Reader’s Great Vespers on Monday, January 18th, 2021

The Theophany of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ –– (January 6th/19th)

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee!

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. ***(Thrice)***

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. ***(Thrice)***

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

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Lord have mercy. ***Twelve Times***

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

O come, let us worship God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire, Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back for ever and ever.  The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand.  At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.  The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them.  Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth.  He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run.  They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst.  Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.  He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works.  He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, To bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man.  To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.  The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted.  There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them.  The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.  He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down.  Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad.  Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled.  Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return.  Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.  Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works.  Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.  May my words be sweet unto Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord.  O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down, Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night.  How magnified are Thy works, O Lord!  In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  Glory to Thee, O God. ***Thrice****.*

Lord, have mercy. ***Forty Times***

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

In the 2nd Tone: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me.

Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord. \* Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me; \* attend to the voice of my supplication, \* when I cry unto Thee. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth \* as incense before Thee, \* the lifting up of my hands \* as an evening sacrifice. \* Hearken unto me, O Lord.

Set, O Lord, a watch before my mouth, and a door of enclosure round about my lips.

Incline not my heart unto words of evil, to make excuse with excuses in sins.

With men that work iniquity; and I will not join with their chosen.

The righteous man will chasten me with mercy and reprove me; as for the oil of the sinner, let it not anoint my head.

For yet more is my prayer in the presence of their pleasures; swallowed up near by the rock have their judges been.

They shall hear my words, for they be sweetened; as a clod of earth is broken upon the earth, so have their bones been scattered nigh unto hades.

For unto Thee, O Lord, O Lord, are mine eyes, in Thee have I hoped; take not my soul away.

Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and from the stumbling-blocks of them that work iniquity.

The sinners shall fall into their own net; I am alone until I pass by.

With my voice unto the Lord have I cried, with my voice unto the Lord have I made supplication.

I will pour out before Him my supplication, mine affliction before Him will I declare.

When my spirit was fainting within me, then Thou knewest my paths.

In this way wherein I have walked they hid for me a snare.

I looked upon my right hand, and beheld, and there was none that did know me.

Flight hath failed me, and there is none that watcheth out for my soul.

I have cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my hope, my portion art Thou in the land of the living.

Attend unto my supplication, for I am brought very low.

Deliver me from them that persecute me, for they are stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of prison:  that I may confess Thy name.

The righteous shall wait patiently for me until Thou shalt reward me.

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

For Thy name’s sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath patiently waited for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord.

The Forerunner beheld our Enlightenment,

who enlightens all men.

Draw near to be baptized.

He rejoiced in soul while his hand trembled.

He showed Him to the people, saying:

“Behold, the Redeemer of Israel, who sets us free from corruption.” //

O sinless One, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

The hosts of angels were filled with fear,

as they saw our Deliverer baptized by a servant

and receiving witness through the coming of the Spirit.

The Father’s voice was heard from on high:

##### “He on whom the Forerunner lays his hand, the same is My belovèd

Son,

in whom I am well pleased.” //

O Christ our God, glory to Thee!

O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye peoples.

The streams of the Jordan received Thee, the Fountain,

and the Comforter descended in the form of a dove.

He who bowed the heavens, bowed His head,

and the clay cried aloud to the One who formed him:

##### “Why dost Thou command of me what lies beyond my power?

for I have need to be baptized of Thee.” //

O sinless One, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.

Wishing to save mankind gone astray,

Thou hast not disdained to clothe Thyself in the form of a servant.

For it befitted Thee, as Master and God,

for our sake to take upon Thyself our nature,

for Thou, O Deliverer, hast been baptized in the flesh,

making us worthy of forgiveness.

Therefore, we cry out to Thee: //

##### “O Christ our God and Benefactor, glory to Thee!”

Glory … now and ever... :

Thou didst bow Thy head before the Forerunner,/ and crush the heads of the serpents./ Thou didst descend into the waters and give light to all things,/ that they may glorify Thee, O Savior, // the Enlightenment of our souls.

O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father, O Jesus Christ: Having come to the setting of the sun, having beheld the evening light, we praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: God.  Meet it is for Thee at all times to be praised with reverent voices, O Son of God, Giver of life.  Wherefore, the world doth glorify Thee.

The Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone:

The Lord hears me when I call to Him

Verse: When I called the God of my righteousness heard me.

