

26th Sunday after Pentecost (Nov. 8/21)
*Synaxis of the Archangel Michael, Commander of the Heavenly Host,
 And the Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel
 together with the other bodiless powers*

VESPERS: Tone 5

P. Regular Beginning

C. Lord I have cried... (Tone 5)

1. Thou hast **shamed** the devil with Thy precious **Cross**, O Christ,/ and hast blunted the sting of sin by Thy Resurrection./ Thou hast saved us from the **gates** of death.// Thou, O only-begotten Son, we **glorify** Thee.
2. He Who granted mankind the Resurrection/ was led like a lamb to the **slaughter**;/ the princes of hell trembled **before** Him,/ the gates of tears were **lifted** up:/ for Christ the King of glory **entered** in,/ declaring to those in **bonds**: "Go forth"// and to those in darkness: "**Show** yourselves."
3. **What** a mighty **wonder**;/ in His **love** for mankind,/ the Maker of things invisible suffered in the flesh and He Who was **immortal** rose./ Come and worship Him, ye kindreds of the **nations**;/ let us, delivered indeed from beguilement by His **compassion**,// learn to sing the praises of the only **God** in three **Persons**.
4. We **offer** up to Thee our evening **worship**,/ O uncreated light, who art to all **eternity**./ For through the flesh as **in** a glass,/ Thou hast shone upon the world, descending even **unto** hell,/ setting free those in **darkness** there/ and showing forth to the nations the light of the Resurrection:// Glory unto Thee, O **Lord**, Giver of light.

Stichera for the Angels (Tone 4)

5. O **Michael**, supreme **commander**,/ shown forth as a most radiant intercessor before the three-Sunned **Godhead**,/ thou dost cry **out**, rejoicing with the **heavenly** hosts:/ Holy art Thou, O **Father**!/ Holy art Thou, O co-un**originate** Son!// Holy art Thou also, O Holy Spirit! One glory, one Kingdom and nature, one Godhead and **power**!
6. Thine **aspect** is fiery, and thy beauty wondrous, O Michael, first among **angels**,/ for in thine immaterial nature thou dost transcend the **ends** of the earth,/ **fulfilling** the commandments of the **Creator** of all,/ known in the power **of** thy might,// making thy church a wellspring of healings, revered in thy **holy** name.
7. O **Thou** Who, as it is written, doth make Thine angels spirits and Thy ministers a **flame** of fire:/ amid the ranks of Thine archangels, O Lord,/ Thou hast shown **forth** as pre-eminent **Michael**,/ the supreme commander, who doth obey Thy **behest**, O Word,// and with fear doth utter the thrice-holy hymn unto Thy **glory**.

8. The pre-eternal **Mind** appointed thee as a secondary light, O **Gabriel**,/ which hath illumined all the universe with divine communications,/ **revealing** to us the truly divine and great mystery which was hidden from before the **ages**,/ of Him Who, though incorporeal,/ was incarnate in the Virgin's womb, and **became** man,// that He might **save** man.
9. **Standing** before the throne of the three-sunned **Godhead**,/ and richly illumined by the rays of divine light which are ceaselessly emitted **therefrom**,/ deliver from the darkness of the passions them that on earth do joyously join chorus and **praise** thee,/ and illumine them with thy radiance, O Gabriel, supreme commander,// intercessor **for** our souls.
10. Set at **naught** the fury of the Hagarenes that oft descend **upon** thy flock./ Cause thou the schisms of the **Church** to cease./ Quell the **tempest** of countless temptations./ From misfortune and tribulation deliver them that honour **thee** with love/ and take refuge under thy protection, O **Gabriel**,// supreme commander, intercessor **for** our souls.

Glory... (Tone 6)

Rejoice with us, all ye angelic **legions**,/ for the great supreme commander, your superior and our intercessor,/ appearing most wondrously this day in his honoured temple, doth **sanctify** it./ Wherefore, chanting as is meet, let us cry **aloud** to him:/ Cover us with the shelter of thy wings, O **Michael**,// thou greatest of the archangels!

Both... Dogmatikon (Tone 5)

In **times** past,/ the image of the unwedded Bride was inscribed in the **Red** Sea:/ There **Moses** parted the **waters**;/ here, **Gabriel** was the servant of the **wonder**./ Then, Israel rode dry-shod **through** the deep;/ **while**, now, the Virgin hath without seed given **birth** to Christ./ After the **passing** of **Israel**,/ the sea was as ever **impassable**./ After the **birth** of Emmanuel,/ the **Virgin** without reproach, **remains** uncorrupt./ Thou, O God, Who art now, hast forever been and hast **appeared** as man,// have **mercy** upon us.

- P. Wisdom. Aright!
 C. O Joyful Light...
 P. Prokimenon. The Lord is King...
 P. Wisdom!

R. The reading from the Book of Joshua (5:13-15)

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? And the captain of the Lord's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

R. The reading from the Book of Judges (6:2, 7, 11-24)

And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds. And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the Lord because of the Midianites, And there came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abiezrite: and his son Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites and the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valor. And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt? but now the Lord hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites. And the Lord looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house. And the Lord said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man. And he said unto him, If now I have found grace in thy sight, then show me a sign that thou talkest with me. Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again. And Gideon went in, and made ready a kid, and unleavened cakes of an ephah of flour: the flesh he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot, and brought it out unto him under the oak, and presented it. And the angel of God said unto him, Take the flesh and the unleavened cakes, and lay them upon this rock, and pour out the broth. And he did so. Then the angel of the Lord put forth the end of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the flesh and the unleavened cakes; and there rose up fire out of the rock, and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. Then the angel of the Lord departed out of his sight. And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said, Alas, O Lord God! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face. And the Lord said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die. Then Gideon built an altar there unto the Lord, and called it Jehovahshalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

R. The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah (14:7-20)

The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no fellow is come up against us. Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us? Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not

the house of his prisoners? All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcass trodden under feet. Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.

