

**January 6**

**The Holy Theophany of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ**

**Festal Matins**

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***The Lord Is God, Tone 1***

***Troparion, Tone 1***

At Your Baptism in the Jordan river, O Christ,\* the worship due to the Holy Trinity was made manifest,\* for the voice of the Father bore You witness by calling You "Beloved Son"\* and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove,\* confirmed the immutability of this declaration.\* O Christ God, who came forth and filled the world with light: \* Glory to You! (*twice*)

*Glory... Now...*

At Your Baptism in the Jordan river, O Christ,\* the worship due to the Holy Trinity was made manifest,\* for the voice of the Father bore You witness by calling You "Beloved Son"\* and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove,\* confirmed the immutability of this declaration.\* O Christ God, who came forth and filled the world with light: \* Glory to You!

***Kathisma 2 & Small Litany***

***Sessional Hymn I***

*Tone 3* You have appeared, O Saviour Christ, in the Jordan\* and were baptized by the Forerunner:\* and testimony was borne to You, that You are the Beloved Son.\* So You were revealed as co-eternal with the Father,\* and the Holy Spirit descended upon You.\* Enlightened by You, we cry: Glory to God in Trinity.

*Glory... Now...*

*Tone 4* You have sanctified the streams of the Jordan\* and crushed the power of sin, O Christ our God.\* You have bowed Your head beneath the hand of the Forerunner,\* and have delivered mankind from error.\* Therefore we pray to You: save Your world.

***Kathisma 3 & Small Litany***

***Sessional Hymn II***

*Tone 5* You have wrapped Yourself in the stream of the Jordan,\* O You who gloriously clothe Yourself in light,\* and You have renewed therein the nature of Adam,\* broken by evil disobedience, O Word of God.\* Therefore, we praise You and glorify Your holy Epiphany.

*Glory... Now...*

*Tone 4* O river Jordan, what have you seen to be amazed?\* He said, "I have seen Him naked Who cannot be seen, and I trembled.\* How should I not tremble before Him and turn back?"\* The angles, beholding Him, were afraid:\* heaven was filled with wonder and the earth shook,\* the sea and all things visible and invisible withdrew.\* Christ has appeared in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

## ***Polyeleos***

### ***Exaltation***

We extol You,\* O Christ the Giver of life,\* for You were baptized for us this day in the flesh by John\* in the waters of the Jordan.

- O God, be gracious and bless us, and let Your face shine upon us, and have mercy on us.
- The Lord thundered from heaven; the Most High made His voice resound.
- The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice.
- The waters saw You, O God, the waters saw You and were afraid.
- Glory... Now...
- Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory be to You, O God. (*thrice*)

### ***Sessional Hymn, Tone 4***

O you faithful, come and see where Christ was baptized,\* that we may further follow Him to the river Jordan,\* and so may draw near to the voice crying in the wilderness,\* and behold there how the Creator of Adam suffers His head\* to be touched by the hand of a servant in His ineffable loving-kindness.\* And let us cry aloud to Him:\* You have come and appeared in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

*Glory... Now...*

O you faithful, come and see where Christ was baptized,\* that we may further follow Him to the river Jordan,\* and so may draw near to the voice crying in the wilderness,\* and behold there how the Creator of Adam suffers His head\* to be touched by the hand of a servant in His ineffable loving-kindness.\* And let us cry aloud to Him:\* You have come and appeared in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

## ***Gradual Hymns***

### ***Prokeimenon, Tone 4***

The sea fled at the sight;\* the Jordan turned back on its course.

*verse:* What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? And you, O Jordan, that you turned back?

### ***Let Everything That Has Breath, Tone 4***

## ***Gospel***

Mark 1:9-11

## ***Psalm 50***

### ***After Psalm 50, Tone 6***

*Glory...*

All creation\* is filled with rejoicing\* for Christ is baptized in the Jordan.

