

HYMNS TO THE TRINITY AND HYMNS OF LIGHT (SVETILEN)
AT MATINS IN THE EIGHT TONES FROM THE OKTOECHOS

Note: At Matins on Weekdays during Lent, in place: **G**od is the Lord ..., we chant Alleluia with the appointed verses, and then the following Hymns to the Holy Trinity in the given Tone of the week. At the end of the canon, we likewise sing the appointed Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion) in the given Tone of the week, repeating it thrice. The ending of these Hymns varies according to the day of the week as follows:

In the Hymns to the Trinity, after: **H**oly, holy, holy art Thou, our God, we end the *first* Hymn thus:

On Monday: **T**hrough the protection of Thine angels, have mercy upon us.

On Tuesday: **B**y the prayers of Thy Forerunner, have mercy upon us.

On Wednesday and Friday: **B**y the power of Thy Cross, O Lord, save us.

On Thursday: **B**y the prayers of Thine apostles and St. Nicolas, have mercy upon us.

Note: In the Hymn of Light (Exapostilarion or Exapostilarion), when it is said the *first time* we end the hymn thus:

On Monday: **T**hrough the protection of Thine angels, O Lord, and save me.

On Tuesday: **B**y the prayers of Thy Forerunner, O Lord, and save me.

On Wednesday and Friday: **B**y the power of Thy Cross, O Lord, and save me.

On Thursday: **B**y the prayers of Thine apostles and St. Nicolas, O Lord, and save me. .

Note: When the Exapostilarion is said the *second* time we end:

By the prayers of Thy saints, O Lord, and save me.

Note: When the Exapostilarion is said the *third* time we end:

By the prayers of the Theotokos, O Lord, and save me.

Note: On Saturdays the Exapostilarion is said only twice. The *first* time we end:

By the prayers of Thy saints, O Lord, and save me.

Note: The *second* time we end:

By the prayers of the Theotokos, O Lord, and save me.

Then, instead of a Exapostilarion the *third* time, we chant the one for the reposed: (In the second, third and fourth Saturday Matins only. On the other Saturdays in Lent, special Exapostilarions are provided, and the following is not used).

in Tone III:

As Thou art God who hast dominion over both the living and the dead, * grant rest to Thy servants in the dwelling-place of the elect, * for though they have sinned, O Savior, ** yet they did not turn away from Thee.

TONE ONE

Hymns to the Trinity:

By means of material imagery * let us ascend to the noetic and immaterial understanding of the bodiless powers; * singing the Thrice-Holy Hymn, * awaiting the illumination of the Divinity in three Hypostases, * let us cry aloud as do the cherubim * unto the one and only God: * **H**oly, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

With all the hosts of heaven, * let us offer the Thrice-Holy Hymn of praise * and cry aloud as do the cherubim * unto Him who dwelleth on high: * **H**oly, holy, holy art Thou, our God; * by the prayers of all Thy saints, ** have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Arising from sleep, we fall down before Thee, * O Lover of mankind, * and with the angels' hymn * we cry aloud unto Thee, O All-powerful One: * **H**oly, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos have mercy upon us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

O Christ who doth make the light to shine, * cleanse Thou my soul from every sin..., ** (ending above)

TONE TWO

Hymns to the Trinity

Let us on earth do as do the powers on high, * and offer to Thee, O Lover of mankind, * a hymn of victory: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

O uncreated Essence, and Fashioner of all things, * do Thou open our lips that we may proclaim Thy praises, crying: * Holy, holy, holy, art Thou, our God; ** by the prayers of all Thy saints, have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Having raised me from my bed and sleep O Lord; * enlighten my mind, and my heart and lips, that I may praise Thee, O Holy Trinity: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos have mercy upon us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

Send forth Thine eternal light, O Christ my God, * and illumine the hidden eyes of my heart, ** (ending above)

STONE THREE

Hymns to the Trinity

O Trinity, one in Essence and undivided, * a unity in three coeternal Hypostases, * to Thee as God we sing the angels' hymn: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

