

24th Sunday after Pentecost (Nov 22/Dec 5)
Afterfeast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple
Commemoration of the Holy Apostle Philemon & Those with Him

VESPERS: Tone 7

- P. Regular Beginning
 C. Lord I have cried...
1. O **come** let us rejoice in the **Lo-ord**/ Who **destroyed** the power of death and **enlightened** mankind,/ and **let** us cry aloud with the **angels**::// Glory to Thee, our Creator and our **Saviour**.
 2. **On** our account Thou hast endured the **Cross** and the tomb:/ and as **God** Thou hast by death also put **death** to death:/ **Therefore**, we worship Thy Resurrection on the **third** day:// Glory to **Thee**, O Lord.
 3. On **beholding** the Resurrection of the Creator,/ the **Apostles**, marveling, sang an angelic **song** of praise:/ **Here** is the glory **of** the Church,/ **here** the richness of the **Kingdom**:/ **Glory** be to **Thee**, O Lord,// Who hast suffered **death** for us.
 4. O **Christ**, though Thou hast been taken captive by **wicked** men,/ Thou **art** my God and I am **not** shamed;/ I deny not that Thy **back** was scourged;/ I keep not **hid** that Thou wast **nailed** to the Cross./ I **boast** of Thy Resurrection, for Thy **death** is my life;// O almighty Lord, Who lovest mankind, to Thee be **glory**.

Stichera for the Feast (Tone 8)

5. O all-glorious **wonder**/ the ineffable future is now described **beforehand**,/ understood today in visible **images**;/ for she who shone forth the divine light **upon** the world/ is led like a bride to the holy **temple**./ Let us praise her as the all-resplendent temple, holy and radiant, of **Christ** God,// the **Bestower** of life.
6. **Truly** the wise Joachim and Anna have manifestly offered their right acceptable **firstfruits**,/ the Virgin Mary, the divine **maiden**,/ unto Him Who willed to grant her to them as a **divine** fruit,/ whereby the debt of grief hath been **cancelled**./ In gladness let us piously **hymn** her,// for she hath become the mediatrix of joy for **all** the world.
7. **Come**, let us now mystically hasten and, adorned with **lamps** of faith,/ let us begin now the procession of the **Virgin**;/ for she gloriously entereth the temple of God, betrothed to Christ, the **King** of all./ We all celebrate her beauteous **solemnity**,// keeping festival in godly manner at her **entry**.

Stichera for the Saint (Tone 2)

8. As branch of the Vine of life, O glorious **Philemon**,/ thou hast poured forth the wine of divine knowledge upon those in **pain** of soul,/ and hast gladdened hearts downcast by the darkness of **deception**/ and held

fast in the gloom of the madness of **idolatry**:// wherefore, in gladness we celebrate thy divinely radiant **memory**.

9. The city of Gaza doth **honour** thee,/ having through thee come to see the light of understanding, O **blessed** one,/ and the Colossians, possessing thy divine body as a **treasure**,/ have healings and grace which ever **floweth** forth:// wherefore, celebrating thy memory, O glorious **Philemon**,// we are preserved from misfortunes by thy supplications.
10. With faith let us send up praises to the wise hierarch Archippus and the honourable **Apphia**,/ lauding Philemon and Onesimus, the sacred **preachers** of God,/ the honourable teachers, who by their discourse uprooted the falsehood of polytheism/ and planted the **knowledge** of the Truth// for all who ever honour them with **piety**.

Glory... (Tone 1)

Let heaven **rejoice** today from on high, and let the clouds drop down gladness at the exceeding all-glorious mighty **works** of our God!/ For, lo! The portal which **faceth** east,/ who was born of a barren woman according to God's **promise**,/ and became a dwelling-place **sanctified** for God,/ is brought forth as an unblemished **offering**./ Let David rejoice, **striking** his harp!/ For he said: 'The virgins that follow after her shall be brought **before** the King;/ those near her shall be brought unto the **tabernacle** of God,/ **into** His sanctuary, to be reared in the dwelling-place of Him Who, for the **salvation** of our souls,// was incorruptibly begotten of the Father **before** time.'

Both now & ever... Dogmatikon (Tone 7)

Thou, O Theotokos, hast been acknowledged to be a **Mother**/ **above** and beyond nature, yet withal remaining a **Virgin**./ **This** is past words and **understanding**,/ and the **wonder** of thy giving birth no **tongue** can tell./ Most **glorious**, O pure Virgin, was thy **conceiving**:/ and **beyond** the grasp of mind, the manner of thy **bearing** child./ **For** when God so wills, the order of nature is **overthrown**./ **Therefore**, we all acknowledging thee as the Mother of God, fervently **beseech** thee:// Make supplication for our **souls** to be saved.

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

APOSTICHA: (Tone 7)

1. **Rising** from the tomb, O **Saviour** of the world,/ Thou **hast**, together with Thy flesh, **raised** up man:// To Thee, O Lord, be **glory**.
- V. The Lord is King,/ and hath put on glorious apparel.

2. **Come**, let us **worship** Him,/ Who **rose** from the tomb and gave **light** to all./ For **by** His resurrection on the **third** day/ He **set** us free from the **tyranny** of hell,// granting us life and great **mercy**.

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

3. O **Christ**, the Lord, Who alone **lovest** mankind,/ **Thou** hast descended **into** hell,/ **despoiling** death and rising upon the **third** day;/ Thou hast **raised** us up with Thee glorifying Thine all-powerful Resurrection,// O Thou Who **lovest** mankind.

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

4. O **Lord**, what an awful sight it was to see Thee lying as if **asleep** in the tomb;/ yet **Thou** didst rise on the third **day** in might,/ **raising** up with Thee **Adam**, who cried:// Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Thou, Who alone **lovest** mankind.

G/B... (Tone 2)

Today the most immaculate Virgin is brought to the **temple**,/ to the habitation of God, the King of all, the Nourisher of our **whole** life./ Today the most pure and holy one, is led to the Holy of holies like a heifer three **years** of age./ Let us cry out unto her like the **angel**:// 'Rejoice, thou who alone art blessed among **women**!'

C. St. Symeon's Prayer

R. Trisagion

C. Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos x2

Troparion for the Feast (Tone 4)

Today is the prelude of God's good will/ and the proclamation of the salvation of man./ The Virgin hath manifestly appeared in the Temple of God/ and proclaimeth Christ unto all./ To her let us cry aloud:/ Rejoice, O thou fulfillment// of the Creator's dispensation!

Blessed be the Name of the Lord... x3
Psalm 33:1-10

MATINS: Tone 7

P. Regular Beginning

P. Great Ectenia

C. God is the Lord...

Sunday Troparia (Tone 7) x2

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death./ To the thief, Thou didst open paradise./ For the myrrh-bearers, thou didst change weeping into joy/ and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,/ to proclaim that Thou art risen// granting the world great mercy.

Glory... Troparion for the Saint (Tone 3)

O holy apostles,/ entreat the merciful God,// that He grant to our souls remission of transgressions.

Both... Troparion for the Feast (Tone 4)

Today is the prelude of God's good will/ and the proclamation of the salvation of man./ The Virgin hath manifestly appeared in the Temple of God/ and proclaimeth Christ unto all./ To her let us cry aloud:/ Rejoice, O thou fulfillment// of the Creator's dispensation!

Lord Have Mercy 3x
Glory...

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

R. Sessional Hymns:

Life lay in the tomb, and the seal lay upon the stone. The soldiers guarded Christ as they would a sleeping king, and the angels glorified Him as immortal God. And the women cried aloud: The Lord hath risen, granting great mercy to the world!

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

O Christ God, Who by Thy burial madest death captive, and Who by Thine arising raised up man who had become corrupt: Glory to Thee, in that Thou lovest mankind!

G/B... As thou, who art sung by all the world, art the treasure house of our Resurrection, lead out of the pit and abyss of their offences, those who have put their faith in thee. For thou who before bearing child wast Virgin, and in childbirth and after childbirth hast remained Virgin, hast saved us by giving birth to our salvation.

R. Kathisma III
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth life from the grave, O Christ God; and while the doors were shut, Thou, the Resurrection of all, didst stand before the disciples, through them renewing an upright spirit for us, according to Thy great mercy.

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

The women ran to Thy tomb, bearing myrrh and tears; and while the soldiers were keeping watch over Thee, the King of all, they said to themselves: "Who will roll away the stone for us?" But the Angel of great Counsel had arisen, trampling down death. O Lord almighty, glory be to Thee!

G/B... Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos full of grace, haven and intercession for the human race, for of thee did the Deliverer of the world become incarnate, for thou alone art both Mother and Virgin, ever-blessed and all-glorious. Entreat Christ God, that He grant peace to all the world.

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

R. Ypakoe:

O Christ God, Who assumed our form and endured the Cross in the flesh, save me by Thy resurrection, in that Thou lovest mankind.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon One)

O Saviour Who turned the captivity of Sion away from falsehood, grant life unto me, rescuing me from enslaving passions.

He who with tears soweth the afflictions of fasting in the south shall reap sheaves of joy and everlasting life.

G/B... Through the Holy Spirit cometh the well-spring of divine treasures: from Him are wisdom, understanding and fear, and to Him are due praise and glory, honour and dominion.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Two)

If the Lord buildeth not the house of the soul, in vain do we labor; For without Him is no work or word made perfect.

Moved by the Spirit, the saints, made true children through adoption by the Son, have transmitted the teachings of the Father.

G/B... Through the Holy Spirit doth everything come into being; for, from before the beginning of time, He hath been the God of all, the Lord of all, the unapproachable Light, and the Life of all.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Three)

Having found the paths of life, they who fear the Lord are blessed, now and forever, with incorruptible glory.

Seeing thine offspring like the trunks of trees round about thy table, rejoice and be glad, leading them to Christ, the Chief Shepherd.

G/B... From the Holy Spirit come an abyss of gifts, a wealth of glory and great depths of judgment; for, equal in glory with the Father and the Son, He is worshipped with Them.

P. Prokimenon: (Tone 7)

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

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

Let every breath praise the Lord.

GOSPEL #2

- 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: By Thy hand was the nature of water,/ which before was fluid,/ transformed into solid form, O Lord./ Wherefore,

having passed through it dryshod, // Israel chanteth to Thee a hymn of victory.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

By the Tree was the tyranny of death overthrown, when Thou was condemned to an unjust death, O Lord; thus, utterly unable to vanquish Thee, the prince of darkness was rightly banished.

Hades drew nigh to Thee, but his fangs were unable to rend Thy body, and his jaws were broken; wherefore, having destroyed the pangs of death, O Saviour, Thou didst arise on the third day.

Theotokion

The pangs of our first mother Eve have been eased, for, eluding pain, thou gavest birth without knowing man. Wherefore, clearly knowing thee to be the Theotokos, O all-pure one, we all glorify thee.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O Virgin who gavest birth to the Abyss of loving-kindness, illumine my soul with thy luminous effulgence, that I may hymn the abyss of thy wonders as is meet.

Seeing us wounded by the dart of sin, the Word took pity on us, as our Benefactor; wherefore, the All-divine One ineffably united Himself to flesh He had received from thee, O most pure one.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O all-pure one, we know thee to be a treasury of wisdom and an ever-flowing fountain of grace; and we pray thee: Rain down drops of knowledge upon us, that we may praise thee forever.

Being a temple and palace more exalted than the heavens, O all-pure one, thou wast set apart in the Temple of God to be prepared as a divine dwelling-place for His advent.

Shining with the Light of grace, the Theotokos hath illumined all and assembled them to adorn her most splendid festival. Come ye, let us draw nigh to her!

The glorious portal which thoughts cannot pass, having opened the doors of the Temple of God, doth now command us that have assembled to delight in her divine wonders.

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

Joining chorus joyously in the mansions of heaven, O doer of sacred things, grant grace unto me who hymn thy holy memory in godly manner, for thou hast been glorified.

Giving drink to men's hearts with the streams of thy words, O blessed and right wondrous Apostle Philemon, thou hast prepared them to accomplish divine understandings with faith.

Glory... Having delivered men's souls from the gloom of the madness of idolatry, O wise apostle, thou hast illumined them with the splendors of the Spirit, doing the sanctified works of the sacred Gospel.

Both... O pure one, of old the divine assembly of the prophets truly described thee from afar in many and varied images, as the only one who gave birth to the Master.

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

Christ is born, glorify Him./ Christ is from heaven receive Him./ Christ is on earth, be ye lifted up./ Sing unto the Lord, all the earth./ And praise Him with joy, ye people; // For He hath glorified Himself.

Canticle Three

Irmos: O Lord and Saviour/ Who in the beginning established the heavens by Thine omnipotent Word/ and confirmed all their power by the all-accomplishing and divine Spirit:// establish me upon the immovable rock of the confession of Thee!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Having ascended the Tree, O compassionate Saviour, of Thine own will Thou didst experience pain for our sake and didst endure the wounding which won reconciliation and salvation for the faithful. And thereby have we all been reconciled with Thy Father, O Merciful One.

Having cleansed of sores me who was wounded by the sting of the serpent, O Christ, Thou didst show forth light unto me who from of old have lain in darkness and corruption; for having descended into hades through the Cross, Thou didst raise me up with Thyself.

Theotokion

Through the entreaties of Thy Mother who knew not man, O Saviour, grant peace to the world, and vouchsafe Thine ineffable glory unto those who glorify Thee.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The serpent who slithered forth from Eden, beguiling me with a desire to become a god, hath cast me down to the ground; but He Who is merciful and compassionate by nature, having made His abode within thy womb and become like unto me, O Virgin Mother, hath taken pity and deified me.

O Virgin Theotokos, thou didst truly give birth for us to eternal Life and Peace, causing men's ancient battle against God the Father to cease, through thy faith and confession of grace.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Receiving the pure and undefiled one, who is more splendid than all creation, the animate bridal chamber of God, the beautiful Temple and chamber doth today appear as that which adorneth the bride for her wedding.

David, preceding the chorus, doth leap and dance with us, and declareth thee, O all-pure one, the queen adorned, who standeth in the Temple before our King and God, O most pure one.

From her, from whom transgressions went forth among the human race, hath her correction and incorruption blossomed forth, the Theotokos, who is led today into the house of God.

The angelic armies and a multitude of all men leap for joy, and they advance as lamp-bearers before thy countenance, proclaiming thy majesty in the house of God.

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

Preaching the sufferings and resurrection of Christ, O right glorious Philemon, thou didst raise men up from the grave of unbelief and mortality.

With sacred hymnody let us praise the godly Onesimus and Philemon, Apphia and Archippus, the stars who illumine the ends of the earth.

Glory... Having purified the eyes of your mind, ye received divine vision and have raised erring hearts up to knowledge, O most sacred ones.

Both... Having been shown to be pure and all-incorrupt, O Virgin, thou didst receive in thy womb God the Word Who hath cleansed our nature, which had been defiled by our fall into sin.

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

To the Son Who was begotten of the Father/ without change before all ages,/ and in the last times was without seed made flesh of the Virgin,/ to Christ our God let us cry aloud:// Thou hast raised up our horn, holy art Thou, O Lord.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion for the Feast (Tone 4) (See music)

The all-pure Temple of the Saviour,/ the precious Bridal Chamber and Virgin,/ the sacred treasure of the glory of God,/ is led today into the house of the Lord,/ and with her she brings the grace of the divine Spirit./ Of her God's angels sing in praise:// 'She is indeed the heavenly Tabernacle.'

R. Ikos of the Feast

Beholding the grace of the ineffable and divine mysteries of God made plainly manifest in and filling the Virgin, I rejoice; yet I know not how to understand this strange and ineffable image. How hath the pure one alone been shown to be above all creation, visible and noetic? Wherefore, desiring to praise her, I am greatly in awe in mind and word; yet, making bold, I proclaim and magnify her, saying: She is the heavenly tabernacle.

C. Kontakion for the Saints (Tone 2)

Let us praise the apostles of Christ/-- the glorious Philemon, the sacred Archippus, Onesimus, Mark and Apollos,/ and with them the most wise Apphia/--as most radiant stars illumining the ends of the earth:// and let us cry out: Pray ye unceasingly in behalf of us all!

(There is no ikos for the Saints)

R. Sessional Hymns

Cultivating stony hearts with the plough of thy discourse, O sacred husbandman, thou didst prepare them for divine knowledge, and, casting down the temples of the idols, O blessed one, thou didst erect churches to the glory of thy Creator. Wherefore, assembling, we who are illumined in sacred manner glorify thy holy memory, O Philemon, and cry out to thee together: Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins unto those who honour thy holy memory with love.

G/B... Let David the psalmist rejoice, and let Joachim and Anna join chorus, for the radiant Mary, the divine lamp, issued forth from them like a holy fruit, and she rejoiceth, entering the temple. Beholding her, the son of Barachiah blessed her, and, rejoicing, cried out: "Rejoice, O wonder of the universe!"

Canticle Four

Irmos: O Christ God Who, without leaving the bosom of the Father, didst descend to earth; // I have heard the mystery of Thy dispensation, // and have glorified Thee, Who alone lovest mankind.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Giving His shoulders over to stripes, the innocent Master, Who was incarnate of the Virgin, was beaten by a most sinful servant, loosing mine offenses.

Standing before the tribunal of iniquitous judges, the Judge is examined as one indicted; and He Who judgeth the earth with righteousness and as God formed man is smitten by a hand of clay.

Theotokion

In that thou art truly the Mother of God, entreat thy Creator and Son, O most immaculate one, that He guide me to the saving haven of His glorious will.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

For man, O pure one, thou gavest birth unto God, Who became incarnate of thy pure blood, and delivereth from many offenses those who with love glorify and honour thee, O Mother and Virgin.

Reason-endowed nature, having now learned the ineffable mystery of thy birthgiving, O most hymned and all-blessed one, offereth priestly ministry unto Him Who shone forth from thee.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Temple of God, receiving today the portal through whom none may pass, hath ceased to perform any service of the Law, crying: Truly truth hath appeared to those who are on earth!

The mountain overshadowed, which Habbakuk beheld of old, prefigured her who hath made her abode in the inaccessible chambers of the Temple, flourishing with virtues, for she doth cover the ends of the earth therewith.

All the earth hath seen most glorious things, things strange and marvelous; for the Virgin, receiving food from an angel, doth receive tokens of God's dispensation.

Revealed as temple and palace and animate heaven, O divine bride of the King, thou art brought today to the Temple of the Law to be kept for Him, O all-pure one.

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

With the Cross as mast and sail, thou didst pass over the cruel abyss of the temptations of life without foundering, O blessed one, directing many of those at sea to the harbor of salvation through grace divine.

The godly city of Colossae manifestly setteth forth radiant luminaries: the sacred Archippus, Philemon and Apphia, and the glorious Onesimus, who enlighten the ends of the world.

Glory... A divine river arose in thy heart, O thou of godly eloquence, and hath stopped the rivers and torrents of ungodliness; and through grace thou hast given drink to souls parched by the burning heat of ignorance, O glorious one.

Both... I hymn thee, O truly most hymned one, who supernaturally gavest birth to the all-hymned Word of God, and I pray: In that thou art good, O Bride of God, heal thou the infirmities of my lowly soul.

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

A rod from the root of Jesse/ and blossom therefrom, O Christ,/ Thou didst spring forth from the Virgin;/ from the mountain overshadowed and densely wooded hast Thou come,/ incarnate of her who knew not man,/ O Thou praised and immaterial God.// Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Canticle Five

Irmos: Night is bereft of light for those without faith, O Christ,/ but for the faithful there is enlightenment in the sweetness of Thy words;/ wherefore, I rise early unto Thee// and hymn Thy divinity.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

For Thy servants art Thou betrayed, and Thou endurest blows to Thy cheeks, which win freedom for those who chant: I rise early unto Thee and hymn Thy divinity!

By Thy divine power, O Christ, Thou didst cast down the mighty one with Thy weak human flesh, and by Thy resurrection Thou hast shown me to be a victor over death, O Saviour.

Theotokion

O pure Mother, thou gavest birth unto God, Who as God became incarnate of thee, O most hymned one; and though thou hadst no concourse with the male gender, yet dost thou give birth through the Holy Spirit.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Beholding the ladder set firmly in the highest, Jacob understood it to be an image of thee, O thou who knewest not wedlock; for through thee hath God come into fellowship with men, O most pure Mistress.

The Bridegroom found thee alone like a lily among thorns, shining with the radiance of purity and the light of virginity, O Virgin, and He took thee to be His Bride, O most immaculate one.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The all-pure Virgin, the glorious sanctity and sacred offering which is brought today to the Temple of God, is preserved as a habitation for our one God, the King of all, as He Himself doth know.

Zachariah, beholding once the beauty of thy soul, cried out in faith: Thou art the deliverance, thou art the joy of all, thou art our restoration, through whom the Uncontainable One shall appear unto me contained.

O, thy wonders which pass understanding, O all-pure one! Strange is thy birthgiving; strange is the manner of thy growth; strange also, most glorious and unutterable by men, are all thy wonders, O Bride of God.

A most radiant lamp, O Bride of God, thou hast shone forth today in the house of the Lord and dost illumine us with the precious gifts of thy wonders, O pure and all-hymned Theotokos.

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

Seeing those ailing with the wounds of evil deeds, O glorious Philemon, by thine active discourse thou didst heal betimes those cruelly sick with the madness of idolatry.

As a sure guide, O Philemon, thou didst point out the paths of salvation to those grievously lost, and didst wondrously lead them to love Christ, the only Way.

Glory... Today the honoured Church of Christ in Colossae doth sing the splendid festival of the godly Archippus, honouring also the divinely eloquent Philemon.

Both... O Mistress, save us who are tempest-tossed by the cruel billows of temptations, the audacious assaults of barbarians and the attacks of the cruel demons.

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

God of peace, the Father of mercies,/ Thou hast sent unto us an Angel of Thy great council,/ Who giveth us peace./ Therefore having been led unto the light of godly wisdom,/ waking early from the night// we do sing praises of Thee, O Lover of mankind.

Canticle Six

Irmos: Sailing amid the tumult of the cares of life,/ I founder with the ship of sin and am cast to the soul-destroying beast;/ yet like Jonah I cry to Thee, O Christ;/// Lead me up from the deadly abyss!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The souls of the righteous imprisoned in hell and left there, remembered Thee and besought salvation of Thee, which through the Cross Thou didst grant to the nether regions, O Christ, having come there full of loving-kindness.

The choir of the apostles despaired of ever seeing again Thine animate temple not made by man, which was destroyed by Thy sufferings; yet, beyond hope, they worshipped Thee and everywhere proclaimed Thee risen.

Theotokion

Who among men can explain the manner of thine ineffable birthgiving which took place for our sake, O Virgin Bride of God? For God the Word, Who is uncircumscribable, uniting Himself to thee, became flesh through thee.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The images of the law and the foretellings of the prophets clearly proclaimed beforehand thee, O pure one, who wouldst give birth to the Benefactor of all creation, Who continually and in manifold ways hath benefited those who hymn thee with faith.

The first-created Adam, who of old was banished from the divine delight of Eden through the treachery of the slayer of man, didst thou restore when thou gavest birth unto Him Who hath delivered us from his transgression, O thou who knewest not wedlock.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Thou Who hast upheld all things by Thy word hast hearkened to the prayer of the righteous ones. Wherefore, Thou hast loosed the infirmity of the barren woman, in that Thou art compassionate, and hast given them her who is the cause of joy.

Desiring to make His salvation known to the gentiles, the Lord hath now taken from among men her who hath not known wedlock, as a sign of reconciliation and renewal.

As a house of grace, wherein treasures of the ineffable dispensation of God are laid up, O most pure one, thou didst share in unfading delight in the Temple.

Receiving thee as a royal diadem, O Bride of God, the Temple hath been made splendid and hath mounted to higher things, beholding in thee the fulfillment of the prophecies.

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

Thou hast been shown to be a heaven proclaiming to all the saving glory of Him Who glorified thee and numbered thee among His seventy apostles, O martyr most rich.

Having become a stranger to thy native land, with thy strange discourse thou didst pursue those who had become estranged from God, O hierarch Philemon, and didst show them to be inhabitants of Sion.

Glory... Shining with sacred virtues, and pleasing God splendidly, thou didst hasten to the heavens, where thou dost dance with the angels, O Apphia.

Both... The Word was incarnate in thy womb and became known as a man in His compassion, that He might deify man, O most immaculate Maiden.

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

The sea monster spat forth Jonah/ as it had received him, like a babe from the womb;/ while the Word, having dwelt in the Virgin and taken flesh,/ came forth from her yet kept her uncorrupt./ For being Himself not subject to decay,// He preserved His Mother free from harm.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion, Tone 7

The dominion of death/ can no longer hold men captive/ for Christ descended shattering and destroying its powers!/ Hell is bound, while the prophets rejoice and cry:/ The Saviour has come to those in faith,// Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection.

R. Ikos

Below, the uttermost depths, hades and death trembled today before One of the Trinity; the earth quaked, and the gatekeepers of hades, beholding Thee, were horrified. And all creation, rejoicing with the prophets, singeth a hymn of victory to Thee, our Deliverer and God, Who hast now destroyed the power of death. Let us exult and cry out unto Adam and his descendents, in that the tree of the Cross hath restored him to paradise: Come forth, ye faithful, unto the resurrection.

Canticle Seven

Irmos: Of old, the children showed the fiery furnace to pour forth dew,/ hymning the one God and saying:/ Supremely exalted and all-glorious// is the God of our fathers!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Through a tree death came to Adam, who of his own will committed disobedience; but through the obedience of Christ is he restored. For my sake is the all-glorious Son of God crucified.

All creation hath hymned Thee, O Christ, Who rose from the tomb; for Thou didst cause life to blossom forth for those in hades, and resurrection for the dead, and light for those in darkness, O All-glorious One.

Theotokion

Rejoice, daughter of corrupt Adam! Rejoice, only Bride of God! Rejoice, O thou who gavest birth to God, and through whom corruption was driven off! Him do thou beseech, O pure one, that we all be saved.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Receiving the burning coal of old, Isaiah was purified, O Maiden; and in signs he beheld thy giving birth to the supremely exalted and all-glorious God of our fathers.

Of old, the divine prophets, beholding images and signs of thy divine birthgiving, joyously cried out, chanting: Supremely exalted and all-glorious is the God of our fathers!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Lo, today a joyous spring hath burst forth upon the ends of the earth, enlightening our souls, thoughts and minds with grace: the festival of the Theotokos. Let us mystically hold feast this day!

Let all things--heaven and earth, the ranks of angels and the multitude of men--bear gifts today unto the Queen and Mother of God; and let them cry out: Our joy and deliverance is brought to the Temple!

The Scriptures have come to pass, the Law hath faded like a shadow, and rays of grace have shone forth upon thee who hast entered into the Temple of God, O pure Virgin Mother, wherein thou art blessed.

Heaven and earth and the netherworld are subject to thine Offspring as Creator and God, O most pure one, and every nation of mortals doth confess that the Lord and Saviour of our souls hath appeared.

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

Beautiful were thy precious feet, O Philemon, which meekly trod the paths of the Gospel, announcing sacred peace to all those who do battle, and hindering the assaults of the demons.

The city of Gaza shared in thy first goodly labors, for thou wast the first bishop thereof, a saving hierarch, O Philemon; and as a sacred herald thou didst command them to cry out: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Glory... Loving Christ Who loved mortals in His compassion, O Philemon, through love thou didst transform hate-filled enemies into loving friends who chanted unto God: Blessed is the God of our fathers!

Both... O Virgin, thou art the strength of the lowly, the radiant lamp, the divine table, the impassable gate, the throne and palace of God, the staff of Aaron and the golden jar bearing Christ, the Manna of life.

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

The youths who were brought up together in godliness,/ despising the command of the unrighteous infidel,/ were not terrified by the threatening fire,/ but standing in the midst of the flames they did sing:// O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.

Canticle Eight

Irmos: The bush on Sinai, which partook of fire without being consumed,/ revealed God unto Moses,/ who was slow of speech and spake with difficulty;/ and the zeal of God showed forth the three children in the fire as invincible, who chanted:/ Hymn the Lord, all ye works of the Lord,// and exalt Him supremely forever!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Slaughtered for the world, the all-pure Lamb brought an end to the sacrifices offered in accordance with the law, in that He is God, purifying it of transgressions, that it may ever cry: Hymn the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Our flesh, which was assumed by the Creator, was not incorrupt before His suffering; but after His suffering and resurrection it was rendered untouchable by corruption, and restoreth mortals, who cry: Hymn the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Theotokion

Thy pure and most unblemished state hath purified the vile and abominable state of the whole world, O Virgin; and thou becamest the cause of our reconciliation with God. Wherefore, O all-pure Virgin, all of us, His works, bless and exalt thee supremely for all ages.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

With the light of thy birthgiving thou didst strangely enlighten the whole world, O Theotokos; for in thine arms thou dost bear Him Who is truly God, Who enlighteneth the faithful, who ever cry: O ye works of the Lord, hymn the Lord and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

With the splendors of thy light thou hast rendered those who hymn thee luminous, O pure Theotokos, bearer of the Light; for thou wast shown to be the habitation of the Light, illumining with light those who cry: O ye works of the Lord, hymn the Lord and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Anna, once, leading the all-pure temple to the house of God, faithfully said unto the priest, crying aloud: Now accept thou this child, given me by God; lead her into the Temple of the Creator; and, rejoicing, chant unto Him: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

And Zachariah then, beholding them in the Spirit, said unto Anna: Thou dost bring hither the true Mother of Life, whom the prophets of God have

clearly foretold as the Theotokos! How, therefore, can the Temple hold her? Wherefore, marveling, I cry out: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

The handmaid of God have I been, answered Anna unto him, and I call upon Him with faith and prayer to accept the fruit of my birth-pangs, that, having received this child, I might bring her who was born unto Him Who bestowed her. Wherefore, I cry aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Truly this is a matter of the Law, the priest said to her, and strange doth this thing seem unto me, beholding her who doth most gloriously surpass the holy ones in grace led into the house of God. Wherefore, rejoicing, I cry out: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

Bearing the word in thy heart like a splendid lamp alight, O glorious one, thou didst raise up to the daylight of the knowledge of God those who before were like lamps extinguished and lay in the utter darkness of ignorance.

Thy sacred departure unto God was made magnificent by the sacred presence of the apostles and the incorporeal intelligences, whose life thou didst live on earth, as an initiate of the sacred mysteries, O divinely eloquent Philemon.

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

Like radiant stars ever shining in the firmament of the Church, the wondrous Archippus, Apphia, Philemon and Onesimus illumine our souls.

Both... Thy womb hath truly been shown to us as a new garden of paradise, O pure Theotokos, producing the Tree of life, and it hath led back into paradise those who died through the fruit of the tree, giving them life.

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

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

The furnace moist with dew/ was the image and figure of a wonder past nature./ For it burnt not the Children whom it had received,/ even as the fire of the Godhead consumed not the Virgin's womb into which it had descended./ Therefore in praise let us sing:// Let the whole creation bless the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

P. Magnificat

C. Song of the Most Holy Theotokos.

Canticle Nine

Irmos: O Mother who knewest not man,/ who gavest birth without experiencing corruption,/ and lent flesh to the Word Who hath fashioned all things,/ O Virgin Theotokos, thou receptacle of Him Whom nought can resist/ and dwelling-place of the Infinite:// thee do we magnify.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

O all ye of alien mind, who assume that the Divinity suffered, stop your mouths; for we magnify the Lord of glory crucified in the flesh, but not crucified in His divine essence, for His is One in two natures.

O ye who believe not in the resurrection of the body, come ye to the tomb of Christ and learn; for the flesh of the Bestower of life was dead and rose again, to assure us of the final resurrection, wherein we hope.

Triadicon

Worshipping a Trinity of Hypostases, not of Godheads, a Oneness of divinity, not of Persons, we cut off those who divide It; moreover, we confound those who dare to confuse that which we magnify.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Thou hast been the Mediatrix of everlasting joy and gladness for us, O Ever-virgin Maiden, having given birth to the Deliverer Who delivereth those who worship Him as God in truth and by the divine Spirit.

Thou art truly more exalted than all creation, O Maiden, for thou didst give birth bodily to the Creator of all for us; wherefore, as the Mother of the one Master, with authority thou dost carry the victory against all enemies.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

O pure Theotokos, as thou hast the most radiant beauty of purity of soul and art full of the grace of God from heaven, with the eternal light thou dost ever enlighten those who cry out with joy: Truly thou art more highly exalted than all, O pure Virgin!

Thy wonder doth surpass the power of words, O pure Theotokos, for in thee I perceive a body impervious to the movement of sin. Wherefore, thankfully I cry out to thee: Truly thou art more highly exalted than all, O pure Virgin!

Most gloriously did the Law prefigure thee, O pure one, as the tabernacle, the divine jar, the awesome ark, the veil, the staff, the inviolable temple and portal of God. Wherefore, all these things teach us to cry to thee: Truly thou art more highly exalted than all, O pure Virgin!

In hymnody David cried out to thee prophetically, calling thee the daughter of the King in the comeliness of thy virtues, beholding thee standing, elaborately adorned, at the right hand of God. Wherefore, in prophecy he cried out: Truly thou art more highly exalted than all, O pure Virgin!

Holy Apostle Philemon and those with him, pray to God for us!

Deified by divine communion, shining with ineffable light and ever filled with spiritual joy, O Philemon, thou dwellest fittingly in the heavens with the most sacred choir of the sacred apostles.

Wondrous is thy character, comely and beautiful thy life, and all-glorious was thy repose, O blessed apostle, as the radiant day whereon, forsaking that which is on earth, thou hast ascended in gladness to the circles of heaven.

Glory... The shrine of thy relics exudeth drops of healing upon those who approach it in sanctity, O blessed Apostle Philemon: it banisheth illnesses and doth hallow the souls of all who ever celebrate thy divine memory.

Both... O most immaculate one, thou bearest Him Who holdeth all things, and dost feed the Nurturer, in nowise experiencing the usual manner of giving birth. Past understanding is thy wonder, which striketh with awe both angels and men, who know thee to be the only Virgin Mother of God.

C. Katavasia (Tone 1)

A **strange** and most wonderful mystery do I **see**; / the cave is **heaven**; / the **Virgin** the throne of the **cherubim**; / the manger a room, in which Christ, the God Whom nothing can **contain**, is laid. // Him do we praise and **magnify**.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Holy is the Lord our God...

R. Exapostilarion Two (Mark 16:1-8)

The women bearing myrrh rejoiced at beholding the stone rolled away, for they saw a young man seated upon the tomb and he said to them: 'Lo, tell the disciples with Peter that Christ has risen. Press forward into the mountain of Galilee; there He will appear to you as He said to His friends.'

G/B... Exapostilarion for the Feast

With faith let us praise Mary, the divine Maiden, whom the company of the prophets proclaimed of old as the jar and the staff, the tablets and the unquarried mountain; for she is led today into the Holy of holies, to be raised for the Lord.

C. Lauds: Tone 7 Stichera

Le-et every breath **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. **Christ** is risen **from** the dead,/ bursting **asunder** the **chains** of death:/
 Proclaim, O ye earth, tidings of **great** joy:// Sing, O ye heaven, of
 the **glory** of God.

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

2. Having **beheld** the Resurrection of Christ,/ let us **worship** the Holy Lord
Jesus,// Who alone is **without** sin.

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

3. **Let** us never cease to hail the Resurrection of Christ/ Who has **saved** us
 from our transgressions./ **Holy** is the Lord **Jesus**// Who showed forth
 the Resurrection.

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

4. **Wha**-at shall we **give** Thee, O Lord,/ for **all** that Thou hast **given** us?/
For our sakes Thou, O God, hast lived **among** men;/ on **account** of our
 corrupt nature the Word became flesh and **dwelt** in us./ He **became** the
 Benefactor of the **thankless**,/ the **Liberator** of those in captivity;/ **He**
 is the Sun of Righteousness for those sitting in **darkness**;/ **He** Who is
 impassible, **endured** the Cross;/ **He** is the light in hell; He is **Life** in

death;/ **He** is the Resurrection of the fallen, and we **cry** unto Him://
Glory unto **Thee**, our God.

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

Stichera for the Feast (Tone 6)

5. Join chorus together, O ye virgins! Leap up, ye **maidens!** / And,
bearing your candles, hymn ye with splendor the only pure and all-holy
Theotokos!// Sing forth, ye **heavens!**

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

6. By the hand of the angel, O Virgin, did thy Son, the Creator of all,/
nourish thee with food, O pure **Mistress,**// revealing thy magnificence
to the world as far greater than that of the Holy of **holies.**

V. Virgins shall be brought to the King after her: her companions
shall be brought unto Thee.

7. O Virgin Bride of God, more holy **than** the saints,/ who gavest birth to
the Master of all, Who is One of the **Trinity,**// beseech Him, that He
deliver from misfortunes all who **hymn** thee.

V. With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall be
brought into the temple of the King.

(Tone 4)

8. **Today** the Theotokos, the temple who contained God,/ was led into the
temple of the Lord, and Zachariah **received** her./ **Today** the Holy of
holies rejoiceth, and the choir of angels keepeth mystic **festival.**/
And with them we also, celebrating today, cry out with **Gabriel:**//
Rejoice, O thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee, Who hath
great **mercy!**

Glory... Gospel Sticheron (Tone 2)

To the women with Mary who came carrying sweet **spices**/ and were at a
loss how to **obtain** their desire,/ the **stone** appeared lifted and a divine
young man calmed the tumult **of** their souls,/ for he said: 'The Lord Jesus
is **risen.**/ Therefore proclaim this to His heralds and disciples, for them
to hasten to **Galilee**// and ye shall see Him risen from the dead as Giver of
life and Lord.'

Both now and ever... (Tone 2)

Most Blessed art Thou, O Virgin Theotokos,/ for through Him Who became
incarnate of thee is hades led **captive,**/ **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.

P. The Great Doxology

R. 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 & Feast/Saint alternating
Kontak: Feast/Resurrection alternating

At Liturgy:

Order of Troparia & Kontakia as follows: (In the temple of a Saint)

Tropar Sunday
Tropar Feast
Tropar Temple
Tropar Apostle
Kontak Sunday
Kontak Temple
Glory... Kontak Apostle
Both... Kontak Feast

Prokimenon for Tone 7

The Lord will give strength unto His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.

V. Bring unto the Lord, ye sons of God, bring unto the Lord the sons of rams.

Prokimenon for the Apostle (Tone 8)

Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Epistle(s): Eph 2:14-22 & Philemon 1:1-25

Alleluia for Tone 7

V. It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy name, O Most High.

V. To proclaim in the morning Thy mercy, and Thy truth by night.

Alleluia for the Apostle (Tone 1)

V. The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of saints.

Gospel(s): Luke 12:16-21 & Luke 10:1-15

Instead of "It is Truly Meet" do first refrain & irmos of Ode 9 of Canon I of the Feast

Communion Verse: Praise ye & Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.