

JANUARY 5(6)

**The Holy Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
Vespers alone (sung on January 5)***

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!

v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Tone 2 *(by John the Monk)*

Our Light that enlightens all

comes to be baptized.

The Forerunner sees Him and rejoices in His soul.

His hand trembles as he shows Him to the people:

"Behold, the Redeemer of Israel,

the One Who frees us from corruption."//

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

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

* Vespers should begin immediately after Divine Liturgy, or in the early afternoon on January 5.

A servant baptized our Redeemer
and the coming of the Spirit bore witness to Him.
The hosts of Angels saw this and shook with fear.
And the voice of the Father was heard from heaven:
“The One on Whom the Forerunner lays his hand,
He is My beloved Son; I am well pleased in Him.” //
O Christ our God, glory to You!

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

The streams of the Jordan received You, their Source,
and the Comforter descended in the form of a dove.
He Who bowed the heavens now bows His head.
The Clay cries aloud to the Potter:
“Why do You command me to do what is beyond me;
for it is I that should be baptized by You?” //
O sinless One, Christ our God, glory to You!

v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Wishing to save mankind that had gone astray,
You did not think it unworthy for You
to be clothed in the form of a servant;
for it was proper for You as Master and God
to take upon Yourself human nature for our sake.
Being baptized in the flesh, O Redeemer,
You made us worthy of forgiveness.
And so we cry out to You://
“O Benefactor, Christ our God, glory to You!”

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

Tone 2 *(by Byzans)*

You bowed Your head before the Forerunner
and crushed the heads of the dragons.
You stood in the waters and enlightened all things//
that they might glorify You, O Savior, the Light of our souls.

Entrance with the Gospel, “O Gladsome Light,” and the prokeimenon of the day.

Old Testament Readings

1. Genesis 1:1-13
2. Exodus 14:15-18, 21-23, 27-29
3. Exodus 15:22-16:1

(Then we stand and sing the following troparion. The reader chants the verses and the choir responds. Sometimes the reader also chants the first line of the choral response. The choir then sings the last line.)

Tone 5 Troparion

You, the Creator of the world,
have shone forth in the world,
to give light to those who sit in darkness.//
O God Who love mankind, glory to You!

V. O God, be gracious unto us and bless us; make Your face to shine upon us and have mercy on us, that Your way may be known upon the earth, Your saving power among the nations. (Ps. 66:1-2)

...to give light to those who sit in darkness.//
O God Who love mankind, glory to You!

V. Let the peoples confess You, O God; let all the peoples confess You. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guidest the nations upon the earth. (Ps. 66:3-4)

...to give light to those who sit in darkness.//
O God Who love mankind, glory to You!

V. Let the peoples confess You, O God; let all the peoples confess You: the earth has yielded its increase. May God, our God bless us. May God bless us. Let all the ends of the earth fear Him. (Ps. 66:5-6)

...to give light to those who sit in darkness.//
O God Who love mankind, glory to You!

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

You, the Creator of the world,
have shone forth in the world,
to give light to those who sit in darkness.//
O God Who love mankind, glory to You!

Old Testament Readings

4. Joshua 3:7-8, 15-17

5. 4[2] Kings 2:6-14

6. 4[2] Kings 5:9-14

(Then we stand and sing the following troparion in the same manner as above.)

Tone 6 Troparion

You have shone forth to tax collectors and sinners
because of Your abundant mercies.

Where should Your light shine but on those who sit in darkness?//

O our Savior, glory to You!

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty! The Lord is robed, He is girded with strength. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved; Your throne is from of old; You are from everlasting. (Ps. 92:1-3)

Where should Your light shine but on those who sit in darkness?//

O our Savior, glory to You!

V. The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves at the voice of many waters. (Ps. 92:4-5)

Where should Your light shine but on those who sit in darkness?//

O our Savior, glory to You!

V. Wonderful are the mighty waves of the sea; wonderful is the Lord on high. Your testimonies are very sure. Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore! (Ps. 92:6-7)

Where should Your light shine but on those who sit in darkness?//

O our Savior, glory to You!

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

You have shone forth to tax collectors and sinners
because of Your abundant mercies.

Where should Your light shine but on those who sit in darkness?//

O our Savior, glory to You!

Old Testament Readings

7. Isaiah 1:16-20
8. Genesis 32:1-10
9. Exodus 2:5-10
10. Judges 6:36-40
11. 3[1] Kings 18:30-39
12. 4[2] Kings 2:19-22
13. Isaiah 49:8-15

(Then the Little Litany. The Trisagion is NOT sung.)

Tone 3 Prokeimenon

The Lord is my light and my Savior; / whom shall I fear? *(Ps. 26:1a)*

V. The Lord is the defender of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Ps. 26:1b)

Epistle

(143) 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

Tone 6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. My heart overflows with a goodly theme: I address my verses to the king.
(Ps. 44:1a)*

V. You are the fairest of the sons of men. (Ps. 44:2a)

Gospel

(9) Luke 3:1-18

Then the Augmented Litany, "Vouchsafe, O Lord...", and the Evening Litany. After the Evening Litany, the Great Blessing of Waters takes place.

Prepared by the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations, Orthodox Church in America.