

Thursday, January 6 Theophany of our Lord

First Antiphon:

When Israel came forth from Egypt,* the house of Jacob from a people of alien tongue.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour save us.

Judah became his sanctuary, * Israel his domain.

Refrain

The sea beheld and fled, * Jordan turned back.

Refrain

Why is it, O sea, that you flee? * O Jordan, that you turn back? *Refrain*

Glory be... now and forever...: Only Begotten Son...

Third Antiphon: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, * for His mercy endures forever.

Tropar, tone 1: At your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, * worship of the Trinity was revealed; * for the Father's voice bore witness to You, calling You his beloved Son, * and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. * O Christ God, who appeared and enlightened the world, * glory be to You!

Let the house of Israel say that He is good* and His mercy endures forever. **Tropar**

Let the house of Aaron say that He is good* and His mercy endures forever. **Tropar**

Let all those who fear the Lord say that He is good* and His mercy endures forever. **Tropar**

At the Little Entrance: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, * We blessed you from the house of the Lord. * The Lord is God and He has appeared to us. **Tropar**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!

Kondak, tone 4: Today You have revealed Yourself to the universe, * and Your light O Lord has shone upon us* who spiritually sing to You: * You have come and revealed yourself, O inaccessible light.

Instead of "Holy God...": All you, who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!

Prokimen, tone 4: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, * the Lord is God and has appeared to us.

Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, * for his mercy endures forever.

Epistle: Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7

Titus, my son! The grace of God has appeared, offering salvation to all men. It trains us to reject godless ways and worldly desires, and live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age as we await our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of the great God and of our Savior Christ Jesus. It was he who sacrificed himself for us, to redeem us from all unrighteousness and to cleanse for himself a people of his own, eager to do what is right. But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us; not because of any righteous deeds we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the baptism of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he lavished on us through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs, in hope, of eternal life.

Alleluia Verses: Give thanks to the Lord, you sons of God, * give to the Lord glory and praise. The voice of the Lord is over the waters, * the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over vast waters.

Gospel: Matthew 3: 13 - 17

At that time, Jesus coming from Galilee, appeared before John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to refuse him with the protest, "I should be baptized by you, yet you come to me!" Jesus answered: "Give in for now. We must do this if we would fulfill all of God's demands." So John gave in. After Jesus was baptized, he came directly out of the water. Suddenly the sky opened and he saw the Spirit of God descend like a dove and hover over him. With that, a voice from the heavens said, "This is my beloved Son. My favor rests on him."

Instead of "It is truly right...": O my soul, glorify Christ the King baptized in the River Jordan. No tongue has the power to fittingly extol you; and even a supernatural mind is powerless to glorify you, O Mother of God. But in your graciousness, accept our faith because you know our holy ambition; for you are the protectress of Christians, and we extol you.

Communion Hymn: The grace of God has appeared, offering salvation to all men. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!