

THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

Deacon: Master, bless!

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

Psalm 103

Reader: Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with honor and majesty, who cover yourself with light as with a garment, who have stretched out the heavens like a tent, who have laid the beams of your chambers on the waters, who make the clouds your chariot, who ride on the wings of the wind, who make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At your rebuke they fled; at the sound of your thunder they took to flight. The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which you appointed for them. You set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between 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; they sing among the branches.

From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work. You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers. You have made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting.

You make darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises, they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan which you formed to sport in it. These all look to you, to give them their food in due season.

When you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your Spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever, may the LORD rejoice in his works, who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke!

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

The sun knows its time for setting. You make darkness and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all!

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! (x3)

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (and 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 stability 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 it with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

For our Archbishop and Father _____, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the civil authorities of this country and those serving in its armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city, for every city, monastery, and countryside, and for those who in faith dwell in them, let us pray to the Lord.

For good temperance of the air, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful seasons, let us pray to the Lord.

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

For our deliverance from all affliction, 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.

Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Psalm 140

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon You!

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!

Hear me, O Lord!

Reader: Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord, keep watch over the door of my lips.

Incline not my heart to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds.

In company with men who work iniquity; and let me not partake of their delights!

Let a good man strike or rebuke me in kindness, but let the oil of the wicked never anoint my head; for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds.

When they are given over to those who shall condemn them, then they shall learn that the word of the Lord is true.

As a rock which one cleaves and shatters on the land, so shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of the grave.

But my eyes are toward you, O Lord God; in you I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless.

Keep me from the trap which they have laid for me, and from the snares of evildoers.

Let the wicked together fall into their own nets, while I escape.

Psalm 141

I cry with my voice to the Lord, with my voice I make supplication to the Lord.

I pour out my complaint before him, I tell my trouble before him.

When my spirit is faint, You know my way!

In the path where I walk, they have hidden a trap for me.

I look to my right and watch, but there is none who takes notice of me;

No refuge remains to me, no man cares for me.

I cry to you, O Lord; I say: you are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

Give heed to my cry; for I am brought very low!

Deliver me from my persecutors; for they are too strong for me!

Bring my soul out of prison that I may give thanks to Your name.

The righteous await me for You will deal bountifully with me.

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

v. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord. (Tone 2)

Our Light that enlightens all
comes to be baptized.

The Forerunner sees Him and rejoices in His soul.

His hand trembles as he shows Him to the people:

“Behold, the Redeemer of Israel,

the One Who frees us from corruption.”

O sinless One, Christ our God, glory to You!

For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities

A servant baptized our Redeemer

and the coming of the Spirit bore witness to Him.

The hosts of Angels saw this and shook with fear.

And the voice of the Father was heard from heaven:

“This One on Whom the Forefunner lays his hand,

He is My beloved Son; I am well pleased in Him.”

O Christ our God, glory to You!

Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

The streams of the Jordan received You, their source,

and the Comforter descended in the form of a dove.

He Who bowed the heavens now bows His head.

The Clay cries aloud to the Potter:

“Why do you command me to do what is beyond me;

for I rather should be baptized by You.”

O sinless One, Christ our God, glory to You!

For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Wishing to save humanity that had gone astray,

You did not think it unworthy for You

to be clothed in the form of a servant;

for it was proper for You as Master and God

to take upon Yourself human nature for our sake.

Being baptized in the flesh, O Redeemer,

You made us worthy of forgiveness.

This is why we cry out to You: // “O Benefactor, Christ our God, glory to You!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
You bowed Your head before the Forerunner
and crushed the heads of the dragons.
You stood in the waters and enlightened all things
that they might glorify You, O Savior, the Light of our souls.

The Entrance

Deacon: Wisdom! Upright!

Choir: O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed - Jesus Christ. Having come to the setting of the sun and beheld the light of evening, we praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit God! At all times You are worthy of praise in songs as Son of God, Giver of Life, therefore the world glorifies You!

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace to all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Then, the appropriate Prokeimenon for the day of the week:

SUNDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Eighth Tone: Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord!

Choir: Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord!

Deacon: You who stand in the temple of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God!

Choir: Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord!

Deacon: Behold now, bless the Lord

Choir: all you servants of the Lord!

MONDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone: The Lord hears me when I cry out to Him.

Choir: The Lord hears me when I cry out to Him.

Deacon: Whenever I called, the God of my justice heard me.

Choir: The Lord hears me when I cry out to Him.

Deacon: The Lord hears me

Choir: when I cry out to Him.

TUESDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the First Tone: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

Choir: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

Deacon: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. In green pastures He gives me repose.

Choir: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

Deacon: Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me

Choir: all the days of my life.

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Fifth Tone: O Lord, save me by Your name, and in Your power be a judge for me.

Choir: O Lord, save me by Your name, and in Your power be a judge for me.

Deacon: O God, hear my prayer; listen to the words of my mouth.

Choir: O Lord, save me by Your name, and in Your power be a judge for me.

Deacon: O Lord, save me by Your name,

Choir: and in Your power be a judge for me.

THURSDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone: My help is from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Choir: My help is from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Deacon: I lifted up my eyes to the mountains, whence comes my help.

Choir: My help is from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Deacon: My help is from the Lord,

Choir: Who made heaven and earth.

FRIDAY EVENING

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone: O God, You are my defender and Your mercy goes before me.

Choir: O God, You are my defender and Your mercy goes before me.

Deacon: Deliver me from my enemies, O God; save me from those who rise up against me.

Choir: O God, You are my defender and Your mercy goes before me.

