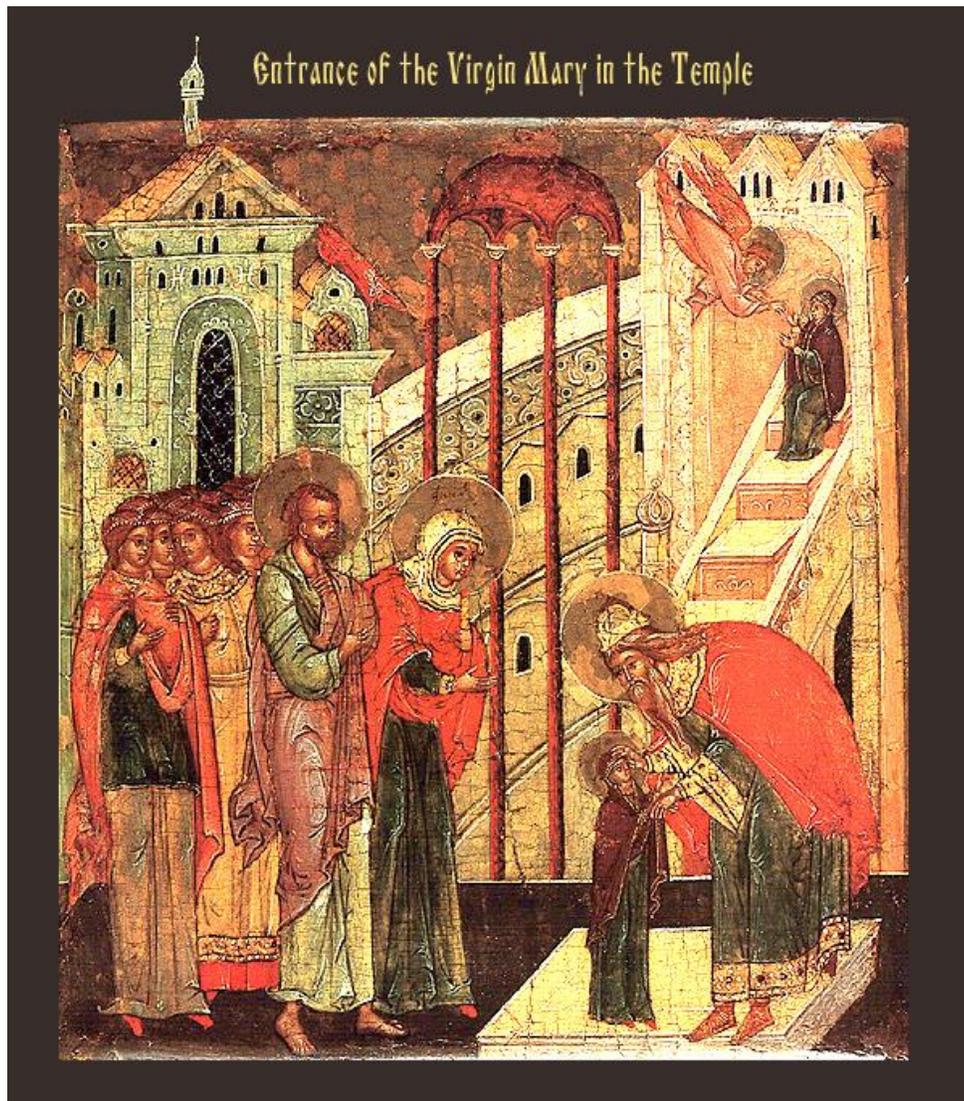


# SATURDAY VESPERS

*November 21, 2020*

*After-feast of the Entry of the  
Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple*



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## Vespers Opening Psalm

*Psalm 104*

**B**less the Lord, O my soul! Blessed are Thou, blessed art Thou, O Lord! How glorious are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all! Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee. Who hast created - who hast created all! Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! (3)

*Great Litany is chanted*

## Kathisma

*Blessed is the Man (Psalm 1)*

**B**lessed is the man, who walks not in the council of the wicked. *Refrain:* Alleluia! (3)

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous but the way of the wicked will perish. *Refrain*

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in Him with trembling! *Refrain*

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him! *Refrain*

Arise, O Lord, save me O my God! *Refrain*

Salvation belongs to the Lord! Thy blessing be upon Thy people! *Refrain*

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. *Refrain*

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *Refrain*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to the Thee, O God! (2)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to the Thee, O God! Glory to Thee! (1)

*Little Litany is chanted*

## Lord, I Call

*Tone 7*

**L**ord I call upon Thee, hear me! Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me! Receive the voice of my prayer, when I call upon Thee, hear me O Lord! Let my prayer arise, in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands, be an evening sacrifice, hear me O Lord!

