

# ΓΡΕΑΤ ΓΟΜΠΡΙΠΕ

ΟΠ ΤΗΕ ΕΥΕ ΟΥ ΤΗΕ  
ΝΑΤΙΥΙΤΥ ΟΥ ΓΗΙΣΤ





## **Great Compline on the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord**

The proper cycle of liturgical services for the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Eve), is to start with the Royal Hours in the morning, followed by the Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great in mid-afternoon. Then the Great Compline service is then prayed in the evening. The next morning on the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Day), matins is then prayed followed by the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.

The local custom in Manitoba however is to pray an abridged version of Great Compline, followed by the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. In keeping with the local custom, but in an effort to restore the fullness of the beautiful liturgical traditions of our Church, this full service of Great Compline will be prayed, followed by the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.

***Christ is Born! Христос Рождается!***



# Great Compline

*The priest, vested only in epitrahkil, opens the royal doors and incenses around the altar only.*

Deacon: Master, give the blessing!

Priest: Blessed be our God, always, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You!

Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of Truth,\* Who are everywhere present and fill all things,\* Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, come and dwell within us;\* cleanse us of all that defiles us,\* and, O Good One, save our souls.

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

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,\* now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us.\* Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord;\* pardon our transgressions, O Master;\* look upon our weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One;\* for the sake of Your name.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,\* now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven,\* hallowed be Thy name.\* Thy kingdom come.\* They 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 the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

Come, let us adore the King, our God.

Come, let us adore Christ, the King and our God.

Come, let us adore and bow down to the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

*The royal doors are now closed.*

### **Psalm 4 (Monday Evening)**

When I call, answer me\* O God of justice;

From anguish You released me;\* have mercy and hear me!

O men, how long will your hearts be closed,\* will you love what is futile and seek what is false?

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves;\* the Lord hears me whenever I call Him.

Fear Him; do not sin:\* ponder on your bed and be still.

Make justice your sacrifice\* and trust in the Lord.

“What can bring us happiness?\*" many say.\* Let the light of Your face shine on us, O Lord.

You have put into my heart a greater joy\* than they have from abundance of corn and new wine.

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once\* for You alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

### **Psalm 6 (Tuesday Evening)**

Lord, do not reprove me in Your anger:\* punish me not in Your rage.

Have mercy on me, Lord, I have no strength;\* Lord, heal me, my body is racked;

My soul is racked with pain.\* But You, O Lord...how long?

Return, Lord, rescue my soul.\* Save me in Your merciful love,

For in death no one remembers You;\* from the grave, who can

give Your praise?

I am exhausted with my groaning;\* every night I drench my pillow with tears;\* I bedew my bed with weeping.

My eye wastes away with grief;\* I have grown old surrounded by my foes.

Leave me, all you who do evil;\* for the Lord has heard my weeping.

The Lord has heard my plea;\* the Lord will accept my prayer.

All my foes will retire in confusion,\* foiled and suddenly confounded.

### **Psalm 12 (Wednesday Evening)**

How long, O Lord, will You forget me?\* How long will You hide Your face?

How long must I bear grief in my soul,\* this sorrow in my heart day and night?

How long shall my enemy prevail?\* Look at me, answer me, Lord my God!

Give light to my eyes\* lest I fall asleep in death,

Lest my enemy say:\* I have overcome him;

Let my foes rejoice\* to see my fall.

As for me, I trust in Your merciful love.\* Let my heart rejoice in Your saving help:

Let me sing to the Lord for His goodness to me\* singing psalms to the name of the Lord, the Most High.

### **Psalm 24 (Thursday Evening)**

To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul;\* I trust You.

Let me not be disappointed;\* do not let my enemies triumph.

Those who hope in You shall not be disappointed,\* but only those who wantonly break faith.

Lord, make me know Your ways\* Lord, teach me Your paths.

Make me walk in Your truth, and teach me,\* for You are God my Saviour.

In You I hope all day long\* because of Your goodness, O Lord.  
Remember Your mercy, Lord,\* and the love You have shown  
from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth.\* In Your love remember  
me.

