

Sunday of the Prodigal Son (Feb 3/16)
Afterfeast of the Meeting of our Lord

VESPERS: Tone 1

P. Regular Beginning
C. Lord I have cried...

1. **Accept** our evening prayers, O **Holy** Lord,/ and grant us remission **of** our sins,/ for **only** Thou hast shown forth unto the world// the Resurrection.
2. **Walk** about Zion, ye **people**,/ and encompass her./ Give **glory** therein to Him Who is risen **from** the dead./ For **He** is our God// Who hath delivered us from our **iniquities**.
3. **Come** ye people, praise and **worship** Christ,/ glorifying His Resurrection **from** the dead:/ for He is Our God, Who hath delivered the world// from the beguiling of the **enemy**.
4. Ye **heavens** be glad, sound the **trumpets**,/ ye foundations **of** the earth./ Shout for joy ye **hills**, for lo!/ Emmanuel hath **nailed** our sins to the Cross,/ and **He**, the Giver of life, hath put death to death by raising **Adam** up,// because He **loveth** mankind.

Stichera from the Triodion (Tone 1)

- 5/6. I was **entrusted** with a sinless and **living** land,/ but I sowed the **ground** with sin/ and reaped with a sickle the ears of **slothfulness**;/ in thick sheaves I garnered my **actions**/ but winnowed them not on the threshing floor of **repentance**./ But I beg Thee, my God, the pre-eternal **husbandman**,/ with the wind of Thy loving-kindness winnow the **chaff** of my works,/ and grant to my soul the corn of **forgiveness**;// shut me in Thy heavenly storehouse and **save** me.
7. **Brethren**, let us learn the meaning of this **mystery**./ For when the Prodigal Son ran back from sin to his **Father's** house,/ his loving Father came out to meet him and **kissed** him./ He restored to the Prodigal the tokens of his proper **glory**,/ and mystically He made glad on high, sacrificing the **fatted** calf./ Let our lives, then, be worthy of the loving **Father**/ Who has offered **sacrifice**, // and of the glorious Victim Who is the **Saviour** of our souls.

Stichera for the Feast (Tone 1)

8. The Creator of all and our **Deliverer**/ is borne into the temple by the Virgin **Mother**;/ **wherefore**, the elder, receiving Him, cried **aloud** with joy:/ "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O **Good** One,// as Thou **hast** been pleased.
9. Symeon, receiving in his arms from the Virgin the **Saviour** of all/ Who was begotten before all the ages, **cried** aloud:/ "I have seen the effulgence of Thy glory!" to the **ends** of the earth./ "Now lettest Thou

Thy servant depart in peace, O **Good** One, // for I have beheld Thee today!"

10. Symeon, bearing in his arms the **Saviour**/ Who for the salvation of men was born in the **fullness** of time,/ cried aloud, **rejoicing**:/ "I have beheld the light of the nations and the glory of **Israel**!/ Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart, at **Thy** command,/ from among those here, as **Thou** didst say, // in that **Thou** art God!

Glory... (Tone 2)

Of what great blessings in my wretchedness have I **deprived** myself!/ From what a kingdom in my misery have I **fallen**!/ I have wasted the riches that were **given** to me,/ I have transgressed the **commandment**./ Alas, unhappy soul! Thou art henceforth condemned to the **eternal** fire./ Therefore before the end cry out to **Christ** our God:// Receive me as the Prodigal Son, O God, and have mercy **upon** me.

Both... Dogmatikon (Tone 1)

Let us **praise** the Virgin **Mary**,/ glory of all the world and doorway to **heaven**,/ **who** begotten of man hast **borne** the Lord:/ and who, adornment of the faithful, is sung by the **angelic** hosts./ For **she** hath been shown forth as Heaven and Temple of the **Godhead**./ She it is, who breaking down the middle wall of **enmity**,/ ushered in **peace** and threw the Kingdom **open**./ Therefore with her as **anchor** of our faith,/ **we**, in the Lord born of her, have a **Defender**./ Make bold therefore, ye people of **God**, make bold, // for He, the Almighty will defeat your **enemies**.

- P. Wisdom. Aright!
 C. O Joyful Light...
 P. Prokimenon. The Lord is King...
 P. Wisdom! (And readings, if any)
 P. Augmented Litany
 R. Vouchsafe...
 P. Litany of Fervent Supplication

C. Litya Prayers

Stichera for the Feast (Tone 1)

Now let us celebrate the saving grace of the ineffable manifestation of God;/ for Christ God, having without change become a babe through the Virgin Maiden,/ is borne by His Mother into the temple of God the Father, and Symeon, receiving Him, // embraceth Him in his arms.

Of old Thou wast seen by the prophets,/ insofar as they were able to see Thee O Jesus;/ but now, O Word of God,/ Thou hast of Thine own will revealed Thyself to the whole world,/ in the flesh, through the Virgin Mary, O Christ,/ and Thou hast manifested Thy salvation to all who are descended from Adam, // in that Thou lovest mankind.

O Christ Who of old laid down the law on Mount Sinai,/ now, fulfilling the provisions of the law on Mount Sion,/ Thou hast desired to be borne into the temple in the flesh,/ in the arms of the Theotokos,/ together with doves for sacrifice, // and to be held in the arms of Symeon.

Stichera from the Triodion (Tone 2)

I come **before** Thee, Lord,/ with the cry of the **Prodigal**:/ I have sinned in Thy sight, gracious **Master**:/ I have wasted the riches of Thy **gifts** of grace.// But receive me in repentance, Saviour, and **save** me.

(Tone 8)

As the Prodigal I have wasted the riches which the Father **gave** me:/ I have spent them all and now am **destitute**,/ dwelling in the land of evil **citizens**./ No longer can I bear to live **among** them,/ but turning back I cry to Thee, merciful **Father**:/ I have sinned against heaven and **before** Thee,/ and I am not worthy to be **called** Thy son:// make me as one of Thy hired servants, O God, and have mercy **upon** me.

