

*Vespers of
the Day of the Holy Spirit*

(Kneeling Vespers)

*Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
May 2007*

all the saints, for he is gracious and loves us all.

Response:

A - - - - - men.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody for the word 'Amen' is written on a single staff. It begins with a quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, and A5. A slur covers the notes from A4 to G5. The final note is a half note on A5. The lyrics 'A - - - - - men.' are written below the staff, with the 'A' aligned under the first note and 'men.' under the final note.

Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us!

Response:



More honorable than the cheru-bim, and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim,



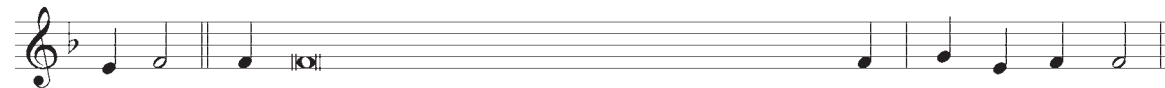
who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we mag-ni-fy.

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

Response:



Glo-ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir it; now and ever and for ev-er.

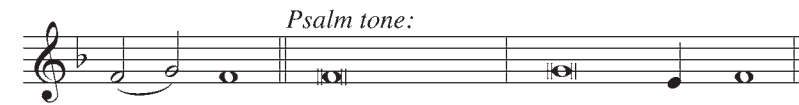


A-men. Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord, have mer cy. Give the bless-ing.

Priest: May he who emptied himself and came forth from the bosom of God the Father, and descended from heaven upon the earth, and took upon himself our entire nature and rendered it divine, and after that ascended again into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father, who also sent down upon his holy disciples and apostles the divine and Holy Spirit who is equal in substance, in power, in glory, and in eternity, who enlightened the apostles by the Holy Spirit and through them the whole world, may the same Christ our true God have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most holy Mother; through the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, heralds of the divinity and bearers of the Spirit; and through the prayers of

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

Response:



A - men.

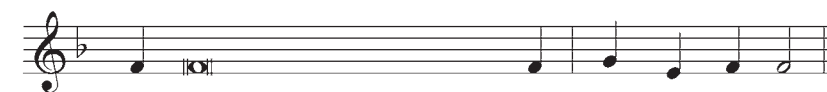
Glory to you, our God,
glory *to* you.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
everywhere present and filling all things,
Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life,
come and dwell within us,
cleans 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.



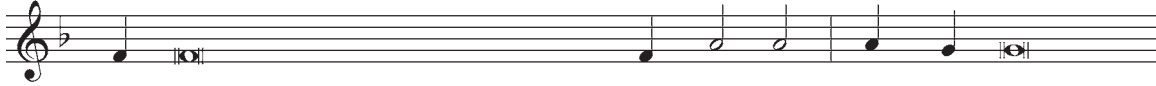
Lord, have mercy. Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy.


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.

Response: 
 A - men.

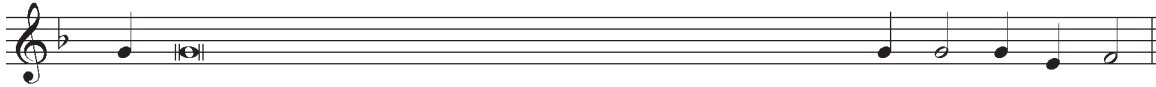

 Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord,


 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


 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.

Troparion of Pentecost

Resurrection Tone 8


 Bless ed are you, O Christ our God. You have shown the fish-er men to


 be all-wise, send-ing down up - on them the Ho - ly Spir - it.


 Through them you have caught the whole world in your net.

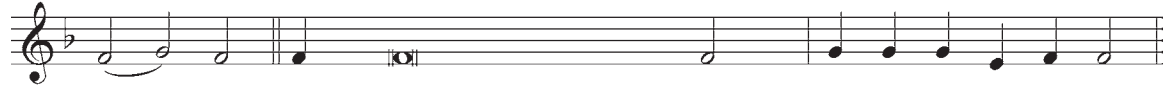

 O Lov - er of us all, glo - ry to you!

Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom!

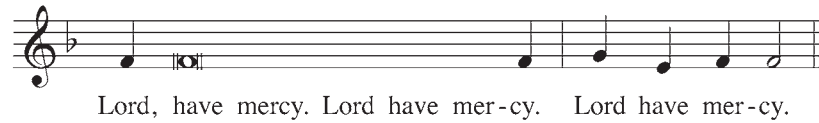
Response: 
 Give the bless-ing.

Priest: Blessed is Christ our God, the One-Who-Is, always, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
 A - men. O God, strengthen the true faith, for - ev - er and ev - er.

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.



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.

Response:



Psalm 103

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul! Lord my God, how great you are,
2. clothed in maj - es - ty and glo - - ry, wrapped in light as in a robe.
3. You stretch out the heav - ens like a tent. A - bove the rains you build your
dwell - ing. 4. You make the clouds your char - i - ot, you walk on
the wings of the wind; 5. you make your an - gels spir - - - its
and your min - is - ters a flam - ing fire. 6. You found - ed the earth
on its base, to stand firm from age to age. 7. You make the grass grow for
the cat - - - tle and the plants to serve man's needs, 8. that he may
bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer man's heart;

9. oil, to make his face shine and bread to strength - en
 man's heart. 10. I will sing to the Lord all my life, make mu - sic
 to my God while I live. 11. You made the moon to mark the months;
 the sun knows the time for its set - ting. 12. How man - y are your
 works, O Lord! In wis - dom you have made them all. 13. Glo - ry to
 the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 14. now and ev - - - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Three times, each with a reverence

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to you, O God!

The Prayer of the Holy Prophet Simeon

Now you may dis - miss your serv - ant, O Lord,
 in peace, ac - - - cord - ing to your word; for
 my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion
 which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all peo - ple:
 a light for re - ve - la - tion to the Gen - tiles, and the glo - ry
 of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The Trisagion Prayers

Three times:
 Ho - ly God! Ho - ly and Might - y! Ho - ly and Im - mor - tal,
 have mer - - - cy on us.

be - gets the Son, e - qual to him in eterni ty and maj - es - ty,
e - qual al - so to the Holy Spirit, glorified with the Son in the Fa - ther,
three per - sons, and yet a single power and es sence and God - - - head.
In deep adoration, let us cry out to God: Ho - ly is God who made all things
through the Son with the co - op - eration of the Ho - ly Spir - it.
Ho - ly the Might y One, through whom the Father was re - vealed to us, and through
whom the Holy Spirit came to this world. Ho - ly the Im - mortal One, the Spir - it
and Com - fort - er who pro - ceeds from the Father and re - pos - es in the Son.
All - ho - ly Trin - i - ty, glo - ry to you!

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 the people here present who are awaiting the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For those who bow their knees and hearts before the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: That the Holy Spirit may strengthen us in the performance of what pleases Him, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: That the Holy Spirit may send down upon us the riches of his mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: That he may accept the bending of our knees as incense before him, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For all those who need his help, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (1)

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.

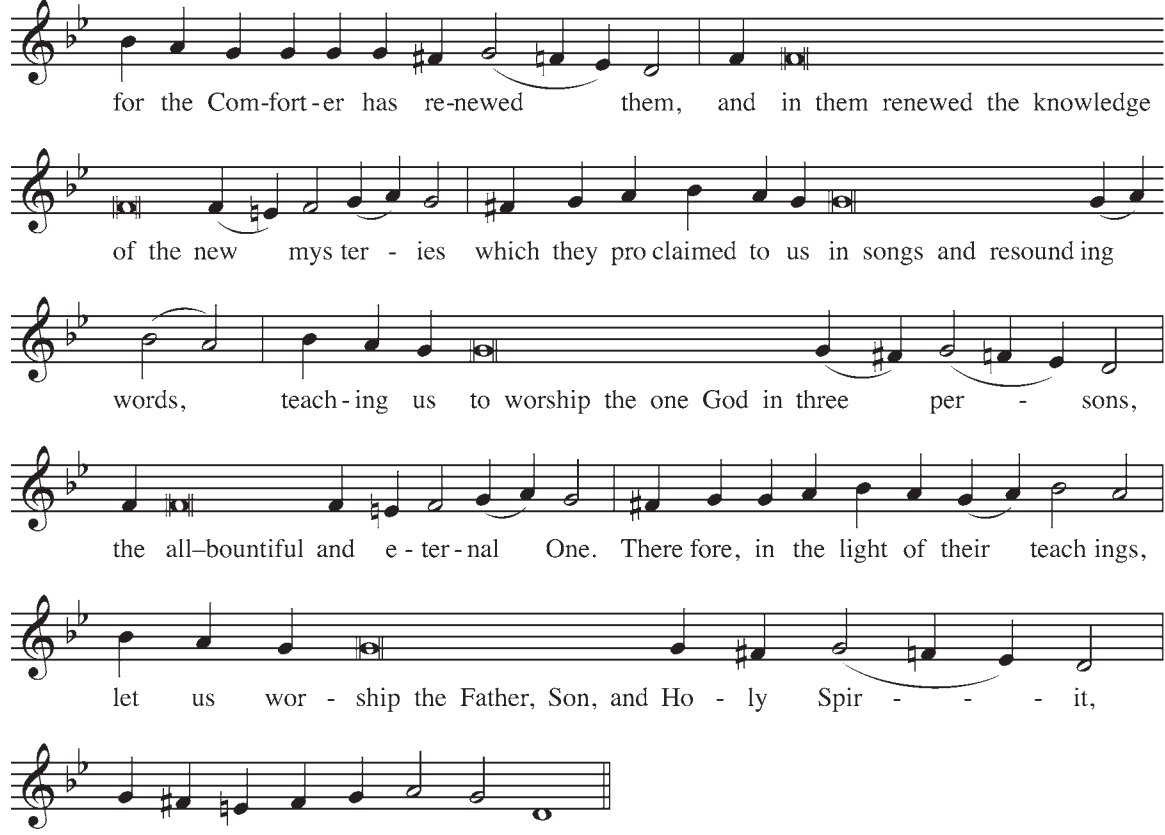
Response: Lord, have mercy. (2)

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.

Response: 
To you, O Lord.

Priest: Evening, morning, and at noon we praise you, we bless you, we thank you, and we pray to you, Master of All, Lord and Lover of us all. Let our prayer rise like incense before you and do not let our hearts be turned to evil words or thoughts, but deliver us from all that might ensnare our souls. For to you, Lord, O Lord, our eyes are turned and in you we hope; let us not be put to shame, O our God. For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship now and ever and forever.

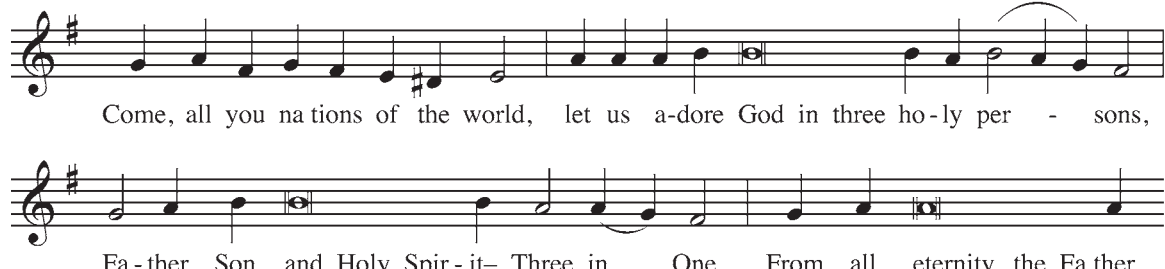
Response: 
A - men.



for the Com-fort-er has re-newed them, and in them renewed the knowledge
of the new mys-ter-ies which they pro-claimed to us in songs and resounding
words, teach-ing us to worship the one God in three per-sons,
the all-bountiful and e-ter-nal One. There-fore, in the light of their teach-ings,
let us wor-ship the Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it,
be-seech-ing them to save our souls.