*Now...*

All creation\* is filled with rejoicing\* for Christ is baptized in the Jordan.

*Have mercy on me, God, in your loving kindness, according to the multitude of your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.*

God the Word appeared to mankind in the flesh.\* Ready for baptism, He stood in the Jordan and the Forerunner said to Him:\* “How shall I stretch forth my hand and touch the head of Him that rules all things?”\* Though You are the child of Mary,\* yet I do know You to be the pre-eternal God.\* You whose praises the seraphim sing walk upon the earth.\* And I who am but a servant know not how to baptize the Master.”\* O Lord past all understanding, glory to You.

### **Canon**

#### *Ode 1, Tone 2*

*Irmos* The Lord mighty in battle uncovered the foundation of the deep and led His servants on dry ground; but He covered their adversaries with the waters, for He has been glorified.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The Lord, King of the ages, in the streams of the Jordan formed Adam anew, who was fallen into corruption, and He broke in pieces the heads of the dragons that were hidden there: for He has been glorified.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The Lord, incarnate of the Virgin, having clothed material flesh with the immaterial fire of His divinity, wraps Himself in the waters of the Jordan, for He has been glorified.

*Glory... Now...*

The Lord who purges away the filth of men was cleansed in the Jordan for heir sake, having of His own will made Himself like unto them, while still remaining that which He was; and He enlightens those in darkness, for He has been glorified.

\* \* \*

*Irmos* Israel passed through the storm-tossed deep of the sea, that God had turned into dry land: but the dark waters completely covered the chief captains of Egypt in a watery grave through the mighty strength of the right hand of the Master.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

When the Light of the Dawn shone forth upon mortal men, coming from the desert to the streams of the Jordan, You, the King of the Sun, have bowed Your head before him, so that you might snatch our forefather from the land of darkness, and cleanse the creation from all its filth.

*Glory... Now...*

O Word without beginning, You have buried man with You in the stream: he was corrupted by error, but You make him new again. And the Father testified to You ineffably, saying with a mighty voice: “This is My beloved Child, equal to Me by nature.”

*Katavasia* The Lord mighty in battle uncovered the foundation of the deep and led His servants on dry ground; but He covered their adversaries with the waters, for He has been glorified.

*Katavasia* Israel passed through the storm-tossed deep of the sea, that God had turned into dry land: but the dark waters completely covered the chief captains of Egypt in a watery grave through the mighty strength of the right hand of the Master.

#### *Ode 3, Tone 2*

*Irmos* The Lord who gives strength to our kings and exalts the horn of His anointed, is born of a Virgin and comes to baptism. Therefore, let us the faithful cry aloud: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save You, O Lord.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

Rejoice today, O Church of Christ, that before was barren and sadly childless. For through water and the Spirit sons have been born to you, who raise they cry in faith: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save You, O Lord.

*Glory... Now...*

With a loud voice the Forerunner cries in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of Christ and make straight the paths for our God, raising your cry in faith: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save You, O Lord."

\* \* \*

*Irmos* From the ancient snares have we all been set loose, and the jaws of the devouring lions have been broken: Let us then rejoice exceedingly and open wide our mouths, weaving with words a melody to the Word whose delight it is to bestow gifts upon us.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

He who once assumed the appearance of a malignant serpent and implanted death in the creation, is now cast into darkness by Christ's coming in the flesh: and by assailing the Master, the Dawn that has shone forth upon us, He crushes his own hateful and loathsome head.

*Glory... Now...*

The Master draws to Himself the nature made by God, which had been overcome by the tyranny of greed. A new birth He grants to the dwellers upon earth, fashioning them afresh, thereby accomplishing a glorious work: for He has come to deliver and protect mankind.

*Katavasia* The Lord who gives strength to our kings and exalts the horn of His anointed, is born of a Virgin and comes to baptism. Therefore, let us the faithful cry aloud: None is holy as our God and none is righteous save You, O Lord.

*Katavasia* From the ancient snares have we all been set loose, and the jaws of the devouring lions have been broken: Let us then rejoice exceedingly and open wide our mouths, weaving with words a melody to the Word whose delight it is to bestow gifts upon us.

*Small Litany*

*Hypakoi, Tone 5*

When You brought light to all things by Your Epiphany, the salt sea of unbelief fled and the Jordan was turned back towards its source, thereby exalting us to heaven. By the height of Your divine commandments, preserve us through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Christ our God, and have mercy on us.

*Ode 4*

*Irmos* He whom You have called, O Lord, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness," heard Your voice when You thundered upon many waters, bearing witness to Your Son. Wholly filled with the Spirit that had come, he cried aloud: "You are Christ, the wisdom and the power of God."

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

"Who has ever seen the sun that is bright by nature being cleansed?" the Preacher cried. "How then shall I wash You in the waters, You who are the Brightness of the Glory, the Image of the everlasting Father" How shall I that am grass touch with my hand the fire of Your divinity? For You are Christ, the wisdom and the power of God."

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

"Moses, when he came upon You, displayed the holy reverence that he felt: perceiving that it was Your voice that spoke from the bush, he forthwith turned away his gaze. How then shall I behold You openly, how shall I lay my hand upon You? For You are Christ, the wisdom and the power of God."

*Glory... Now...*

“Endowed with an understanding soul and honoured with the power of reason, I yet respect the things that have no soul. For is I baptize You, I shall have as my accusers the mountain that smoked with fire, the sea which fled on either side, and this same Jordan which turned back. For You are Christ, the wisdom and the power of God.”

\* \* \*

*Irmos* Cleansed by the fire of a mystic vision the Prophet sang the praises of the renewal of mortal man. Filled with the inspiration of the Spirit, he raised his voice, telling of the Incarnation of the ineffable Word, Who has shattered the dominion of the strong.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

O Word all-shining, sent forth from the Father, You come to dispel utterly the dark and evil night and the sins of mortal men, and by Your baptism to draw up with You, O blessed Lord, bright sons from the streams of the Jordan.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

When he saw in very truth the glorious Word, the Preacher cried out plainly to the creation: “This is He who was before me, though He comes after me according to the flesh. Like us in form, He has shone forth in the strength of the Godhead, to drive away our hateful sin.”

*Glory... Now...*

That He may lead us back to the life-giving pastures of Paradise, God the Word goes searching for us in the lairs of the dragons. Destroying the terrible snares which the enemy had laid for man, He makes a prisoner of him who bruised all mankind in the heel, and so He saves creation.

*Katavasia* He whom You have called, O Lord, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness,” heard Your voice when You thundered upon many waters, bearing witness to Your Son. Wholly filled with the Spirit that had come, he cried aloud: “You are Christ, the wisdom and the power of God.”

*Katavasia* Cleansed by the fire of a mystic vision the Prophet sang the praises of the renewal of mortal man. Filled with the inspiration of the Spirit, he raised his voice, telling of the Incarnation of the ineffable Word, Who has shattered the dominion of the strong.

#### *Ode 5*

*Irmos* Jesus, the Prince of Life, has come to set loose from condemnation Adam the first-formed man; and though as God He needs no cleansing, yet for the sake of fallen man He is cleansed in the Jordan. In its streams He slew the enmity and grants the peace that passes all understanding.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

A multitude without number came to be baptized by John; and standing in their midst he raised his voice, saying: “You who are disobedient, who has warned you to shun the wrath to come? Offer worthy fruits to Christ, for He is present now and grants peace.”

*Glory... Now...*

The Husbandman and Creator stands in men’s’ midst as one of them and searches their hearts. In His hand He has taken the winnowing fan, and in the fullness of His wisdom He cleanses the threshing floor of the whole world, dividing wheat from chaff, burning the barren and granting eternal life to those that bring forth good fruit.

