

Nativity of Christ Festal Matins

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

Reader: Amen. Glory to you, O God, Glory to you!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who are everywhere and fill 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. (3x)

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; Lord, cleanse us from our sins; Master, pardon our transgressions; Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your Name's sake. Lord have mercy (3x)

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

All: 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 yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. In the Name of the Lord, bless Father!

Priest: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Reader: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will towards men. (3x) (Luke 2:14)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth your praise. (2x) (Psalm 51:15)

Psalm 143

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness; answer me in your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you. For the enemy has pursued me, crushing my life to the ground, making me sit in darkness like those long dead. Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled. I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds, I meditate on the works of your hands. I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land. Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit. Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. Save me, O Lord, from my enemies; I have fled to you for refuge. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Let your good spirit lead me on a level path. For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life. In your righteousness bring me out of trouble. In your steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am your servant. In your faithfulness; answer me in your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with your servant, in your faithfulness; answer me in your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with your servant. Let your good spirit lead me on a level path.

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 you, O God! (3x)

The Great Litany

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

Choir: Lord have mercy. (*after each petition*)

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

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

For this holy house, and for those who enter with faith, reverence and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.
For our Metropolitan _____, our Archbishop _____, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

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

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

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

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

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

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

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

Choir: To you, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: In the 4th tone: God is the Lord and has revealed himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

Choir: God is the Lord and has revealed himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon: All nations surrounded me, but in the Name of the Lord I withstood them!

Choir: God is the Lord and has revealed himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord!

Choir: God is the Lord and has revealed himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Deacon: The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner! This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes!

Choir: God is the Lord and has revealed himself to us. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Troparion

Choir: Your nativity, O Christ our God,
Has shown to the world the Light of Wisdom.
For, by it, those who worshipped the stars
were taught by a star
to adore you, the Sun of Righteousness
and to know you the Orient from on high.
O Lord, glory to you. *(thrice)*

Polyeleos (Selections from Psalms 134-5)

Choir: Praise the Name of the Lord! Give praise, O servants of the Lord!
Alleluia.

You that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.
Alleluia.

Praise the Lord for the Lord is Good. Sing to his name for he is gracious.
Alleluia.

For I know that the Lord is great, and that the Lord is above all gods.
Alleluia.

Whatever the Lord pleases He does, in heaven and on earth, in the sea, and all deeps.

Alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord from Zion, He who dwells in Jerusalem.

Alleluia.

O give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. For His mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.

O give thanks to the God of gods, for His mercy endureth forever.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. For His mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.

To Him who alone does great wonders, for His mercy endureth forever.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. For His mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.

To Him who by understanding made the heavens, for his mercy...

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. For His mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.

To Him who led His people through the wilderness, for his mercy...

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. For His mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.

O give thanks to the God of heaven, for his mercy endureth...

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. For His mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.

Magnification

Clergy: We magnify you, O Christ the Giver of Life, who for our sake now are born in the flesh of the Virgin Mary, unwedded and most pure!

Choir: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise!

We magnify you, O Christ the Giver of Life, who for our sake now are born in the flesh of the Virgin Mary, unwedded and most pure!

Our God is in heaven and on earth; he does whatever he pleases.

We magnify you, O Christ the Giver of Life, who for our sake now are born in the flesh of the Virgin Mary, unwedded and most pure!

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 you, O God.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to you, O God.

Clergy: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to you, O God.

We magnify you, O Christ the Giver of Life, who for our sake now are born in the flesh of the Virgin Mary, unwedded and most pure!

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

Choir: Lord have mercy. (*after each petition*)

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

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

Choir: To you, O Lord!

Priest: For blessed is your name and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Hymns of Ascent

Choir: From my youth many passions have fought against me, but do thou help me and save me, O my Saviour.

You who hate Zion shall be put to shame by the Lord. You shall be withered up like grass by the fire.

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

Every soul is enlivened by the Holy Spirit and is exalted in purity illumined by the Holy Trinity in a sacred mystery.

Prokeimenon

Deacon: The prokeimenon in the 4th Tone: Out of the womb before the morning star have I begotten thee. The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind.

Choir: Out of the womb before the morning star have I begotten thee. The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind.

Deacon: The Lord said to my lord, "Sit at my righthand until I make thine enemies thy footstool."

Choir: Out of the womb before the morning star have I begotten thee. The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind.

Deacon: Out of the womb before the morning star have I begotten thee.

Choir: The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For you are holy, our God, and you rest in the sanctuary, and to you we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Let Everything that Breathes

Deacon: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Choir: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Deacon: Praise God in his sanctuary! Praise him the firmament of his power!

Choir: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Deacon: Let everything that breathes!

Choir: Praise the Lord!

