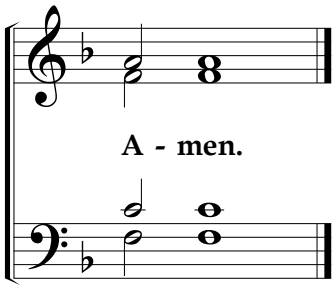
General Unction for Holy Wednesday

An abbreviated form approved by the Synod of the Moscow Patriarchate in 2018
for parish use after Matins of Holy Thurday (served on Holy Wednesday night).

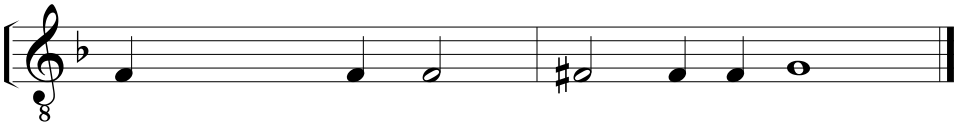
For Full Choir

Deacon: Bless, master.

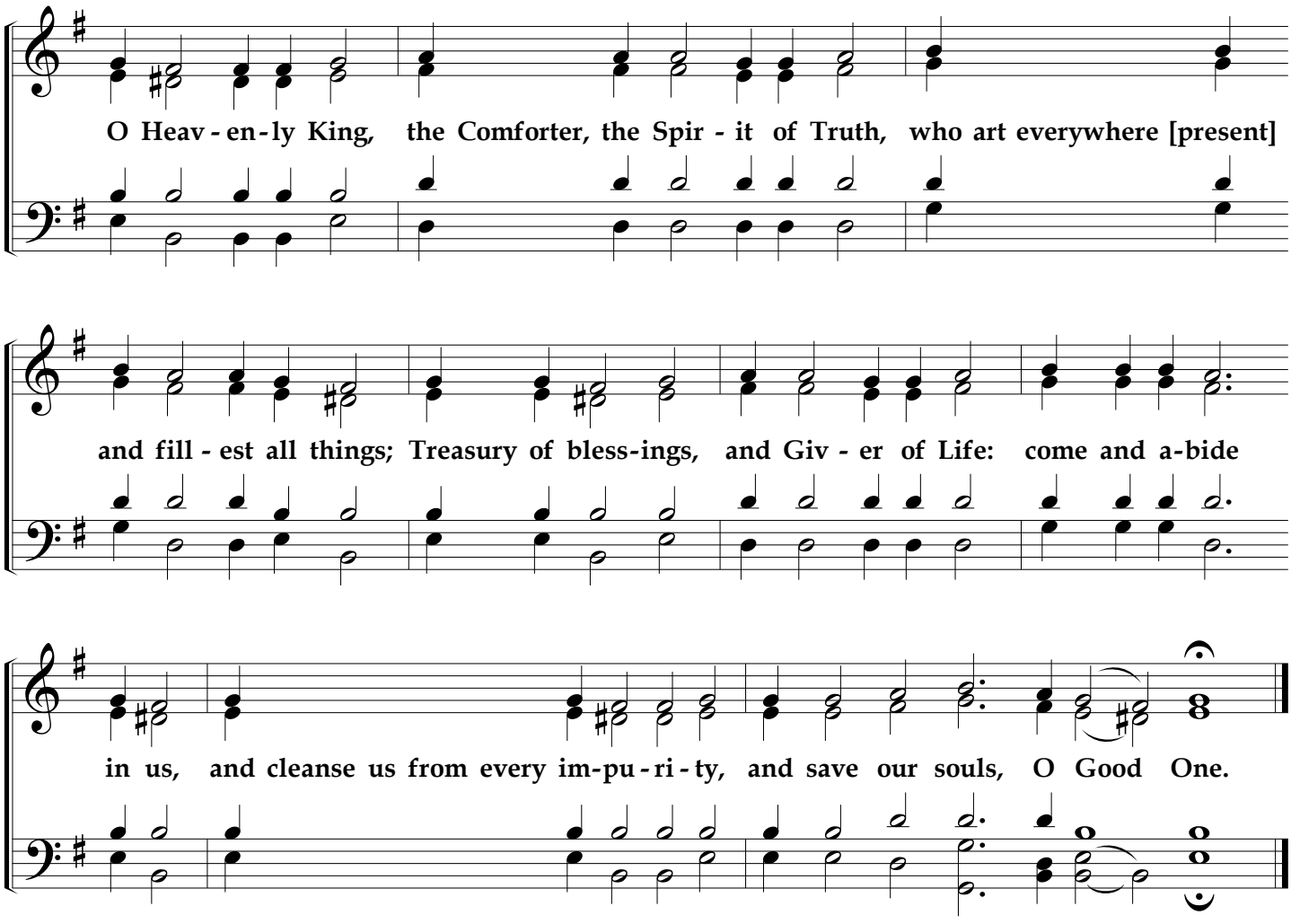
Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.



Deacon (Priest):



Choir:



Dn. John J. Kotalik IV – New World Kliros – jjkotalik@gmail.com

General Unction for Holy Wednesday – Brief Form after Holy Thursday Matins

Reader:

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. ***(Thrice)***

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
O Lord, cleanse us from our sins;
O Master, pardon our transgressions;
O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. ***(Thrice)***

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

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory:
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. ***(Twelve Times)***

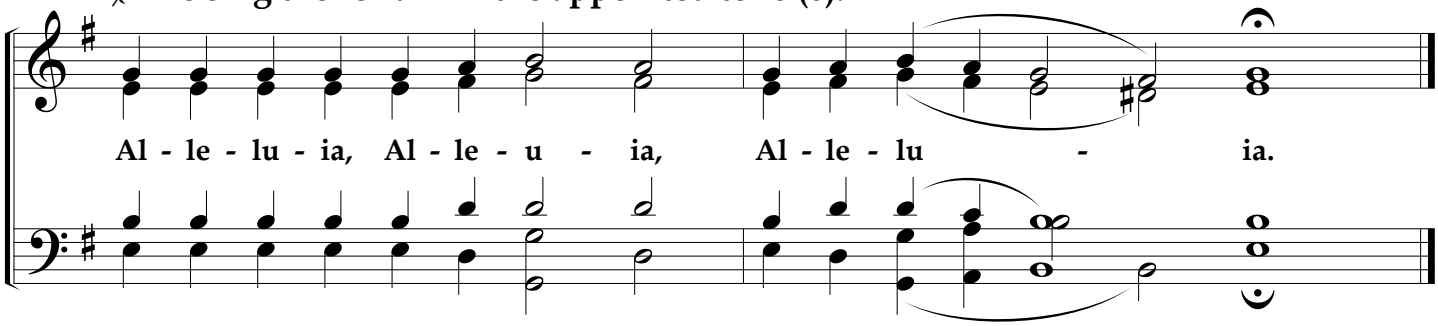
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O come, let us worship God our King.
O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.
O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself;
our King and our God.

Alleluia – Tone 6

Deacon (Priest): [Alleluia] in the Sixth Tone: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. ℟

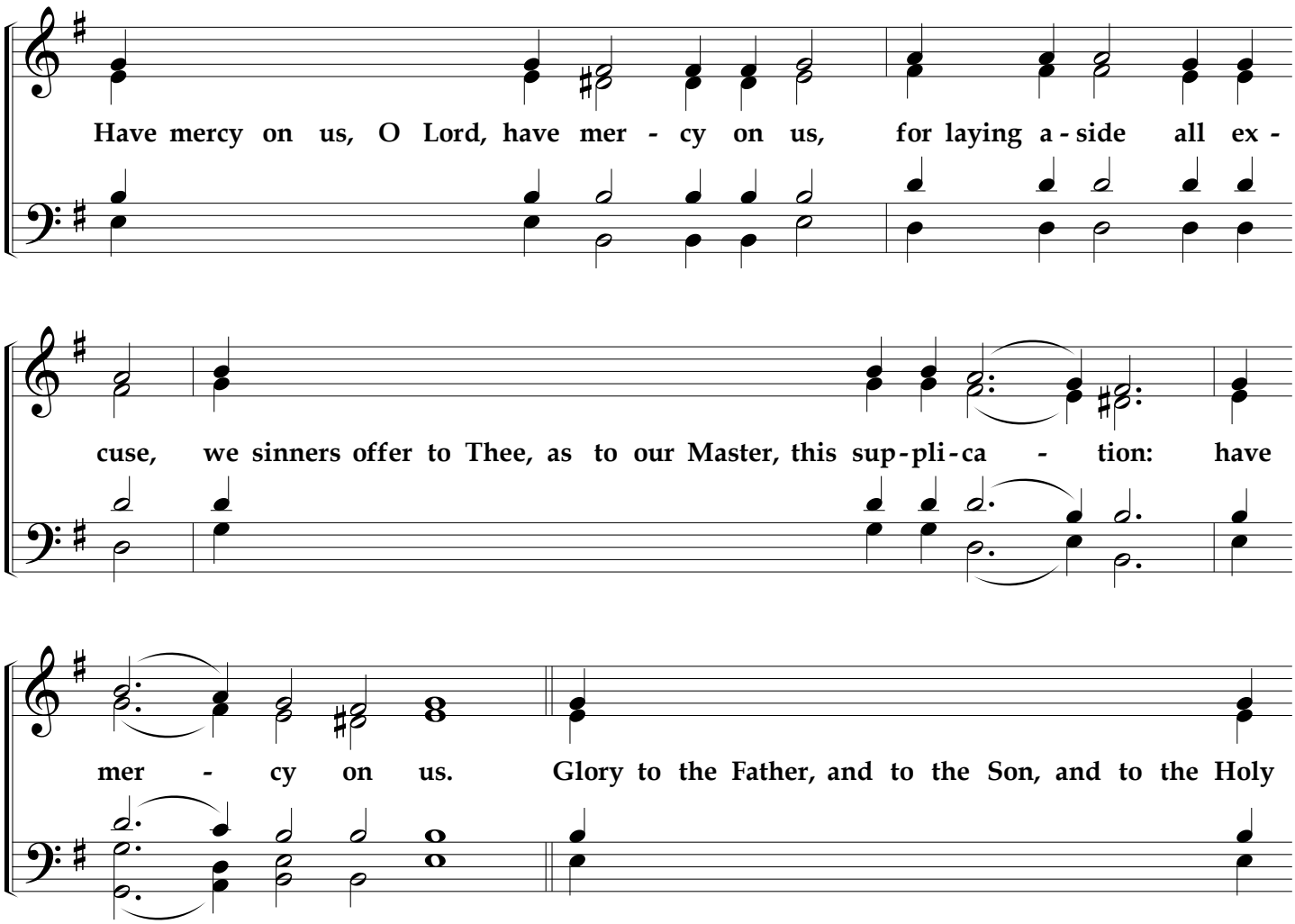
℟ **We sing the refrain in the appointed tone (6):**