\* \* \*

*Irmos* By the cleansing of the Spirit have we been washed from the poison of the dark and unclean enemy, and we have set out upon a new path free from error, that leads to gladness of heart past all attainment, which only they attain whom God has reconciled unto Himself.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The Maker saw in the obscurity of sin, in bonds that knew no escape, the man whom He had formed with His own hand. Raising him up, He laid him on His shoulders, and now in abundant floods He washes him clean from the ancient shame of Adam’s sinfulness.

*Glory... Now...*

In piety and eagerness let us run to the undefiled fountains of the stream of salvation, and let us look upon the Word who gives us to drink from pure waters that satisfy our holy thirst: and gently He heals the disease of the world.

*Katavasia* Jesus, the Prince of Life, has come to set loose from condemnation Adam the first-formed man; and though as God He needs no cleansing, yet for the sake of fallen man He is cleansed in the Jordan. In its streams He slew the enmity and grants the peace that passes all understanding.

*Katavasia* By the cleansing of the Spirit have we been washed from the poison of the dark and unclean enemy, and we have set out upon a new path free from error, that leads to gladness of heart past all attainment, which only they attain whom God has reconciled unto Himself.

*Ode 6*

*Irmos* The Voice of the Word, the Candlestick of the Light, the Morning Star and Forerunner of the Sun, cried in the wilderness to all the peoples: "Repent and be cleansed while there is yet time. For lo, Christ is at hand, who delivers the world from corruption."

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

Christ was begotten without change from God the Father, and made flesh without defilement from the Virgin: and as the Forerunner teaches, it is not possible to lose the latchet of His shoes, the bond that joins the Word to our nature. He it is who delivers those born on earth from error.

*Glory... Now...*

Christ baptizes in the fire of the Last Day those who are disobedient and believe not that He is God: but through the Spirit and by the grace that comes through water He grants a new birth to all who acknowledge His divinity, delivering them from their faults.

\* \* \*

*Irmos* The Father in a voice full of joy made manifest His Beloved whom He had begotten from the womb. He said, "Truly this is My offspring, of the same nature as Myself: bearing light, he has come forth from mankind, My living Word, in divine providence made a mortal man."

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The Prophet, mysteriously swallowed up for the space of three nights in the belly of the sea monster, came forth again, making manifest beforehand to all our regeneration at the last times and our deliverance from the dragon that slays mankind.

*Glory... Now...*

When the shining vaults of heaven were opened, He who knew the mysteries saw the Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and rests on the immaculate Word, descending in ways past speech in the form of a dove: and he commanded the multitudes to hasten to the Master.

*Katavasia* The Voice of the Word, the Candlestick of the Light, the Morning Star and Forerunner of the Sun, cried in the wilderness to all the peoples: "Repent and be cleansed while there is yet time. For lo, Christ is at hand, who delivers the world from corruption."

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*Small Litany*

*Kontakion, Tone 4* You have appeared today to the inhabited earth,\* and Your light, O Lord, has been marked upon us,\* who with knowledge,\* sing Your praise:\* You have come, You are made manifest,\* the Light that no one can approach.

*Ikos* Upon Galilee of the Gentiles, upon the land of Zabulon and the land of Nephthalim, as the prophet said, a great light has shone, even Christ. To those that sat in darkness a bright dawn has appeared as lightning from Bethlehem. The Lord born from Mary, the Sun of Righteousness, sheds His rays upon the whole inhabited earth. Come then, naked children of Adam, and let us clothe ourselves in Him, that we may warm ourselves. You who are a protection and veil to the naked, a light to those in darkness, You have come, You are made manifest, the Light that no one can approach.

*Ode 7*

*Irmos* The breath of the wind heavy with dew and the descent of the angel of God preserved the Holy Children from all harm, as they walked in the fiery furnace. Refreshed with dew in the flames, they sang in thanksgiving: "Blessed are You and praised above all, O Lord God of our fathers."

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

In trembling and wonder as if in heaven, the angelic powers stood by the Jordan, watching the great condescension of God: how He who holds dominion over the waters that are above the firmament stood in the waters in bodily form, he who is the God of our fathers.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The sea and cloud in which the people of Israel were once baptized by Moses the Lawgiver, as they journeyed from Egypt, prefigured the wonder of the baptism of God. The sea was an image of the water and the cloud an image of the Spirit, whereby we are initiated and cry aloud: Blessed are You, O God of our fathers.

*Glory... Now...*

O let us all, the faithful, discoursing on divine things, join the angels in never-silent hymn to glorify the God in whom we have received initiation, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the Trinity, consubstantial in Persons yet one God, to whom we sing: Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers.

\* \* \*

*Irmos* He who stilled the heat of the flame of the furnace that mounted high in the air and encircled the godly Children, burnt the heads of the dragons in the stream of the Jordan: and with the dew of the Spirit He washes away all the stubborn obscurity of sin.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The fierce Assyrian flame that prefigured You has been quenched by You, changing it to dew: and now You have clothed Yourself in water, O Christ, and so burn up the evil spoiler hidden in its depths, who calls men to follow the path that leads to destruction.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

Of old the Jordan was parted in two, and the people of Israel passed over on a narrow piece of dry land, prefiguring You, O Lord most powerful, who now makes haste to bear the creation down into the stream, bringing it to a better and changeless path.

*Glory... Now...*

We know that in the beginning You brought upon the world the all-ruining flood, unto the lamentable destruction of all things, O God who reveal wonders more great and strange: and now, O Christ, You have drowned sin in the waters unto the comfort and salvation of mortal men.

*Katavasia* The breath of the wind heavy with dew and the descent of the angel of God preserved the Holy Children from all harm, as they walked in the fiery furnace. Refreshed with dew in the flames, they sang in thanksgiving: "Blessed are You and praised above all, O Lord God of our fathers."

*Katavasia* He who stilled the heat of the flame of the furnace that mounted high in the air and encircled the godly Children, burnt the heads of the dragons in the stream of the Jordan: and with the dew of the Spirit He washes away all the stubborn obscurity of sin.

### *Ode 8*

*Irmos* The Babylonian furnace, as it poured forth dew, foreshadowed a marvellous mystery: how the Jordan should receive in its streams the immaterial fire, and should encompass the Creator, when he was baptized in the flesh. All you peoples, bless and exalt Him above all forever.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The Deliverer said to the Forerunner: "Cast aside all fear and, obedient to My command, draw near Me, for by nature I am good and full of love. Yield to My ordinance and baptize Me, who have come down in condescension, whom the peoples bless and exalt forever."

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

When the Baptist heard the Master's words, he stretched out his hand in trembling; and as he touched the head of his Creator, he cried aloud to Him who was baptized: "Sanctify me, for You are my God, whom the peoples bless and exalt above all forever."

*Glory... Now...*

The Trinity was made manifest in the Jordan. For, supreme in Godhead, the Father proclaimed, saying, "He who is here baptized is My beloved Son," and the Spirit rested upon His Equal in Godhead, whom the peoples bless and exalt above all forever.

\* \* \*

*Irmos* The creation finds itself free, and those in darkness are now made sons of light: alone the prince of darkness groans. Let all the inheritance of the nations, that was before in misery, now bless with eagerness Him who has wrought this change.

*Glory to Your holy Theophany, O Lord!*

The three godly Children who were sprinkled with the dew of fire plainly prefigured how the Most High God, who shines with the bright rays of a threefold holiness, should mingle with mortal men, to their great blessing, consuming all deadly error in the fire of dew.

*Glory... Now...*

Let the whole earthly creation clothe itself in white, for this day it is raised up from its fall from heaven. The Word who preserves all things has cleansed it in the flowing waters: washed and resplendent, it has escaped from its former sins.

