26th Sunday after Pentecost
Commemoration of the Holy Apostle & Evangelist Matthew

VESPERS: Tone 1

P. Regular Beginning
C. Lord I have cried...

1. Ac**cept** our evening prayers, O **Ho**ly Lord,/ and grant us remission **of** our sins,/ for only Thou hast shown forth un**to** the world// the Resur**rec**tion.

2. **Walk** about Zion, ye **peo**ple,/ and en**com**pass her./ Give glory therein to Him Who is risen **from** the dead./ For **He** is our God// Who hath delivered us from our i**ni**quities.

3. **Come** ye people, praise and **wor**ship Christ,/ glorifying His Resurrection **from** the dead:/ for He is Our God, Who hath de**li**vered the world// from the beguiling of the **e**nemy.

4. Ye **hea**vens be glad, sound the **trum**pets,/ ye foundations **of** the earth./ Shout for joy ye **hills**, for lo!/ Emmanuel hath **nailed** our sins to the Cross,/ and He, the Giver of life, hath put death to death by raising **A**dam up,// because He **lov**eth mankind.

Stichera for the Apostle Matthew (Tone 4)

5/6. When **He** who trieth the hearts of men perceived thy godly mind, O apostle, with His divine fore**know**ledge,/ He delivered thee from injustice **and** the world;/ then, making **thee** a universal light, and commanding thee to illumine and shine upon the ends of the **whol**e world,/ He manifestly counted thee worthy to write His divine **Gos**pel.// Him do thou entreat, that He save and en**light**en our souls.

7. When the uno**ri**ginate Word called thee away from thy tax-booth to be His dis**ci**ple,/ He cried out to thee, commanding thee to **fol**low Him/ and **pro**mising thee a share in His **king**dom;/ then, O most blessed one, forsaking all things and abandoning the tumult **of** the crowd,/ thou didst steadfastly follow **af**ter Him./ And now, O God-seer, thou art manifestly full of the ineffable **vi**sion of Him.// Him do thou beseech, that he save and en**ligh**ten our souls.

8. Of **old** the prophets' clear vision perceived thee to be a **ho**ly stone,/ rolling upon the earth and crushing the snares of the de**cei**ver;/ and the hypo**sta**tic Wisdom, O most wise one, made thee a light to the world and a preacher of righteousness **and** truth,/ radiant with the beams of the tri-solar Light, O most **ho**noured one.// Him do thou entreat, that He save and en**ligh**ten our souls.

9. O servant of the all-divine **Wis**dom,/ when the unapproachable Light came in the flesh as **was** His will,/ dis**pel**ling the gloom of ignorance, then, summoned, thou didst follow His life-**bear**ing commands,/ being a keeper thereof in manner past under**stan**ding,/ a beacon of the Church, and a

dwelling-place of Christ, O **Matt**hew.// Him do thou entreat, that He save and en**ligh**ten our souls.

10. Thou wast shown to burn up deception with a tongue of fire, O Matthew most lauded and **all**-wise,/ receiving the advent of the **Com**forter,/ Who **ma**keth thee radiant by His **es**sence;/ hence, thou hast astonished the every thought of those who listen to **thy** words,/ relating to men the mighty works of the Al**migh**ty./ And now thy sound hath gone forth into all the earth, O divinely in**spired** one.// Him do thou entreat, that He take pity on all who **hymn** thee.

Glory... (Tone 4)

When Christ called thee to heavenly dis**ci**pleship,/ thou didst diligently follow Him, O God-**plea**ser,/ casting a**side** without hesitation every exercise of **earth**ly care;/ for, receiving with goodly submission an understanding worthy of the heavenly **king**dom,/ thou didst put aside a base life and vain **glo**ry./ And having been made an evangelist out of a **pub**lican,/ thou wast shown to be a light to those in darkness and a guide to salvation **for** the lost./ And now thou art a most fervent intercessor for the **whole** world// and the saving protector of those who honour thee, O **Mat**thew.

Both... Dogmatikon (Tone 1)

Let us **praise** the Virgin **Ma**ry,/ glory of all the world and doorway to **hea**ven,/ who begotten of man hast **borne** the Lord:/ and who, adornment of the faithful, is sung by the an**ge**lic hosts./ For she hath been shown forth as Heaven and Temple of the **God**head./ She it is, who breaking down the middle wall of **en**mity,/ ushered in peace and threw the Kingdom **o**pen./ Therefore with her as **an**chor of our faith,/ we, in the Lord born of her, have a De**fen**der./ Make bold therefore, ye people of **God**, make bold,// for He, the Almighty will defeat your **e**nemies.

P. Wisdom. Aright!
C. O Joyful Light...
P. Prokimenon. The Lord is King...
P. Wisdom!

R. The reading from the first Epistle of Peter (1:1-2:6)

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into. Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear: Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you. Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

R. The reading from the first Epistle of Peter (2:21-3:9)

Beloved, Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls. Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be

won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

R. The reading from the first Epistle of Peter (4:1-11)

Beloved, forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revelings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit. But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

P. Augmented Litany
R. Vouchsafe...
P. Litany of Fervent Supplication

APOSTICHA: (Tone 1)

1. We were set **free** by Thy **pas**sion, O Christ,/ and we were redeemed from corruption by Thy Resur**rec**tion.// Unto Thee, O Lord, be **glo**ry.

   V. The Lord is King,/ and hath put on glorious ap**par**el.

2. Let the cre**a**tion exult, the **hea**vens make glad,/ the nations clap their **hands** with joy:/ For Christ our Saviour, because He **lov**eth mankind,/

hath **nailed** our sins to the Cross,/ put death to death and given us life by raising fallen **Ad**am,// father of **all** mankind.

