Moleben for the Great Fast

based on the Great Canon of Repentence of Saint Andrew of Crete

Metropolitan Cantor Institute Byzantine Catholic Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA 2010

Moleben for the Great Fast

Deacon: Father, give the blessing.

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:



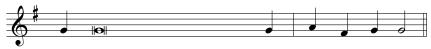
Glory to you, our God, glory **to** you.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy *on* us. (3 times)

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for *your* name's sake.



Lord, have mercy. Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. 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* evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and

Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.







Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,



have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. (

(sung twice)

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

Call to Worship

Each time with a reverence



Come, let us worship our King and God. Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.



Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

Then Psalm 3 is sung by the cantor and faithful.

Psalm 3

How many are my foes, O Lord! How many are rising up *a*gainst me!

How many are saying about me: "There is no help for him *in* God."

But you, Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, who lift up *my* head.

I cry aloud to the Lord. He answers from his holy mountain.

I lie down to rest, and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord *up*holds me.

I will not fear even thousands of people who are ranged on every side *against* me.

Arise, Lord; save me, my God, you who strike my foes on the mouth, you who break the teeth of *the* wicked!

O Lord of salvation, bless *your* people!

I lie down to rest, and I sleep.
I wake, for the Lord *up*holds me.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and forever. *A*men.

And then three times, with a bow each time:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God!

Then, all together, with melody (and with a reverence):



The Litany of Peace

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

Response:

1 Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

(2) Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence, and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our holy father, (*Name*), pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our most reverend metropolitan, (*Name*), for our God-loving bishop, (*Name*), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our government and for all in the service of our country, let us pray to the

Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For this city, for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us

pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful

times, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive

and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, the

Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and

one another and our whole life to Christ our God.



Priest: For you are our God, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now

and ever and forever.

Response:



Alleluia

"Alleluia" is sung in the Tone of the Week. The deacon remains at the ambon and chants the verses. If there is no deacon, the priest remains at the Royal Doors and chants the

Deacon: Alleluia! Alleluia! (recto tono)

All:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Deacon: My spirit yearns for you in the night,

yes, my spirit within me keeps vigil for you. Repeat Alleluia.

Deacon: When your judgment dawns upon the earth,

the world's inhabitants learn justice. Repeat Alleluia.

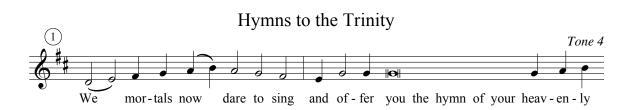
Deacon: Let them be shamed when they see your zeal for your people,

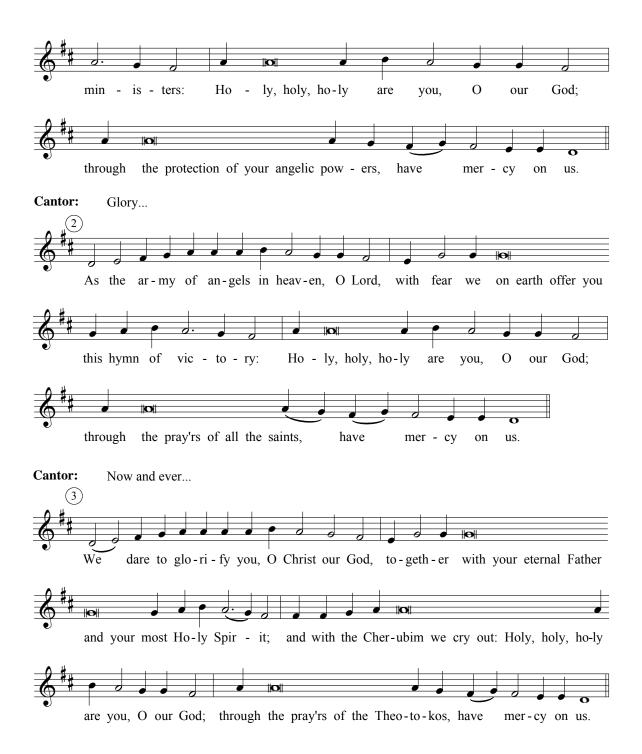
let the fire prepared for your enemies consume them. Repeat Alleluia.