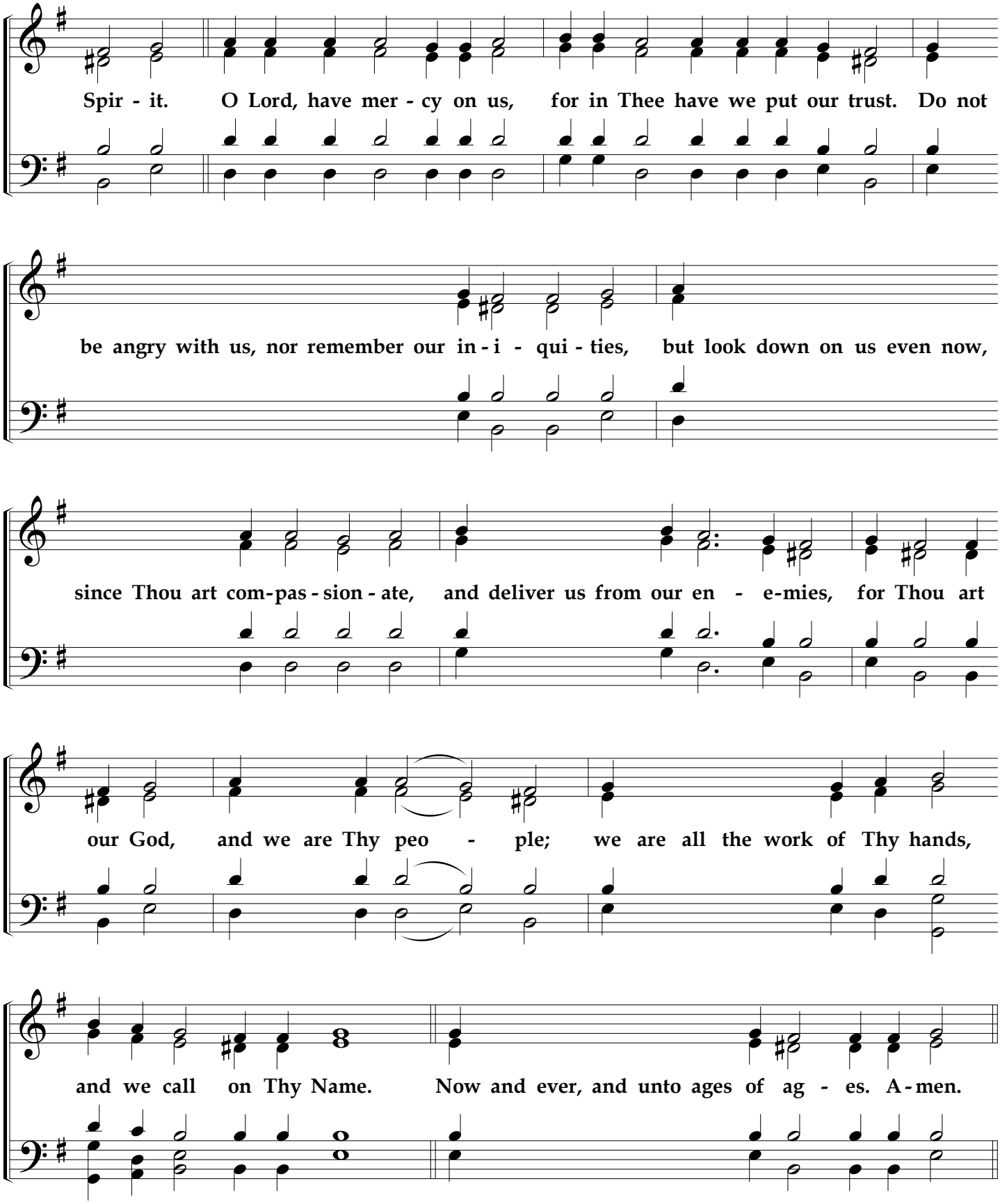
℣ O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, neither chasten me in Thy wrath. ℟

