

**January 5**  
***The Forefeast of the Theophany of Our Lord***  
**Vesperal Divine Liturgy**

*Priest* Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and to the ages of ages.

**A**men.

**Proemial Psalm (Psalm 103)**

**C**ome, let us worship and fall down before God, our King.

**C**ome let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and God.

**C**ome, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, the King and our God.

**B**less the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, You have been magnified exceedingly, You have put on confession and majesty: You Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment.

Who stretches out the heaven as if it were a curtain; Who supports His chambers in the waters.

Who appoints the clouds for His ascent, Who walks on the wings of the winds.

Who makes His Angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.

Who established the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back to the ages of ages.

The abyss like a garment is His mantle; the waters shall stand on the mountains

They will flee at Your rebuke, they shall be afraid at the voice of Your thunder.

The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, to the place where You have established them.

You appointed a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth.

He sends forth springs in the valleys; the waters will run between the mountains.

They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst

The birds of the heaven will lodge beside them, they will give voice from the midst of the rocks.

He waters the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Your works.

He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men.

He brings forth bread out of the earth; and wine makes the heart of man glad.

To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengthens man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which You have planted.

There the sparrows will 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 has made the moon for seasons; the sun knows his going down.

You appointed 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 arises, and they gather together, and they lay down in their dens.

But man shall go forth to his work, and to his labor until the evening.

How magnified are Your works, O Lord! In wisdom You have made them all; the earth is filled with Your creation.

So is this great and spacious sea, therein are innumerable creeping things, small living creatures with the great.

There go the ships; there this dragon whom You have made to play therein.

All things wait on You, to give them their food in due season; when You give it to them, they will gather it.

\*When You open Your hand, all things shall be filled with goodness.

When You turn away Your face, they shall be troubled.

You will take away their spirit, and they shall cease; and they shall return to their dust.

You will send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created; and You shall renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord be to the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works.

Who looks on the earth and makes it tremble, Who touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being; may my words be sweet to Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord.

Oh that sinners would cease from the earth, and that those who work iniquity should be no more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. The sun knows his going down. You appointed the darkness, and there was the night.

How magnified are Your works, O Lord! In wisdom You have made them all.

**G**lory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**A**lleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God.

**A**lleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God.

**A**lleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. Our Hope, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Great Litany**

*Deacon* In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For the peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord..

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For pious and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For our Archbishop (*Name*), the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the laity, let us pray to the Lord..

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For the president of our country, for all civil authorities, and for our armed forces on land, at sea, and in the air, let us pray to the Lord

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For this city, for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For favorable weather, an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For travelers by sea, land and air; the sick, the suffering, the captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Deacon* Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most-blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God.

**T**o You, O Lord.

*Priest* For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

**A**men.

#### **At the Kyrie Ekekraksa**

**L**ord, I have cried to You, hear me: hear me, Lord; Lord, I have cried to You, hear me: attend to the voice of my supplication; when I cry to You, hear me, Lord. (*Psalm 140:1*)

**L**et my prayer be set forth as incense before You: the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice; hear me, Lord. (*Psalm 140:2*)

#### *Prosomoia Stichera of the Feast*

*Tone 2  
Of Germanos*

*If You should mark iniquities, Lord, Lord, who shall stand? For with You there is forgiveness. (Psalm 129:3)*

**W**hen the Forerunner saw our Enlightenment, the One Who enlightens every man, coming to be baptized, his heart rejoiced and his hand trembled. He pointed Him out to the people and said: "This is the Savior of Israel, Who delivered us from corruption!" O Christ God, O sinless One, glory to You!

*For Your name's sake I have patiently waited for You, Lord; my soul has waited patiently for Your word, my soul has hoped in the Lord. (Psalm 129:4)*

*(Repeat)* **W**hen the Forerunner saw our Enlightenment, the One Who enlightens every man, coming to be baptized, his heart rejoiced and his hand trembled. He pointed Him out to the people and said: "This is the Savior of Israel, Who delivered us from corruption!" O Christ God, O sinless One, glory to You!

*From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel hope in the Lord. (Psalm 129:5)*

**O**ur Savior, the armies of angels trembled when they saw You baptized by Your servant, when they beheld the Holy Spirit bearing witness by coming down, and when they heard the voice emanating from the Father in heaven: "This One upon Whom the Forerunner lays his hands is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased!" O Christ God, glory to You!