*v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison \* that I may give thanks unto Thy name!*

Come; let us rejoice in the Lord, Who destroyed the dominion of death; let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts; for He enlightened the race of man; O our Maker and Saviour glory to Thee.

*v. (9) The righteous shall compass me about \* Until Thou shalt deal bountifully with me*

Thou didst endure the cross, and burial, for our sake; by Thy death, Thou didst slay death as God; we fall down before Thy resurrection-on-the-third-day: O Saviour, glory to Thee.

*v. (8) Out of the depths I have cried unto Thee, O Lord. \* Lord, hear my voice!*

When the apostles beheld the resurrection-of-the-Maker, they were amazed, and sang the angelic praise: 'this is the glory of the Church; this is the richness of the kingdom': O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to Thee.

*v. (7) Let Thine ears be attentive \* to the voice of my supplications!*

Thou wast held by lawless men, O Christ: but, to me, Thou art God; and I am not ashamed: Thou wast smitten on the cheek; but I do not deny Thee: Thou wast nailed to the cross; and I do not conceal it: for I glory in Thy resurrection: Thy death is my life; O almighty Lord and lover of man, glory to Thee.

*v. (6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? \* But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

*(Tone 8) O most-glorious wonder, / the ineffable that is come to pass / is, now, this day, prefigured beforehand; / that which is apprehended spiritually is seen in visible figures: / for she that will shine the divine light upon the world / is led, as a bride, to the temple where God dwelleth; / let us praise her as the most-radiant temple of the Godhead, / holy and shining, // of Christ, the giver of light.*

*v. (5) For Thy name's sake I have patiently waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited patiently for Thy word \* my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

The wise Joachim, together with Anna, / have brought the godly maiden, the Virgin Mary, / as a truly acceptable first fruit, / to Him that had given her to them as a divine fruit, / through Whom the debt of grief hath been driven away; / let us praise her in songs, and devoutly rejoice; / for she is become the provider // of joy for all the world.

*v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch \* let Israel hope on the Lord!*

Come; let us now mystically gather together, / and, enlightened by the lamps of faith, / begin the song of the Virgin's procession: / she entereth the temple-of-God in glory, / having been betrothed, in advance, by the Spirit; / let us all celebrate her joyous festival in a godly manner, // rejoicing in her entrance into the temple.

*v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption \* and He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.*

*(Tone 2) As a branch of the vine of life, / O glorious Philemon, / thou hast poured forth a wine of perfect divine knowledge / upon souls in distress: / and thou hast gladdened the hearts made sullen by the darkness of error, / and enshrouded by the gloomy madness of idolatry; / wherefore, we, joyfully, celebrate // the feast of thy divinely-radiant memory.*

*v. (2) O Praise the Lord, all ye nations! \* Praise Him, all ye peoples!*

The city of Gaza honoureth thee, O blessed apostle, / having seen the light of perfect knowledge through thee; / and the Colossians, having thy godly body as a treasure, / harvest the healings and the grace that always pour forth abundantly; / wherefore, keeping thy memory, // we are preserved from dangers, O glorious Philemon, by thy prayers.

*v. (1) For His merciful kindness is great towards us \* and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

In faith, let us praise the wise hierarch Archippus, / together with the modest Apphia, / singing hymns honouring the sacred heralds of God, Philemon and Onesimus, / the venerable teachers that, by their teaching, / condemned the falsehood of polytheism, and planted the knowledge of truth, // for all that, devoutly, celebrate their memory.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit*

*(Tone 1) Today, let heaven above rejoice; / and let the clouds rain down gladness / at the mighty and exceeding marvellous works of our God: / for, behold, the gate that faceth the east, / who was born from a barren and childless woman / according to the promise, / and dedicated to God as His dwelling place, / is, today, brought to the temple / as an offering without blemish; / let David be glad, striking his harp: / for he said, 'Virgins shall be brought to the King after her; / her companions will be brought to Him', / that she may be raised within God's tabernacle, / His place of atonement, /to become the dwelling of Him / that was begotten of the Father, without change, before the ages, // for the salvation of our souls.*

*Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*(Tone 7)* No tongue can speak of thy wonderful childbearing; for the order of nature was overruled by God: thou wast revealed to be a mother above nature; for thou didst remain a virgin, beyond reason, and understanding: thy conception was most glorious, O Theotokos; the manner of thy giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin; knowing thee to be the Mother of God, devoutly, we pray to thee, beseech Him to save our souls.