Deacon: O God, You are my defender

Choir: and Your mercy goes before me.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from Genesis (1:11-13)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: In the beginning God made the heaven and the earth. Now the earth was invisible and unformed, and darkness was upon the deep and the Spirit of God was borne upon the water. And God said, 'Let there be light', and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God made a separation between the light and the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night; and there was evening and there was morning, one day. And God said, 'Let there be a firmament in the midst of the water and let there be a separation between the water and the water'; and it was so. And God made the firmament. And God made a separation between the water, which was below the firmament, and between the water which was above the firmament. And God called the firmament Heaven; and God saw that it was good, and there was evening and there was morning, a second day. And God said, 'Let the water below heaven be gathered together into one gathering, and let dry land appear'; and it was so. And the water below heaven was gathered together into their gatherings, and the dry land appeared. And God called the

dry land Earth, and the accumulations of the waters he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. And God said, 'Let the earth sprout herb of grass, sowing seed according to its kind and according to its likeness, and fruiting tree making fruit, whose seed is in it according to its kind upon the earth'; and it was so. And the earth brought forth herb of grass, sowing seed according to its kind and according to its likeness, and fruiting tree making fruit, whose seed was in it according to its kind upon the earth, and God saw that it was good. And there was evening and morning, a third day.

Troparion (Tone 5):

You, the Creator of the world, have shone forth in the world, to give light to those who sit in darkness. O God, who loves mankind, glory to You!

v: O God, be gracious unto us and bless us; make Your face to shine upon us and have mercy on us, that Your way may be known upon the earth, Your saving power among the nations. (Ps.66:2-3;67:1-2)

to give light to those who sit in darkness. O God, who loves mankind, glory to You!

v: Let the peoples confess You, O God; let all the peoples confess You. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.(Ps.66:4-5;67:3-4)

to give light to those who sit in darkness. O God, who loves mankind, glory to You!

v: Let the peoples confess You, O God; let all the peoples confess You: the earth has yielded its increase. May God, our God bless us. May God bless us. Let all the ends of the earth fear Him. (Ps.66:6-8;67:5-7)

to give light to those who sit in darkness. O God, who loves mankind, glory to You!

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

You, the Creator of the world, have shone forth in the world, to give light to those who sit in darkness. O God, who loves mankind, glory to You!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Fourth Book of Reigns (2:6-14)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Elias said to Elissaïos, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as the Jordan'. But Elissaïos said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets came and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elias took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water with it; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elias said to Elissaïos, 'Ask me what I may do for you, before I am

taken up from you.' Elissaios said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He replied, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken up from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' It came to pass that as they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elias was taken up in a whirlwind as if into heaven. Elissaios kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariot of Israel and its horseman!' But when he could no longer see him, Elissaios grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elias that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Elissaios took the mantle of Elias that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and they were not parted. And he said, 'Where is the God of Elias, Appho? And so Elissaios struck the waters, and the waters were parted to the one side and to the other, and Elissaios went over on dry ground.

Troparion (Tone 6):

You have shone forth to tax collectors and sinners because of your abundant mercies. Where should your light shine but on those who sit in darkness? O our Savior, glory to You!

v: The Lord reigns, He is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, He is girded with strength. Yea, the world is established; it shall never be moved; Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.(Ps.92:1-2)

Where should your light shine but on those who sit in darkness? O our Savior, glory to You!

v: The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice, the floods have lifted up their roaring. (Ps.92:3)

Where should your light shine but on those who sit in darkness? O our Savior, glory to You!

v: Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty! Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for evermore. (Ps.92:4-5)

Where should your light shine but on those who sit in darkness? O our Savior, glory to You!

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

You have shone forth to tax collectors and sinners because of your abundant mercies. Where should your light shine but on those who sit in darkness? O our Savior, glory to You!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Fourth Book of Reigns (5:9-14)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Neeman, Governor of the King of the Assyrians, came with his chariots and horses, and halted at the door of Elissaios 's house. And Elissaios sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be cleansed.' But Neeman was angry, and went away, saying, 'Behold, I said that he will come out to me, and call on the name

of the Lord his God, and lay his hand on the leprosy, and remove it from my flesh. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not go and wash in them, and be cleansed?' So he turned and went away in a rage. But his servants came near and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? But he has simply said to you, "Wash, and be cleansed"?' So he went down and plunged himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored for him like the flesh of a little child, and he was cleansed.

Deacon: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to 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: Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one other, and our whole life to Christ God.

Choir: To you, O Lord.

Priest: For you are holy our God and to you we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever

Deacon: and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. **(sings Holy God at Divine Liturgy)**

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!

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace to all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: *The Prokeimenon in the Third Tone:* The Lord is my light and my Savior! Whom shall I fear?

Choir: The Lord is my light and my Savior! Whom shall I fear?

Reader: The Lord is the defender of my life! Of whom shall I be afraid?

Choir: The Lord is my light and my Savior! Whom shall I fear?

Reader: The Lord is my light and my Savior!

Choir: Whom shall I fear?

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the first Epistle of the apostle Paul to the Corinthians (9:19-27)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews; to those under the law I became as one under the law -- though not being myself under the law -- that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law -- not being without law toward God but under the law of Christ -- that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Well, I do not run aimlessly, I do not box as one beating the air; but I pommel my body and subdue it, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Priest: Peace to you who have read!

Reader: And to your spirit! Alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: *v:* My heart overflows with a goodly theme: I address my verses to the king. (*Ps 44:2*)

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: *v:* You are the fairest of the sons of men. (*Ps 44:3*)

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (3:1-18)

Instead of "It is truly meet..." we sing: All of creation rejoices in you, O full of grace: the assembly of angels and the human race; O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virginity, of whom God was incarnate and became a child, He that was before the ages, our very God; for, of your body He made a throne and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All creation rejoices in you, O full of grace: glory to you!

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia. (*Psalm 148:1*) Alleluia. Alleluia.