The Lord is good and upright.\* He shows the path to those who  
stray,

He guides the humble in the right path,\* He teaches His way to  
the poor.

His ways are faithfulness and love\* for those who keep His  
covenant and will.

Lord, for the sake of Your name forgive my guilt,\* for it is great.

To those who revere the Lord\* He will show the path they  
should choose.

Their souls will live in happiness\* and their children shall possess  
the land.

The Lord's friendship is for those who refer Him;\* to them He  
reveals His covenant.

My eyes are always on the Lord,\* for He recuses my feet from  
the snare.

Turn to me and have mercy\* for I am lonely and poor.

Relieve the anguish of my heart\* and set me free from my  
distress.

See my affliction and my toil\* and take all my sins away.

See how many are my foes,\* how violent their hatred for me.

Preserve my life and rescue me.\* Do not disappoint me, You are  
my refuge.

May innocence and uprightness protect me,\* for my hope is in  
You, O Lord.

Redeem Israel, O God,\* from all its distress.

### **Psalm 30 (Friday Evening)**

In You, O Lord, I take refuge.\* Let me never be put to shame

In Your justice, set me free,\* hear me and speedily rescue me.

Be a rock of refuge for me, a mighty stronghold to save me,\* for  
You are my rock, my stronghold.

For Your name's sake, lead me and guide me.\* Release me from  
the snares they have hidden\* for You are my refuge, Lord.

Into Your hands I commend my spirit.\* IT is You Who will redeem  
me, Lord.

O God of truth, You detest those who worship false and empty  
gods.\* As for me, I trust in the Lord:

Let me be glad and rejoice in Your love.\* You who have seen my  
affliction

And taken heed of my soul's distress,\* have not handed me over  
to the enemy, but set my feet at large.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in distress.\* Tears have  
wasted my eyes, my throat and my heart.

For my life is spent with sorrow\* and my years with sighs.

Affliction has broken down my strength,\* and my bones waste  
away.

In the face of all my foes I am a reproach,\* an object of scorn to  
my neighbours and of fear to my friends.

Those who see me in the street\* run far away from me.

I am like a dead man, forgotten,\* like a thing thrown away.

I have heard the slander of the crowd,\* fear is all around me,

As they plot together against me,\* as they plan to take my life.

But as for me, I trust in You, Lord,\* I say: You are my God.

My life is in Your hands,\* deliver me from the hands of those  
who hate me.

Let Your face shine on Your servant.\* Save me in Your love.

How great is the goodness, Lord, that You keep for those who  
fear You,\* that You show to those who trust You in the sign of  
men.

You hide them in the shelter of Your presence from the plotting  
of men;\* You keep them safe within Your tent from disputing  
tongues.

Blessed be the Lord\* Who has shown me the wonders of His love  
in a fortified city.

“I am far removed from Your sign,”\* I said in my alarm.  
Yet You heard the voice of my plea\* when I cried for help.  
Love the Lord, all you saints.\* He guards His faithful.  
But the Lord will repay you to the full\* those who act with pride.  
Be strong, let your heart take courage,\* all who hope in the Lord.

### **Psalm 90 (Saturday & Sunday Evening)**

Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High\* and abide in  
the shade of the Almighty.

Say to the Lord: My refuge, my stronghold,\* my God in whom I  
trust!

It is He who will free you from the snare of the fowler\* who  
seeks to destroy you;

He will conceal you with His pinions,\* and under His wings you  
will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night\* nor the arrow that flies  
by day,

Nor the plague that prowls in the darkness\* nor the scourge that  
lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand fall at your right,\*  
you, it will never approach,\* His faithfulness is buckler and  
shield.

Your eyes have only to look to see\* how the wicked are repaid,  
You who have said: Lord, my refuge!\* and have made the Most  
High your dwelling

Upon you no evil shall fall,\* no plague approach where you  
dwell.

For you He has commanded His angels\* to keep you in all your  
ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands\* lest you strike your foot  
against a stone.

On the lion and the viper you will tread\* and trample the young  
lion and the dragon.