Glory... from the Triodion (Tone 4)

As the **Prodigal Son**/ I come to Thee, **merciful** Lord./ I have **wasted** my whole life in a **foreign** land;/ I have scattered the wealth which Thou gavest me, O **Father**./ Receive me in **repentance**, O God,// and have **mercy** on me.

Both... (Tone 5)

The **Ancient** of days, having become a babe, is borne into the temple by the Virgin **Mother**,/ fulfilling the promise of His **own** law;/ and **Symeon**, receiving Him, said: 'Now lettest Thou Thy servant **depart** in peace,/ **according** to **Thy** word;// for mine eyes have seen Thy **salvation**, O Holy One!'

P. *Litya prayers in back of Church*

APOSTICHA: (Tone 1)

1. We were set **free** by Thy **passion**, O Christ,/ and we were redeemed from corruption by Thy **Resurrection**.// Unto Thee, O Lord, be **glory**.

V. The Lord is King,/ and hath put on glorious **apparel**.

2. Let the creation exult, the **heavens** make glad,/ the nations clap their **hands** with joy:/ For Christ our Saviour, because He **loveth** mankind,/ hath **nailed** our sins to the Cross,/ put death to **death** and given us life by raising fallen **Adam**,// father of **all** mankind.

V. He hath made the world so sure/ that it **cannot** be moved.

3. O **Thou** Who art beyond all **understanding**,/ King of **heaven** and earth,/ for love of mankind hast been of Thine own Will **crucified**:/ Hell was filled with bitterness when it **met** Thee below/ and the **souls** of the just at receiving **Thee** rejoiced./ And when he saw Thee, the Creator, in the depths, **Adam** rose up./ **What** a **wonder** this is:/ That the life of all men should **taste** death/ in His **desire** to give light to the world that **cries** and says:// Glory unto Thee, O Lord, risen **from** the dead.

V. Holiness becometh Thine house/ O Lord, **forever**.

4. The **myrrh**-bearing women bringing **spices**,/ hastened mourning to Thy tomb,/ and **when** they found Thy immaculate Body gone and learnt from the **angel**/ of the unprecedented and all-glorious **wonder**,/ they said to the Apostles: "The Lord is **risen**,// granting the world great **mercy**."

Glory... (Tone 6)

I have wasted the wealth which the Father **gave** to me,/ and in my wretchedness I have fed with the **dumb** beasts./ Yearning after their food, I remained hungry and could not **eat** my fill./ But now I return to the compassionate Father and cry **out** with tears:/ I fall down before Thy loving-**kindness**,// receive me as a hired servant and **save** me.

Both... for the Feast (Tone 1)

Today, He Who gave the law to Moses on **Sinai**/ submitteth to the **commands** of the law,/ having become like us **for** our sake,/ in that He is full of loving**kindness**./ Now our pure God, as a holy **Infant**,/ having opened the womb of the **pure** one,/ is offered to **Himself**, as God,// freeing our souls from the curse of the law and **enlightening** them.

C. St. Symeon's Prayer

R. Trisagion

C. Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos x2

Troparion for the Feast (Tone 1) (See music)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace,/ for from thee hath shone forth Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness,/ Who doth illumine them that are in darkness./ Be glad, thou also, O righteous elder/ who receivest in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls,// Who granteth us resurrection.

P. Blessing of loaves.

C. Amen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord... x3

Psalm 33:1-10

MATINS: Tone 1

P. Regular Beginning

P. Great Ectenia

C. God is the Lord...

C. Sunday Troparia (Tone 1) x2

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews;/ While the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body;/ Thou didst rise on the third Day, O Saviour/ granting life to the world./ The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life./ Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!/ Glory to Thy kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!

G/B... Troparion for the Feast (Tone 1) (See music)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace,/ for from thee hath shone forth Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness,/ Who doth illumine them that are in darkness./ Be glad, thou also, O righteous elder/ who receivest in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls,// Who granteth us resurrection.

Lord Have Mercy 3x
 Glory...

R. Now...
 R. Kathisma II
 P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

The soldiers guarding Thy tomb, O Saviour, became as dead men because of the radiance of the angel who appeared before them, proclaiming the resurrection to the women. We glorify Thee, the Destroyer of corruption, and we bow down before Thee, our one God Who hast risen from the grave.

V. Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high; forget not Thy paupers to the end.

Nailed to the Cross of Thine own will, and laid in the tomb as one dead, O compassionate Bestower of life, by Thy death Thou didst break the dominion of death, O Mighty One; for the gatekeepers of hades trembled before Thee, and Thou didst raise up with Thyself the dead of ages past, in that Thou alone lovest mankind.

G/B... At the sound of Gabriel's voice calling out to thee: "Hail, Virgin," the Master of all things became incarnate in thee, thou the Holy Tabernacle, as David the righteous said. In bearing thy Creator, thou hast shown thyself to surpass the vastness of the heavens. Glory unto Him Who dwelt in thee. Glory unto Him Who from thee came forth. Glory unto Him, Who by thy childbirth hath set us free.

R. Kathisma III
 P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

Very early the women arrived at the tomb and, beholding the appearance of the angel, they trembled. The tomb shone forth life, and the miracle filled them with awe. Wherefore, going to the disciples, they proclaimed the resurrection: Christ hath made hell captive, in that He alone is mighty and powerful; and destroying the fear of damnation by the Cross, He hath raised up with Himself all who had fallen prey to corruption!

V. I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, I will tell of all Thy wonders.

Thou wast nailed to the Cross, O Life of all, and wast reckoned among the dead, O immortal Lord. Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, with Thee raising Adam up from corruption. Wherefore, the hosts of heaven cried out to Thee, O Christ, Bestower of life: Glory to Thy resurrection! Glory to Thy condescension, O Thou Who alone lovest mankind!