- P. Augmented Litany
 R. Vouchsafe...
 P. Litany of Fervent Supplication

C. Litya

First sticheron is that of the temple, then the following:

(Tone 1)

O supreme commander of the noetic powers/ that stand unceasingly before the throne of the Master./ Pray ye to the Lord, that He grant peace to the world// and great mercy to our souls.

Michael, preeminent among the divine ranks,/ commander of the hosts on high,/ who ever walketh with us and preserveth us all from every assault of the devil,/ hath today summoned us to a festival./ Come, therefore, ye that love the feasts of the Church and Christ,/ and taking up the flowers of the virtues,/ with pure thoughts and an upright conscience let us honour the assembly of the archangel;/ for, standing unceasingly before God, chanting the thrice-holy hymn,// he prayeth that our souls be saved.

(Tone 2)

O ye supreme commanders,/ that govern the immaterial essence of the noetic hosts,/ and shed light upon the whole universe/ with rays of glory of the threefold Sun./ With never-ceasing utterance ye chant the thrice-holy hymn.// Wherefore, pray ye that our souls be saved.

O ye noetic beings, divine and incorporeal,/ who surround the immaterial throne,/ with lips of flame ye chant the thrice-holy hymn/ to God the Ruler:/ Holy is God, the unoriginate Father!/ Holy is the Mighty One, the Son Who is equally without beginning!/ Holy is the Immortal One, the Spirit one in essence,// Who with the Father and the Son is glorified.

With incorporeal lips and noetic mouths the ranks of the angels/ offer unceasing hymnody to Thine unapproachable Divinity, O Lord,/ and the pure intelligences and ministers of Thy glory,/ and with them Michael the incorporeal and Gabriel the exceeding magnificent, praise Thee, O Lord./ And the supreme commanders of the angels, preeminent among the powers on high,/ have today become our hosts, commanding us to chant/ the hymn of hymns unto Thine unapproachable glory, O Thou Who lovest mankind,// which they entreat unceasingly in behalf of our souls.

Glory... (Tone 4)

With lips of fire the cherubim hymn Thee, O Christ God,/ and with incorporeal mouths the choir of the archangels doth continually glorify Thee./ And Michael, the commander of the hosts on high, doth unceasingly offer a hymn of victory to Thy glory;/ for he hath lighted our way to a radiant festival today,/ that, with lips of clay, we may fittingly give

utterance in psalmody to the thrice-holy hymn of praise, // for all things have been filled with Thy praise, and therefore Thou dost grant the world great mercy.

Both... Today the Theotokos, the temple which containeth God, / is led into the Temple of the Lord, / and Zechariah raiseth her aloft. / Today the Holy of Holies rejoiceth and the choir of angels doth mystically keep festival. / Celebrating with them today, let us cry out with Gabriel: // Rejoice, O thou who art full of grace! The Lord, Who hath great mercy, is with thee!

P. *Litya prayers in the back of the Church*

APOSTICHA: (Tone 5)

1. We **lift** up our **voices** in song / to magnify Thee, O **Saviour**, / Christ incarnate yet never parted from **heaven**, / for **Thou** Lord Who **lovest** mankind, / hast suffered the Cross and death for the **sake** of our kind / and casting down the **gates** of hell, // Thou hast risen on the third day and thereby **saved** our souls.

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

2. O **Giver** of Life, / Thy pierced side poured streams of **remission**, / life and salvation **upon** us all. / By taking upon Thyself **death** in the flesh, / Thou hast granted us **immortality**, / and taking up Thy **abode** in the tomb, / Thou hast set us **all** free, / and as God Thou hast raised us up with Thee in **glory**. / Therefore, we **cry** aloud: // Glory unto Thee, O **Lord**, Who lovest mankind.

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

3. O **Thou** Wh-o **lovest** mankind / strange are Thy crucifixion and Thy **descent** into hell. / For after despoiling it, and raising up with Thyself as God in **glory**, / those who were in times of old held **captiv**e there, / Thou hast opened Paradise and vouchsafed that it let man **enter**. / Cleanse us, **therefore**, from sin, / who glorify Thy Resurrection on the **third** day / and vouchsafe that we too may dwell in **Eden**: // For Thou alone art **merciful**.

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

4. O **Thou**, Who for our sakes hast accepted suffering **in** the flesh / and hast risen on the third day **from** the dead, / heal the **passions of** our flesh / and raise us from our grievous iniquities and **save** us: // For Thou **alo-ne** lovest mankind.

G/B... (Tone 8)

O supreme commander, as **general**, / champion and chief of the **angels**, / from all want and grief, from afflictions and **grievous** sins / do thou free them that hymn and beseech thee with faith, O **glorious** one, / for thou art manifestly **immaterial**, / beholding the Immaterial One, illumined with the

unapproachable light of the Master's **glory**./ For in His love for mankind He took flesh of the Virgin **for** our sake,// wishing to save the **human** race.

- C. St. Symeon's Prayer
 R. Trisagion
 C. Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos 2x

Troparion for the Heavenly Hosts (Tone 4)

Supreme commanders of the armies of Heaven,/ we, the unworthy, do ever entreat you,/ that by your prayers ye ever surround us with the protection of the wings of thine immaterial glory,/ preserving us that earnestly fall down before you and cry aloud:// Deliver us from misfortunes, in that ye are the leaders of the hosts on high.

- P. Blessing of loaves.
 C. Amen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord... x3
 Psalm 33:1-10

MATINS: Tone 5

- P. Regular Beginning
 P. Great Ectenia
 C. God is the Lord...

- C. Sunday Troparia (Tone 5) x2

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word/ co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit/ Born for our salvation from the Virgin,/ for He willed to be lifted upon the Cross in the flesh/ to endure death and to raise the dead/ by His glorious Resurrection.

Glory... Troparion for the Heavenly Hosts (Tone 4)

Supreme commanders of the armies of Heaven,/ we, the unworthy, do ever entreat you,/ that by your prayers ye ever surround us with the protection of the wings of thine immaterial glory,/ preserving us that earnestly fall down before you and cry aloud:// Deliver us from misfortunes, in that ye are the leaders of the hosts on high.

Both... Theotokion (Tone 4)

The mystery hidden from all ages/ and unknown to the **angels**/ was made manifest to those on earth through Thee, O Theotokos:/ God took flesh in a union without **confusion**/ and for our sakes willingly **accepted** the Cross;/ and thereby He raised the **first** formed man// and saved our **souls** from death.

Lord Have Mercy 3x
 Glory...

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

R. Sessional Hymns:

We praise the Cross of the Lord, we honour His holy burial with hymns, and we greatly glorify His resurrection, for as God with Himself He raised

the dead up from the graves, having captured the dominion of death and the might of the devil; and He shone light upon those in hades.

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

Declared to be dead, O Lord Who didst slay death, Thou wast laid in a tomb, O Thou Who emptied the graves. Above, soldiers kept guard over Thy sepulcher, while below Thou didst raise up the dead from ages past. O almighty and unapproachable Lord, glory be to Thee!

G/B... Rejoice! Thou impassable gateway of the Lord; Rejoice! Thou wall and protection of those who take refuge in Thee; Rejoice! Thou haven untroubled by storms; Rejoice! Thou who hast not known wedlock and who hast borne Thy Son and Maker and God in the flesh. Fail not in thy intercession on behalf of those who sing the praises of and worship thy Son.

R. Kathisma III
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

O Lord, after Thy resurrection on the third day and the worship of the apostles, Peter cried out to Thee: "The women showed courage, but I was afraid. The thief uttered theology, but I denied Thee. And dost Thou now call upon me to be Thine apostle still? Or wilt Thou show me again to be a fisher of the deep? Yet do Thou accept me, who repent, O God, and save me!"

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

O Lord, the iniquitous nailed Thee in the midst of condemned criminals, and pierced Thy side with a spear, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept burial, Who broke down the gates of hades, and didst rise again on the third day. The women hastened to behold Thee, and announced Thine arising to the apostles. O supremely exalted Saviour, Whom the angels hymn, O blessed Lord, glory be to Thee!

G/B... O Theotokos, unwedded Bride, who hast transformed the grief of Eve into joy, we, the faithful, hymn and bow down before thee, for thou hast led us out of the ancient curse. And now, pray thou unceasingly, O most hymned and all-holy one, that we be saved.

C. Polyeleos

P/C. Magnification (once only by clergy)

We magnify you, / O archangels and angels, principalities, virtues, / thrones, dominions, powers, cherubim // and awesome seraphim, who glorify the Lord.

C. Evlogitaria (Blessed art Thou, O Lord...)
P. Small Ectenia

R. Ypakoe:

The myrrh-bearing women, their minds dazzled by the sight of the angel and their souls enlightened by Thy divine Resurrection, preached the good tidings to the Apostles: "O spread among the nations the news of the Resurrection of the Lord, He, Who works wonders and grants us His great mercy."

R. Sessional Hymns for the Angels

Standing ever before the dread throne, illumined with the brilliant rays of the three-Sunned Godhead, dispelling the gloom of sin, enlighten us who celebrate your assembly with splendor; and pray ye earnestly that we be delivered from misfortune, O most radiant intercessors.

Thou hast been revealed as foremost among the legions of the angels, O Michael, supreme commander. Unceasingly entreat the King Most High, that He cast down the pride of tyrants here below. And as thou hast boldness at the fiery throne, pray for us, thy servants, without ceasing.

Glory... Having worthily become, at the command of thy Creator, the master of the ranks of heaven and minister of divine glory, thou art a saving mediator for Christians, watching over them that are on earth with thine immaterial glory. Wherefore, we all praise thee as is meet, hymning thy divine festivity today. O Michael, supreme commander, entreat Christ God to grant remission of sins unto them that with love celebrate thy holy feast.

Both... O pure and immaculate Virgin Mother, who knewest not man, who alone gavest birth within time to the timeless Son and Word of God. With the honorable bodiless hosts of heaven beseech Him to grant us cleansing of our sins and great mercy.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon One)

When I am filled with sorrow, I sing unto Thee like David, O my Saviour: Deliver my soul from a lying tongue.

Blessed is the life of those in the wilderness, who soar aloft on wings of love divine.

G/B... By the Holy Spirit are sustained all things, visible and invisible; for, Himself possessed of dominion, He is truly One of the Trinity.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Two)

Ascend into the mountain, O my soul and go thither from whence cometh our help.

Let Thy right hand, which toucheth me, O Christ, preserve me from all deception.

G/B... Theologizing concerning the Holy Spirit, let us say: Thou art God, Life, Love, Light and understanding! Thou art Goodness and Thou reignest forever!

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Three)

Full of great Joy, I send up supplications for those who have said to me: Let us enter into the courts of the Lord.

Awesome things are wrought in the house of David; for there is found the fire which burneth up every shameful thought.

G/B... To the Holy Spirit, by Whom every living thing is made animate, is due the dignity of the Bestower of life, as to the Father and the Word.

P. Prokimenon: (Tone 5)
Arise, O Lord, my God, let Thy hand be lifted high;/ for Thou shalt be King forever.

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

C. Let every breath praise the Lord.

P. GOSPEL #11

C. Having Beheld the Resurrection of Christ...

R. Psalm 50

C. Glory... Now... Have mercy on me... Jesus having risen...

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

Anointing.

Canticle One

Irmos: Bringing battles to naught with His upraised arm,/ Christ hath overthrown horse and rider/ in the Red Sea,/ and hath saved Israel,// who chanteth a hymn of victory.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The thorny assembly of the Jews, devoid of maternal love for Thee, their Benefactor, O Christ, crowned Thee with thorns, Who lifted the thorny sentence of our first father.

Bending down, O Bestower of life, Thou raised me up who had fallen into the pit; and having endured my fetid corruption without partaking thereof, O Christ, Thou hast made me fragrant with the myrrh of the divine Essence.

Theotokion

The curse hath been annulled; grief hath ceased! For she who is blessed and full of grace hath shone joy forth upon the faithful, causing Christ to blossom forth as a blessing upon all the ends of the earth.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

As one adorned with the beauty of the virtues, O most pure one who art full of grace, through the effulgence of the Spirit thou didst receive the majesty of Him Who adorneth all things, and which createth beauty.

Prefiguring thee on Sinai of old, the bush which was united with fire was not consumed; for as virgin thou gavest birth and remained a virgin still, in manner past understanding, O Virgin Mother.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Ye faithful, let us all hymn the uncreated Trinity, Who doth govern all the immaterial ranks of the heavenly choirs, and let us cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy art Thou, O Almighty God!

O Creator of the angels, Thou didst set as a beginning to Thy creations the immaterial essence which surroundeth Thy most honoured throne, that it might cry out to Thee: Holy, holy, holy art Thou, O Almighty God!

Rejoice, O Gabriel, initiate of the mystery of the incarnation of God, and Michael, foremost among the immaterial ranks, who unceasingly cry out: Holy, holy, holy art Thou, O Almighty God!

Theotokion

I tremble before the mystery of Thy condescension, O Christ; for, God in essence, Thou didst deign to be born of the Virgin as a man, that Thou mightest save the world from slavery to the enemy.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Come ye, and, joining chorus, let us praise the noetic choirs of the incorporeal ranks, for they are divine ministers who unceasingly pray for our salvation and rejoice over our repentance.

The chief captains of the angels, chosen before others, the valiant commanders, the incorporeal intelligences, today arise for the celebration of the feast of their radiant memory. With them men also rejoice, offering a hymn to the Trinity.

Glory... O ye people, with spiritual joy let us rejoice today with the angels, for Gabriel again announceth glad tidings: the union of the Churches and the destruction of all adverse heresies, in the commemoration of the supreme commanders.

Both... O most pure one, through the Holy Spirit thou gavest birth unto the Word of the Father, Who transcendeth nature and made His abode within thee, being furthermore of two natures and wills, yet immutably one in hypostasis; and Whose countenance we venerate.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

I shall open my mouth/ and the Spirit will inspire it,/ and I shall utter the words of my song to the Queen and Mother:/ I shall be seen radiantly **keeping** feast// and joyfully praising her **wonders**.

Canticle Three

Irmos: O Christ Who by Thy command fixed the earth upon naught/ and suspended its weight unsupported;/ establish Thou Thy Church/ upon the immovable rock of Thy commandments,// O Thou Who alone art good and lovest mankind.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

They who sucked honey from a rock when Thou didst work a miracle in the desert, O Christ, gave Thee gall to eat; the ungrateful children of Israel gave Thee vinegar in return for manna, repaying thus Thy benefactions.

They who of old were covered by the cloud of light placed Christ, our Life, in the tomb; yet He hath arisen through His own power and from on high hath given to all the faithful the effulgence of the Spirit, which mystically overshadoweth them.

Theotokion

Thou, O Mother of God, gavest birth without knowing union, and without the pangs of motherhood, unto Him Who shone forth from the incorrupt Father; wherefore, in Orthodox manner we proclaim thee the Theotokos, for thou gavest birth unto the incarnate Word.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O pure one, thou art now manifestly seen by all to be the ladder whereby the Most High hath descended unto us to set aright our nature, which had become corrupt; for through thee was the All-good One well pleased to enter into fellowship with the world.

The condemnation incurred by the ancient curse was annulled at thy mediation, O all-pure Virgin; for having manifested Himself through thee, the Lord hath poured forth blessing upon all, in that He is all-good, O only adornment of men.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

With strength, O Immortal One, hast Thou appointed the mighty ones who fulfill Thine all-holy will, ever standing before Thee in the highest.

O Christ, accept Thou those who pray in our behalf, the commanders of the angels, initiates of the mystery of Thine incarnation and Thine honoured resurrection.

Thou hast appointed angels as guardians for men, in that Thou art compassionate; and Thou hast shown forth the ministers of the salvation of Thy favored ones.

Theotokion

O Bride of God, thou hast ineffably conceived the Lord and Saviour, Who delivereth from evil those who truly call upon thee.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

O Michael, chief captain, foremost among the angels, as a secondary luminary of the Trinity hast thou revealed thyself to those who faithfully praise thee.

Having proclaimed the coming of God in the flesh, Gabriel faithfully filled the whole world with the effulgence of divine grace.

Glory... O ever-hymned couple, radiant and immaterial pair, show forth the light of God upon those who faithfully celebrate your memory.

Both... O pure one, Isaiah hymned thine Offspring, Who transcendeth nature; and I sing, too, that I may obtain His cleansing.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

O **M**other of God,/ thou living and **p**lentiful fount,/ give **s**trength to those united in spiritual **f**ellowship,/ who sing hymns of **p**raise to thee:/ And in thy divine **g**lory// vouchsafe unto them crowns of **g**lory.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion for the Heavenly Hosts (Tone 2)

O ye chief commanders of God,/ ministers of glory divine, captains of the angels and instructors of men:/ beg ye great mercy and that which is profitable for us,// for ye are the supreme commanders of the bodiless hosts.

R. Ikos

In Thy Scriptures, O immortal One Who lovest mankind, Thou didst say that a multitude of angels rejoiceth in heaven over one man who repenteth. Wherefore, O Sinless One, Who alone knowest the hearts of men, amid our transgressions we ever make bold to beseech Thee to have compassion and send down compunction upon us, unworthy though we are, granting us forgiveness, O Master, in that Thou art compassionate, for the supreme commanders of the bodiless host entreat Thee in behalf of us all.

R. Sessional Hymns

O ye captains of the heavenly ones, ye foremost among those who are loftily enthroned and awesome in divine glory, O Michael and Gabriel, supreme commanders, chief captains of the angels, and all ye bodiless ones, ministers of the Master. Praying unceasingly in behalf of the world, ask ye remission of the sins we have committed, and that we may find mercy and grace on the day of judgment. (2x)

G/B... O pure and blessed one, who art full of divine grace: Out of the compassion of thy loving-kindness, with the hosts on high, the archangels and all the bodiless ones, do thou unceasingly entreat Him Who was born of thee, that, before the end, He mercifully grant us forgiveness of sins and correction of life, that we may find mercy.

Canticle Four

Irmos: Perceiving Thy divine condescension prophetically, O Christ,/ Habakkuk cried out to Thee with trembling:/ Thou art come for the salvation of Thy people,// to save thine anointed ones!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

O Good One, with a tree Thou didst sweeten the bitter waters of Marah, prefiguring Thine all-precious Cross, which doeth away with the taste of sin.

O my Saviour, Thou didst receive a Cross in exchange for the tree of knowledge and gall for sweet food, and thou didst pour forth Thy divine blood for the corruption of death.

Theotokion

Without physical joining thou didst incorruptibly conceive within thy womb, and gavest birth without pain; and having given birth unto God in the flesh, thou wast preserved a virgin even after birthgiving.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

With heart and mind, with soul and mouth I most piously confess thee to be the true Theotokos, O pure one; and laying hold of the fruit of salvation, I am saved by thy supplications, O Virgin.

Isaiah called thee the staff from whence Christ God, the beautiful Flower, budded forth for us, unto the salvation of those who with faith and love have recourse to thy protection.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Thou didst mount the angels like steeds, O Thou Who lovest mankind, and didst take their reins in Thy hand, and Thy chariot became salvation unto those who unceasingly cry out: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Thy virtue covereth the angels, O Thou Who lovest mankind, and with Thy divine, glorious praise, O Thou Who art without beginning, doth fill the ends of the earth, which cry out with them: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Thou didst go forth unto the salvation of Thy people, O compassionate Christ, and Thou dost summon Thy friends, the powers; and Thy coming hath been gladness unto all who faithfully cry out: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Theotokion

Virgin and Mother hast thou been supernaturally shown to be, O all-pure one; for thou gavest birth to Christ, both God and man, to Whom the ranks of the angels cry out with fear: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

In Jericho of old the great Michael, supreme commander of the hosts of the Lord and chief among the bodiless ones, appeared unto Joshua, son of Nun, who was waging war, and gave them victory, fighting for him; and the servant of God, receiving power from him, captured the enemy, vanquishing them with the spear.

Once the great Gabriel, the truly divine archangel, chief among the bodiless hosts, appeared, bearing the glad tidings of a child to Zechariah the priest. Wherefore, the voice of the Word, who was born John, restoreth the voice of prophecy to his own father.

Glory... All the ends of the earth rejoice today with joy, O God, celebrating the honoured memory of Thine archangels, the divine Michael and Gabriel of godly wisdom. And together with them the whole rank of angels rejoiceth, for by their protection is the world preserved.

Both... Thou alone didst remain pure after giving birth, and only thou hast been shown to be without husband, O thou who with milk didst

nourish the true Word of the Father, Who through the Holy Spirit assumed our form, that of a servant, O Virgin Theotokos. And venerating the divine likeness of His countenance, we honour Him.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

He Who sits in glory upon the throne of the **Godhead**,/ Jesus the **true** God,/ is **come** in a **swift** cloud,/ and with His pure hand He has saved **those** who cry:// Glory to Thy **power**, O Lord.

Canticle Five

Irmos: O Thou Who art clothed in light as with a garment:/ I rise at dawn unto Thee, and to Thee do I cry:/ Enlighten Thou my gloom-enshrouded soul, O Christ,// in that Thou alone art compassionate!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Of His own will the Lord of glory hangeth ignominiously upon the Tree in inglorious form, ineffably taking thought of divine glory for me.

Having tasted of the corruption of death in the flesh without suffering corruption, O Christ, Thou didst clothe me in incorruption, having shone forth from the tomb on the third day.

Theotokion

Having seedlessly given birth for us to Christ, our righteousness and deliverance, O Theotokos, thou didst rid the nature of our first father of the curse.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

All the prophets manifestly proclaimed thee beforehand as the one to become the Mother of God, O pure Theotokos; for thou alone, O pure and immaculate one, wast found to be perfect.

O pure one, we recognize thee as the radiant cloud of the Water of life, which raineth Christ, the Torrent of incorruption, upon us, the despairing.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Upborne to the heights by inexorable longing for Thee, O Christ, Thou utmost of all desires, the angelic powers unceasingly glorify Thee.

Noetic by nature and incorrupt through Thy grace hast Thou made Thine angels, those who hymn Thy majesty, O Christ, fashioning them according to Thine image, O Unapproachable One.

Through their nearness to Thee, O Christ, Thou hast kept Thy servants uninclined towards evil, for Thou art the Source of goodness, and Thou dost do good unto those who serve Thee as is meet.

Theotokion

Enliven my soul which hath been done to death by vile passions, O all-immaculate one, who gavest birth unto the Preserver of life, and direct it to the path of eternal and blessed life.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

When, of old, Balaam the prophet did not submit to the ineffable and divine wonders of God, an angel appeared to his ass at the crossroads and dreadfully rebuked him, and in showing forth his animal as rational he altered nature.

When Peter had been arrested and languished in prison, an angel of God appeared, delivering him from the hands of Herod, from bonds and death. Wherefore, come ye, let us all honour the wise angels as divine protectors of our souls.

Glory... O angels and archangels, ye divine powers of God, by your supplications offered continually unto God put an end to the uproar of battles, heresies in the Church and all temptations, and do ye maintain us in peace.

Both... We know Thee to be the God of creation: One in two natures, two actions and wills, though unconfused, the Son of God Who took flesh from a woman, Whose image depicted on boards we venerate.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The whole **world** was amazed at thy divine **glory**,/ for **thou**, O Virgin who hast not known **wedlock**,/ hast **held** in thy womb the **God** of all,/ and hast given birth to an **eternal** Son,// Who rewards with salvation all who sing thy **praises**.

Canticle Six

Irmos: O Christ Master,/ still Thou the sea of the passions/ which rageth with a soul-destroying tempest,/ and lead me up from corruption,// in that Thou art compassionate.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The progenitor of our race stumbled headlong into corruption, having tasted of the forbidden food, O Christ our Master; but he hath been led up to life, through Thy suffering.

Thou, O our Life, didst go down into hades, and having become corruption for the corrupter, O Christ our Master, Thou didst pour forth resurrection through corruption.

Theotokion

The Virgin gave birth, and having given birth hath remained pure. The Virgin Mother hath truly borne in her arms Him Who holdeth all things.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O most immaculate Mistress, we know thee to be a soul-nurturing wellspring pouring forth healings upon those who with faith have recourse unto thy right glorious protection.

For us didst thou give birth unto the Bestower of life, the Author of salvation, Who giveth everlasting deliverance unto us who confess thee to be the true Theotokos.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

By Thy Word, O Lord, Thou didst in godly manner bring the heavenly beings, the immortal hosts, out of non-existence, making them luminous.

Honoured initiates of the mysteries of the praise of God have ye been, O incorporeal ones, citizens of heaven, truly divine tabernacles, who serve the Creator as is meet.

Thee, O Son of God Who art wholly without beginning, do the noetic ranks of the bodiless ones unceasingly praise and glorify as the Creator and Author of all things.

Theotokion

O all-pure one, thou hast been vouchsafed to cradle in thine embrace Him Who eternally sitteth with the Father in the highest. Render Him merciful unto us, thy servants, O pure one.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Taking flight in mind away from material corruption, let us with fear honour the immaterial ones who are bodiless like fire, flame and light, chanting hymns unto them with lips of clay.

Calm the tempests of the passions, O archangels, and do ye also quell all revolts against the Faith, for ye are the holy and fiery chief commanders of the Trinity.

Glory... O captains Michael and Gabriel, ye chief commanders and archangels of God, leaders of the bodiless ones, preserve us from all heresies by your protection.

Both... O Christ, being incorporeal in that Thou art God, Thou didst manifest Thyself incarnate from the womb of her who knew not man; and, as man, Thou wast a bearer of the flesh. Thy likeness do we honour, O ye faithful.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

As we **celebrate**/ this sacred and solemn feast of the **Mother** of God,/ **let** us come, **clapping** our hands,/ O people **of** the Lord,/ and give **glory** to God// Who was **born** of her.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion (Tone 5)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Saviour,/ shattering its gates as Almighty;/ resurrecting the dead as Creator/ and destroying the sting of

death,/ Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man,// and we all cry to Thee, O Lord, save us.

R. Ikos

When the women heard the words of the angel, they put aside their lamentation, and full of joy and trembling they gazed in awe. And, lo! Christ drew nigh to them, saying: "Rejoice! Be of good cheer! I have vanquished the world and freed the captives! Make haste, therefore, to My disciples, telling them that I go before you to preach in the city of Galilee." Wherefore, we all cry out to Thee: Save us, O Lord!

Canticle Seven

Irmos: The supremely exalted Lord of our fathers/ quenched the flame and bedewed the children,/ who sang together:// Blessed art Thou, O God.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Clad in flesh like bait on a hook, by Thy divine power thou didst draw the serpent down, leading up those who cry: Blessed art Thou, O God!

The Infinite One, Who brought the immense structure of the earth into being, in the flesh is covered in the tomb. Unto Him do we all sing: Blessed art Thou, O God!

Theotokion

O most immaculate one, thou gavest birth to the incarnate God, one Hypostasis in two natures, unto Him do we all sing: Blessed art Thou, O God!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Having been purified by the Spirit, O Virgin, thou becamest the Mother of the King of all, Who had created thee. Unto Him do we all sing: Blessed art Thou, O God!

Having clothed Himself in flesh through thee, O all-pure Mother of God, the Lord saved me. Unto Him do we all sing: Blessed art Thou, O God!

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

O Compassionate One, Thou didst show forth as light the immaterial essence of Thine angels that are unceasingly filled with ineffable light, crying: Blessed art Thou, O God, forever!

The myriads of ministering angels cannot bear to behold the sight of the Countenance before which they unceasingly stand, crying: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God, forever!

Thou didst create the nature of the angels by Thy hypostatic Word, and having sanctified it by the divine Spirit, O God, Thou didst teach it to bless the Trinity forever.

Triadicon

Mindful of the three Hypostases, we glorify the uncircumscribed essence of the Father, the Son and the Spirit, crying aloud: Blessed art Thou, O Lord God, forever!

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Come, O human race, and with the choirs of the bodiless ones let us worship, celebrating on this propitious day the memory of the wise archangels of Christ, singing: Holy, holy, holy art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Of old, Abraham the God-seer and the glorious Lot gave shelter to the angels, in that they were hospitable; and they found fellowship with the angels, crying: Holy, holy, holy art Thou, O God of our fathers!

Glory... To the valiant Manoah and the most wise Tobit appeared the angels who give rewards for the struggles of life as is meet; and once the Angel of the children quenched the flame in the fiery furnace.

