Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

with Baptisms

November 21

MATINS – SATURDAY MORNING

Great Doxology

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 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.

Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes.

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.

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

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

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.**

Entrance Troparion: Tone 4 *(Znamenny)*

Today is the prelude of God's goodwill and the prophecy of the salvation of men. The Virgin appears openly in the temple of God and foretells Christ to all. So let us cry to her with loud voices, "Rejoice, you who are the fulfillment of the Creator's providence."

Holy Baptism

THE PRAYERS OF EXORCISM

Prayer

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: O Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel, Who heal every sickness and every infirmity: Look upon Your servant; prove *them* and search *them*, and root out of *them* every operation of the devil. Rebuke the unclean spirits and expel them, and purify the works of Your hands; and exerting Your decisive might, speedily crush down Satan under *their* feet, giving *them* victory over him and over his foul spirits; that having obtained mercy from You, *they* may be made worthy to partake of Your heavenly mysteries; and may ascribe unto you glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Another Prayer

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: O Lord the Master, Who truly exist, Who have created man in Your own likeness, and have bestowed on him the power of life eternal; Who also despise not those who have fallen away through sin, but have provided salvation for the world through the incarnation of Your Christ: Deliver also this Your creatures from the bondage of the enemy, and receive *them* into Your heavenly kingdom. Open the eyes of *their* understanding, that the light of Your Gospel may shine brightly in *them*. Yoke unto *their* life a radiant angel, who shall deliver *them* from every snare of the adversary, from encounter with evil, from the demon of the noonday, and from evil visions.

The priest then breathes on the mouth, forehead, and chest of the one being exorcised, saying:

Expel from *him/her* every evil and impure spirit that hides and makes its lair in *his/her* heart: *(3x)*

The spirit of error, the spirit of guile, the spirit of idolatry and of every evil desire; the spirit of deceit and of every uncleanness which operates through the prompting of the devil. And make *them* reason-endowed sheep in the holy flock of Your Christ, an honorable member of Your church, children of the light, and heirs of Your kingdom; that having lived in accordance with Your commandments, and preserved inviolate the seal, and kept *their* garment undefiled, *they* may receive the blessedness of the saints in Your kingdom. Through the grace and generosity and love towards mankind of Your only-begotten Son, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE RENUNCIATION OF SATAN AND THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

The priest and the catechumens to be baptized, with their sponsors, stand at the rear of the church facing west. Children are held by their sponsors, who respond for them.

The following question and reply are repeated three times:

PRIEST: Do you renounce Satan and all his angels and all his works and all his service and all his pride?

CATECHUMEN/SPONSOR: I do renounce him.

The following question and response are also said three times:

PRIEST: Have you renounced Satan?

CATECHUMEN/SPONSOR: I have renounced him.

PRIEST: Then breathe and spit upon him.

When this is done, all turn to face the east and stand in reverence. The following question and response are then repeated three times:

PRIEST: Do you join yourself to Christ?

CATECHUMEN/SPONSOR: I do join myself to Christ.

Then the priest asks only once:

PRIEST: Have you joined yourself to Christ?

CATECHUMEN/SPONSOR: I have.

PRIEST: Do you believe in Him?

CATECHUMEN/SPONSOR: I believe in Him as King and God.

Those who are converting to Orthodoxy, after having been previously instructed and taught, are asked if they desire to convert to Orthodoxy and after an affirmation, all present proclaim the Symbol of Faith (The Creed).

Renunciation of Heresy and Affirmation of Faith

PRIEST: Have you renounced all ancient and modern heresies and false doctrines that are contrary to the Holy Orthodox Faith?

CONVERT: I have renounced them.

PRIEST: Do you desire to be united to the Holy Orthodox Church?

CONVERT: I desire it with all my heart.

PRIEST: Do You believe in one God, Who is adored in the holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and do you worship Him as your king and your God.

CONVERT: I believe in one God, Who is adored in the holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and I worship Him as my King and my God.

The catechumens and sponsors say the Symbol of the Faith:

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only begotten, begotten of the Father before all worlds, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made;

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man;

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;

And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures;

And ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father;

And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets;

And I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead,

And the life of the world to come. Amen.

The following question and response are then repeated three times:

PRIEST: Have you joined yourself to Christ?

CATECHUMEN/SPONSOR: I have.

PRIEST: Then bow down also before Him.

CATECHUMEN/SPONSOR *(bows and says):* I bow down before the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Trinity, one in essence and undivided.

PRIEST: Blessed is God, Who wills that all men should be saved, and should come to the knowledge of the truth: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

A Prayer

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: O Master, Lord our God, call Your servants, *N.*, to Your holy illumination, and grant unto *them* that great grace of Your holy baptism. Put off from *them* the old man, and renew *them* unto life everlasting; and fill *them* with the power of Your Holy Spirit, in the unity of Your Christ; that *they* may be no more children of the body, but children of Your kingdom.

Through the good will and grace of Your only-begotten Son, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages. of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Standing before the font, facing east, deacon begins:

DEACON: Bless, father.