*For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities. (Psalm 129:6)*

*(Repeat)* **O**ur Savior, the armies of angels trembled when they saw You baptized by Your servant, when they beheld the Holy Spirit bearing witness by coming down, and when they heard the voice emanating from the Father in heaven: "This One upon Whom the Forerunner lays his hands is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased!" O Christ God, glory to You!

*Praise the Lord, all you nations; praise Him, all you peoples. (Psalm 116:1)*

**W**hen the Jordan river received You, O Fountainhead, the Consoler came down in the form of a dove. Behold the marvel: the One Who drew the curve of heaven bows His head to the Forerunner, to the one made of clay, who cries out to His Maker: "Why do You order me to do things beyond my worth? It is I who need to be baptized by You! O Christ God, O sinless One, glory to You!

*For He has made His mercy to prevail over us, and the truth of the Lord abides to the ages. (Psalm 116:2)*

**W**hen You resolved to save man who was lost, O God and Lord, You desired to assume the form of the servant, for it behooved You to take on for our sake that which is proper to us. And when You were baptized in the flesh, O our Redeemer, it made us worthy of Your forgiveness. Wherefore we cry out to You: "O Christ God, our Benefactor, glory to You!

*Idiomelon of the Feast*

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

**W**hen You bowed Your head to the Forerunner, You crushed the heads of the dragons; and when You stood in the midst of the stream, You let Your light shine upon all creatures, so that they might glorify You, our Savior, the Enlightenment of our souls!

*Entrance with the **Gospel**.*

### O Gladsome Light

*Deacon* Wisdom! Rise!

**O** gladsome light of holy glory, the immortal Father, heavenly and holy, blessed Jesus Christ: now that we have come to the setting of the sun and see the light of evening, we praise You, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God. It is worthy at all times to praise You, with voices of holy song, • Son of God the Giver of life: the world glorifies You.

### Prokeimenon

*Deacon* Evening. Prokeimenon.

#### **Monday Evening**

##### *Tone 4*

**O** Lord, answer me when I call, O God of my right!

O Lord, answer me when I call, O God of my right!

**When I called upon You, O God of my righteousness, You heard me.**

O Lord, answer me when I call, O God of my right!

#### **Tuesday Evening**

##### *Tone 1*

**Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.**

Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

**The Lord is my shepherd, and I shall not want; in a place of green pasture, there He has made me to dwell.**

Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life.

#### **Wednesday Evening**

##### *Tone Plagal 1*

**Save me, O God, by Your name, and vindicate me by Your might.**

Save me, O God, by Your name, and vindicate me by Your might.

**God, hear my prayer, give ear to the words of my mouth.**

Save me, O God, by Your name, and vindicate me by Your might.

#### **Thursday Evening**

##### *Tone Plagal 2*

**My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.**

My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

**I have lifted up my eyes to the mountains, from where my help comes.**

My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

#### **Friday Evening**

##### *Grave Tone 2*

**You, O God, are my fortress, the God Who shows me mercy.**

You, O God, are my fortress, the God Who shows me mercy.

**Rescue me from my enemies, O God, and liberate me from those who rise up against me.**

**You, O God, are my fortress, the God Who shows me mercy.**

### Old Testament Readings

#### *First Reading*

*Genesis 1:1-13*

The reading from Genesis.

*Deacon* Wisdom! Let us be attentive.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day. Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. So the evening and the morning were the third day.

#### **Troparion and Verses**

##### **Troparion**

*Tone Plagal I*

**You Who created the world are made manifest in the world, to give light to those that sit in darkness. Glory to You Who loves mankind.**

##### **First Verse**

**May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, and be merciful unto us. (Psalm 66:1)**

**To give light to those that sit in darkness. Glory to You Who loves mankind.**

##### **Second Verse**

**That Your way may be known upon the earth, Your salvation among all nations. (Psalm 66:2)**

**To give light to those that sit in darkness. Glory to You Who loves mankind.**

##### **Third Verse**

**Let the people praise You, O Lord, let all the people praise You; the earth has given her increase. (Psalm 66:5-7)**

**To give light to those that sit in darkness. Glory to You Who loves mankind.**

##### **Fourth Verse**

**May God, even our God, bless us; may God bless us, and let all the ends of the earth fear Him. (Psalm 66:6-7)**

To give light to those that sit in darkness. Glory to You Who loves mankind.

**Troparion**

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

You Who created the world are made manifest in the world, to give light to those that sit in darkness. Glory to You Who loves mankind.

**Fifth Reading**

**4 Kings 2:6-14**

The reading from the Fourth Book of Kings.

*Deacon* Wisdom! Let us be attentive.

Then Elias said to Elisha, "Tarry here, I pray you; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the Prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elias took his mantle, and rolled it up, and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elias said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit." And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." And as they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elias went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried, "Father, Father! the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and rent them in two pieces. And he took up the mantle of Elias that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then Elisha struck the water, saying, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elias?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other; and Elisha went over on dry land.

**Troparion and Verses**

**Troparion**

**Tone Plagal 2**

In the abundance of Your mercy, You have made Yourself manifest to sinners and publicans, O our Savior. Where indeed should Your light have shone, save upon those that sit in darkness? Glory to You.

**First Stichos**

The Lord reigns; He is robed in majesty. (Psalm 92:1)

Where indeed should Your light have shone, save upon those that sit in darkness? Glory to You.

**Second Stichos**

The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice. (Psalm 92:3-4)

Where indeed should Your light have shone, save upon those that sit in darkness? Glory to You.

**Third Stichos**

Wonderful are the mighty waves of the sea; wonderful is the Lord on high. (Psalm 92:4-5)

Where indeed should Your light have shone, save upon those that sit in darkness? Glory to You.

**Fourth Stichos**

**H**oliness befits Your house, O Lord, for evermore. (Psalm 92:5)

**W**here indeed should Your light have shone, save upon those that sit in darkness? Glory to You.

**Troparion**

**G**lory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**I**n the abundance of Your mercy, You have made Yourself manifest to sinners and publicans, O our Savior. Where indeed should Your light have shone, save upon those that sit in darkness? Glory to You.

**Sixth Reading**

**4 Kings 5:9-14**

**T**he reading from the Fourth Book of Kings.

*Deacon* Wisdom! Let us be attentive.

**S**o Neëman, the King of Assyria, came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the door of Elisha's house. And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." But Neëman was angry, and went away, saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place, and cure the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather, then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean!'" So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

**Thrice-Holy Hymn**

*Deacon* Let us pray to the Lord.

**L**ord, have mercy.

*Priest* For You are holy, our God, and to You we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

**A**men. **H**oly God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

**H**oly God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

**H**oly God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

**G**lory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**H**oly Immortal, have mercy on us.

*Deacon* Dynamis.

**H**oly God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

**Epistle**

**1 Corinthians 9:19-27**

**T**he Lord is my Light and my Salvation; whom shall I fear?

*Deacon* Let us be attentive.

**T**he Lord is the Defender of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

*Deacon* Wisdom.

**T**he reading is from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians

*Deacon* Let us be attentive.

**B**RETHREN, For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, that I might win the more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews; to those under the law I became as one under the law – though not being myself under the law – that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law – not being without law toward God but under the law of Christ – that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Well, I do not run aimlessly, I do not box as one beating the air; but I pommel my body and subdue it, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

*Priest* Peace be with you, the reader.

**A**lleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel

*Luke 3:1-18*

*Deacon* Wisdom. Rise. Let us hear the holy Gospel.

*Priest* Peace be with all.

**A**nd with your spirit.

*Deacon* The reading of the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Priest* Let us be attentive.

**G**lory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

*Deacon* NOW IN THE FIFTEENTH YEAR of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission 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 the way of the Lord; make His paths straight. every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight, and the rough ways smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’” Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” So the people asked him, saying, “What shall we do then?” He answered and said to them, “He

who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise.” Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Collect no more than what is appointed for you.” Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, “And what shall we do?” So he said to them, “Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages.” Now as the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not, John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.” And with many other exhortations he preached to the people.

*If a Deacon read the Gospel, the First Priest:*

*Priest* Peace be with you, herald of the Gospel.

**G**lory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

### **The Homily**

*The homily is delivered by the Priest or Hierarch. And then the rest of the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil*