

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC HOLY CHURCH

THE PREPARATION

CHR. O profound mystery, incomprehensible and without beginning, you have decked your heavenly realm as a nuptial chamber to the light unapproachable and adorned the ranks of the fiery spirits with splendid glory.*

Heavenly King, preserve your Church unshaken and keep in peace those who worship your name.

CLB. Through the intercession of the holy Mother of God, O Lord, receive our supplications and save us.

DCN. Let us ask the holy Mother of God and all the saints to intercede with the Father in heaven, that he may be pleased to have mercy and in compassion save his creatures. Almighty Lord, our God, save us and have mercy.

CLB. Receive, O Lord, our supplications through the intercession of the holy Mother of God, the immaculate mother of your only begotten Son, and by the supplication of all your saints, and by the grace of this day. Hear us, O Lord, and have mercy; forgive, expiate, and remit our sins. Make us worthy to thankfully glorify you with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

I have sinned against God. I confess before God, and before the holy Mother of God, and before all the saints, and before you, holy fathers and brethren, all the sins which I have committed; for I have sinned by thought, by word and by deed, and with all sins that men do commit. I have sinned, I have sinned; I beseech you, ask of God forgiveness for me.

PRS. *May God the almighty have mercy upon you and grant forgiveness of all your transgressions, those of the past and of the present; and may he deliver you from those that are to come. May he confirm you in all good works and give you rest in the life to come. Amen.

CLB. May God, the lover of mankind, set you also free and forgive all your transgressions. May he give you time to repent and to do good works. ✠May the mighty and merciful God guide your life by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and to him be glory, forever. Amen.

CHR. Remember us also before the immortal Lamb of God.

* When the celebrant is a bishop the choir sings:

CHR. Wonderfully glorious and ever-gracious provident God, by your foreknowledge you laid down a beginning for the salvation of the Armenian people and gave us an illuminator from the guilty Parthian tribe; through his intercession preserve us, O Savior, now and at your awful coming.

* If there is no other priest, the deacon says:

DCN. Now, therefore, come let all of us, with humble souls and broken hearts, fall down and weep before the Lord our Creator, that he may be pleased to let his wrath of the punishment of our transgressions turn away from us through his loving kindness. Almighty Lord our God, save us and have mercy upon us.

CLB. You shall be remembered before the immortal Son of God.

Psalm 100

ACL. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; worship the Lord with gladness.
Come into his presence with singing; know that the Lord is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

DCN. Let us through the holy Church beseech the Lord, that through her he may deliver us from our sins and save us by his mercy. Almighty Lord, our God, save us and have mercy upon us.

CLB. In the midst of this temple, O Lord, and before these God-accepted and resplendent holy signs and before this holy place we bow down in awe and worship you; we bless and glorify your holy, wondrous and triumphant resurrection, and we offer blessing and glory to you with the Father and with the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.
I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy.

Psalm 43

DCN. Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people.

CLB. From those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me!

DCN. For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off? Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy?

CLB. O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

DCN. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy.

CLB. And I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

DCN. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

CLB. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

DCN. Now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

And again for peace let us beseech the Lord. Let us bless the almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has made us worthy to stand in this place of glorification and to sing these spiritual songs. Almighty Lord our God, save us and have mercy upon us.

CLB. In this holy abode and in this place of glorification, in this habitation of angels and in this place of expiation of mankind, before these God-accepted and resplendent holy signs and before this holy altar, we bow down in awe and worship you; we bless and glorify your holy, wondrous and triumphant resurrection and together with the heavenly hosts we offer blessing and glory to you with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

CONGREGATION SIT

When the celebrant is a bishop, the choir sings:

Chosen by God, O blessed holy priest, likened to Aaron and the prophet Moses, who fashioned the vestments that Aaron always wore. The robe was prepared of four elements: of red, blue, and purple wool and of linen.

MELODY

On Easter and Ordinary Sundays

Standing by the sepulcher of the Immortal who is risen, today the heavenly angel proclaims: Christ is risen, Christ is awakened, out of the virgin tomb, out of the luminous tomb. The guards were struck with terror, because from the newly-dug grave Christ is risen, Christ is awakened, out of the virgin tomb, out of the luminous tomb.

CONGREGATION STAND

THE SYNAXIS

PROCESSION

Chant of Censing

CHR. Through the intercession of your mother, the Virgin, accept the supplications of your servants, O Christ, who with your blood have made your holy Church more splendid than the heavens, and you have appointed within her the orders of apostles, prophets, and holy teachers, after the pattern of the heavenly hosts.

Today, we who are assembled here, the ranks of priests, deacons, acolytes, and clerks, offer incense to you, O Lord, as Zachariah did of old. Accept also from us, our incense-like prayers as you did the sacrifice of Abel, of Noah, and of Abraham. Through the intercession of the heavenly hosts, keep forever unshaken the See of Armenians.

DCN. Bless, O lord.

CLB. Blessed is the kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

INTROIT
On Ordinary Sundays

CHR. Only-begotten Son and Word of God and immortal Being, who consented to become incarnate from the ever-Virgin, the holy Mother of God. O Christ, our God, you who are unchangeable, you became man, and were crucified, and conquered death by your death. You who are one of the Holy Trinity, equal in glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, save us.