Daring to render glory to the one Godhead, * to the eternal Father, the coeternal Son, and beginningless Spirit, * we, like the cherubim, cry aloud: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** by the prayers of all Thy saints, have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Suddenly the judge will come, * and the deeds of every person will be laid bare. * But at midnight let us cry with fear: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos have mercy on us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

Send forth Thy light, O Christ my God, * and illumine my heart, ** (ending above)

STONE FOUR

Hymns to the Trinity

Daring, though we be mortal, * to render unto Thee the hymn of Thine angelic ministers, * we cry aloud saying: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

As do the angelic hosts in heaven, * we on earth, standing now with fear, offer unto Thee, O Lover of mankind, * a hymn of victory saying: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; * by the prayers of all Thy saints, have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Daring to render glory to Thine eternal Father, * and to Thee, O Christ God, * and to Thy Most Holy Spirit, * like the cherubim we cry aloud saying: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos have mercy upon us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

O Thou who dost make light shine forth upon Thy world, * cleanse my darkened soul from every sin, ** (ending above)

STONE FIVE

Hymns to the Trinity

Now is the hour for praise and prayer; * let us fervently cry aloud to the one and only God: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

We dare to be reflections of Thy noetic hosts, * O beginningless Trinity, * and with our unworthy mouths, we cry to Thee: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** by the prayers of all Thy saints, have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Though Thou wast contained within a virgin womb O Christ God, * Thou wast not separated from the Father, * accept us who call upon Thee with the angelic hosts: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos, have mercy upon us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

O Lord the Giver of Light, * send down Thy light and illumine my heart, ** (ending above)

STONE SIX

Hymns to the Trinity

With fear and trembling * standing before Thy face, * the cherubim and seraphim offer the Thrice-Holy Hymn * with never-silent voices. * And with them we sinners also cry aloud: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

With never-silent hymns of glory, * the six-winged seraphim sing to Thee O God, * with their noetic voices, * offering Thee the Thrice-Holy Hymn; * and we on earth also render praise to Thee * from our unworthy lips: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** by the prayers of all Thy saints, have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Let us glorify the Godhead, * three in one, united and yet unconfused in attributes, and let us sing the angels' hymn: Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos have mercy upon us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

Send down upon our souls * Thine everlasting light, ** (ending above)

‘TONE SEVEN

Hymns to the Trinity

Praised by the cherubim in Thine almighty power, * and worshipped by the angelic hosts in Thy divine glory, * do Thou also accept us sinners, who though unworthy, * dare to cry to Thee: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

O my soul, casting aside sleep and slothfulness, * bring to the Judge a more fervent hymn of praise, * and cry aloud with fear and trembling: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** by the prayers of all Thy saints, have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Unto the Godhead whom none can approach, * to the Trinity in Unity, let us offer the Thrice-Holy Hymn of the seraphim, * and cry aloud with fear and trembling: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos have mercy upon us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

Stir me up to sing Thy praises, O Lord, * and teach me to do Thy will, O Holy One, ** (ending above)

STONE EIGHT

Hymns to the Trinity

Lifting up our hearts unto the heavens, * let us imitate the ranks of angels. * Let us fall down with fear before the righteous judge, * singing a triumphal hymn of praise: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** (ending above)

Glory ...,

Not daring gaze upon Thee, * but inspired by God, the six-winged cherubim cry out to Thee * with the words of the Thrice-Holy Hymn; * and with them we sinners also cry to Thee: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** by the prayers of all Thy saints, have mercy upon us.

Both now ...,

Bowed down by the weight of our many iniquities, * we dare not look up at the height of the heavens; * but, obeisant in both soul and body, * with the angels we sing unto Thee: * Holy, holy, holy art Thou, our God; ** through the Theotokos have mercy upon us.

Hymn of light (Svetilen/Exapostilarion):

Thou art Light, O Christ, * fill me with Thine effulgent radiance, ** (ending above)