PRIEST: Blessed is the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Litany

DEACON: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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.

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.

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.

DEACON: That this water may be sanctified with the power and effectual operation and indwelling of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That there may be sent down into it the grace of redemption and the blessing of Jordan, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That there may come upon this water the purifying operation of the Trinity beyond all being, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That we may be illumined by the light of understanding and piety, by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That this water may prove effective unto the averting of every snare of enemies, both visible and invisible, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That *those* who *are* baptized therein may be made worthy of the kingdom incorruptible, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For *those* who now comes to holy baptism, and for *their* salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That *they* may prove *themselves children* of the light, and *heirs* of eternal good things, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That *they* may be *members* and of the death and resurrection of Christ our God, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That *they* may preserve *their* baptismal *garments* and the pledge of the Spirit pure and undefiled unto the fearful day of Christ our God, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That this water may be for *them* a laver of regeneration, unto the forgiveness of sins, and a garment of incorruption, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That the Lord God will hear the voice of our petition, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: That He will deliver *them* and us from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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.

Meanwhile the priest prays quietly:

PRIEST: O compassionate and merciful God, Who try the heart and the mind, and Who alone know the secret thoughts of men, for no deeds are hidden before You, but all things are naked and manifest before Your eyes; Who know all things concerning me: Regard me not with loathing, neither turn Your face from me; but overlook my iniquities at this present hour, O You Who disregard man's sins unto his repentance. And wash away the vileness of my body and the pollution of my soul. And sanctify me completely by Your all-perfect, invisible might and by Your spiritual right hand; lest, while I proclaim liberty to others and administer this rite with perfect faith in Your unutterable love toward mankind, I myself may become the base slave of sin. Yes, O Master, Who alone are good and full of love toward mankind, let not Your humble servant be led astray; but send down on me power from on high, and strengthen me in the administration of Your impending mystery, which is both great and most heavenly. And create the image of Your Christ in *them* who now desire to be born again through my unworthy ministry. And build *them* up on the foundation of Your apostles and prophets, that *they* may not be overthrown; but implant *them* firmly as a plant of truth, in Your holy, catholic and apostolic Church, that *they* may not be plucked out. That, as *they* increase in godliness, through *them* may be glorified Your all-holy name: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Blessing of Water

The priest then says the following prayer aloud:

PRIEST: Great are You, O Lord, and marvelous are Your works, and there is no word sufficient to hymn Your wonders. *(3x.)*

For You, of Your own good will, have brought into being all things which before were not, and by Your might You uphold creation, and by Your providence You order the world.

When You had joined together the universe out of four elements, You crowned the circle of the year with four seasons. Before You tremble all the powers endowed with intelligence. The sun sings to You. The moon glorifies You. The stars meet together before Your presence. The light obeys You. The deeps tremble before You. The springs of water are subject to You. You have spread out the heavens like a curtain. You have established the earth on the waters. You have set around the sea barriers of sand. You have poured forth the air for breathing. The angelic powers

serve You. The choirs of the archangels fall down in adoration before You. The many-eyed cherubim and the six-winged seraphim, as they stand and fly around You, veil their faces in awe before Your indescribable glory.

For You Who are God inexpressible, existing uncreated before the ages, and indescribable, descended upon earth, and took on the form of a servant, and were made in the likeness of man; for, because of the tender compassion of Your mercy, O Master, You could not endure to behold mankind oppressed by the devil; but You came and saved us. We confess Your grace. We proclaim Your mercy. We conceal not Your gracious acts. You have delivered the generation of our mortal nature. By Your birth You sanctified a virgin's womb. All creation magnifies You Who have manifested Yourself. For You, O our God, have revealed Yourself upon earth, and dwelt among men. You hallowed the streams of Jordan, sending down on them from heaven Your Holy Spirit, and crushed the heads of the dragons that lurked therein.

Therefore, O King Who love mankind, come now and sanctify this water by the indwelling of Your Holy Spirit. *(3x)*

And grant unto it the grace of redemption, the blessing of Jordan. Make it the fountain of incorruption, the gift of sanctification, the forgiveness of sins, the remedy of infirmities, the final destruction of demons, unassailable by hostile powers, filled with angelic might; that those who would ensnare Your creature will flee far from it. For we have called upon Your name, O Lord, and it is wonderful and glorious and terrible unto adversaries.