You set your love on Me so I will save you,\* protect you for you know My name.

When I call I shall answer: I am with you,\* I will save you in distress and give you glory.

With length of days I will content you;\* I shall let you see my saving power.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:\*  
Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to You, O God! (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:\*  
Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

### **God is With Us!**

*The priest intones the verses and the choir responds: God is with us...*

Priest: God is with us! Understand this all you nations,\* and be humbled, for God is with us.

Choir: God is with us! Understand this all you nations,\* and be humbled, for God is with us.

Priest: God is with us! Understand this all you nations:

Choir: and be humbled, for God is with us.

Priest: Give ear, all you lands afar off, for God is with us!

You mighty ones, be humbled, for God is with us!

And if any take counsel together, the Lord will destroy them, for God is with us!

And if you make resolutions, they will not stand, for God is with us!

It is the Lord, whom you must hold in veneration, for God is with us!

Him you must fear, him you must dread, for God is with us!

He shall be a stone of stumbling and a rock on which they shall fall, for God is with us!

I shall confide in Him, and I shall be saved by Him, for God is with us!

Behold, I come with the children whom the Lord has given me,  
for God is with us!

O nation, which is walking in the darkness, expect to see a great  
light, for God is with us.

Upon us, who dwell in the land of the shadow of death, a great  
light shall dawn, for God is with us.

Indeed, a Child is born to us, the Son, and He is given to us, for  
God is with us!

His power is upon His shoulder, for God is with us!

And His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, for God is  
with us!

Mighty God, the everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, for God is  
with us!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, for  
God is with us!

Now and always, and for ever and ever. Amen, for God is with  
us!

God is with us! Understand this all you nations:

And be humbled, for God is with us!

*Immediately we recite:*

Now that the day has come to a close, I thank You, Lord, and I  
ask of You that my evening and my night be without sin: grant this to  
me, O Saviour, and save me!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

Now that the day has come to a close, I glorify You, O Master,  
and I ask of You that my evening and my night be undisturbed: grant this  
to me, O Saviour, and save me!

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Now that the day has come to a close, I praise You, O holy One,  
and I ask of You that my evening and my night be undisturbed: grant this  
to me, O Saviour, and save me!

The incorporeal cherubim glorify You with unceasing praise. The  
seraphim, the six-winged angels, exalt You with tireless voices. And all  
the armies of angels praise You with the thrice-holy hymn. Because You

are, before all else, O Father; and Your Son, like Yourself, is without beginning. By breathing forth the Spirit of life, equal in honour to You, You make manifest the indivisibility of the Trinity.

Most holy Virgin, Mother of God, and you eyewitnesses of the Lord and his servants, intercede for us! All the choirs of the prophets and martyrs who are enjoying eternal life, intercede for us! Intercede for all of us unceasingly, for we are all in distress. That escaping from the terrors of evil, we may sing the angels' hymn: Holy, holy, holy, O thrice-holy Lord, have mercy on us and save us!

### **The Symbol of Faith**

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died and was buried. On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Most holy Lady, Mother of God, intercede for us sinners.

All you heavenly powers, holy angels and archangels, intercede for us sinners.

Holy John, the forerunner, prophet, and baptizer of the Lord Jesus Christ, intercede for us sinners.

Glorious saints, apostles, prophets, martyrs, and all of you holy ones, pray for us sinners.

You just ones, and you God-bearing fathers Anthony and Theodosius, and other wonderworkers of the Kyivan Caves, pray for us sinners.

O you divine, undefeated and incomprehensible power of the precious and life-giving cross, do not forsake us sinners.

O God, have mercy on us sinners.

O God cleanse us of our sins and have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us.\* Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord;\* pardon our transgressions, O Master;\* look upon our weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One;\* for the sake of Your name.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
Now and for ever and ever. 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 the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

### **Tropaion of the Feast**

*(Tone 4):* Your birth, O Christ our God,\* has shed upon the world the light of knowledge,\* for through it, those who worshiped the stars\* have learned from a star to worship You, the Sun of Justice,\* and to recognize You as the Orient from on high.\* Glory be to You, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:  
Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

More honourable than the cherubim, and by far more glorious than the seraphim; ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word; O true Mother of God, we magnify you.