℣ Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak. ℟

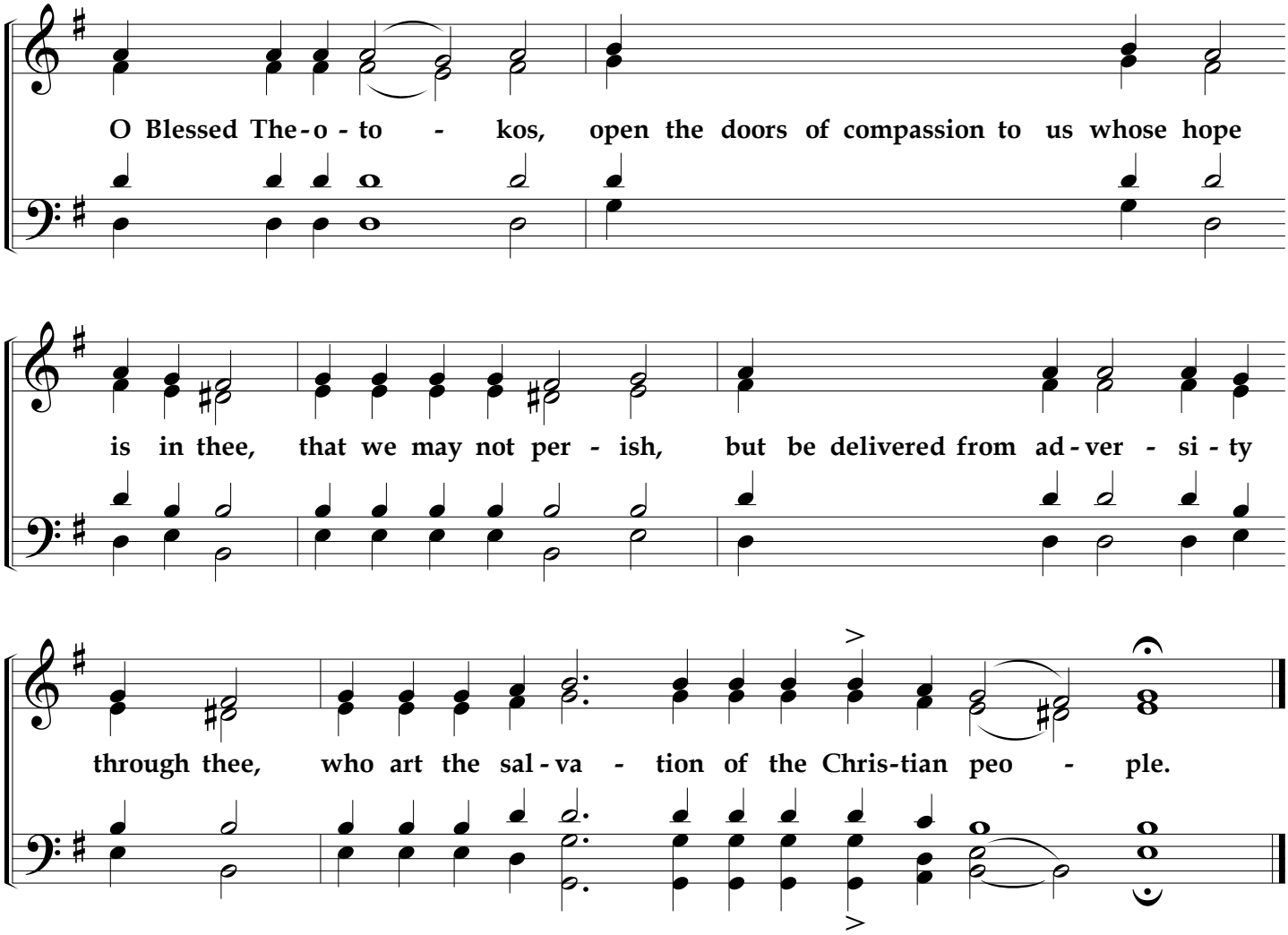
Then the Troparia of Repentance, in Tone 6:



Troparia of Repentance, cont.

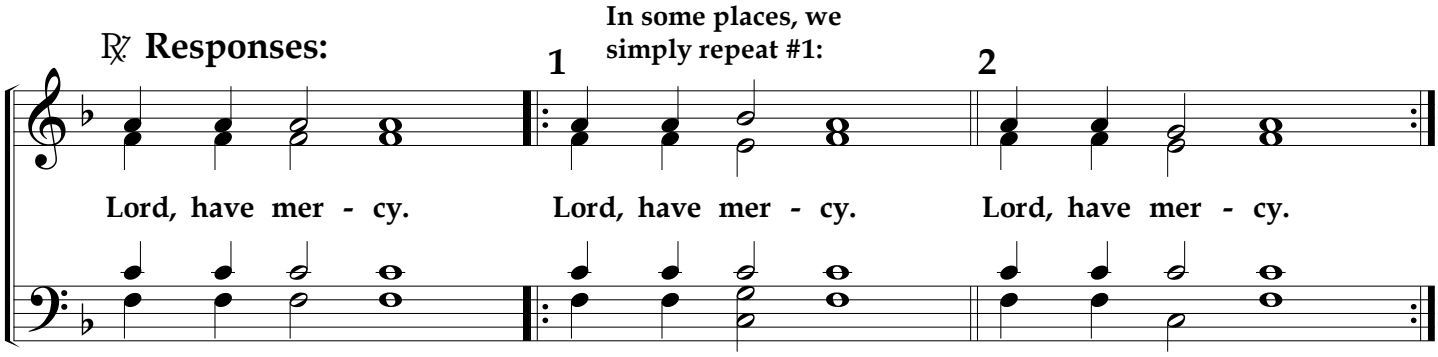


Troparia of Repentance, cont.



The Great Litany

Deacon (Priest): In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ℟



For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord. ℟

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God,
and for the union of all, let us pray for the Lord. ℟

For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God,
let us pray to the Lord. ℟

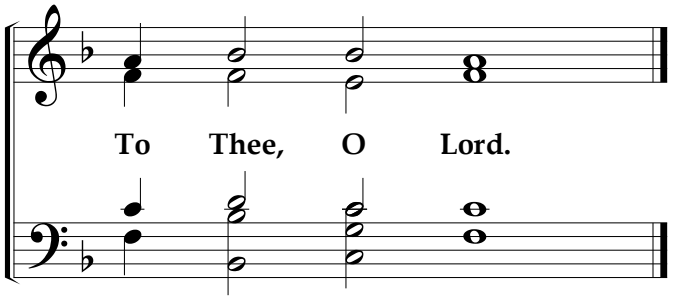
That this Oil may be blessed by the power, operation, and descent of the Holy Spirit,
let us pray to the Lord. ℟

For the servants of God here present, and for the visitation of God upon them,
and that the grace of the Holy Spirit may come upon them
let us pray to the Lord. ℟

That we may be delivered from all affliction, wrath and necessity,
let us pray to the Lord. ℟

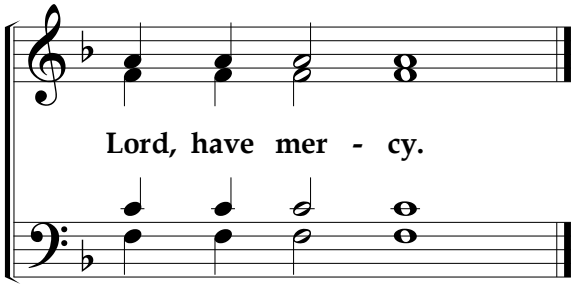
Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace. ℟

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious
Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the Saints,
let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.



