me;  
for I am poor and needy.  
Preserve my soul, for I am holy;  
O my God, save thy servant that trusts in thee.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord:  
for unto thee will I cry all the day.  
Rejoice the soul of thy servant:  
for unto thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul.  
For thou, O Lord, art good and gentle;  
and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.  
Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer;  
and attend to the voice of my supplications.  
In the day of my trouble I called upon thee,  
for thou hast heard me.  
Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord;  
neither are there any works like unto thy works.  
All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord;  
and shall glorify thy name.  
For thou art great, and doest wondrous things;  
thou art God alone.

Guide me, O Lord, in thy way, and I will walk in thy truth;  
let my heart rejoice that it may fear thy name.  
I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart;  
and I will glorify thy name for evermore.  
For great is thy mercy toward me;  
and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell [*or, lit: hades*].  
O God, the wicked are risen against me,  
and the assemblies of the mighty have sought after my soul;  
and have not set thee before them.  
But thou, O Lord my God, art compassionate and merciful,  
longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy, and true.  
O look upon me, and have mercy on me;  
give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid.  
Work upon me a sign for good, that they which hate me may see it, and be ashamed;  
because thou, O Lord, hast helped me, and comforted me.

*And again:*

Work upon me a sign for good, that they which hate me may see it, and be ashamed;  
because thou, O Lord, hast helped me, and comforted me.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

**Lenten Troparion of the Ninth Hour (Read, Not Sung)**

O Thou who at the ninth hour  
didst taste of death in the flesh for our sake,  
mortify the presumption of our flesh, O Christ our God, //  
and save us.

✠ Let my petition come before Thee, O Lord;  
give me understanding, according to Thy word.

O Thou who at the ninth hour  
didst taste of death in the flesh for our sake,  
mortify the presumption of our flesh, O Christ our God, //  
and save us.

✠ Let my supplication come before Thee, O Lord;  
deliver me, according to Thy word.

O Thou who at the ninth hour  
didst taste of death in the flesh for our sake,  
mortify the presumption of our flesh, O Christ our God, //  
and save us.

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

## Theotokion

O Thou who for our sakes wast born of a Virgin and didst suffer crucifixion, O Good One, and didst despoil death by death, and as God didst reveal the Resurrection: despise not the work of Thy hands, but show forth Thy love for man, O Merciful One; accept the intercessions of Thy Mother, the Theotokos, for us, and save Thy despairing people, O our Saviour.

## Psalmody

*(Song of the Three Holy Youths, vv. 11-12)*

Deliver us not up utterly, for Thy holy Name's sake,  
neither disannul Thou Thy covenant.  
And cause not Thy mercy to depart from us,  
for the sake of Abraham Thy beloved, and Isaac Thy servant,  
and Israel Thy holy one.

## Trisagion Prayers

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

O Master, pardon our transgressions.

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(Thrice)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 [the] evil [one].

*Presiding Reader:* Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

*Reader:* Amen.

## Kontakion of the Mother of God (for the Annunciation)

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts, we, thy servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos. As thou dost possess invincible might, set us free from every calamity, so that we may sing to thee: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

## Prayer of the Minor Hours

*Reader:* Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

O Thou who at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ our God, who art long-suffering, merciful, and compassionate; who lovest the just and showest mercy upon the sinner; who callest all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come:

Do Thou, the same Lord, in this hour receive our supplications, and direct our lives according to Thy commandments; sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds, and deliver us from every affliction, evil, and distress.

Compass us about with Thy holy angels, that guided and guarded by their hosts, we may attain unto the unity of the Faith and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory, for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

### Conclusion of the Office

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim; without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

O Lord, bless.

*Presiding Reader:* Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

*Reader:* Amen.

### The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian

*Presiding Reader:* O Lord and Master of my life, take from me [*or, more literally:* give me not] the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk.

*Prostration*

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.

*Prostration*

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see mine own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto the ages of ages.

*Prostration*

*Reader:* Amen.

