

The Glorious Ascension of Our Lord, God & Savior, Jesus Christ

Acts 1: 1 - 12

Luke 24: 36 – 53

First Festal Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 46: 2, 3, 4, 6)

Stichos 1

People: Oh, clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with the voice of rejoicing.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Stichos 2

People: For the Lord Most High is fearsome, a great King over all the Earth.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Stichos 3

People: He subdued the peoples under us and the nations under our feet.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Stichos 4

People: God ascended with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

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

Refrain

People: Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Second Festal Antiphon

Tone 2

(Psalm 47: 2, 3, 4, 5)

Stichos 1

People: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, who has ascended from us in glory into the Heavens, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Stichos 2

People: The mountains of Zion, the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, who has ascended from us in glory into the Heavens, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Stichos 3

People: God is known in her palaces when He helps her.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, who has ascended from us in glory into the Heavens, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Stichos 4

People: For behold, the kings assembled; they came together.

Refrain

People: O Son of God, who has ascended from us in glory into the Heavens, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Hymn to Our Lord Jesus Christ

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Only-Begotten Son and immortal Word of God, /

who for our salvation willed to be incarnate /

of the holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary. /

Who without change, became man and was crucified. /

Who is one of the Holy Trinity, /
glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit, /
O Christ our God trampling down Death by death,
save us.

Third Festal Antiphon
Tone 4

(Psalm 48: 2, 3, 4, 5)

Stichos 1

Reader: Hear this, all you nations; give ear, all you
inhabitants of the world.

People (Tone 4):

O Christ our God, /
You ascended in glory. /
You delighted Your disciples with the promise of sending
the Holy Spirit, /
giving them courage by the blessing that You are the Son
of God, //
the Redeemer of the world.

Stichos 2

Reader: Both earthborn and the sons of men, rich and
poor together.

People (Tone 4):

O Christ our God, /
You ascended in glory. /
You delighted Your disciples with the promise of sending
the Holy Spirit, /
giving them courage by the blessing that You are the Son
of God, //
the Redeemer of the world.

Stichos 3

Reader: My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the
meditation of my heart, understanding.

People (Tone 4):

O Christ our God, /
You ascended in glory. /
You delighted Your disciples with the promise of sending
the Holy Spirit, /
giving them courage by the blessing that You are the Son
of God, //
the Redeemer of the world.

Stichos 4

Reader: I will incline my ear to a parable; I will open
my riddle on the harp.

People (Tone 4):

O Christ our God, /
You ascended in glory. /
You delighted Your disciples with the promise of sending
the Holy Spirit, /
giving them courage by the blessing that You are the Son
of God, //
the Redeemer of the world.

The Small Entry

(Psalm 46: 6)

Deacon: Wisdom! Arise! God ascended with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

When a Bishop serves, the following is chanted:

O come let us worship and fall down before Christ. O Son of God, who has ascended from us in glory into the Heavens, save us
who sing to You: Alleluia.

**Troparion of Ascension
Tone 4**

People:

O Christ our God, /
You ascended in glory. /
You delighted Your disciples with the promise of sending
the Holy Spirit, /
giving them courage by the blessing that You are the Son
of God, //
the Redeemer of the world.

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

Kontakion of Ascension Tone 6

People:

O Christ our God, when you completed Your mission for our salvation /
and united the earthly with the heavenly, /
then You ascended in glory, /
not being parted from us but remaining with us, /
and crying to those who love You: /
'I am with you, and no one shall be against you.'

Prokeimenon Tone 7

(Psalm 56: 6, 8)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone: Be exalted, O God, above the Heavens, and Your glory above all the Earth.

People: Be exalted, O God, above the Heavens, and Your glory above all the Earth.

Reader: My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready; I will sing, and I will sing a psalm.

People: Be exalted, O God, above the Heavens, and Your glory above all the Earth.

Reader: Be exalted, O God, above the Heavens.

People: And Your glory above all the Earth.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Acts 1: 1 - 12

Reader: The first book I wrote, Theophilus, dealt with all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning, until the day in which He was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. After He suffered, He also presented Himself alive to them by many proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking about God's Kingdom. Being assembled together with them, He commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which you heard from Me. Indeed, John baptized in water, but not many days from now, you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit." Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, are You now restoring the kingdom to Israel?" Jesus told them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father has set by His own authority. However, you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After saying these things, as they were watching, Jesus was taken up and a cloud took Him

out of their sight. While they were gazing into the sky as He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing into the sky? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into the sky will come back in the same way as you saw Him going into Heaven.” Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.

Priest: Peace be to you the reader.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Alleluiarion Tone 2

(Psalm 46: 2, 6)

Reader: Alleluia in the 2nd Tone.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: God ascended with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Oh, clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with the voice of rejoicing.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Deacon: Bless Master, him who proclaims the Holy Gospel of the Holy, Apostle and Evangelist Luke.

Priest: May God, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious, all praised Apostle and Evangelist luke, enable you to proclaim the Good News with

great power, for the fulfillment of the Gospel of His Beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen.

Priest: Wisdom! Arise! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

People: And to your spirit.

Deacon: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Priest: Let us attend.

Deacon: **Luke 24: 36 – 53**

The Hymn to the Theotokos

Instead of “It is truly right...” we chant the first Megalynarion and Irmos of the 9th Ode of the 1st Canon of the Feast.

Tone 5

People: Magnify, O my soul, /
Christ the giver of life, //
who ascended from Earth to Heaven.

You the Mother of God
who beyond mind and word /
inexpressibly gave birth in time to the Timeless One; /
we the faithful with one mind //
magnify you.

Communion Verse (Koinonikon)

People: God ascended with a shout, the Lord with
the sound of the trumpet; Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia. (Psalm 46: 6)

Instead of, "We have seen the True Light..."

People (Tone 4):

O Christ our God, /

You ascended in glory. /

You delighted Your disciples with the promise of sending
the Holy Spirit, /

giving them courage by the blessing that You are the Son
of God, //

the Redeemer of the world.

Festal Dismissal

Priest:

May Christ our true God, who ascended in
glory from us into Heaven and sat at the right
hand of God the Father...