

THE SERVICES
OF THE
HOURS
-
THE
GREAT
BOOK
OF THE
HOURS
-
GREAT
HOROLOGION

Ottawa, Ontario
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THE SERVICE OF THE TWELVE PSALMS

The venerable desert fathers sing this service in the day-time, and at night-time. Mention is made of this service in the books of the fathers, and in the lives, and martyrologies of many saints. This order was brought from the Holy Mountain by the venerable Dositheus, archimandrite of the Kiev Caves.

This fixed service (found as said in Kiev and on the Holy Mountain) is a relative of the services followed in the Egyptian desert, and in the early Benedictine rule. In those places the psalms are not fixed as here, but variable, along with other prayers, to allow for progressive recitation of the Psalter. This form would appropriately be found in the Psalter itself.

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

– or – **Reader :** Through the prayers of our holy *fathers*, O Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. ^{1]}

Reader : Amen.

Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You.

– or – Glory be to You, O Christ our God, our hope, glory be to You.

* O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who are everywhere, and fulfil all things ; Treasury of good things, and Provider of Life, come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

* [We do not read “Heavenly King” in paschaltide. We say “Christ is risen....” (three times). From Ascension to Pentecost, we read the tropar of Ascension.]

Reader : Holy God, Holy Strong, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

(three times) (three metanias)

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from* our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit, and heal our infirmities, for Your Name’s sake.

*be propitious to

¹ This invocation refers to the persons present, not ancestors, hence fathers for a male monastery, mothers for a female monastery, brothers, and sisters, for a usual parish situation.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Our Father, who are in the heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and bring us not to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader : Amen.

Response : Lord, have mercy. (*twelve times*)

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

Reader : O 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.
(*with three metanias*)

PSALM 26

The LORD is my illumination, and my Saviour ; whom shall I fear ? The Lord is the protector of my life ; of whom shall I be afraid ? When those who mistreat me, and draw near to eat my flesh – my oppressors, and my enemies – they have grown weak, and have fallen. Even if an army be drawn up against me, my heart shall not be afraid. Even if a war should rise against me, all the same would I hope. One thing I asked of the Lord, and I shall seek it out – to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to contemplate the delights of the Lord, and to visit His holy temple. For He has hidden me in His tent in my evil day ; in the secret place of His tent has He sheltered me. He has lifted me up upon a rock. And now, behold, He has lifted my head up over my enemies. I have surrounded His tent, and offered up a sacrifice of praise, and loud rejoicing ; I shall sing, and chant to the Lord. Hear, O Lord, my voice with which I have cried out ; have mercy on me, and hear me. My heart has said to You, “I shall seek the Lord”. I have sought after Your Face ; Your Face, O Lord, shall I seek. Do not turn Your Face away from me, and do not in anger incline away from Your servant. Be my helper ; do not forsake me, and do not abandon me, O God, my Saviour. For my father, and my mother have abandoned me, but the Lord has taken me with Him. Give me a law, O Lord, in Your way, and guide me on a straight path because of my enemies. Do not

give me over to the desires of those who oppress me, for unrighteous witnesses have risen against me, and their very unrighteousness has lied to itself. I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait upon the Lord, take courage, and let your heart grow strong ; yea, wait on the Lord.

PSALM 31

Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered up. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes no sin, nor is there any cunning in his mouth. For I have been silent ; my bones have grown old from my crying out the whole day. For by day, and by night has Your hand weighed heavily upon me. I was turned into misery as a thorn was piercing me. I have acknowledged my iniquity, and my sin I have not covered. I have said : “I will confess against myself my iniquity to the Lord,” and You have forgiven the impiety of my heart. Over it every holy one shall pray to You in the right time ; in the flood of the great waters, they shall not draw near to him. You are my refuge from the afflictions encompassing me. O my Shout of Joy, redeem me from those who surround me. I shall make you understand, and teach you on this road in which you walk, I shall fix my eyes upon you. Do not become as a horse, and a mule in which there is no understanding, whose jaws are held with bit, and bridle, and who do not draw near to You. Many are the scourges of the sinner. But mercy shall surround the one who hopes in the Lord. Be glad in the Lord, and exult, O you righteous ; and boast, all you that are upright of heart.

PSALM 56

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for my soul has trusted in You, and in the shadow of Your wings I shall hope, until the iniquity has passed away. I shall cry out to God the Most High, the God who is my Benefactor. He has sent out from the Heaven, and saved me ; to reproach has He given those who trample me down. God has sent out His mercy, and His truth, and He has rescued my soul out of the middle of the lions’ cubs. I lay down, stirred up though I was. The sons of Men – their teeth are spears, and arrows, and their tongues are sharp knives. Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and Your glory over all the earth. They have prepared a snare for my feet, and have bowed down my soul ; they have dug out a hole right before my face, and into it have they fallen. My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready. I shall sing, and chant in my glory. Awake, O

my glory, awake, psaltery, and harp ; I shall arise at daybreak. I shall confess You amongst the peoples, O Lord ; amongst the nations shall I chant to You. For Your mercy has been magnified to the heavens, and Your truth to the clouds. Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and Your glory over all the earth.

Reader : Holy God, Holy Strong, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

(three times) (three metanias)

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit, and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, who are in the heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and bring us not to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader : Amen.

Then, these tropars in Tone 1 :

Readers : Make haste to open Your fatherly arms to me, for I have wasted my life like the prodigal. Do not despise a heart now impoverished, O Saviour, gazing on the inexhaustible riches of Your mercies ; for to You, O Lord, I cry out with compunction, "O Father : I have sinned against Heaven, and before You".

Glory

When You, O God, shall come to earth with glory, then all things shall tremble, and the rivers of fire shall flow before Your judgement seat ; the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed. Then rescue me from the unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O righteous Judge.

Now, and ever

All we who in yearning seek refuge in your goodness, know you to be the Theotokos, who after childbearing remained truly virgin. Indeed, we sinners have in you an intercessor, and in temptation we have you as our salvation, O only immaculate one.

Reader : Lord, have mercy. *(30 times)*

Reader : O 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. (*with three metanias*)

Psalm 33

I shall bless the LORD at all times ; His praise shall always be in my mouth. In the LORD shall my soul be praising ; let the meek hear, and be glad. Magnify the LORD with me, and as one, let us exalt His Name. I sought out the LORD, and He listened to me, and from all my afflictions He rescued me. Come near to Him, and be illumined, and your faces shall not be ashamed. This poor one cried out, and the LORD heard him, and from all his afflictions He saved him. An angel of the Lord shall encamp round about those fearing Him, and He will rescue them. O taste, and see that the LORD is gracious : blessed is the man who hopes on Him. Fear the LORD, all you His holy ones, for there is no want for those fearing Him. The rich have become poor and hungry, but those seeking out the Lord shall not lack any good thing. Come, O children, hear me. I shall teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is the Man who wishes for life, who loves to see good days ? Stop your tongue from ill, and your lips from speaking deceit. Incline away from badness, and do good ; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears towards their supplication. But the Face of the Lord is upon those doing bad things, to exterminate the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cried out, and the Lord heard them ; from all their afflictions He rescued them. The Lord is near to the shattered of heart, and those who are humbled in spirit will He save. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, and from them all will the Lord rescue them. The Lord watches over all their bones ; not one of them shall be shattered. The death of sinners is evil, and those hating the righteous shall do wrong. The Lord will redeem the souls of His bond-servants, and all those hoping on Him shall not do wrong.

Psalm 38

I said, "I shall guard my ways, that I sin not with my tongue". I have placed a guard on my mouth while the sinners set themselves together against me. I became mute, and was humbled, I kept silent, even from good things, and my pain was renewed. My heart became hot within me, and in my meditation a fire has been kindled. I spoke with my tongue, "Make me know my end, O Lord, and what is the number of my days, so that I may know what I lack". Behold, as a hand-breadth have You set my days, and my existence is as nothing before You. Everything,

however, is futility, every Man living. Truly Man walks through in an image, yet in vain is he stirred up. He stores up treasure, and does not know for whom he shall gather it. And now, who is my endurance ? Is it not the Lord ? My existence is from You. From all my iniquities rescue me ; You have made me as a reproach to the fool. I became mute, and did not open my mouth, for it was Your doing. Take Your scourges away from me ; from the strength of Your hand have I failed. With reproofs You have chastened Man, because of his iniquity, and You have melted away his soul like a spider ; yet in vain is every Man stirred up. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and my supplication ; give ear to my tears. Do not be silent, for I am a sojourner with You, and a foreigner, as all my forefathers. Spare me so that I may be refreshed before I depart, and be no more.

PSALM 40

Blessed is the one who understands the poor, and needy ; on the evil day the Lord will rescue him. May the Lord preserve him, and make him live ; and make him blessed on the earth, and may He not give him over into the hands of his enemy. May the Lord help him on his couch of grief ; You have turned over all his bed in his sickness. I said, “O Lord, have mercy on me ; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You”. My enemy spoke evil against me ; when shall he die, and his name perish ? And if he walked in to see me, he would speak in vain ; his heart has gathered iniquity into himself. Then he would walk outside, and speak the same thing. All my enemies used to whisper against me ; and to contrive evil against me. They laid up a store of unlawful words against me, “shall not he who sleeps also rise ?” For it is the Man of my peace, in whom I have trusted, who eats of my bread, who has exalted his tripping me up. As for You, O Lord, have mercy on me , and raise me up, and I shall reward them. In this I have known that You have delighted in me, that my enemy should not rejoice over me. Because of my guilelessness support me, for You have secured me in Your presence forever. Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, from ages to ages. So be it. So be it.

Reader : Holy God, Holy Strong, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

(three times) (three metanias)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Our Father, who are in the heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and bring us not to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader : Amen.

Then these tropars in Tone 4 :

Readers : O Lord, visit my humble soul which has squandered all my life in sins like the Prodigal. Accept me also, and save me.

Glory

I have wasted my whole life like the Prodigal, O Lord, and I cry out to You in tearful compunction, "O Father in heaven, I have sinned. Cleanse me, and save me, and do not turn away from me who have withdrawn myself from You, and who now am destitute because of my fruitless deeds".

Now, and ever

Let us who are sinful, and unworthy, flee fervently to the Theotokos. Let us fall down in repentance, crying out from the depths of our souls, "Help us, and have mercy on us, O Lady. Help us, for we are perishing from our many sins. Do not turn away your poor servants, for you are our only hope".

Reader : Lord, have mercy. (30 times)

Reader : O 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. (with three metanias)

Psalm 69

O God, give heed to my help. O LORD, make haste to help me. Let them be put to shame and be disgraced – those seeking my soul ; let them be turned back and be put to shame – those wishing me bad things. Let them be turned back instantly and be shamed – those saying to me, "Well done, well done". But let them exult and be glad in You – all those seeking You, O God ; and let them continually say : "Let the LORD be magnified" – those loving Your salvation. But poor and needy as I am, help me, O God. My Helper and my Rescuer – it is You. O Lord, do not tarry.

