

GREAT VESPERS OF SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026; TONE 2

HOLY FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

APOSTLE PHILIP, ONE OF THE SEVEN DEACONS; VENERABLE THEOPHANES THE BRANDED

(SERVED ON THE EVENING PRIOR)

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

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

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

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

THE PSALM OF INTRODUCTION—PSALM 103

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.

Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back forever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.

The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.

He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, to bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.

He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad; young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

The earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take

their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.

May my words be sweet unto Him; I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to thee, O God. (*thrice*)

O our God and our Hope, glory to thee.

THE GREAT LITANY

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

The choir responds "Lord, have mercy" to each petition.

For the peace from above and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God and the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house and those who with faith, reverence and fear of God enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

For our father and metropolitan, N., (our bishop, N.,) the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For our country, its president (or appropriate head of state), civil authorities and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city and every city and countryside and the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

For healthful seasons, abundance of the fruits of the earth and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

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

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

“LORD, I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE TWO (KAZAN) (KARAM) (STAM)

Choir: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; hearken unto me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; attend to the voice of my supplication when I cry unto Thee; hearken unto, me O Lord.

Choir: Let my prayer be set forth as incense before Thee, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice; hearken unto me, O Lord.

- + Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth, and a door of enclosure round about my lips.
- + Incline not my heart unto words of evil, to make excuse with excuses in sins.
- + With men that work iniquity; and I will not join with their chosen.
- + The righteous man will chasten me with mercy and reprove me; as for the oil of the sinner, let it not anoint my head.
- + For yet more is my prayer in the presence of their pleasures; swallowed up near by the rock have their judges been.
- + They shall hear my words, for they be sweetened; as a clod of earth is broken upon the earth, so have their bones been scattered nigh unto hades.
- + For unto Thee, O Lord, O Lord, are mine eyes, in Thee have I hoped; take not my soul away.
- + Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and from the stumbling-blocks of them that work iniquity.
- + The sinners shall fall into their own net; I am alone until I pass by.
- + With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto the Lord have I made supplication.
- + I will pour out before Him my supplication, mine affliction before Him will I declare.
- + When my spirit was fainting within me, then Thou knewest my paths.
- + In this way wherein I have walked they hid for me a snare.
- + I looked upon my right hand, and beheld, and there was none that did know me.
- + Flight hath failed me, and there is none that watcheth out for my soul.
- + I have cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my hope, my portion art Thou in the land of the living.
- + Attend unto my supplication, for I am brought very low.
- + Deliver me from them that persecute me, for they are stronger than I.

For the Resurrection from the Octoechos in Tone Two

Verse 10. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may confess Thy Name.

Come, let us worship God the Word, Who was begotten of the Father before the ages, and was incarnate of the Virgin Mary; for having endured the Cross, He was delivered over to burial, as He willed; and arising from the dead He saved me, the erring man.

Verse 9. The righteous shall wait patiently for me until Thou shalt reward me.

Having nailed to the Cross the handwriting that was against us, Christ our Saviour hath blotted it out, and hath destroyed the dominion of death. We worship his arising on the third day.

Verse 8. Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

With the Archangels let us praise the Resurrection of Christ; for He is the Redeemer and Saviour of our souls. And in awesome glory and mighty power, He cometh again to judge the world which he fashioned.

Verse 7. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

Thee, the Crucified and Buried, did the Angel proclaim as Master; and he said unto the women: Come behold where the Lord lay, for as the Almighty, He is risen as He said. Wherefore, we worship Thee, Who alone art immortal. O Life-giving Christ, have mercy on us.

For the Holy Fathers in Tone Six (Ere the morning star**)**

Verse 6. If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

Patriarch Germanos the New assembled * the accounts of all of the Seven Councils * convened by the Fathers at diverse times and compiled them * into a single rule and canon, setting them all in order. * He thus confirmed their doctrines, gath'ring them in one written record. * He established them as fellow shepherds * o'er us the flock and as most vigilant suppliants * before the Lord, that we may be saved.

Verse 5. For Thy Name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

The Law's letter bound the sons of the Hebrews * to observe the seventh day with due rev'rence, * and keeping that worship, they persisted in the shadow. * And when ye gathered in the Seven Councils, O sacred Fathers, * bade thus by God, Who finished all His works in a span of six days * and thereafter also blessed the seventh, * ye made the seventh yet more hallowed and ven'erable * when ye decreed the bounds of the Faith.

Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord.

To all men ye clearly bequeathed the teaching * that the Holy Trinity is the Cause of * the world's generation, as His works plainly declare Him; * for, being mystically inspired, ye called three and four great Councils, * proving the champions of Orthodoxy, O thrice-blessed Fathers, * and ye showed that the God of Three Persons * is our Creator Who hath made the four elements * and fashioned all of the universe.

Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

It would have sufficed Prophet Elisseus * to bend down but once that he thus might quicken * and breathe life again in the dead son of her that served him; * rather, he knelt down seven times, and seven times bowed upon him. * Thus, in his forevision, he prophesied of your seven gath'rings, * in the which ye breathed your quick'ning word on * the death of God the Word, and put to death Arius * and his profane fellow-laborers.

