THE ORDER FOR READER VESPERS
WHEN WE ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2020


*THE SERVICE TAKES PLACE IN FRONT OF OUR ICON CORNER*

EVERYONE: O, God cleanse me a sinner and have mercy on me! (3x)

READER: Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

READER: Amen. O, Heavenly King, the Comforter the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things. Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life. Come and abide in us and cleanse us from every impurity and save our souls, O Good One!

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name’s sake.

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

Amen.

EVERYONE: 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.

READER: Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

READER: 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 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! Come, Let us worship and fall down before Him!

THE PSALM OF CREATION (Psalm 104/103 LXX)

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, thou art very great! Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, who covers thyself with light as with a garment, who hast stretched out the heavens like a tent, who hast laid the beams of thy chambers on the waters, who makes the clouds thy chariot, who rides on the wings of the wind, who makes the winds thy messengers, fire and flame thy ministers. Thou didst set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At thy rebuke they fled; at the sound of thy thunder they took to flight.
The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which thou didst appoint for them. Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

From thy lofty abode thou waterest the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy work. Thou dost cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and fodder for the animals that serve man, That he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart. The trees of the LORD are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which he planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers.

Thou hast made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises, they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

O LORD, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all; the earth is full of thy creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships, and Leviathan which thou didst form to sport in it. These all look to thee, to give them their food in due season. When thou givest to them, they gather it up; when thou openest thy hand, they are filled with good things. When thou hidest thy face, they are dismayed; when thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever, may the LORD rejoice in his works, who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! The sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness and it is night. O Lord how manifold are thy works, in wisdom hast thou made them all!

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 Thee, O God! (3x)

THE GREAT LITANY is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon.

The reader continues:

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

EVERYONE: Amen. Followed by: ‘Blessed is the Man…’

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! For the Lord knows the way of the righteous but the way of the wicked will perish. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in Him with trembling. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessed are all who take refuge in Him. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Arise, O Lord, save me O my God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Salvation belongs to The Lord. Thy blessing be upon Thy people. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
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
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

THE LITTLE LITANY is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:

READER: Lord have mercy (3x)
Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen. Followed by: “Lord, I call upon Thee…” (Tone 2)

"Lord I Call..."  Tone 2

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me! Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me! Receive the voice of my prayer, when I call upon Thee!/ / Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice!/ / Hear me, O Lord!

Reader: (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!
Come, let us worship the Word of God begotten of the Father before all ages, and incarnate of the Virgin Mary! Having endured the Cross, He was buried as He Himself desired.// And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

Reader: (9) The righteous will surround me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.
Christ our Savior nailed to the Cross the bond against us, He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.// We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

Reader: (8) Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!
With the Archangels let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!
He is our Savior, our Redeemer. He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power// to judge the world which He made.

Reader: (7) Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!
The Angel proclaimed Thee, the crucified and buried Master.
He told the women: “Come, see the place where He lay! He is risen as He said, for He is almighty.” We worship Thee, O only immortal One./ / Have mercy on us, O Christ, the Giver of life!

Reader: (6) If Thou, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.
O the marvelous wonder! The source of Life is laid in a grave, and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven. Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos! Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:
“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with thee,// He that grants the world great mercy through thee!”
Reader: (5) For Thy name's sake I have waited for Thee, O Lord, my soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

O the marvelous wonder! The source of Life is laid in a grave, and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven. Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos! Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:

"Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with thee, // He that grants the world great mercy through thee!"

Reader: (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope on the Lord!

O the wonder of thy mysteries, pure Lady: thou wast made the throne of the Most High, and today thou hast passed from earth to heaven. Thy glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness. Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King! Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with thee, // He that grants the world great mercy through thee!

Reader: (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

O the wonder of thy mysteries, pure Lady: thou wast made the throne of the Most High, and today thou hast passed from earth to heaven. Thy glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness. Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King! Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with thee, // He that grants the world great mercy through thee!

Reader: (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

The Dominions and Thrones, the Rulers, Principalities and Powers, the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify thy falling asleep. All those born of earth rejoice, adorned with honor by thy divine glory. Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels: "Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with thee, // He that grants the world great mercy through thee!"

Reader: (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

The Dominions and Thrones, the Rulers, Principalities and Powers, the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify thy falling asleep. All those born of earth rejoice, adorned with honor by thy divine glory. Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels: "Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with thee, // He that grants the world great mercy through thee!"