G/B... O Mary, precious receptacle of the Master, raise us up who have fallen into the chasm of grievous despondency, transgressions and

sorrows; for thou art salvation, help and mighty intercession for sinners, and thou savest thy servants.

C. Polyeleos with the addition of the following: (Tone 6)

By the waters of Babylon/ we sat down and wept,/ when we remembered Zion.// Alleluia.

We hanged our harps/ upon the willows in the midst thereof.// Alleluia.

For there they that had taken us captive/ required of us a song;/ and they that had carried us away/ required of us a hymn, saying,/ Sing us one of the songs of Zion.// Alleluia.

How shall we sing/ the Lord's song in a strange land?// Alleluia.

If I forget thee, O Jerusalem,/ let my right hand be forgotten.// Alleluia.

If I do not remember thee,/ let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth;/ if I prefer not Jerusalem as my chief joy.// Alleluia.

Remember, O Lord,/ the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem;/ who said, Down with it, down with it,/ even to the foundation thereof.// Alleluia.

O wretched daughter of Babylon,/ happy shall he be that shall reward thee/ as thou hast served us.// Alleluia.

Happy shall he be,/ that shall take and dash thy little ones against the rock.// Alleluia.

C. Evlogitaria (Blessed art Thou, O Lord...)

P. Small Ectenia

R. Ypakoe:

The repentance of the thief stole paradise, and the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers announced joy: for Thou didst arise, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon One)

When I am sorrowful, hearken unto my pain, O Lord. Unto Thee do I cry.

Unceasing divine desire befitteth those in the wilderness, who are beyond this vainglorious world.

G/B... Worship and glory are due the Holy Spirit, as also to the Father and the Son. Wherefore, let us hymn the single dominion of the Trinity.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Two)

Thou hast brought me up to the mountains of Thy laws, O God. Illumine me with the virtues, that I may hymn Thee.

Taking me in Thy right hand, O Word, preserve and protect me, that the fire of sin may not consume me.

G/B... By the Holy Spirit is every creature restored, returning to its primal state; for He is equal in power with the Father and the Son.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Three)

My spirit was glad and my heart rejoiceth for those who said to me: Let us enter into the courts of the Lord.

There is great fear in the house of David, for there, when the thrones are set up, all the tribes and nations of the earth will be judged.

G/B... It is meet and fitting to offer honour and worship, glory and power unto the Holy Spirit, as to the Father and the Son, for the Trinity is a unity in nature, but not in Persons.

P. Prokimenon:

Now will I arise, saith the Lord,/ I will establish them in salvation, I will be manifest therein.

V. The words of the Lord are pure words.

C. Let every breath praise the Lord.

P. GOSPEL #1

C. Having Beheld the Resurrection of Christ...

R. Psalm 50

C. (Tone 8)

Glory... **O**pen unto me, O **G**iver of Life,/ the gates of **r**epentance:/ for early in the morning my spirit seeks Thy holy **t**emple,/ bearing a temple of the body **a**ll defiled.// But in Thy compassion cleanse it by Thy loving-kindness and Thy **m**ercy.

Both now... **G**uide me in the paths of salvation, O **T**heotokos:/ for I have befouled my soul with **s**hameful sins/ and have wasted all my life in **s**lothfulness.// By thine intercessions deliver me from all **u**ncleanness.

(Tone 6)

Have mercy **u**pon me, O God,/ in Thy great **m**ercy:/ and according to the multitude of Thy **c**ompassion// blot out my **t**ransgressions.

As I ponder in my **w**retchedness/ the many evil things that **I** have done,/ I tremble for the fearful day of **j**udgment./ But trusting in Thy merciful **c**ompassion,/ like David do I **c**ry to Thee:// Have mercy upon me, O God, in Thy great **m**ercy.

P. Save, O God, Thy People...

Anointing.

Canticle One

Irmos: Thy victorious right arm/ hath in godly manner been glorified in strength;/ for as almighty, O Immortal One,/ it smote the adversary,// fashioning anew the path of the deep for the Israelites.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

O Thou Who in the beginning didst divinely fashion me out of dust with Thine all-pure hands, Thou didst stretch out Thine arms upon the Cross, calling forth from the earth my corrupt body, which Thou hadst received from the Virgin.

Thou didst assume mortality for my sake and didst surrender Thy soul unto death, O Thou Who by Thy divine breath didst instill my soul within me; and having loosed the everlasting bonds, thou didst glorify it with incorruption, raising it up with Thee.

Theotokion

Rejoice, O wellspring of grace! Rejoice, O ladder and door of heaven! Rejoice, O lampstand and golden jar, thou unquarried mountain, who for the world gavest birth unto Christ, the Bestower of life.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

What fitting hymnody can our weakness offer thee, who alone art full of grace, to whom Gabriel hath mystically taught us to chant: "Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mother unwedded!"?

With a pure heart, O ye faithful, let us spiritually cry out to the Ever-virgin Mother of the King of the hosts on high: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mother unwedded!

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Jesus my God, as the Prodigal Son now accept me also in repentance. All my life I have lived in carelessness and provoked Thee to anger.

The divine wealth that once Thou gavest me I have sinfully wasted. I have departed far from Thee and lived as the Prodigal, O compassionate Father. Accept me also now as I return.

Open Thy fatherly embrace now and accept me also as the Prodigal Son, O most merciful Lord, that I may glorify Thee with thanksgiving.

Theotokion

O God, bestow the fullness of Thy grace upon me. Be Thou my Benefactor, and at the holy prayers of Thy Mother pass over the multitude of my offenses.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Let the clouds pour forth rain, for Christ the Sun Who is borne aloft upon a light cloud is brought to the temple as a Babe on the arm of the unblemished one. Wherefore, O ye faithful, let us cry aloud: Let us sing unto the Lord, for gloriously hath He been glorified!