Give the blessing, Father, in the name of the Lord!

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

### **Prayer of St. Basil the Great**

O Lord, O Lord, Who delivered us from every arrow that flies in the light of day, protect us against any difficulty that lurks around at night, and accept our outstretched hands as an evening sacrifice. Make us worthy to spend the night blamelessly, and fully sheltered against all evil; protect us against all disturbances or fear of the devil. Grant repentance to our souls and diligence to our minds, that we may understand your dreadful and just judgment; subdue our flesh with the fear of You, let our passions die out, so that in the stillness of night we may be enlightened by the thinking of Your precepts; keep afar from us all indecent dreams and harmful cravings; awaken us in time for prayers, strengthened in the faith and able to obey Your commands through the mercy and kindness of Your only-begotten Son, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, always, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

## ***Part II***

Come, let us adore the King, our God.

Come, let us adore Christ, the King and our God.

Come, let us adore and bow down to the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

## Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, God, in Your kindness.\* In Your compassion blot out my offense.

O wash me more and more from my built\* and cleanse me from my sin.

My offenses truly I know them;\* my sin is always before me.

Against You, You alone, have I sinned;\* what is evil in Your sight I have done.

That You may be justified when You give sentence\* and be without reproach when You judge.

O see, in guilt I was born,\* a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed, You love truth in the heart;\* then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.

O purify me, then I shall be clean;\* O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,\* that the bones You have crushed may thrill.

From my sins turn away Your face\* and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,\* put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast away from Your presence,\* nor deprive me of Your Holy Spirit.

Give me again the joy of Your help;\* with a spirit of fervor sustain me,

That I may teach transgressors Your ways\* and sinners may return to You.

O rescue me, God, my helper,\* and my tongue shall ring out Your goodness.

O Lord, open my lips\* and my mouth shall declare Your praise.

For in sacrifice You take no delight,\* burnt offering from me You would refuse.

My sacrifice, a contrite spirit.\* A humbles, contrite heart You will not spurn.

In Your goodness, show favour to Zion:\* rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Then You will be pleased with lawful sacrifice, burnt offerings wholly consumed,\* Then You will be offered young bulls on Your altar.

### **Psalm 101**

O Lord, listen to my prayer\* and let my cry for help reach You.  
Do not hide Your face from me\* in the day of my distress.  
Turn Your ear towards me\* and answer me quickly when I call.  
For my days are vanishing like smoke,\* my bones burn away like a fire.

My heart is withered like the grass.\* I forget to eat my bread.  
I cry with all my strength\* and my skin clings to my bones.  
I have become like a pelican in the wilderness,\* like an owl in desolate places.

I lie awake and I moan\* like some lonely bird on a roof.  
All day long my foes revile me,\* those who hate me use my name as a curse.

The bread I eat is ashes;\* my drink is mingled with tears.  
In Your anger, Lord, and Your fury,\* You have lifted me up and thrown me down.

My days are like a passing shadow\* and I wither away like the grass.

But You, O Lord, will endure for ever,\* and Your name from age to age.

You will arise and have mercy on Zion:\* for this is the time to have mercy; yes, the time appointed has come.

For Your servants love her very stones,\* are moved with pity even for her dust.

The nations shall fear the name of the Lord\* and all the earth's kings, Your glory,

When the Lord shall build up Zion again\* and appear in all His glory.

Then He will return to the prayers of the helpless;\* He will not despise their prayers.

Let this be written for ages to come\* that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord;

For the Lord leaned down from His sanctuary on high.\* He looked down from heaven to the earth

That He might hear the groans of the prisoners\* and free those condemned to die.

The sons of Your servants shall dwell untroubled\* and their race shall endure before You

That the name o the Lord may be proclaimed in Zion\* and His praise in the heart of Jerusalem,

When peoples and kingdoms are gathered together\* to pay their homage to the Lord.