Tone 4

Deacon: You have increased the nation, O Lord,

increased the nation to your own glory. Repeat Alleluia.

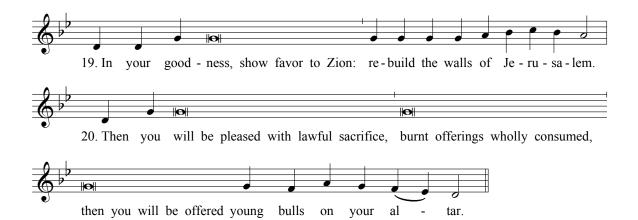




Psalm 50



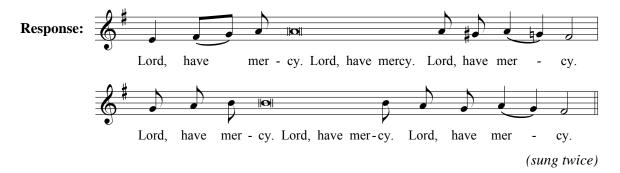




Then the deacon, before the Icon of our Lord, says:

Deacon:

Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance. Watch over your world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the strength of true Christians and send down upon us your abundant mercies. Through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable, heavenly, and angelic powers; through the prayers of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles; of our holy fathers, the great hierarchs and universal teachers: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy equals to the apostles and teachers of the Slavs, Cyril and Methodius; of the holy equal to the apostles, the faithful great prince Vladimir; of the holy martyr Josaphat, bishop of Polotsk; of the blessed martyr Theodore, bishop of Mukačevo; of our blessed fathers and confessors Paul, bishop of Prešov; and Basil, bishop of Medila; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves, and of our other venerable and God-bearing fathers; of the holy and just ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints; we beseech you, all-merciful Lord, hear the prayers of us sinners and have mercy on us.



The priest stands before the Royal Doors and says:

Priest:

O Lord our God, you have given us forgiveness through repentance, and as a model of knowledge and confession of sins, you have revealed to us the repentance of the prophet David that led to pardon. Master, have mercy on us who have fallen into so many and so great sins. Have mercy in your kindness, and in your compassion blot out our offenses, for against you have we sinned, Lord, who know the hidden depths of our hearts, and who alone have the power to forgive sins. A pure heart you have created for us; you have sustained us with a spirit of fervor and have given us the joy of your help. Do not cast us away from your presence, but in your goodness and love for all, grant that we may offer a sacrifice of righteousness and oblation on your holy altar until our last breath. Through the mercies and goodness and love of your only begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.



The priest and deacon enter the altar.

Portions of the penitential canon of Saint Andrew of Crete are now sung. Each time the refrain, "Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!" is sung, it is customary to make a prostration.

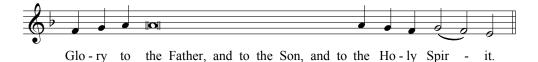
The Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (excerpts)

Ode 1 Irmos - Tone 6 samopodoben



Where shall I begin when I weep for all the deeds of my life? * How shall I sing of my grief? * But in your goodness, O Christ,* grant me the forgiveness of my sins. *Refrain*

Come, my soul, and lead your body to glorify the Creator; * henceforth, regain sound judgment * that you may offer to God the tears of repentance.



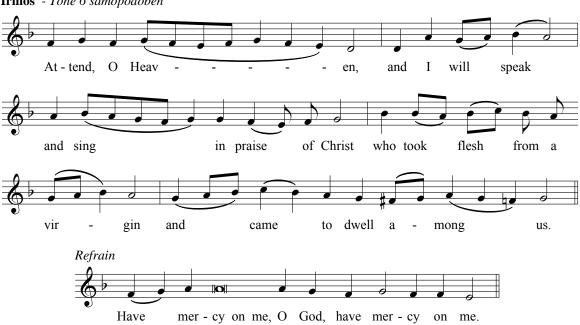
Heavenly Trinity, I bow before your unique majesty;* lift from my shoulders the heavy burden * brought about by the yoke of my sins; * in your goodness, grant me the tears of compunction.



O Theotokos, * the hope and protection of those who praise you, * lift off the weight, the burden of my sins; * accept me, O most holy Lady, * for I am transformed by repentance.

The irmos is not repeated at the end of each ode.

