

Postfeast Dormition

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Tone 1

GREAT VESPERS - SATURDAY EVENING

DEACON: Bless, Father.

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

“Come Let Us Worship...”

Psalm 104

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; / I 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.

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

O our God and our hope, glory to You!

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For this city, every city and countryside, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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.

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.

DEACON: For our deliverance 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.

Exclamation of the Fourth Prayer

PRIEST: For unto 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.

“O Lord, I Cry...” – Tone 5

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.

Set a guard, O Lord over my mouth; keep watch o’er the door of my lips.

Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men who work iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies.

Let the righteous strike me; it shall be a kindness, and let him reprove me; it shall be as excellent oil. Let not my head refuse it, for still my prayer is against the deeds of the wicked.

Their judges are overthrown by the sides of the cliff and they hear my words for they are sweet. Our bones are scattered at the mouth of the grave, as when one plows and breaks up the earth.

But my eyes are upon You, O God the Lord; in You I take refuge; do not leave my soul destitute.

Keep me from the snares which they have laid for me, and from the traps of the workers of iniquity. Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I escape safely.

Psalm 142 (LXX 141)

I cry out to the Lord with my voice; with my voice to the Lord I make my supplication.

I pour out my complaint before Him; I declare before Him my trouble.

When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then You knew my path. In a way in which I walk they have secretly set a snare for me.

Look on my right hand and see, for there is no one who acknowledges me; refuge has failed me; no one cares for my soul.

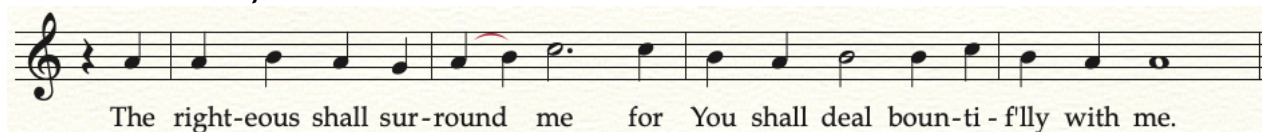
I cried out to You, O Lord. I said, “You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors for they are stronger than I.”

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Your name.

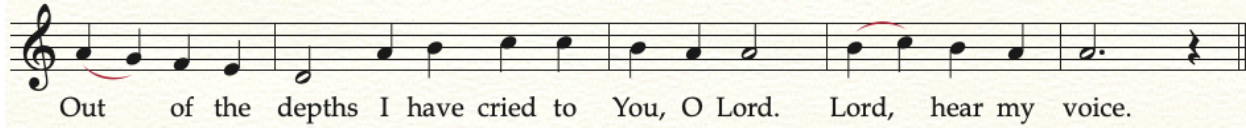
(Tone 1) – Resurrection

Accept our evening prayers, O holy Lord! Grant us remission of our sins, for You alone have manifested the Resurrection to the world.

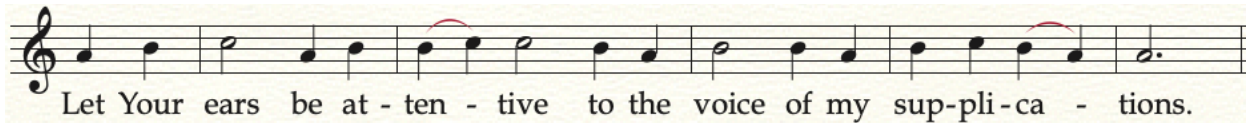


Encircle Zion and surround her, O people! Give glory in her to the One Who rose from the dead! For He is our God, Who has delivered us from our transgressions!

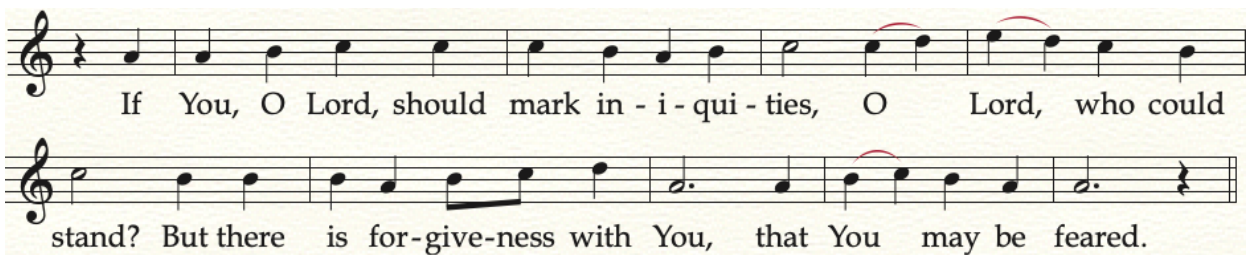
Psalm 130 (LXX 129)



Come, O people! Let us sing and fall down before Christ, glorifying His Resurrection from the dead! For He is our God, Who has delivered the world from the enemy's deceit!



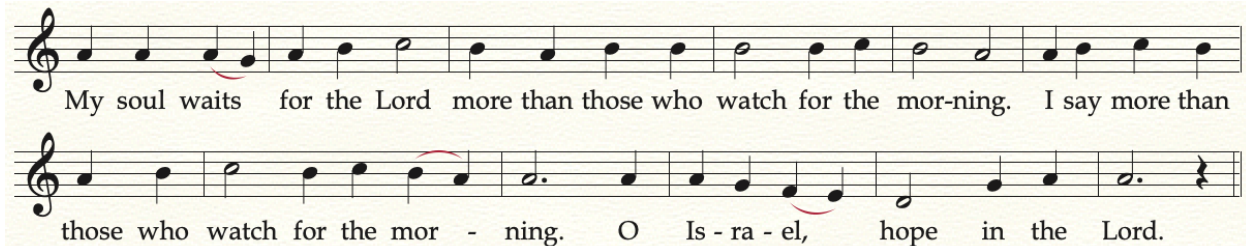
Be glad, O heavens! Sound trumpets, O foundations of the earth! Sing in gladness, O mountains! Behold Emmanuel has nailed our sins to the Cross! Granting life, He has slain death! He has resurrected Adam as the Lover of mankind.



Let us praise Him Who voluntarily was crucified in the flesh for our sake. He suffered, was buried, but rose from the dead. By Orthodoxy confirm Your Church, O Christ. Grant peace for our life as the gracious Lover of mankind.



We stand unworthily before Your life-bearing tomb, O Christ God, offering glory to Your inexpressible compassion. You have accepted the Cross and death, O sinless One to grant resurrection to the world as the Lover of mankind.



(Tone 2) – Dormition

With what lips shall we call the Theotokos blessed? We who are vain, poor and worthless. She is more honorable than the whole creation, and more holy than the cherubim and all the angels. She is the unshaken throne of the King, the abode in which the Most High has made His dwelling-place. She is the holy place of God

and salvation of the world, who richly grants unto the faithful great mercy on this her holy feast.

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

With what lips shall we call the Theotokos blessed? We who are vain, poor and worthless. She is more honorable than the whole creation, and more holy than the cherubim and all the angels. She is the unshaken throne of the King, the abode in which the Most High has made His dwelling-place. She is the holy place of God and salvation of the world, who richly grants unto the faithful great mercy on this her holy feast.

Psalm 117 (LXX 116)

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

O most pure Virgin, what were those dread and most awesome songs that the Apostles of the Lord offered to you then? as they stood round your deathbed and cried aloud in wonder: "The palace of the King is raised on high and the ark of holiness is taken up! Let the gates be opened wide that the gate of God may enter into abundant joy! She who asks without ceasing for great mercy on the world."

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

What spiritual songs and hymns shall we sing to you, O all-holy Lady? For by your deathless falling asleep you have sanctified the whole world, and have passed to the places above the world, there to perceive the beauty of the Almighty and, as His Mother, you now rejoice in it exceedingly, O most pure Virgin. You are attended by ranks of angels and by the souls of the just. Together with them ask for us peace and great mercy.

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

She who is higher than the heavens and more glorious than the cherubim, she who is held in greater honor than all creation, she who by reason of her surpassing purity became the receiver of the everlasting Essence. Today she commends her most pure soul into the hands of her Son. With her, all things are filled with joy, and she bestows great mercy upon us.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Tone 1) – Resurrection

Let us sing the praises of the Virgin Mary, the door of heaven and the glory of all the world, the song of the angels, and the beauty of all the earth. For she was born a human yet gave birth to God. She was revealed as heaven and the temple of the Godhead. Tearing down the wall of enmity, she ushered in peace and threw open the kingdom. Therefore, since she is the foundation of our faith, we have as our defender the Lord, Who was born of her. Be bold, therefore, be bold, O people of God, for Christ will destroy all our enemies, since He is all-powerful.

The Prayer before the Entrance

DEACON: Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: In the evening and in the morning and at noonday we praise You, we bless You, we give thanks to You, and we pray to You, O Master of all, Lord Who love mankind. Direct our prayer before You as incense, and incline not our hearts to words or thoughts of evil; but deliver us from all who seek after our souls. For unto You, Lord, O Lord, we lift up our eyes, and in You have we hoped. Put us not to shame, O our God.

For unto 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.

DEACON: Amen.

DEACON: Bless, father, the holy entrance.

PRIEST: Blessed is the entrance into Your holy place always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

DEACON: Amen.

DEACON: Wisdom. Let us attend.

“O Joyful Light” (Monk Martin)

O Joy-ful Light of the Ho-ly glo - ry, of the im-mor - tal heav-en - ly
9 ho - ly bless-ed Fa - ther, O Je - sus Christ! Now that we have come to the
15 set-ting of the sun and be - hold the light of eve - ning we praise
21 God: the Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Spi - rit. For it is right at all times to

The Evening Prokeimenon: Tone 7

Psalm 77 (LXX 76)

DEACON: The evening prokeimenon.

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty.

Verse: The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength.

Verse: For He established the world so that it shall never be moved.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication / The Ektenia

DEACON: Let us say with all our soul and with all our mind, let us say.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, hear us we pray, and have mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (*and for the servants of God. NN.*); and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, and for pardon and forgiveness of sins for (*the servants of God NN., and*) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for those who serve and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Your great and rich mercy.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: [O Lord our God, receive this fervent supplication of Your servants, and have mercy on us according to the multitude of Your mercy; and send down Your compassion on us and on all Your people, who await Your great and rich mercy.]

For You are a merciful God and love mankind, 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.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Evening Prayer

PEOPLE: Grant, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever. Amen. Let Your mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on You. Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes. Blessed are You, O Master; make me to understand Your statutes. Blessed are You, O holy One; enlighten me with Your statutes. Your mercy, O Lord, endures

forever. Despise not the works of Your hands. To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Evening Litany

DEACON: Let us complete our evening prayer 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: That this whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For all things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For a Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, and peaceful, and for a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

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.

An Excerpt from the Seventh Prayer

PRIEST: O Master, Bestower of all good things, may we, being moved to compunction on our beds, call to remembrance Your holy name in the night, that enlightened by meditation on Your commandments, we may rise in joyfulness of soul to glorify Your goodness, offering up prayers and supplications to Your tender love for our own sins and for those of all Your people, whom You visit in mercy, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos.

For You are a good God and love mankind, 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.

PEOPLE: Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE: And to your spirit.

The Prayer with Heads Bowed

DEACON: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord, our God, Who bowed the heavens and came down for the salvation of mankind, look upon Your servants and Your inheritance; for to You, the fearful Judge, Who love mankind, have Your servants bowed their heads, and submissively inclined their necks, not awaiting help from men, but entreating Your mercy and looking confidently for Your salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every enemy, from all adverse powers of the devil, and from vain thoughts and evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of Your kingdom: of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Aposticha: Tone 1

By Your suffering, O Christ,
we have been freed from sufferings.

And by Your Resurrection we have been delivered from corruption *

O Lord, glory to You!

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty. The Lord is clothed with strength and has girded Himself.

