Vesper Propers, February 2
The Meeting of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ
with Simeon and Anna

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006

Lamplighting Psalms in the tone of the first sticheron (Tone 1, page 24).

Bring my soul out of this prison,
and then I shall praise your name.

Around me the just will assemble,
because of your goodness to me.

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

Sticheron of the Meeting - Tone 1 samohlasen

O Sime-on. tell us whom you are joyfully carrying into the Temple. To

whom are you saying: Now you may dismiss your servant, O Lord,

because my eyes have seen my Savior. He is the child born of the

Virgin. He is the Word and God of God. O Lord, who for our sake was

in-carnate and saved the world, to you we bow down in worship.
Cantor: Let your ears be attentive  
(on 7) to the voice of my pleading. All repeat “O Simeon, tell us...”

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. All repeat “O Simeon, tell us...”

Cantor: My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word.  
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord, more than watchman for daybreak.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord. All repeat “O Simeon,now receive...”

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity. All repeat “O Simeon,now receive...”
O faithful, come, let us welcome Christ and receive him with hymns of praise and glory. He is the salvation Simeon has seen.

He is the One whom David foretold, and of whom the prophets have spoken.

O Lord, who for our sake was incarnate and inspired the Law, to you we bow down in worship.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever. All repeat "O faithful, come..."

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

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen

Today 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
di-vin-i-ty. As a child of forty days he is offered by a vir-gin Moth-er
in the Tem-ple ac-cord-ing to the Law. The El-der Simeon receives
him in his arms and cries out: Dis-miss me, O Master, for my eyes have seen your
sal-va-tion; O Lord, who came in-to the world to save us, glo-ry to you!

The service continues with the Hymn of the Evening, page 12. The Prokeimena for
weekdays begin on page 114.

Readings: Composite V
Isaiah 6: 1-12
Isaiah 19: 1-5, 12, 16, 19-21

Litija

Tone 4 Bolhar

To-day, the ho-ly Moth-er who is high-er than an-y tem-ple
has her-self come in-to the Tem-ple to show the world the
Cre-a-tor and Giv-er of the Law. Sim-e-on the El-der
receives him in his arms; he venerates him and cries aloud:

Now let your servant depart in peace, for I have seen you, the Savior of our souls.

Cantor:  (Tone 5) Glory...

Litija Doxastikon - Tone 5 Bolhar

Search the Scriptures as Christ our God said in the Gospels; for in them we find him who was born and wrapped in swaddling clothes, the One laid in a manger and fed upon milk, who received circumcision and was carried by Simeon. Not in fancy, nor in imagination, but in very truth has he appeared to the world.
Let us cry out to him: Glory to you, O Pre-ter-nal God!

Cantor: Now and ever...

Theotokion

He who is an-cient of days and young in the flesh is be-ing brought to the Tem-ple by his vir-gin Moth-er. He ful-fills the prom-ise of his own law. Sim-e-on re-ceives him and says: Now you may dis-miss your serv-ant, ac-cord-ing to your word, in peace, for my eyes have seen your sal-va-tion, O Lord.

The Litića Litany is found on page 116.

Aposticha

Tone 7 samohlasen

A-dorn your brid-al cham-ber, O Zi-on, and wel-come Christ the King.

Wel-come Mar-y, the gate of heav-en, for she has appeared as a
che-ru-bic throne on which the King of Glory is seated. Indeed,

the Virgin has become a cloud of light, bearing in her arms the eternal Son. Sim-e-on received him in his arms and proclaimed to the people that he is the Master, the Master of life and death, and the Savior of the world.

Cantor:

Now you may dismiss your servant, O Lord, according to your word, in peace.

The all-pure Moth-er carried into the Temple the One who comes forth from the Father in all eternity and from the womb of a Vir-gin in time.

The Law-mak-er of Mount Sinai sub-mits to the Law and is pre-sent-ed
to the elderly and holy one so that he may see the Promised One.

When Simeon received him in his arms, he joyfully cried out:

This is God, co-eternal with the Father, and the Savior of our souls.

Cantor:

A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people, Israel.

Mary, the Mother of God, carried in her arms the Lord who rides the chariot of the Cherubim and is praised with the hymns of the Seraphim.

He was incarnate of her without human seed; he is the Law-giver who fulfills the precepts of the Law. She handed him over into the arms of
the aged priest. Holding the Life in person, Sim-e-on asked to be delivered of his present life, saying: Dis-miss me now, O Master, that I may tell Ad-am how my eyes have seen the eternal God who was made man without undergoing change, and who brought about the salvation of the world.

Cantor: (Tone 8) Glory...now and ever...

Aposticha Doxastikon - Tone 8 samohlasen

He who rides on the Cherubim and is praised by the Ser-a-phim is now being brought into the holy Temple according to the Law. He is sitting in the arms of an old man as though upon a throne. From Joseph he receives God-pleasing gifts, a pair of turtledoves, and from the newly-chosen people of the
Gen-tiles, an unde-filed Church. The two doves indicate that he is the head of the two Testaments, both Old and New. As for Simeon, when he saw what had been revealed come to pass, he received the child and blessed the virgin Mother of God, pointing out to her the sufferings that she would bear. He asked the Lord to be released from life, saying: Now you may dismiss me, O Lord, as you have promised; for my eyes have seen you, the eternal Light, the Lord and Savior of all Christian people.

The service continues with the Prayer of Simeon, page 19.
Re-joice, The- o- to-kos, Vir- gin full of grace; for from you has shone forth
the Sun of Jus-tice, 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.

Blessing of Bread and Psalm 33, p. 119