Psalm 70

On You, O Lord, have I hoped, that I may not be put to shame forever. In Your righteousness, rescue me, and take me out ; incline Your ear to me, and save me. Become to me a protecting God, a strong place to save me, for You are my steadfastness , and my refuge. O God, rescue me from the hand of the sinner, from the hands of the transgressor, and the unrighteous. For You are my endurance, O Lord ; O Lord, You are my Hope from my youth. On You have I leaned from the womb, from the belly of my mother You have sheltered me. My hymn shall be continually of You. As a portent to many have I become, but You are a strong Helper. Let my mouth be filled with Your praise that I may hymn Your glory – all the day long, Your magnificence. Do not cast me away in the time of old age ; when my strength shall fail, do not abandon me. For my enemies have spoken about me, and those who watch for my soul have taken counsel together, saying, “God has abandoned him ; pursue him, and lay hold on him, for there is no-one to rescue him”. O God, do not stand far away from me ; O my God, give heed to my help. Let them be put to shame, and fade away, those who defame my soul ; let those who are seeking evil for me be wrapped about with shame, and confusion. But as for me, I shall ever hope on You ; and I shall add to all my praise of You. My mouth shall announce Your righteousness, and Your salvation all the day long. For I did not know Letters. I shall enter the dominion of the Lord ; O Lord, I shall remember Your unique righteousness. O God, You have taught me from my youth, and up to now shall I make known Your wonders. Even unto my venerable old age, O God, do not abandon me, until I make known the strength of Your arm to the generation yet to come – Your dominion, and Your righteousness, O God, and the magnificent things which You have done that reach to the heights. O God, who is like You ? So many evil afflictions have You shown me ; yet You have returned, and made me alive, and from the abysses of the earth have You led me up again. You have made Your majesty more abundant upon me, and having turned about, You have consoled me, and from the abysses of the earth have You led me up again. For I shall confess You amongst peoples, O Lord, Your truth with the instruments of chant, O God ; I shall chant to You with the harp, O Holy One of Israel. My lips shall exult whenever I chant to You, as shall my soul which You have redeemed. Again, my tongue shall meditate on Your righteousness all the day long, whenever those who seek evil for me are put to

shame, and confounded.

PSALM 76

With my voice have I cried out to the Lord, with my voice to the Lord, and He has given heed to me. On the day of my oppression I sought out God, with my hands lifted up before Him during the night, I was not deceived. My soul refused to be consoled. I remembered God, and I was glad ; I deliberated, and my spirit grew faint. My eyes have anticipated the night watches ; I was stirred up, and did not speak. I thought about the old days, and I remembered the eternal years, and I meditated. By night I deliberated with my heart ; my spirit was searching. Shall the LORD push me away forever, and shall He not continue to be pleased with me ? Or will He cut off His mercy unto the end, or did He put an end to His speaking, from generation to generation ? Or shall God forget to have compassion, or will He withhold His compassions in His anger ? And I said, "Now I have begun. This change is from the right hand of the Most High. I remembered the works of the LORD, for I shall remember Your wonders from the beginning. I shall meditate on all Your works, deliberate on all Your purposes". O God, Your way is in the holy one ; who is so great a God as our God ? You are the God who does wonders ; You have made Your power known amongst Your peoples. You have redeemed Your people with Your arm, the sons of Jacob, and Joseph. The waters have seen You, O God ; the waters have seen You, and feared. And the abyesses have been stirred up. There is a multitude of sounds of waters ; the clouds have given voice, for Your arrows are passing through. The voice of Your thunder is like a chariot wheel ; Your lightnings have shone over the world. The earth has shaken, and trembled. In the sea are Your ways, and Your paths in many waters, and Your footsteps shall not be known. You have led Your people like sheep by the hand of Moses, and Aaron.

Reader : Holy God, Holy Strong, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (*three times*) (*three metanias*)

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit, and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, who are in the heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and bring us not to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader : Amen.

Then these tropars in Tone 6 :

Readers : I think upon the fearful day, and lament my evil works. How shall I answer to the immortal King ? And with what boldness shall I, who am a prodigal, gaze at the Creator ? O compassionate Father, O Only-begotten Son, and Holy Spirit, have mercy on me.
Glory

In the bowels of lamentation, in the place that You have established, when You, O merciful One, shall sit to execute righteous judgement, then disclose not my secrets ; put me not to shame before the angels, but spare me, O Lord, and have mercy on me.

Now, and ever

Open the door of your compassion, O blessed Theotokos, that we who put our hope in you may not perish. Through you may we be rescued from adversities, for you are the salvation of the Christian people.

Reader : Lord, have mercy. (30 times)

Reader : O 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. (with three metanias)

Psalm 101

O LORD, hear my prayer, and let my cry come unto You. Do not turn away Your Face from me. On the day when I am oppressed, incline Your ear to me. On the day when I shall call upon You, swiftly listen to me. For my days have vanished like smoke, and my bones have caught fire like kindling. I have been struck like grass, and my heart has withered because I forget to eat my bread. From the voice of my groaning, my bones have cleaved to my flesh. I have been made like the solitary pelican ; I have become like the night-owl on a shanty. I have been keeping watch, I have become like a lone sparrow upon a roof. My enemies were reproaching me all the day long, and those who used to praise me swore against me. For I ate ashes like bread,

and my drink I mingled with weeping, from the face of Your anger, and Your fury ; for You have lifted me up, and broken me down. My days have been declining like a shadow, and like grass I have withered up. But, as for You, O LORD, You endure forever, and Your remembrance from generation to generation. Having risen up, You will have compassion on Sion, for it is time to have compassion on her ; for the time is come. For Your servants have been well-pleased in her stones, and on her dirt shall they have compassion. The nations shall fear Your name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth Your glory ; for the Lord will build up Sion, and He shall be seen in His glory. He has looked upon the prayer of the humble, and He will not reckon as nothing their supplication. Let this be written for another generation, and the people to be established shall praise the Lord ; for He has stooped down from His holy high place, from heaven has the Lord looked down upon the earth ; to hear the groaning of those who are bound in fetters, to loose the sons of those who are put to death, and to announce in Sion the name of the Lord, and His praise in Jerusalem, when the peoples shall gather as one, the kings to serve the Lord. He answered Him in the way of His strength ; announce to me the small number of my days. Do not lead me up in the midst of my days ; Your years are from generation to generation. From the beginning, O LORD, have You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They shall perish, but You will endure. All shall grow old like a garment, and like a mantle You will change them, and they shall be changed. But, as for You, You are the same, and Your years shall not fade away. The sons of Your servants shall pitch their tent, and their seed shall be directed unto the age.

Prayer of Manasses, King of Judah.

O God of our Fathers, of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and of their righteous posterity ; O Lord Almighty, who have made Heaven, and earth with all their order; who have shackled the sea by Your word of command, who have closed the abyss, and sealed it with Your terrible, and glorious name ; at whom all things shudder, and tremble before Your power, for Your glorious splendour cannot be borne, and the wrath of Your threat to sinners is irresistible; yet immeasurable, and unsearchable is Your promised mercy, for You are the Lord Most High, of great compassion, longsuffering, and very merciful, and repent over the evils of men : You, O Lord, in accordance with Your great goodness, have promised repentance, and forgiveness to those who

have sinned against You ; and in the multitude of Your mercies, You have appointed repentance for sinners, that they may be saved. Therefore, You, O Lord, God of the righteous, have not appointed repentance for the righteous – for Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, who did not sin against You – but You have appointed repentance for me, who am the sinner ; for the sins I have committed are more in number than the sand of the sea ; my transgressions are multiplied, O Lord, they are multiplied. I am unworthy to look up, and see the height of Heaven, because of the multitude of my iniquities. I am weighted down with many an iron fetter, so that I am rejected because of my sins, and I have no relief ; for I have provoked Your wrath, and have done what is evil in Your sight, setting up abominations, and multiplying offences. And now, I bend the knee of my heart, beseeching You for kindness : I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I know my transgressions. I earnestly beseech You, “Forgive me, O Lord, forgive me. Do not destroy me with my transgressions. Do not be angry with me unto the ages, or lay up evil for me ; do not condemn me to the depths of the earth” ; for You, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, and in me You will manifest Your goodness; for, unworthy as I am, You will save me in Your great mercy, and I will praise You continually, all the days of my life; for all the host of Heaven sings Your praise, and Yours is the glory forever. Amen.