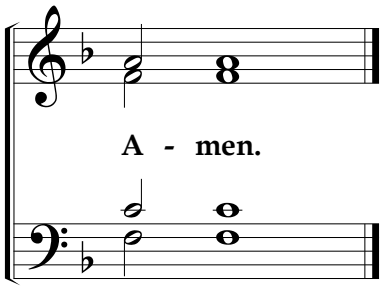
[First] Prayer of the Oil

Deacon (Priest): Let us pray to the Lord.



Priest:

O Lord, who through Thy mercies and compassions
healest the disorders of our souls and bodies:
Do Thou Thyself, O Master, sanctify this Oil,
that it may effectual unto them that are anointed with it
for healing and for the relief of every passion and suffering,
from defilement of the flesh and spirit,
and of every ill;
and that thereby may be glorified Thy most-holy Name:
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.



The Prokeimenon – Tone 1

Deacon (Priest): Let us attend.

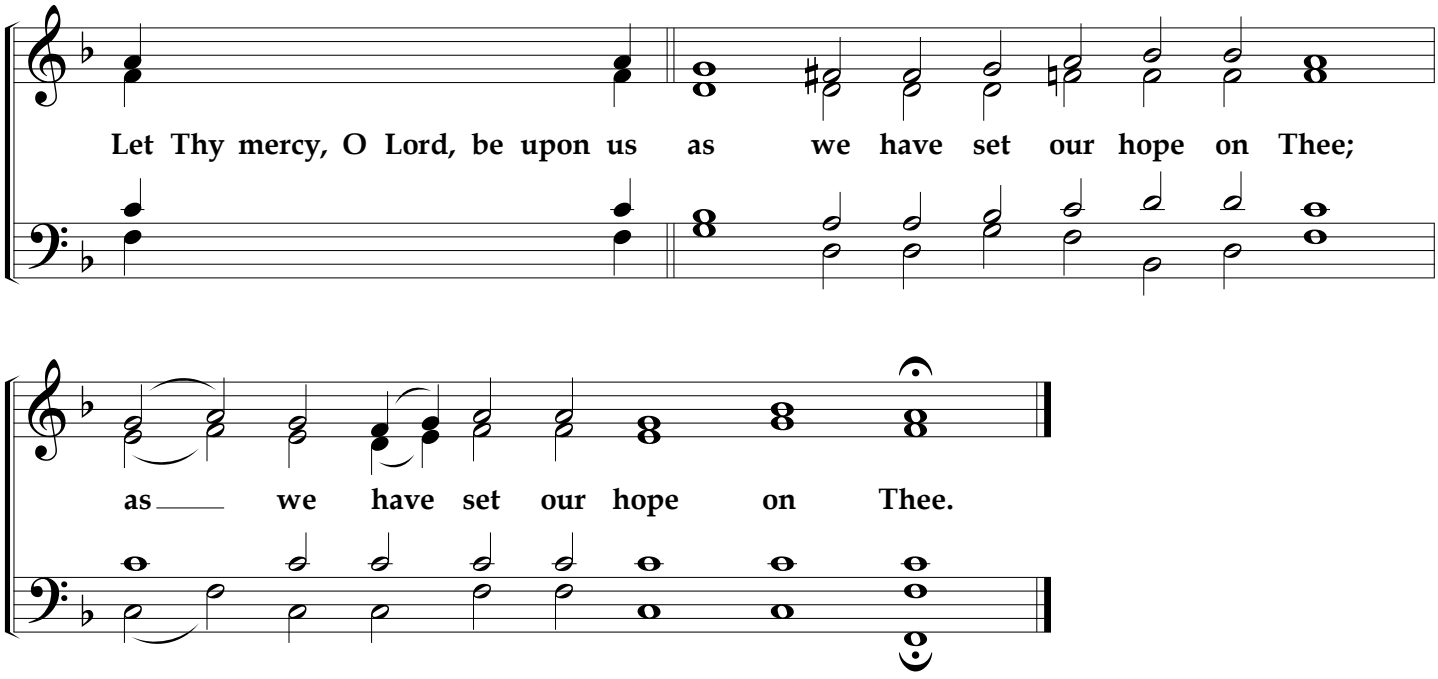
Priest: Peace be unto all.

Reader: And to thy spirit

Deacon (Priest): Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the First Tone:
Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us,
as we have set our hope on Thee.

Choir:



Reader: ℣. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise befits the just.

Choir repeats the Prokeimenon.

Reader: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us…

Choir: …as we have set our hope on Thee; as we have set our hope on Thee.

Deacon (Priest): Wisdom.

Reader: The Reading from the Catholic Epistle of James.

Deacon (Priest): Let us attend.

Epistle

(§57 – James 5: 10-16)

Brethren, take the prophets, who have spoken in the Name of the Lord,
for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.
Behold, we count them blessèd which endure.
Ye have heard of the patience of Job,
and have seen the purpose of the Lord;
that the Lord is compassionate, and of tender mercy.
But above all things, my brethren, swear not,
neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath:
but let your 'yea' be 'yea'; and your 'nay', 'nay';
lest ye fall into condemnation.
Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray.
Is any cheerful? Let him sing Psalms.
Is any sick among you? Let him call for the priests of the Church;
and let them pray over him,
anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord:
And the prayer of faith shall save the sick,
and the Lord shall raise him up;
and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.
Confess your sins one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.
For the fervent prayer of a righteous man is effectual, and availeth much.

The Alleluia before the Gospel

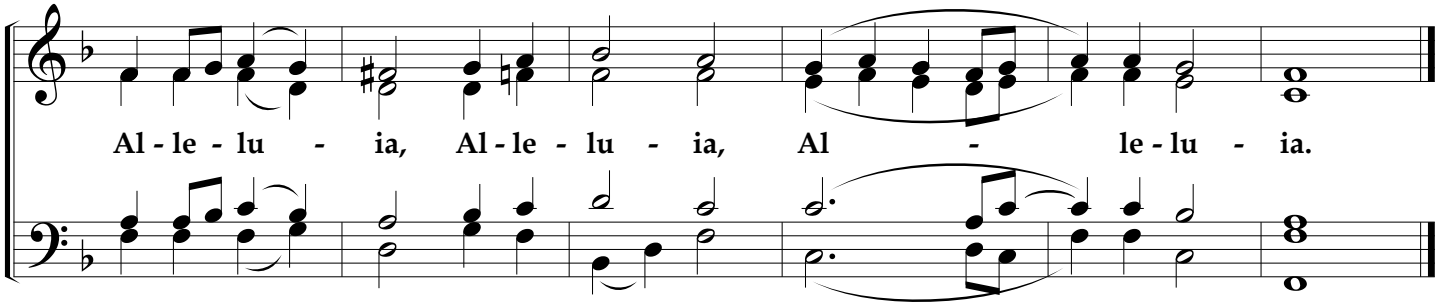
Priest: Peace be unto thee [that readest].

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Deacon (Priest): Wisdom.

Reader: [The Alleluia] in the Eighth Tone. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

(Actually sung to the common, Abbr. Kievan Chant melody, in Tone 1)



Reader: ℣. Of mercy and judgement will I sung unto Thee, O Lord.

Choir repeats the Alleluia.

At the Gospel

Deacon (Priest): Wisdom. Stand aright. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

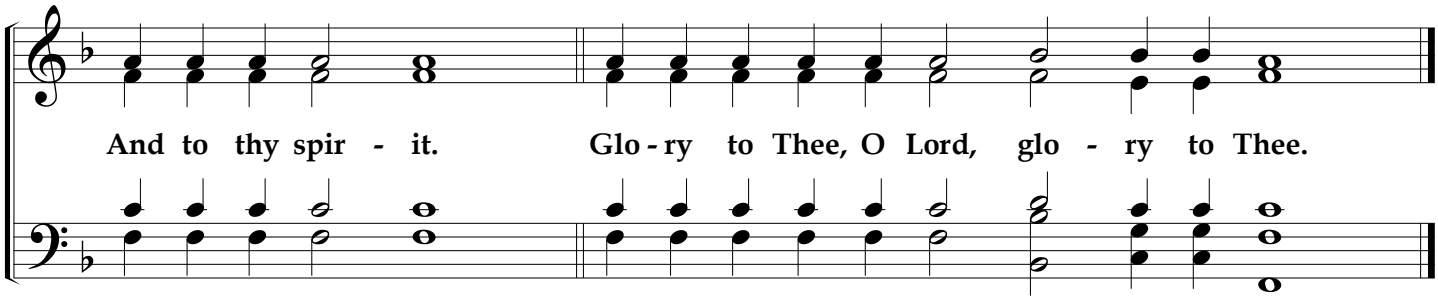
Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit. ***(As below.)***

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to [St.] Luke.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee. ***(As below.)***

Deacon (Priest): Let us attend.



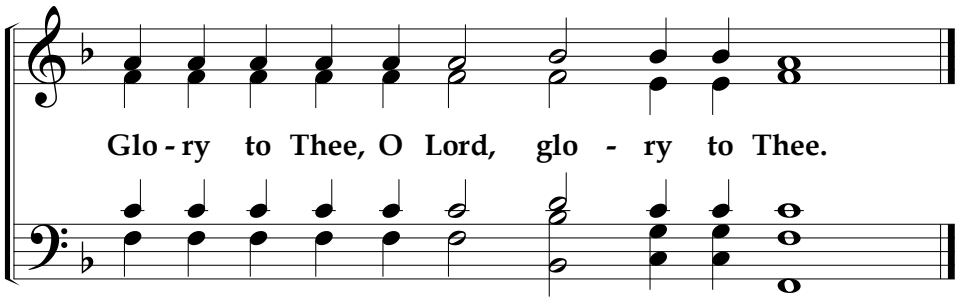
Gospel

(§53 – Luke 10: 25-37)

At that time, a certain lawyer approached Jesus, and tempted Him, saying,
Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?
He said unto him,
What is written in the law? How readest thou?
And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,
and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind;
and thy neighbour as thyself.
And He said unto him, Thou hast answered right:
this do, and thou shalt live.
But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus,
And who is my neighbour?
And Jesus answering said,
A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves,
which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed,
leaving him half dead.
And by chance there came down a certain priest that way:
and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.
And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place,
came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

Gospel, cont.