DCN. And again for peace let us beseech the Lord. Receive us, save us, and have mercy upon us. Bless, O lord.

CLB. Blessing and glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen. ✠ Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Let us bow down to God.

CHR. To you we bow down, O Lord.

CLB. O Lord, our God, whose power is inscrutable and whose glory is incomprehensible, whose steadfast love is infinite and compassion unbounded, according to your abundant love for mankind look down upon your people and upon this holy temple, and abundantly grant your steadfast love and compassion to us and to all those who now pray with us. For to you is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

MIDDAY CHANT
On Easter Day (Mode I)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!
Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!
Come, O you peoples, sing to the Lord. Alleluia!
To him who is risen from the dead. Alleluia! To him who enlightened the world.
Alleluia!

CLB. For yours is the might and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

DCN. Be attentive.

CHR. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, who rose from the dead, have mercy upon us. (Repeat three times.)

Annunciation and Nativity
Who was revealed for us, have mercy upon us.

Palm Sunday

Who came and will come again, have mercy upon us.

Ascension

Who ascended to the Father with glory, have mercy upon us.

Pentecost

Who came and rested on the apostles, have mercy upon us.

Transfiguration

Who was revealed on mount Tabor, have mercy upon us.

Assumption

Who came for the assumption of your mother and Virgin, have mercy upon us.

On Cross, Church and Saints days

Who was crucified for us, have mercy upon us.

DCN. And again for peace let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. For the peace of the whole world and for the stability of the holy Church, let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. For all holy and orthodox bishops, let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. For the life of our Patriarch, the most holy lord, lord (name of the Catholicos), and for the salvation of his soul, let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy. Be mindful, O Lord, and have mercy. Lord, have mercy. To you, O Lord, we commit ourselves. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

CLB. For you, being God, are merciful and lover of mankind, and to you is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

CONGREGATION SIT

Reading of the Scriptures

CHR. Alleluia! Alleluia!

God has risen up and all his enemies are scattered; those who hated him fled before him.

CONGREGATION STAND

DCN. Alleluia! Rise.

CLB. ☩ Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Listen in awe.

DCN. To the holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John.)

CHR. Glory be to you, O Lord, our God.

DCN. Be attentive.

CHR. God is speaking.

DCN. (The deacon reads the holy Gospel as prescribed in the Directorium.)

CHR. Glory be to you, O Lord, our God.

Then all recite the Nicene Creed,
hands joined in prayer.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, of things visible and invisible.

And we believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten of God the Father, only-begotten, that is of the substance of the Father. God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten and not made; himself of the same nature of the Father by whom all things came into being in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

Who for us, mankind, and for our salvation came down from heaven, was incarnate, became man, was born perfectly of the holy virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit. By whom he took body, soul and mind and everything that is in man, truly and not in semblance. He suffered and was crucified and was buried, and on the third day he rose again; and ascended into heaven with the same body and sat at the right hand of the Father. He is to come with the same body and with the glory of the Father to judge the living and the dead, whose kingdom has no end.

We also believe in the Holy Spirit, the uncreated and the perfect, who spoke through the Law and the Prophets and the Gospels; who descended on the river Jordan, preached through the apostles and dwelled in the saints.

We also believe in only one, universal, and apostolic holy Church; in one baptism; in repentance and in the remission and forgiveness of sins; we believe in the resurrection of the dead, in the everlasting judgment of souls and bodies, in the kingdom of heaven and in life eternal.

DCN. The universal and apostolic holy Church anathematizes those who say that there was a time when the Son was not, or that there was a time when the Holy Spirit was not, or that they came into being out of nothing, or who say that the Son of God or the Holy Spirit is of different substance, or that they are changeable or alterable.

CLB. But we glorify him who existed before eternity, bowing down to the Holy Trinity and the one Godhead, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

DCN. And again for peace let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. Let us again in faith beseech and ask of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ at this hour of worship and prayer, that he may make them worthy of acceptance. May the Lord hear the voice of our supplications; may he receive the requests of our hearts, may he forgive our trespasses and have mercy upon us. May our prayers and requests at all times enter into the presence of his great majesty and may he grant us to labor in good deeds with one accord, in one faith, and in righteousness, so that he may send down on us the gifts of his mercy. May the Lord almighty save us and have mercy upon us.

CHR. Save us, O Lord. Grant, O Lord, grant, O Lord, grant, O Lord. Lord, have mercy. To you, O Lord, we commit ourselves. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

CLB. So that we may be worthy to give thanks and to glorify you with the Father and with the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen. X Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Let us bow down to God.

CHR. To you we bow down, O Lord.

CLB. With your peace, O Christ our Savior, which is beyond all understanding and speech, strengthen us and keep us fearless of all evil. Number us among your true worshipers, who worship you in spirit and in truth. For to the all-holy Trinity is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always and forever and ever. Blessed be our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

DCN. Bless, O lord.

CLB. ✠ May the Lord God bless you all.

CHR. Amen.

CONGREGATION SIT

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

DCN. Let none of the catechumens, none with little faith, and none of the penitents or the unclean draw near to this divine mystery.