### The Prayer of the Ninth Hour of St. Basil the Great

*Reader:* O Master and Lord, Jesus Christ our God, who art long-suffering towards our sins and hast brought us even to this present hour, in which, hanging upon the life-giving Cross, Thou hast opened unto the good thief the way into paradise, and destroyed death by death: be merciful to us, Thy humble and sinful and unworthy servants. For we have sinned and transgressed, and we are not worthy to lift up our eyes and look upon the height of heaven,

since we have forsaken the path of Thy righteousness and have walked according to the desires of our own hearts. But we pray Thee of Thy boundless goodness, spare us, O Lord, according to the abundance of Thy mercy, and save us for Thy Holy Name's sake, for our days have been consumed in vanity. Pluck us from the hand of the adversary, forgive us our sins, and mortify the passions of the flesh, that putting off the old man, we may be clothed with the new, and may live for Thee, our Master and Benefactor; and so that, following after Thy commandments, we may attain unto eternal rest, in the place where all the joyful dwell. For Thou, O Christ our God, art indeed the true joy and gladness of those that love Thee, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, who is without beginning, and Thy most holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*We then immediately begin the Typica service, on the next page,  
or begin Vespers itself on pg. 12*

# Typica (Pro-Liturgy)

*Celebrated in place of Liturgy on weekdays of Great Lent, and before Liturgy on Annunciation.*

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*If the Ninth Hour was not read, we add:*

**Presiding Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**Reader:** Amen.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,  
who art everywhere present and fillest all things;  
Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life;  
come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity,  
and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

O Master, pardon our transgressions.

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 the evil one.

**Presiding Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

**Choir:** Amen.

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## The Beatitudes

*We quickly sing the Beatitudes, to the Lenten Melody:*

**Choir (Together):** In Thy Kingdom, remember us, O Lord;  
when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir/Chanter 1:** Blessèd are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
℞ **Remember us**, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.



*Choir/Chanter 2:* Blessèd are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 1:* Blessèd are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 2:* Blessèd are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
for they shall be filled.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 1:* Blessèd are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 2:* Blessèd are the pure in heart; for they shall see God.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 1:* Blessèd are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the sons of God.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 2:* Blessèd are they that are persecuted for righteousness' sake;  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 1:* Blessèd are you, when men shall revile you, and persecute you,  
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 2:* Rejoice and be exceedingly glad; for great is your reward in heaven.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 1:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 2:* now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**℟̥ Remember us, O Lord, / when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom.**

*Choir/Chanter 1:* Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom. (*Prostration*)

*Choir/Chanter 2:* Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom. (*Prostration*)

*Choir (All):* Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy Kingdom. (*Prostration*)

### **Troparia of the Typica**

*Reader:* The heavenly choir sings thy praises, crying:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

✠ Come unto Him, and be enlightened;  
and your faces shall not be ashamed.

The heavenly choir sings thy praises, crying:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

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

The choir of holy angels and archangels  
with all the powers of heaven sings thy praises, crying:  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord of Sabaoth,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

## **The Creed (Symbol of the Faith)**

*With its twelve articles.*

1. I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth and of all things visible and invisible.

2. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of light; true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made;

3. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man.

4. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried.

5. And the third day He arose again, according to the Scriptures,

6. And ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father;

7. And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end.

8. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

9. In one Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

10. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

11. I look for the resurrection of the dead

12. and the life of the world [*or*: age] to come. Amen.

## **Act of Contrition**

Loose, remit, and pardon, O God, our sins both voluntary and involuntary, in word or in deed, in knowledge or in ignorance, committed by day or by night, of the mind or of the intention: forgive us them all, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

## **Our Father: the Lord's Prayer**

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 [the] evil [one].

**Presiding Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

*Reader:* Amen.

### **Kontakion of the Mother of God (for the Annunciation)**

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts, we, thy servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos. As thou dost possess invincible might, set us free from every calamity, so that we may sing to thee: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

#### **Conclusion of the Office**

*Reader:* Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim;  
without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word;  
true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

O Lord, bless.

*Presiding Reader:* Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

*Reader:* Amen.

### **The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian**

*Presiding Reader:* O Lord and Master of my life, take from me [*or, more literally:* give me not]  
the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk.

#### ***Prostration***

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.

#### ***Prostration***

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see mine own transgressions, and not to judge my brother,  
for blessed art Thou, unto the ages of ages.

#### ***Prostration***

*Reader:* Amen.

*We then immediately begin Vespers immediately with 'O Come, let us worship...' on pg. 13.*

*However, if the Ninth Hour was NOT read,  
we begin with the introductory prayers on the next page.*

# Vespers for the Annunciation on a Weekday

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*If neither the Ninth Hour nor Typica were not read, we add:*

**Presiding Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

**Reader:** Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth,  
who art everywhere present and fillest all things;  
Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life;  
come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity,  
and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

O Master, pardon our transgressions.