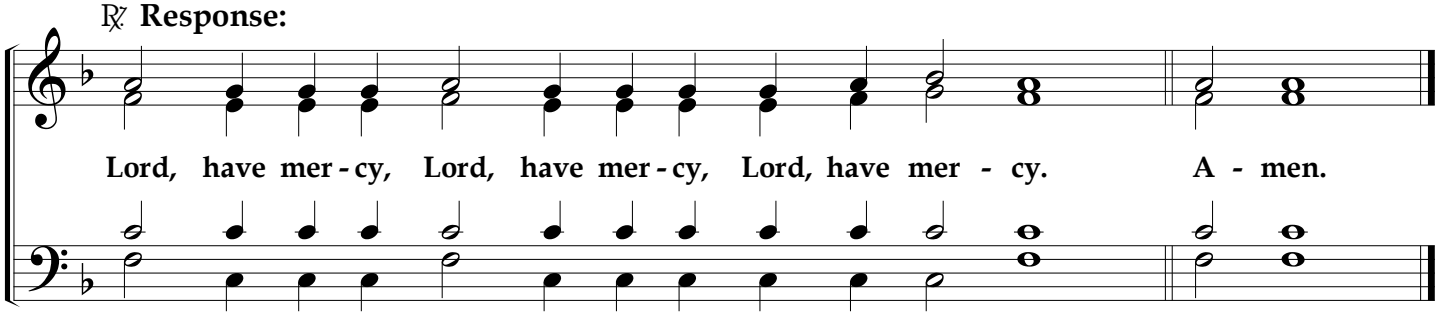
But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was:
and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,
And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine,
and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence,
and gave them to the host, and said unto him,
Take care of him;
and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.
Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?
And he said, He that showed mercy on him.
Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.



Litany of Fervent Supplication

Deacon (Priest): Have mercy of us, O God, according to Thy great mercy;
we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy. ℟

℟ **Response:**



Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and forgiveness of sins
for the servants of God here present. ℟

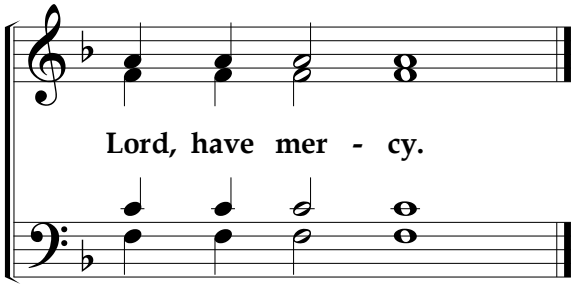
That they may be pardoned all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary,
let us pray to the Lord. ℟

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God, and the Lover of mankind,
and unto Thee do we send up glory:
to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. ***(As above.)***

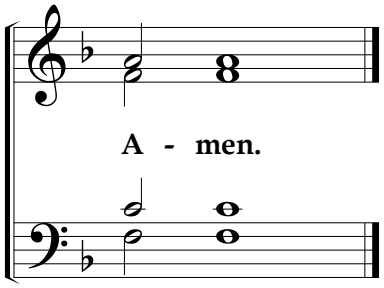
[Third] Prayer of the Oil

Deacon (Priest): Let us pray to the Lord.



Priest:

O Master Almighty, Holy King, who chastenest and killest not;
who supportest them that are falling and raisest them up that are cast down;
who settest aright the bodily afflictions of men:
We entreat Thee, O our God, that Thou wilt sent down Thy mercy upon this Oil,
and upon them that are anointed with it in Thy Name,
that it may be unto them for the healing of soul and body,
and for the cleansing and transformation of every passion,
and of every sickness and wound, and of every defilement of flesh and spirit.
Yea, O Lord, send down from heaven Thy healing power;
touch the body, quench the fever, soothe the suffering,
and make every weakness to melt away.
Be Thou the Physician of Thy servants and raise them up perfectly restored,
granting unto them to be well-pleasing in Thy Church,
and one that works Thy will.
For Thine it is to have mercy and to save us, O our God,
and unto Thee do we send up glory:
to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.



Prayer at the Anointing of the Sick

Priest:

O Holy Father, Physician of souls and bodies,
who didst send Thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who healeth every infirmity and delivereth from death:
Do Thou heal Thy servants of the bodily and spiritual infirmities which possess them,
and enliven them through the grace of Thy Christ:
Through the prayers of our Most-holy Sovereign Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary;
by the protection of the honorable and bodiless powers of heaven;
by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross;
through the prayers of the honorable, glorious, Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John;
of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles;
of the holy, glorious, and right-victorious Martyrs;
of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers;
of the holy and unmercenary Physicians, Cósmas and Dámian,
Cýrus and John, Panteléimon and Hermaláeus,
Sampson and Diomédes, and Phótius and Anicétus;
of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna;
and of all the Saints.
For Thou art the Fountain of healing, O our God,
and unto Thee do we send up glory,
together with Thine Only-begotten Son and Thy Spirit, One in Essence;
now and ever, and undo the ages of ages. Amen.