Ode 2 Irmos - Tone 6 samopodoben



Listen to my voice, O heaven, * O earth, lend your ear to my cry; * for God draws me back to him, * and I will praise him. *Refrain*

O Lord, God of mercy, * look upon me with compassion * and accept the confession of my sins from my lips.

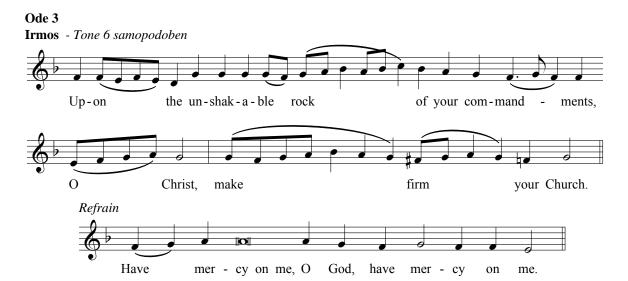


Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

Eternal Trinity and indivisible Unity, * accept me in repentance and save me, a sinner; * do not despise the work of your hands; * protect me and deliver me from the fires of judgment.



O holy Lady, Mother of God, * hope of those who hasten to you, * harbor who save us from the wrath of the waters, * implore your Creator and your Son * to spare us through your intercession.



From the height of heaven, * the Lord once rained down a deluge of fire * upon the land of Sodom. *Refrain*

Seek safety on the mountain, O my soul, * as once did Lot * who took refuge in Zoar.



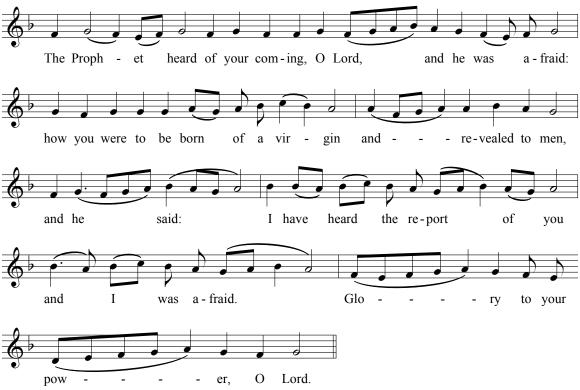
Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

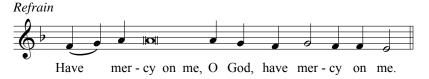
O Trinity all-worthy of our praise, * one God in three Persons, * save us who in faith bow before your majesty.



O marvelous wonder! * Without seed, the Virgin and Mother of God * has conceived the Son of the eternal Father, * and you have given birth to him in time.

Ode 4 Irmos - Tone 6 samopodoben





Do not despise the work of your hands, * nor scorn your creation, O just Judge, * even though I alone have sinned more than all, O merciful God; * for you are the God of the universe, * and it is you who forgive sins. *Refrain*

The end is near, O my soul, * it approaches and you neglect to prepare yourself; * the time is at hand; * arise, for the Judge is at the door; * our life disappears like a dream or a flower, * and we toil in vain.

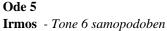


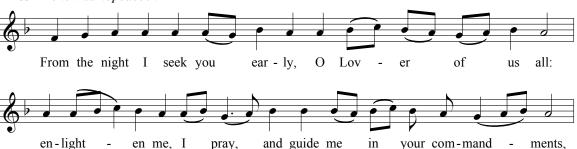
Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it

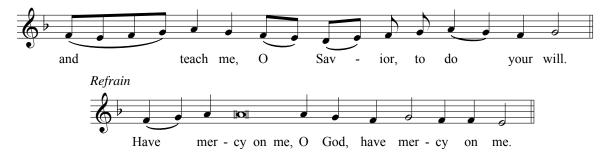
I confess the Holy Trinity as God, * three Persons sharing the same royal throne, * indivisible in essence and beyond confusion; * my voice resounds with the triple hymn of the angels.



You have given birth, O Virgin, * and you still remained a Virgin, * for your virginal womb brought forth the One who renewed the laws of nature in himself; * for God has willed it so.

