

GREAT VESPERS
for Feast of Christ the King

Priest: Glory be to the holy, consubstantial, life-creating and undivided Trinity, always, now and for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

Come, let us adore the King Our God.

Come, let us adore Christ, the King and our God.

Come, let us adore and bow down to the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

PSALM 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

You are very great, O Lord my God;

Clothed in pomp and brilliance;
Arrayed with light as with a cloak.

Stretching out the sky as a tent-cloth,
Covering Your lofty halls with water,

You make the clouds Your conveyance;
You surge on the wings of the wind.

You make spirits Your messengers,
And flaming fires Your attendants.

You settle the earth on its firm foundation;
It shall stand unmoved from age to age.

May the Lord's glory endure forever:
May the Lord rejoice in His works.

He looks upon the earth and makes it quake;
He touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live:
I will praise my God as long as I last.

Would that my thoughts be pleasing to Him:
And I will rejoice in the Lord.

May sinners vanish from the earth,
And may the wicked be no more.

Bless the Lord,
O my soul!

The sun knows the time of its setting.
You establish darkness, and it is night.

How great are Your works, O Lord!
In wisdom You have wrought them all.

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to You, O God! (*3 times*)

LITANY OF PEACE

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For peace throughout the world, for the well-being of God's holy churches and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our most holy Pontiff **[N]** Pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our most blessed Patriarch **[N]**, our most reverend Metropolitan **[N]** the reverend priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our nation under God, for our government, and for all the military, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For this city, for every city and country and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For the seafarers and travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for those held captive, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For all glory, honor, and worship befit You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

(stand)

KATHISMA

Blessed is the one – Alleluia
Who has not walked in the counsel of the wicked Alleluia

For the Lord knows the way of the just,
But the way of the wicked shall be lost Alleluia

Serve the Lord with fear,
Exalt in Him with trembling Alleluia

Blessed are those
who trust in Him Alleluia

Arise, O Lord!
Save me my God! Alleluia

Salvation is of the Lord!
upon your people be your blessing Alleluia

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God.(3X)

O Lord I Have Cried to You (Psalm 140)

Tone 2

O Lord, I have cried out to You, hear me.

Hear me O my Lord!

O Lord, I have cried out to You, hear me.

Give heed to the voice of my prayer

When I call upon you.

Hear me, O my Lord.

Let my prayer rise like incense before You;
And the lifting of my hands like an evening sacrifice.
Hear me, O my Lord.

Set a guard, O Lord, before my mouth
And a portal around my lips.

Incline my heart away from evil dealings,
From finding excuses for sinful deeds.

In company with those who work iniquity,
Let me not partake of what they choose.

May the just chasten me with justice and reprove me;
May the oil of the wicked never touch my head.

Yet even then shall I pray for their welfare.
Their rulers were swallowed near the rock.

My words will be heard, for they were sweet.
As a lump of clay broken on the ground,
so their bones were strewn near the grave.

To You, O Lord, my eyes are lifted up.
In You have I hoped; let not my soul be lost.

Keep me from the snare that was set for me,
And from the stumbling-blocks of the wicked.

The wicked shall fall into their own nets,
While I remain alone until I can escape.

PSALM 141

With my voice I cried to the Lord
With all my voice I implored the Lord.

Before Him I pour out my supplications;
Before Him I declare my distress.

When my breath was escaping me,
Then you knew my paths;

On the road upon which I was walking
They set up snares for me.

I looked to my right and observed.
There was no one to take care of my life.

I cried out to You, O Lord, and said
You are my hope, my share in the land of the living.

Listen to my supplication,
For I am laid very low.

Deliver me from my oppressors,
For they have overwhelmed me.

Lead my soul forth from prison
That I may give thanks to your name.

The just shall gather around me
When You have been good to me.

PSALM 129

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

Let your ears be attentive
To the voice of my prayer.

**If You mark iniquities, O Lord, who can stand?
But with You forgiveness is that You may be revered.**

Tone 2

The feast of the Lord has arrived,
therefore, let us today exalt Christ God,
who manifestly proclaimed: I am a King!
Let us, today, sing praises to our King,
for He reigns eternally with the Father.
Let us, today, extol the immortal King,
Who reigns in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist,

and let us adore Him.

**I have waited for You as You have commanded;
My soul patiently relies on Your promise,
for it has trusted in the Lord.**

The prophetic proclamation has been fulfilled:
Behold, the days will come, says the Lord,
when I will again establish for David a Sun of justice,
Who will rule like a wise king,
and Who will execute judgment and justice on earth.
Behold the name by which they will call Him: Our just Lord.
Let us worship Him.

**From the morning watch until night
Let Israel trust in the Lord.**

The Lord God, Jesus Christ, God-Man,
Who is the brightness of the Father's glory,
is a King by nature.
He is the King Heir, Who has inherited all the nations,
Whose rule extends to the ends of the earth.
He is the King Savior,
Who redeemed us with the price of His life.
He is the Chosen King,
in whose kingdom we have voluntarily enrolled through baptism.
Therefore, bending the knees of our souls and bodies, let us worship Him

**For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him there is plentiful redemption; and He shall
redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

Having come from heaven, O Christ King,
You are above all things,
higher than every sovereignty and authority,
every power and dominion,
and every famous name,
not only in the world,
but also in the world to come.
O how sublime is the majesty of Your power and authority!
Therefore, submitting to the scepter of Your kingdom, with one voice we sing to You:
Almighty King, glory to Your authority!

Praise the Lord, all the Nations; proclaim His glory, all you people.

Jesus, King of truth, for the sake of which You rule, teach us Your truth!
You are our God, You are our truth,
and all that is Yours is truth:
life and knowledge, the commandments and counsels,

the miracles and the blessed sacraments.
Therefore, grant that we may, henceforth, walk in Your truth,
so that we may openly contemplate You in Your glory.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; eternally will His truth endure.

O Christ, our King, You are the only Shepherd of Your kingdom,
and we are the sheep of Your inheritance,
whom You call by name, saying: You are mine!
Therefore, recognizing Your voice, we follow Your Vicar,
and flee from strange shepherds, for we do not recognize their voices.
Therefore, we implore You, that we may be one flock
and You the only Shepherd in Your heavenly kingdom.

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

Tone 8

In His love for us all,
the King of Heaven appeared on earth and dwelt among us.
For He took flesh from the pure virgin,
and, being thus incarnate, He came forth from her.
The only Son of God remained one person, but He now possessed two natures.
For this reason, we profess that He is truly perfect God and
Therefore, we beseech you, O Virgin Mother:
Implore Christ, whom we proclaim as God,
to have mercy on our souls.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright!

HYMN OF LIGHT

O Joyful Light!
Light and Holy Glory of the Father immortal,
The heavenly, holy the Blessed One: O Jesus Christ!
Now that we have reached the setting of the sun;
And see the evening light, we sing to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
It is fitting at all times to raise a song of praise in measured
melody to You, O Son of God, the Giver of Life.
Behold the universe sings Your glory.

Priest: Let us be attentive. Peace be with all. Wisdom let us be attentive.

Prokimen:

The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty

Verse: Robed is the Lord and girt about with strength.

Verse: For He has made the world firm, which shall not be moved.

Verse: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for length of days.

Priest: Wisdom

Reader: A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Priest: Let us be attentive!

In the year king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high lofty throne, with the train of his garment filling the temple. Seraphim were stationed above; each of them had six wings: with two they veiled their faces, with two they veiled their feet, and with two they hovered aloft. "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!" they cried to the other. "All the earth is filled with his glory!" At the sound of that cry, the frame of the door shook and the house was filled with smoke. Then I said, "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, holding an ember which he had taken with tongs from the altar. He touched my mouth with it. "See," he said, "now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sin purged."

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Priest: Let us all say with our whole soul and our whole mind, let us say.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Lord Almighty, God of our Fathers, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, in the greatness of Your compassion, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

Priest: We also pray for our most holy universal Pontiff **[N]**, Pope of Rome; for our most blessed Patriarch **[N]**, our most reverend Metropolitan **[N]**, for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

People: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

Priest: We also pray for our nation under God, for our government, and for all the military.

People: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

Priest: We also pray for the people here present who await Your great and bountiful mercies, for those who have been kind to us, and for all orthodox Christians.

People: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

Priest: For You are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF GLORIFICATION

O Lord, keep us this evening without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name for ever. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us because we have set our hope in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Master, make me understand Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One, enlighten me with Your laws.

O Lord, Your mercy endures forever; do not despise the work of Your hands.

It is proper to praise You, and hymns belong to You.

Glory belongs to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Priest: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That this whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord

Priest: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and offences, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: For all that is good and beneficial for our souls and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: That we may spend the rest of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: For a Christian end to our lives, one that is painless, unashamed, and peaceful; and for a good defense at the awesome tribunal of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and

one another and our whole life to Christ Our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For You, O God are good and the lover of us all and we give You glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit now and for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be with all.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Bow your heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: (silently) O Lord our God, You lowered the heavens when You came down for the salvation of the human race. Now look upon Your servants and upon Your inheritance; for they have bowed their heads before You, the Judge, both awesome and loving. They do not await human help, but look for Your mercy and are ready to receive Your salvation. Guard them at all times, this evening and tonight, against all enemies, against the devil's assaults, against vain thoughts and evil dreams.

May the might of Your kingdom be blessed and exalted, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

Aposticha

Tone 1

Let us faithful rejoice in Christ, our King.
He is the Teacher and Lawgiver,
Who has power to establish laws and revoke them.
He is the High Priest, Who grants us forgiveness of sins,
and the Judge of the living and the dead,
Who saves our souls.

verse: *I installed My king on Zion, My holy mountain.*

Let every human tongue and mind
give praise to the dignity and power of Christ the King,
which has been given to Him in heaven and on earth,
that, before His name every knee may bend: in heaven, on earth, and under the earth,
and confess that, the Lord Jesus Christ
is King of all the earth and God.

verse: *I have overcome, and now I sit with My Father on His throne.*

Isaiah saw You the King, Lord Sabbaoth,
seated on a high exalted throne,
surrounded by the Seraphim,
who covering their faces with their wings,
glorified their King with the thrice-holy hymn.
Together with them, we sinners also cry out to You:
Sanctify us with Your glory!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.
(Tone 6)**

As King of heaven and earth,
You govern all things with ineffable goodness
and with the riches of Your decrees.
Therefore, gather all the nations to Yourself,
and reveal, O Master, the heavenly and earthly Church, which will glorify You;
grant that we may stand before Your holy glory
and sing praises to You, O Jesus, our sweet and loving King.

HYMN OF SIMEON

Now You shall dismiss Your servant, O Lord,
According to Your Word in peace;
Because my eyes have seen Your salvation
Which You have prepared before the face of all people,
A light to the revelation of the Gentiles
And the glory of Your people, Israel.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. *(3 times)*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us. Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord; pardon our transgressions, O Master; look upon our weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One; for the sake of Your name.

Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For the kingdom and the power and the glory are Yours, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

Tropar Tone 4

Your rule, O Christ our God,
saved us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your love.
You Who are and were from all eternity
and appeared to us as a king,
glory be to You, O Lord!

DISMISSAL

Priest: Wisdom!

People: Give the blessing!

Priest: Blessed are You, O Christ our God, now and for ever and ever.

People: Amen. O God, strengthen the true faith forever and ever.

Priest: O most holy Mother of God, save us!

People: More honorable than the Cherubim and by far more glorious than the Seraphim; ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word, O true Mother of God, we magnify you.

Priest: Glory be to You, O Christ our God, our hope, glory be to You.

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen. Lord, have mercy. (3x) Give the blessing.

Priest: May Christ our true God, risen from the dead, through the prayers of his most holy Mother, through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, and through the prayers of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us for He is gracious and loves all of us.

People: Amen

REJOICE, VIRGIN MARY

Rejoice Virgin Mary, full of grace.
O Theotokos, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
And blessed is the Fruit of your womb.
For you have given birth
To the Saviour of our souls.

For you have given birth
To the Saviour of our souls