CHR. The body of the Lord and the blood of the Savior are before us; the heavenly hosts are invisibly singing and saying with unceasing voice: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

DCN. O you choristers, sing psalms to the Lord our God, sing spiritual songs in a sweet voice.

CONGREGATION STAND
OR KNEEL

HAGIODY
On Sundays, Church days,
Palm Sunday and Pentecost

CHR. O God, you have filled your holy Church with angelic order.

✠ Thousands of thousands of arch-angels stand before you, and myriads of myriads of angels worship you, O Lord, and yet you are pleased to accept praise from human beings who sing in a mystical voice: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.

On major feasts with loud voice

CLB. Alleluia! Alleluia!

DCN. Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

CLB. Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

DCN. Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

CLB. Who is the King of glory? The Lord of hosts.

DCN. He is the King of glory.

CLB. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is he who came and who is to come.

DCN. And again for peace let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. And again with faith and purity let us stand in awe and pray before this holy altar of God; not with guilty conscience or offense, nor with craftiness or cunning, nor with deceit or wiles, nor with doubt or with little faith. Rather let us stand in prayer before the holy altar of God with right conduct, a pure mind, a guileless heart, with perfect faith. Rather filled with love, and full and abounding in all good deeds, that we may attain the grace of mercy on the day of revelation at the second coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May he save us and have mercy upon us.

CHR. Save, O Lord, and have mercy.

CLB. By the grace and loving kindness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, with whom to you, O Father, and also to the Holy Spirit is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always and forever and ever. Amen. ✠Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Let us bow down to God.

CHR. To you we bow down, O Lord.

DCN. Greet one another with a holy kiss; and you who are not worthy to partake of this divine mystery go outside the doors and pray there.

CHR. *Christ is revealed among us; he who is God is here seated. The voice of peace has resounded, the holy greeting is commanded. The Church has become one soul, the kiss is given for a full bond. Enmity has been removed, and love is spread among us all. Now, O ministers, raise your voice, bless in one accord the united Godhead to whom the seraphim give praise.

On major feasts

DCN. Those who stand with faith before this royal holy table, behold, Christ the King is enthroned here surrounded by heavenly hosts.

CHR. We lift up our eyes and behold and implore, saying: Remember not our sins, but in your compassion forgive them. With the angels and with your saints we praise you, O Lord, and glorify you.

DCN. Let us stand in fear, let us stand in awe, let us stand straight, and let us look attentively.

CHR. To you, O God.

DCN. Christ, the immaculate Lamb of God, is offered here in sacrifice.

* The deacon brings the kiss of peace from the altar to the congregation and says: “Krisdos i méch mér haydnétsav” (Christ is revealed among us). The recipient answers: “Orhnyal é haydnootyoonûn Krisdosi” (Blessed is the revelation of Christ).

CHR. For he is mercy and peace and sacrifice of praise.

CLB. May the grace, the love, and the divine sanctifying power of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ✠ be with you all.

CONGREGATION SIT

CHR. Amen. And with your spirit.

DCN. Guard the doors! Guard the doors! With all wisdom and vigilance and with the awe of God lift up your minds to this divine mystery.

CHR. We lift them up to you, O Lord almighty.

DCN. And give thanks to the Lord wholeheartedly.

CHR. It is proper and right to do so.

CLB. And he granted us in one voice with the seraphim and cherubim to sing your holiness, to make melodies, boldly cry out, and say:

CONGREGATION STAND

CHR. Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Glory in the highest. Blessed are you who came and who is to come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

CLB. Take, eat, this is my body, which is distributed for you and for many, for the expiation and forgiveness of sins.

CHR. Amen.

CLB. Drink from this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many, for the expiation and forgiveness of sins.

CHR. Amen. Heavenly Father, who gave your Son unto death for us as debtor of our debts, we beseech you, through the shedding of his blood, have mercy upon your rational flock.

CLB. And we offer to you, your own of your own on behalf of all and for all.

CHR. In all things blessed are you, O Lord. We bless you, we praise you, we give thanks to you, we beseech you, O Lord, our God.

DCN. Bless, O lord.

CLB. ☩Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Let us bow down to God.

CHR. To you we bow down, O Lord. Son of God, who was sacrificed for reconciliation with the Father, bread of life distributed among us; we beseech you, through the shedding of your holy blood, have mercy upon the flock redeemed by your blood.

CLB. So that this may be for all of us who approach it, for acquittal, for expiation and for forgiveness of sins.

CHR. Spirit of God, who descending from heaven accomplishes through us the mystery of him who is glorified with you. By the shedding of his blood, we beseech you, grant rest to the souls those of ours who have fallen asleep.

CONGREGATION SIT

CLB. With them visit us also, O beneficent God, we beseech you.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

CLB. We beseech the Lord in this holy sacrifice, to be mindful of the Mother of God, the holy virgin Mary, John the Baptist, the Protomartyr Stephen, and all the saints.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

DCN. We beseech you, O Lord, in this holy sacrifice, to be mindful of the holy apostles, the prophets, the doctors of the Church, the martyrs, and all the holy patriarchs, apostolic bishops, presbyters, orthodox deacons, and all the saints.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

On saints' days:

DCN. We beseech you, O Lord, in this holy sacrifice, to be mindful of the holy and God-pleasing (name of the saints) whose commemoration we have made this day.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

DCN. We bow down to the blessed, praised and glorified, wondrous and God-adorned resurrection of Christ.