Gospel

Deacon: And the we may be accounted worthy of hearing the holy gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (3x)

Deacon: Wisdom. Attend. Let us hear the holy gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, 'God with us.'" Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

Choir: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

Post-Gospel Verses

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

Today all things are filled with joy, for Christ is born of the Virgin.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Today all things are filled with joy, for Christ is born of the Virgin.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy, and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercy blot out my transgressions.

Post-Gospel Sticheron

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace! Today Bethlehem receives Him who reigns forever with the Father. Today angels glorify the newborn Babe in hymns worthy of God: "Glory to God in the highest! And on earth peace, good will to men!"

Prayer of Intercession

Deacon: O God, save your people, and bless your inheritance. Visit your world with mercy and compassions. Exalt the horn of Orthodox Christians, and send down upon us your rich mercies, through the intercessions of our all-immaculate Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, all-laudable apostles; of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; of our father among the saints, Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of our fathers among the saints Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts; of the holy confessor Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America, Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn, Nikolai of Zhicha, who labored in America; and John the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco; of the holy, glorious, and right victorious martyrs: Juvenaly, the protomartyr of America and his companion; and the hieromartyrs John and Alexander; of the holy and glorious great martyrs, George the Trophy-bearer, Panteleimon, and the holy great-martyr Barbara; and of

the holy martyr Peter the Aleut; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers who shone forth in the ascetic life: Seraphim of Sarov and Herman the Wonder-worker of Alaska and all America; of the holy and righteous priests Jacob, enlightener of the native peoples of Alaska; and Alexis of Wilkes-Barre and Minneapolis; of St. Paul the Apostle, patron of this holy church; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all your saints, we beseech you, O most merciful Lord, harken to us sinners who make supplications to you, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (*12x*)

Priest: Through the mercy and compassion and love for mankind of your only-begotten Son with who you are blessed, together within you all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Canon – Ode 1

Choir: Christ is born; glorify him! Christ comes from heaven; go to meet him! Christ is on earth; be exalted! Sing to the Lord, all the earth! And praise him in gladness, O people, for he has been glorified!

Glory to you, our God, glory to you!

Reader: Man was made in the image of God, but he sinned, and lost immortality. He fell from the divine and better life, enslaved completely by corruption. Now the wise Creator fashions him again, for he has been glorified.

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

Reader: The Creator, when He saw mankind perishing whom He had made with His own hands, bowed the heavens and came down; and from the divine and pure Virgin, He took all of mankind's substance, being made truly flesh: for He has been glorified.

Ode 3

Choir: To the Son, begotten of the Father, before all ages and incarnate of the Virgin without seed in these later days – to Christ our God, let us cry out: “You have raised up our horn. Holy are you, O Lord!”

Glory to you, our God, glory to you!

Reader: Adam was made from dust, yet he shared God's life-giving breath. He was deceived by a woman and fell, but from the dead, he saw Christ born of women. He exclaimed, “For my sake you have become like me! Holy are you, O Lord!”

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

Reader: Christ, made yourself in the form of a creature of lowly clay, by your sharing in our more corrupt flesh, you have made us partakers of the divine nature; for you became mortal, while remaining God. You have raised our horn, holy are you, O Lord!

Ode 4

Choir: Rod of the stem of Jesse and flower that budded forth from a Virgin, O most lauded Christ! From the mountain covered with darkness Thou hast come, made flesh

from her that knew no wedlock. O God not formed from matter, glory to Thy might,
O Lord!

Glory to you, our God, glory to you.

Reader: O Christ, whom Jacob foretold in days of old, calling you the Expectation of the nations, you have shone forth from the tribe of Judah, and have come to plunder the strength of Damascus and spoils of Samaria, turning their error into faith beautiful to God. Glory to your might, O Lord!

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

Reader: O Master, you have risen as a Star out of Jacob; you have filled with joy the watchers of the stars who interpreted wisely the words of Balaam the ancient seer. As the first fruits of the Gentiles they were led to you, and you have received them openly as they brought you acceptable gifts. Glory to your might, O Lord!

Ode 5

Choir: O God of peace and Father of mercies, Thou hast sent to us the Great Council who grants us peace. So we are guided to the light of the knowledge of God. Waking early from the night, we praise Thee, O Lover of Man.

Glory to you, our God, glory to you.

Reader: Obedient to the decree of Caesar, you were enrolled among his servants, O Christ, setting us free who were servants of the enemy and sin. Sharing wholly in our poverty, you have made our clay divine through your union and participation in it.

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

Reader: Behold, the Virgin, as was said in days of old, has conceived in her womb and brought forth God made man; and she remains still a Virgin. Reconciled to God through her, let us sinners sing her praises for she is truly the Theotokos.