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 the evil one.

**Presiding Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

**Reader:** Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

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

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O come, let us worship God our King.  
O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.  
O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself,  
our King and our God.

### Psalm 103 [104]

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, thou art very great;  
Thou art clothed with honor and majesty.

Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment,  
who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain.  
Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters;  
who maketh the clouds his chariot,  
who walketh upon the wings of the wind.

Who maketh his angels spirits;  
and His ministers a flaming fire.

(lit. "liturgizers a flaming fire")

Who laid the foundations of the earth,  
so that it should not be moved for ever.

Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment;  
the waters stand above the mountains.

At thy rebuke they shall flee;  
at the voice of thy thunder they shall be afraid.

They go up by the mountains;  
they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.

Thou hast set a bound which they shall not pass;  
neither shall they return to cover the earth.

He sendeth forth the springs into the valleys,  
which run among the hills.

They give drink to every beast of the field;  
the wild asses quench their thirst.

By them the birds of the air have their habitation;  
from the midst of the rocks shall they give forth their voices.

He watereth the hills from his chambers;  
the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of thy works.

He causes the grass to grow for the cattle;  
and green herb for the service of man:

That he may bring forth food out of the earth,  
and wine that maketh glad the heart of man;  
oil to make his face shine,  
and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the Lord are full of sap;  
the cedars of Lebanon, which he has planted;  
There the sparrows shall make their nests;  
the house of the heron is highest among them.

The high mountains are a refuge for the harts;  
and so are the rocks for the hares.

(lit. "rock hyraxes")

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

Thou makest darkness, and it is night;  
wherein all the beasts of the forest creep forth.

The young lions roar after their prey,  
seeking their food from God.

The sun arises, and they gather themselves together;  
and lay them down in their dens.

Man goeth forth unto his work  
and to his labour until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works,  
in wisdom hast thou made them all;  
the earth is filled with thy creation.

So is this great and wide sea,  
wherein are things creeping innumerable,  
creatures small and great.

There go the ships;  
there is that leviathan,  
whom thou hast made to play therein.

All these wait on thee;  
to give them their food in due season.

When thou givest to them, they gather it up;  
when thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good.

When thou hidest thy face, they are troubled;  
when thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

When thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created;  
and thou renewest the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever,  
the Lord shall rejoice in his works,  
He looketh on the earth, and maketh it tremble;  
He touches the mountains, and they smoke.

I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.

May my meditation be pleasing unto him,  
and I will rejoice in the Lord.

Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth,  
and let the wicked be no more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

*And again:*

The sun knoweth his going down;  
Thou makest darkness, and it is 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;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

### **In Place of the Great Litany**

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

*Presiding Reader:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

## **Lord, I Call (Tone 1)**

(Psalms 140, 141, 129, & 116 [141, 142, 130, & 117])

*In the tone of the First Tone, we sing:*

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.

Hear me, O Lord.

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.

Receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon Thee. //

Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer arise  
in Thy sight as incense,  
and let the lifting up of my hands →  
be an evening sacrifice. //

Hear me, O Lord.

*We then read the following psalmody:*

Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth,  
and keep the door of my lips.

Incline not my heart to any evil thing,  
nor to practise wicked deeds with men that work iniquity;  
and let me not join their chosen ones.

The righteous shall chasten me with mercy, and shall reprove me;  
but let the oil of the wicked never anoint my head,  
for yet shall my prayer be against their pleasures.

When their judges are swallowed up in stony places, they shall hear my words;  
for they are sweet.

As when a clod of earth is broken upon the ground,  
so have their bones be strewn at the mouth of the grave.

But mine eyes are unto Thee, O Lord;

Lord, in Thee have I put my trust, take not my soul away.  
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;  
 I am alone until I shall escape.

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

I will pour out my prayer before Him;  
 before Him will I declare my trouble.

When my spirit was fainting within me,  
 then Thou knewest my paths.

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

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

I had no place to flee unto,  
 and no man cared for my soul.

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

Attend to my supplication,  
 for I am brought very low;  
 deliver me from my persecutors,  
 for they are stronger than I.

### Tone 1

*Stichera from the Triodion of St. Joseph the Hymographer (for the Wednesday of the Cross)*

(10) ☩. Bring my soul out of prison, \* *that* I may give thanks to Thy name.