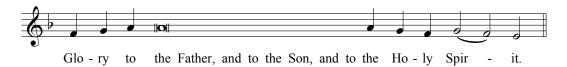






My life has slipped away in the night, * in darkness, deep chaos and the dark night of sin; * enlighten me, O Savior, * that I may become a child of light. *Refrain*

Woe is me, for I have become like Ruben; * I have sinned and given great offense to the Most High, * by transgressing his paternal love.

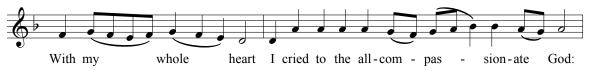


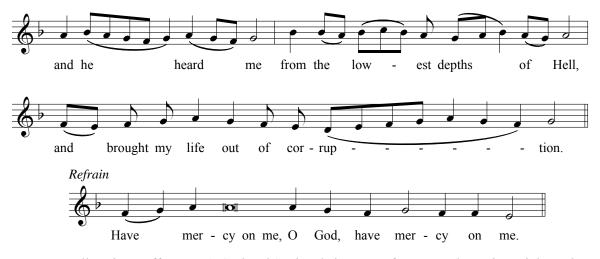
We glorify you as one God, * O thrice-holy Trinity, * Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, * consubstantial divinity, * and we unceasingly adore you.



From you, O most pure Virgin and holy Mother of God, * the divine Creator of the ages becomes flesh, * to unite himself intimately to our mortal nature.

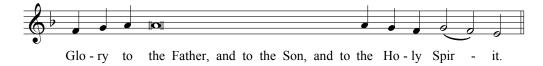
Ode 6 Irmos - Tone 6 samopodoben





In all purity, I offer you, O God and Savior, * the tears of my eyes, * my deep sighs and the cries of my heart: * I have sinned; forgive me. *Refrain*

You have separated yourself from your Lord, O my soul, * as did Dathan and Abiram; * but cry out to him with all your heart:* Spare me, O Lord, * and may the earth not open and swallow me!

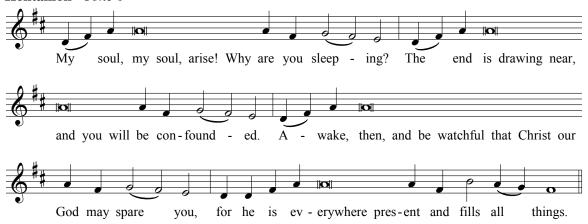


I am the indivisible Trinity, * one in nature, * says the Father, together with the Son and Holy Spirit.

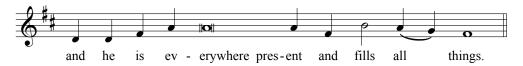


Your womb has brought into the world for us * a God who is conformed to our humanity; * O Theotokos, * beseech the Creator of the world * that, through your prayers, we may be saved.

Kontakion - Tone 6



Ikos Seeing the healings worked by Christ * and salvation flowing upon Adam, * the Devil was struck with grief; * in face of this threat, he sighed and said to his companions: * What shall I do with the Son of Mary? * For he is going to put me to death, * the One who is born in Bethlehem,



Reading of the Gospel

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon - *Tone 4* (Psalm 59: 13, 3)





Verse: O God, you have rejected us and broken us.

The deacon censes the altar and the people.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord:

Response:

Lord, have mer - cy.

Priest: For you are holy, O our God, and you dwell in the holy place, and to you we give

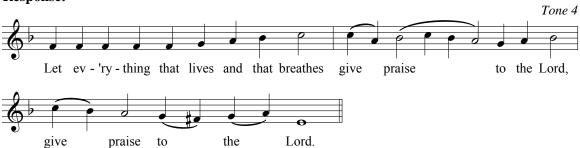
glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever.

Response:

A - - - men.

Deacon: Let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord.





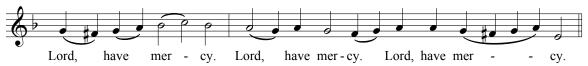
Deacon: Praise God in his holy place, praise him in his mighty heavens.

Response: All repeat "Let everything that lives..."

Deacon: That we may be deemed worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord,

our God.

Response:



Deacon: Wisdom, let us stand and listen to a reading of the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all!

And to your spir - it, to your spir - - - it.

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to the holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke.

Response:



Deacon: Let us be attentive.

Priest: At that time, some were present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. He said in reply, "Do you think that these

Galileans were the greatest sinners in Galilee just because they suffered this? By no means! But I tell you, you will all come to the same end unless you reform. Or take those eighteen who were killed by a falling tower in Siloam. Do you think they were more guilty than anyone else who lived in Jerusalem? Certainly not! But I tell you,

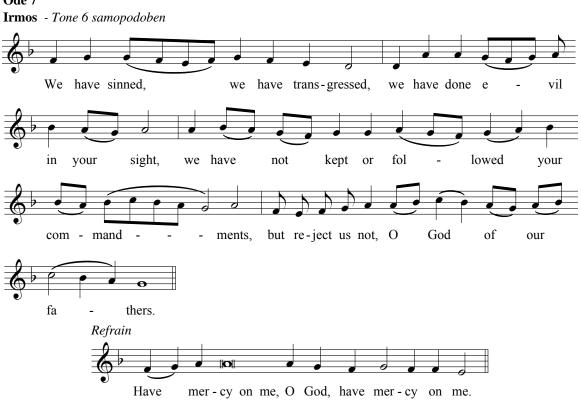
you will all come to the same end unless you reform."

Jesus spoke this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he came out looking for fruit on it but did not find any. He said to the vinedresser, 'Look here! For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree and found none. Cut it down. Why should it clutter up the ground?' In answer, the man said, 'Sir, leave it another year, while I hoe around it and manure it; then perhaps it will bear fruit. If not, it shall be cut down."'

Response:



Ode 7



I have sinned, I have transgressed, and I have scorned your commandments; * for I was born in sin, and I have added to my wounds; * but, in your goodness spare me, O Lord, God of our fathers. Refrain

I confess the secrets of my heart to you, O my Judge; * behold my grief and my humiliation; * be attentive to my judgment, * and in your goodness spare me, O Lord, God of our fathers.

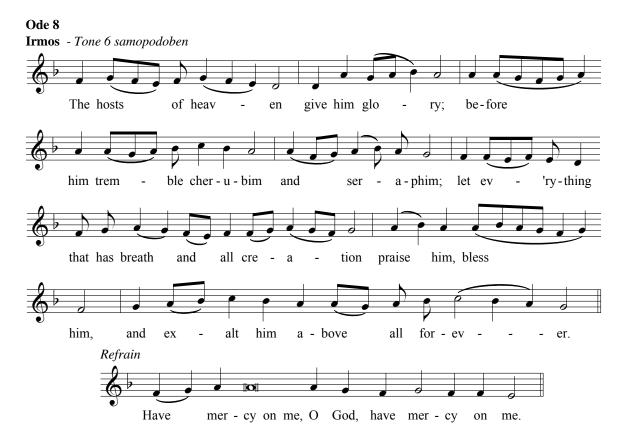


Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

O unique and undivided Trinity, * consubstantial unity, * light with three rays, * one fountain of triple holiness, * I praise and glorify you, * Giver of life and the God of all.



We praise you, we bless you, * and we bow before you, * O Mother of God; * for you have given birth to One of the Holy Trinity, * your Son and your God, * opening for us heaven on earth.



I have sinned, O Savior, have mercy on me; * stir my soul to conversion; * accept my repentance and spare me when I cry: * Against you alone have I sinned, have mercy on me. *Refrain*

Riding in the chariot of fire, * Elijah was carried aloft on the wings of virtue * from earth to heaven; * O my soul, imitate his ascent.



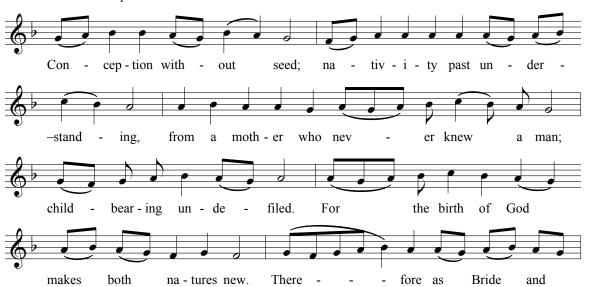
Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it.