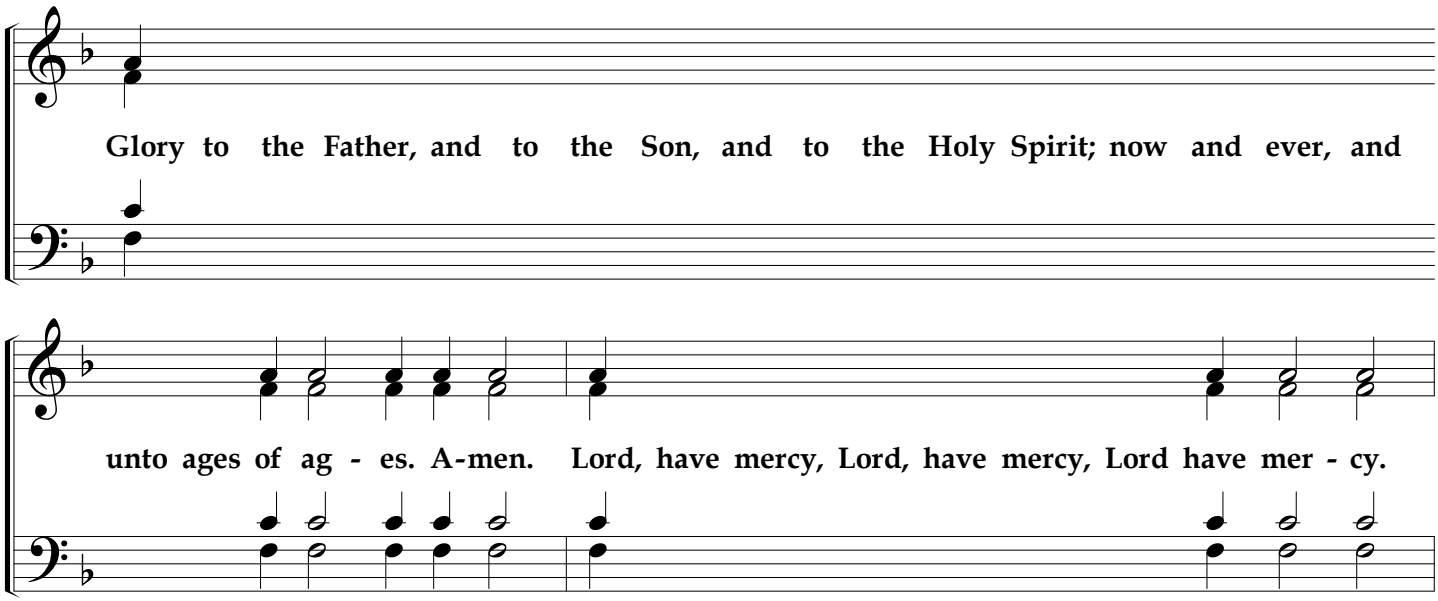
Prayer for the Sick, Under the Gospel

The first priest, taking the Holy Gospel and opening it, shall hold it, with text down, over the heads of the faithful, the Book being held by all the priests. And he that is first does not lay his hand upon them, but says this prayer with a loud voice:

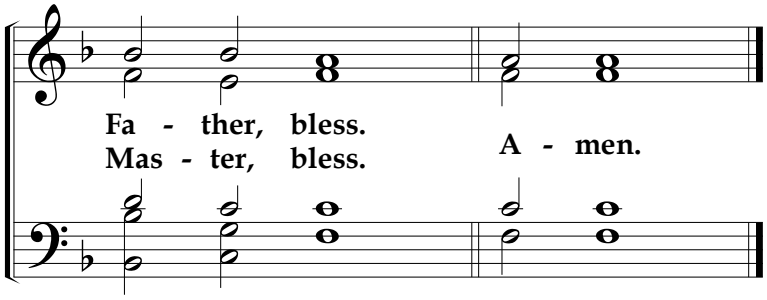
O Holy King, deeply-compassionate and greatly-merciful Lord Jesus Christ,
Son and Word of the Living God,
who desirest not the death of the sinner,
but that he should turn from his way and live;
I lay not my sinful hand upon the head of them that come to Thee in sins
and ask of Thee, through me [*or* us, *if there be multiple priests*], for the remission of sins,
but through Thy hand, mighty and powerful, which is in this, Thy Holy Gospel
which I hold upon heads of Thy servants,
and I pray and entreat Thy merciful love for mankind which remembereth not evil,
O God, our Savior, who,
through Thy Prophet Nathan,
didst grant remission of his sins unto the penitent David,
and didst accept the prayer of repentance of Manasseh.
And do Thou Thyself, in Thy customary love for mankind,
accept these, Thy servants, who repent of their own sins, overlooking their transgressions.
For Thou art our God, who hast given command to forgive even seventy times seven
them that have fallen into sins.
For as is Thy majesty, so also is Thy mercy,
and unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship;
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Dismissal

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our hope; glory to Thee.



Dimissal, cont., and Annointing



Priest:

May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most-pure Mother; by the power of the honorable and life-giving Cross; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle James, the first Bishop of Jerusalem and Brother of God; and of all the Saints; save us and have mercy on us, forasmuch as He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen. ***(As above.)***

The faithul then come forward, venerate the Gospel, and are annointed by the priest, in crosswise manner, upon:
-the forehead
-the nostrils,
-the cheeks,
-the lips,
-the breast,
-and both sides of the hands,
as he says:

The servant of God, N., is anointed with the oil of gladness,
for the healing of soul and body,
the remission of sins,
and unto life everlasting;
in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Or, he uses this shortened form, repeating it as he annoints each part of the servant of God:

For the healing of soul and body. Amen.

Meanwhile, the editor recommends that the choir sings or reads something pertinent to the occasion of Holy Thursday: most particularly, the Canon from Compline of Holy Wednesday, which can be found on pages 542-547 of the **Lenten Triodion;** ***if more time is required, it is suggested that the reader can continue with the Compline Canon of Holy Thursday, on pages 560-564.***