Glory... Be strong, ye hands of Symeon feeble with age; and ye weary legs of the elder, move quickly and straight to meet Christ, joining chorus with the incorporeal ones, chanting: Let us sing unto the Lord, for gloriously hath He been glorified!

Both... O ye heavens stretched out in wisdom, be glad; and rejoice, O thou earth! For Christ the Artificer, having come forth from the most blessed womb of His Mother, is borne by the Virgin Mother to God the Father

as a babe, He Who was before all the ages, for gloriously hath He been glorified!

C. Katavasia (Tone 3)

The sun once passed over dry land born of the deep,/ for the water became firm as a wall on either side/ when the people traversed the sea,/ chanting in God-pleasing manner:// Let us sing unto the Lord, for gloriously hath He been glorified!

Canticle Three

Irmos: Thou, Who alone hast known the weakness of human nature,/ having in Thy mercy formed Thyself therein:/ Thou girdest me about with power from on high,/ that I may chant to Thee:/ Holy is the living temple of Thine ineffable glory,// O Thou Who lovest mankind!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

As God, O Good One, Thou hast taken pity on me who have fallen; and it being Thy good pleasure to come down to me, Thou hast by Thy crucifixion raised me up to cry unto Thee: Holy is the Lord of glory, immutable in goodness!

As enhypostatic Life, O Christ, clothing Thyself in me who have become corrupt, in that Thou art the God of lovingkindness, and descending to my mortal dust, O Master, Thou didst destroy the dominion of death; and having risen after three days of death, Thou hast clothed me in incorruption.

Theotokion

Conceiving God in thy womb through the all-holy Spirit, O Virgin, thou didst remain unconsumed; for the bush which burned without being consumed clearly, to Moses the Law-giver, proclaimed thee beforehand, who received the unbearable Fire.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O Virgin, following the sayings of the prophets, we truly call thee the light cloud; for the Lord came upon thee to cast down the handiworks of the falsehood of Egypt and to enlighten those who worship them.

The choir of the prophets truly called thee the sealed wellspring and the closed door, clearly describing for us the signs of thy virginity, O most hymned one, which thou didst preserve even after giving birth.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Utterly beside myself, I have clung in madness to the sins suggested to me by the passions. But accept me, O Christ, as the Prodigal.

With the words of the Prodigal I cry aloud: I have sinned, O Father; like him, receive me now in Thine embrace and reject me not.

Open Thine arms, O Christ, and in loving-kindness receive me as I return from a far country of sin and passions.

Theotokion

O fair among women, my many sins have brought me to poverty: enrich me, O pure Virgin, with the vision of beauty, that I may glorify thee.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

He that was first begotten of the Father before the ages hath appeared as the firstborn Babe of the undefiled Virgin, stretching forth His hand unto Adam.

Glory... God the Word hath appeared as a babe, setting aright the first-created man, who through deception had become childish of mind.

Both... The Creator, having become a Babe without undergoing change, hath shown forth our nature, the product of the earth to which it doth return again, to be like unto divinity.

C. Katavasia (Tone 3)

O Lord, the firm foundation of those that put their trust in Thee,/ do Thou confirm the Church,// which Thou hast purchased with Thy precious blood.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion of the Feast (Tone 1) (see music)

O Thou that didst hallow the Virgin's womb by Thy birth/ and didst bless the hands of Symeon as was meet,/ by anticipation Thou hast now saved even us, O Christ God./ But in the midst of battle grant peace to Thy community,/ and strengthen the hierarchs whom Thou hast loved,// O Thou Who alone lovest mankind.

R. Ikos of the Feast

Let us make haste to the Theotokos, desiring to behold her Son borne to Symeon. Looking upon Him from heaven, the bodiless hosts are amazed, saying: "Things wondrous, most glorious, unapproachable and ineffable do we behold: for He Who created Adam is borne as an infant; He Whom naught can contain is held in the elder's arms; He Who is in the infinite bosom of His Father is of His own will limited by the flesh, but not in His divinity, He Who alone loveth mankind."

C. Sessional Hymn from the Triodion (Tone 1)

Make **haste** to open unto me Thy fatherly **embrace**,/ for as the Prodigal I have **wasted** my life./ In the **unfailing** wealth of Thy mercy, O **Saviour**,/ reject not my heart in its **poverty**./ For with **compunction** I cry to **Thee**, O Lord:// Father, I have sinned against heaven and **before** Thee. (2x)

R. G/B... Sessional Hymn for the Feast

Rejoicing, the sacred Symeon took Thee up Who hadst become incarnate of the Virgin, O Christ, crying: Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart, O Master! And Anna, the blameless and glorious prophetess, now offereth Thee confession and hymnody. And we, O Bestower of life, cry out to Thee: Glory to Thee Who hast thus been well pleased!

Canticle Four

Irmos: Gazing with the eyes of foresight upon thee,/ the mountain overshadowed by the grace of God,/ Habbakuk prophesied that the Holy One of Israel would come forth from thee,// for our salvation and restoration.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Who is this Saviour Who issueth forth from Edom, wearing a crown of thorns, His robe stained red, lifted up upon the Tree? He is the Holy One of Israel, Who is come for our salvation and restoration!

Behold, ye disobedient people, and be ashamed! For He Whom ye madly asked Pilate to lift up on the Cross as a malefactor hath destroyed the power of death and risen as God from the tomb!

Theotokion

O Virgin, we know thee to be the tree of life; for it is no fruit deadly for men to eat which thou hast put forth, but the delight of everlasting Life, for the salvation of us who hymn thee.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Hearken, O heaven, to the wonders! Pay heed, O earth! For the daughter of fallen Adam who was made of dust hath been appointed for God, to be the Mother of her own Creator, for our salvation and restoration.