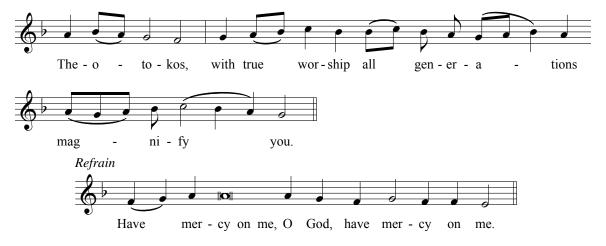
O Father of God the Word, * coeternal Son and Word of the timeless God, * comforter Spirit and Giver of life, * Holy Trinity, have mercy on us.



Emmanuel was clothed in the purple of your blood, * and therefore, we truly honor your divine maternity, * O most pure Virgin.

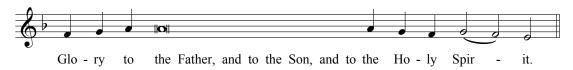
Ode 9 Irmos - Tone 6 samopodoben





My soul is wounded, my body is sickly, and my spirit is weak;* my thoughts have no strength; * the end is near and my life fades away; * what shall you do, O my poor soul, * when the Judge shall come to reveal your secret deeds? *Refrain*

I have placed before you, O my soul, * the writings of Moses concerning the beginning of the world, * along with his exhortations, * and the story of the just and the wicked; * you have imitated these latter and not the former; * for you have sinned unceasingly before God, O my soul.



O consubstantial Trinity, * we praise the unity of your Persons, * glorifying the Father, * extolling the Son, * and bowing before the Spirit, * truly one God, * one triple life, and eternal kingdom.



O most holy Theotokos, * keep under your protection the Christian people * who share your royal power, * and through you, make them triumphant over the assaults of the Enemy * and over all temptation.

Deacon:

On bended knee, let us pray to the Lord.

Response:



Priest:

O my God and Lord Jesus Christ, lead me in your way that I may walk in your truth; gladden my heart that I may fear your holy name. O Lord so mighty in mercy, so gracious in your might; assist and comfort me; save me, for I put my trust in your holy name. In your wrath, do not let me perish, O Lord and Lover of us all, but show me your great mercy and compassion. O Physician and Healer of my soul, O merciful Savior, blot out all my transgressions, for in the depth of my heart I am sorry for having offended you. Grant me your grace, that I may avoid my earlier and evil ways; give me the strength, O Mighty One, to withstand the temptations before which I am weak; keep me under your protection, and under the shadow of your wings, so that I may serve you faithfully, praise You, and glorify your name all the days of my life.

Response:



Dismissal

All:

As we stand in the temple of your glory, we consider ourselves standing *in* heaven.

O Mother of God, heavenly Gate, Open to us the doors of *your* mercy.





Father, give *the* blessing.

Priest: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is,

always, now and ever and for ever.

Response:

A - - - men.

Priest: King of heaven, support our civil authorities, confirm the faith, calm the nations,

give peace to the world and safeguard this city (or this holy monastery), grant those who have gone before us a dwelling place among the righteous, accept us

in repentance and have mercy, for you are good and love us all.

Response:



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spïrit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we mag*ni*fy.

In the name of the Lord, give the blessing, Fäther.

Priest Through the prayers of our holy fathers,

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Response:

Prayer of St. Ephrem

All: Lord and Master of my life,

spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,

lust for power, and idle chatter. (Prostration)

Instead, bestow on me, your servant,

the spirit of integrity, humility,

patience, and love. (Prostration)

Yes, O Lord and King,

let me see my own sins

and not judge my brothers and sisters;

for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen. (Prostration)

Then, with a simple bow, the following is repeated four times:

O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

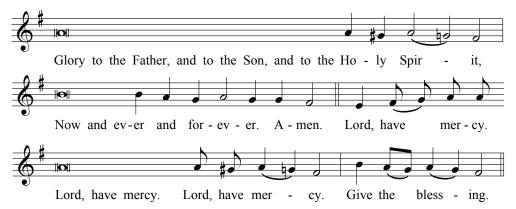
O God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.

O Lord, forgive me, for I have sinned without number.

Once more, the Prayer of St. Ephrem is recited, without the usual prostrations. One prostration is made at the conclusion of the prayer.

Priest: Glory to you, O Christ, our God, our hope; glory to you!

Response:



Priest:

May Christ our true God have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother; of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles, and of holy (*patron of the church*), and of holy (*the saint of the day*), and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.



Having suffered (Preterpivyj)