CHR. Glory to your resurrection, Lord.

DCN. We beseech you, O Lord, in this holy sacrifice, to be mindful of our first illuminators and leaders: Saints Thaddaeus and Bartholomew and Gregory the Illuminator, Aristakes, Verthanes, Housik, Gregorius, Nerses, Sahak, Daniel and Khad, Mesrop the Doctor (Vartabed), Gregory of Narek, Nerses of Gla, John of Vorotn, Gregory and Moses of Tathev, as well as all the followers of the saints named Gregory and Nerses, all the pastors and bishops of the Armenians.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

DCN. We beseech you, O Lord, in this holy sacrifice, to be mindful of the holy hermits, the virtuous and God-instructed monks: Paulus, Anthony, Paul, Macarius, Onophrius, Mark the abbot, Serapion, Nilus, Arsenius, Evagrius, Barsamas, John and Simeon and their companions, Voski and Souckias and their fellow martyrs, and all the holy fathers and their disciples throughout the world.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

DCN. We beseech you, O Lord, in this holy sacrifice, to be mindful of the faithful and holy kings: Abgar, Constantine, Trdat, and Theodosius, and of all saintly and pious kings and God-loving princes.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

DCN. We beseech you, O Lord, in this holy sacrifice, to be mindful of all faithful everywhere, men and women, old and young, and all those of every age who in faith and holiness have fallen asleep in Christ.

CHR. Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

CONGREGATION STAND

CLB. And especially, be mindful of our Chief Bishop, the venerable Patriarch of all Armenians of the Great House of Cilicia, His Holiness Catholicos (name of the Catholicos) and the diligent Prelate of our prelacy, His Eminence Archbishop (name of the Prelate). Grant them long life to lead us in orthodox faith.

DCN. We render thanks and glory to you, O Lord, our God, for this holy and immortal sacrifice which is on this holy table, that you may grant this to us for holiness of life. Through it grant love, stability and desirable peace to the whole world, to the holy Church and to all orthodox bishops, and to our Chief Bishop, venerable Patriarch of all Armenians of the Great House of Cilicia, His Holiness Catholicos (name of the Catholicos), and to the diligent Prelate of our prelacy His Eminence Archbishop (name of the Prelate), and to the priest who is offering this holy sacrifice.

Let us pray for the armed forces and victories of Christian kings and pious princes. Let us also beseech and ask of the Lord for the souls of those who are at rest and especially for our patriarchs who are at rest and for the builders of this holy church and for those who are at rest under her shadow. Let us ask for deliverance for our brothers who are in captivity and for grace

for our congregation here present, and for rest for those who have ended their life in Christ with faith and holiness. We beseech the Lord that they be remembered in this holy sacrifice.

CHR. On behalf of all and for all, we beseech the Lord.

CLB. And may the mercy of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ X be with you all.

CONGREGATION SIT

CHR. Amen. And with your spirit.

DCN. And again for peace let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. Together with all the saints whom we have remembered, let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. By this holy, divine, and immortal sacrifice which is offered on this holy table, let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. Let us beseech the Lord our God, who has accepted this sacrifice at his holy, heavenly, and intelligible altar, that he may send down upon us, in return, the grace and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. O Lord, receive us, save us, and have mercy upon us and guard us with your grace.

CHR. Save us, Lord, and have mercy.

DCN. Remembering the most holy Mother of God, the ever virgin Mary, together with all the saints, let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Be mindful, O Lord, and have mercy. Lord have mercy. To you, Lord, we commit ourselves. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

CLB. And grant us to address you with bold voice, to call upon you, O heavenly Father, to sing and say:

CONGREGATION STAND

CHR. 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 evil.

CLB. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. ✠ Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Let us bow down to God.

CHR. To you we bow down, O Lord.

CLB. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, with whom to you, O Holy Spirit, and to the almighty Father is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

DCN. Be attentive.

CLB. For the holiness of the holy ones.

CHR. Jesus Christ, you are the only holy, the only Lord for the glory of God the Father. Amen.

CLB. Blessed are you Holy Father, true God.

CHR. Amen.

CLB. Blessed are you Holy Son, true God.

CHR. Amen.

CLB. Blessed are you Holy Spirit, true God.

CHR. Amen.

CLB. Blessing and glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

CHR. Amen. The Father is holy. The Son is holy. The Spirit is holy. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

CLB. In holiness let us partake of the most holy and precious body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who descending from heaven, is distributed among us. ✠ This is life, hope, resurrection, expiation, and forgiveness of sins. Sing psalms to the Lord our God, sing psalms to our heavenly immortal King, who rides in cherubic chariots.

CONGREGATION SIT

CHR. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

DCN. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

CHR. O all-Holy Trinity, grant peace to the world.

DCN. And healing to the sick, the kingdom to those who have fallen asleep.

Or

CHR. Come to us, God of our fathers, you are the refuge of the afflicted.