We hymn thy great and awesome mystery, for, hiding Himself from the captains of the armies of heaven, He Who Is descended upon thee like rain upon the fleece, for our salvation, O all-hymned one.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

The wealth of blessings which Thou gavest me, heavenly Father, have I wrongly wasted and become the slave of strangers. Therefore I cry aloud to Thee: I have sinned against Thee; receive me like the Prodigal of old, opening Thine arms to me.

I have become enslaved to every evil and in my wretchedness I have bowed down before the demons that provoke the passions; through heedlessness I have lost possession of myself. O Saviour, heavenly Father, take pity on me as I flee for refuge to Thy many mercies.

I am filled with every shameful thing and dare not look up at the height of heaven, for I have foolishly bowed down to sin. But now I return

and cry aloud in compunction: I have sinned against Thee; receive me, King of all.

Theotokion

Thou art the help of men, the sure hope of all Christians, O Virgin undefiled, and the refuge of the saved. Save me by thy motherly intercessions and count me worthy of the life to come.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

Rejoicing, the Theotokos cried out: O Symeon, initiate of ineffable mysteries, take in thine arms Christ, the Word become a babe, of Whom thou wast informed of old by the Holy Spirit, and cry out to Him: All things are filled with Thy praise!

Glory... O Symeon, rejoicing take up Christ, the little Child on Whom thou hast set thy hope, the Consolation of the Israel of God, the Creator and Master of the law, Who fulfilleth the order of the law; and cry aloud unto Him: All things are filled with Thy praise!

Both... Beholding the unoriginate Word borne as a babe in the flesh by the Virgin as on the throne of the cherubim, the Author of all, Symeon marveled and cried out to Him: All things are filled with Thy praise!

C. Katavasia (Tone 3)

Thy virtue hath covered the heavens, O Christ;/ for having issued forth from Thine immaculate Mother,/ the ark of Thy holiness,/ Thou hast appeared in the Temple of Thy glory as a babe borne in arms,// and all things have been filled with Thy praise.

Canticle Five

Irmos: O Christ, Who hast enlightened the ends of the world/ with the radiance of Thy coming,/ and illumined them by Thy Cross:/ With the light of Thy divine knowledge/ enlighten the hearts of those// who hymn Thee in Orthodox manner.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The Jews put the great Shepherd and Lord of the sheep to death by the Tree of the Cross; but the dead buried in hades did He deliver, like sheep, from the dominion of death.

Having announced peace by Thy Cross and proclaimed remission to those held captive, O my Saviour, Thou didst put to shame him who hath dominion, as though he were naked, by Thy divine resurrection showing him to be impoverished.

Theotokion

Disdain not the requests of those who petition thee with faith, O most hymned and all-pure one, but accept and convey them to thy Son, the one God and Benefactor; for thee have we acquired as our intercessor.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The hosts of heaven are gladdened at the sight of thee, and with them the companies of men rejoice; for they have been joined together by thy birthgiving, O Virgin Theotokos, which we glorify as is meet.

Let all the tongues and thoughts of men be moved to the praise of thee who art truly the adornment of mankind, for the Virgin standeth forth, clearly raising to glory those who with faith hymn her wonders.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I was enslaved to strangers, an exile in the land of corruption, and I was filled with shame. But now I return, merciful Lord, and cry to Thee: I have sinned.

Accept me now, O heavenly Father, in Thy fatherly compassion as I return from evil, and reject me not in Thine exceeding mercy.

I have angered Thee beyond measure, O Christ, and I dare not look up at the height of heaven. But knowing Thy compassion, merciful Lord, I cry: I have sinned, be merciful to me and save me.

Theotokion

All-holy Virgin, full of grace, who hast borne the propitiation of all, by thy prayers lighten the heavy burden of my sins.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

The divine elder, comprehending the glory that was manifested of old to the prophet, beholding the Word held in His Mother's arms, cried out: Rejoice, O pure one, for as a throne dost thou hold God, the Light unwaning, Who reigneth with peace!

Glory... The elder, bowing low and divinely touching the feet of the Mother of God who kneweth not wedlock, said: O pure one, thou dost bear Fire! I fear to hold the infant God, the Light unwaning, Who reigneth with peace!

Both... Isaiah was purified by the burning ember brought by the seraph, the elder cried to the Mother of God, and thou dost illumine me, giving me Him Whom thou dost bear in thine arms as with tongs, the Light unwaning, Who reigneth with peace!

C. Katavasia (Tone 3)

In a vision Isaiah beheld God exalted upon a throne/ borne aloft by angels of glory, and he cried:/ Woe is me! for I have beheld beforehand the incarnate God,// the unwaning Light, Who reigneth with peace!

Canticle Six

Irmos: The uttermost abyss hath engulfed us,/ and there is none to deliver us./ We are accounted as lambs for the slaughter./ Save Thy people, O our God,// for Thou art the strength and correction of the weak!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

We were grievously wounded by the offense of the first-created man, O Lord, but we have been healed by the wounds wherewith Thou wast wounded for us, O Christ; for Thou art the strength and correction of the weak.

Thou hast led us up out of hades, O Lord, having slain the all-devouring monster and set his power at naught by Thy might, O Omnipotent One; for Thou art Life, Light and Resurrection.

Theotokion

The ancestors of our race rejoice in thee, O all-pure Virgin, receiving through thee the Eden which they lost through transgression; for thou wast pure before giving birth and art so after birthgiving.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

As servants the ranks of heaven attend thy birthgiving, marveling, as is meet, at thy seedless parturition, O Ever-virgin; for thou wast pure before birthgiving and art so even after giving birth.

The Incorporeal One Who existeth from before time, the Word Who createth all things by His will, and as Almighty brought the armies of the incorporeal beings out of non-existence, hath become incarnate of thee, O all-pure one.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

The depth of sin ever holds me fast, and the tempest of transgressions overwhelms me. Pilot me, O Christ my God, to the haven of life and save me, King of glory.

I have wasted in evil living the riches which the Father gave me, and now am brought to poverty. I am filled with shame and enslaved to fruitless thoughts. Therefore I cry to Thee Who lovest mankind: Take pity on me and save me.

I am wasted with hunger, deprived of every blessing, and an exile from Thy presence, O Christ supreme in loving-kindness. Take pity on me as I now return, and save me as I sing the praises of Thy love for mankind.

Theotokion

O Maiden who hast conceived Christ the Saviour and Master, though in my poverty I lack all good, count me worthy of salvation, O pure Virgin, that I may sing the praises of thy majesty.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

In Sion wast Thou set as a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense for the disobedient, and the inviolate salvation of the faithful.

Glory... Manifestly bearing the lineaments of Him Who begot Thee before the ages, Thou hast now been clothed in the weakness of mortals in Thy lovingkindness.

Both... Now lettest Thou depart in peace him that worshipped Thee as the Son of the Most High, the Son of the Virgin, God become a Child.

C. Katavasia Tone 3

The Elder, having seen with his eyes the salvation/ that was come to the peoples, cried aloud unto Thee:// 'O Christ that comest from God, Thou art my God.'

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion from the Triodion (Tone 3)

Foolishly have I run away from Thy glory, O Father,/ wasting in sin the wealth that Thou gavest me./ Therefore with the words of the Prodigal I cry unto Thee:/ I have sinned before Thee, compassionate Father.// Accept me in repentance and make me as one of Thy hired servants.

R. Ikos from the Triodion

Our Saviour teaches us every day with His own voice: let us therefore hearken to the Scriptures concerning the Prodigal who became wise once more, and with faith let us follow the good example of his repentance. With humbleness of heart let us cry out to Him Who knows all secrets: We have sinned against Thee, merciful Father, and are not worthy ever again to be called Thy children as before. But since Thou art by nature full of love for man, accept me and make me as one of Thy hired servants.

R. Reading from the Synaxarion and Prologue

Canticle Seven

Irmos: O Theotokos, we the faithful,/ perceive thee to be a noetic furnace;/ for, as the supremely Exalted One saved the three youths,/ in thy womb the praised and most glorious God of our fathers// wholly renewed the world.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The earth was afraid, the sun hid itself, the light grew dim, the divine veil of the temple was rent in twain, and the rocks split asunder; for the Righteous One, the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers, hung upon the Cross.

Wounded among mortals of Thine own will for our sake, as though helpless, O supremely Exalted One, Thou, the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers, hung upon the Cross.

Theotokion

Rejoice, O wellspring of the water of eternal life! Rejoice, paradise of delight! Rejoice, bulwark of the faithful! Rejoice, thou who knewest not wedlock! Rejoice, universal joy, through whom the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers hath shone forth!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O Theotokos, in prophecy Jacob perceived thee to be a ladder, for through thee did the supremely Exalted One appear on earth and dwell with men, as was His good pleasure: the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers.

Rejoice, O pure one! From thee hath the Shepherd, the supremely Exalted One, come forth, in His unapproachable compassion truly clothing Himself in the skin of Adam, in me, in all of man: the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

I have bowed down miserably to the pleasures of the body and have become wholly enslaved to the demons that provoke the passions; and I have become a stranger to Thee Who lovest mankind. But now I cry with the voice of the Prodigal: I have sinned, O Christ, despise me not, for Thou alone art merciful.

I call out, 'I have sinned,' and I dare not look up at the height of heaven, O King of all; for in my foolishness I alone have angered Thee, rejecting Thy commandments. Therefore, since Thou alone art good, cast me not away from Thy presence.

At the prayers of the apostles, the prophets, the saints, the holy martyrs and the righteous, O Christ my Lord, forgive me all the offences which have provoked Thee to anger in Thy goodness, and I shall sing Thy praises for evermore.

Theotokion

O Theotokos, thou art more glorious than the cherubim and seraphim and all the heavenly hosts. With them, O Virgin undefiled, entreat Him Who took flesh from thee, God the Word from the Father without beginning, that we may all be counted worthy of eternal blessings.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

I go to announce the glad tidings unto Adam who dwelleth in hades and unto Eve, cried Symeon, joining chorus with the prophets, singing: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Glory... God Who doth deliver the mortal race shall go even unto hades; He shall grant remission to all, sight to the blind, and even the mute shall chant: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Both... And Symeon foretold to the Virgin: A sword shall pierce thy heart, O incorrupt one, beholding thy Son upon the Cross, to Whom we cry out: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

C. Katavasia (Tone 3)

We hymn Thee, God the Word/ Who bedewed the theologizing children in the fire/ and dwelt within the incorrupt Virgin,/ and piously we chant:// Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Canticle Eight

Irmos: Shining in the furnace more brightly/ than gold in a crucible in the beauty of their piety,/ the children of Israel said:/ Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!// Hymn and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

O Word of God, Who by Thy will dost create and refashion all things, transforming the shadow of death into life everlasting by Thy sufferings: Thee do all of us, the works of the Lord, unceasingly hymn and supremely exalt for all ages.

Thou didst destroy distress and misery within the gates and strongholds of hades, O Christ, rising from the tomb on the third day. Thee do all Thy works unceasingly hymn and supremely exalt as Lord for all ages!

Theotokion

Let us hymn her who without seed supernaturally gave rise to Christ, the Pearl of great price, through the divine Effulgence; and let us say: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord! Hymn and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The radiant bridal-chamber, whence Christ the Master of all issued forth like a Bridegroom, let us all hymn, crying aloud: Hymn the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Rejoice, O glorious throne of God! Rejoice, bulwark of the faithful, through whom Christ hath shone light upon those in darkness, who call thee blessed and cry aloud: Hymn the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

O Thou Who in great mercy hast come down upon earth to save the world through Thy voluntary poverty, in Thy compassion save me, for I am poor in all good works.

