

JANUARY 7

Afterfeast of the Theophany

Synaxis of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John

"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.*

**Tone 2**      *(for the Feast, 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. (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.*

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

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

**Tone 1**      *(for the Forerunner)*      *(O all-praised martyrs)*

When the Forerunner beheld You, O Christ,  
drawing near to him to ask for baptism,  
he cried out in trembling:  
“Why do You ask me for what is beyond my strength?  
How shall I touch You with my hand, O all-powerful Lord,  
for You hold all things with Your hand? //  
But instead baptize me, Your servant!”

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

“This day have I appeared as a complete Man;  
unapproachable by nature, I have become approachable to you.  
Rich, I have willingly made Myself poor,  
that what has grown poor I may make rich with incorruption and deliverance.  
Draw near and baptize Him Who is not subject to corruption, //  
and Who delivers the world from decay!”

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

"I am constrained on every side," said the Forerunner to the Creator,  
"and cannot tell which way to go.  
Bountiful Lord, You are a stream flowing with nourishment;  
how then shall the flowing streams receive You, O Word,//  
Who comes to pour forth salvation on all who honor Your holy Epiphany!"

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 6**      *(for the Forerunner)*

Light in the flesh and Forerunner of the Savior,  
offspring of a barren mother,  
and friend of Him Who was born of a Virgin,  
you have worshipped Him by leaping in the womb,  
and have baptized Him in the waters of the Jordan.  
We entreat you to intercede with Him, O Prophet,//  
that we may escape from the mighty tempests to come!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 6**      *(for the Feast)*

God the Word shone forth in the flesh to the human race.  
He stood waiting to be baptized in the Jordan.  
And the Forerunner said to Him:  
"How can my hand touch the head that rules all things?  
Though You are the child of Mary,  
yet I know that You are God before the ages.  
You are hymned by the Seraphim, yet You walk on earth.  
And I, a servant, have not learned how to baptize the Master.//  
O Lord past understanding, glory to You!"

**Tone 7**      **The Great Prokeimenon**

Our God is in heaven and earth; / He does whatever He pleases. (Ps 113:11)

*v. When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, Judah became His sanctuary, Israel His dominion. (Ps. 113:1-2)*

*v. The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back. (Ps. 113:3)*

*v. What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back? (Ps. 113:5)*

## Aposticha

**Tone 4**      *(for the Feast)*      *(Thou hast given a sign)*

When he saw You draw near to him, O Master,  
John the Forerunner was amazed,  
and as a faithful servant he cried out in fear:  
“Savior, what is this humility?  
What is this poverty You have put on?  
In the wealth of Your goodness and compassion,  
You have raised up man from his humiliation,//  
by clothing Yourself in him!”

*v. The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back. (Ps. 113:3)*

“Come to Me this day,”  
the Savior of all replied to the Forerunner,  
“for I bring to pass a mystery.  
Serve me with trembling, yet do not draw back in fear.  
For, undefiled by nature,  
I stand now before you in the waters of the Jordan and am baptized as Man://  
I renew Adam, who was shattered by sin.”

*v. What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back? (Ps. 113:5)*

“Who among men,” replied John, “has seen the Sun being cleansed,  
and the One Who covered the heaven with clouds stripped naked?  
Who has seen the One Who made the springs and rivers,  
Himself enter the waters?  
I stand amazed at Your ineffable dispensation, O Master.//  
Do not burden Your servant with fearful commands!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

**Tone 4**      *(for the Forerunner, by Byzas)*

As the lover of the Spirit,  
the swallow that brings divine tidings of grace, O Forerunner,  
you have made known clearly to mankind the dispensation of the King,  
Who shone forth in brightness from a pure Virgin for the restoration of man.  
You banish the dominion of dark and evil ways,  
and guide the hearts of those baptized in repentance to eternal life,//  
O blessed Prophet inspired by God!

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 4**      *(for the Feast, by Cosmas the Monk)*

Let us imitate the wise virgins,  
let us go and meet the Master Who appears;  
like a bridegroom He comes forth to John.  
Seeing You the Jordan holds back in fear.  
John cries out: "I dare not hold Your immortal head."  
The Spirit comes down in the form of a dove to sanctify the waters.  
And a voice from heaven resounds:  
"This is My Son, Who comes to the world to save the human race." //  
O Lord, glory to You!

**Tone 2**      **Troparion**      *(Forerunner)*

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise,  
but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O Forerunner.  
You were shown in truth to be the most honorable of the Prophets,  
for you were deemed worthy to baptize in the streams of the Jordan Him Whom  
they foretold.  
Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy,  
you proclaimed to those in hell God Who appeared in the flesh,  
Who takes away the sin of the world //  
and grants us great mercy.

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

**Tone 1**      **Troparion**      *(Feast)*

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,  
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.  
For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,  
and called You His beloved Son;  
and the Spirit in the form of a dove  
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.  
O Christ our God, You have revealed Yourself //  
and have enlightened the world, glory to You.

*(at the Divine Liturgy)*  
*(After the Entrance)*

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ,  
O Son of God, baptized in the Jordan,  
save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

**Tone 1      Troparion    *(Feast)***

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,  
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.  
For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,  
and called You His beloved Son;  
and the Spirit in the form of a dove  
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.  
O Christ our God, You have revealed Yourself//  
and hast enlightened the world, glory to You.

**Tone 2      Troparion    *(Forerunner)***

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise,  
but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O Forerunner.  
You were shown in truth to be the most honorable of the Prophets,  
for you were deemed worthy to baptize in the streams of the Jordan Him Whom  
they foretold.  
Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy,  
you proclaimed to those in hell God Who appeared in the flesh,  
Who takes away the sin of the world//  
and grants us great mercy.

**Tone 6      Kontakion    *(Forerunner)***

The river Jordan trembled, and was driven back,  
filled with fear at Your coming in the flesh,  
while John drew back in awe  
as he fulfilled the ministry of the Spirit.  
The ranks of Angels stood amazed  
when they beheld You baptized in the stream.  
And we who were in darkness are filled with light.//  
We praise You, O God made manifest, as You enlighten all.

**Tone 4      Kontakion    *(Feast)***

Today You have shone forth to the world, O Lord,  
and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us.  
Knowing You, we sing Your praises:  
"You have come and revealed Yourself,//  
O unapproachable Light."

**Tone 7      Prokeimenon      (*Forerunner*)**

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord / and shall hope in Him. (*Ps. 63:11a*)

*V. Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to You! (Ps. 63:1a)*

**Epistle**

(42) Acts 19:1-8 (*Forerunner*)

**Tone 5**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*V. Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. (Ps. 96:12)*

*V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of His Holiness! (Ps. 96:13)*

**Gospel**

(3) John 1:29-34 (*Forerunner*)

*(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)*

Magnify, O my soul, the most pure Virgin Theotokos,  
more honorable than the heavenly hosts!

No tongue knows how to praise you worthily, O Theotokos;  
even Angels are overcome with awe praising you.  
But since you are good, accept our faith;  
for you know our love inspired by God!  
You are the defender of Christians, and we magnify you.

**Communion Hymn**

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all mankind. (*Titus 2:11*)  
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil  
tidings! (*Ps. 111:6*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!