The Lord hears me/ when I call to Him

A READING FROM GENESIS

In the beginning God made the heaven and the earth. But the earth was unsightly and unfurnished, and darkness was over the deep, and the Spirit of God moved over the water. And God said: "Let there be light!", and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good, and God divided between the light and the darkness. And God called the light day, and the darkness He called night; and there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said: "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the water, and let it be a division between water and water!", and it was so. And God made the firmament, and God divided between the water which was under the firmament and the water which was above the firmament. And God called the firmament heaven; and God saw that it was good: and there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said: "Let the water which is under the heaven be collected into one place, and let the dry land appear!"; and it was so. And the water which was under the heaven was collected into its places, and the dry land appeared. And God called the dry land earth, and the gatherings of the waters he called seas; and God saw that it was good. And God said: "Let the earth bring forth the herb of grass bearing seed, according to its kind and according to its likeness, and the fruit-trees bearing fruit, whose seed is in it, according to its kind on the earth!"; and it was so. And the earth brought forth the herb of grass bearing seed, according to its kind and according to its likeness, and the fruit-tree bearing fruit, whose seed is in it, according to its kind on the earth; and God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

A READING FROM EXODUS

The Lord said unto Moses: "Why criest thou to Me? Speak to the children of Israel, and let them proceed. And do thou lift up thy rod, and stretch forth thy hand over the sea, and divide it, and let the children of Israel enter into the midst of the sea on the dry land. And lo! I will harden the heart of Pharaoh and of all the Egyptians, and they shall go in after them; and I will be glorified upon Pharaoh, and on all his host, and on his chariots and his horses. And all the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I am glorified upon Pharaoh and upon his chariots and his horses." And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the Lord carried back the sea with a strong south wind all the night, and made the sea dry, and the water was divided. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry land, and the water of it was a wall on the right hand and a wall on the left. And the Egyptians pursued them and went in after them, and every horse of Pharaoh, and his chariots, and his horsemen, into the midst of the sea. And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the water returned to its place toward day; and the Egyptians fled from the water, and the Lord shook off the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. And the water returned and covered the chariots and the riders, and all the forces of Pharaoh, who entered after them into the sea: and there was not left of them even one. But the children of Israel went along dry land in the midst of the sea.

A READING FROM EXODUS

Moses brought up the children of Israel from the Red Sea, and brought them into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water to drink. And they came to Marah, and could not drink of Marah, for it was bitter; therefore he named the name of that place, Bitterness. And the people murmured against Moses, saying: "What shall we drink?" And Moses cried to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree, and he cast it into the water, and the water was sweetened. There He established to him ordinances and judgments, and there He proved him, and said: "If thou wilt indeed hear the voice of the Lord thy God, and do things pleasing before Him, and wilt hearken to His commands, and keep all His ordinances, no disease which I have brought upon the Egyptians will I bring upon thee, for I am the Lord thy God, Who healeth thee." And they came to Elim, and there were there twelve fountains of water, and seventy stems of palm trees; and they encamped there by the waters. And they departed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sin.

A READING FROM JOSHUA The Lord said unto Joshua: "This day do I begin to exalt thee before all the children of Israel, that they may know that as I was with Moses, so will I also be with thee. And now charge the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying: As soon as ye shall enter on a part of the water of Jordan, then ye shall stand in Jordan." And when the priests that bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord entered upon Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord were dipped in part of the water of Jordan (now Jordan overflowed all its banks about the time of wheat harvest), then the waters that came down from above stopped; there stood one solid heap very far off, as far as the region of Kariathiarim, and the lower part came down to the sea of Arabia, the salt sea, until it completely failed; and the people stood opposite Jericho. And the priests that bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry land in the midst of Jordan; and all the children of Israel went through on dry land, until all the people had completely gone over Jordan.

A READING FROM THE FOURTH BOOK OF KINGS

And Elijah said to Elisha: "Stay here, I pray thee, for the Lord hath sent me to Jordan." But Elisha said: "As the Lord liveth and thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee!" And they both went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went also, and stood opposite afar off: and both stood on the bank of the Jordan. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the water: and the water was divided on this side and on that side, and they both went over on dry ground. And it came to pass while they were crossing over, that Elijah said to Elisha: "Ask what I shall do for thee before I am taken up from thee." And Elisha said: "Let there be, I pray thee, a double portion of thy spirit upon me." And Elijah said: "Thou hast asked a hard thing: if thou shalt see me when I am taken up from thee, then shall it be so to thee; and if not, it shall not be so." And it came to pass as they were going, they went on talking; and, behold, a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and it separated between them both; and Elijah was taken up in a whirlwind as it were into heaven. And Elisha saw, and cried: "Father, father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof!" And he saw him no more; and he took hold of his garments, and rent them into two pieces. And Elisha took up the mantle of Elijah, which fell from off him upon Elisha; and Elisha returned, and stood upon the brink of Jordan; and he took the mantle of Elijah, which fell from off him, and smote the water, and said: "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" And he smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither; and he went over.