I have departed far from Thy commandments and in utter wretchedness I am enslaved to the deceiver. But now I turn back as the Prodigal of old: accept me as I fall before Thee, heavenly Father.

Ruled by corrupting thoughts, I am full of darkness and separated far from Thee, and I have lost all possession of myself, O merciful Lord. Therefore save me as I fall before Thee in repentance.

Theotokion

O pure Mother of God, the only restoration of the fallen, raise me up, for I am wholly crushed and humbled by every kind of sin.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

O people of Israel, beholding your glory, Emmanuel, the Babe born of the Virgin, now join ye chorus in the presence of the Ark of God, chanting: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Let us bless Father, Son, Holy Spirit, the Lord!

Behold, cried Symeon, this One Who is both God and Babe shall be a sign of contradiction. O ye faithful, let us cry out: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages.

Both... God the Word, being Life itself and having become a Babe, shall be the downfall of the disobedient, but the restoration of them that chant with faith: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages.

We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him unto all ages.

C. Katavasia (Tone 3)

Standing together in the unbearable fire/ yet not harmed by the flame,/ the Children, champions of godliness, sang a divine hymn:/ O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord// and exalt Him above all for ever.

P. Magnificat

C. Song of the Most Holy Theotokos.

Canticle Nine

Irmos: The bush which burnt with fire yet was not consumed/ showed forth an image of thy pure birthgiving./ And we pray now that the furnace of temptations/ which rageth against us may be extinguished,// that we may magnify thee unceasingly, O Theotokos.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

How have the iniquitous and disobedient people, plotting evils, justified a proud and ungodly man, yet condemned to the Tree the Righteous One, the Lord of glory, Whom we magnify as is meet?

O Saviour, Thou unblemished Lamb Who takest away the sins of the world: Thee Who hast risen on the third day do we glorify with the Father and Thy divine Spirit; and, theologizing, we magnify the Lord of glory.

Theotokion

Save Thy people, whom Thou hast acquired by Thy precious blood, O Lord, granting peace to Thy churches through the supplications of the Theotokos, O Thou Who lovest mankind.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Thou didst spring forth from the root of David, the prophet and ancestor of God, O Virgin; and thou hast truly glorified David, giving birth to the prophesied Lord of glory, Whom we magnify as is meet.

Every rule of praise is overturned by the magnitude of thy glory, O all-pure one. Yet accept the hymns of praise which we, thine unworthy servants, earnestly offer thee with love, O Mistress Theotokos.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me.

Behold, O Christ, the affliction of my heart; behold my turning back; behold my tears, O Saviour, and despise me not. But embrace me once again in Thy compassion and count me with the multitude of the saved, that with thanksgiving I may sing the praises of Thy mercy.

As the Thief I cry to Thee, 'Remember me.' As the Publican, with eyes cast down to earth, I beat my breast and say, 'Be merciful.' As the Prodigal deliver me from every evil, O King Who pities all, that I may sing the praises of Thy boundless compassion.

Groan now, my soul, all-wretched, and cry aloud to Christ: O Lord Who for my sake hast become poor of Thine own will, in my poverty I lack every good work: make me rich with the abundance of Thy blessings, for Thou alone art full of love and mercy.

O loving Lord, once Thou hast rejoiced at the voluntary return of the Prodigal: rejoice now because of me, wretched though I am: open Thy holy embrace to me, that saved I may sing the praises of Thy boundless compassion.

Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

The ancients were wont to offer a pair of newborn doves and two young birds, but the godly elder and the chaste prophetess Anna serve in their stead, magnifying the only-begotten Son of the Father, Who was born of the Virgin and is borne into the temple.

Glory... Thou hast imparted unto me the joy of Thy salvation, cried Symeon. Accept Thou Thy servant, for I am weary of the shadow, as a mystic and sacred preacher of the new grace, magnifying Thee in praise!

Both... The aged Anna, chaste and venerable, prophesying in sacred manner, openly confessed the Lord in the temple, and she magnified the Theotokos, proclaiming her to all present.

C. Katavasia (Tone 3)

In the shadow and letter of the Law,/ let us, the faithful, discern a figure:/ every male child that opens the womb shall be sanctified to God./ Therefore do we magnify the firstborn Word and Son of the Father without beginning,// the firstborn Child of a Mother who had not known man.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Holy is the Lord our God...

R. Exapostilarion One (Mt 28:16-20)

Let us go with the disciples into a mountain of Galilee to behold with faith Christ saying: Let us learn to receive power over things above and below; how to teach all the nations and to baptize them in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and as was promised I shall be even unto the end of the world with those who know the mysteries.

Glory... Exapostilarion from the Triodion

The wealth of grace that Thou hast given me, in my wretchedness I have wasted sinfully; all to no purpose I have left my true home, and as the Prodigal I have scattered my riches deceitfully among the demons. But now on my return accept me as the Prodigal, merciful Father, and save me.

Both... Exapostilarion of the Feast

Set by the Spirit in the sanctuary, the elder doth take the Master of the law in his arms, crying out: "Now loose Thou the bonds of my flesh in peace, as Thou didst say; for with mine eyes have I beheld the revelation of the gentiles and the salvation of Israel!"

C. Lauds: Tone 1 Stichera

Let **every** bre-ath **praise** the Lord/
Praise the Lord from the **Heavens**/
Praise Him in the **highest**/
To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God/
Praise Him, all ye His **Angels**://
Praise Him, all **ye** His hosts.//
To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God.

R. (The following may be read or sung antiphonally)

Praise Him, O sun and moon; praise Him, all ye stars and light.