The priest dips his fingers in the water and makes the sign of the Cross three times on the water, breathing on it and saying each time:

Let all adverse powers be crushed beneath the sign of the image of Your most precious Cross. *(3x)*

And we pray You, O God, that every airy and unseen phantom may withdraw itself from us; and that no demon of darkness may conceal himself in this water; and that no evil spirit which instills darkening of intentions and rebelliousness of thought may descend into it with *those* who *are* about to be baptized. But, O Master of all, show this water to be the water of redemption, the water of sanctification, the purification of flesh and spirit, the loosing of bonds, the forgiveness of sins, the illumination of the soul, the laver of regeneration, the renewal of the spirit, the gift of adoption to sonship, the garment of incorruption, the fountain of life. For You have said, O Lord: "Wash, be clean; and put away evil things from your souls." You have bestowed upon us from on high a new birth through water and the Spirit. Therefore, O Lord, manifest Yourself in this water, and grant that *these* who is baptized therein may be transformed; that *they* may put away the old man, which is corrupt through the lusts of the flesh, and that *they* may be clothed with the new man, and renewed according to the image of Him Who created *them;*; that being buried, after the pattern of Your death, in baptism *they* may in like manner be a partaker of Your Resurrection and, having preserved the gift of Your Holy Spirit and increased the measure of grace committed to *them*, *they* may receive the prize of *their* high calling, and be

numbered with the first-born whose names are written in heaven, in You, our God and Lord, Jesus Christ.

For unto You are due all glory, dominion, honor, and worship, together with Your unoriginate Father, and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Anointing with Oil

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE: And to your spirit.

DEACON: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

The priest then breathes three times on a vessel containing oil, and makes the sign of the Cross over it three times and says the following prayer:

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: O Lord and Master, the God of our fathers, Who sent to those who were in the ark of Noah Your dove, bearing in its beak a twig of olive, the token of reconciliation and of salvation from the flood, the foreshadowing of the mystery of grace; and provided the fruit of the olive for the fulfilling of Your holy mysteries; Who thereby fill those who are under the Law with Your Holy Spirit, and perfect those who are under grace: Bless also this holy oil with the power and operation and indwelling of Your Holy Spirit *(3x)*, that it may be an anointing unto incorruption, an armor of righteousness, to the renewing of soul and body, to the averting of every assault of the devil, to deliverance from all evil for those who shall be anointed with it in faith, or who partake of it.

Unto Your glory and the glory of Your only-begotten Son and of Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

DEACON: Let us attend.

The priest pours some oil from the vessel, making with it the sign of the Cross in the water 3x, all sing:

PRIEST/PEOPLE: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The priest then continues, saying:

PRIEST: Blessed is God, Who illumines and sanctifies every man who comes into the world, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Then the one who is to be baptized is presented. The priest takes of the oil, and anoints him by making the sign of the Cross:

First on the forehead, saying::

PRIEST: The servant of God, *N.*, is anointed with the oil of gladness, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then on the chest and back, saying

Unto the healing of body and soul.

On the ears, saying:

Unto the hearing of faith.

On the hands, saying:

Your hands have made me and fashioned me.

On the feet, saying:

That *he/she* may walk in the way of Your commandments, O Lord.

The Baptism

The priest, facing east, immerses each catechumen (or infant) three times, saying:

PRIEST: The servant of God *N.*, is baptized, in the name of the Father:

PEOPLE: Amen.

PRIEST: And of the Son:

PEOPLE: Amen.

PRIEST: And of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: Amen.

For each newly-baptized person the priest takes a white garment, blesses it with the sign of the Cross, and gives it to him, saying:

PRIEST: The servant of God *N.*, is clothed with the garment of righteousness, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The newly-baptized depart to put on their white garment as the following troparion is sung.

READER/PEOPLE: Grant to me a shining robe of light, You Who clothe Yourself with light, O Christ our God, most merciful.

Psalm 32 (LXX 31) *(may be abbreviated)*

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was turned into the drought of summer.

I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You in a time when You may be found; Surely in a flood of great waters they shall not come near him.

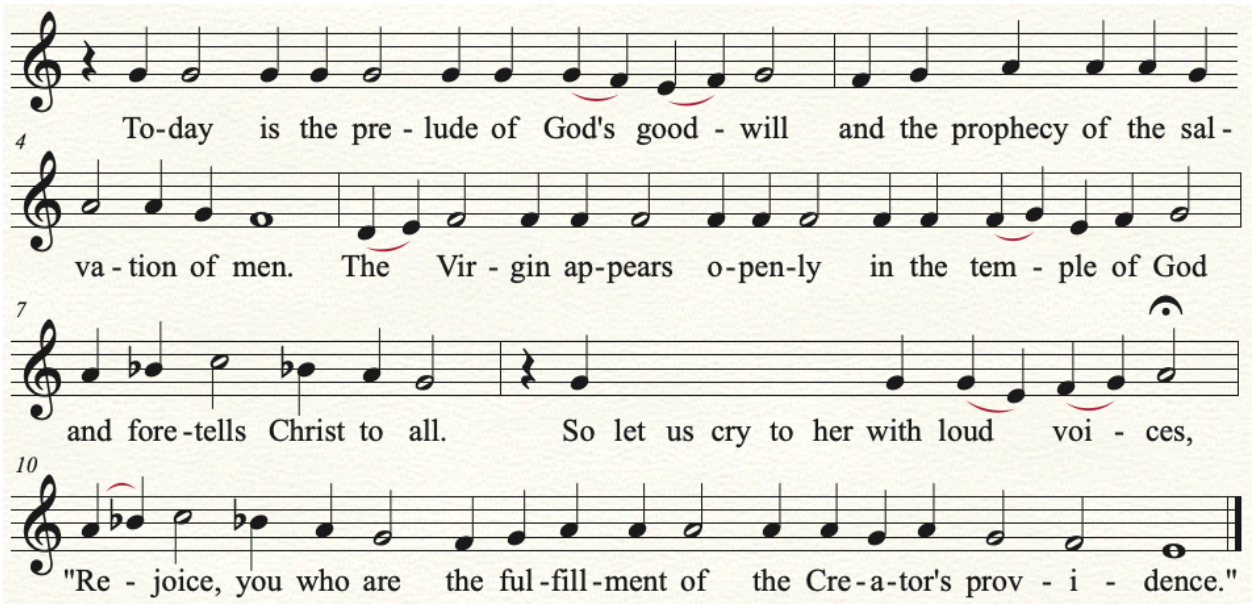
You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you.

Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; but he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.

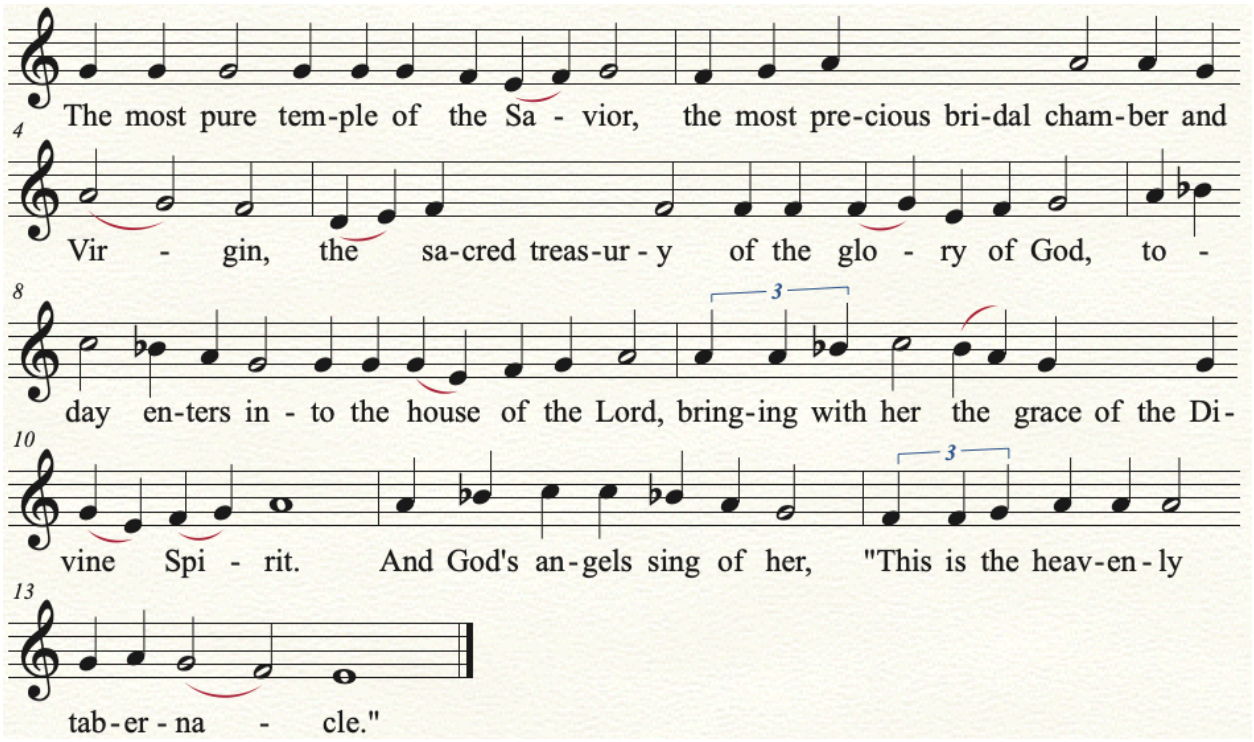
Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Entrance Troparion: Tone 4 *(Znamenny)*



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

Entrance Kontakion: Tone 4 *(Znammeny)*



The newly-baptized, dressed in a garment of white, is brought before the priest. The priest, prior to the Chrismation, presents him with a Cross to wear around his neck, exhorting him from the words found in Mark 8:34.

PRIEST: The Lord has said, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow Me."

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY CHRISMATION

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: Blessed are You, O Lord God Almighty, Source of all good things, Sun of righteousness, Who shed upon those who were in darkness the light of salvation, through the manifestation of Your only-begotten Son and our God; and Who have given to us, unworthy though we are, blessed purification through holy water, and divine sanctification, through life-giving chrismation; Who now, also, have been graciously pleased to regenerate Your servant who has newly received illumination by water and the Spirit, and grant to *them* forgiveness of sins, whether voluntary or involuntary: O Master, compassionate King of all, grant also to *them* the seal of the gift of Your holy and almighty and adorable Spirit, and participation in the holy Body and the precious Blood of Your Christ. Keep *them* in Your sanctification; confirm *them* in the Orthodox faith; deliver *them* from the evil one, and from all his devices. And preserve *their* soul in purity and uprightness, through the saving fear of You; that *they* may please You in every deed and word, and may be *children* and *heirs* of Your heavenly kingdom.

