

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

SATURDAY JANUARY 15, 2022

30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 5. Veneration of the Precious Chains of the Holy and All-glorious Apostle Peter. Bl. Maxim of Tot'ma, Fool-for-Christ (Vologdá – 1650). Martyred brothers Speusippus, Eleusippus, Meleusippus, and those with them, in Gaul (161-180). Martyr Danax the Reader, in Macedonia (2nd c.). St. Honoratus, Archbishop of Arles and founder of the Abbey of Lérins (429). Hieromartyr Damascene the New (Mt. Athos – 1771).

THE SERVICE TAKES PLACE IN FRONT OF OUR ICON CORNER

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

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

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

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)

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

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

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

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

EVERYONE: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

READER: Amen. Lord have mercy (12x)

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

Come, let us worship God, Our King! Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, Our King and our God! Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God! Come, Let us worship and fall down before Him!

THE PSALM OF CREATION (Psalm 104/103 LXX)

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, thou art very great! Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, who covers thyself with light as with a garment, who hast stretched out the heavens like a tent, who hast laid the beams of thy chambers on the waters, who makes the clouds thy chariot, who rides on the wings of the wind, who makes the winds thy messengers, fire and flame thy ministers. Thou didst set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At thy rebuke they fled; at the sound of thy thunder they took to flight.

The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which thou didst appoint for them. Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

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

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

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

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

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

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

The reader continues:

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

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

EVERYONE: Amen. Followed by: 'Blessed is the Man...'

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous but the way of the wicked will perish. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice in Him with trembling. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Arise, O Lord, save me O my God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to The Lord. Thy blessing be upon Thy people. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

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

READER: Lord have mercy (3x)

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

CHOIR: Amen. Followed by: "Lord, I call upon Thee..." (Tone 5)

"Lord I Call..." Tone 5

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

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

Reader: *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.*

By Thy precious Cross, O Christ, Thou hast put the devil to shame.

By Thy Resurrection, Thou hast blunted the sting of sin and saved us from the gates of death.// We glorify Thee, O only-begotten One.

Reader: *The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Christ was led as a sheep to the slaughter in order to grant Resurrection to the human race. The princes of hell were frightened by this,
for the gates of sorrow were lifted. Christ the King of glory had entered,
saying to those in chains: “Go forth!” // And to those in darkness: “Come to the light!”

Reader: *Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

O great wonder! The Creator of the invisible suffered in the flesh in His love for man and rose again immortal. Come, O sons of nations,
let us worship Him, for delivered from error by His compassion, //
we have learned to sing of one God in three Persons!

Reader: *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

We offer Thee our evening worship, O never-setting Light,
Who didst come in these last days to the world in the flesh; Who even didst descend to hell to dispel its darkness. Who hast revealed the light of Resurrection to the nations. // Glory to Thee, O Lord and Giver of light!

Reader: *If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

We glorify the Leader of our salvation; by His Resurrection from the dead,
the world was saved from deceit. The assembly of Angels rejoices
as the deceit of demons is overthrown. // Fallen Adam rises as the devil falls.

Reader: *For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

The guards were instructed by the lawless ones: “Hide the rising of Christ, take money and say: ‘The body was stolen from the tomb while we were asleep.’” But who has heard of a body being stolen, a body embalmed and naked, with its grave clothes left behind in the tomb? Do not be deceived, O Jews, study the words of the Prophets and understand: // Christ is the Redeemer of the world and all powerful!

Reader: *In the 4th Tone: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!*

Bound to the Lord, thou wast imprisoned in a dungeon. Thus thou didst bind falsehood, O Apostle. Therefore we honor thee with love and kiss thy chains with faith. From them we draw healing of body and salvation of our souls. We fittingly praise thee, // O God-seer and converser with the Angels.

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

Bound to the Lord, thou wast imprisoned in a dungeon. Thus thou didst bind falsehood, O Apostle. Therefore we honor thee with love and kiss thy chains with faith. From them we draw healing of body and salvation of our souls. We fittingly praise thee, // O God-seer and converser with the Angels.

Reader: *Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!*

Those who are bound by ignorance receive understanding through thee. The peoples of the Gentiles, who at first were scattered, were shown to thee in an image of a sheet let down from on high containing all manner of living things. Therefore, O faithful Apostle, every generation glorifies thee, // venerating the chains which thou didst bear for Christ.

Reader: *For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

The One Whom thou didst deny at His condemnation, thou didst hymn when He rose from the dead. Thou didst preach Him to the ends of the earth, O Apostle, as the God and Man Who in His great goodness entered into fellowship with mankind! Therefore, we bless thee with love, O all-glorious Peter, // venerating the chains which thou didst bear for Christ.

Reader: *Glory in the 6th Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

Today Peter, the Rock of Faith, the foundation of the Church, offers his precious chains for the devotion of our souls. Come and let us kiss them, crowning him with songs of praise as we sing:
"Rejoice, O fervent champion of the faith, for with ardent knowledge and great boldness thou didst confess Christ, the Son of God!
Rejoice, O joy of the universe, keeper of the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, for thou givest grace to those who honor thee with love and venerate thy precious chains with longing! As thou standest before the throne of Christ, the King of all, // ever pray for us who celebrate thy memory!

Reader: *Now and Ever The Dogmatic in the 5th Tone: Now and Ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

In the Red Sea of old, a type of the Virgin Bride was prefigured.
There Moses divided the waters; here Gabriel assisted in the miracle.
There Israel crossed the sea without getting wet, here the Virgin gave birth to Christ without seed.
After Israel's passage, the sea remained impassable;
after Emmanuel's birth, the Virgin remained a Virgin. O ever-existing God Who didst appear as
Man, // O Lord, have mercy on us!

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

THE EVENING PROKEIMENON

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

READER: The Lord is King!

CHOIR: He is robed in Majesty!

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

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

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

CHOIR: Amen.

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

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

READER: Lord have mercy (12x)

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

CHOIR: Amen.

Followed by the Aposticha.

Aposticha Stikhera

We magnify Thee in songs of praise, O incarnate Christ and Savior. By accepting the Cross and death for our sake, as the Lord and Lover of man, Thou didst overthrow the gates of hell, // and didst arise on the third day, saving our souls.

Reader: *The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

By being pierced in the side, O Lover of man, Thou hast poured out drops of life and salvation for all. By accepting death in the flesh, Thou hast granted us immortality. Thou hast freed us by being placed in the tomb, and hast resurrected us with Thyself in glory, as God. // Glory to Thee, O Lord and Lover of man!

Reader: *For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.*

Thy crucifixion and descent into hell are awesome, O Lover of man. Thou hast captured it, releasing the ancient prisoners. Thou hast opened Paradise and given it to us. Grant us purification of sins, who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day! Make us worthy of Paradise // and save us, O Lover of man!

Reader: *Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

For our sake, Thou didst accept death in the flesh, to rise from the dead on the third day. Heal us from our earthly passions, and restore us from our evil transgressions;// and save us, O Lover of man!

Reader: *Glory in the 6th Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

Peter, the rock of faith, the fervent intercessor, again lifts us up together for a spiritual feast, setting before us his precious chains as provision for a sumptuous banquet – that our infirmities may be healed and our sorrows consoled, and the storm-tossed ships of our life brought to harbor. Come, let us kiss them, and entreat Christ Who glorified him, saying:// “By his prayers, O Christ, save our souls!”

Reader: *Now and Ever The Dogmatic in the 5th Tone: Now and Ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

My Maker and Redeemer, Christ the Lord, was born of thee, O most pure Virgin. By accepting my nature, He freed Adam from his ancient curse. Unceasingly we magnify thee as the Mother of God! Rejoice, O celestial Joy! Rejoice, O Lady:// the Protection, Intercession and Salvation of our souls!

After which is sung The Prayer of St. Simeon: ‘Lord, now lettest...’

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

READER: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)

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

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

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

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

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

CHOIR: Amen.

Troparion for The Resurrection – Tone 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

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

Hymn to The Theotokos – Tone 4

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb,// for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

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

CHOIR: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy. Lord, Bless!

READER: May He, Who rose from the dead, Christ our True God, through the Prayers of our Holy Fathers, through the Prayers of the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, by the Power of the Precious and Life-Creating Cross, through the protection of the Bodiless Powers of Heaven, through the prayers of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John, through the prayers of the holy glorious and all-laudable Apostles, among them the Holy Apostle Peter, the Veneration of whose Precious Chains we commemorate today, through the Prayers of all the North American Saints, through the prayers of _____ the patron of this Holy Temple, of the Blessed Maxim of Tot'ma, Fool-for-Christ whom we commemorate today, of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, O Lord Jesus Christ Our God, have mercy on us and save us.

CHOIR: Amen.

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

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

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