Matins Propers, February 2
THE MEETING
OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
WITH SIMEON AND ANNA

Supplement for *The Order of Matins: Sundays and Feasts*, 2006

"The Lord is God" is sung in Tone 1, p. 68

**Troparion of the Meeting - Tone 1 (sung three times)**

Re-joice, The-o-to-kos, Vir-gin full of grace; for from you has shone forth
the Sun of Just-ice, Christ our God, en-light-en-ing those who are in dark-ness.

Re-joice al-so, you just el-der; you re-ceived in
your arms the liber-a-tor of our souls, who grants us res-ur-rec-tion.

**First Psalter Reading: Ps. 97**

**Sessional Hymn I - Tone 1 podoben: Lik anhelskij**

Let the heavenly hosts marvel at this mys-ter-y, and let those on earth
praise in song as we behold the ineffable con-de-sen-sion of God.
He is now embraced in aged arms, the One before whom the powers of heaven tremble, the One who alone loves all.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever... (All repeat "Let the heavenly hosts marvel...")

Second Psalter Reading: Ps. 99

Sessional Hymn II - Tone 1 podoben: Lik anhelskij

The One who is with the Father upon the holy throne has come to earth and has been born of a Virgin. The One, whose years are incomprehensible, becomes a babe. Simeon received him in his arms and cried out, rejoicing:

Now, O merciful Lord, let me depart in peace, for you have brought joy to your servant.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever... (All repeat "The One who is with the Father...")
We exalt you, O Christ the Giver of Life, and we

ven er ate your most pure Moth er, who ac cord ing to the

Law brought you this day into the Tem ple of the Lord.

Verse: The Lord is in his holy temple,

the Lord whose throne is in heaven. All repeat the Exaltation.

Verse: My heart overflows with noble words.

To the King I must speak the song I have made, All repeat the Exaltation.

Verse: May this song make your name forever remembered.

May the peoples praise you from age to age. All repeat the Exaltation.

Verse: Holiness is fitting to your house, O Lord,

until the end of time. All repeat the Exaltation.

Verse: Glory...now and ever...

Three times

Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to you. O God.

Sessional Hymn:

The An cient of Days be comes a child for my sake. The most ho ly

God is pu ri fied in or der to con firm the reali ty of the hu man flesh
which he received from the Virgin. Simeon, upon beholding this mystery, acknowledged him as God revealed in the flesh. The Elder greeted him as Life, and, rejoicing, cried out in his old age:

Let me depart, for I have seen you, the Life of all.

Cantor: Glory...now and ever... All repeat the Sessional Hymn.

Festal Gradual Hymn, p. 312

Prokeimenon - Tone 4

May this song make your name forever remembered.

May the people praise you from age to age.

Verse: My heart overflows with noble words. To the King I must speak the song I have made. All repeat the Prokeimenon.

"Let everything that lives," in sung in the same tone as the Prokeimenon (Tone 4, p. 171)

Through the prayers of the The-o-to-kos, O Merciful One, cleanse us of our many sins.

To-day the gates of heaven swing open, for the Word of the Father who has no beginning has received beginning in time without any loss to his divinity. As a child of forty days he is offered by a virgin Mother in the Temple according to the Law. The Elder Simeon receives him in his arms and cries out: Dismiss me, O Master, for my eyes
have seen your salvation; O Lord, who came into the world to save us,
glory to you!

Canon

Ode 1
Irmos

The sun shed its rays upon dry land in the middle of the sea.
The water on both sides stood firm as a wall while Israel walked across. They sang this hymn pleasing to God:

Let us praise the Lord, for he has been greatly glorified.

Refrain

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

O clouds, send down rain; for Christ the Sun, riding upon a swift cloud, is offered by pure hands as an infant into the Temple. Therefore, let us, the faithful, sing out: Let us praise the Lord, for he has been greatly glorified. Refrain
May the feeble hands of Simeon be strengthened, and his weakened legs be made firm so that he may run quickly to meet Christ. Let us join with the heavenly choirs and sing praise to the Lord, for he has been greatly glorified.

Sing out, O heavens, and rejoice, O earth; for Christ the Creator, who existed from all eternity as one of the Trinity, is now offered in the Temple to God the Father as a newborn infant by his virgin Mother. Let us praise the Lord, for he has been greatly glorified.