A READING FROM THE FOURTH BOOK OF KINGS

There came Naaman, prince of the king of Assyria, with his chariots and horses, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying: "Go and wash seven times in Jordan, and thy flesh shall return to thee, and thou shalt be cleansed." And Naaman was angry, and departed, saying: "Behold, I said: He will by all means come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of his God, and lay his hand upon the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharphar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not go and wash in them, and be cleansed?" And he turned, and went out in a rage, But his servant came near, and said to him: "Suppose the prophet had spoken a great thing to thee: wouldst thou not perform it? Yet he hath but said to thee: Wash, and be cleansed." So Naaman went down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the word of Elisha: and his flesh returned to him as the flesh of a little child, and he was cleansed.

A READING FROM THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH Thus saith the Lord: Wash ye, be ye clean; remove your iniquities from your souls before Mine eyes; cease from your iniquities; learn to do well; diligently seek judgment, deliver him that is suffering wrong, plead for the orphan, and obtain justice for the widow. And, come, let us reason together, saith the Lord: and though your sins be as purple, I will make them white as snow; and though they be as scarlet, I will make them white as wool. And if ye be willing, and hearken to Me, ye shall eat the good of the land: but if ye be not willing, nor hearken to Me, a sword shall devour you: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken this.

A READING FROM GENESIS

And looking up, Jacob saw the host of the Lord encamped; and the angels of God met him. And Jacob said, when he saw them: "This is the camp of God." And he called the name of that place Encampments. And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother, to the land of Seri, to the country of Edom. And he charged them, saying: Thus shall ye say to my lord Esau: Thus saith thy servant Jacob: I have sojourned with Lebam and tarried unto now. And there were born to me oxen, and asses, and sheep, and men-servants and women-servants; and I sent to tell my lord Esau, that thy servant might find grace in thy sight. And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying: "We came to thy brother Esau; and, lo! he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him." And Jacob was greatly terrified, and was perplexed; and he divided the people that were with him, and the cows, and the camels, and the sheep, into two camps. And Jacob said: "If Esau should come to one camp, and smite it, the other camp shall be in safety." And Jacob said: "O Lord God of my father Isaac, Thou art He Who said to me: Depart quickly to the land of thy birth, and I will do thee good. Let there be to me a sufficiency of all the justice and all the truth which Thou hast wrought with Thy servant; for with this my staff I passed over this Jordan."

A READING FROM EXODUS

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to the river to bathe; and her maids walked by the river's side; and when she saw the ark in the ooze, she sent her maid, and took it up. And when she opened it, she saw the babe weeping in the ark; and the daughter of Pharaoh had compassion on it, and said: "This is one of the Hebrews' children." And his sister said to the daughter of Pharaoh: "Wilt thou that I call to thee a nurse of the Hebrews, and shall she suckle the child for thee?" And the daughter of Pharaoh said to her: "Take care of this child, and suckle it for me, and I will give thee the wages." And the woman took the child, and suckled it. And when the boy was grown, she brought him to the daughter of Pharaoh, and he became her son; and she called his name, Moses, saying: "I took him out of the water."

A READING FROM JUDGES

Gideon said unto God: "If Thou wilt save Israel by my hand, as Thou hast said, behold, I put a fleece of wool upon the threshing-floor: if there be dew on the fleece only, and drought on all the ground, I shall know that Thou wilt save Israel by my hand, as Thou hast said." And it was so: and he rose up early in the morning, and wrung the fleece; and dew dropped from the fleece, a bowl full of water. And Gideon said unto God: "Let not, I pray Thee, Thine anger be kindled with me, and I will speak yet once; I will even yet make one trial more with the fleece: Let now the drought be upon the fleece only, and let there be dew on all the ground." And God did so in that night; and there was drought on the fleece only, and on all the ground there was dew.

A READING FROM THE THIRD BOOK OF KINGS

Elijah said to the people: "Come near to me." And all the people came near to him. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of Israel, as the Lord spake unto him, saying: "Israel shall be thy name." And he built up the stones in the name of the Lord, and repaired the altar that had been broken down; and he made a trench that would hold two measures of seed round about the altar. And he piled the cleft wood on the altar which he had made, and divided the wholeburnt offering, and laid it on the wood, and laid it in order on the altar, and said: "Fetch me four pitchers of water, and pour it on the whole-burnt offering, and on the wood." And they did so. And he said: "Do it yet again." And they did it a second time. And he said: "Do it a third time." And they did it a third time. And the water ran round about the altar, and they filled the trench with water. And Elijah cried aloud to heaven, and said: "Lord God of Abraham, and Isaac, and Israel: Answer me, O Lord, answer me this day by fire, and let all this people know that Thou art the Lord, the God of Israel, and I am Thy servant; and for Thy sake I have wrought these works. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, and let this people know that Thou art the Lord God, and Thou hast turned back the heart of this people." Then fire fell from the Lord out of heaven, and devoured the whole-burnt offerings, and the wood and the water that was in the trench; and the fire licked up the stones and the earth. And all the people fell upon their faces, and said: "Truly the Lord is God!"

A READING FROM THE FOURTH BOOK OF KINGS

The men of the city said to Elisha: "Behold, the situation of the city is good, as our lord seeth; but the waters are bad, and the ground barren." And Elisha said: "Bring me a new pitcher, and put salt in it." And they took one, and brought it to him. And Elisha went out to the spring of the waters, and cast salt therein, and said: "Thus saith the Lord: I have healed these waters; there shall not be any longer death thence or barren land." And the waters were healed until this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.

A READING FROM THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH

Thus saith the Lord: In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I succored thee: and I have formed thee, and given thee for a covenant of the nations, to establish the earth, and to cause to inherit the desert heritages; saying to them that are in bonds: "Go forth!", and bidding them that are in darkness to show themselves. They shall be fed in all the ways, and in all the paths shall be their pasture. They shall not hunger, neither shall they thirst; neither shall the heat nor the sun smite them; but He that hath mercy on them shall comfort them, and by fountains of waters shall He lead them. And I will make every mountain a way, and every path a pasture to them. Behold, these shall come from afar: and these from the north and the west, and others from the land of the Persians. Rejoice, ye heavens; and let the earth be glad: let the mountains break forth with joy; for the Lord hath had mercy on His people, and hath comforted the lowly ones of His people. But Sion said: The Lord hath forsaken me, and, The Lord hath forgotten me. Will a woman forget her child, so as not to have compassion upon the offspring of her womb? But if a woman should even forget these, yet I will not forget thee, saith the Lord.

Lord have mercy. ***Three times***

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

The Prokeimenon in the 3rd Tone: The Lord is my light and my Savior; whom then shall I fear?

Verse: The Lord is the defender of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

The Lord is my light and my Savior;/ whom then shall I fear?

EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

Brethren: Though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you. Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway

In the 6th Tone: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Verse: My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king; my tongue is the pen of a swiftly writing scribe.

Verse: Comely art Thou in beauty more than the sons of men; grace hath been poured forth on Thy lips, wherefore God hath blessed Thee forever.

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, Ananias and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins; As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; And all flesh shall see the salvation of God, then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then? He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise. Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do? And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you. And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages. And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not; John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I cometh, the latchet of Whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire: Whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and will gather the wheat into His garner; but the chaff He will burn with fire unquenchable. And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people. People: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

Lord have mercy. ***Forty times***

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

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin.  Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages.  Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.  Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.  Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy statutes.  Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the work of Thy hands.  To Thee is due praise, to Thee is due a song, to Thee glory is due, 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. ***Twelve Times***

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

In the 6th Tone: Glory … now & ever ...:

O ye faithful, let us hymn the magnitude of God’s benefactions toward us;/ for having become man for the sake of our transgressions,/ He Who alone is pure and incorrupt,/ Who sanctifieth me and the waters,/ and crusheth the heads of the serpents in the water,/ is purified in the Jordan with our purification./ Wherefore, let us draw forth water with gladness, O brethren;/ for the grace of the Spirit is invisibly imparted/ to those who draw it forth with faith,// by Christ God, the Savior of our souls.

Tone 1:

When Thou, O Lord, was baptized in the Jordan,

the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.

for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee,

and called Thee his beloved Son.

and the Spirit, in the form of a dove

confirmed the truthfulness of his word.

O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself //

and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

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

Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord bless!

Through the prayers of the Theotokos, and all the saints, Lord, Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.