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

Doxastikon - Tone 8 samohlasen

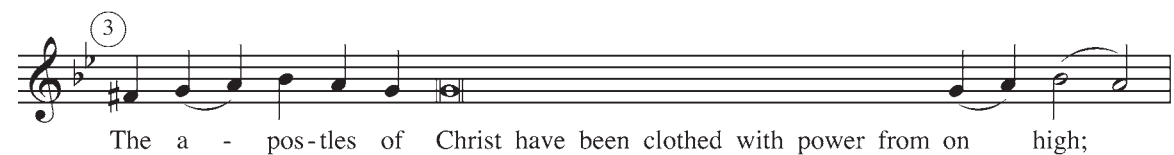


Come, all you na-tions of the world, let us a-dore God in three ho-ly per-sons,
Fa-ther, Son, and Holy Spir-it- Three in One. From all eternity, the Fa-ther

of be-liev-ers. He con-firmed the truth of his pres-ence
by the dis-tribution of fiery tongues to the dis-ci-ples for the praise and
glo-ry of God. With the spir-it-ual light that enlightens our hearts,
and strength-ened in the faith by the Ho-ly Spir-it, let us be-seech
him to save our souls.

Cantor

Do not cast me away from your pres-ence, nor de-priv-e me of your Ho-ly
Spir-it.



The a-pos-tles of Christ have been clothed with power from on-high;

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140 *Tone 4*

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried
to you, hear me; re-ceive the voice of my pray'r when I call up-on you.
Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like in-cense
and the lifting up of my hands like an eve-ning sac-ri-fice. Hear
me, O Lord!

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 *un*harmed.

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.

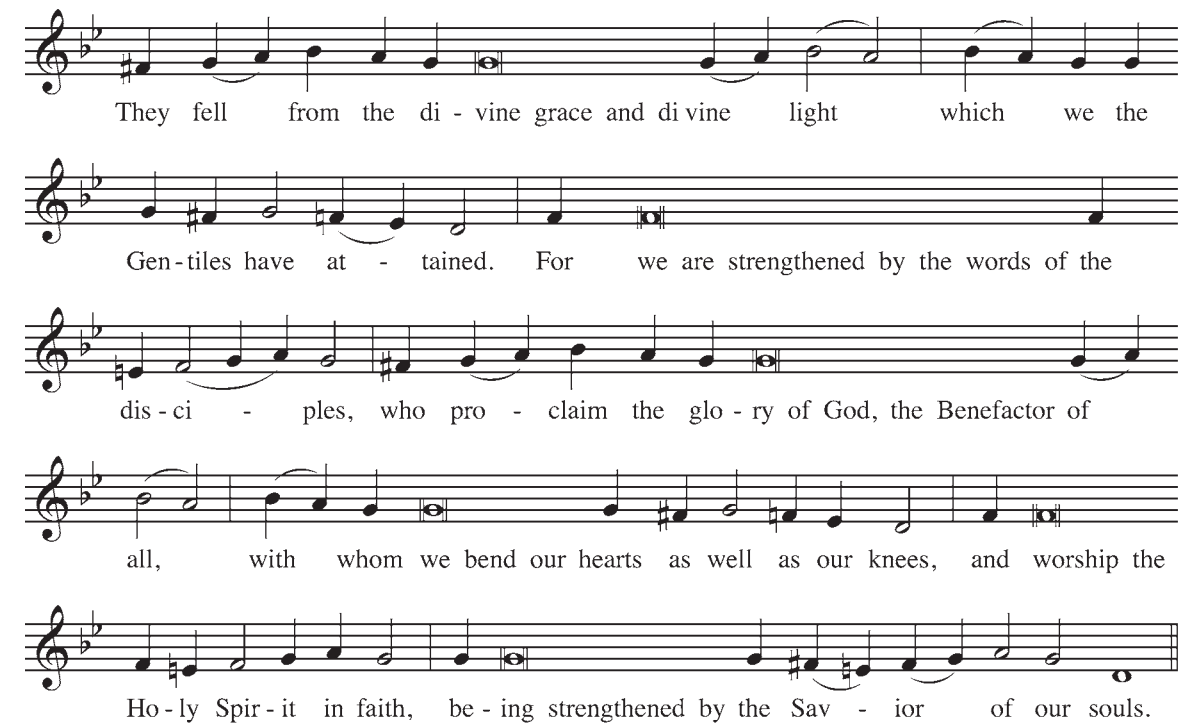
But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.

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*.

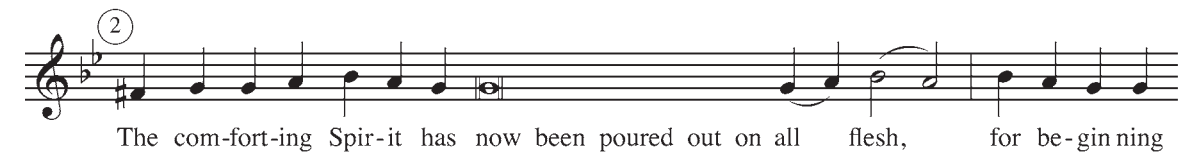


They fell from the di-vine grace and di-vine light which we the
Gen-tiles have at-tained. For we are strengthened by the words of the
dis-ci-ples, who pro-claim the glo-ry of God, the Benefactor of
all, with whom we bend our hearts as well as our knees, and worship the
Ho-ly Spir-it in faith, be-ing strengthened by the Sav-ior of our souls.

Cantor



A pure heart create for me, O God; put a stead-fast spir-it with-in me.




The com-fort-ing Spir-it has now been poured out on all flesh, for be-gin-ning



with the rank of the a-pos-tles, he extended grace through the communion

Priest: ✠ Peace be to all!

Response: 
And to your spir - it.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord!

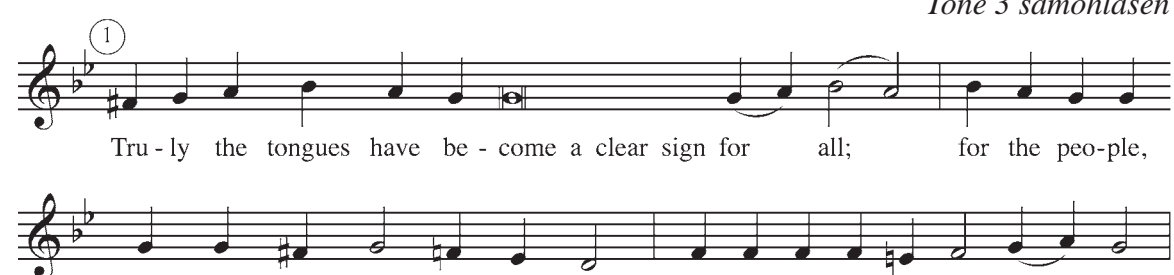
Response: 
To you, O Lord.