Ode 6

Choir: The sea monster cast out Jonah unharmed as it had received him, like a babe from the womb. And, when the Word came to dwell in the Virgin, and was made flesh, and was made flesh, he came forth preserving her uncorrupt; for He Himself was not subject to decay, and he kept His mother free from harm.

Glory to you, our God, glory to you!

Reader: Christ our God has come in the flesh. The Father begot Him from the womb before the morning star. He rules the heavenly hosts, yet now He lies in a manger of dumb beasts. He who looses the tangled knots

of sin now is wrapped in swaddling clothes.

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

Reader: From the substance of Adam, a young child, a Son, is born and given to the faithful, He is the Father and Prince of the Age to Come, and His name is called the Angel of Great Counsel. He is the mighty God and holds creation in His dominion.

Kontakion – Tone 3

Choir: Today the Virgin gives birth the Transcendent One. And the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds glorify Him. The wise men journey with a star. Since for our sake the Eternal God was born as a little child.

Reader: Bethlehem has opened Eden: come, let us see! We have found joy hidden! Come, let us take possession of the paradise within the cave. There the unwatered stem has appeared, from which forgiveness blossoms forth! There the undug well is found from which David longed to drink of old! There the Virgin has borne a child and at once the thirst of Adam and David is made to cease. Therefore let us hasten to this place, where for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

Ode 7

Choir: The Children brought up together in godliness, despising the unrighteous command, were not afraid of the threat of fire, but standing in the midst of the flames they sang: Blessed art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Glory to you, our God, glory to you.

Reader: The shepherds abiding in the fields received a vision of light that filled them with terror. For the glory of the Lord shone around them, and an angel cried out: Sing praises, for Christ is born! Blessed are you, O God of our fathers!

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

Reader: “What are these tidings?” said the shepherds. “Let us go and see this thing which has come to pass, even Christ our God!” And coming to Bethlehem, they worshipped with her who had given Him birth, as they cried out: Blessed are you, O God of our fathers!

Ode 8

Choir: The furnace moist with dew was the image of a wonder beyond nature, for it did not burn the children whom it had received! Just as the fire of the God-head

consumed not the Virgin's womb when it entered there. So, let us raise the song: Let the whole creation bless the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

Glory to you, our God, glory to you.

Reader: The daughter of Babylon once led captive from Zion the children of David whom she had taken with the sword: but now she sends her own children, the Magi bearing gifts, to entreat the Daughter of David in whom God came to dwell.

Choir: Let us bless the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Reader: Babylon despoiled Zion the Queen and took her wealth captive. But Christ by a guiding star drew to Zion the treasures of Babylon, with her star-gazing kings. Therefore let us raise the song: Let the whole creation bless the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

Choir: We praise, bless, and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

Ode 9

Choir: Magnify, O my soul, the Most-pure Virgin, Theotokos! More honorable than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery! Heaven – the cave. The cherubic throne – the Virgin. The manger – the place where Christ lay. The uncontainable God whom we magnify.

Magnify, O my soul, God born in the flesh from the Virgin.

Reader: The Magi, beholding the strange course of an unknown and newly shining star that exceeded the brightness of all heavenly light, learned that Christ the King was born on earth in Bethlehem for our salvation.

Choir: Magnify, O my soul, the King born in the cave.

Reader: The Magi, beholding the strange course of an unknown and newly shining star that exceeded the brightness of all heavenly light, learned that Christ the King was born on earth in Bethlehem for our salvation.

Choir: Magnify, O my soul, God worshipped by the Magi.

Reader: Where is the new-born Child and King, whose star we have seen? Said the Magi: For we are come to worship Him. Herod, the enemy of God, was troubled, and in his wild madness he plotted how to kill Christ.

Choir: Magnify, O my soul, Him who was revealed to the Magi by a star.

Reader: Where is the new-born Child and King, whose star we have seen? Said the Magi: For we are come to worship Him. Herod, the enemy of God, was troubled, and in his wild madness he plotted how to kill Christ.

Choir: Magnify, O my soul, the pure Virgin who has given birth to Christ the King.

Reader: Herod inquired what time the guiding star appeared that brought the Magi to Bethlehem to worship Christ with gifts. Led back to their own land by that same star they did not return to Herod but mocked the wicked slayer of children.

Choir: Magi and shepherds came to worship Christ the King, born in the city of Bethlehem.

Reader: Herod inquired what time the guiding star appeared that brought the Magi to Bethlehem to worship Christ with gifts. Led back to their own land by that same star they did not return to Herod but mocked the wicked slayer of children.

Choir: *(repeat Megalynarion and Heirmos)*

Magnify, O my soul, the Most-pure Virgin, Theotokos! More honorable than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery! Heaven – the cave. The cherubic throne – the Virgin. The manger – the place where Christ lay. The uncontainable God whom we magnify.

Little Litany

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God, our God, Who has brought into being by your will all the powers endowed with speech and reason, we beseech you and supplicate you: Accept our praises, which together with all your creatures we offer according to our strength, and reward us with the rich gifts of your goodness. For unto you every knee bows, whether in heaven or on the earth, or in the regions under the earth and every breath and created being sings your ineffable glory; for you only are the true and most merciful God. For all the powers of heaven praise you, and unto you we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Exapostilarion (Hymn of Light)

Choir: Our Savior, the Dayspring from the East,
has visited us from on high,
and we, who were in darkness and shadow,
have found the Truth,
for the Lord is born of the Virgin. (once)

The Praises – Tone 4

Choir: Let every breath praise the Lord
Praise the Lord from the heavens.

Praise Him in the highest.

To you, O God, is due a song!

Praise Him O you angels of His.

Praise Him all His hosts.

To you, O God, is due a song!

Reader: *Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise Him with strings and pipe!*

Choir: Make glad, O you righteous!
Greatly rejoice, O heavens!
Dance for joy, O mountains, for Christ is born!
The Virgin has become like the cherubic throne.
She carries at her bosom God the Word, made flesh.
Shepherds glorify the newborn Child.
Wise Men offer the Master gifts.
Angels praise Him and sing://
O Lord, past understanding, glory to You!

Reader: *Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!*

Choir: It was the good pleasure of the Father:
the Word became flesh, and the Virgin bore God made man.
A star spreads abroad the tidings.

The Magi worship; the shepherds stand amazed//
and creation is filled with mighty joy.

Reader: *In the 6th Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

Choir: When it was time for your coming on earth,
the first taxation of the world was held;
and then you made ready to enroll the names of all who believed in your
birth.
For this cause Caesar published such a decree,
since your timeless and eternal Kingdom was newly made manifest.
Therefore as we pay our earthly tribute,
we also offer you the wealth of our Orthodox Faith//
O God and Savior of our souls.

Reader: *In the 2nd Tone: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Choir: Today Christ is born of the Virgin in Bethlehem.
Today He Who knows no beginning, begins.
Today the Word is made flesh.
The powers of heaven greatly rejoice.
The earth makes merry with men.
The Wise Men offer gifts; the shepherds announce the wonder,
and without ceasing we cry aloud:
“Glory to God in the highest//
peace on earth, good will to men!”

The Great Doxology

Priest: Glory to you, who has shown us the Light!

Choir: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty! O Lord, the Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us! You that take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You that sit at the right hand of God the Father have mercy on us! For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, you only, O Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I give thanks to you and praise your Name for ever and ever! Lord, you have been our refuge from generation to generation! I said, Lord, have mercy on me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against you. Lord, I flee unto you. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. For with you is the fountain of life, and in your light shall we see light. O continue your mercy unto those who know you!

Vouchsafe, O Lord to keep us this day without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is your Name forever. Amen. Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on you.

Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your statutes.

Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your statutes.

Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your statutes.

Lord, you have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said, Lord, have mercy on me! Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you! Lord, I flee to you teach me to do your will, for you are my God. For with you is the fountain of Life; in your light shall we see light. Continue your mercy to those who know you.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Holy Immortal have mercy on us. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Troparion – Tone 4

Choir: Your nativity, O Christ our God,
Has shown to the world the Light of Wisdom.
For, by it, those who worshipped the stars
were taught by a start
to adore you, the Sun of Righteousness
and to know you the Orient from on high.
O Lord, glory to you. (*once*)

Dismissal Litany

Deacon: Let us complete our prayer unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord have mercy.

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

Choir: Lord have mercy.

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

Choir: Grant it, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant it, O Lord.

Deacon: Pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant it, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant it, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant it, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant it, O Lord.

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

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Priest: For you are a good God and love mankind, and unto you do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Priest: O holy Lord, Who dwell on high and look upon the humble, and Who with your all-seeing eye look down upon all creation: unto you have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we pray you, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling place and bless us all. And if we have sinned, either willingly or unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as you are a good God and love mankind, granting unto us your earthly and heavenly good things. For yours it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and unto you do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

Choir: Father, bless!

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Preserve, O Lord, the Holy Orthodox faith and Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.

Priest: Most holy Theotokos, save us.

Choir: More honorable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim; without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

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

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. Father, bless.

Priest: May He who was born in a cavern and lay in a manger for us and for our salvation, Christ our true God; through the prayers of his Most-pure Mother; of the Holy Apostle Paul, patron of this church; of the holy righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all your saints, have mercy upon us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.