He has broken my strength in mid-course;\* He has shortened the days of my life.

I say to God: Do not take me away before my days are complete,\* You, Whose days last from age to age.

Long ago You founded the earth\* and the heavens are the work of Your hands.

They will perish but You will remain.\* They will all wear out like a garment.

You will change them like clothes that are changed.\* But You neither change, nor have an end.

The sons of Your servants shall dwell untroubled\* and their race shall endure before You.

### **Prayer**

Lord almighty, God of our fathers Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and of their righteous descendants, Who made heave and earth with all their adornment, Who encompassed the sea with the word of Your command, Who closed the deep and sealed it with Your fearful and glorious name, Whose presence all things revere and before Whose power they quake, because the magnificence of Your glory is unendurable, and irresistible the wrath of Your threat against sinners: the kindness of Your promise is both immeasurable and inscrutable, for You are the

Lord most high, compassionate, long-suffering and most merciful, offering atonement for the evils of men.

You, O Lord, in the abundance of Your goodness, promised repentance and forgiveness to those who sinned against You; and in the abundance of Your compassion, You decreed repentance for sinners, that they may be saved. Therefore, O Lord, God of the righteous, You appointed repentance, not for the righteous, You appointed repentance, not for the righteous, not for Abraham and Isaac and Jacob who did not sin against You, but for me a sinner, for I committed more sins than there are grains of sand in the sea. My transgressions are multiplied, O Lord, they are multiplied! I am not worthy to look up and see the height of heaven because of the multitude of my iniquities, being weighed down by many iron chains so that I cannot raise my head; and there is no release for me because I have provoked Your anger and have done what is evil in Your sight, not doing Your will nor keeping Your commandments, but setting up abominations and multiplying offenses.

Now I kneel in my heart, beseeching Your kindness: I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I acknowledge my transgressions; I pray and beg You: release me, Lord, release me! Do not destroy me together with my transgression! Do not remember forever our wrongs! Do not condemn me to the depths of the earth! For You are God, the God of those who repent, and in me You will show all Your kindness: for unworthy as I am You will save me according to the abundance of Your mercy, and I will praise You continually all the days of my life. For all the hosts of heavens sing Your praise, and Yours is the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us.\* Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord;\* pardon our transgressions, O Master;\* look upon our

weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One;\* for the sake of Your name.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
Now and for ever and ever. 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 the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

### **Kontakion of the Feast**

*(Tone 3):* Today the Virgin gives birth to Perfect Essence\* and the earthy offers a cave to the Inaccessible One.\* The angels sing His glory with the shepherds;\* the wise men journey with the star,\* for there is born for us an Infant Child, God Eternal.

Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:  
Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

More honourable than the cherubim, and by far more glorious than the seraphim; ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word; O true Mother of God, we magnify you.

Give the blessing, Father, in the name of the Lord!

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

### **Prayer**

O God, our Master, almighty Father; only-begotten Son, Lord Jesus Christ; and You, O Holy Spirit, one God and one Might, have mercy on me a sinner, and save me, your unworthy servant, according to the ways of Your wisdom. For You are blessed for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Part III**

Come, let us adore the King, our God.

Come, let us adore Christ, the King and our God.

Come, let us adore and bow down to the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

#### **Psalm 69 (Monday & Wednesday)**

O God, make haste to my rescue,\* Lord, come to my aid!

Let there be shame and confusion\* on those who seek my life.

Let them turn back in confusion,\* who delight in my harm,

Let them retreat, covered with shame,\* who jeer at my lot.

Let there be rejoicing and gladness\* for all who seek You.

Let them say for ever: "God is great,"\* who love Your saving help

As for me, wretched and poor,\* come to me, O God.

You are my rescuer, my help,\* O Lord, do not delay.

#### **Psalm 142 (Tuesday & Thursday)**

Lord, listen to my prayer;\* turn Your ear to my appeal.

You are faithful, You are just;\* give answer.

Do not call Your servant to judgment\* for no one is just in Your sight.

The enemy pursues my soul;\* he has crushed my life to the ground;

He has made me dwell in darkness\* like the dead, long forgotten.

Therefore, my spirit fails;\* my heart is numb within me.

I remember the days that are past:\* I ponder all Your works.

I muse on what Your hand has wrought\* and to You I stretch out my hands.

Like a parched land my soul thirsts for You;\* Lord, make haste and answer; for my spirit fails with me.

Do not hide Your face\* lest I become like those in the grave.

In the morning let me know Your love\* for I put my trust in You.

Make me know the way I should walk;\* to You I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, Lord, from my enemies;\* I have fled to You for refuge.

Teach me to do Your will,\* for You, O Lord, are my God.

Let Your good Spirit guide me\* in ways that are level and smooth.

For Your name's sake, Lord, save my life;\* in Your justice save my soul from distress.

In Your love make an end of my foes;\* destroy all those who oppress me for I am Your servant, O Lord.

### **Lesser Doxology**

Glory to God in the highest,\* and to His people on earth, peace and good will.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You,\* we glorify You, we thank You for Your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,\* with the Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, and the Holy Spirit.

Lord, God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,\* You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

You take away the sins of the world,\* hear our prayer.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,\* have mercy on us.

For You alone are holy, You alone are the Lord, Jesus Christ,\* for the glory of God the Father. Amen.

I will bless You ever night,\* and praise Your name forever.

Lord, You have been our refuge\* from one generation to the next

I said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul,\* for I have sinned against You.

O Lord, I have fled to You, teach me to do Your will,\* for You, O Lord, are my God.

In You is the source of life\* and in Your light we see light.

Keep on loving those who know You,\* count us worthy, O Lord, of passing this day without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord, God of the our Fathers,\* and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us\* because we have set our hope in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord,\* teach me Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Master,\* make me understand Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One,\* enlighten me with Your laws.

O Lord, Your mercy endures forever;\* do not despise the work of Your hands.

It is proper to praise You,\* and hymns belong to You.

Glory belongs to You,\* Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

Now and for ever\* and ever. Amen.

## ***Lytia***

### **Stichera of Lytia**

*Sung while processing to the narthex of the church.*

*(Tone 1):* May heaven and earth rejoice prophetically this day.\* May angels and people spiritually celebrate,\* for God appeared in the flesh\* to those groping in the darkness and resting in a shadow.\* Having been born of a Virgin,\* a cave and a manger received Him.\* Shepherds, relate a miracle;\* the magi from the East bring gifts to Bethlehem,\* while we, with unworthy lips,

render Him angelic praise:\* Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth,\* for the hope of nations has arrived.\* Having come, He has saved us from hostile bondage.

Today heave and earth unite, for Christ is born.\* Today God came to earth in the flesh,\* and the human race was lifted up to the heavens.\* Today, for the sake of all, He is seen in the flesh,\* the One Who by nature is invisible.\* Let us glorify Him, singing:\* Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace\* which Your coming has bestowed on us.\* O Saviour, glory to You!

Seeing the one who was made to the image and likeness of God\* fall because of his transgression,\* Jesus lowered the heavens and came down.\* And without changing, He took up His dwelling in a virgin womb\* that He might fashion anew the corrupt Adam who cried to Him:\* Glory to Your epiphany, O my Deliverer and my God.

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

*(Tone 6):* Angels rejoice in heaven, and people exalt today,\* and all creatures leap with joy\* because of the birth of the Lord Saviour in Bethlehem,\* for all deceit of idolatry has ceased,\* and Christ reigns forever.

### **Prayers of Lytia**

Deacon: Save Your people, O God, and bless Your inheritance. Visit Your world with Your mercy and generousities. Raise up the strength of Christian peoples and send down upon us Your abundant mercy. Through the prayers of the most pure Lady, the Mother of God and ever-Virgin Mary; through the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the protection of the honourable, heavenly, incorporeal powers; of the honourable glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptizer, John;

Of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles; and of our fathers among the saints, the great universal teachers and hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of the father among the saints, Nicholas the

Wonderworker, archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the Holy Cyril and Methodius, equals-to-the-apostles, teachers of the Slavs; of the grand prince Volodymyr, and the grand princess Olha, equals-to-the-apostles; and of our holy priest-martyr Josaphat, archbishop of Polotsk.

