

Presanctified Liturgy

(Abbreviated)

Wednesday - Week 2

March 12, 2025

Transfer Relics of Nikephoros - 13th

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.

“Come Let Us Worship...”

Psalm 104

READER: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind, Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. You Who laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever, You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At Your rebuke they fled; at the voice of Your thunder they hastened away. They went up over the mountains; they went down into the valleys, to the place which You founded for them. You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, that they may not return to cover the earth. He sends the springs into the valleys, which flow among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. By them the birds of the heavens have their habitation; they sing among the branches. He waters the hills from His upper chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works. He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and vegetation for the service of man, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine that makes glad the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread which strengthens man's heart. The trees of the Lord are full of sap, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted, where the birds make their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high hills are for the wild goats; the cliffs are a refuge for the rock badgers. He appointed the moon for the seasons; the sun know its going down. You made darkness, and it is night, in which all the beasts of the forest creep about. The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their food from God. When the sun arises, they gather together and lie down in their dens. Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening. O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions – this great and wide sea, in which are

innumerable teeming things, living things both small and great. There the ships sail about and there is that Leviathan which You have made to play there. These all wait for You, that You may give them their food in due season. What You give them they gather in; You open Your hand, they are filled with good. You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in His works. He looks on the earth, and it trembles; He touches the hills, and they smoke. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. May my meditation be sweet to Him; will be glad in the Lord. May sinners be consumed from the earth, and the wicked be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord! The sun knows its going down. You make darkness and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

O our God and our hope, glory to You!

The Great Litany

18th Kathisma Psalms - The Psalms of Ascent

* * *First Stasis* * *

Psalm 120 (LXX 119)

In my distress I cried to the Lord,
and He heard me.

Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips
and from a deceitful tongue.

What shall be given to you,
or what shall be done to you, O false tongue?

Sharp arrows of the warrior,
with coals of the broom tree!

Woe is me, that I dwell in Meshech,
that I dwell among the tents of Kedar!

My soul has dwelt too long with one who hates peace.
I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war.

Psalm 121 (LXX 120)

I will lift up my eyes to the hills—
from whence comes my help?

My help comes from the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

He will not allow your foot to be moved;
He Who keeps you will not slumber.
Behold, He Who keeps Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;
the Lord shall preserve your soul.
The Lord shall preserve your going out and your coming in
from this time forth, and even forevermore.

Psalm 122 (LXX 121)

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go into the house of the Lord.”
Our feet have been standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem!
Jerusalem is built
as a city that is compact together,
Where the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to the Testimony of Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
For thrones are set there for judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls,
prosperity within your palaces.”
For the sake of my brethren and companions,
I will now say, “Peace be within you.”
Because of the house of the Lord our God
I will seek your good.

Psalm 123 (LXX 122)

Unto You I lift up my eyes,
O You who dwell in the heavens.
Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters,
as the eyes of the maid to the hand of her mistress,
So our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until He has mercy on us.
Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us!
For we are exceedingly filled with contempt.
Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorn of those who are at ease,
with the contempt of the proud.

Psalm 124 (LXX 123)

“If it had not been the Lord Who was on our side,”

let Israel now say—

“If it had not been the Lord Who was on our side,

when men rose up against us, then they would have swallowed us alive,

When their wrath was kindled against us;

then the waters would have overwhelmed us,

The stream would have gone over our soul;

then the swollen waters would have gone over our soul.”

Blessed be the Lord,

Who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers;

the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

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

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

The Little Litany

The Second Stasis - omitted

* * *Third Stasis* * *

Psalm 130 (LXX 129)

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord;

Lord, hear my voice!

Let Your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications.

If you, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope.

My soul waits for the Lord.

More than those who watch for the morning—

Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord;

for with the Lord there is mercy,

And with Him is abundant redemption.

And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Psalm 131 (LXX 130)

Lord, my heart is not haughty,

nor my eyes lofty.

Neither do I concern myself with great matters,
nor with things too profound for me.
Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with his mother;
Like a weaned child is my soul within me.
O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time forth and forever.

Psalm 132 (LXX 131)

Lord, remember David and all his afflictions;
How he swore to the Lord, and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob:
“Surely I will not go into the chamber of my house,
Or go up to the comfort of my bed;
I will not give sleep to my eyes
or slumber to my eyelids,
Until I find a place for the Lord,
a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob.”
Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of the woods.
Let us go into His tabernacle;
let us worship at His footstool.
Arise, O Lord, to Your resting place,
You and the ark of Your strength.

PAUSE and KNEEL.

Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness,
and let Your saints shout for joy.
For Your servant David’s sake,
do not turn away the face of Your Anointed.
The Lord has sworn in truth to David; He will not turn from it:
“I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body.
If your sons will keep My covenant and My testimony which I
shall teach them,
their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore.”
For the Lord has chosen Zion;
He has desired it for His dwelling place:
“This is My resting place forever;
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
I will abundantly bless her provision;
I will satisfy her poor with bread.
I will also clothe her priests with salvation,
and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.
There I will make the horn of David grow;
I will prepare a lamp for My Anointed.
His enemies I will clothe with shame,
but upon Himself His crown shall flourish.”

Psalm 133 (LXX 132)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell together in unity!
It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard,
the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments.
It is like the dew of Hermon,
descending upon the mountains of Zion;
For there the Lord commanded the blessing—
life forevermore.

Psalm 134 (LXX 133)

Behold, bless the Lord,
all you servants of the Lord,
Who by night stand in the house of the Lord!
Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord.
The Lord Who made heaven and earth
bless you from Zion!
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)
O our God and our Hope, glory to You.

The Little Litany

O Lord, I Cry...” – Tone 5 (abbreviated)

Opening Psalm Verses - Psalm 141:1, 2 (LXX 140)

O Lord, I cry out unto You, hear me! Hear me, O Lord. O Lord, I cry out to You,
hear me. Give ear to my voice when I cry out, when I cry out to You. Hear me, O
Lord. Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense, and the lifting up of my
hands as the evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

We skip to this verse & Cantor sings:

The righteous shall surround me, for You shall deal bountifully with me.

Psalm 130 (LXX 129)

Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!

Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is
forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.

(Tone 1) – Triodion

*Keeping a spiritual fast, O brethren, let us speak no lies with our tongue nor give
our brother cause for scandal; but through repentance let us make the lamp of our
soul burn brightly, and let us cry with tears unto Christ: forgive us our trespasses
in Your love for mankind.*

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope.

O martyrs worthy of all praise, your bodies were not buried in the earth, yet heaven has received you; the gates of paradise were opened to you, and entering within you have eaten from the Tree of Life. Pray to Christ that He may grant peace and mercy to our souls.

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, I say more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord;

(Tone 3)

At the prayers of Your divine Apostles, grant in Your love, O merciful Lord, that we may spend the time of the fast with truly contrite minds: so may we all be saved and glorify You.

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

(Tone 6)

O apostles of Christ, shining lights to mortal men, treasuries of the wise knowledge of our God, filling the world with riches: through your holy prayers deliver us from temptation as we sing your praises, and guide us through the season of the fast, watchfully guarding our lives in peace. So shall our prayers be acceptable to Christ as we celebrate His passion, and with boldness we shall offer glory to our God.

Psalm 117 (LXX 116)

O, praise the Lord, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!

(Tone 8) – Nikephoros

Having put your passions in full submission to your mind and will, O blessed Father Nikephoros, you made your soul shine with fair virtues of all colors. You harvested wisdom from doctrine in keeping with the Orthodox Faith, and passed on this treasure to all those who came to you. By grace, you became a lamp shining with a thousand flames,

For His merciful kindness is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

As a celestial guide, you climbed up into the heights, up to heaven, carried in the chariot of the virtues, O blessed Father Nikephoros, wise theologian. For by imitating the zeal of Elijah, with the sword of the Spirit you completely overthrew the shameful heretics. O most blessed preacher and mouthpiece of God.

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

Rejoice, holy Mary, Mother of Christ our God! Rejoice, pride and joy of all the world! Rejoice, overshadowed mountain and all-golden lampstand! Rejoice, our refuge and temple of the Lord! Rejoice, holy jar of manna and glory of the Orthodox!

The Prayer before the Entrance

“O Joyful Light”

PEOPLE: O joyful Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun and behold the light of evening, we praise God: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. For it is right at all times to worship You with voices of praise, O Son of God and Giver of life. Therefore all the world glorifies You.

The First Evening Prokeimenon: Tone 6

Psalm 32:11 (LXX 31)

Be glad in the Lord, O you righteous; / and be joyful, all you who are upright of heart.

Verse: Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven.

The First Old Testament Reading

Genesis 4:16-26

Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son—Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech. Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah. And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother’s name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain was Naamah. Then Lamech said to his wives: “Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold.” And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, “For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.” And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.

The Second Evening Prokeimenon: Tone 1

Psalm 33:22 (LXX 32)

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

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, for praise is fitting for the upright.

DEACON: Command!