Praise Him, ye heavens of heavens, and thou water that art above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord; For He spake, and they came to be; He commanded, and they were created.

He established them forever, yea, forever and ever; He hath set an ordinance, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all ye abysses,
Fire, hail, snow, ice, blast of tempest, which perform His word,
The mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars,
The beasts and all the cattle, creeping things and winged birds,
Kings of the earth, and all peoples, princes and all judges of the earth,
Young men and virgins, elders with the younger; let them praise the name
of the Lord, for exalted is the name of Him alone.

His praise is above the earth and heaven, and He shall exalt the horn of His people.

This is the hymn for all His saints, for the sons of Israel, and for the people that draw nigh unto Him.

Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the church of the saints.
Let Israel be glad in Him that made him, let the sons of Sion rejoice in their king.

Let them praise His name in the dance; with the timbrel and the psaltery let them chant unto Him.

For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and He shall exalt the meek with salvation.

The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds.
The high praise of God shall be in their throat, and two-edged swords shall be in their hands.

To do vengeance among the heathen, punishments among the peoples,
To bind their kings with fetters, and their nobles with manacles of iron,

V. To do among them the judgment that is written/ This glory shall be to **all** His saints.

1. We **praise** in song Thy saving **passion**, O Christ, // and glorify Thy Resurre**ction**.

V. Praise ye God in His saints, / praise Him in the firmament of His **power**.

2. Give **peace** to our **lives**, / O Thou, the only **Almighty** Lord, / Who hast endured the Cross and hast **laid** death low // and risen **from** the dead.

V. Praise Him for His mighty acts, / praise Him according to the multitude of His **greatness**.

3. Vouch**safe** that we may praise and glorify Thee with a pure **heart**, O Christ, / Who hast **despoiled** death, // and raised up man through Thy Resurre**ction**.

V. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, / praise Him with **psaltery** and harp.

4. **Glorifying** Thy divinely fitting condesc**ension**, / we praise **Thee**, O Christ. / Born of the Virgin without parting from the **Father**, / Thou hast suffered as man and willingly **endured** the Cross. / **Glory** be to

Thee, O Lord, Who, preceding as from a **chamber**,// hast risen from the tomb to **save** the world.

V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance,/ praise Him with **strings** and flute.

Stichera for the Feast (Tone 6)

5. Take up in thine arms the Creator of all, O **Symeon!** O elder, take up Christ to Whom the Virgin Maiden gave birth without seed,// unto the **joy** of our race!

V. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation./ Let every breath praise the Lord.

6. O ye people, **assembling**,/ let us hymn the one Benefactor, the **Bestower** of the law,/ the Creator and God **of** the law,/ before Whom the multitudes of angels **tremble**,// unto the **salvation** of our souls.

V. Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master, according to Thy word.

7. Now lettest Thou Thy servant **depart** in peace,/ O Master, as **Thou** didst say;/ for I have **beheld** Thee, O Christ,/ the pre-eternal Light of revelation for the Gentiles and **Israel**,// Who hast bound me in **fleshly** bonds.

V. A light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

(Tone 2)

8. The sacred Virgin brought the Sacred One to the priest in the **temple**;/ and stretching forth his hands, Symeon received Him rejoicing, and **cried** out:/ Now lettest Thou Thy servant **depart** in peace,// O Lord and Master, according **to** Thy word.

Glory... From the Triodion (Tone 6)

O loving Father, I have departed **far** from Thee,/ but forsake me not, neither reject me from Thy **Kingdom**./ The evil enemy has stripped me and taken **all** my wealth;/ I have wasted like the Prodigal the grace **given** to my soul./ But now I have arisen and returned, and to Thee I **cry** aloud:/ Make me as one of Thy hired **servants**./ For my sake on the Cross Thou hast stretched out Thy **sinless** hands,/ to snatch me from the **evil** beast/ and to clothe me once again in my first **raiment**// for Thou alone art full of **mercy**.

Both now and ever... (Tone 2)

Most Blessed art Thou, O Virgin Theotokos,/ for through Him Who became incarnate of thee is hades led **captiv**e,/ **Adam** recalled, the curse annulled, Eve set free, **death** slain,/ and we are given life. Wherefore, we cry **aloud** in praise:/ Blessed art Thou, O **Christ** God,// Who hast been thus well-pleased, **glory** to Thee.

Dismissal Tropar:

Today is salvation come unto the world; let us sing to Him Who arose from the tomb, and is the Author of our life. For having destroyed death by death, He hath given us the victory and great mercy.

P. Litanies
Dismissal

C. G/B... Gospel Sticheron (Tone 1)

When the **disciples** had gone up into the **mountain**,/ for His ascension **from** the earth,/ the Lord stood **by** and they **worshipped** Him./ And, having been taught that power had been given to them **everywhere**,/ they were **sent** as far as heaven **covers**/ to preach the Resurrection from the dead,/ **and** the restoration to **heaven**./ And Christ, God and **Saviour** of our souls,// promised without fail to be with them **eternally**.

R. Hours:
Tropar: Resurrection & Feast
Kontak: Feast/Triodion alternating

At Liturgy:

Order of Troparia & Kontakia:

Tropar Sunday

Tropar Feast

Glory... Kontak Triodion

Both... Kontak Feast

Prokimenon for Tone 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.

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

Prokimenon for the Feast (Tone 3)

My soul doth magnify the Lord...

Epistle(s): I Cor 6:12-20

Alleluia for Tone 1

V. The God that giveth avengement unto me hath subdued peoples under me.

V. It is He that magnifieth the salvation of His king and worketh mercy for His anointed, for David, and for his seed unto eternity.

Alleluia for the Feast (Tone 8)

Gospel(s): Luke 15:11-32

Communion Verse: Praise Ye & I will take the cup of salvation...