For You are our God, the God Who shows mercy and saves; and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The priest then anoints the newly-baptized with holy Chrism, making with it the sign of the Cross: on the forehead, on the eyes, on the nostrils, on the lips, on both ears, on the chest, on both hands, and on both feet, saying each time:

PRIEST: The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The people who are present respond each time, saying:

PEOPLE: Seal.

The Procession

The priest leads the newly-baptized and their sponsors in a procession around the font while the following hymn is sung three times. (men, women, all)

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. *(3x)*

All glory be to the Father, to the Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(repeat above 1x)*

And the remainder of Liturgy continues as usual.

Prokeimenon: Tone 3 - Luke 1:46-47

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Verse: For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He Who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

Prokeimenon - Psalm 19 (LXX 18) - Baptism

The Lord is my light and my Savior, whom shall I fear?

The Epistle Reading – Hebrews 9:1-7

Brethren, even the first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary. For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary; and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing

the services. But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance.

The Alleluia before the Gospel - Psalm 45 (LXX 44)+ Baptism

Verse: Listen, O daughter, consider and incline your ear.

Verse: Even the rich among the people will seek your favor.

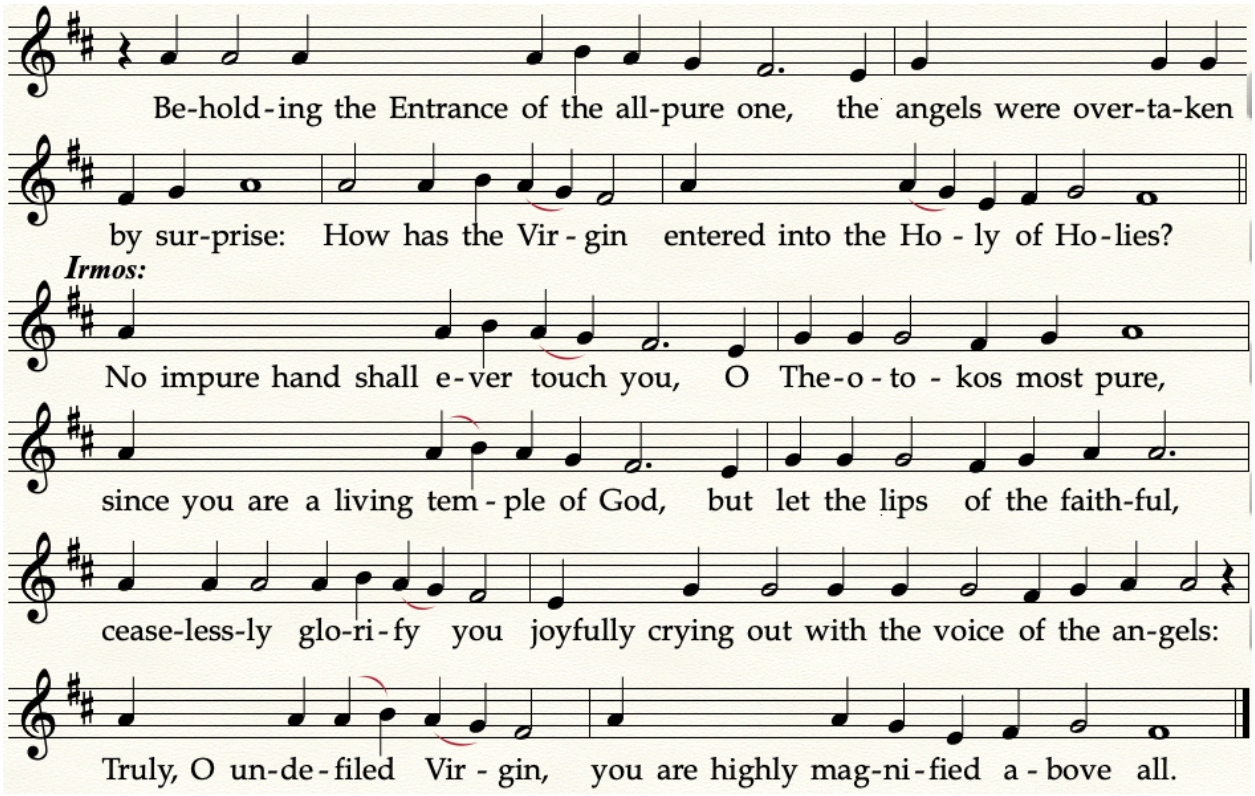
Verse: My heart overflows with a good theme as I sing my song to the King. My tongue is nimble as the pen of a skillful scribe.

The Gospel Reading – Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 + Matthew 28:16-20

Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And [Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her." And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!" But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Entrance Magnification Hymn



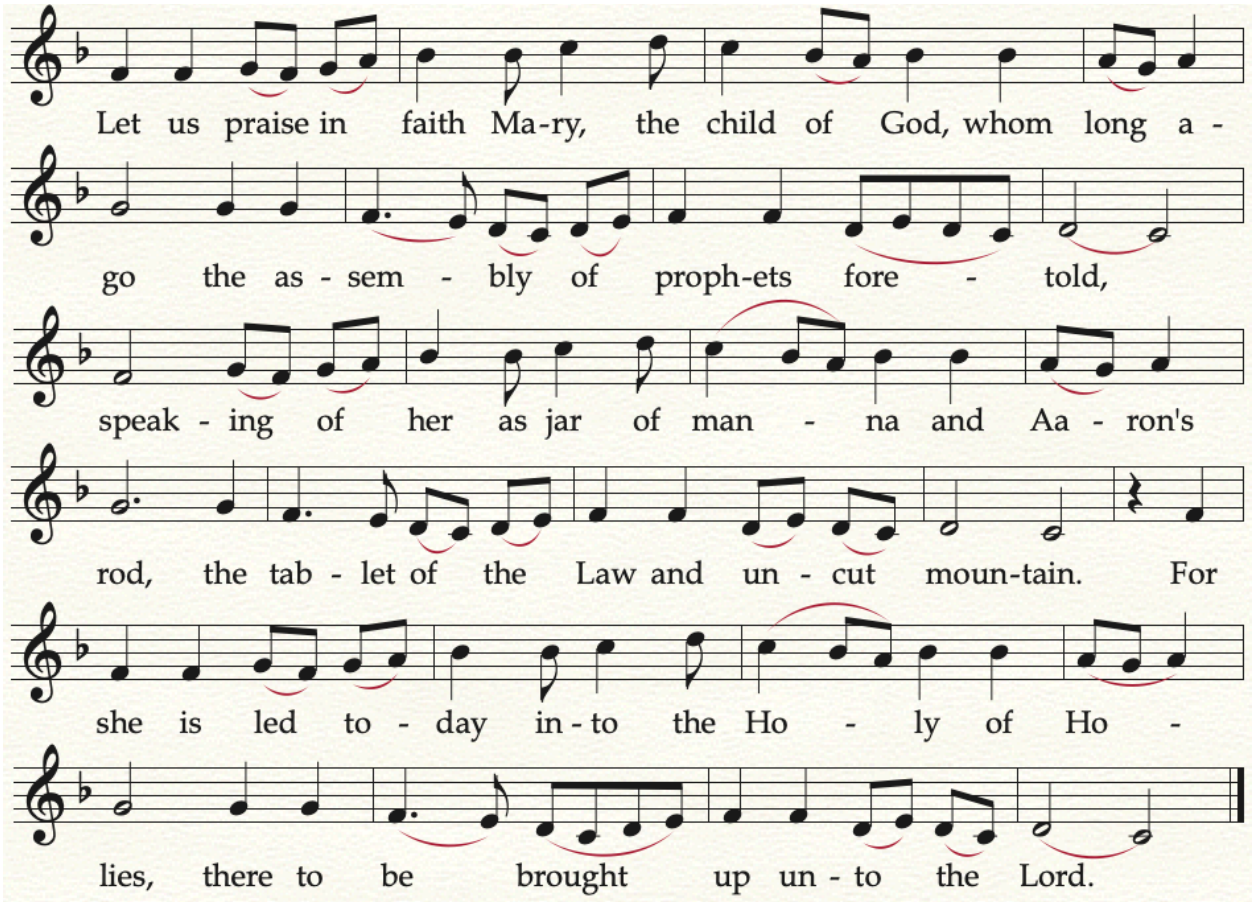
The Communion Hymn - Psalm 148 & 112:5 (LXX 111))

What shall I render to the Lord for His bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

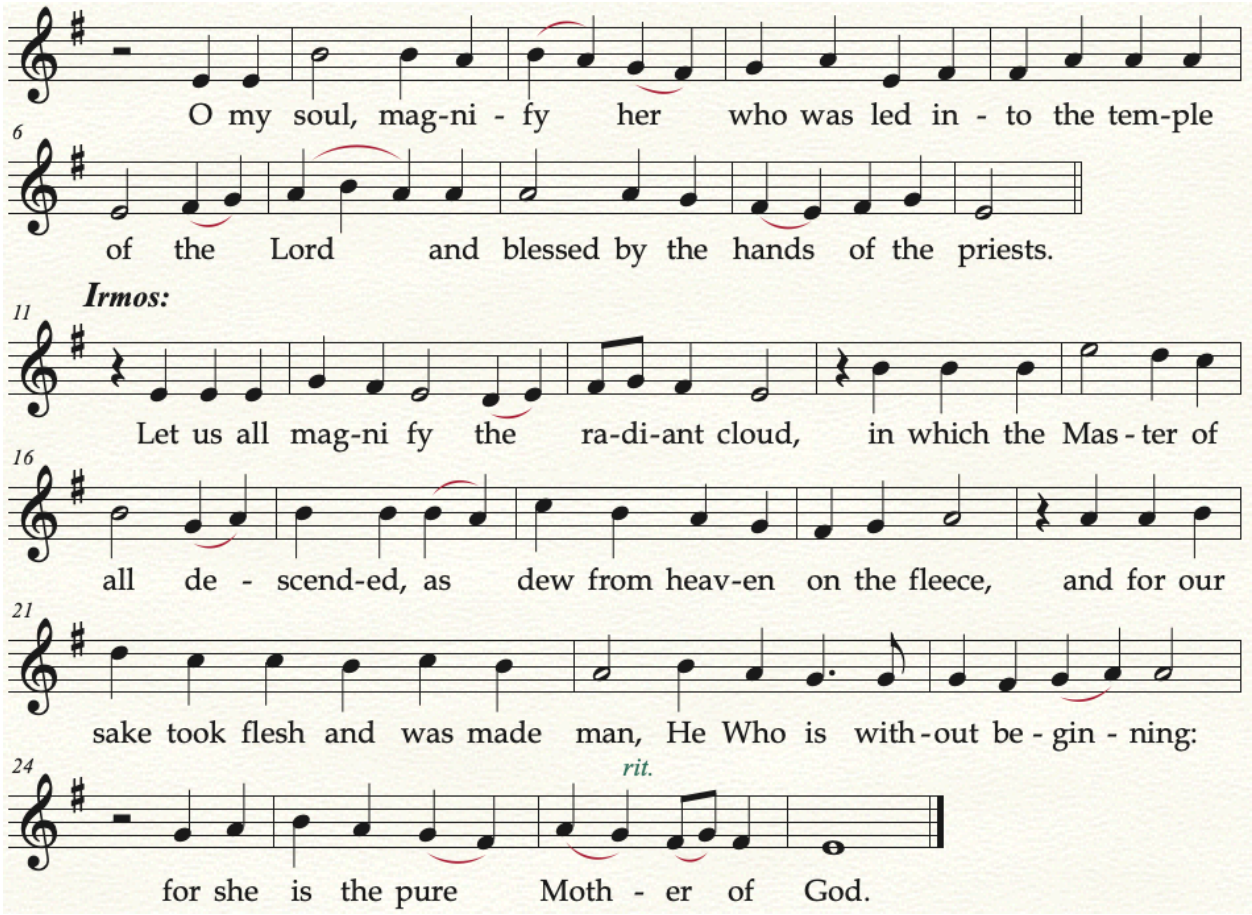
I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people. I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Entrance Exapostilarion: Tone 2 *(*Znamenny*)*



Entrance - 9th Ode - 2nd Canon: *(Greek, Karam)*



Washing off of Chrism

The Dismissal

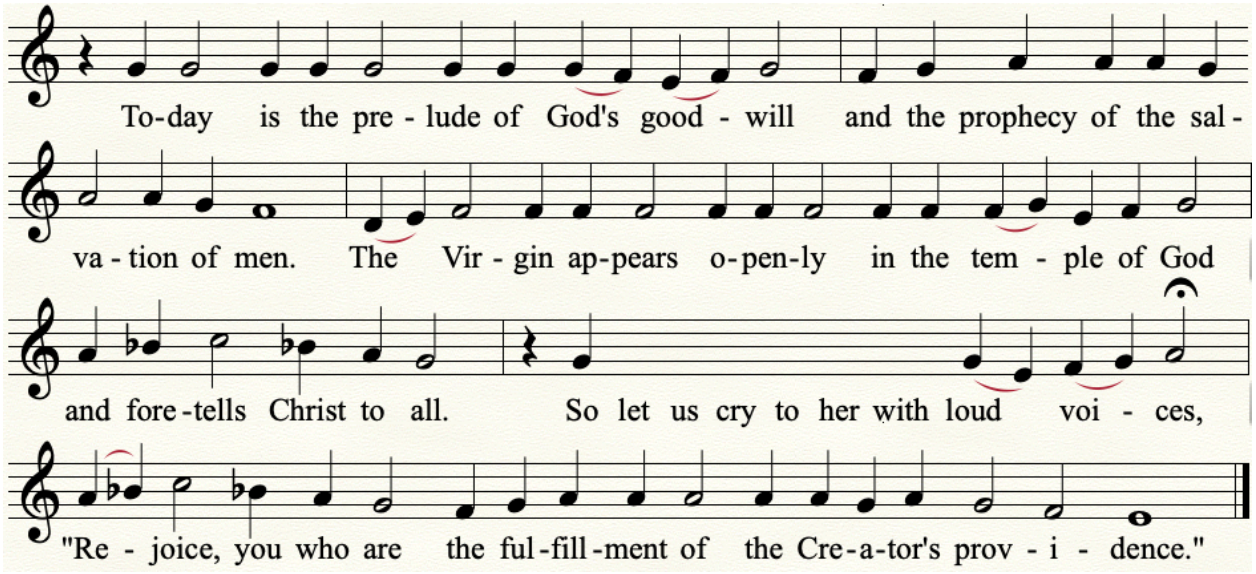
PRIEST: May Christ our true God, *Who rose from the dead* through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-blameless, holy Mother *whose Entrance we commemorate today*… Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us and save us.

