Vespers with Divine Liturgy, Evening of March 25, 2022
Friday in the Fourth Week of the Great Fast
ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY

If the Annunciation falls on a Lenten weekday, the Divine Liturgy of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom is celebrated with Vespers on March 25, in the evening.

Supplement for *The Divine Liturgies of our Holy Fathers John Chrysostom and Basil the Great, 2006*. Music for the cantor verses can be found in a separate handout.

The service begins on page 104 in the *Divine Liturgies* book.

### The Lamp-Lighting Psalms

**Psalm 140 - Tone 7 samohlasen**

Then the recited verses are chanted by the cantor and faithful. The faithful may SIT when the incensation of the church is complete.
O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of my lips.
Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuses for sins I commit.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.
If a just man strikes or reproves me it is kindness
but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against their malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;
then they understood that my words were kind.
As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of the grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;
in you I take refuge; spare my soul!
From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;
keep me from the snares of those who do evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way unharmed.

**Psalm 141**

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,
with all my voice I entreat the Lord.
I pour out my trouble before him;
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints within me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to entrap me.
Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes my part.

I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for my soul.
I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of the living."
Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths of distress.
Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger than I.

Cantor:  (Tone 7) Bring my soul out of this prison,
(on 10) and then I shall praise your name.

Stichera for Friday in the Sixth Week of the Great Fast - Tone 7 samohlasen

All: 10 9

I have en-slaved the dignity of my soul to the pas-sions. I have be-come a brute

beast. I can no long-er raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bow-ing

low like the publican, I be-seech you, O Christ, cry-ing out: Have mer-cy on

me and save me, O God.

Cantor: Around me the just will assemble
(on 9) because of your goodness to me. (All repeat: "I have enslaved the dignity of my soul...")

Cantor:  (Tone 2) Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;  Psalm 129
(on 8) Lord, hear my voice!

All: 8

O vic-to-ri-ous martyrs, you did not long for earth-ly pleas-ure; you were made
worth-y of the good things of heav-en. You came to share in the citizen-ship of the an-gels. O Lord, through their inter-ces-sion have mer-cy and save us.

Cantor: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading.

(On 7)

Through the pray'rs of the ho-ly mar-tyrs and their songs of praise to Christ, all er-ror has come to an end, and we all are saved by faith.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?

(On 6) But with you is found forgiveness; for this we revere you.

As they with-stood the tor-tur-ers, the com-pa-n-y of mar-tyrs said:

We serve in the forc-es of the King. Though you de-liv-er us to fire and tor-ment, we shall not de-ny the pow'r of the Trin-i-ty.
In the sixth month the Archangel was sent to a pure Virgin. He greeted her: Rejoice! He announced that the Redeemer would come forth from her. She received his greeting with faith and conceived you, the God from before all ages, for it was your inexpressible good pleasure to become man for the salvation of our souls.

The Theotokos heard a voice she did not know. The Archangel spoke to her the words of good news. She received the greeting with faith and conceived...
you, the God from before all ages. Therefore, we also rejoice and cry out to you, O unapproachable God who were incarnate of her:

Grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

(3)

Behold our restoration is now revealed. God beyond words is united with humanity. The error is erased by the Archangel’s voice, for the virgin receives the joy. What is earthly has become heaven;

the world is freed from the ancient curse. Let creation rejoice and give voice to hymns: O Lord, our Creator and Redeemer, glory to you!
The archangel Gabriel, the spirit who sees God face to face, gazes up on the brilliant, saving, and gleaming Light.

He sings heavenly and awesome hymns with the ranks on high.

He implores God to grant peace and great mercy to our souls.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

The great mystery, previously unknown to the angels and hidden from eternity, is made known to you alone, O Gabriel. When you came to Nazareth, you told it to the pure One. Together with her, implore God to grant peace and great mercy to our souls.
You make your angels spirits and your ministers a flaming fire.

O prince of angels, all-perfect Gabriel, you are filled with the divine brightness. You fulfill the wishes and commands of the Almighty.

Save those who lovingly venerate you. Always ask God to grant peace and great mercy to our souls.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor: (Tone 6) Glory... Now and ever...

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

The Archangel Gabriel was sent from heaven to the Virgin to announce the good news of her conception. Coming to Nazareth he was amazed as he reflected on the mystery:
How can the One Who Is incomprehen-si-ble in the high - est be born of a
vir - gin? Heav - en is his throne, the earth is his foot - stool, and in a
wom-ans womb he is con-tained. The six - winged seraphim and the many eyed
cherubim cannot look up-on him; yet, with a single word, he has been pleased to
take on flesh. He re-mains the Word of God. Why do I stand still and
not say to the Maid - en: Re - joice, Full of Grace, the Lord is with you;
Re - joice, pure Vir - gin; re - joice, Un - wed - ded Bride; re - joice, Moth - er of Life;
bless - ed is the fruit of your womb.
**Deacon:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as "O Joyful Light" is sung.
The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.*

*O Joyful Light of the holy glory of the Father Immortal,*

the heavenly, holy, blessed One, O Jesus Christ: Now that we have reached the setting of the sun, and see the evening light, we sing to God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is fitting at all times to raise a song of praise in measured melody to you, O Son of God, the Giver of Life. Therefore, the universe sings your glory.*
Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock.

Ring out your joy to God, our strength. Ring out your joy to God, our strength.

Verse: Shine forth from your cherubic throne.

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Verse: Raise a song and sound the timbrel.
Wisdom!

A reading from Proverbs.

Let us be attentive!

[Proverbs 14:15 - 26]

Old Testament Readings for the Annunciation

Wisdom!

A reading from Exodus.

Let us be attentive!


Wisdom!

A reading from Proverbs.

Let us be attentive!

[Proverbs 8:22-31]  (Epistle Book, p. 312)

Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the Small Litany page 122) followed by the Trisagion ("Holy God") of the Divine Liturgy, on pages 27-30.

Propers for the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom are on the following pages of this booklet.
Prokeimenon of the Annunciation - Tone 4 (Psalm 95:2,1):

Day after day announce the good news of our God's salvation.

Verse: Sing to the Lord a new song; * sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Alleluia of the Annunciation - Tone 1 (Psalm 71:6,17):

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Verse: He will descend like rain on the meadows, * like raindrops on the earth.
Verse: May his name be blessed forever, * more enduring than the sun.

Instead of “It is truly proper . . .”

Magnification:

O earth, announce the good news, the good news of great joy. You heavens, sing the glory, the glory of God.

Irmos:  

Let no uninitiated hand touch the living Ark of God;
but let faithful lips, singing without ceasing the words of
the angel to the The-o-to-kos, cry aloud in great joy: Rejoice,

O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.

Or

Irmos:  

Let no uninitiated hand touch the living Ark of God; but let faithful lips, singing without ceasing the words of the angel to the The-o-to-kos, cry aloud in great joy: Rejoice,

O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.
The Lord has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling.

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!