DCN. Hasten for aid to your servants, be helper to the Armenian nation.

CHR. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Jesus Savior, have mercy upon us.

DCN. Through this holy and immortal and life-giving sacrifice.

CHR. Receive, O Lord, and have mercy.

DCN. Sing psalms to the Lord our God, O you choristers, sing spiritual hymns in a sweet voice. For to him are befitting psalms and praises, alleluias and spiritual songs. O you ministers, sing psalms together with hymns, and praise the Lord in heaven.

CONGREGATION STAND

CHR. Blessed is God.

Christ who is sacrificed is being distributed among us. Alleluia!

He gives us his body for food, and he bedews us with his holy blood. Alleluia!

Draw near to the Lord and take the light. Alleluia!

Taste and see that the Lord is good. Alleluia!

Praise the Lord in the heavens. Alleluia!

Praise him in the highest. Alle- luia!

Praise him, all his angels. Alle- luia!

Praise him, all his hosts. Alleluia!

CONGREGATION KNEEL

OR SIT

CONFESSION

TOGETHER. I have sinned against the all-Holy Trinity, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. I have sinned against God. I confess before God, and before the holy Mother of God, and before you, holy father, all the sins that I have committed; for I have sinned in thought, in word, and in deed, willingly and unwillingly, knowingly and un-knowingly. I have sinned against God.

PRS. May God grant you forgiveness.

TOGETHER. I have sinned by the sevenfold transgressions of the deadly sins; namely, by pride, by envy, by anger, by sloth, by covetousness, by gluttony, by lust, and all their forms. I have sinned against God.

PRS. May God grant you forgiveness.

TOGETHER. I have also sinned against all the commandments of God, both positive and prohibitive, for I have neither performed the positive commands, nor abstained from those things that are prohibited. I accepted the Law but was slothful in keeping it. I was called to the profession of Christianity but was found unworthy of it by my deeds. While knowing what is evil, I willingly gave way to it and from good works I knowingly kept away. Woe to me, woe to me, woe to me; which of my misdeeds shall I recount? Which shall I confess? For my sins are innumerable, my iniquities are unspeakable, my afflictions are intolerable, and my wounds are incurable. I have sinned against God.

PRS. May God grant you forgiveness.

TOGETHER. Holy father, I hold you as my reconciler and intercessor before the only-begotten Son of God, that by the authority vested in you, you may release me of the bonds of my sins, I beseech you.

ABSOLUTION

PRS. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

May God the lover of mankind have mercy upon you, and grant you forgiveness of all your sins, both those confessed and those forgotten. Therefore, with the priestly authority vested in me and by the divine command that “Whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven,” by his very word, I absolve you of all your sins committed by thought, by word, and by deed, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; and I reinstate you in the sacraments of the holy Church, that whatever good you may do, may be accounted to you for good deeds and for the glory of the life to come. Amen.

CONGREGATION STAND

DCN. In awe and in faith draw near and partake of this communion in holiness.

CHR. Our God and our Lord has appeared to us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

CLB. Save your people, O Lord, and Xbless your inheritance; shepherd them and lift them up from now to evermore.

CHR. We have been filled with your goodness, O Lord, by partaking of your body and blood. Glory in the highest to you who have fed us. You who continually feed us, send down upon us your spiritual blessing. Glory in the highest to you who have fed us.

DCN. And again for peace let us beseech the Lord.

CHR. Lord, have mercy.

DCN. And again, having received in faith this divine, holy, heavenly, immortal, immaculate and incorruptible mystery, let us thank the Lord.

CHR. We thank you, O Lord, for having fed us from your immortal table, by distributing your body and your blood for the salvation of the world and for life of our souls.

DISMISSAL

CLB. O Lord, you bless those who bless you and sanctify those who put their trust in you.

CHR. Blessed is God.

CLB. Save your people and bless your inheritance, preserve the fullness of your Church.

CHR. Amen.

CLB. Sanctify those who in love preserved the splendor of your house; glorify us with your divine power and forsake not those who put their trust in you.

CHR. Amen.

CLB. Grant peace to the whole world, to the churches, to the priests, to the Christian kings, to the Armenian Church, to the Republic of Armenia, and to the Republic of the United States of America, and to their armed forces, and to all your people.

CHR. Amen.

CLB. For all good gifts and all perfect bounties come from above, from you, the Father of light; and to you is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

CHR. Amen. Blessed be the name of the Lord from now to evermore. Blessed be the name of the Lord from now to evermore. And blessed be the name of the Lord from now to evermore.

CLB. You are the fulfillment of the Law and the prophets, O Christ God, our Savior, who fulfilled all dispensations willed by the Father. Fill us also with your Holy Spirit.

DCN. Rise.

CLB. ☩Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Listen in awe.

CLB. To the holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.(1.1-14)

CHR. Glory be to you, Lord, our God.

DCN. Be attentive.

CHR. God is speaking.

CLB. From the Father of light.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

DCN. Glory to you, Lord, our God.

By the holy cross let us beseech the Lord that he may through it deliver us from our sins and save us by his mercy. Almighty Lord, our God, save us and have mercy upon us.