[By the prayers of the hieromartyrs, confessors and bishops: Nykolai, Exarch of Volhynia and wonderworker, Hryhorii of Stanyslaviv; Josaphat of Peremyshl and Sambir; Theodore of Mukachevo;

Nykyta, first Exarch of Canada; Vasyl of Lutsk and elder of Winnipeg; Hryorii of Peremyshl; Ivan of Stanyslaviv and Symeon, bishop and passion-bearer.

Of our martyred monks and fathers: Leontii, exarch of Russia, and Clement, archimandrite of Univ; Severian, Joachim, and Vitaly, innocently slain in Drohobych; and Zenovii and Ivan, passion-bearers.

Of the priest-martyrs Andriy, Mykolai, Roman, Petro and Oleksii; of the priest-martyr Emilian, pastor of prisoners at Majdanek; the priest-martyr Mykola and the cantor Volodymyr, passion-bearers of Stradch.

Of the martyred nuns: Tarsykia, Olimpia, and Lavrentia.

Of Vincent and those martyred with him in Pratulin: Nicetas, John, Constantine, Michael, Onuphrius, Philip, Maxim, Daniel, Constantine, Bartholomew, Luke and Ignatius – and all the martyred men and women of the land of Rus'-Ukraine.

Of the North American martyrs: Jean, Noël, Anthony, Charles, Isaac, Gabriel, René, and Jean.

And of all the holy, glorious and victorious martyrs.

Of our venerable and God-bearing fathers, Anthony and Theodosius of the Monastery of the Caves of Kyiv.

Of our venerable father John of Philadelphia; Damien, the leper of Molokai, and brother André of Montreal.

Of our venerable mother Josaphata.

Of our venerable mothers of Canada: Marguerite, Kateri, and Marguerite; and the venerable mothers Frances, Elizabeth Ann, Rose-Philippine, Katharine, and Anne Thérèse.]

Of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anne; and of all the saints; we beseech You, O all-merciful Lord, hear us sinners praying to You, and have mercy.

Choir: Господи, помилуй. (12)

Deacon: We also pray for our most holy universal Pontiff, Francis, Pope of Rome, and for our most blessed Patriarch Sviatoslav, that the Lord God will grant them health and salvation, ever directing them and assisting them in all they do; and for our most reverend Metropolitan Lawrence, for our spiritual fathers and mothers, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ, and for every Christian soul that is afflicted and mal-treated and in need of God's mercies and help; for the protection of this city, and for those who live here; for the peace and serenity of the whole world; for the welfare of God's holy Churches; for the salvation and assistance of our fathers and mothers, brother and sisters who, with diligence and in the fear of the Lord, labor and serve; for the repose, blessed memory, and remission of sins of our departed loved ones of the orthodox faith all over the world; for the deliverance of captives; for all those taking part these holy services, and for all who serve and have served in this holy church, let us pray:

Choir: Kyrie, eleison (12).

Priest: Hear us, O God our Saviour, hope of all bounds of the earth and those far away at sea. In Your graciousness be merciful to us sinners, O Master. For you are a merciful God and You love mankind, and we glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace, be with all!

Choir: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Choir: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O most merciful Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the prayers of our most pure Lady, the Mother of God, and ever-Virgin Mary; through the might of the precious and live-giving Cross, through the prayers of [whose church it is], the patron of this church; of Saint [whose day it is], whose memory we celebrate; and of all the saints.

Make our prayer acceptable. Grant us remission of our transgressions; protect us with the shadow of Your wings; drive far from us every foe and adversary; and make our life peaceful, O Lord. Have mercy on us and on Your world, and save our souls for You are gracious and love mankind.

Choir: Amen.

### **Aposticha**

*Aposticha verses are sung while processing back to the tetrapod.*

*(Tone 2):* A great and glorious miracle was wrought today:\* the Virgin gives birth without corrupting her virginity;\* the Word is made flesh without separation from the Father;\* the angels and shepherds give praise, and we exclaim with them:\* Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth.

*Verse:* From eternity You have been born of My womb, vows the Lord Who does not repent.

*(Tone 3):* Today the Virgin gives birth to the Creator of all,\* paradise offers a cave, and a star presents Christ as the Sun in darkness;\* the Magi with their gifts, enlightened by faith, adore;\* the shepherds behold a miracle,\* while the angels exclaim: Glory to God in the highest.

*Verse:* The Lord said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand.

When the Lord Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,\* the magi, coming from the East, adored God made man,\* and unfolding their treasures, they brought precious gifts:\* the purest of gold as to the eternal King;\* and incense as to the God of all;\* Come all nations, let us adore Him Who is born to save our souls.

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

*(Tone 4):* You have dwelt in a cave, O Christ God,\* and a manger received You;\* the shepherds and the magi adored You.\* Then were the predictions of prophets fulfilled;\* and angelic powers stood amazed, singing and saying:\* Glory to Your coming, for You alone love mankind.

### **Song of Simeon**

Now, O Master, You have kept Your promise; let Your servant go in peace. With my own eyes I have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people; a Light to reveal You to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people, Israel!

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy on us. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Trinity most holy, have mercy on us.\* Cleanse us of our sins, O Lord;\* pardon our transgressions, O Master;\* look upon our weaknesses and heal them, O Holy One;\* for the sake of Your name.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
Now and for ever and ever. 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 the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

## **Troparion**

*(Tone 4):* At that time Mary registered with the venerable Joseph in Bethlehem\* since she was of the house of David.\* She was the child, having conceived without seed.\* When the time for her delivery drew near,\* they could find no room in the inn,\* but the cave seemed a joyful palace for the Queen.\* Christ is born to renew the likeness that had been lost of old.

## **Blessing of the Loaves, Wine & Oil**

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, our God, as You blessed the five loaves in the wilderness and fed five thousand, so bless these loaves, this wheat, wine, and oil. Make them plentiful in this city and throughout Your world, and sanctify the faithful who partake of them. For it is You who bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and we give glory to You with Your beginningless Father and Your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and ever.

Choir: Amen. Blessed be the Name of the Lord, now and forever. (3x)

## **Psalm 33**

I will bless the Lord at all times;\* His praise shall be constantly in my mouth.

My soul shall glory in the Lord;\* let the meek hear and rejoice.

Magnify the Lord with me,\* and let us exalt His name together.

I sought the Lord and He heard me,\* and delivered me from all my fears.

Approach the Lord and be enlightened,\* and your face shall never be shamed.

The poor cried out, and the Lord heard them\* and delivered them from all their afflictions.

The angel of the Lord will set up camp around those who fear the Lord\* and save them.

Taste and see how good the Lord is;\* blessed is the one who hopes in Him.

Fear the Lord, all you His saints,\* for there is no privation for those who fear Him.

The rich have become poor and hungry\* but those who seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good.

Priest: May the blessing of the Lord be upon you through His grace and love for mankind, always, now and forever and ever.

Choir: Amen.

### **Dismissal**

Deacon: Wisdom!

Choir: Give the blessing.

Priest: Blessed be Christ our God, always, now and for ever and ever.

Choir: Amen. O God, strengthen the orthodox faith forever and ever.

Priest: O most holy Theotokos, save us.

Choir: More honourable than the Cherubim,\* and by far more glorious than the Seraphim.\* Ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word\* O true Mother of God, we magnify you.

Priest: Glory be to You, O Christ God, our Hope, glory be to You.

Choir: Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.\* Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.\* Give the blessing.

Priest: Christ our true God, Who, for the salvation, was born in a cave in Bethlehem of Judea and lay in a manger, through the prayers of His Immaculate Mother, the holy, glorious and praiseworthy apostles, our venerable and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, will have mercy and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.

We now continue with the start of the  
Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom



*Christ is Born! Glorify Him!*

*Христос Рождается! Славите Його!*

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