Both... All that is ours by nature didst Thou take from the Virgin, save only change, O Jesus, and with the fathers we proclaim Thee to be of two natures, but One in hypostasis; and, depicting the visage thereof, we faithfully venerate it.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Holy** Children bravely trampled upon the **threatening** fire,/ preferring not to worship created things rather than the Creator,/ and they **sang** in joy:/ 'Blessed art Thou and **praised** above all,// O Lord God of our fathers.'

Canticle Eight

Irmos: The children, forming a universal chorus in the furnace,/ chanted to Thee, the Creator of all:/ Hymn the Lord, all ye works,// and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou didst pray concerning Thy voluntary and saving passion as though it were a cup which Thou didst not desire; for Thou bearest two wills, according to each of Thy two natures, O Christ, forever.

At Thine all-accomplishing descent, O Christ, hades, mocked, spewed forth all whom it had lured by deceit into death from of old, and they exalt Thee supremely for all ages.

Theotokion

All of us, the works of the Lord, bless and supremely exalt thee for all ages, as her who, in manner past understanding, gave birth to the Lord as God and man at the word of the archangel, and doth remain a virgin.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The grief of the forefathers ceased when thou didst receive joy, O Mother of God; wherefore, we unceasingly hymn thee, O Virgin, and exalt thee supremely for all ages.

The Lord of all, the limpid Stream of immortality, hath issued forth from thee, O Maiden, washing away the defilement of those who with faith hymn and exalt thee supremely for all ages.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Let us emulate the life of the angels and soar aloft in mind to the heights, and with them let us immaterially chant unto the Lord, hymning and supremely exalting Him for all ages!

The angels, heavenly members of the chorus which surroundeth the throne of glory and ever dance about God, hymn and supremely exalt Him for all ages!

Triadicon

The Trinity, which unceasingly maketh its ministers a flame of immaterial fire in the highest and showeth forth its angels as spirits, let us worship and glorify for all ages.

Theotokion

Him before Whom myriads of angels and archangels stand in trepidation wast thou vouchsafed to bear in thine arms, O Theotokos. Pray thou that those who glorify Him for all ages may be saved.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Michael the archangel is chief among the angels; but with him is radiantly glorified Gabriel, the initiate of the mystery of grace, the honoured one who obtained the consent of the Virgin, the champion leader of the incorporeal ones; and they both proclaim joy unto those who cry: O ye people, exalt Christ supremely for all ages!

Ezekiel, beholding the ranks of angels in their diverse forms, proclaimed, prophesying: Among them six-winged seraphim stood in intercession, and many-eyed cherubim surrounded them; and with them I saw most radiant archangels glorifying Christ for all ages.

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

How the dread coming of Thy second judgment will be did Daniel foretell in revelation: The thrones were set, and the Ancient One sat, and He let in the myriads of angels who stand with fear and cry out with incessant voices to the Trinity for all ages.

Both... The Word, Who is consubstantial with the Father and the Spirit, of His own will manifested Himself from the Virgin as like unto us, not mingling one with the other the two natures of His awesome union. For He showed Himself to be One and the Same in both, in two natures and one hypostasis. And now we bow down before the image of His likeness.

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

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Offspring** of the Theotokos/ saved the holy Children in the **furnace.**/ **He** Who was then prefigured has since been **born** on earth,/ and He gathers together all the creation to sing:/ O all ye **works** of the Lord,// bless ye the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

P. Magnificat

C. Song of the Most Holy Theotokos.

Canticle Nine

Irmos: Rejoice, O Isaiah!/ The Virgin hath conceived in her womb/ and borne a Son, Immanuel,/ both God and man./ Orient is His name;/// and magnifying Him, we call the Virgin blessed.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou didst take up fallen man, O Christ, through the Virgin's womb uniting Thyself wholly unto him without partaking of the least sin; and by Thine all-pure sufferings Thou didst free him wholly from corruption.

By the divinely flowing blood poured forth from Thine all-pure and life-creating side, O Christ our Master, the sacrifices of the idols were brought to an end, and the whole earth offereth Thee the sacrifice of praise.

Theotokion

It is not the incorporeal God nor a simple man whom the pure and undefiled Maiden brought forth, but a perfect Man and the truly perfect God. Him do we magnify with the Father and the Spirit.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

By thy pure blood was flesh with mind and soul supernaturally formed for the Creator of all, the only-begotten Son of the Father, O Ever-virgin Theotokos, not by man, but seedlessly.

Past understanding is thy birthgiving, O Mother of God; for thou didst conceive within thee without knowing man, and thy birthgiving was virginal, in that it is God Who was born of thee. And magnifying Him, we bless thee, O Virgin.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

O Christ, Who hast ineffably united those who are in heaven with those who are on earth, and hast made one Church of angels and men, Thee do we unceasingly magnify.

O ye angels and archangels, thrones, virtues and dominions, principalities and powers, cherubim and seraphim. Pray ye with the Theotokos in behalf of the world.

O Michael and Gabriel, who are shown to be leaders of all, visit those who with love honour your most festive memory and faithfully cry out: Save us from all evil circumstances!

Theotokion

Rejoice, O holy bride of God! Rejoice, thou who for the faithful gavest birth unto the Light of the world! Rejoice, rampart and shelter of us all! Unceasingly entreat God in our behalf, for He is our Benefactor.

Holy archangels and angels, pray to God for us!

Ye have shown yourselves to be champions for the infirm, for those who sail the sea and those who are in need, O Michael and Gabriel, first among the bodiless hosts.

O Gabriel, in that thou dost hold chorus with the divine powers and thrones, and art the champion leader of the angels and an initiate of the mysteries of God, pray thou to the Saviour in our behalf.

Glory... In that ye are the protectors of the world and commanders of the hosts on high, entreat ye the Saviour in our behalf.