CLB. O Christ our God, guardian and hope of the faithful, keep, guard, and bless your people present in peace under the protection of your holy and venerable cross. Deliver us from visible and invisible enemies. Make us worthy to thankfully glorify you together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

DCN. I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

CLB. ✠ Be blessed by the grace of the Holy Spirit; depart in peace, and may the Lord be with you all. Amen.



At the end of the divine liturgy, the faithful come forward towards the altar and kiss the Holy Gospel, saying:

“May the Lord be mindful of your sacrifices and accept your supplications.” (Hishéstsé Dér ûzbadarakûs ko yév zaménayn ookhdûs ko ûntoonéli arastsé.)

The celebrant responds:

“May the Lord grant to you according to your heart and fulfil all your wishes.” (*Datsé kéz Dér ûsd sûrdi koom yév zaménayn khûntûrvadzûs ko na gadaréstsé.*)

Then, as the faithful leave the church, they receive *mas* (the blessed unleavened thin bread), saying:

“God is my portion forever.” (Pazhin im Asdvadz havidyan.)

REQUIEM SERVICE

DCN. And again for peace let us beseech the Lord. Receive us, save us, and have mercy upon us.

PRS. Blessing and glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

CHR. O God the Word, with the Father you are the Creator of beings out of nothing, grant forgiveness to your servants who have fallen asleep, when you come to judge those whom you created with your immaculate hands.

You who crown your saints and distribute everlasting bounties, grant forgiveness to your servants who have fallen asleep, when you come to judge those whom you created with your immaculate hands.

Or

Have compassion, O Lord, on the souls of ours who have fallen asleep and remember them in mercy, for they were bought with your holy blood; remember them when at the wondrous sound of the trumpet the dead arise and stand before your awful judgment seat.

CHR. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Out of depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

DCN. Alleluia! Rise.

CLB. X Peace be to all.

CHR. And with your spirit.

DCN. Listen in awe.

CLB. To the holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John. (12.24-26)

CHR. Glory be to you, Lord, our God.

DCN. Be attentive.

CHR. God is speaking.

CLB. Our Lord Jesus Christ says:

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their

life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me, must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Who-ever serves me, the Father will honor.

CHR. We, the priests and the people entreat you, O merciful Lord, with those who have fallen asleep in faith, receive us also in the same hope of resurrection into the city of Jerusalem above, in which the just are assembled, so that with them we may always glorify the three persons of the Trinity.

Receive us in Jerusalem above, in the dwellings of the angels, in Eden, the paradise where Enoch and Elijah live worthily resplendent in dove-like purity and in old age. O merciful Lord, have mercy upon the souls of ours who have fallen asleep.

PRS. O Christ God, grant rest and mercy to the souls of those who are at rest; and to us, sinners, grant forgiveness of our transgressions.

DCN. And again let us beseech the Lord.

For the souls who are at rest, let us beseech Christ our Savior, that he may rank them with the righteous and save us by his mercy. Almighty Lord, our God, save us and have mercy upon us.

CLB. Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, Son of God, forbearing and compassionate, have mercy through your love as Creator upon the souls of your servants who are at rest. Remember them on the great day when you come with your kingdom. Make them worthy of mercy, expiation, and forgiveness of sins. Rank and glorify them among the saints at your right hand, for you are Lord and the Creator of all, the judge of the living and of the dead. And to you is befitting glory, dominion, and honor, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

PRS. Blessed be our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

CHR. 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 evil.

PRS. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

DCN. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

CLB. X Be blessed by the grace of the Holy Spirit; depart in peace, and may the Lord be with you all. Amen.

At the end of the divine liturgy, the faithful come forward towards the altar and kiss the Holy Gospel, saying:

“May the Lord be mindful of your sacrifices and accept your supplications.” (Hishéstsé Dér ûzbadarakûs ko yév zaménayn ookhdûs ko ûntoonéli arastsé.)

The celebrant responds:

“May the Lord grant to you according to your heart and fulfil all your wishes.” (Datsé kéz Dér ûsd sûrdi koom yév zaménayn khûntûrvadzûs ko na gadarés- tsé.)

Then, as the faithful leave the church, they receive mas (the blessed unleavened thin bread), saying:

“God is my portion forever.” (Pazhin im Asdvadz havidyan.)

APPENDICES

THE LAVABO Psalm 26

Alleluia! Alleluia!

I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord.

Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites.

I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord.

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with the bloodthirsty.

Those in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.

But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me and be gracious to me.

My foot stands on level ground.

On the great congregation I will bless the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

MELODIES

Nativity and Assumption

I am perplexed because of my sins. O mother of the Lord, only you can save me, great sinner that I am. O, bedew upon me a drop of your pure and life-giving power.

I was rightfully expelled from the honor that I enjoyed before. Woe to me! O, the ground brought forth thorns and thistles for me, pitiful person that I am.

On Holy Cross days

The sign of the Lord, our God, shined in Jerusalem during the festivity.

CHANTS OF CENSING

Nativity (Mode VIII)

A wonderful and great mystery is revealed on this day; the shepherds sing with the angels who announce the good news to the world.