*Katavasia* The Babylonian furnace, as it poured forth dew, foreshadowed a marvellous mystery: how the Jordan should receive in its streams the immaterial fire, and should encompass the Creator, when he was baptized in the flesh. All you peoples, bless and exalt Him above all forever.

*Katavasia* The creation finds itself free, and those in darkness are now made sons of light: alone the prince of darkness groans. Let all the inheritance of the nations, that was before in misery, now bless with eagerness Him who has wrought this change.

### *Ode 9*

*O my soul, magnify her who is greater in honour than the hosts on high*

*Irmos* Every tongue is at a loss to praise you as is your due, O Mother of God. Even a spirit from above is filled with dizziness when seeking to sing your praises. But since you are good accept our faith, for you know well our love inspired by God. For it is you who protect all Christians; therefore, we magnify you.

*O my soul, magnify her who is greater in honour than the hosts on high*

Every tongue is at a loss to praise you as is your due, O Mother of God. Even a spirit from above is filled with dizziness when seeking to sing your praises. But since you are good accept our faith, for you know well our love inspired by God. For it is you who protect all Christians; therefore, we magnify you.

*O my soul, magnify Christ the King, baptized in the Jordan.*



O David, come in spirit to those who are now to be enlightened and sing: "Approach now to God in faith and receive enlightenment. Fallen Adam, the poor man, cried and the Lord heard him: he has come and in the streams of the Jordan He has made him new again, who was sunk in corruption."

*O my soul, magnify Him who receives baptism from the Forerunner.*

O David, come in spirit to those who are now to be enlightened and sing: "Approach now to God in faith and receive enlightenment. Fallen Adam, the poor man, cried and the Lord heard him: he has come and in the streams of the Jordan He has made him new again, who was sunk in corruption."

*O my soul, magnify Him to whom the voice of the Father bore witness.*

"Wash you, make you clean," says Isaiah. "Put away the evil of your doings from before the Lord. Everyone that thirsts, come to the living waters: for Christ will sprinkle with water of renewal those who hasten to Him in faith, and He baptizes them with the Spirit unto life that grows not old."

*O my soul, magnify one of the Trinity who bowed His head and received baptism.*

"Wash you, make you clean," says Isaiah. "Put away the evil of your doings from before the Lord. Everyone that thirsts, come to the living waters: for Christ will sprinkle with water of renewal those who hasten to Him in faith, and He baptizes them with the Spirit unto life that grows not old."

*"O Prophet, come to Me: stretch out your hand and baptize Me swiftly."*

Let us the faithful, keep ourselves safe through grace and through the seal of baptism. In the past the Hebrews fled destruction by marking the doors posts with blood; so also this divine washing unto regeneration shall be our Exodus, and going hence, we shall behold the light of the Trinity that never sets.

*"O Prophet, come to Me: stretch out your hand and baptize Me swiftly."*

Let us the faithful, keep ourselves safe through grace and through the seal of baptism. In the past the Hebrews fled destruction by marking the doors posts with blood; so also this divine washing unto regeneration shall be our Exodus, and going hence, we shall behold the light of the Trinity that never sets.

\* \* \*

*Today the Master bows His head beneath the hand of the Forerunner.*

*Irmos* O most pure Bride, O blessed Mother, the wonders of your birth-giving pass all understanding. Through you we have obtained salvation in all things, and, as is right and meet, we rejoice before you our Benefactor, bearing as gift a song of thanksgiving.

*Today John baptizes the Master in the streams of the Jordan.*

O most pure Bride, O blessed Mother, the wonders of your birth-giving pass all understanding. Through you we have obtained salvation in all things, and, as is right and meet, we rejoice before you our Benefactor, bearing as gift a song of thanksgiving.

*Today the Master buries in the waters the sin of mortal man.*

*Today the Master receives testimony from on high that He is the beloved Son.*

That which was revealed to Moses in the bush we see accomplished here in a strange manner. The Virgin bore Fire within her, yet was not consumed when she gave birth to the Benefactor who brings us light, and the streams of the Jordan suffered no harm when they received Him.