Lesser Doxology

Reader : Glory be to You that have shown us the Light.

Glory be to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will amongst Men. We hymn You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory, O Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty ; O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and You, O Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, who take up the sin of the world, have mercy on us, for You take up the sins of the world. Receive our petition, You that sit at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us ; for You alone are holy ; You alone are the Lord, You, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless You, and praise Your Name unto the age, and unto the ages of ages.

O Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said, "O Lord, be merciful to me ; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You". O Lord, I take refuge in You. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God ; for beside You is the fountain of life, and in Your Light, shall we see light. O, prolong Your mercy unto those who know You.

Deem us worthy, O Lord, of guarding us sinless this day. Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised, and glorified be Your Name unto the ages. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, even as we have hoped on You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me your statutes.² Blessed are You, O Holy One, teach me Your statutes.

Your mercy, O Lord, is eternal, O disregard not the works of Your hands.

To You is due praise, to You is due a hymn, to You is due glory, to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Response : Amen.

And after this, we say the Canon of a saint from the Menaion, or of the Theotokos from the Octoechos. On some Feast-days we use here the Litya, and the Apostikha sequence.

Reader :

Prayer of Saint Eustratius

Most highly do I magnify You, O Lord ; for You have watched over my lowliness, and have not enclosed me in the hands of my enemies, but have saved my soul from distress. And now, O Master, let Your hand shelter me, and let Your mercy come upon me, for my soul is troubled, and afflicted in its departure from this, my wretched, and polluted body, lest the wicked design of the adversary overtake it, and make it stumble for the sins I have committed in this life in ignorance, and in knowledge. Be merciful to me, O Master, and let not my soul see the gloomy, and dark

² Or : "Law"

sight of evil demons ; but may Your bright, and shining angels receive my soul. Give glory to Your holy Name ; and by Your might, lead me to Your divine judgement seat. When I am judged, let no the hand of the prince of this world seize me to cast me, the sinner, into the depth of Hadēs, but stand by me, and be my Saviour, and Helper, for these bodily sufferings are the joys of Your servants. O Lord, have mercy on my soul corrupted by the passions of life, and accept it cleansed by repentance, and confession, for blessed are You unto the ages of ages.

Reader : Amen.

Reader : Holy God, Holy Strong, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(three times) (three metanias)

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit, and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Our Father, who are in the heavens, hallowed be Your Name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven ; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ; and bring us not to the test, but rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader : Amen.

Then these tropars in Tone 8 :

Reders : With Your compassionate eye, O Lord, look upon my lowliness ; for little by little, my life is consumed ; and from works, there is no salvation for me. Therefore I pray, with Your compassionate eye, look upon my lowliness, and save me, O Lord.

Glory

My time comes to an end, and Your terrible throne is ready for my life to pass before it. Judgement awaits me, banning me to fiery torment, and the unquenchable flame. Grant me clouds of tears, and quench the fires by Your might, as You desire to save all men. Now, and ever

O Good One, who for our sake were born of a Virgin, endured crucifixion, despoiled death by death, and as God, revealed the Resurrection, despise not the works of Your hand ; show Your love

for man, O Merciful One ; accept the intercession made on our behalf by the Theotokos, who bore You ; and, O Saviour, save Your despairing people.

Reader : Lord, have mercy. (30 times)

Dismissal

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

Reader : Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
In the Name of the Lord, Master (*Father*) bless.

– or –

Through the intercessions of Your saints, O Lord, bless.

Presbyter : May God be bountiful to us, and bless us, show the light of His Countenance upon us, and have mercy on us.

– or –

Through the prayers of our holy *fathers*, O Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.³

Reader : Amen.

If there be no presbyter, the senior reader says :

Reader : O Lord Jesus Christ Son of God, through the prayers of Your most pure Mother, of our venerable, and God-bearing fathers, and of all the saints, have mercy on us, and save us.

Response : Amen.

Reader : Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

[THE END OF THE TWELVE PSALMS]

³ If a bishop be present, “holy master” is used.