

Resource and Activity Sheet 46

Matins

Reading: Canon of Nativity of Christ
Ode 1

First Canon. Tone 1

Irmos: Christ is born; glorify Him! Christ comes from heaven; go to meet Him! Christ is on earth; be exalted! Sing to the Lord, all the earth! And praise Him in gladness, O people, for He has been glorified!

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Man was made in the image of God, but he sinned, and lost immortality. He fell from the divine and better life, enslaved completely by corruption. Now the wise Creator fashions him again, for He has been glorified!

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

The Creator shaped man with His own hands, but when He saw us perishing eternally, He bowed the heavens and came down to earth, and clothed Himself completely in our nature, truly incarnate from a pure and holy Virgin, for He has been glorified!

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Wisdom, and Word, and Power, Christ our God is the Father's Son, His Radiance. He was made man, a mystery concealed from every spirit above or on the earth. He has won us for Himself, for He has been glorified!

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

Katavasia: Christ is born, glorify Him. Christ is from heaven, receive Him. Christ is on earth, be lifted up; sing to the Lord, all the earth and praise Him with joy all people: For He has been glorified.

Second Canon (written originally in iambic verse). Tone 1

Irmos: Of old the Master that works wonders saved His people, making the watery wave of the sea into dry land; and now of His own will has He been born from a maiden, and so He established a path for us whereby we may mount to heaven. We glorify Him Who in essence is equal to the Father and to mortal men.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Plainly foreshadowed by the burning bush that was not consumed, a hallowed womb has borne the Word. God is mingled with the form of mortal men, and so He looses the unhappy womb of Eve from the bitter curse of old. We men give Him glory.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

A star showed plainly to the Magi the Word that was before the sun, Who has come to make transgression cease. They saw Thee wrapped in swaddling clothes, within a poor and lowly cave, Who sharest all our sufferings, and in joy they gazed upon Thee, Who art at once both man and Lord.

Katavasia: Of old the Master that works wonders saved His people, making the watery wave of the sea into dry land; and now of His own will has He been born from a maiden, and so He established a path for us whereby we may mount to heaven. We glorify Him Who in essence is equal to the Father and to mortal men.¹

Reading:

Having beheld the resurrection of Christ, let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only Sinless One. We venerate your cross, O Christ, and we praise and glorify your holy resurrection. You are our God. We know no other than you, and we call upon your name. Come, all you faithful, let us venerate the holy resurrection of Christ. For behold, through the cross joy has come to all the world. Ever praising the Lord, let us praise his resurrection. For enduring the cross for us, He has destroyed death by death.²

Ps.50

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your great mercy; and according to the multitude of your compassion, blot out my transgression.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
For I acknowledge my iniquity, and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done evil in your sight, that you may be found just when you speak, and victorious when you are judged.
Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
For behold, you have loved truth; you have made known to me the secret and hidden things of your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; you shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Make me to hear joy and gladness, that the afflicted bones may rejoice.
Turn your face away from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and establish me with your governing Spirit.
I shall teach transgressors your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to you.
Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, my tongue shall joyfully declare your righteousness.
Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare your praise.
For if you had desired sacrifice, I would give it; you do not delight in whole burnt offerings.
A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; God will not despise a broken and humbled heart.
Do good in your good pleasure to Sion; and let the walls of Jerusalem be built.
Then you shall be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole burnt offerings.

Then you shall offer bulls on your altar.
And have mercy on me, O God.³

Reading: Great Doxology

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, good will among men./
We praise Thee, we bless Thee,
we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,
we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory./
O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty;/
O Lord, the Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit./
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,/

¹ Source: <http://www.pravoslavie.ru/43982.html>

² http://www.goarch.org/chapel/liturgical_texts/sundayorthros

³ http://www.goarch.org/chapel/liturgical_texts/sundayorthros

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us;/
 Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;/
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us./
 For Thou only art holy,/

Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen./
 Every day will I bless Thee and I will praise Thy name forever, yea forever and ever./
 Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin./
 Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers,/

and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages. Amen./
 Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us according as we have hoped in Thee./
 Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes./
 Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes./
 Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes./
 Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in generation and generation./
 I said: O Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee./
 O Lord, unto Thee have I fled for refuge, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God;/
 For in Thee is the fountain of life, in Thy light shall we see light./
 O continue Thy mercy unto them that know Thee.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us./
 Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us./
 Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us./
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.
 Amen./
 Holy Immortal, have mercy on us./
 Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.⁴

Activity:

Finish the sentences:

1. The morning service of the Orthodox Church is called M_____.
2. It begins with the reading of the S__ P_____.
3. The Matins ends with the G_____ D_____, which is followed by the Divine Liturgy.
4. During the Sunday Matins the priest reads one of the Matins R_____ G_____.
5. The longest chant during the Matins is the C_____ – very rich chant, consisting of nine parts or Odes; this is sometimes shortened.

Link to Six Psalms in Matins - <http://orthodoxengland.org.uk/sixpsalm.htm>

Source of Daily Cycle image - <http://www.stgeorgegreenville.org/OrthodoxLife/Images/DailyCycle.jpg>

⁴ <http://www.orthodox.net/services/great-doxology.html>