Both... Together we glorify thee, O Theotokos, for thou savest us from the passions and fulfillest those of our supplications which are to our good.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

Let every mortal **born** on earth,/ radiant with light, in spirit **leap** for joy;/ and **let** the hosts of the angelic powers **celebrate**/ and honor the holy feast of the **Mother** of God,/ and **let** them cry:// Hail! Pure and blessed ever-Virgin, who gavest **birth** to God.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Holy is the Lord our God...

R. Exapostilarion Eleven, (John 21:15-25)

After the divine Resurrection, the Lord, asking Peter three times: 'Lovest thou Me?' proposed him as chief shepherd of His own sheep. Seeing him whom Jesus loved following in His footsteps, he asked the Master: 'What is this?' 'If I wish,' said He 'for him to tarry till I come again, what is that to thee, friend Peter?'

Glory... Exapostilarion for the Heavenly Hosts

O Michael, chief captain, from the Father of lights thou didst receive command of the fiery servants. Wherefore, thou dost have the radiant brilliance of His glory, standing before His most honoured throne as first among the immaterial ranks.

Both... Theotokion

O fearful mystery! O strange and glorious wonder! Through death is death utterly destroyed. Who then praises not, who then venerates not Thy Resurrection, O Word, and the Theotokos who has in purity borne Thee in the flesh? By her intercessions, deliver us all from Gehenna.

C. Lauds: Tone 5 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. After the tomb was sealed by the evildoers,/ Thou, Lord, didst proceed from it,/ just as Thou didst come forth from the **Virgin**./ Thy bodiless angels had no knowledge of the manner of Thine **Incarnation**:/ Neither were the watch who guarded Thee aware of the moment of Thy **Resurrection**./ For both the one and the other were concealed from those who **questioned** these things,/ but were made manifest as miracles to those who acclaimed with faith the **Mystery**:// Grant us, who praise it, **joy** and great **mercy**.

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

2. After **breaking** the **eternal** chains/ and bursting the bonds **asunder**,/ Thou didst rise, O **Lord**, from the tomb,/ leaving Thy grave clothes behind Thee as **witness**/ to Thy having been truly buried for **three** days;/ and Thou, Who wast in the cave with a guard watching **over** Thee/ didst go forward into **Galilee**./ Great is Thy mercy, O incomprehensible **Saviour**:// Have **mercy** upon us.

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

3. The **women**, O Lord, hastened **to** the tomb,/ so as to see Thee, O Christ, Who **suffered** for us,/ and when they reached it they found an angel seated **upon** the stone,/ who cried out to them, as they started **back** with dread:/ The Lord is risen, tell the **disciples**// that He is risen from the dead, **saving** our souls.

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

4. As **Thou** didst go forth from the **sealed** tomb,/ so didst Thou, O Lord, enter when the **doors** were closed/ and stand in the midst of Thy disciples/ showing them the marks of Thy Passion, O long-suffering **Saviour**./ Born of the seed of David, having **endured** the stripes,/ Thou as Son of God hast set the **world** free./ Great is Thy mercy, O ineffable Lord:// Have **mercy** upon us.

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

Stichera for the Heavenly Hosts (Tone 1)

5. O **Michael**, chief **commander**,/ with fear we hymn thee as first captain of the **heavenly** ranks,/ mighty intercessor, protector and deliverer of **men** on earth;/ and we pray that thou **deliver** us// from every deadly **pestilence**.

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

6. As chief **captain** of the divine hosts of **heaven**/ thou dost today summon the choirs of men to hold one radiant festival with the **angels**,/ **that** of their divine **synaxis**,// and with them to chant the thrice-holy **hymn** unto God.

V. He maketh His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.

(Tone 4)

7. O supreme commanders, three-sunned rays made luminous by **light** divine,/ ye enlighten the immaterial **legions**;/ shown **forth** as light with splendid brightness in the **highest**,/ ye shine forth the fire of the unapproachable Godhead **in** the world./ Wherefore, with lips of flame ye unceasingly chant the thrice-**holy** hymn:// Holy, holy, holy art Thou, O our God! Glory **be** to Thee!

V. Praise Him all ye His angels; praise Him all ye his hosts.

(Tone 5)

8. Where thy **grace** doth overshadow, O archangel,/ the power of the devil is **driven** off,/ for the fallen Morning Star cannot bear to **behold** thy light./ **Wherefore**, we beseech thee,/ by thy mediation quench thou his fiery darts which are **hurled** at us,/ delivering **us** from his temptations,// O right praiseworthy supreme commander **Michael**.

Glory... Gospel Sticheron (Tone 8)

Appearing after the Resurrection to Thy **disciples**,/ O Saviour, Thou hast given Peter the **tending** of Thy sheep,/ as a repayment of love asking for him to pasture **them** with care./ And therefore **hast** Thou said:/ 'If Thou lovest Me feed My sheep, **tend** My lambs.'/ And he straightway pointing to the beloved friend, asked about the other **disciple**:// By their prayers, O Christ, preserve Thy flock from the wolves that **damage** it.

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.

The Great Doxology

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

R. Hours
Tropar: Resurrection & Angels
Kontak: Angels/Resurrection alternating

At Liturgy:

Order of Troparia & Kontakia as per Vigil service

Prokimenon for Tone 5

Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and shalt preserve us from this generation and for evermore.

V. Save me, O Lord, for a righteous man there is no more.

Prokimenon for the Angels (Tone 4)

V. He maketh His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.

Epistle(s): Gal 6:11-18 & Heb 2:2-10

Alleluia for Tone 5

V. Of Thy mercies, O Lord, will I sing forever; unto generation and generation will I declare Thy truth with my mouth.

V. For Thou hast said: Mercy shall be built up forever; in the heavens shall Thy truth be established.

Alleluia for the Angels (Tone 2)

V. Praise Him all ye His angels praise Him all ye his hosts.

Gospel(s): Luke 8:41-56 & Luke 10:16-21

Communion Verse: Praise Ye & He maketh His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire