

5th Sunday Pentecost
The Holy, Glorious and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul

VESPERS: Tone 4

P. Regular Beginning

C. Lord I have cried...

1. **Ever** hailing Thy life-giving Cross, O **Christ** our Lord,/ we glorify Thy Resurrection on the **third** day,/ for **Thou** Who art all **powerful**/ hast thereby restored the corrupt **nature** of man/ and hast re-opened for us the upward path to **heaven**,// for Thou only art good and **lovest** mankind.
2. **Being** of Thine own Will nailed to the **wood** of the Cross,/ Thou hast abolished the penalty of disobedience **committed** through the tree/ and by **descending** into hell Thou hast broken, as Almighty, the **bonds** of death./ Therefore we worship Thy Resurrection from the dead,/ and, **rejoicing**, we cry:// Glory to Thee, O **almighty** Lord.
3. **Thou** hast broken in pieces the gates of **hell**, O Lord,/ and put an end by Thy death to the **dominion** of death,/ and **Thou** hast set **mankind** free/ by bestowing incorruption upon the world// together with life and Thy great **mercy**.
4. O **come** all ye **people**,/ and let us sing the praises of the Saviour's Resurrection on the **third** day,/ for **we** have been **delivered** by it/ from the unbreakable **bonds** of hell,/ and having received incorruption and life,/ we all of us cry: Do Thou, crucified, buried and **risen**,// save us by Thy Resurrection for only Thou **lovest** mankind.

Stichera for SS. Peter and Paul (Tone 2)

- 5-6. What garlands of praise shall we weave for **Peter** and Paul,/ who though parted in body were united in **spirit**,/ **and** were the foremost of divine **preachers**?/ The one truly led the **Apostles**,/ while the other labored more than **all** the rest./ Christ our God Who possesses great **mercy**,// most worthily crowns them with diadems of immortal **glory**.
- 7-8 With what songs of beauty shall we praise **Peter** and Paul,/ who on the wings of divine understanding have flown to all the **ends** of the earth,/ **and** have been exalted up to **heaven**,/ whose hands carried the grace of the Gospel, whose feet bore true **preaching**,/ who were rivers of wisdom and the **arms** of the Cross,/ by which Christ Who possesses great **mercy**// brought low the arrogant pride of the **demons**?
- 9-10 With what spiritual songs shall we praise Peter and Paul who slaughtered **godlessness**,/ and whose tongues never **lost** their edge;/ those **fearful** swords of the **spirit**;/ those outstanding ornaments of Rome, who nourished all the **inhabited** earth;/ those living tablets of the New Covenant **written** by God,// whom Christ in His great mercy has proclaimed in **Zion**.

Glory... (Tone 4)

Christ, with His three-fold question: 'Peter dost thou **love** Me?'/ set aright the three-fold **denial**./ And thus **Simon** was initiated into the **mysteries**./ 'O Lord, Thou dost know and **understand** all things,/ Thou knowest that I **love** Thee,' he said,/ and the Saviour replied: 'Feed My sheep, feed My **chosen** ones:/ Feed My lambs that by My **own** blood/ I have preserved unto **salvation**.'// O divinely blessed Apostle, pray Him to give us great **mercy**.

Both... Dogmatikon (Tone 4)

David, the **prophet**, fore**father** of God/ through Thee gave voice **beforehand** in psalms/ **concerning** the great things **done** for Thee:/ Upon Thy right hand doth **stand** the Queen./ For God Who was pleased without father to be made **man** of thee,/ has shown thee forth as Mother of life and **mediator**,/ that He might restore His image corrupted by the **passions**;/ and that when He had found the stray sheep caught in the **mountains**,/ He might lay it upon His shoulder and bring it to His **Father**,/ and by His own wish that Christ in Whom is great and bountiful **mercy**/ might gather it to the **heavenly** hosts// and save the world, O Theotokos.

P. Wisdom. Aright!

C. O Joyful Light...

P. Prokimenon. The Lord is King...

P. Wisdom!

R. The reading from the First Epistle of Saint Peter: (1:3-9)

Brethren, blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By His great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold which though perishable is tested by fire, may redound to praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Without having seen Him you love Him; though you do not now see Him you believe in Him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy. As the outcome of your faith you obtain the salvation of your souls.

R. The reading from the First Epistle of Saint Peter: (1:13-19)

Beloved, gird up your mind, be sober, set your hope fully upon the grace that is coming to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as He Who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." And if you invoke as Father Him Who judges each one impartially according to his deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

R. The reading from the First Epistle of Saint Peter: (2:11-24)

Beloved, I beseech you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh that wage war against your soul. Maintain good contact among the Gentiles, so that, in case they speak against you as wrongdoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of

visitation. Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing right you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. Live as free men, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil; but live as servants of God. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the emperor. Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to the kind and gentle, but also to the overbearing. For one is approved if, mindful of God, he endures pain while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it, if when you do wrong and are beaten for it you take it patiently? But if, when you do right and suffer for it, you take it patiently, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps. He committed no sin; no guile was found on His lips. When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten; but He trusted to Him Who judges justly. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

P. Augmented Litany

R. Vouchsafe...

P. Litany of Fervent Supplication

C. Litya (Tone 2)

Come today, ye fair and praising assembly of the **faithful**,/ as a choir weaving garlands of fitting praises for **Peter** and Paul,/ those **chosen** ones of grace, for, plentifully sowing the **Word** for all,/ they enriched all with the grace of the **Spirit**,/ and as branches of the True Vine, they harvested for us ripe grapes to **gladden** our hearts./ With candid faces and pure consciences, **let** us sing:/ Hail! ye ferrymen guiding those without reason, and serving the **reasoning**:/ Hail! ye pleasing ones chosen by the Maker and **Guardian** of all:/ Hail! advocates of the good, and prosecutors of the **deceitful**./ Let us pray to them ever to intercede with the Creator and **Teacher**,// to give constant peace to the world and to us great **mercy**.

Let us praise the preeminent Peter and Paul as intercessors for the whole world:/ the disciples of Christ and foundations of the Church,/ the pillars and ramparts of truth,/ the divine clarions of the teachings and sufferings of Christ./ For having travelled the breadth of the whole world,/ sowing the Faith as with a plough,/ they planted divine knowledge for all, revealing the word of the Trinity./ O Peter, thou rock and foundation!/ O Paul, thou chosen vessel!/ Yoked together by the bonds of Christ, they have drawn all to the knowledge of God./ Gentiles and Jews, cities and islands, they have led to Christ;// and they pray that our souls be saved.

O Peter, preeminent among the glorious apostles, rock of faith!/ O wondrous Paul, rhetor and luminary of the Holy Churches!/ Standing before the divine throne,// pray ye to Christ for us.

O blessed Paul, mouth of the Lord,/ foundation of doctrines,/ who wast once a persecutor of Jesus the Saviour,/ thou art now among the foremost enthroned among the apostles./ Wherefore, thou hast seen ineffable things, O wise one,/ ascending even unto the third heaven, and didst cry aloud:// Come with me, and we shall not be deprived of good things!

(Tone 3)

The citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem,/ the rock of faith, the rhetor of the Church of Christ,/ the two servants of the Trinity,/ the fishers of the world:/ Having forsaken that which is here on earth/ and departed unto God with suffering,// beseech Him with boldness that our souls be saved.

Glory... (Tone 5)

O All-praised Apostles,/ ye are the fruitful vines that the **Wisdom** of God,/ **He** that **was** with God,/ the Word of the Father, foretold in the **Gospels**,/ and ye carried upon your branches the ripe, delicious grapes/ which are **sweet** to our taste when we, the faithful, eat them with enjoyment./ O **Peter**, thou **rock** of the Faith,/ and Paul, thou pride of the **whole** earth,// establish the flock ye have obtained by your **teachings**.

Both... (Tone 5)

All-hallowed **Virgin**,/ Thou art the **Temple** and the Gate,/ the **Palace** and the **Throne** of kings./ Christ the Lord Who is my deliverer,/ appeared through thee to those asleep in **darkness**,/ because **He**, the Sun of **Righteousness**,/ wished to give light to the **work** of His hands/ fashioned in His own **image**:/ as **thou** hast the boldness of a mother **towards** thy Son,// we entreat thee whom all men sing, beg Him to **save** our souls.

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

APOSTICHA: (Tone 4)

1. **Ascending** upon the **Cross**, O Lord,/ Thou hast abolished for us the **ancestral** curse,/ and **descending** into hell, having set free those in bonds from all **eternity**,/ Thou hast bestowed on mankind **incorruption** and life./ We therefore praise and **glorify**// Thy redeeming Resurrection upon the **third** day.

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

2. **Hung** upon the wood,/ Thou Who alone art mighty, hast shaken the whole creation:/ While **laid** in the tomb, Thou hast raised up those **dwelling** therein,/ and hast bestowed life and incorruption on **mankind**;/ therefore, we praise and **glorify**// Thy redeeming Resurrection on the **third** day.

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

3. The lawless **people** who gave Thee, O Christ, to **Pilate**,/ condemned Thee to be **crucified**,/ and **showed** themselves thankless towards their **Benefactor**./ But it was Thy good pleasure to suffer **burial**,/ and of Thine own Will hast Thou **risen** again/ as God on the **third** day,// and hast bestowed on us life without end and Thy great **mercy**.

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

4. The **women** who sought Thee came in tears to Thy tomb and when they **found** Thee not,/ they lamented and **implored** said:/ "O **Saviour** of ours and

Lord of all,/ how comes it that Thou hast been **stolen** away?/ And what place can hold Thy life-bearing **Body**?"/ An angel then stood before them **and** replied:/ "Weep not, but proclaim the good tidings that the Lord is **risen**,// and grants us joy because He alone is **compassionate**."

Glory... (Tone 6)

A joyful feast has enlightened the ends of the **earth** today:/ the most sacred memorial of the wise Apostles and leaders, **Peter** and Paul,/ and therefore Rome, making glad, **rejoices**./ Let us also keep the feast, O **brethren**,/ in songs and hymns, as we celebrate this **holy** day./ Hail! Peter the Apostle, thou true friend of thy Teacher, **Christ** our God./ Hail! Paul, thou well-beloved herald of the Faith and teacher of the **whole** world./ O holy, chosen pair, since ye have **boldness**,// pray unto Christ our God, that our **souls** may be saved.

Both... My Maker and Deliverer, **Christ** the Lord,/ proceeded from thy womb, O All-pure **Virgin**,/ and clothing Himself in me set man free from the original curse of **Adam**./ Wherefore, All-pure **Virgin**,/ we rightly sing without ceasing to Thee as Mother of God and **Virgin**/ in the greeting of the **angel**:// Hail! Lady, defense and protection and **salvation** of our souls.

C. St. Symeon's Prayer

R. Trisagion

C. Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos x2

C. Troparion of the Feast, (Tone 4)

Ye who are seated on the first thrones of the Apostles/ and are the teachers of all the inhabited earth,/ pray to the Master of all/ that He may give peace to the world// and great mercy to our souls.