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

By the divine command the God-bearing Apostles were caught up by clouds from every place. When they came to thine all-pure body, the source of Life, they kissed it most reverently. The highest Powers of heaven were also present with their Master, and seized with awe they escorted the inviolate body, the body that had received God in the flesh. In a manner beyond this world they went before it and invisibly cried out to the ranks above them:

"Behold, the Queen of all, the Child of God, has come! Lift up your gates, and in a manner beyond this world receive the Mother of the everlasting Light, for through her was accomplished the salvation of all the mortal race!

We cannot gaze upon her, nor is it possible to render honor worthy of her, for her excellence surpasses all understanding.” Therefore, O immaculate Theotokos, who livest forever with thy Son, the life-bearing King, pray ceaselessly to Him to preserve the new people of God, and to save them from every hostile assault, for we have acquired thine intercession, //

and to the ages, in manifest splendor, we call thee blessed.
Reader: *Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*
The shadow of the Law passed when grace came; as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed, so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin. The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame.// Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

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

**THE EVENING PROKEIMENON**

READER: The evening prokeimenon is in the sixth tone: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: The Lord is robed, He is girded with strength!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

CHOIR: The Lord is King! He is robed in Majesty!

READER: The Lord is King!

CHOIR: He is robed in Majesty!

**THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:**

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.

READER: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.
Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name for ever. Amen.
Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee.
Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes.
Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy commandments.
Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy precepts.
Thy mercy endures forever, O Lord! Do not despise the works of Thy hands!
To Thee belongs worship, to Thee belongs praise, to Thee belongs glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION is not said in the absence of a Priest or Deacon. The reader continues:

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.

Followed by the Aposticha.

Aposticha

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, has enlightened the whole universe, recalling Thy creation. // Glory to Thee, O almighty Lord!

v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

By the Tree Thou didst destroy the curse of the Tree, O Savior.
By Thy burial Thou didst mortify the majesty of death.
Thou hast enlightened our race by Thy Resurrection. //
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

v. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

When Thou wast seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ,
Thou didst restore the beauty of Thy creatures. The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Thy side with a spear.
The Hebrews, not knowing Thy power, asked that Thy tomb might be sealed, but through the mercy of Thy compassion, Thou didst accept the tomb and didst rise on the third day! // O Lord, glory to Thee!

v. Holiness befitteth Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

O Christ, the Giver of life, for the sake of the dead Thou didst voluntarily endure death, descending into hell as the Mighty One to save those who awaited Thy coming, granting them the life of paradise instead of hell. Grant also to us who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day // cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

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

At thy departing, O Virgin Theotokos, to Him Who was ineffably born of thee, James, the first bishop and brother of the Lord, was there, and so was Peter, the most honored pinnacle of the theologians, and the whole sacred choir of the Apostles. In words of theology that showed forth heavenly things they sang the praises of the divine and amazing mystery of the dispensation of Christ, and they rejoiced, O all-praised Virgin, as they buried thy body, the source of Life, which had received God. On high, the all-holy and most venerable angelic Powers, in amazement at the wonder, bowed and said to one another: “Lift up your gates, and receive her who bore the Creator of heaven and earth!” So we too celebrate thy memory and cry out to thee, all-praised Lady: // “Raise up the horn of Christians, and save our souls!”
After which is sung The Prayer of St. Simeon: ‘Lord, now lettest…’

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

READER: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)
   Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Amen.

O most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy Name’s sake.
   Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.
   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.

READER: Through the Prayers of Our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, Have Mercy on us.

CHOIR: Amen.

Troparion for The Resurrection – Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

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

Troparion for The Feast of the Dormition of The Theotokos - Tone 1

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity. In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life, // and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

READER: More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond than the Seraphim, without defilement, You gave birth to God the Word, True Theotokos, we magnify You.

CHOIR: 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, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy. Lord, Bless!
READER: May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our True God, through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, through the Prayers of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, by the Power of the Precious and Life-Creating Cross, through the protection of the Bodiless Powers of Heaven, through the prayers of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, through the prayers of the holy glorious and all-laudable Apostles, through the Prayers of all the North American Saints, through the prayers of ______________ the patron of this Holy Temple, through the prayers of ______________ whom we commemorate today, of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, have mercy on us and save us.

CHOIR: Amen.

(The faithful now come up and venerate the Precious Cross and Icons in our Icon Corner.)

READER: Through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us!

CHOIR: Amen. Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy!