

Vespers of Forgiveness

The Choir will need to source:

The music for Lord, I have cried (in the melody of the Penitential Stichera),

The text for the Penitential Stichera (at 'Lord, I have cried'),

The text from the Menaion (at 'Lord, I have cried'),

The music for the Great Prokeimenon.

Clergy and Vestment Changers will need to source:

Black (or dark) vestments.

*These will be changed around 'Vouchsafe, O Lord', or as notified,
and will be done when the curtain is closed during the service.*

PRIEST: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

READER: Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee. O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (x3)

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. (x3)

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.

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 the ages of ages.

*NB: The Priest censes the church during Psalm 103,
and then reads the Lamp-Lighting Prayers.*

READER: Amen. Lord have mercy. (x12)

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.

Psalm 103: 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.

And again: 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. (x3)

The Great Litany

A normal, brisk melody is used.

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord..... **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For the peace from above, and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.
..... **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God, and the union of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For this holy temple, and for them that with faith, reverence, and the fear of God enter herein, let us pray to the Lord..... **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For our Great Lord and Father, His Holiness, Patriarch *N.*; for our lord the Very Most Reverend Metropolitan *N.*, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad; and our lord the [Most/Right] Reverend [Arch]Bishop *N.*; for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord..... **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For this land, its civil authorities, and all those who with faith and piety dwell therein, and in every land, let us pray to the Lord. **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For the God-preserved Russian Land and its Orthodox people both in the homeland and in the diaspora, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: That He may deliver His people from enemies both visible and invisible, and confirm in us oneness of mind, brotherly love and piety, let us pray to the Lord. **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For this city (*or this town, or this holy monastery*), for every city and country, and the faithful that dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord..... **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For seasonable weather, abundance of the fruits of the earth, and peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord. **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: For travellers by sea, land and air; for the sick, the suffering, the imprisoned, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: That we may be delivered from all tribulation, wrath, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.
..... **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace. **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: Calling to remembrance our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life unto Christ our God. **Ch:** To Thee, O Lord.

PRIEST: For unto Thee is due all glory, honour, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

CHOIR: Amen.

Lord, I Have Cried

READER: In the ___ Tone¹: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me.

CHOIR: Lord, I have cried unto Thee, hearken unto me. / Harken 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. // Harken unto me, O Lord.

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

READER: (10) Bring my soul out of prison: / that I may confess Thy name.
Penitential Stichera from the Triodion, around p185f. See rubrics for further details.
2018: 'I want to wash away with tears...'

(9) The righteous shall wait patiently for me / until Thou shalt reward me.
Penitential Stichera from the Triodion, around p185f.

(8) Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord; / O Lord, hear my voice.
Penitential Stichera from the Triodion, around p185f.

(7) Let Thine ears be attentive / to the voice of my supplication.
Penitential Stichera from the Triodion, around p185f.

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

(*Sticheron Tone 2*): Let us **humble** the flesh by
abstinence; /
As we follow the divine path of pure **fasting**. /
With prayers and **tears** let us seek the Lord who **saves**
us. /

Let us put an end to anger, **crying** out: /
Save us who have **sinned against** Thee! /
Save us, O Christ our King, as Thou didst save the men of **Ninevah**, //
And make us partakers of Thy heavenly **Kingdom**, O **compassionate** One!



(5) 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.

¹ The tone is that of the first appointed sticheron.

When I **think** of my **deeds**, O Lord, /
I am **filled** with despair, /
And know that I am **worthy** of every **torment**. /
I have despised Thy commandments, O **Saviour**. /
I have **spent** my life as a **prodigal**. /
I pray to Thee, only **merciful** one: /
Cleanse me by **repentance**, /
Enlighten me through prayers and **fasting**, //
And despise me not, most **gracious** Benefactor of all!

(4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch / let Israel hope in the Lord.
Let **us** begin the **fast** with joy! /
Let us prepare ourselves for spiritual **efforts**! /
Let us **cleanse** our soul and **cleanse** our flesh! /
Let us abstain from every passion as we **abstain** from food! /
Let us **rejoice** in virtues of the Spirit and **fulfil** them in love! /
That we all may see the Passion of **Christ** our God, //
And rejoice in **spirit** at the holy **Pascha**!

(3) For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; / and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.
Verse from the Menaion.

(2) O praise the Lord, all ye nations; / praise Him, all ye peoples.
Verse from the Menaion.

(1) For He hath made His mercy to prevail over us, / and the truth of the Lord abideth forever.
Verse from the Menaion.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Doxasticon from the Menaion, if any; if not, continue directly to 'Both now'

Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Theotokion.

2018: *'Like the Archangel, we, the faithful' – found in 'The Common Theotokia: Theotokia in the Eight Tones in the Appendix of the Menaion'.*

Entrance with the censor.

DEACON: Wisdom! Aright!

CHOIR (or READER): 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 Great Prokeimenon

DEACON: Let us attend.

PRIEST: Peace be unto all.

DEACON: Wisdom! The Great Prokimenon in the Eighth Tone: Turn not Thy countenance away from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; quickly hearken unto me. Attend unto my soul and deliver it.

CHOIR: Turn not Thy countenance away from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; quickly hearken unto me. Attend unto my soul and deliver it.

DEACON: May Thy salvation, O God, be quick to help me.

CHOIR: Turn not Thy countenance away from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; quickly hearken unto me. Attend unto my soul and deliver it.

DEACON: Let beggars behold it and be glad.

CHOIR: Turn not Thy countenance away from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; quickly hearken unto me. Attend unto my soul and deliver it.

DEACON: Seek after God, and your soul shall live.

CHOIR: Turn not Thy countenance away from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; quickly hearken unto me. Attend unto my soul and deliver it.

DEACON: Turn not Thy countenance away from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; quickly hearken unto me. /

CHOIR: / Attend unto my soul and deliver it.

*The vestments are changed at this point²,
from light to dark.*

Likewise, all subsequent responses are according to the Lenten melody.

READER: 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.

² This is according to SaintJonah.org

The Litany of Completion

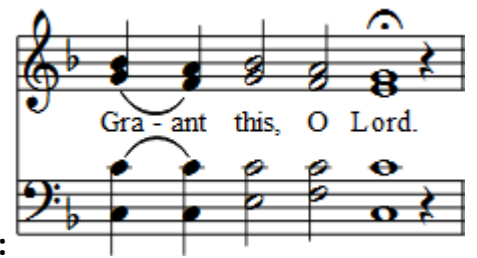
Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.



..... Ch:

Deacon: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace... **Ch:** Lord, have mercy.

Dcn: That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.



..... Ch:

Dcn: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.
..... **Ch:** Grant this, O Lord.

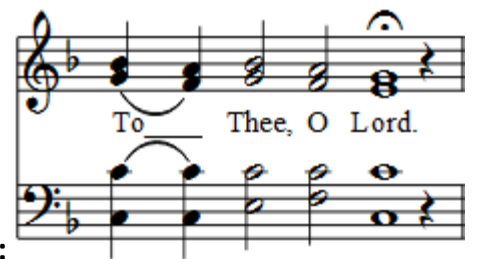
Dcn: Pardon and remission of our sins and offences, let us ask of the Lord. **Ch:** Grant this, O Lord.

Dcn: Things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.
..... **Ch:** Grant this, O Lord.

Dcn: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord. **Ch:** Grant this. O Lord.

Dcn: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask. **Ch:** Grant this, O Lord.

Dcn: Calling to remembrance our most holy, most pure, most blessed, glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life unto Christ our God.



..... Ch:

Pr: For a good God art Thou, and the Lover of Mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.



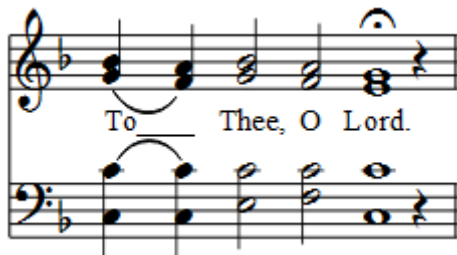
Ch:

Pr: Peace be unto all.



Ch:

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.



Ch:

Priest (*mystically*): O holy Lord, Who dwellest on high and lookest down on things that are lowly, and with Thine all-seeing eye lookest down on all creation: unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our heart and body, and we pray Thee: Stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in aught we have sinned, either voluntarily or involuntarily, do Thou as a good God and the Lover of mankind pardon us, granting us Thine earthly and spiritual good things.

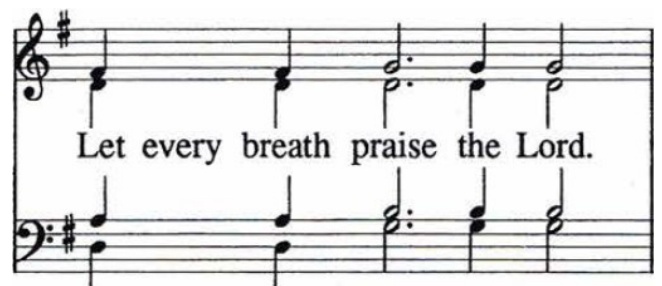
(*aloud*): Blessed and most glorified be the dominion of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.



CHOIR:

Aposticha

Thy grace has shown **forth**, Lord, /
 The grace which **illu**mines our soul. /
This is the **acce**ptable time! /
 This is the time of **repen**tance! /
 Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the
armour of light, /
 That passing through the Fast as through a **great** sea /
 We may reach the Resurrection on the **Third** Day //
 Of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **Savi**our of our souls.



Stichos 1: Unto Thee have I lifted up mine eyes, unto Thee that dwellest in heaven. Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hands of their masters, as the eyes of the handmaid look unto the hands of her mistress, so do our eyes look unto the Lord our God, / until He take pity on us.

Thy grace has shown **forth**, Lord, /
The grace which **illu**mines our soul. /
This is the **accept**able time! /
This is the time of **repent**ance! /
Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the **arm**our of light, /
That passing through the Fast as through a **great** sea /
We may reach the Resurrection on the **Third** Day //
Of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **Sav**iour of our souls.

Stichos 2: Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for greatly are we filled with abasement. Greatly hath our soul been filled therewith; let reproach come upon them that prosper, / and abasement on the proud.

Thou art **glor**ified /
In the memory of Thy saints, O **Christ** God. //
At their supplications, send down on us Thy great **mercy**!

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

The angelic hosts glorify thee, O **M**other of God, /
For thou gavest **birth** to God, /
Co-**et**ernal with the Father and the **S**pirit, /
Who created out of nothing the **ang**elic hosts. /
Beseech Him to deliver from corruption and **to** enlighten //
The souls of those who rightly praise thee, all **pure** one!

READER (or CHOIR): Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples; a light of revelation for the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

READER: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (x3)

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. (x3)

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

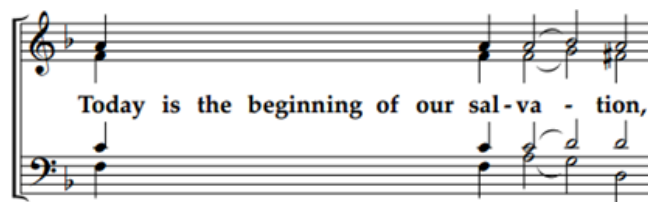
Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

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 the ages of ages.

CHOIR: Amen.

Troparia and Theotokia

Tone 4 Troparion: O Theotokos **V**irgin, Rejoice! /
O Mary, full of grace the Lord is **w**ith thee; /
blessed art thou among **w**omen, /
and blessed is the **f**ruit of thy womb; //
for thou hast borne the **S**aviour **o**f our souls.



A prostration is made.

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

O Baptizer of Christ, keep us all in **r**emembrance, /
that we may be delivered from our **i**niquities; //
for to thee was given grace to inter**c**ede for us.

A prostration is made.

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

Plead in our behalf, O holy apostles and **a**ll saints, /
that we may be delivered from perils and **a**fflictions; //
for we have acquired you as fervent mediators before the **S**aviour.

A prostration is made.

Beneath thy compassion do we take refuge, O Theot**o**kos; /
disdain not our supplication in times of **a**ffliction; //
but do thou deliver us from perils, O only pure, O only **b**lessed one.

No prostration is made.

READER: Lord, have mercy. (x40)

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

More honourable 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.

In the name of the Lord, Father bless.

PRIEST: He that is is blessed, Christ our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

READER: Amen.

O Heavenly King, strengthen Orthodox Christians, establish the faith, subdue the nations, give peace to the world, keep well this city; settle our departed fathers and brethren in the tabernacles of the righteous, and receive us in penitence and confession, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

PRIEST: O Lord and Master of my life, a spirit of idleness, despondency, ambition, and idle talking give me not. (*Prostration*)

But rather a spirit of chastity, humble-mindedness, patience, and love bestow upon me Thy servant. (*Prostration*)

Yea, O Lord King, grant me to see my own failings and not condemn my brother; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen. (*Prostration*)

The Dismissal

PRIEST: Glory to Thee, O Christ God, our hope, glory to Thee.

CHOIR: 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. (x3)

CHOIR: Father, Bless.

PRIEST: O Master plenteous in mercy, O Lord Jesus Christ our God: Through the intercessions of our immaculate Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary; through the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the mediations of the honourable, heavenly Bodiless Hosts, of the honourable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John; of the holy glorious, and all-praised apostles; of the holy, glorious, and victorious martyrs; of our holy and God-bearing fathers, (*Temple's Patron*); of the holy and Righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; of (*Saint of Day*) and of all the saints: make our prayer acceptable; grant us the remission of our sins; shelter us with the shelter of Thy wings; drive away from us every enemy and adversary; make our life peaceful, O Lord; have mercy on us and on Thy world, and save our souls, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

CHOIR: Amen.

The Rite of Forgiveness follows.

*The priest stands beside the analogion,
the faithful venerate the icon as normal,
and each makes a prostration before the priest and exchanges the triple-kiss of peace,
saying 'Forgive me, a sinner',
with the response 'May God forgive thee. Forgive me.'
And the person responds 'May God forgive thee.'
After receiving forgiveness of the priest, each person asks forgiveness of each other,
exchanging the triple-kiss of peace and using the same responses.*

*During this, the choir sings
either the Irmoi of the Paschal Canon ('It is the Day of Resurrection'),
or the Paschal Aposticha ('Let God arise...').*

After everyone has asked and received forgiveness from each other:

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

CHOIR: Amen.

APPENDIX: PRAYERS AND LITANIES

Lamp-Lighting Prayers

Prayer 1: O Lord, compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy, give ear unto our prayer and attend to the voice of our supplication; work in us a sign unto good; guide us in Thy way, that we may walk in Thy truth; make glad our hearts, that we may fear Thy holy name; for Thou art great and workest wonders, Thou alone art God, and there is none like unto Thee among the gods, O Lord strong in mercy and good in might, to help and comfort, and to save all that hope in Thy holy name. For unto Thee is due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer 2: O Lord, rebuke us not in Thine anger, nor chasten us in Thy wrath, but deal with us according to Thy mercy, O Physician and Healer of our souls. Guide us unto the haven of Thy will; enlighten the eyes of our hearts to the knowledge of Thy truth; and grant unto us that the remainder of the present day and the whole time of our life may be peaceful and sinless, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints. For Thine is the dominion, and 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 the ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer 3: O Lord our God, remember us, Thy sinful and unprofitable servants, when we call upon Thy holy, venerable name, and turn us not away in shame from the expectation of Thy mercy; but grant us, O Lord, all our requests which are unto salvation, and vouchsafe us to love and to fear Thee with our whole heart, and to do Thy will in all things For a good God art Thou, and the Lover of mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen

Prayer 4: O Thou Who with never-silent hymns and unceasing doxologies art praised in song by the Holy Hosts, fill our mouth with Thy praise, that we may magnify Thy holy name. And grant unto us part and inheritance with all that truly fear Thee and keep Thy commandments, through the intercessions of the holy Theotokos and of all Thy saints. For unto Thee is due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer 5: O Lord, O Lord, Who upholds all things in the most pure hollow of Thy hand, Who art long-suffering toward us all and repentest Thee at our wickedness, remember Thy compassion and Thy mercy. Visit us with Thy goodness, and grant unto us during the remainder of the present day, by Thy grace, to flee the divers subtle snares of the Evil One, and to keep our life unassailed through the grace of Thine all-holy Spirit, through the mercy and love for mankind of Thine only-begotten son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy and good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen

Prayer 6: O God, great and wondrous, Who with goodness unsearchable and abundant providence orderest all things, and grantest unto us earthly good things; Who hast given us a pledge of the promised kingdom through the good things already bestowed upon us; and hast made us to shun all evil during that part of the day which is past: Grant us also to fulfill the remainder of this day blamelessly before Thy holy glory; to hymn Thee, the only Good One, our God, Who lovest mankind. For Thou art our God, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer 7: O God, great and most high, Who alone hast immortality, and dwellest in light unapproachable; Who hast fashioned all creation in wisdom; Who hast divided the light from the darkness, and hast set the sun for dominion of the day, the moon the stars for dominion of the night; Who hast vouchsafed unto us sinners at this present hour to come before Thy presence with thanksgiving and to offer thee evening doxology; Do thyself direct our prayer as incense before Thee and accept it for a sweet smelling savor; grant unto us that the present evening and the coming night be peaceful. Cloth us with the armor of light. Deliver us from the terror by night and from everything that walketh in darkness. And grant that the sleep which Thou hast given for the repose of our infirmity may be free from all fantasies of the Devil. Yea, O Master, Giver of good things, may we, being moved to compunction upon our beds, remember Thy name in the night, and, enlightened by meditation on Thy commandments, rise up in joyfulness of soul to the

glorification of Thy goodness, offering prayers and supplications to Thy lovingkindness for our own sins and for those of all Thy people, whom do Thou visit in mercy, through the intercessions of the Holy Theotokos. For a good God art Thou, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.