Priest: Lord our God, you bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of the human race. Look upon your servants and upon your inheritance, for they have bowed their heads and bent their necks to you, the awesome Judge who love mankind. They do not expect human help, but await your mercy and long for your salvation. Protect them at all times, this evening and tonight, from every enemy, from all the devil's assaults, from vain thoughts and evil imaginings. May the might of your kingdom be blessed and glorified, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: 
A - men.

Aposticha

Tone 3 samohlasen



Tru-ly the tongues have be - come a clear sign for all; for the peo-ple,
from whom Christ came in the flesh, were di - vid - ed by lack of faith.

Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger *than* I.

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

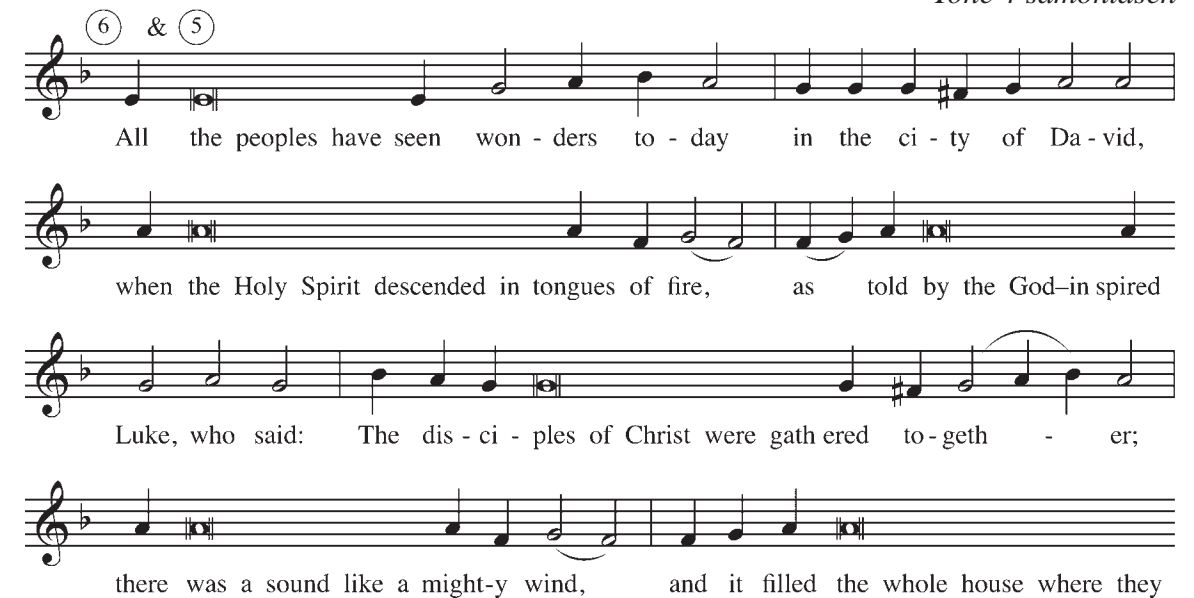
Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness *to* me.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear *my* voice!

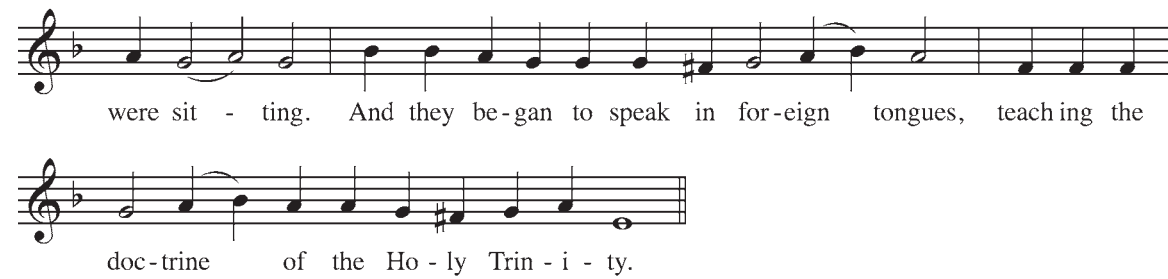
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of *my* pleading.

Cantor: If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

Tone 4 samohlasen



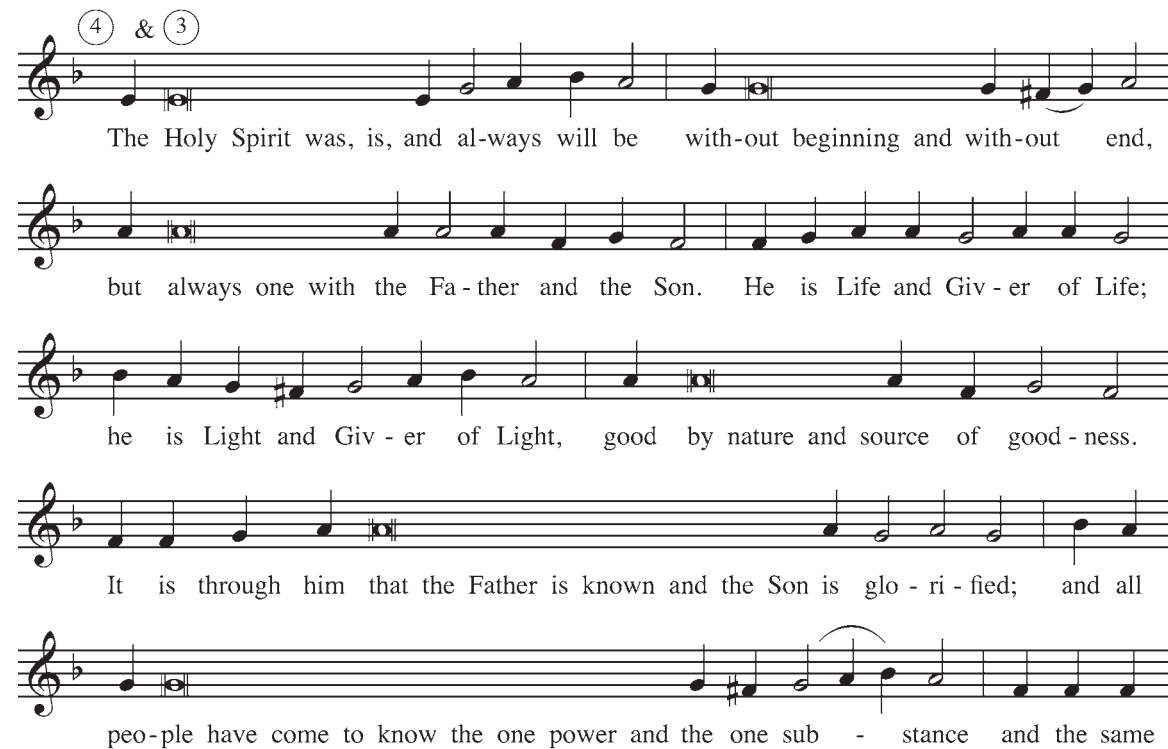
All the peoples have seen won - ders to - day in the ci - ty of Da - vid,
when the Holy Spirit descended in tongues of fire, as told by the God-in spired
Luke, who said: The dis - ci - ples of Christ were gath ered to - geth - er;
there was a sound like a might-y wind, and it filled the whole house where they



were sit - ting. And they be-gan to speak in for-eign tongues, teaching the
doc-trine of the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

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.
All repeat: "All the peoples have seen wonders..."

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.



The Holy Spirit was, is, and al-ways will be with-out beginning and with-out end,
but always one with the Fa-ther and the Son. He is Life and Giv - er of Life;
he is Light and Giv - er of Light, good by nature and source of good - ness.
It is through him that the Father is known and the Son is glo - ri - fied; and all
peo-ple have come to know the one power and the one sub - stance and the same

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (4)

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.



To you, O Lord.

Priest: Great and most high God, you alone possess immortality and dwell in unapproachable light. You made all creation with wisdom, dividing light from darkness, establishing the sun to rule the day and the moon and stars to rule the night. You have allowed us sinners to approach your presence with thanksgiving in this present hour and to offer you evening praise. O Lord, Lover of us all, make our prayer ascend to you like incense and accept it as a sweet fragrance. Grant that we may spend the present evening and the coming night in peace; clothe us with the armor of light; deliver us from the fears of the night and from everything that lurks about in darkness. Grant that the sleep you have given us to refresh our fatigue may be free from all illusions of the devil. Yes, O Master of All, Giver of good things, let us feel contrition as we lie on our beds remembering your name throughout the night. Enlightened by meditation on your commands, may we rise with gladdened soul to give glory to your goodness, offering prayers and supplications to your compassion for our sins and those of all your people. Visit us with mercy through the intercession of the holy Theotokos.

For you, O God, are good and love us all, and we glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



A - men.

Response: 
2. Lord, have mer - cy.

Deacon: That this whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 
3. Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide and guardian of our souls and bodies, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 
4. Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)

Deacon: For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: Grant this, O Lord (4)

Deacon: That we may spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech the Lord.


Response: Grant this, O Lord. (3)



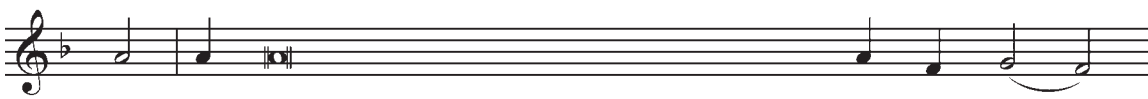

Deacon: For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgment seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord.


ad - o - ra - tion of the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

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 "The Holy Spirit..."

Cantor: Praise the Lord all you nations; **Psalm 116**
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples.


The Holy Spirit is Light and Life, the Living Spring mystic 'ly gush-ing forth,

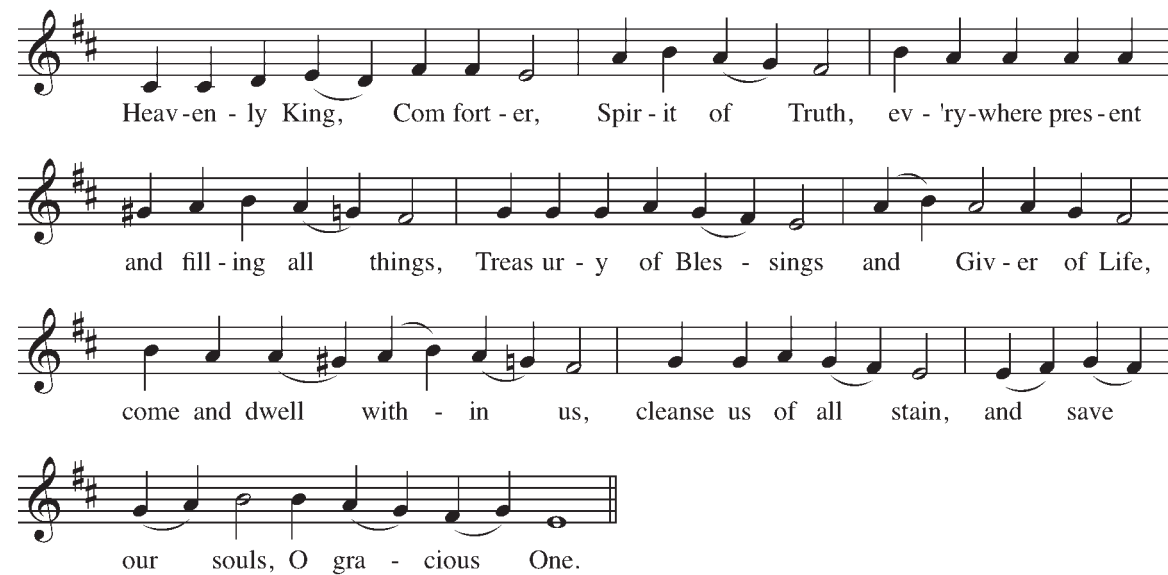
the Spirit of Wisdom and Spirit of Knowl - edge, good, up-right and

un-der stand - ing, maj - es - tic, and pu - ri - fy - ing from sin. He is God and

de - i - fies us; Fire pro ceed ing from fire, speak-ing, act-ing, and dis-trib - ut - ing

gifts. It is through him that all the prophets and the apos tles of God

have re ceived the crown, together with the mar - tyrs. A strange report to hear and



Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.
All repeat "The Holy Spirit is Light..."

Cantor: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and ever and forever. Amen.

Doxastikon - Tone 6 samohlasen



The Festive Entrance

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

unapproachable light; you created all things in wisdom, dividing the light from the darkness and placing the sun to rule the day and the moon and the stars to rule the night. You have deemed us sinners worthy on this present day to come before your sight in confession and to offer you our evening prayers. O Lord, who loves all people, let our prayer be directed like incense before you and accept it as a fragrant aroma. Grant that we may spend this present evening and the approaching night in peace. Clothe us with the armor of light; deliver us from the fears of the night and from all things that walk in darkness. And grant that the sleep you have given to refresh us from our fatigue might be free from every evil.

Indeed, O Master of all and gracious Provider, may we be moved to compunction on our beds and remember your most holy name throughout the night; and being illuminated by the contemplation of your commandments, may we rise up with joyfulness of soul to glorify with praise your goodness, offering prayers and supplications to your loving-kindness for our sins as well as for those of all your people whom you, through the prayers of the most holy Godbearer, visit with mercy.

For you are the repose of our souls and bodies, and we render glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.



Litany of Supplication

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



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

generosity, you accepted our passions and through them, by voluntarily enduring temptation, you became for us who are tempted the Helper that you yourself promised to become. Therefore, through this action, you have given us the example of controlling our passions.

Accept, then, O Master, our entreaties and supplications, and grant repose to all the fathers, mothers, children, brothers, and sisters of each of us; to our relatives; to all the people in our country; and to all those souls who have already departed in the hope of resurrection and of eternal life.

Inscribe their names in the Book of Life, committing their spirits to the bosom of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the land of the living, in the heavenly kingdom, in the paradise of delights. With your radiant angels, guide all of them into your holy dwelling place. Together with them, also raise up our bodies on the day that you have appointed according to your holy and unfulfilling vows. Therefore, O Lord, there is no death for your servants when we depart from the body and return to you, our God, passing over from things that are most sorrowful unto things that are most wholesome and delightful, and into repose and joyfulness.

If we have in any least way sinned against you, be merciful to us and also to them, because there is no one who is pure from stain before you, even if his life be for but a single day: You alone, O Jesus Christ our Lord, while on earth manifested yourself to be sinless. Through you, we all trust in obtaining mercy and the remission of sins.

For this reason, because you are a gracious and loving God, pardon, remit, and forgive both us and them for having fallen into sin, both voluntary and through human frailty; those committed willfully or through ignorance; those that are evident and those that are unnoticed; those committed whether in deed, or through thought, or by word, or whether in any of our conversations and emotions.

To all those departed who have preceded us, grant freedom and pardon; and bless us who are still here present, granting to us and to all your people a gracious and joyful end to our lives. Extend to us your mercy and your profound love at your fearsome and dreadful coming in glory, making us worthy of your kingdom.

O great and most high God, you alone have immortality; you live in

The Hymn of the Evening



O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,
the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have
reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise
a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the
Giv - er of Life. There - fore, the u - ni - verse sings your glo - ry.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Priest: ✠ Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The Great Prokeimenon

Tone 7

What God is as great, is as great as our God? You are the
God, you are the God who works wonders!

All repeat the Prokeimenon after each verse.

Deacon: You showed your power among the peoples.

Deacon: I said: This is what causes my grief; that the way of the Most High has changed.

Deacon: I remember the deeds of the Lord. I remember your wonders of old.

First Kneeling Prayer

Priest: Again and again on bended knees let us pray to the Lord.

Response:
Lord, have mer - cy.

Priest: O Lord, most pure, incorruptible, without beginning, invisible, incomprehensible, unsearchable, unchangeable, unsurpassable, immeasurable, and forbearing: you alone have immortality; you live in unapproachable light; you made heaven and earth and the sea and all things created in them. You grant to all their requests even before they ask. We pray to you, and we beseech you, O Master who loves all people, the Father of our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ. For our sake and for the sake of our salvation, he

you deigned, therefore, to accept supplications in behalf of those who are imprisoned in Hades; and to those being held in bondage, you promised great hopes for their release from the grievous bonds constraining them by sending down your consolation.

Hear us, your humble servants, beseeching you, and grant repose to the souls of your servants who have already departed into a place of light and a place of refreshment and peace from which all illness, sorrow, and sighing have been taken away. Commit their souls to the places of the just, and make them worthy of peace and of repose. For the dead cannot praise you, O Lord, nor do those in Hades venture to offer confession to you. But we, the living, do bless you, and we do pray and offer you supplications and sacrifices for their souls.

O great and eternal God, who is holy and loves all people; who has deigned us worthy at this hour to stand before your unapproachable glory so that we might sing and praise your wonders; cleanse us, your unworthy servants, and grant us grace in order that with contrite hearts, we may without presumption offer to you the thrice-holy hymn of glorification and thanksgiving for your great gifts that you have created for us and always produce for us.

Remember, O Lord, our weakness, and do not destroy us for our transgressions; but because of our humility, show us your great mercy, in order that fleeing from the darkness of sinfulness, we may walk in the day of righteousness; and having been clothed with the armor of light, remaining unhindered by any spiteful intrigue of the Evil One, we may with confidence extol you in all things as the only true God who loves all.

For yours is indeed the great and veritable mystery, O Master and Author of all — the temporary dissolution of your creatures, and, thereafter, their reintegration and repose for all ages. In all things, we acknowledge your grace; for our entrance into this world and for our leaving it; likewise, for our hopes of resurrection unto an imperishable life, which you pledged by your unfailing promises, that we would receive in the future at your Second-coming. You are the Beginning of our resurrection and the One who loves all people; the impartial Judge of all who have lived, and the Master and Lord of recompense.

You incorporated yourself to us in the very same flesh and blood by your extreme condescension for our sake. Because of your compassionate

the Prince of evil and the snake of the Abyss with divinely-wise enticements. And you bound him with the chains of gloom by your immeasurable power, and you shackled him in Tartarus, the deepest infernal region of Hades, and through your might confined him to the unquenchable fire and the eternal darkness. Thus, O greatly-eminent Wisdom of the Father, you manifested yourself as the great Helper of the misfortunate, and you enlightened those who were sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.

You, O Lord of everlasting glory and beloved Son of the most high Father; O everlasting Light of the everlasting Light; O Sun of righteousness: hear us who are praying to you and grant repose to the souls of your servants, our ancestors, our brothers and sisters who have already departed; to all of our relatives; and to all true members of the Faith, for whom we now make a remembrance. For the authority of all things is with you; and in your hand, you control all the ends of the earth.

O almighty Master, the God of our ancestors and the Lord of mercy; O Creator of the race of mortals and of the immortals, and of all human nature — that which is still presently structured in the body and that which is, likewise, already released therefrom; O Creator of life and of its termination, of that life of being transferred into another world: you measure out the years for the living, and you appoint the time of death. You lead people down into Hades, binding them in impotency, and afterwards you raise them up, releasing them in power. You order present necessities and expediently secure those needed for the future. To those who have been wounded by the sting of death, you make them glad with the hope of resurrection.

You indeed are the Master of all, O God our Savior, the Hope of all those at the ends of the earth and of those far away at sea. On this last and great salvific day of the feast of Holy Pentecost, you showed us the mystery of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial and coeternal, without division or confusion, and you also showed us the descent and arrival of your holy and life-creating Spirit being poured out in the form of fiery tongues on your holy apostles, appointing them to be the proclaimers of the Good News of our faith, and showing them to be confessors and preachers of the true, divine teaching.

Also, on this salvific feast on which everything was totally accomplished,

came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and Mary, the ever-Virgin and the most glorious Godbearer. At first he taught us with words which were then later confirmed through deeds when he endured the saving passion, giving us, your humble, sinful, and unworthy servants, the example of offering supplications to you, with necks bowed and on bended knees, for our sins and for the people's acts done in ignorance.

Hear us on whatever day we call upon you, for you alone are most merciful and the Lover of us all! However, especially hear us on this present day of Pentecost on which, after our Lord Jesus Christ had ascended into heaven and was seated at your right hand, O God and Father, he sent down the Holy Spirit upon his holy disciples and apostles. The Holy Spirit came upon each of them, and filling all of them with his inexhaustible grace, they spoke of your grandeur in various tongues, and they prophesied.

Now, therefore, hear us who are praying to you, and remember us, lowly and condemned as we are, and return our souls from the captivity of sin, for we have your loving-kindness interceding for us. Accept us who fall down before you, calling out: We have sinned! To you we have been committed from birth. From our mother's womb, you are our God! But because we have spent our days in vain endeavors, we have been stripped of your help, having been deprived of every defense. But trusting in your generousities, we cry out: Do not remember the sins of our youth and of our ignorance, and cleanse us of our secret sins; and do not reject us when we become elderly, when our strength weakens.

Do not forsake us, and do not return us to the earth before you have made us worthy to return to you, and until you have prepared us, making us acceptable through grace. Appraise our iniquities by your generousities. Against the multitude of our transgressions, place the abyss of your generousities. O Lord, look down from the heights of your holiness upon our people here present who are waiting for abundant mercies from you. Visit us with your goodness. Deliver us from the assaults of the Devil. Organize our life around your holy and sacred commandments. Assign to your people an angel, a faithful guardian. Gather all of us into your kingdom. Grant forgiveness to those who put their trust in you; pardon them and us from sins. Purify us by

the operation of your Holy Spirit. Abolish the schemes of the Enemy plotted against us.

Blessed are you, O Lord, Almighty Master, who illuminates the day with the light of the sun and brightens the night with glowing flashes of light, and who has enabled us to pass through the length of the day and to draw near to the beginning of the night. Hear our petitions and those of all your people; and having forgiven all of our voluntary and involuntary sins, accept our evening prayers, and send down the multitude of your mercies and your generousities upon your inheritance. Encompass us with your holy angels. Arm us with the armor of your righteousness. Surround us with your truth. Support us with your power. Deliver us from every assault and from every treacherous plot laid by the Adversary.

And grant to us, through the prayers of the most holy Godbearer and of all the saints who have been well-pleasing to you from the beginning of time, that this present evening and the approaching night and all the days of our lives may be perfect, holy, peaceful, without sin, without temptation, and without idle dreams.

For it is you who shows mercy to us and saves us, O Lord our God, and we render glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

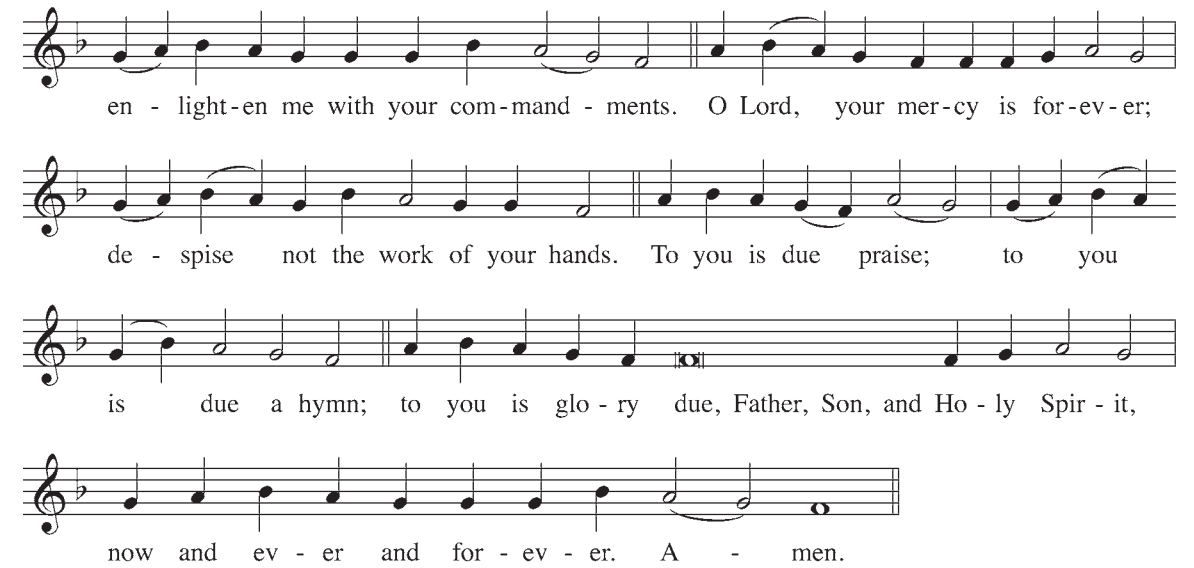


Litany of Fervent Supplication

Deacon:

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

Response:



Third Kneeling Prayer

Priest:

Again and again on bended knees let us pray to the Lord.