Let us all wash our souls clean  
 in the waters of the Fast,  
 and, approaching the precious and honored Cross of the Lord,  
 let us venerate it with faith;  
 let us draw from it divine enlightenment, //  
 gathering the fruit of eternal salvation, **peace** and great mercy.

(9) ☩. The righteous shall wait patiently for me, \* until Thou shalt reward me.

O Cross, glory of the apostles,  
 attended by principalities and powers and archangels,  
 keep safe from all harm those that venerate thee.  
 Grant us to follow rightly to the end the divine path of abstinence, //  
 and to reach the day of salvation when we too shall be saved.

### Tone 7

*Sticheron from the Triodion of St. Theodore the Studite (for the Wednesday of the Cross)*

(8) ☩. Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord, \* Lord, hear my voice.



As we venerate today the Cross of the Lord,  
let us cry: **Rejoice**, Tree of Life, victor over hell;  
rejoice, joy of the world and slayer of corruption;  
rejoice, for by thy power thou scatterest the demons!  
Strong support of the faithful,  
weapon that cannot be broken, //  
we pray thee, guard and sanctify those who show thee honour.

#### **Tone 4**

*Stichera for the Feast of the Annunciation, taken from the Aposticha of the Vigil (at Great Compline)*

(7) ✠. Let Thine ears be attentive, \* to the voice of my supplication.

In the sixth month the Archangel was sent to the pure Virgin  
and with his greeting 'Rejoice!'  
he brought good tidings, that the Deliverer would come forth from her.  
And so, accepting his salutation with faith,  
she conceived Thee, the pre-eternal God,  
who wast pleased to become man ineffably, //  
for the salvation of our souls.

(6) ✠. If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? \*  
But there is forgiveness with thee.

*Repeat the previous sticheron [or omit, continuing with the next psalm verse].*

(5) ✠. For Thy Name's sake have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul has waited  
for Thy word \* my soul has hoped in the Lord.

The Theotokos heard a voice she knew not,  
when the Archangel brought her the glad tidings of the Annunciation;  
and accepting the salutation with faith, she conceived Thee the pre-eternal God.  
Therefore in great rejoicing we also cry unto Thee:  
O God, who without change hast been made flesh from her, //  
grant peace unto the world and to our souls great mercy.

(4) ✠. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch; \*  
*let Israel hope* in the Lord.

Lo, our restoration  
is now made manifest to us:  
God is ineffably united to men.  
At the words of the Archangel error is laid low;  
for the Virgin receives joy,  
and the things of the earth have become heaven.  
The world is loosened from the ancient curse.  
Let the creation rejoice exceedingly and raise its voice to sing: //

O Lord, our Maker and Deliverer, glory to Thee.

### **Tone 1 (Melody: 'O All-Praised Martyrs' [Not Indicated])**

*Stichera of the Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel, from the Menaion*

(3) ✠. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; \*  
and He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Gabriel, the greatest and most godlike of the spiritual powers,  
shining with heavenly brightness,  
who with the hosts on high gazes upon the light of the Threefold Sun  
came to the Virgin and announced to her the glad tidings  
of the divine mystery full of awe; //  
and he intercedes for our souls..

(2) ✠. O praise the Lord, all ye nations; \* praise Him, all ye peoples.

To thee alone, O Gabriel, was entrusted the great mystery  
till then unknown to the angels and hid from all eternity;  
coming to Nazareth, thou hast not dared to impart it to any save the pure Virgin alone. //  
Pray with her that our souls may be granted **peace** and great mercy.

(1) ✠. For His mercy is confirmed on us; \*  
and the truth of the *Lord* endures forever.

Thou who art ever filled with light,  
who doest the will and fulfillst the decrees of the Almighty,  
O Leader of the angels, Gabriel the all-perfect,  
preserve those who honor thee with love,  
and ask at all times //  
that our souls may be granted **peace** and great mercy.