Let creation rejoice;

let the heavens be glad.

Let the nations clap their hands with gladness. *

For Christ our Savior has nailed our sins to the Cross.

Slaying death, He has given life. *

He has resurrected fallen Adam as the Lover of mankind.

For He established the world which shall not be shaken.

As King of heaven and earth,

You were voluntarily crucified in Your love for mankind.

Hell was angered when it met You below. *

Adam rose seeing You, the Creator, under the earth.

O wonder! How has the life of all tasted death?

You enlightened the world which cries:

“O Lord, Who rose from the dead, *

Glory to You.”

Holiness adorns Your house, O Lord, forever.

The myrrh-bearing women came with haste to Your tomb,
bearing myrrh and lamentations.

And when they did not find Your most pure body, *
they learned from the angel of the new and glorious wonder.

And so they announced to the apostles: *

“The Lord has risen, granting great mercy to the world.”

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

(Tone 5)

Sing, O people!

Sing the praises of the Mother of our God:

for today she delivers her soul, full of light *

into the spotless hands of Him Who was made incarnate of her without seed.

And she entreats Him without ceasing *

to grant the whole world peace and great mercy.

Hymn of St. Simeon

Lord, now you are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.

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. Amen.

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.

Resurrection Troparion: Tone 1 (Obikhod)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews; while the sol-diers were
guard-ing Your most pure bod - y, You rose on the third day, O Sa - vior,
grant-ing life to the world. The pow'rs of heav'n there-fore cried to You, O
Giv - er of life: Glory to Your Res - ur - rec - tion, O Christ!
Glo - ry to Your king-dom! Glory to Your eternal plan, O You Who love man-kind.

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

Dormition Troparion: Tone 1 (Obikhod)

In giv-ing birth, O The-o - to - kos, you have re-tained your vir-
gin - i - ty and in fall-ing a-sleep you have not for-sa-ken the world,
you who are the Moth-er of Life have passed o-ver in-to life,
and by your prayers you de - liv - er our souls from death.

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 Dormition we commemorate today...* of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind. Through the prayers...have mercy on us and save us.

PEOPLE: Amen.

Dormition Kontakion: Tone 2 (Special Melody)

The grave and death could not hold the Moth - er of God,
5 who is sleep-less in her prayers and in whose in-ter-ces - sion
8 lies un-fail-ing hope. For as the Moth - er of God
11 she has been trans-port - ed in - to life by Him Who
14 dwelt with - in her ev - er vir - gin womb.

Ikos

Set a rampart about my mind, O my Savior, for I boldly sing the praises of Your most pure Mother, the rampart of the world. Establish me firmly within the fortress of my words and make me strong within the defenses of my thoughts: for You promise to fulfill the petitions of those who entreat You with faith. Grant to me a tongue and ready speech, and thoughts that are without shame: for every gift of enlightenment is sent down from You, O guiding Light, Who dwelt within her ever-virgin womb.



The Falling Asleep of the Mother of God

Dormition Fast Exapostilaria: Tone 3 (Byzantine)



O you A - pos-tles from far off, be-ing gath-ered to - geth - er

5 in the vil - lage of Geth - se - ma - ne, lay my bod-y in bur - i - al,

11 and You, my Son and my God, re-ceive now my spi - rit from me.

17 You are the sweet - ness of an - gels, the glad-ness of the af-flict-ted ones,

22 a pro - tec-tion of all Chris - tians, O Vir-gin Moth - er of our Lord;

27 grant me now help and save me from the e - ter - nal tor - ments.

32 I have you as me - di-a - tor be - fore God Who loves man-kind;

37 may He not ques - tion my ac - tion be - fore the hosts of the an - gels,

42 I ask of you, O Vir - gin, has - ten now quick - ly to my aid.

46 You are a tow-er a-dorned with gold, a ci - ty sur-round-ed by

50 twelve walls; a shin - ing throne touched by the sun,

53 a roy-al seat for the King, O un-ex - plain-a - ble won - der,

58 how do you nurse the Mas - - - - - ter?