P. Blessing of the loaves.

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

Psalm 33:1-10

MATINS: Tone 4

P. Regular Beginning

P. Great Ectenia

C. God is the Lord... (Tone 4)

C. Sunday Troparia (Tone 4) x2

When the women disciples of the Lord/ learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection;/ They cast away the ancestral curse/ and elatedly told the apostles:/ Death is overthrown!/ Christ God is risen,// granting the world great mercy.

Glory... Troparion of the Feast, (Tone 4)

Ye who are seated on the first thrones of the Apostles/ and are the teachers of all the inhabited earth,/ pray to the Master of all/ that He may give peace to the world// and great mercy to our souls.

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:

Gazing upon the entrance to the tomb, and unable to endure the angel of flame, the myrrhbearing women marveled, trembling, and said: "Hath He been stolen away Who hath opened paradise to the thief? Or hath He risen Who even before His suffering proclaimed His resurrection? Truly, Christ hath risen, granting life and resurrection unto those in hades!"

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

In Thy voluntary counsel Thou didst endure the Cross, O Saviour, and in a new tomb mortal men laid Thee Who by Thy word didst create the ends of the earth. Wherefore, the alien one was bound, death taken grievously captive; and all those in hades cried out to Thy life-bearing resurrection; Christ hath arisen, remaining the Bestower of life forever.

G/B... Joseph marveled, beholding that which transcendeth nature, and pondering thy seedless conception he dwelt in thought upon the dew which fell upon the fleece, the bush unconsumed by the fire, and the rod of Aaron which put forth branches. And thy guardian and betrothed cried out to the priests: "The Virgin giveth birth, and even after birthgiving remaineth virgin!"

R. Kathisma III
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:

Thou didst arise from the tomb as One Immortal, O Saviour, and by Thy power didst raise Thy world up with Thyself, O Christ our God; in might Thou didst crush the dominion of death, O Merciful One, and hast shown forth the resurrection unto all. Wherefore, we glorify Thee, O Thou Who alone lovest mankind!

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

Having descended from the heights of heaven and approached the stone where the Stone of life had lain, Gabriel, arrayed in white, cried out to those who wept: "Cease your cries of lamentation, O ye who have mercy now with you! Be of good cheer, for He Whom ye seek, weeping, hath truly arisen! Wherefore, cry out to the apostles that the Lord hath risen! And receiving this joy, worship the Risen One! Be ye of good cheer, that Eve also may rejoice!"

G/B... All the choirs of the apostles marveled at the dread mystery of thy birthgiving, O pure one: how He Who holdeth all things in one hand is held in thine arms as a man, how the Pre-eternal One receiveth the beginning, how He Who in His ineffable goodness nurtureth every creature is fed with milk. And praising thee, they glorify thee as the true Mother of God.

C. Polyeleos

P. Megalynarion

We magnify you, / O Apostles of Christ, / who have enlightened all the world // and brought all the ends of the earth to Christ.

V. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaimeth the work of His hands.

We magnify you, / O Apostles of Christ, / who have enlightened all the world // and brought all the ends of the earth to Christ.

V. The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord.

We magnify you, / O Apostles of Christ, / who have enlightened all the world // and brought all the ends of the earth to Christ.

Proceed directly to the Evlogitaria

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

P. Small Ectenia

R. Ypakoe:

Running on before, the myrrhbearing women proclaimed Thine all-glorious arising to the apostles, O Christ: how, as God, Thou didst arise, granting great mercy to the world.

Sessional Hymns for SS. Peter and Paul

Forsaking the deep sea where thou didst fish, thou didst receive the divine revelation of the incarnation of the Word from the Father in heaven, and didst cry out faithfully with boldness to thy Maker: I acknowledge Thee to be the Son, one in essence with the Father. Therefore thou wast truly and worthily shown to be the rock of faith, holding the keys of grace, Apostle Peter. Intercede with Christ our God to grant remission of sins to those who with love celebrate thy holy memory.

O ye faithful, as is meet, let us praise the most lauded Peter, the ally of Paul, the net of the world, the rock of the Church, in that he holdeth the keys of heaven: for the whole world hath been enlightened by them with the Faith of the Trinity. Glory to Him Who hath glorified you! Glory to Him Who hath strengthened you! Glory to Him Who because of you hath given us everlasting life!

Having received the heavenly call from Christ, thou hast appeared as the herald of light enlightening all with the teachings of grace. For by thy writings thou hast blotted out the service of the law and thou hast illuminated the faithful with the knowledge of the Spirit. Therefore wast thou also counted worthy to be taken up into the third heaven and thou hast

reached Paradise. Pray, Apostle Paul, to Christ our God, to grant remission of sins to those who celebrate with love thy holy memory.

With luminous radiance ye enlighten the ends of the earth like stars with the doctrines of holy preaching, O apostles of the Lord, initiates of the mysteries of heaven.

Glory... Let us praise Peter and Paul the all-wise, who appeared as the chief of the disciples, as great and radiant beacons. For shining with the fire of the divine spirit they burned up the mist of error. And they have been made worthy to become citizens of the Kingdom on high and to sit together on thrones of grace. Let us therefore cry out: O Apostles of Christ our God, ask remission of sins for those who celebrate with love your holy memory.

Both... As the immaculate Bride of the Creator, as the Mother of the Deliverer, who knewest not wedlock, as the vessel of the Comforter, O all-hymned one, haste thou to deliver me, who am the vile abode of iniquity and have become in mind the plaything of the demons, from their machinations; and make me the splendid habitation of the virtues, O radiant and incorrupt one, dispel from me the cloud of the passions, and vouchsafe unto me communion on high and the never-waning light, through thy supplications.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon One)

From my youth have the many passions warred against me. But do Thou help and save me, O my Saviour.

O ye who hate Sion, ye shall be put to shame by the Lord; for ye shall be withered up like grass by the fire.

G/B... By the Holy Spirit is every soul given life, exalted by purity, and made radiant by the unity of the Trinity in a sacred and mystical manner.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Two)

From the depths of my soul have I cried out to Thee, O Lord. Let Thy divine ears be attentive unto me.

Everyone who hath set his hope on the Lord is higher than all who sorrow.

G/B... Through the Holy Spirit do streams of grace flow, watering all creation, unto its enlivening.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Three)

Let my heart be lifted up unto Thee, O Word, and let none of the delights of the world beguile me, unto my weakening.

We who have love for our mothers must needs be yet more ardent in our love for the Lord.

G/B... From the Holy Spirit is the richness of divine vision, sight and wisdom; for in Him doth the Word reveal all the precepts of the Father.

P. Prokimenon: (Tone 4)

Arise, O Lord, help us/ and redeem us for Thy Name's sake.

V. O God, with our ears have we heard, for our fathers have told us.

C. Let every breath praise the Lord.

P. GOSPEL #5

- 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: Having traversed the depths of the Red Sea with dryshod feet,/ Israel of old/ vanquished the might of Amalek/ in the wilderness// by Moses' arms stretched out in the form of the Cross.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou wast lifted up upon the Tree of the Cross, setting aright our fall, O Master, and healing the destruction wrought by the tree, in that Thou art good and almighty.

Thou wast in the tomb bodily and in hades with Thy soul, as God; Thou wast in paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, O Christ, Thou Infinite One Who fillest all things.

Theotokion

At the will of the Father, through the divine Spirit thou didst conceive the Son of God without seed and gavest birth unto Him in the flesh. He Who was begotten of the Father without mother came forth from thee without father for our sake.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The people were shaken, the nations were troubled, and mighty kingdoms bowed down out of fear of thine Offspring, O pure one. For my King came: He cast down the tyrant and hath delivered the world from corruption.

Christ, Who dwelleth in the highest and descended unto mortal man, sanctified thee as His dwelling-place, and showed thee forth as unshaken. For thou, having borne the Creator, hast remained a treasury of virginity after childbirth.

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

With divinely inspired songs let us hymn today the preeminent of the apostles as the first called of Christ.

Having foreknown thee, O most blessed Peter, the Pre-eternal One ordained thee from of old as the leader of His Church, the first-enthroned.

Neither flesh nor blood, but the Father inspired thee to theologize Christ as the true Son of God Most High, O apostle.

Theotokion

We hymn thee, the holy mountain, the most exalted chariot, the Mother of God and true Virgin.

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

When Christ called things into being out of non-existence, O most blessed Paul, He chose thee from thy mother's womb to carry before the nations His divine name, which is above every name; for gloriously hath He been glorified.

Declaring to thee the imminent outpouring of piety and the cleansing away of falsehood, O Paul, Christ, Who showed Himself to be as bright as lightning on the mountain, dimmed thy bodily eyes while enlightening the eyes of thy soul with the understanding of the Trinity: for gloriously hath He been glorified.

Glory... Performing circumcision on the eighth day, as a zealot of the traditions of thy fathers, O Paul, and showing thyself to be a law-bound pharisee, a Jew by birth, of the tribe of Benjamin, thou didst come to consider all such things as but dung, and didst acquire Christ: for gloriously hath He been glorified.

Both... O Mistress, pure Mother of almighty God, who sprang forth from royal stock and gavest birth in the flesh, in manner transcending nature, to God Who alone reigneth over all: Save me from misfortunes, who chant unto thy Son: For gloriously hast Thou been glorified!

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: Thy Church rejoiceth in Thee, O Christ,/ crying aloud://
Thou art my strength, O Lord, my refuge and my consolation!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The Tree of life, the true noetic Vine, hanging upon the Cross, poured forth incorruption upon all.

As One great and awesome, as the One Who cast down the arrogance of hades, and as God incorrupt, Thou hast arisen in the flesh.

Theotokion

Thou alone, who in manner transcending nature art the mediatrix of good things for those on earth, becamest the Mother of God; wherefore, we offer thee "Rejoice!"

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The essence of men is purified, having been united through thee with the unbearable divine Fire, O all-pure Virgin, baked into Bread which was hid within thee, and Who preserved thee unharmed.

Who is this who is truly close to God? For, having surpassed all the ranks of the angels, she alone shineth forth as the Mother of the Almighty in the beauty of virginity.

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

The sweet mouth of Christ God showed thee to be blessed and a sure treasure of the kingdom; wherefore, we hymn thee, O Apostle Peter.

On the rock of thy theology hath Jesus the Master established the Church unshakably, and therein we glorify thee, O Apostle Peter.

How greater than the angels was Peter in the body! For Christ God said that at His radiant coming he would be a judge and would be equally enthroned.

Theotokion

O thou who knewest not wedlock, who gavest birth unto God in the flesh: Render me steadfast and unshaken by the assaults of the passions, for we have none other helper than thee, O pure one.

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

Thou hast been set as a precious foundation stone for the souls of the faithful, a corner-stone of the Saviour and Lord.

O most blessed Paul, pray thou that on thy foundations the splendors of most laudable virtues may be set firmly.

Glory... Ever perfectly bearing the mortality of Jesus on thy body, O Paul, thou wast vouchsafed true life.

Both... Thee have we all of us Christians acquired as our rampart and refuge, and glorify thee without ceasing, O thou who knewest not wedlock.

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, (Tone 2)

Thou, O Lord, hast received into the enjoyment of Thy good things and into Thy rest,/ the steadfast preachers who spoke of God,/ the chiefs of Thy disciples,/ accepting their sufferings and death as greater than any holocaust,// O Thou Who alone knowest what is in the heart of men.

R. Ikos

Fill my tongue with light, O my Saviour, and having expanded my mouth and filled it, have pity on my heart, that I may speak, follow, and teach that which I first do: for Thou didst say that he who doeth and teacheth is great. For if I speak only, and do not act, I am accounted as sounding

brass. Wherefore, grant that I may speak fitting things and do that which is profitable, O Thou Who alone knowest the hearts of men.

R. Ypakoe

What jail did not have thee as its prisoner? and what church has not thee as orator? Damascus takes pride in thee, O Paul! For it saw thee falling before the light. Rome also boasts, for it received thy blood. But Tarsus rejoices yet more, and honours thy grave-clothes. Therefore, Apostle Paul, boast of the whole world, go before us and establish us.

Canticle Four

Irmos: Beholding Thee lifted up upon the Cross,/ O Sun of Righteousness,/ the Church stood rooted in place,/ crying out as is meet:// Glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

In the suffering of Thine all-pure flesh in which Thou hadst willingly clothed Thyself, Thou didst ascend the Cross, healing my passions; wherefore, we cry out to Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Death, having tasted Thy sinless and life-creating body, O Master, died as was meet; and we cry out to Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lord.

Theotokion

Thou gavest birth without knowing wedlock, O Virgin, and even after giving birth thou remainest a virgin still; wherefore, with steadfast faith we cry aloud to thee, "Rejoice, O Mistress!"

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Invisible One, becoming visible, dwelt with men; He Who is in the form of the unapproachable Divinity took on a form alien to Himself through thee, O Maiden, and He saveth those who acknowledge thee to be the pure Mother of God.

The Virgin received the Immaterial One into material participation in matter, when He became a babe through her; wherefore, He alone is known in two essences: as incarnate God and transcendent man.

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

As He promised, Christ made thee a divine fisher of men for His Church, entrusting its helm to thee first.

Entreated by thee, O Peter, may Jesus, the Bestower of life, Who gaveth thee the authority to bind and to loose, be merciful unto me.

Pray thou earnestly, O Peter, that the kingdom of Christ be opened unto those who honour thy divine memory with unwavering faith.

Theotokion

O most hymned Lady Theotokos, having cleansed away mine evil thoughts by thy supplications, show me forth as fruitful, O Mother of the God of all.

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

Once Saul crouched like a lion, wrathfully destroying the Church of Christ; but he was seized by the divine voice of the Lamb of God, Whom he had persecuted, and Who entrusted His flock to him as shepherd.

He who would enlighten the whole world was struck blind; but Ananias was sent to him, imparting unto him enlightenment of soul and body through divine revelation, and showing him to be a chosen vessel.

Glory... As is meet, Damascus is given drink by Paul; for from him, as from the garden of paradise, a great well-spring of divine waters once issued forth and irrigated the whole earth abundantly with knowledge divine.

Both... The Lord hath cast down the mighty from their thrones, as the Virgin Mother said, and with divine good things hath filled the hungry, who cry aloud with faith: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

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: Thou hast come, O my Lord, as a light into the world:/ a holy light// turning from the darkness of ignorance those who hymn Thee with faith.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

In Thy mercy Thou didst descend to earth, O Lord; and, lifted up upon the Tree, Thou didst raise up fallen human nature.

Thou, O Christ, hast taken away the condemnation of my transgressions; and Thou, O Compassionate One, hast destroyed the pangs of death by Thy divine resurrection.

Theotokion

Thee do we wield as an invincible sword against the enemy, O Bride of God, for we have acquired thee as our confirmation and hope of salvation.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Son of God, making His abode within thee, made thee for us a house of glory, the holy mountain of God, His bride, bridal-chamber and temple of sanctity, a paradise of everlasting delight, O pure one.

Through the Virgin's blood, O Christ, Thou didst receive blood which is seedless, all-pure, hypostatic, reasonable and noetic, animate, active, with a will, possessed of its own power, self-governing.

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

He Who through love received boldness before God hath fittingly become wondrous, though he was an ignorant fisherman, and he now worketh all-glorious wonders through grace.

Thy godly apostle, O Christ, having acquired neither gold nor silver for Thy sake, but rather virtue, hath been enriched by the power of miracles.

By thine effective word the feet and joints of the lame were set aright, for all-glorious things were accomplished by the divine Spirit.

Theotokion

God became incarnate, O pure one, hypostatically united to the flesh He received from thee, yet remaining immutable, incorporeal in His divine nature.

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

Thou didst choose true praise, O Apostle Paul, ever bearing the Cross of Christ the King as a trophy.

For thee to live is Christ, and to die is an excellent acquisition; for through love thou wast crucified with Him Who was crucified for our sake, O all-glorious Paul.

Glory... Thou truly rejoicest in the Lord, O honourable Paul, having departed from the body and passed over to Christ God, the Bestower of life.

Both... Ever beseech thy Son and our God, O pure Mary who knewest not wedlock, that He send forth His mercy upon us, the faithful.

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: I will sacrifice to Thee/ with a voice of praise, O Lord,/ the Church crieth unto Thee,/ cleansed of the blood of demons// by the blood which, for mercy's sake, flowed from Thy side.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Girded about with power, Thou didst ascend the Cross, and as God didst wrestle with the tyrant. And Thou didst cast him down from the heights and with invincible power didst raise up Adam.

Radiant and comely, Thou didst arise from the tomb, O Christ, and didst drive away all the enemies by Thy divine power; and as God Thou hast filled all with gladness.

Theotokion

O wonder newest of all wonders! For when the Virgin, without knowing man conceived in her womb, Him Who sustaineth all things, He was not confined.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Of old the serpent beguiled and slew me through my first mother Eve; but now, O pure one, He Who fashioned me hath through thee called me back from corruption.

The Abyss of compassion ineffably showed thee to be His chosen abyss of miracles, O Maiden; for from thee hath Christ the pearl shone forth through the lightning-flashes of His divinity.

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

As of old with Thy right hand Thou didst save Peter who walked on foot upon the waters, O Christ, so do Thou save me, who am drowning amid the storm of cruel perils, in that Thou art full of loving-kindness.

Thou didst forsake things which were not essential, O Peter, and didst attain unto those things which are essential; and as a certain merchant thou didst manifestly search for Christ: the Pearl beyond price.

O Peter, thou didst slay those who mindlessly strove to tempt the all-holy Spirit, Whom before thou hadst theologized, openly confessing Him as God, O most blessed one.

Theotokion

Thou gavest birth for us to the incarnate Word of God Who transcendeth all nature; wherefore, with lips and soul we profess thee to be the Theotokos.

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

Spurning all the beautiful things of the world, thou wast wounded by the love of the Master and by desire for the common salvation of man, wishing to bear witness unto Him, O blessed Paul. Pray thou now in behalf of the whole world.

As an excellent emulator of the Master, clothed in Him, O Paul, thou wast truly all things to all men, that thou mightest acquire and save all the people, and pursuing the ends of the world for Christ, thou didst truly save them.

Glory... As is meet Christ hath given thee life in the heavens, O Apostle Paul; For thou didst not desire a city which abideth here, O blessed one, but wast a faithful minister and celebrant of His mysteries.

Both... The Lord looked down upon thee, restoring my nature, in that He is mighty; and doing mighty works, O most immaculate one, through thee my God hath saved me from corruption, in that He is full of loving-kindness.

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 4

My Saviour and Redeemer as God/ rose from the tomb and delivered the earthborn from their chains./ He has shattered the gates of hell,/ and as Master,// He has risen on the third day.

R. Ikos

O all ye mortals, let us all hymn Christ, the Bestower of life, Who hath arisen from the dead and the grave on the third day, demolished the gates of death by His own power today, slain hades, broken the sting of death, and freed Adam and Eve; and let us earnestly cry out praise, for He alone, as the only mighty God and Master, hath arisen on the third day.

Canticle Seven

Irmos: The children of Abraham in the Persian furnace,/ afire with love of piety more than with the flame, cried out:// Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Mankind, washed in the divine blood of Christ, hath been recalled to incorruption, and in thanksgiving it chanteth: Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory, O Lord!

Thy tomb, the wellspring of our resurrection, hath been shown to be more splendid than any royal chamber, O Christ, for it bore the Life and is truly more beautiful than paradise.

Theotokion

Rejoice, divine and sanctified dwelling of the Most High! For through thee, O Theotokos, hath joy been given unto those who cry: Blessed art thou among women, O most immaculate Mistress!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The fire of love for the Virgin which is within my heart moveth me to hymnody, so that I cry out to the Mother and Virgin: O blessed one, the Lord of hosts is with thee.

Thou wast shown to transcend creation, in that thou gavest birth to the Creator and Lord; wherefore, O Theotokos, I cry out to thee: O blessed one, the Lord of hosts is with thee.

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

Chastised by the divine providence of Christ, thou wast permitted to emulate the Merciful One, O Peter, that thy distress over denying Him before His suffering might be assuaged.

Having risen from the dead, Christ appeared to thee, the first-called and exceeding beloved, as the right glorious one who was first to preside over the apostles.

The Master, healing thy threefold denial before His suffering, O Peter, confirmed His love by a threefold divinely uttered question.

Thou didst call the all-seeing God the Word as witness to thy love for Christ, O Peter; wherefore, He entrusted the beloved flock to thee.

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

He who in latter times was called and surpassed all others in zeal became the seal and crown of Thine apostles, O Christ. With him the people of the Church chant unto thee: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Even though Paul the prisoner first persecuted Thy Church, O Christ, yet did he later replace his former ferocity with zeal for Thee; and he hath gathered together the nations, who chant: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Glory... Caught up in awe, thou didst attain unto the third heaven, O thou who art all-rich; and hearing ineffable words, thou didst cry aloud: Glory to the transcendent Father and the Son, and to the equally-enthroned effulgence of the Spirit of God Who trieth the depths!

Both... Like rain upon the fleece did Christ God descend upon thee, O Virgin, and He issued forth from thee in the flesh, uniting those things that before were separate, and granting peace on earth and in heaven. O God of our fathers, blessed are Thou!

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **H**oly Children bravely trampled upon the **th**reatening fire,/ preferring not to worship created things rather than the Creator,/ and they **s**ang in joy:/ 'Blessed art Thou and **p**raised above all,// O Lord God of our **f**athers.'

Canticle Eight

Irmos: Stretching forth his hands,/ Daniel shut the lions' mouths in the pit;/ and the young lovers of piety, girded about with virtue,/ quenched the power of the fire, crying out:// Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Stretching forth Thy hands, Thou didst gather in all the nations, O Master, and didst reveal the one Church which hymneth Thee, unto those in

heaven and on earth, who sing together: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord! Hymn and exalt Him supremely forever!

The angel clad in white, resplendent in the unapproachable light of the resurrection, appeared to the women, crying: "Why seek ye the Living in the tomb as one dead? Truly Christ hath arisen!" And unto Him do we cry: All ye works, hymn the Lord and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Theotokion

Alone among all generations, O all-pure Virgin, thou hast been shown to be the Mother of God; and thou wast the habitation of the Divinity, O most immaculate one, who wast not consumed by the fire of the unapproachable Light. Wherefore, we all bless thee, O Mary, Bride of God.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The Lord of all, Who fashioned thee of the rib of Adam, became incarnate of thy virginity. Unto Him do we cry out, chanting: Bless the Lord, all ye works, and exalt Him supremely forever!

In a shadow Abraham beheld the mystery which is in thee, the Theotokos; for he received thine incorporeal Son, chanting: Bless the Lord, all ye works! Hymn and exalt Him supremely forever!

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

"They shall stretch forth thine arms and bind thee to a cross," the Master foretold, commanding thee to follow Him; and thou criest aloud: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Working wonders, by the word of grace thou didst heal Aeneas who was grievously paralyzed, and didst raise up Tabitha from the dead; and they cried: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

O Christ Who announced unto Peter that the nations were cleansed, by spiritual radiance purify my thoughts, for I cry: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Theotokion

O most holy Virgin who gavest birth to God the Word in the flesh, driving the darkness away from my soul by thy supplications, illumine me who cry: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

Paul was bound to thee by Thy love and underwent a goodly change; for the glorious one lived not for himself, O Compassionate One, but had Thee living within him forever.

Thou didst betroth the Church unto Christ, presenting it to Him as a bride; for thou wast shown to be its wedding-escort, O God-bearing Paul. Wherefore, it glorifieth thee for all ages.

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

Thou didst fight the good fight, and finishing thy race lawfully, thou didst preserve the treasure of the Faith. Wherefore, thou hast been vouchsafed crowns of righteousness, O Paul.

Both... Rejoice, O fiery throne of the Lord! Rejoice, O Virgin, unwedded Bride! Rejoice, cloud who shone forth the Sun of righteousness, Whom we exalt supremely for all ages!

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: Christ, the Chief Cornerstone uncut by human hands,/ Who united the two disparate natures,/ was cut from thee, the unquarried mountain, O Virgin./ Wherefore, in gladness// we magnify thee, O Theotokos.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Thou didst wholly receive all of me into union with Thee without confusion, O my God, through Thy suffering which Thou didst endure bodily on the Cross imparting salvation wholly unto me, for the sake of Thy great compassion.

Beholding Thy tomb open and the God-bearing grave-clothes emptied by Thy resurrection, with the angels Thy women disciples said: Truly the Lord hath risen!

Triadicon

Worshipping the Oneness of the divine Essence, the Trinity of Hypostases, and honouring rightly that which is in unconfused Hypostases, equal in power and one as to adoration, let us magnify It, all ye faithful.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

We behold thee as a lily, arrayed in a robe dyed by the divine Spirit, O all-pure one, resplendent amid thorns and filling with sweet fragrance those who sincerely magnify thee.

The Incorrupt One, receiving corrupt human nature from thy womb, O most immaculate one, showed it to be incorrupt within Himself, in His loving-kindness; wherefore, we magnify thee as the Theotokos.

Holy Apostle Peter, pray to God for us.

Thine excellent grace is rightly glorified, for thy very shadow dispelleth the sufferings of the sick, O Peter; wherefore, we magnify thee.

Blessed is Peter, who with ineffable divine power cast down Simon Magus, who through sorcery had soared aloft into the air.

By thy supplications grant remission of offenses, enlightenment of heart and gladness of spirit unto those who hymn thy memory, O apostle.

O Peter, all thy words, relics and dust are full of glory, sanctity and miracles for those who with faith bow down with love before thy divine chains.

Holy Apostle Paul, pray to God for us.

We bow down before thy chains, which thou didst bear for Christ like a malefactor, O Paul, and we kiss the wounds which thou didst bear on thy glorious and victorious body.

Now thou hast departed unto Him Whom thou didst unceasingly desire, O apostle; and dwelling with him as a servant, with unceasing entreaties draw thou thy servants to thyself.

Glory... No longer is Christ visible to thee in shadows or in a reflection, but thou dost gaze upon Him face to face, and He perfectly revealeth to thee the understanding of the Godhead.

Both... O all-holy Mother of God, thou wast the boast of the apostles of Christ, the glory of the martyrs and the foundation of the prophets: wherefore, we all magnify thee as is meet.

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 Five (Luke 24:12-25)

Christ, the Life and the Way, risen from the dead, accompanied Cleopas and Luke on their way and He was made known to them at Emmaus at the breaking of the bread. And their souls and hearts were on fire when He spoke to them on the way and He interpreted to them the Scriptures and the things He had endured. Let us cry with them: "He is risen and has appeared to Peter."

Glory... Exapostilarion for the Holy Apostles

Let us hymn the leaders of all the Apostles, the divine Peter and Paul, the beacons of the whole earth, the heralds of the Faith, the trumpets speaking of God, the revealers of doctrine, the pillars of the Church, the destroyers of evil.

Both... Theotokion

I sing the praises of Thy mercy without measure, O my Maker. For Thou hast emptied Thyself to suffer and save the nature of mortal man grown evil. And being God, Thou hast been pleased to be born from the Pure Maid of God according to my likeness, and Thou hast gone down even into hell, wishing by the intercession of Her that bore Thee to save me, O Word, Thou all-merciful Master.

C. Lauds: Tone 4 Stichera

Let 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. We **glorify** Thy **Resurrection**,/ O all-**powerful** Lord,/ Who hast **suffered** the **Cross** and death// and art **risen** from the dead.

- V. Praise ye God in His saints,/ praise Him in the firmament of His power.
2. By Thy **Cross** hast Thou set us free from the **ancient** curse/ and by Thy death hast Thou laid low the **devil**/ who tormented our **nature**,/ while all things have been filled with joy by Thy Resurrection;/ therefore, we **cry** unto Thee:// Glory be unto Thee, O Lord **risen** from the dead.
- V. Praise Him for His mighty acts,/ praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness.
3. By Thy **Cross** instruct us in Thy truth, O Christ our **Saviour**,/ and deliver us from the wiles of the **adversary**;/ O **Thou**, Who art **risen** from the dead,/ raise us up, **fallen** through sin./ By the prayers of Thy saints stretch out to us Thine **arm**, O Lord, // Who **lovest** mankind.
- V. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,/ praise Him with psaltery and harp.
4. Thou hast **taken** upon Thyself **death** in the flesh/ and hast mediated that we might be **immortal**/ and **Thou** hast **dwelt** in the tomb/ that we might be **free** from hell,/ and suffering as man, Thou hast **risen** as God,/ having raised us **with** Thyself./ Therefore, we cry **unto** Thee:/ Glory be unto Thee, O Lord, **Giver** of life,// Who alone **lovest** mankind.
- V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance,/ praise Him with strings and flute.

Stichera for SS. Peter and Paul (Tone 4)

5. When the **Saviour** questioned the disciples, He spoke to the Apostles, twelve in number, **saying**:/ Who do men **say** that I am?/ Then **Peter**, the foremost of Christ's disciples, receiving grace from **heaven**,/ divinely proclaimed, crying aloud: 'Thou art Christ the Son of the **living** God.'/ therefore he is rightly called blessed for having received a revelation **from** on high// and he justly received the right to **bind** and loose.
- V. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation./ Let every breath praise the Lord.
6. **Thou** wast called from on high and **not** by men,/ when the darkness of the earth obscured thy bodily eyes, rendering manifest the gloom of **impiety**;/ then **heavenly** light irradiated the eyes of thy mind revealing the beauty of **piety**./ Therefore thou didst come to know **Christ** our God/ Who brought light out of **darkness**:// Pray to Him to save and **enlighten** our souls.
- V. Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world
7. **Thou** wast rightly called the rock upon which the **Lord** made fast/ the unshakable faith of the Church and He appointed thee the chief shepherd of the **rational** sheep./ Thereupon He **entrusted** thee with the keys of

the **heavenly** gates,/ and being good, He ordered thee to open them to all who **approach** with faith./ Therefore thou wast counted duly worthy to be crucified like thy **Master**./ Pray Him to save and **enlighten** our souls.

V. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaimeth the work of His hands

(Tone 6)

8. The most honoured feast of the apostles hath arrived for the **Church** of Christ,/ bringing salvation **unto** us all./ Wherefore, mystically plaiting hymns for them, **let** us say:/ Rejoice, O lamps unto those who are in **darkness**,/ shedding forth rays of the noetic Sun!/ Rejoice, O Peter and Paul, ye unshakable foundations of the divine **doctrines**,/ friends of Christ, precious **vessels**!/ Come ye into our midst, vouchsafing **immaterial** gifts// unto those who praise your **feast** with hymns.

Glory... Gospel Sticheron (Tone 5)

How **wise**, O Christ, are Thy **judgments**!/ How by the grave clothes lying alone, Thou hast given Peter to understand Thy Resurrection!/ And **Thou** hast conversed on the way with Luke and Cleopas,/ and while **conversing**, Thou hast not straightway made Thyself **manifest**./ Therefore hast Thou been reproached as being only a stranger in Jerusalem/ not **sharing** to the end in her **counsels**./ But **dispensing** all things for the expedience of the **creature**,/ Thou hast unfolded the prophesies **concerning** Thee/ and **made** Thyself known to them by the **blessing** of the bread./ And their **hearts** were set on fire by **knowledge** of Thee./ And they already plainly proclaimed Thy Resurrection to the assembled **disciples**./ Through which have **mercy** upon us.

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:

Having risen from the tomb, and having burst the bonds of hades, Thou hast destroyed the sentence of death, O Lord, delivering all from the snares of the enemy. Manifesting Thyself to Thine apostles, Thou didst send them forth to preach; and through them hast granted Thy peace to the world, O Thou Who alone art plenteous in mercy.

P. Litanies
Dismissal

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

At Liturgy:

Order of Troparia & Kontakia:
 Tropar Sunday
 Tropar SS Peter & Paul
 Kontak Sunday
 Glory... Kontak SS Peter & Paul
 Both... Protection of Christians

Prokimenon for Tone 4
 How magnified are thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!
 V. Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly.

Prokimenon for SS Peter & Paul
 Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world

Epistle(s): Rom 10:1-10 & IICor 11:21-12:9

Alleluia for Tone 4
 V. Bend thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king, because of truth and meekness and righteousness
 V. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity.

Alleluia for SS Peter & Paul (Tone 1)

Gospel(s): Matt 8:28-9:1 & Matt 16:13-19

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