Response:



Priest:

O ever-flowing, living, and enlightening Source; O creative Power, co-eternal with the Father, who most marvelously fulfilled the entire plan concerning our salvation; O Christ our God, who shattered the indissoluble bonds of Death and the bolts of Hades: You trampled upon a multitude of the evil spirits, offering yourself for us as a blameless Victim and giving your most pure Body, untouched and unapproachable by any sin, as a sacrifice: And, through this awesome and inscrutable sacred sacrifice, you have given us eternal life.

For by descending into Hades and smashing the eternal gates, and having shown the way to heaven to those who were sitting in darkness, you ensnared

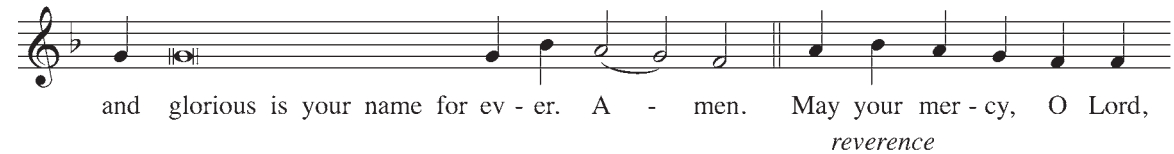
commandments.

Through the benevolence and the goodness of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, gracious, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



Hymn of Glorification



Deacon: O Lord Almighty, God of our fathers, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

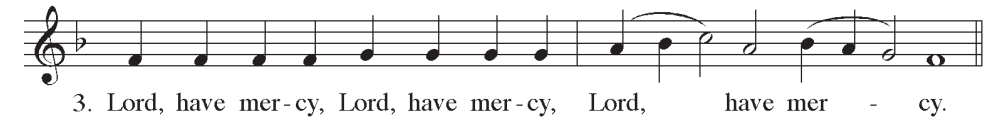
Response:



Deacon:

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:



Deacon:

Again we pray for our holy father, (*Name*), pope of Rome, and for our most reverend metropolitan, (*Name*), for our God-loving bishop, (*Name*), for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Response:



Deacon:

Again we pray for our government and for all in the service of our country.

Response:

Lord, have mercy. (*three times, using response 4.*)

Deacon:

Again we pray for the people here present who await your great and abundant mercy, for those who show us mercy, and for all Christians of the true faith.

Response:

Lord, have mercy. (*three times, using response 3.*)

Priest:

For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:



Second Kneeling Prayer

Priest: Again and again on bended knees let us pray to the Lord.

Response:



Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, you bestowed your peace upon us and you granted us the gift of the Most Holy Spirit. And, while still yet being present with us in this life you continue to bestow upon the faithful this inheritance that can never be taken away. On this day, in a vivid manner, you sent down this grace upon your disciples and apostles, confirming their lips with fiery tongues so that, through them, we and the whole human race have received the knowledge of God through our own ears in our own language. We have been enlightened by the light of the Spirit and have been delivered from error, as though from darkness, by the distribution of visible and fiery tongues. Through this mysterious action, we have thereby been taught faith in you; and having been illuminated, we bless you, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as one Divinity and Power and Authority.

You are also the Splendor of the Father, the unchangeable and immutable Image of his essence and his nature, and the Source of wisdom and grace. Open my sinful lips and teach me the manner in which and for what needs I should pray. For you know the great multitude of my sins, but their enormity can be vanquished by your loving-kindness. For behold, I stand before you with fear, and I cast the despair of my soul into the depth of your mercy. Guide my life along your ways, for you govern all creation by a word with the ineffable power of your wisdom; show me the way in which I should walk, O tranquil Haven of those who are turbulently perplexed. Grant the Spirit of your wisdom to my deliberations, giving the Spirit of understanding to my ignorance. With the Spirit of your fear, overshadow my deeds and renew a steadfast spirit deeply within me. And with your Sovereign Spirit, stabilize the in-decisiveness of my thoughts, in order that being guided every day by your gracious Spirit toward those things that are profitable for me, I may be deemed worthy to fulfill your commandments. Let me be constantly aware

of your coming in glory when you will judge our deeds. Protect me from the corrupting pleasures of this world; strengthen me with the desire to strive for the treasures of the world to come.

For you have said, O Master, that whatever anyone asks for in your name, it will be received without hindrance from your Father, the coeternal God. Therefore, on this feast of the descent of your Holy Spirit, I, a sinner, also entreat your goodness so that you would grant me whatever I have asked that is for salvation. Indeed, O Lord, you are the bounteous Giver of all benefits; and you are a gracious provider who gives most abundantly those things for which we ask. you are the Compassionate One and the Merciful One who sinlessly became a partaker of our flesh; and unto those who bend their knees to you, who became the purifier of our sins, you extend your infinite loving-kindness.

O Lord, grant then your generousities to your people. Hear us from your holy heaven. Sanctify us by the power of your right hand. Cover us beneath the shelter of your wings, and do not despise the works of your hand. We have transgressed against you alone; against you only have we sinned, but only you do we worship. We do not know how to worship a strange god; neither do we stretch out our hands, O Master, to any other god. Pardon our transgressions and accept our prayers that we offer on bended knees. Extend the hand of your help to all of us. Accept the prayer of all as if it were pleasant incense, acceptable before your most gracious kingdom.

Lord, O Lord, who delivers us from every arrow that flies by day, deliver us from all things that walk in darkness. Accept the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice. Deem us also worthy to pass blamelessly through the course of the night, untempted by evil things; and deliver us from every disturbance and apprehension that comes to us from the Devil. Grant compunction to our souls, and grant that we may meditate upon the trial at your fearsome and righteous judgment. Nail the fear of You to our flesh, and mortify all of our earthy body members so that during the quietness of sleep we may be enlightened with the vision of your judgments. Remove from us also every unseemly dream and detrimental carnal passion. Then raise us up again at the time for prayer, fortified in the faith and advancing in your