Verse 2. O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.

Christ the Savior's garment, which had been sundered, * rent apart by dogs shameless in their barking, * ye wisely have mended, O ye venerable Fathers, * in no wise bearing to behold the nakedness of your Master, * as Shem and Japheth hid their father's nakedness once aforetime. * Thus ye shamed that slayer of his father, * the wretched Arius, the namesake of frenziedness, * and those of like mind and thought with him.

*Verse 1. For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord abideth forever. Each and every Eutyches and Sabellius, * and Apollinarius and Nestorius, * Dioscorus, lawless Macedonius, and Sev'rus, * all who were shown forth to be grievous wolves in sheep's clothing hidden, * ye as true shepherds drove far off from the flock of Christ the Savior, * when ye stripped them naked of their sheepskins * and nobly overcame those thrice-wretched heretics; * wherefore we rightfully call you blest.*

DOXASTICON FOR THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE SIX

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Let us extol today those mystical trumpets of the Spirit, namely the God-mantled Fathers, who, speaking of divine things, sang in the midst of the Church a hymn of unified tones, teaching that the Trinity is One, not differing in Substance or Godhead, refuting Arius and contending for Orthodoxy, who ever intercede with the Lord to have mercy on our souls.

THEOTOKION FROM THE OCTOECHOS IN TONE TWO (KAZAN) (STAM)

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The shadow of the Law is passed away with the coming of grace; for as the bush was not consumed when it was burning, thus as a virgin didst thou give birth, and a virgin didst thou remain. In the stead of a pillar of fire, there hath arisen the Sun of Righteousness; in the stead of Moses, Christ the Salvation of our souls.

- *When “both now” is chanted, the clergy make the entrance with the censer.*

Deacon: Wisdom. Stand upright.

O GLADSOME LIGHT (CHANT) (CHORAL)

Choir: Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. In that we are come unto the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening, we hymn thee: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God. For meet it is that at all times thou shouldest be magnified by voices holy, O Son of God who bestowest life; for which cause all the world doth glorify thee.

Deacon: The evening prokeimenon.

SATURDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE SIX

Choir: The Lord is king; He is clothed with majesty. (*once*)

Verse 1. The Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself. (Refrain)

Verse 2. For He established the world which shall not be shaken. (Refrain)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

The First Reading

Reader: The reading from Genesis (14:14-20).

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend.

Reader: When Abram heard that Lot his nephew had been taken captive, he numbered his own home-born servants 318, and pursued after them to Dan. And he fell upon them at night, he and his servants who were with him, and he smote them and pursued them as far as Chobal, which is on the left of Damascus. And he recovered all the cavalry of Sodom, and he recovered Lot his nephew, and all his possessions, and the women and the people. And the king of Sodom went out to meet him, after he returned from the slaughter of Chodollogomor, and the kings with him, to the valley of Saby; this was the king's dale. And Melchisedek, king of Salem, brought forth bread and wine, and he was the priest of the Most High God. And he blessed Abram, and said: Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, Who made heaven and earth, and blessed be the Most High God, Who delivered thine enemies into thy hand.

The Second Reading

Reader: The reading from Deuteronomy (1:8-11, 15-17).

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend.

Reader: Thus said Moses to the sons of Israel: Behold, I have delivered the land before you; go in and inherit the land, which the Lord swore to your fathers Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, to give it to them and to their seed after them. And I spake to you at that time, saying: I shall not be able to bear you by myself. The Lord your God hath multiplied you, and behold, ye are today as the stars of heaven for multitude. The Lord God of your fathers add to you a thousand-fold more than ye are, and bless you as He hath spoken to you. So I took of you wise and understanding and prudent men, and I set them to rule over you as rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, and rulers of tens, and instructors for your judges. And I commanded your judges at that time, saying: Hear causes between your brethren, and judge justly between a man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him. Thou shalt not have respect to persons in judgment, thou shalt judge small and great equally; thou shalt not shrink from before the person of a man, for the judgment is God's.

The Third Reading

Reader: The reading from Deuteronomy (10:14-21).

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend.

Reader: Thus said Moses to the sons of Israel: Behold, the heaven, and the Heaven of heaven, belong to the Lord thy God, the earth and all things that are therein. Yet the Lord chose your fathers to love them, and above all nations, as at this day He chose you out of their seed after them. Therefore ye shall circumcise the hardness of your heart, and ye shall not harden your neck. For the Lord our God, He is God of gods, and Lord of lords, the great, and strong, and terrible God, Who doth not respect persons, nor will He by any means accept a bribe; executing judgment for the stranger and orphan and widow, and He loveth the stranger to give him food and raiment. Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve Him, and shalt cleave to Him, and shalt swear by His Name. He is thy boast, and He is thy God, Who hath wrought for thee these great and glorious things, which thine eyes have seen.

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

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

The choir responds “Lord, have mercy” to the first two petitions.