_The Irmos is repeated as katavasia._

**Ode 3**

_Irmos_

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Most holy Theotokos, save us!
The only-begotten of the Father before all ages comes forth from the all-pure Virgin as a firstborn child, and He extends his hands to Adam. *Refrain*

God the Word appeared as a child to raise up Adam from his childishness into which he had fallen through deception.

Having become an infant without undergoing any change, the Creator has refashioned into his divinity our nature which was taken from the earth and will return to it again.

The *Irmos* is repeated as *katavasia*.

*Small Litany, p. 32*

**Ode 4**

*Irmos*

O Christ, your virtue has filled the heavens. You were born from an all-pure Mother, the Ark of your majesty, and you now enter the Temple of your glory as an infant in arms; and the whole world has been filled with your praises.
The Theotokos spoke out: O Simeon, having witnessed mysteries beyond expression, rejoice and take in your arms Christ the Word who has become an infant. This mystery was foretold to you by the Holy Spirit. Now sing out to him: The entire universe is filled with your glory. **Refrain**

Receive with joy, O Simeon, the infant Christ who is the consolation of Israel and the One for whom you hoped. He is the Maker and Master of the Law who himself fulfills it. Cry out to him: The entire universe is filled with your glory.

Simeon marveled to behold in the flesh, as an infant, the Word who is without beginning, the Source of all creation who is carried by the Virgin as on the throne of the Cherubim. The Elder cried out to him: The entire universe is filled with your glory.

**The Irmos is repeated as katavasia.**

**Ode 5**

**Irmos**

- In a vision Isaiah saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, surrounded by angels of glory, and he cried out: Woe is me!
- For I have seen in advance the Incarnate God, the light that knows no evening,
When Simeon the Elder beheld the Word carried in the arms of his Mother, he recognized him as the Glory revealed to the prophet. He cried out: Rejoice, O holy Lady, for you are the throne who carries God, the Lord of the light that knows no evening, and the King of peace.

Simeon bent down and reverently touched the footprints of the virgin Theotokos, saying: O pure Lady, I am afraid to hold in my arms the infant God, but you carry him, the unconsumed Fire, the Lord of the light that knows no evening, and the King of peace.

Simeon spoke to the Theotokos, saying: One of the Seraphim purified the lips of Isaiah with a burning ember. You fill me with light as you entrust to me, with your hands as with tongs, the One whom you hold, the Lord of the light that knows no evening, and the King of peace.

The Irmos is repeated as katavasia.
come from God to the nations, he cried out to you:

O Christ, You are my God.

Refrain

Most holy Theotokos, save us!

You are a stumbling stone and an obstacle for the disobedient in Zion, but you are the salvation for the faithful whom you will not let be put to shame. Refrain

You are truly the image of the Father, begotten before all ages; now in your compassion you have put on the limitations of flesh.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and ever. Amen.

Now you may dismiss in peace the servant who worships you as Son of the Most High, and Son of the Virgin, God who has become a child.

The Irmos is repeated as katavasia.

Kontakion of the Meeting - Tone 1

Christ our God, through your birth you sanctified the Virgin's womb and blessed the hands of Simeon as was proper. Now you have come and
saved us. Give peace to nations at war and strengthen our government.

You, alone, love us all.

Ikos: Let us run to meet the Theotokos, desiring to behold her Son whom she offered to Simeon. The angelic hosts were filled with awe as they beheld him from their dwelling place and said: Now we see amazing and extraordinary wonders beyond comprehension and expression. The One who created Adam is carried as a babe. The One who cannot be contained is held in the arms of the Elder. The One who is infinite in the bosom of the Father voluntarily takes on flesh in a finite manner, for he alone loves us all. (melody for conclusion:)

Small Litany, p. 33

Ode 7
Irmos

O Word of God who sent down dew upon the youths in the furnace as they spoke about heavenly things and who has taken flesh from the pure Virgin, we praise you and devoutly sing to you:

Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers.
Simeon cried out: I leave this earth to declare the good tidings to Adam and Eve dwelling in Hades; and with the prophets he sang joyfully: Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers. *Refrain*

God descended into Hades to deliver those imprisoned there; he gives freedom to all the captives and sight to the blind, and ge enables the speechless to cry aloud: Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers.

Simeon foretold to the Theotokos: A sword shall pierce your heart, O all-pure Virgin, when you see your Son upon the Cross. He is the One to whom we sing out: Blessed are you, O God of our Fathers.