A new King is born in the city of Bethlehem; O you people, bless him, for he became flesh for our sake.

He whom heaven and earth cannot contain is wrapped in swaddling clothes; without being separated from the Father, he rested in the holy manger.

On Easter Sunday (Mode I)

Today the immortal and heavenly Bridegroom is risen from the dead, joyful good news to you, O Church, bride from the earth. O Sion, bless your God with a joyful voice.

Today the ineffable Light from Light has illuminated his children. Shine, O Jerusalem, for Christ your light is risen. O Sion, bless your God with a joyful voice.

Today the triune Light has dispelled the darkness of ignorance and Christ who is risen from the dead has shone on you the light of knowledge. O Sion, bless your God with a joyful voice.

Assumption of the Holy Mother of God (Mode VII)

Today the saints and the blessed apostles have gathered together, and the holy virgins in bright garments, holding torches, were lighting their lamps and in unison were singing: "Blessed are you, among women, O all-praised one."

Today having placed the holy Virgin at the door of the tomb, they awaited the coming of the Lord himself. And behold, they saw on the heights the Creator coming with a multitude of angels and in unison they were singing: "Blessed are you, among women, O all-praised one."

Today they saw the holy Virgin uplifted into the air and on the cloud of chariot ascended into heaven with the wise virgins entering into the heavenly tabernacles. And in unison they were singing: "Blessed are you, among women, O all-praised one."

Exaltation of the Cross (Mode I)

You stretched out your pure arms on the cross, O Christ God, and gave it to us as a sign of victory. With this preserve our life.

The world-saving outstretched wings of your cross, O Christ God, you gave to us as a staff of power. With this preserve our life.

By the tree of life you gave life again to him who had died by eating from the forbidden tree. With this preserve our life.

INTROITS

Eve of Nativity and Assumption of the Mother of God

O unespoused Mother of God, who conceived the Word without beginning and gave birth to the incomprehensible God; you held in your arms the unbounded one, intercede with him incessantly for our souls.

Nativity

The orthodox church confesses you as the Mother of God, and bows down before you; because, upon whom many-eyed cherubim and fiery angels and six-winged seraphim would not dare to look, you as the handmaid of the Lord, without seed immaculately bore him in your womb and begot him as man the God of all, the ineffable Word, who took flesh from you for the salvation of the world and for life to our souls.

On Easter and Eastertide

Christ is risen from the dead! He conquered death by death and with his resurrection he granted life to us. Glory be to him forever. Amen.

On Holy Cross days

O Jesus Christ, we bow down and worship before your precious and all-conquering cross and beseech forgiveness of our transgressions; for it is through the cross you removed the condemnation of mankind. And now, for the sake of your holy and divine sign, grant your heavenly peace to the whole world.

On Holy Church days

O Christ, grant peace to your holy Church, grant peace and stability against attacks of the enemies, and establish in one faith the universal Church; we confess you Lord and God, save us.

MIDDAY CHANTS

Nativity

We bless and magnify the holy Mother of God.
The angel rejoiced with the holy Virgin and brought her the good news of the Savior's birth.
Saying: "Rejoice, O full of grace, for the Lord of lords is with you."

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode I)

In unison, let us sing and praise Christ, the King of glory, who for our sake became flesh from the holy Virgin and endured the cross.

In unison, let us sing and praise him who took on himself burial for three days who arose from the dead with power.

In unison, let us sing and praise him who mightily destroyed the gates of Hell and adorned his Church in great splendor.

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode II)

God has become King over the gentiles and radiantly has adorned the holy Church. O you peoples, praise Christ.

The Lord has put on his apparel and has girded himself with strength, for by his holy cross he has destroyed the sting of death. O you peoples, praise Christ.

God is risen and all the universe has been adorned in a new garment, and the children of God have partaken of the body and blood of the giver of life, O you peoples, praise Christ.

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode III)

Let us sing blessings to the eternal King, who took flesh from the Virgin and who has established the world on unshakable faith; glory to him now and forever.

God the Word of his own will endured death on the cross and shed his holy blood for the salvation of the universe; glory to him now and forever.

He arose from a newly hewn tomb as God and in brilliance adorned his holy Church to the glory and praise of his name; glory to him now and forever.

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode IV)

Blessing in the highest to him, to our King, who took flesh from the Virgin. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessing in the highest to our unshakable and firm hope. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessing in the highest to the undivided and consubstantial Holy Trinity. Alleluia! Alleluia!

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode V)

Let all the earth praise Christ the King with a song of blessing.

Let all the earth send up a hymn of thanksgiving to the Creator of heaven and earth.

To the Trinity and one Godhead let us give honor and adoration forever. Amen.

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode VI)

O Christ, you have enlightened the holy Church by the light of your divinity; preserve it unshaken forever.

Today Jerusalem celebrates with the multitude of faithful the feast of the holy Church; preserve it unshaken forever.

The doors of the faith of the new Sion were opened to receive into the wedding chambers the immortal bridegroom, who distributes his body and blood; preserve it unshaken forever.

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode VII)

Christ King, one in essence with the Father and the Spirit, for our sake you took flesh from the holy Virgin; glory to you, Christ King of glory.