### **Gladsome Light**



**Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father: O Jesus Christ! Now that we have come to the setting of the sun, and behold the light of evening, we praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit! For meet it is at all times to worship Thee with voices of praise, O Son of God, and Giver of Life, therefore all the world doth glorify Thee!**

### **Evening Prokeimenon**

Wisdom! Let us Attend! The Prokeimenon in the 6th tone: The Lord is King, He is robed in majesty!

*(refrain)* **The Lord is King, He is robed in majesty**

The Lord is robed with strength and has gird Himself! *(refrain)*

For He hath made the world so sure, that it shall not be moved. *(refrain)*

Holiness becometh Thine house, O Lord, unto length of days! *(refrain)*

The Lord is King! **He is robed in majesty!**

*Litany of Fervent Supplication is chanted*

### **Vouchsafe, O Lord**

**V**ouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes! Blessed art Thou, O Master, make me to understand Thy statutes! Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy statutes! Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Evening Litany is chanted with  
the Prayer at the Bowing of Heads*

**Aposticha**

*(Tone 7)* As the Saviour of the world, Thou didst arise from the tomb; as God, Thou didst resurrect the race of man with Thy flesh: O Lord, glory to Thee.

*v. The Lord is King \* He is robed in majesty!*

Come; let us worship the One that rose from the dead, and enlightened all creation: by His death, He saved us from the torments of hell; by His resurrection, He hath granted us eternal life, and great mercy.

*v. For He hath established the world \*so that it shall never be moved.*

Into hell, didst Thou descend, capturing death, O Christ; in three days, didst Thou arise again, resurrecting us, who glorify Thy resurrection, O Lord and lover of man.

*v. Holiness befitteth Thy house \* O Lord, forevermore!*

When Thou wast placed in the tomb, as one asleep, the sight was great and awesome: but, when Thou didst rise on the third day, as almighty God, Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself: glory to Thy resurrection, O only lover of man.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*(Tone 2)* Today, the immaculate Virgin is brought to the temple / to be the dwelling place of God, the Lord of all, / Who sustaineth our whole life; / today, the most-pure sanctuary is brought into the Holy of Holies, / like a heifer three years old; / to her, let us cry out like the angel: // 'Rejoice, thou that alone art blessed among women'.

**St. Symeon's Prayer**

**L**ord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy Word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people: a light to enlighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people, Israel.

## Trisagion (Thrice Holy)

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



ur 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 the evil one.

## Troparia

*(Tone 7)* By Thy cross, Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open paradise; for the myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy; and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting, unto the world, great mercy.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit*

*(Tone 2)* O holy apostles / pray to the merciful God // that He may grant remission of transgressions to our souls.

*Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*(Tone 4)* Today is the prelude of the good-will-of-God, of the preaching of the salvation-of-mankind; the Virgin appeareth in the temple-of-God, in anticipation, proclaiming Christ to all; let us rejoice, and sing to her: 'Rejoice, O fulfilment of the Creator's dispensation'.

## Dismissal

Wisdom! Blessed be *He Who Is*, Christ our God, always now and ever, and unto ages of ages. **Amen. Preserve O God, the Holy Orthodox faith of Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.**

Most holy Theotokos, save us! **More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim: without defilement thou gavest birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify thee!**

Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our only sure hope, glory to Thee! **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy! (3) Father, bless!**

**M**ay He who He who arose from the dead, Christ our True God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother, whose honorable Entrance we continue to celebrate this day; of the Holy glorious and all-laudable Apostles, of **the Apostle of the Seventy Philemon and his wife Apphia, whose memories we keep this day**, and of all the saints that have shown forth in this North American land, and of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

**Amen.**