*The Irmos is repeated as katavasia.*

**Ode 8**

Irmos

The three youths stood together in the unendurable fire, unharmed by the flame. As defenders of righteousness, they sang a hymn of praise: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord
O Israel, as you behold your glory, Emmanuel, the Child of the Virgin, now offered before the Ark of God, dance and sing together: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord and glorify him above all forever.

Simeon said: Behold this Child who is God; he shall be a sign of contradiction. Let us sing to him in faith: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord and glorify him above all forever.

God the Word, the Source of Life, now becomes a little child; he shall be the downfall of the disobedient and the rising of those who sing to him in faith: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord and glorify him above all forever.

The Irmos is repeated as katavasia.
Vir-gin The-o-to-kos, the hope of Chris-tians, pro-\text{-}tect, watch and save those who have placed their hope in you.

O faith-ful, let us recog-nize the fig-ure of Christ fore-shad-owed in the let-ter of the Law which says: Ev-ry male child who o-pens the womb is sanc-ti-fied to God. There-fore,

the first-born Word and Son of the Fa\text{-}ther with-out be\text{-}gin\text{-}ing, the first-born Son of a moth-er who had not known man: him, let us ex-tol.

\textbf{The Canticle of the Theotokos ("My soul magnifies the Lord..."}) is not sung. Instead:

\textbf{Ode 9}
\textbf{Magnification}

\textbf{Irmos}
In ancient times the people offered a pair of doves and two young pigeons. Now the holy Simeon and Anna the prophetess, filled with faith, ministered and glorified the Child of the Virgin, the only-begotten Son of the Father as he was brought into the Temple.

Simeon cried out: You have granted me the boundless joy of your salvation, O Christ. Now take me, your servant, who is weary of the shadow, and make me a new preacher of the mystery of grace, as I extol you with praise.

The holy Anna, noble in faith and having the wisdom of years, reverently acknowledged the Master in the Temple; she extolled the Mother of God and praised her before everyone present.

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*The Irmos is repeated as katavasia.*

*Small Litany, pp. 36-37*
Hymn of Light

Inspired by the Spirit, the Elder Simeon came to the Temple. He received in his arms the Master of the Law and cried out: O Lord, release your servant from the bonds of the flesh according to your word, in peace; because my eyes have seen your revelation, who is a light to the Gentiles and the salvation of Israel. (3 times)

Psalms of Praise, Tone 4, p. 37-40

Cantor: To carry out the sentence pre-ordained:
(on 6) this honor is for all his faithful.

Stichera of the Meeting

Tone 4 podoben: Dal jesi znamenije

In fulfillment of the Law, the Lover of us all now is brought to the Temple.

Simon takes him in his aged arms and cries out: Now let me depart to the blessedness of the world to come; for I have be-held on this day, clothed in mortal flesh, the One who is Lord of life and Master of death.

Cantor: Praise God in his holy place,
Psalm 150
(on 5) praise him in his mighty heavens. All repeat "In fulfillment of the Law..."

Cantor: Praise him for his powerful deeds,
(on 4) praise his surpassing greatness.
As a light of revelation to the Gentiles, you manifest-ed your-self, O Lord.

The Sun of Justice sits up-on a light cloud. You ful-filled the shad-ow of the Law and showed the begin-ning of the new grace.

Therefore, be-hold-ing you, Sim-e-on cried out: Re-lease me from cor-rup-tion, for I have seen you to-day.

Cantor: O praise him with sound of trumpet
(on 3) praise him with lute and harp. All repeat "As a light of revelation..."

Cantor: Praise him with timbrel and dance,
(on 2) praise him with strings and pipes.

When you became in-car-nate as you willed, you did not separate yourself from the bosom of the Fa-ther. You up-hold the whole world with your hand,

yet you were held in the arms of the ev-er-Vir-gin, and you were
hand-ed over to the arms of Simeon, the ser-vant of God. There-fore, he cried out

with joy: Now you may dis-miss your ser-vant in peace, O Lord,

for I have seen you.

Cantor: O praise him with resounding cymbals,
(praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to the Lord. All repeat "When you became incarnate..."

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

Doxstikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

O Christ our God, this day you have been pleased to rest in the arms

of the Elder as you sit upon the throne of the Cher-ubim.

Deliv-er us, who sing your prai-ses, from the force of pas-sions,

and grant sal-va-tion to our souls.

Great Doxology, pp. 41-44
Rejoice, Theotokos, Virgin full of grace; for from you has shone forth the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, enlightening those who are in darkness. Rejoice also, you elder; you received in your arms the liberator of our souls, who grants us resurrection.