

The Great Office of Thanksgiving (Te Deum)



*Adapted by Saint John Orthodox Cathedral
From the Service Book of Isabel Hapgood, page 550.
Sung on the Morning of the American Holiday of
Thanksgiving, the Fourth Thursday in November.*

The Great Office of Thanksgiving (Te Deum) - (Hapgood pg 550)

Priest: Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

The Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Priest: Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

O heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of truth, Who are in all places and fill all things, the Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O good One.

The Trisagion Prayers

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

People: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

Come Let Us Worship

People: Come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.
Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King
and our God.
Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself,
our King and our God.

Psalm 21

Reader: The king shall have joy in Your strength, O Lord;
And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!
You have given him his heart's desire,
And have not withheld the request of his lips.
For You meet him with the blessings of goodness;
You set a crown of pure gold upon his head.
He asked life from You, and You gave it to him—
Length of days forever and ever.
His glory is great in Your salvation;
Honor and majesty You have placed upon him.
For You have made him most blessed forever;
You have made him exceedingly glad with Your presence.
For the king trusts in the Lord,
And through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.
Your hand will find all Your enemies;
Your right hand will find those who hate You.
You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger;
The Lord shall swallow them up in His wrath,
And the fire shall devour them.
Their offspring You shall destroy from the earth,
And their descendants from among the sons of men.
For they intended evil against You;
They devised a plot which they are not able to perform.
Therefore You will make them turn their back;
You will make ready Your arrows on Your string toward their
faces.
Be exalted, O Lord, in Your own strength!
We will sing and praise Your power.
Glory...Now and ever...

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)
O our God and our hope, glory to You.

Great Litany with Special Petitions

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (1)

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

People: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (1)

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

People: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For our father, *(metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop) N.*, the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our president, all civil authorities, and for our armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For the president and all the leaders of our country, that they may be strengthened by the right hand of the Most high, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: That they may receive from heaven strength and wisdom to rule with righteous judgment, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: That the Lord of hosts will strengthen our armed forces and preserve them from every foe and adversary, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For healthful seasons, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: For travelers by sea, by land, and by air; the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (2)

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy. (1)

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our most-holy, most-pure, most-blessed, and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For to You are due all glory, honor and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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“God is the Lord...” - Psalm 118 (LXX 117)

People: God is the Lord, Who has shown us light. Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord.

Reader: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

God is the Lord...

All nations completely surrounded me; but in the name of the Lord will I destroy them.

God is the Lord...

I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

God is the Lord...

The stone which the builders refused has become the head cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

God is the Lord...

Troparia

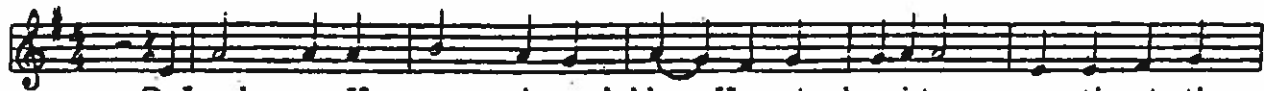
Reader: We, Your unworthy servants, O Lord,
(Tone 4) grateful for Your great benefits which You have shown on us, praise You, bless You, and glorify You; with thanksgiving, we sing and magnify Your lovingkindness; and we cry aloud to You in loving submissiveness, O our Benefactor and our Savior, glory to You!

Glory...

O Lord, Save Your People

Troparion

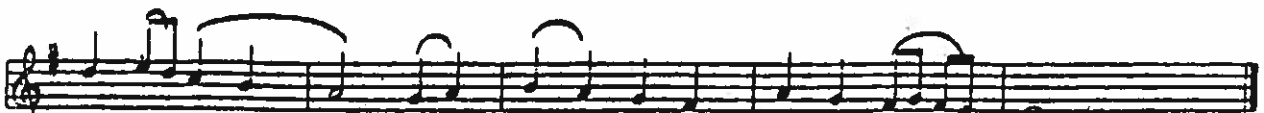
Tone 1 (Byzantine)



O Lord, save Your peo - ple and bless Your in - her - i - tance, granting to the



faith - ful vic - t'ry o - ver their en - e - mies, and by the pow - er




of Your cross, pre - ser - ving Your hab - i - ta - tion.

Now and ever...

Kontakion of the Cross

Carpatho-Russian, Tone 4



O Lord, Who of Your own good will were lif-ted
up on the Cross, O Christ our God, be-stow Your gen-er-ous gifts
on the new na - tion which is called by Your name; make
glad in Your might those who law-ful-ly go - vern, that with
them we may be led to vic-to-ry o-ver our - en-e-mies,
ha-ving in Your aid a wea-pon of peace and a tro - phy in - vin - ci - ble.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Prokeimenon: Tone 4 (*Psalm 21:1-2*)

Reader: The King shall rejoice in Your strength, O Lord;
how greatly shall he rejoice in Your salvation.

*You have given him his heart's desire, and have not denied him
the request of his lips.*

Epistle: Romans 13:1-8

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the Romans.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.

For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.

For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.

Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Priest: Peace be to you who read.

Alleluia & Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-22

People: Alleluia. (*3x no verses*)

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

People: Glory to You, O Lord. Glory to You.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: At that time the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Jesus in His talk.

And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men.

"Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites?

"Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a denarius. And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

When they had heard these words, they marveled, and left Him and went their way.

People: Glory to You, O Lord. Glory to You.

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Litany

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy, hear us we pray, and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for the president and all the leaders of our country, that the Lord our God will abundantly aid and prosper them in all their righteous endeavors, and protect them and us from every foe and adversary.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians, for our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) *N.*; for the priests, deacons, and monks; and for all our brethren in Christ.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for all our armed forces wherever they are serving.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: As servants unworthy of Your lovingkindness, O Lord, our Master and Savior, with fear and trembling we offer thanks for all the benefits You have poured out abundantly upon Your servants. Falling down in worship, we offer praise to You as God and fervently cry aloud to You, deliver Your servants from all calamities, and because You are merciful, fulfill all our desires which are expedient for us as we most diligently entreat: hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord our God, unsearchable in mercy, grant all our leaders whom You have given to govern our land, the prosperity granted to Moses, the valor of David, and the wisdom of Solomon, to the glory of Your Name, we ask You, O King all-holy: hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of those who are far off upon the sea; and show mercy, show mercy, O Master, upon us sinners and be merciful unto us.

For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and we send up glory to You, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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Prayer on Bended Knee

Deacon: Again and again, on bended knee, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God, most great and wonderful, Who by Your mystic providence, both rich and good, do rule and keep all things; by Whose all-wise and wondrous judgments the lives of all on earth are kept and blest — with gratitude we acknowledge that You have not dealt with us according to our iniquities, nor rewarded us as our sins deserve. We have sinned, O Lord, both working evil and doing that which makes us worthy of Your greatest displeasure. But You, the Essence of Lovingkindness, are longsuffering and merciful, grieving over the wickedness of mankind, O Master. Having chastened us with but brief visitations of sorrow — Lo! You have filled our hearts abundantly with joy and gladness, granting us our beloved country and civil servants to lead and guide our nation. Grant them wisdom and understanding that they may govern Your people righteously, and preserve this, Your inheritance, in peace and without affliction. Make our nation victorious over its enemies, a terror to evil-doers, gracious to those who are good, and worthy to be trusted. Kindle the hearts of us all to care for the needy, to hospitality toward strangers, and to the protection of the defenseless — that we may walk in the way of truth and righteousness, putting aside all pretense and corruption, that we may be people known for truth and good works. Make us joyful fathers and mothers of children, that we may show forth Your marvelous mercy upon them all. Multiply our days in health and prosperity. Grant us all peace and tranquillity, favorable seasons, abundant fruits of the earth, and all things necessary to life, both temporal and eternal. O our Lord, all-merciful, the God of

bounties and Father of all consolation, do not turn Your face from us, nor put us to confusion in our sure hope, for in firm expectation we make our supplication to You, entreating You and trusting in Your goodness. For only You know our deeds and give before we ask, confirming Your gifts in truth.

For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from You, the Father of lights, and to You belongs all glory and dominion, together with Your Only-begotten Son and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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(Additional Prayers may be added here followed by the "Te Deum")

Te Deum (or The Great Doxology see end)

The Te Deum is an early Christian hymn of praise. It is traditionally ascribed to Saints Ambrose and Augustine, on the occasion of the latter's baptism by the former in AD 387. (Sing to melody of Akathist to the Mother of God)

We praise You, O God, we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
All the earth worships You, the Father everlasting.
To You all the angels, the heavens and the pow-ers cry aloud.
To You cherubim and seraphim continually cry:

“Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of Hosts;
heaven and earth are full of the majesty
of Your glory.”

The glorious company of the apostles,
the goodly fellowship of the prophets,
the noble army of martyrs,
together all praise You.

The holy Church throughout the world acknowledges You:
the Father of infinite majesty;
Your honorable, true, and only Son;
and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

You are the King of Glory, O Christ.
You are the everlasting Son of the Father.
When You took upon Yourself to deliver man,
You humbled Yourself to be born of a virgin.

When You overcame the sting of death,
You opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You sat down at the right hand of God
in the glo-ry of the Father.

We believe that You shall come to be our Judge.
We therefore práy, help Your servants,
whom You have redeemed with Your precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with Your saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance.
Rule them, and exalt them forever.
Day by day we mag-nify You;
and we worship Your name unto ages of ages.

Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us.
O Lord, let Your mercy come upon us,
as our trust is in You.

O Lord, I have trusted in You
let my enemies never triumph over me.

Dismissal

PRIEST: Glory to You, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to You.

PEOPLE: 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. (3x)

Father, bless.

PRIEST: May Christ, our true God, *Who, ... (festal phrase)*

through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-blameless, holy Mother,
of (*N., the saint of the day*) whose memory we celebrate,
and of all the saints,
have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Great Doxology

(The Great Doxology may be sung in place of the "Te Deum".

Glory to You, Who have shown us the light. Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, good will among men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give
thanks to You for Your great glory.

O Lord King, heavenly God, Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten
Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us, You Who take away the sins of the world

Receive our prayer, You Who sit at the right hand of the Father, and have
mercy on us.

For You ^{only} alone are holy, You only are the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory
of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever; yes, forever
and ever.

Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

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

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on You.

Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes. (3x)

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: "Be
merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."

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

For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we shall see light.

Continue Your mercy to those who know You.

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

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

Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.