### **Tone 6**

*Theotokion of the Annunciation, from the Menaion*

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

Gabriel the Archangel was sent from heaven  
to announce to the Virgin the glad tidings of her conceiving;  
and coming to Nazareth he pondered in amazement on this wonder.  
'O how shall He who dwelleth in the heights,  
whom none can comprehend,  
be born of a Virgin?  
How shall he whose throne is heaven and whose footstool is the earth  
be held in the womb of a woman?  
He upon whom the six-winged seraphim and the many-eyed cherubim cannot gaze

has been pleased at a single word to be made flesh of this His creature.  
 It is the Word of God who dwells within her.  
 Why then do I stand here, and not say to the Maiden:  
 Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee.  
 Rejoice, pure Virgin;  
 rejoice, Bride unwedded. //  
 Rejoice, Mother of Life; blessèd is the fruit of thy womb.'

## O Gladsome Light

*Choir:*

<p>Official OCA Text (1973):  <b>O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal Father:          heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.          Now we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening,          we praise God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.          For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise, O Son of God and Giver of Life;          therefore all the world doth glorify Thee.</b></p>	<p>Common Corrected Text in OCA Usage (1984-):  <b>O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father:          O Jesus Christ.          Now we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening,          we praise God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.          For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise, O Son of God and Giver of Life;          therefore all the world doth glorify Thee.</b></p>
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## Old Testament Lessons

*From the Triodion, for the Day of the Great Fast:*

### First Prokeimenon - Tone 4

*Reader:* The Prokeimenon in the **Fourth** Tone:

Blessèd be the Lord God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

*Choir:* **Blessèd be the Lord God of Israel, / who alone does wondrous things.**

*Reader:* Give thy judgements unto the king, O God,  
 and thy righteousness unto the king's son.

*Choir:* **Blessèd be the Lord God of Israel, / who alone does wondrous things.**

*Reader:* Blessèd be the Lord God of Israel ...

*Choir:* ... **who alone does wondrous things.**

### Reading I: Genesis 9:18 - 10:1

*Reader:* The Reading from **Genesis**.

*Reader:* The sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham is the father of Canaan.

These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread.

And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:

And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.

And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.

And he said, Cursèd be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.

And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died.

Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood.

### **Second Prokeimenon – Tone 4 [Greek Use]**

*Reader:* The Prokeimenon in the **Fourth** Tone:

It is good for me to cleave to God; to put my trust in the Lord God.

*Choir:* **It is good for me to cleave to God; / to *put* my trust in the Lord God.**

*Reader:* Truly God is good to Israel, to them that are of upright in heart.

*Choir:* **It is good for me to cleave to God; / to *put* my trust in the Lord God.**

*Reader:* It is good for me to cleave to God ...

*Choir:* **... to put my trust in the Lord God.**

### **Second Prokeimenon – Tone 4 [Slavic Use]**

*Reader:* The Prokeimenon in the **Fourth** Tone:

It is good for me to cleave to [my] God.

*Choir:* **It is good for me / to cleave to [my] God.**

*Reader:* Truly God is good to Israel, to them that are of upright in heart.

*Choir:* **It is good for me / to cleave to [my] God.**

*Reader:* It is good for me ...

*Choir:* **... to cleave to [my] God.**

### **Reading II: Proverbs 12:23 – 13:9**

*Reader:* The Reading from **Proverbs**.

*Reader:* A prudent man is a throne of wisdom, but the heart of fools shall meet with curses. The hand of the chosen shall easily obtain rule, but the deceitful shall be for a prey.

A grievous word troubles the heart of a righteous man, but a good word makes him glad.

A just arbitrator shall be his own friend, but mischief shall pursue the sinful, and the way of the ungodly shall lead them astray.

A deceitful man shall catch no game, but a pure man is a precious possession.

In the ways of righteousness is life, but the ways of them that remember wrongs are death.

A wise son is obedient to his father, but a disobedient son is for destruction.

A good man shall eat of the fruits of righteousness, but the souls of transgressors shall perish before their time.

He that keeps his mouth keeps his life, but he that is hasty with his lips shall bring terror upon himself.

Every sluggard has desire, but the hands of the courageous are diligent.

A righteous man hates an unjust word, but a wicked man is ashamed, and shall have no confidence.

Righteousness keeps him that is innocent, but sin makes the wicked to be worthless.

There are some that have nothing, yet make themselves rich; and there are those that humble themselves in the midst of great riches.

The ransom of man's life are riches, but the poor endureth not threatening.

The righteous have light always, but the light of the wicked is put out; deceitful souls go astray in sins, but the righteous have compassion, and are merciful.

