



Daily Vespers
for
August 28, 2017
(To be prayed Sunday evening)

Our Venerable Father
Moses the Ethiopian

Reader Service
for Laity Living in the World

According to the
Gregorian Calendar for Pascha

Contents

The following Vesper service of the Byzantine Daily Office is for one's own personal rule of prayer. If time is short, it is preferable to say only a few prayers with attention, rather than to attempt them all in haste and without concentration.

Sources and Approvals

Contents compiled from approved sources
with Ecclesiastical Approbation

Based on the *Common Typicon* and *Annual Typicon* of Archpriest David Petras.

Changeable texts from *Vespers* and the *Festal Menaion* by the Order of Saint Basil the Great and other publications of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute.

Common texts and troparia from the *Divine Liturgy* promulgated by the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church sui juris of Pittsburgh, USA in January 2007 and used with permission.

Daily Vespers

Others than a priest begin: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things, Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (*Three times*)

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Three times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. 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.

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

Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

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

Invitatory

Come, let us worship our King and God.
Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.
Come, let us worship and bow before the only
Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul!
Lord my God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent.
Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
you walk on the wings of the wind;
you make your angels spirits
and your ministers a flaming fire.
You founded the earth on its base,
to stand firm from age to age.
You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak:
the waters stood higher than the mountains.
At your threat they took to flight;
at the voice of your thunder they fled.
They rose over the mountains and flowed down
to the place which you had appointed.
You set limits they might not pass
lest they return to cover the earth.
You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow in between the hills.
They give drink to all the beasts of the field;
the wild asses quench their thirst.
On their banks dwell the birds of heaven;
from the branches they sing their song.
From your dwelling you water the hills;
earth drinks its fill of your gift.

You make the grass grow for the cattle
and the plants to serve man's needs,
that he may bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer man's heart;
oil, to make his face shine
and bread to strengthen man's heart.
The trees of the Lord drink their fill,
the cedars he planted on Lebanon;
there the birds build their nests;
on the treetop the stork has her home.
The goats find a home on the mountains
and rabbits hide in the rocks.
You made the moon to mark the months;
the sun knows the time for its setting.
When you spread the darkness it is night
and all the beasts of the forest creep forth.
The young lions roar for their prey
and ask their food from God.
At the rising of the sun they steal away
and go to rest in their dens.
Man goes out to his work,
to labor till evening falls.
How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small.
The ships are moving there
and the monsters you made to play with.
All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up;
you open your hand, they have their fill.

You hide your face, they are dismayed;
 you take back your spirit, they die,
 returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
 and you renew the face of the earth.
May the glory of the Lord last forever!
 May the Lord rejoice in his works!
He looks on the earth and it trembles;
 the mountains send forth smoke at his touch.
I will sing to the Lord all my life,
 make music to my God while I live.
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
 I find my joy in the Lord.
Let sinners vanish from the earth and the
wicked exist no more.
 Bless the Lord, O my soul.

And again:

You made the moon to mark the months;
 the sun knows the time for its setting.
How many are your works, O Lord!
 In wisdom you have made them all.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever and forever. Amen.

With a bow each time:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, O God! (*Three times*)

Litany of Peace

If Vespers is celebrated in its entirety, the Litany of Peace is prayed at this time. Instead for a Reader Service, the Laity recite:

Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Kathisma
(none)

Psalm 140

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me.

Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me;

receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon you.

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer ascend to you like incense

and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Hear me, O Lord!

The remaining verses are chanted antiphonally:

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth

and set a seal on the door of my lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,

nor make excuse for the sins I commit.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.

If a just man strikes or reproves me

it is kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.

Let my prayer be ever against their malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;

then they understood that my words were kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,

so their bones were strewn at the

mouth of the grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;

in you I take refuge; spare my soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;

keep me from the snares of those who do evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set

while I pursue my way unharmed.

Psalm 141

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,
with all my voice I entreat the Lord.
I pour out my trouble before him;
I tell him all my distress while
my spirit faints within me.
But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they
have hidden a snare to entrap me.
Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes my part.
I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for my soul.
I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have
in the land of the living."
Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths of distress.
Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger than I.

The following versicles continue to be chanted or are sung to melody according to the number of stichera:

10. Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise your name.
9. Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness to me.

Psalm 129

8. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice!
7. Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

6. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you.

Tone 3: I have sinned greatly and offended You, O Master, Who by nature are gracious and merciful. Like the prodigal, I repent sincerely. Receive me, O heavenly Father, and make me one of Your servants.

5. My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than
watchman for daybreak.

Tone 3: I have spent my life in idleness; I, a miserable soul, am nearing the end. I do not reflect on the judgment awaiting me, nor on being separated from God. Convert me, O Savior, and rescue me from all of this evil.

4. Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.

Tone 3: Deliver my lowly soul from hell and the gnashing of teeth, O Lord, and from all other eternal suffering, O Most Gracious One; so that I may sing to You with faith, since You are by nature merciful, and You love mankind.

3. Because with the Lord there is mercy and
fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Tone 1: Your Feastday has arrived, O God-bearer. Brighter than the sun, your memory enlightens all who come to you in faith. O Moses, intercessor for our souls, your soul is fragrant with immortality and you pour out healing for our souls.

Psalm 116

2. Praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples!

Tone 1: O Wonderworker Moses, you subdued the sensual and bodily passions with the bridle of abstinence. On earth you displayed angelic zeal in subjecting bodily lusts to the spirit. In the heavenly courts where you now dwell, offer prayers for our souls.

1. Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
he is faithful forever.

Tone 1: O blessed Moses, by discarding the old self and its urges, and by truly clothing yourself with Christ, you laid a foundation for virtue. And so, after repelling many hostile attacks, you became a guide for monks, O venerable One. Offer your prayers for the salvation of our souls.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
Now and ever and forever. Amen.**

Tone 3: O Most Pure One, you reign over all creatures. By your warm intercession and your motherly prayer, free me because I am ruled by my passions beyond all comprehension. Free me that I may serve your Son and God.

The Hymn of Evening Light

O Joyful Light of the holy glory of the Father Immortal, the heavenly, holy, blessed One, O Jesus Christ, now that we have reached the setting of the sun, and see the evening light, we sing to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is fitting at all times to raise a song of praise in measured melody to you, O Son of God, the Giver of Life. Therefore, the universe sings your glory.

The Evening Prokeimenon

Tone 4: The Lord hears me whenever I call him.

Verse: When I call, answer me, O God of Justice.

The Hymn Of Glorification

Count us worthy, O Lord, of passing this evening without sin.
Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our fathers,
and praised and glorified is your name forever. Amen.

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us because we have
set our hope in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Master, make me understand
your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One, enlighten me with your laws.

O Lord, your mercy endures forever;

do not despise the work of your hands.

It is proper to praise You, and hymns belong to You.

Glory belongs to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
now and ever, and forever. Amen.

Litany of Supplication

*If Vespers is celebrated in its entirety, the Litany of Supplication is
prayed at this time. Instead for a Reader Service, the Laity recite:*

Lord, have mercy. (12 times)

Apostichera

Tone 3: We offer to You our evening hymn, O Christ, with
incense and spiritual song. Have mercy upon our souls, O
Savior.

I have lifted up my eyes to You enthroned in heaven.

**Behold, as the eyes of servants are on the hands of their
masters, as the eyes of a maid are on the hands of her
mistress, so are our eyes on the Lord our God until He
has mercy on us.**

Save me, O my Lord God, for You are the Savior of All. A storm of passion is tossing me about, and the weight of transgression is sinking me. Give me Your helping hand, and lead me to the light of humility; for You alone are merciful, and You love mankind.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us; for we have been filled with shame; our soul is all too full of the mockery of the rich, of the contempt of the proud.

Great is the power of Your Cross, O Lord; for though it was raised in one place, it acts throughout the world. It made apostles of fishermen, and martyrs of the Gentiles. We beg them to intercede for our souls.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and ever and forever. Amen.

Tone 3: O Mother of God! O Intercession of all who pray to you! We have confidence because of you; we boast because of you, and all our hope is in you! In behalf of your worthless servants, implore Him Who was born of You.

The Canticle Of Simeon

Now you shall dismiss your servant, O Lord,
according to your word, in peace;
because my eyes have seen your salvation which
You prepared before the face of all peoples,
a light to the revelation of the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people, Israel.

Trisagion Prayers

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (*Three times*)

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One,

come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Three times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever. 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.

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

Troperia

For a Venerable

Tone 8

In you, O father, the divine image was strictly preserved; taking up your cross, you followed Christ. You taught us by example how to spurn the flesh, for it passes away, and how to care for the soul, which is immortal. Therefore, O venerable Moses, your soul rejoices with the angels.

Insistent Litany

If Vespers is celebrated in its entirety, the Insistent Litany is prayed at this time. Instead for a Reader Service, the Laity recite:

Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

Dismissal

More honorable than the Cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who, a Virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Mother of God, we magnify.

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

Amen.

In consultation with
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