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

PRIEST: Wisdom. Let us attend. The light of Christ: Illumines all.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

The Second Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 5:15 – 6:3

Drink water from your own cistern, and running water from your own well. Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be only your own, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice with the wife of your youth. As a loving deer and a graceful doe, let her affection satisfy you at all times; and always be enraptured with her love. For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman, and be embraced in the arms of a seductress? For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and He ponders all his paths. His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, and he is caught in the cords of his sin. He shall die for lack of instruction, and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray. My son, if you become surety for your friend, if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger, you are snared by the words of your mouth; you are taken by the words of your mouth. So do this, my son, and deliver yourself; for you have come into the hand of your friend: Go and humble yourself; plead with your friend.

“Let My Prayer Arise...”

DEACON: Wisdom.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

Let my prayer arise in Your sight. Let my prayer arise in Your sight as incense; and let the lifting up, the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Refrain:

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

Let my prayer a - rise in Your sight as in - cense, and let the
lift-ing up of my hands be an eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Lord, I have cried to You, hear me, hear the voice of my prayer, when I cry to You, hear me, when I cry to You, hear me, O Lord. (Refrain)

Set, a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, before my mouth, and keep the door, the door of my lips. Set, a watch, O Lord, before my mouth and keep the door, the door of my lips. (Refrain)

Incline not my heart to evil thing, nor to practice wicked deeds. Incline not my heart to evil thing, nor to practice wicked deeds. (Refrain)

Let my prayer arise in Your sight. Let my prayer arise in Your sight as incense...

And let the lifting up, the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

THE PEOPLE STAND.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication / The Ektenia

The Prayer for the Catechumens

The Prayer for Those Preparing for Baptism (4th-6th Week only)

The First & Second Prayer of the Faithful (abbreviated)

“Now the Powers of Heaven...” and the Entrance



Now the pow - ers of heav - en do serve
in - vis - i - bly, in - vis - i - bly with us.
For be - hold the King of Glo - ry, the King
en - ters in, en - ters in, en - ters in.
For be - hold the mys - ti - cal sac - ri - fice
is lift - ed up, is lift - ed up ful - - - filled.

THE PEOPLE MAKE A PROSTRATION AS THE PRIEST MAKES A PROCESSION WITH THE HOLY GIFTS AND STAND WHEN RETURNS TO THE ALTAR.



Let us draw near in faith and be - come com - mu - ni - cants
of Life e - ter - nal, e - ter - nal, e - ter - nal Life.
Al - le - lu - - - ia. Al - le - lu - - - ia.

The Prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, lust of power, and idle talk.

PROSTRATION

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Your servant.

PROSTRATION

O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother; for You are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

PROSTRATION

The Evening Litany

The Lord's Prayer

The Prayer with Heads Bowed

The Communion Hymn / Koinonikon – Tone 1 (Heckman)

O taste and see, O taste and see how good is the Lord, is the Lord, is the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Post-Communion Hymn

READER: I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall always be on my lips.

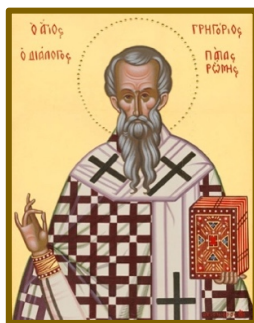
PEOPLE: O taste the heav'nly bread and the cup of life, and see how good is the Lord, is the Lord, is the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Dismissal

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-blameless, holy Mother... of our father among the saints, Gregory the Dialogist, whose Presanctified Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated;...at the supplication of (*N., patron of the church*), ...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.



Gregory the Dialogist

Psalm 145 (LXX 144)

I will worship You, my God, O King;
and forever I will bless Your holy name.
Every day I will give thanks to You,
and I will always praise Your name.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
and His greatness is beyond all understanding.
Let every generation proclaim Your works to their children,
and declare Your mighty deeds and acts.

I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty,
Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts and Your greatness.
Everyone shall speak of Your great goodness,
and shall sing of Your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and great in mercy.
The Lord is kind and full of love,
and His tender mercies are revealed in all His works.

All Your creation, O Lord, shall praise You,
and all Your saints shall bless You.
All living things shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom,
and unceasingly reveal Your power.

They will tell of His wondrous miracles,
and the glorious majesty of His kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The eyes of all look expectantly to You,
and You give them their food in due season.
You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
The Lord lifts up the fallen and raises up all who are bowed down.

The Lord is faithful in all His ways,
and gracious in all His works.
The Lord is near to all who call upon Him,
to all who call upon Him with a pure heart.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear His name;
He also hears their cry and saves them.
The Lord preserves all those who love Him,
but all the wicked He will destroy.

I shall ever sing the praises of the Lord,
and all living things shall bless His holy name forever.