*For the Feast of the Annunciation, from the Menaion:*

### **Reading III: Exodus 3:1b-8a**

**Reader:** The Reading from **Exodus**.

**Reader:** MOSES came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

### **Reading IV: Proverbs 8:22-30**

**Reader:** The Reading from **Proverbs**.

**Reader:** The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.

I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.

When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water.

Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:

While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.

When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth:

When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:  
Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him.

## **New Testament Lessons**

*For the Feast of the Annunciation, from the Menaion:*

### **Prokeimenon - Tone 4**

**Reader:** The Prokeimenon in the **Fourth** Tone:

From day to day proclaim the salvation of our God.

**Choir:** From day to day / proclaim the salvation of our God.

**Reader:** Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**Choir:** From day to day / proclaim the salvation of our God.

**Reader:** From day to day ...

**Choir:** ... proclaim the salvation of our God.

### **Epistle: §306, Hebrews 2:11-18**

**Reader:** The Reading from Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the **Hebrews**.

**Reader:** Brethren both he that sanctifies and they who are being sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me.

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

For truly he took not upon himself the nature of angels; but he took upon himself the seed of Abraham.

Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to help them that are tempted.

### **Alleluia - Tone 1**

**Reader:** The Alleluia in the **First** Tone [Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia].

**Choir:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Reader:** He shall come down as rain upon a fleece; as the dew which falls upon the earth.

**Choir:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Reader:** His Name shall be blessed for ever; His Name shall continue longer than he sun.

**Choir:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

## Gospel: Luke §3, 1:24-38

*Presiding Reader:* The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to [St.] **Luke**.

*Choir:* **Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.**

*Presiding Reader:* IN THOSE DAYS, ELIZABETH, THE WIFE OF ZACHARIAH, conceived, and hid herself five months, saying,

Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

And the angel came in unto her, and said, Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found grace with God.

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

And, behold, thy cousin Elizabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

*Choir:* **Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.**

## Vouchsafe, O Lord

*Reader:* Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers,  
and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us,  
even 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 understand Thy commandments.

Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy precepts.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever.

O despise not the works of Thy hands.

To Thee belongeth worship; to Thee belongeth praise; to Thee belongeth glory:  
to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **In Place of the Evening Litany of Supplication**

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

*Presiding Reader:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

## **The Aposticha**

### **Tone 4**

*Ideomelon of the Midpoint of Great Lent, from the Triodion*

The Fast that brings us  blessings   
has now reached its  midmost  point:  
it has helped us to receive God's  grace  in the  days  that are past,  
and it will bring us further benefit in the  days  still to come.  
For by continuing in what is right we attain yet  greater  gifts.  
We therefore cry to Christ, the  Giver  of all good:  
O Thou who for our sakes hast fasted and  endured  the Cross,  
make us worthy to share uncondemned in Thy  divine  *Passover*. //  
May we spend our lives in peace and rightly glorify Thee with the Father and the  Spirit .

### **Tone 5**

*Ideomelon of the Fourth Wednesday of Great Lent, from the Triodion*

✠. Unto thee have I lifted up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens. Behold, as  
the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of a handmaid  
look unto the hand of her mistress; so do our eyes look upon the Lord our God, \*  
until  he  have  mercy  on us.

If we  look  for a spiritual  recompense ,  
let us perform our good deeds in  secret ;  
let us not proclaim them in the  streets  but keep them  hidden  in our hearts.  
Then He who sees the secrets of all  men  will reward us for our  abstinence .  
Let us  complete  the Fast,  
not with a sad  countenance , but praying in the inner  chamber  of our souls;  
and without ceasing let us  cry : Our Father, who art in  heaven , =  
lead us not into  temptation , we pray, //  
but  deliver  us from the  evil  one.

*Martyricon (Sticheron to the Martyrs) of the Fourth Wednesday of Great Lent*

✠. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for we are exceedingly filled with  
contempt. Our soul is exceedingly filled with humiliation; let reproach come upon  
them that prosper, \* and  abasement  on the  proud .



Your souls, O holy martyrs, were filled with an insatiable love;  
not denying Christ ye endured great sufferings and torments,  
and ye cast down the tyrants' pride.  
Ye kept the faith unaltered and unharmed,  
and now have gone to dwell in heaven.  
Since ye have boldness before Christ,  
pray that peace be given to the world, //  
and to our souls great mercy.