*Today the Master has come to sanctify the nature of the waters.*

*Today the Master receives baptism at the hand of the Forerunner.*

That which was revealed to Moses in the bush we see accomplished here in a strange manner. The Virgin bore Fire within her, yet was not consumed when she gave birth to the Benefactor who brings us light, and the streams of the Jordan suffered no harm when they received Him.

*O my soul magnify the power of the undivided Godhead in three Persons.*

O King without beginning, through the communion of the Spirit, you anoint and make perfect the nature of mankind. You have cleansed it in the undefiled streams, putting to shame the arrogant force of darkness, and now You translate it unto endless life.

*O my soul, magnify her that has delivered us from the curse.*

O King without beginning, through the communion of the Spirit, you anoint and make perfect the nature of mankind. You have cleansed it in the undefiled streams, putting to shame the arrogant force of darkness, and now You translate it unto endless life.

*O my soul, magnify her who is greater in honour than the hosts on high*

*Katavasia* Every tongue is at a loss to praise you as is your due, O Mother of God. Even a spirit from above is filled with dizziness when seeking to sing your praises. But since you are good accept our faith, for you know well our love inspired by God. For it is you who protect all Christians; therefore, we magnify you.

*Today the Master bows His head beneath the hand of the Forerunner.*

*Katavasia* O most pure Bride, O blessed Mother, the wonders of your birth-giving pass all understanding. Through you we have obtained salvation in all things, and, as is right and meet, we rejoice before you our Benefactor, bearing as gift a song of thanksgiving.

### ***Small Litany***

#### ***Exapostilarion, Tone 3***

The Saviour, who is grace and truth,\* has appeared in the streams of the Jordan,\* and enlightened those that sleep in darkness and shadow.\* For the Light that no man can approach\* has come and is made manifest. (*thrice*)

#### ***At The Praises, In Tone 1***

Light from Light, Christ our God has shone upon the world,  
God made manifest:  
O peoples, let us worship Him.

Light from Light, Christ our God has shone upon the world,  
God made manifest:  
O peoples, let us worship Him.

O Christ our Master, how shall we Your servants  
give You worthy honour?  
For You have renewed us all in the waters.

You, O our Saviour, were baptized in the Jordan  
and have sanctified the waters:  
accepting a servant's hand upon Your head,  
You heal the passions of the world.  
Great is the mystery of Your dispensation.  
O Lord who loves mankind, glory to You.

The true Light has appeared and bestows enlightenment on all.  
Christ who is above all purity is baptized with us;  
He brings sanctification to the water  
and it becomes a cleansing for our souls.  
That which is outward and visible is earthly,  
that which is inwardly understood is higher than heaven.

Salvation comes through washing,  
and through water the Spirit:  
by descending into the water we ascend to God.  
Wonderful are Your works, O Lord, glory to You.

He who covers the heaven with clouds  
is Himself covered today by the streams of the Jordan;  
and He who takes away the sin of the world is cleansed,  
that I may be made clean.  
The Only-begotten Son of the Most High Father  
receives from above the testimony of the consubstantial Spirit.  
Unto Him let us cry aloud:  
O Christ our God who made Yourself manifest and saved us,  
glory to You.

*In Tone 6*

*Glory...*

O Saviour who clothe Your self with light as with a garment,  
You have clothed Yourself in the waters of the Jordan;  
and You who have measured heaven with a span,  
have bowed Your head before the Forerunner,  
so that You might turn the world back from error  
and save our souls.

*Now...*

Today Christ has come to be baptized in the Jordan;  
today John touches the head of the Master.  
the powers of heaven are amazed  
as they behold the marvellous mystery.  
The sea saw it and fled;  
the Jordan at the sight was driven back.  
And we who have been enlightened cry aloud:  
Glory to God made manifest,  
who has appeared upon earth and brought light to the world.