O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray thee hearken and have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to thy great mercy, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

The choir responds “Lord, have mercy” (thrice) to this and the remaining petitions.

Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Again we pray for our father and metropolitan, N., (and our bishop, N.).

Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hieromonks, deacons, hierodeacons and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon and remission of sins for (the servants of God, NN., and) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (and for the servants of God, NN.,) and all of our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, those who serve and those who sing and all the people here present, who await thy great and rich mercy.

Priest: For thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE EVENING PRAYER

People: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed art thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is thy name forever. Amen.

Let thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on thee. Blessed art thou, O Lord; teach me thy statutes. Blessed art thou, O Master; make me to understand thy statutes. Blessed art thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with thy statutes.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of thy hands. To thee belongeth worship, to thee belongeth praise, to thee belongeth glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.

The choir responds “Lord, have mercy” to the first two petitions.

Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by thy grace.

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

The choir responds “Grant this, O Lord” to this and the remaining petitions.

An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

All things good and profitable for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: For thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

- *All bow their heads as the priest says the following prayer:*

Priest: O Lord our God, who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon thy servants and thine inheritance; for unto thee, the fearful Judge who yet lovest mankind, have thy servants bowed their heads and submissively inclined their necks, awaiting not help from men but entreating thy mercy and looking confidently for thy salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse powers of the devil and from vain thoughts and from evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of thy kingdom, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

- *If your parish will offer "The Service of the Litia and Artoklasia," it is done here.*

APOSTICHA FOR THE RESURRECTION IN TONE TWO (KAZAN) (STAM)

Thy Resurrection, O Christ Saviour, hath enlightened the whole world; and Thou hast restored Thine own creature. O Almighty Lord, glory be to Thee.

Verse 1. The Lord is king; He is clothed with majesty. The Lord is clothed with strength and He hath girt Himself.

By the Tree, O Saviour, Thou didst abolish the curse of the tree; by Thy burial, Thou hast slain the might of death; and Thou hast enlightened our race by Thine arising. Wherefore, we cry out to Thee: O Life-giving Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Verse 2. For He established the world which shall not be shaken.

When Thou wast seen nailed upon the Cross, O Christ, Thou didst change the beauty of created things. And the soldiers, showing their inhumanity pierced Thy side with a spear. And the Jews sought to seal Thy tomb, being ignorant of Thy power. But, Thou Who by the mercy of Thy compassions didst accept burial and didst arise on the third day, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Verse 3. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord, unto length of days.

O Christ, Thou Giver of life, Thou didst undergo the passion willingly for the sake of mortal men. Into Hades didst Thou descend as the Mighty One; and them that awaited Thy coming there didst Thou snatch away, as from the hand of one powerful, granting them in Paradise, instead of Hades, to dwell. Wherefore also unto us, who glorify Thine arising on the third day, do Thou grant forgiveness of sins and great mercy.

DOXASTICON FOR THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE FOUR

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Come, ye assemblies of Orthodoxy, let us celebrate today in faith and true worship the anniversary of the God-mantled Fathers, who from the whole inhabited world came together in the splendid city of Nicaea; for those in the sagacity of their pious minds did refute the impious belief which Arius the wretched had invented, banishing him by a decree of the Council from the universal Church, and instructing all to confess openly the Son of God, that He is consubstantial and co-eternal with the Father before eternity, decreeing the same with precision and true worship in the Canon of Faith. Wherefore, following their divine doctrines in true faith, let us worship with the Father and the Son the most Holy Spirit, a Trinity consubstantial in one Godhead.

THEOTOKION FROM THE OCTOECHOS IN TONE FOUR (**KAZAN**) (**KARAM**) (**STAM**)

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Incline to the entreaties of thy servants, O all-blameless one, and make to cease the griefs that come upon us and free us from every affliction; for thee alone do we have as a secure and sure anchor, and we have thy protection. Let us not be put to shame, O Lady, as we call upon thee. Hasten at the entreaty of those who faithfully cry to thee: Rejoice, O Lady, thou help of all, thou joy and shelter and salvation of our souls.

THE HYMN OF ST. SIMEON THE GOD-RECEIVER (**CHANT**) (**CHORAL**)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

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

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

Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO (KAZAN) (CROW)

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE EIGHT

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

THEOTOKION FROM THE OCTOECHOS IN TONE EIGHT (KAZAN) (STAM)

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Thou Who for our sakes wast born of a Virgin, and didst suffer crucifixion, O Good One, and didst despoil death by death, and as God, didst reveal the Resurrection: Disdain them not which Thou hast fashioned with Thy hand; show us Thy love for mankind, O Merciful One; accept the Theotokos that gave Thee birth, who intercedeth for us; and do Thou, our Savior, save a despairing people.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Wisdom.

Choir: Father, bless.

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox Faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

Choir: More honorable than the cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption didst bear God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Priest: Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

Priest: May he who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the precious and life-giving cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, especially the 367 Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council; of Saint N. (*patron saint of the church*); of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

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