PEOPLE: Amen.

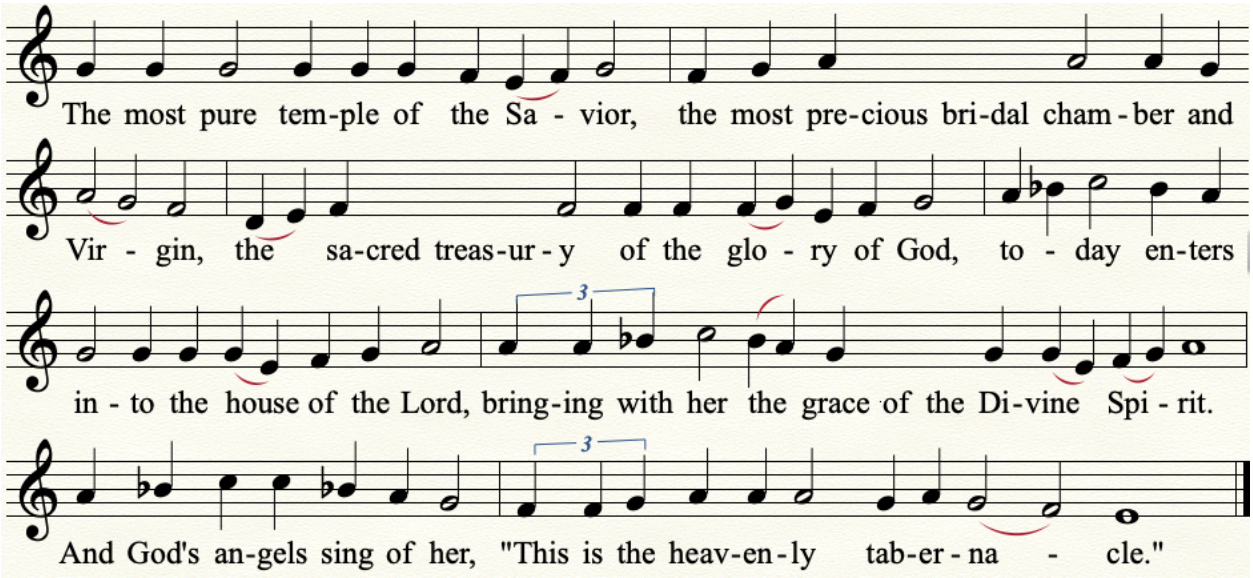
God Grant You Many Years!



Entrance Troparion: Tone 4 *(Znamenny)*



Entrance Kontakion: Tone 4 *(Znamenny)*



Ikos

Seeing the grace of the secret mysteries of God make manifest and clearly fulfilled in the Virgin, I rejoice; and I know not how to understand the strange and secret manner whereby the undefiled has been revealed as alone chosen above all creation, visible and spiritual. Therefore, wishing to praise her, I am struck dumb with amazement in both mind and speech. Yet still I dare to proclaim and magnify her: As the angels sing of her, "This is the heavenly tabernacle."



"Awed by the beauty…" Tone 3 *(Byzantine – Special Melody)*

Awed by the beauty of your virginity, and the exceeding radiance of your purity, Gabriel stood amazed and cried to you, O Mother of God: "What praise may I offer you that is worthy of your beauty? By what name shall I call you? I am lost and bewildered; but I shall greet you as I was commanded: Rejoice, you who are full of grace.

O Pure Virgin: Tone 5

O pure and virgin lady, O spotless Theotokos: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O virgin queen and mother, O dewy fleece most sacred: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O height transcending heav'n above, O beam of light most radiant: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O joy of chaste and virgin maids, surpassing all the angels: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O brilliant light of heav'n above, most clear and most radiant: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
Commanding chief of heav'nly hosts, O holiest of holies: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***

O ever-virgin Mary, O mistress of creation: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O bride all pure and spotless, O lady all holy: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O holy Mary bride and queen, O cause of our rejoicing: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O maiden queen most hon'rable, O mother most holy: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
More precious than the cherubim, more glorious than the seraphim: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
Surpassing principalities, dominions, thrones and powers: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***

Rejoice song of the cherubim, rejoice, hymn of the angels: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
Rejoice, ode of the seraphim, and joy of the archangels: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
Rejoice, O peace, rejoice, O joy, and haven of salvation: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O bridal chamber of the Word, unfading, fragrant blossom: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
Rejoice, delight of paradise, Rejoice, life everlasting: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
Rejoice of holy tree of life, and fount of immortality: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***

I supplicate thee, Lady, I humbly call upon thee: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O queen of all, I beg thee to grant me thy favor: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O spotless and most honored maid, O lady all holy: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
I call upon thee, fervently, thou temple most holy: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
O thou my help, deliver me from harm and all adversity: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***
And by thy prayers show me to be an heir of immortality: ***Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!***