#### **Tone 4**

*Theotokion of the Litia of the Vigil for the Feast of the Annunciation(at Great Compline)*

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

Today there come glad tidings of joy:  
it is the feast of the Virgin.  
Things below are joined to things above.  
Adam is renewed,  
and Eve set free from her ancient sorrow;  
and the Tabernacle of the human nature which the Lord took upon Himself,  
making divine the substance He assumed,  
is consecrated as a Temple of God.  
O mystery!  
The manner of His emptying is unknown,  
the fashion of His conceiving is ineffable.  
An angel ministers at the wonder;  
a virgin womb receives the Son.  
The Holy Spirit is sent down;  
the Father on high gives His consent;  
and so the covenant is brought to pass by common counsel.  
In Him and through Him are we saved,  
and together with Gabriel let us cry aloud unto the Virgin:  
'Rejoice, thou who art full of grace:  
the Lord is with thee.  
From thee has Christ our God and our Salvation taken human nature,  
raising it up to Himself. //  
Pray to Him that our souls may be saved.'

#### **St. Simeon's Prayer**

*Reader:* Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
a light to enlighten the Gentiles,  
and the glory of thy people Israel.

## Trisagion Prayers

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.

O Lord, cleanse us from our sins.

O Master, pardon our transgressions.

O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. 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 [the] evil [one].

*Presiding Reader:* Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

*Choir: Amen.*

## Festal Troparia

### Troparion of the Archangel Gabriel (Tone 4)

O Gabriel, Supreme Commander of the heavenly hosts,

we implore thee ceaselessly

to encircle us, unworthy as we are,

with the shelter of thy prayers;

and to cover us

beneath the wings of thine immaterial glory.

We fall down before thee, crying aloud:

Protect us from all danger, //

O Prince of the Powers on high.

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

### Troparion of the Annunciation (Tone 4)

Today is the beginning of our salvation,

the revelation of the eternal mystery:

The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin  
as Gabriel announces the glad tidings of Grace.  
Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos:  
Rejoice, O Full of Grace, //  
the Lord is with thee.

### **In Place of the Augmented Litany (Litany of Fervent Supplication)**

Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

*Presiding Reader:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian**

*Presiding Reader:* O Lord and Master of my life, take from me [*or, more literally:* give me not]  
the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk.

*Prostration*

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.

*Prostration*

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see mine own transgressions, and not to judge my brother,  
for blessed art Thou, unto the ages of ages.

*Prostration*

*Choir:* Amen.

### **Great Dismissal**

*Choir:* Confirm [*or: Preserve*], O God,  
the holy Orthodox Faith of Orthodox Christians //  
unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* More hon'able than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the  
Seraphim;  
without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word; //  
true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

*Choir:* 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, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy  
O Lord, bless.

*Presiding Reader:* O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, for the sake of the prayers of Thy Most-  
Pure Mother, [whose reception of the Annunciation of the Glad Tidings of the Archangel  
Gabriel we celebrate this day], of our holy and God-bearing fathers, of *NN.*, the patron of this  
holy temple [*or, if at home:* my [our] heavenly patron(s)], of the holy Archangel Gabriel  
whom we commemorate this day, and of all the saints, have mercy upon us and save us, for  
Thou art good and lovest mankind.

*Choir:* Amen.

# Festal Supplication at the Dismissal

## Troparion of the Annunciation (Tone 4)

Today is the beginning of our salvation,  
the revelation of the eternal mystery:  
The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin  
as Gabriel announces the glad tidings of Grace.  
Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos:  
Rejoice, O Full of Grace, //  
the Lord is with thee.

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

## Kontakion of the Annunciation (Tone 8)

O Victorious Leader of triumphant hosts,  
we, *thy* servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos.  
As thou *dost* possess invincible might, set us free from every calamity, //  
so *that* we may sing: **Rejoice**, O unwedded Bride.

## Magnification of the Feast

With the voice of the Archangel  
we cry aloud to thee, O pure Virgin:  
Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, // the Lord is with thee.

## Veneration of the Cross [if in the church, or at home if desired]

*Choir*: Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master;  
and Thy holy Resurrection, we glorify. (*Thrice*)

*the second time, we can sing in Slavonic, if desired:*

Кресту́ Твоему́ покланя́емся, Влады́ко,  
и Свято́е Воскресе́ние Твое́ сла́вимъ.

*Presiding Reader*: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,  
have mercy on us and save us.

*Choir*: Amen. // Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.