By your voluntary death you put death to death and by your incorrupt resurrection you have renewed the world; glory to you, Christ King of glory.

By your life-giving blood you have enlightened the holy Church; we sing to you with the angels; glory to you, Christ King of glory.

On Ordinary Sundays (Mode VIII)

By your boundless all-conquering power you are King of heaven and earth, Christ God; we bless you.

O King of glory, sharer in the Father's glory, blessed by the immortal ones, you humbled yourself and put on flesh; we bless you.

O immortal essence; you mightily conquered death and by your resurrection you have enlightened the holy Church, we bless you.

Assumption of the Mother of God (Mode III)

Unfading flower, uncondemned scion, come forth anew from the root of Jesse; Isaiah had aforetime proclaimed you to be the vessel of the sevenfold graces of the Holy Spirit. O Mother of God and virgin, we magnify you.

Reasonable vine of the sweetest fruit from which was picked the inexhaustible cluster for the joy of those who were sorrowful for having tasted of the tree of knowledge. O holy and immaculate one, we all magnify you.

You lived an immaculate life in the flesh. Today, the apostles shrouded you and by heavenly command you ascended into the kingdom of your son and our God. We magnify you, intercessor for us who confess you.

On Holy Cross day (Mode VI)

You believing people, let us always sing victorious and new blessing to Christ the King in the highest.

He came to enlighten his chosen holy Church and crowned it with the holy cross; let us sing glory to him.

Today we also celebrate the feast of the holy cross and we give glory and honor to the Savior forever.

MIDDAY PSALMS

Nativity

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Today, the Son who is from the Father before all ages, the anointed Lord, was born in the city of David.

Great Lent (Psalm 100)

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; worship the Lord with gladness.
Come into his presence with singing; know that the Lord is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.
For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,
And his faithfulness to all generations.

Eastertide (Ps. 147)

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Sion!

For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.

He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.
He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

He hurls down hail like crumbs -- who can stand before his cold?

He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes the wind blow, and the waters flow.

He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.

He has not dealt thus with any other nation.

They do not know his ordinances.

Assumption of the Mother of God

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.
On Holy Cross and Church days

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord! You have put gladness in my heart.

Or

Alleluia! Alleluia!

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts
of the Lord.

HAGIODIES

On Nativity, Transfiguration and
Mother of God days

Multitudes of angels and of heavenly hosts descended from heaven with the only-begotten King,
X Singing and saying: This is the Son of God. Let us all say, Rejoice heavens and let the
foundations of the earth be glad, for God eternal appeared on earth and walked among mankind
in order to save us.

On Eastertide, Ascension
and Holy Cross days

Who is like the Lord our God? He was crucified for us, he was buried.

✠ And rose and was recognized in the world and ascended with glory. Come, O peoples, let us
sing praises to him with the angels, saying: Holy, holy, holy are you, O Lord our God.

CHANT FOR THE HOLY
CHURCH (Mode V)

Rejoice, O holy Church, for Christ the King of heaven has crowned you today with his cross and adorned your fortifications with his wonderful glory.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Sion, for today earth has become heaven through your renewal and the King of heaven has been pleased to dwell within you.

Uplifted with the ranks of heavenly hosts today we rejoice perpetually glorifying you; rejoice with your inscrutable mystery, O immaculate bride.

CHANT FOR THE HOLY
TRANSLATORS (Mode II)

The holy translators adorned the wisdom of the uncreated One by setting forth the living words on earth to shepherd the flock of the New Israel; let us bless God with a sweet sounding hymn. They regarded the greatness of earthly glory as darkness and having put their hope in the immortal Bridegroom they were made worthy of the ineffable Word; let us bless God with a sweet sounding hymn.

By the power of the Father's wisdom, the uncreated One, they made firm the throne of Saint Gregory by translating the Scriptures; let us bless God with a sweet sounding hymn.

CHANT FOR SAINTS
VARTANANTS (Mode VIII)

Newly wondrous crown-bearer and leader of the virtuous ones, you courageously armed yourself against death with the weapon of the Spirit; O Vartan, courageous martyr, you drove away the enemy and have crowned the church with your rose-colored blood.

Guided by your exalted wisdom you fought and conquered with the weapon of the heavenly King, O Khoren, wise and good, you became a witness of the crucified one and were crowned by shedding your own blood.

Filled with the divine light and endowed with the redness of flowing blood, the brave Ardag drank the cup of salvation. He was baptized by his own blood and entered the ranks of the angels to sing glory to the Trinity.

CHANT FOR SAINTS
GHEVONTYANTS (Mode VIII)

O Sun of righteousness, you arose over Armenia and by shedding of the blood of the saints you enlightened the holy Church; by their prayers spare us, and have mercy upon us, your creatures, O giver of good gifts.

Together with glorious and holy children the watchful shepherds quenched the flame of the fire-worshiping Persians with the fire of Spirit. By their prayers spare us, and have mercy upon us, your creatures, O giver of good gifts.

The Parthian seer foresaw beforehand by God's inspiration the spiritual sons of Saint Gregory adorned with crowns; by their prayers spare us, and have mercy upon us, your creature, O giver of good gifts.