V. He hath made the world so sure/ that it can**not** be moved.

3. O **Thou** Who art beyond all under**stan**ding,/ King of **hea**ven and earth,/ for love of mankind hast been of Thine own Will **cru**cified:/ Hell was filled with bitterness when it **met** Thee below/ and the souls of the just at receiving **Thee** rejoiced./ And when he saw Thee, the Creator, in the depths, **Ad**am rose up./ What a **won**der this is:/ That the life of all men should **taste** death/ in His desire to give light to the world that **cries** and says:// Glory unto Thee, O Lord, risen **from** the dead.

V. Holiness becometh Thine house/ O Lord, for**e**ver.

4. The **myrrh**-bearing women bringing **spi**ces,/ hastened mourning **to** Thy tomb,/ and when they found Thy immaculate Body gone and learnt from the **an**gel/ of the unprecedented and all-glorious **won**der,/ they said to the Apostles: "The Lord is **ri**sen,// granting the world great **mer**cy."

Glory... (Tone 6)

Like a high-flying **eag**le/ thou didst most gloriously soar from the depths of evil to the uttermost heights, O most lauded **Mat**thew;/ for thou didst follow in the **steps** of Christ/ Who hath covered the heavens with virtue and filled the whole earth with His **know**ledge./ Thou didst show thyself to be an ardent emu**la**tor of Him,/ proclaiming His glad tidings that peace, life and salvation are given to those who piously submitted to the **pre**cepts of God.// Do thou likewise guide us thereto who please the Creator and call thee **bles**sed.

Both... (Tone 6)

O all-hallowed **Vir**gin,/ Christ, the Maker and Deliverer and Lord pro**ceed**ed from thy womb,/ and clothing Himself in me, set man free from the original curse of **Ad**am./ Wherefore, O all-pure **Vir**gin,/ we sing without ceasing to thee as Mother of God and **Vir**gin/ in truly the greeting of the **an**gel:// Rejoice! O Lady, advocate and defender and sal**va**tion of our souls.

C. St. Symeon's Prayer
R. Trisagion
C. Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos x3

Blessed be the Name of the Lord... x3
Psalm 33:1-10

<u>MATINS</u>: Tone 1

P. Regular Beginning
P. Great Ectenia
C. God is the Lord...

C. <u>Sunday Troparia</u> (Tone 1) x2

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews;/ While the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body;/ Thou didst rise on the third Day, O Saviour/ granting life to the world./ The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of life./ Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!/ Glory to Thy kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!

Glory... Troparion for the Apostle Matthew (Tone 3)
O holy apostle and evangelist Matthew,/ entreat the merciful God,// that He grant unto our souls remission of transgressions.

Both... Theotokion (Tone 3) (see Vigil Book)
We sing thy praises, O Virgin Theotokos,/ who dost intercede for the salvation of our kind;/ for thy Son and our God by taking flesh of thee/ and accepting to suffer through the Cross/ has delivered us from corruption// because He lovest mankind.

Lord Have Mercy 3x
Glory...

R. Now...
R. Kathisma II
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:
The soldiers guarding Thy tomb, O Saviour, became as dead men because of the radiance of the angel who appeared before them, proclaiming the resurrection to the women. We glorify Thee, the Destroyer of corruption, and we bow down before Thee, our one God Who hast risen from the grave.

V. Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high; forget not Thy paupers to the end.

Nailed to the Cross of Thine own will, and laid in the tomb as one dead, O compassionate Bestower of life, by Thy death Thou didst break the dominion of death, O Mighty One; for the gatekeepers of hades trembled before Thee, and Thou didst raise up with Thyself the dead of ages past, in that Thou alone lovest mankind.

G/B... At the sound of Gabriel’s voice calling out to thee: "Hail, Virgin," the Master of all things became incarnate in thee, thou the Holy Tabernacle, as David the righteous said. In bearing thy Creator, thou hast shown thyself to surpass the vastness of the heavens. Glory unto Him Who dwelt in thee. Glory unto Him Who from thee came forth. Glory unto Him, Who by thy childbirth hath set us free.

R. Kathisma III
P. Small Ectenia

R. Sessional Hymns:
Very early the women arrived at the tomb and, beholding the appearance of the angel, they trembled. The tomb shone forth life, and the miracle filled them with awe. Wherefore, going to the disciples, they proclaimed

the resurrection: Christ hath made hell captive, in that He alone is mighty and powerful; and destroying the fear of damnation by the Cross, He hath raised up with Himself all who had fallen prey to corruption!

V. I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, I will tell of all Thy wonders.

Thou wast nailed to the Cross, O Life of all, and wast reckoned among the dead, O immortal Lord. Thou didst rise on the third day, O Saviour, with Thee raising Adam up from corruption. Wherefore, the hosts of heaven cried out to Thee, O Christ, Bestower of life: Glory to Thy resurrection! Glory to Thy condescension, O Thou Who alone lovest mankind!

G/B... O Mary, precious receptacle of the Master, raise us up who have fallen into the chasm of grievous despondency, transgressions and sorrows; for thou art salvation, help and mighty intercession for sinners, and thou savest thy servants.

C. Polyeleos

P. Magnification (once only by clergy)
We magnify thee,/ O holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew,/ and we honour the pangs and labors/ whereby thou didst struggle// in the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ.

C. Evlogitaria (Blessed art Thou, O Lord...)
P. Small Ectenia

R. Ypakoe:
The repentance of the thief stole paradise, and the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers announced joy: for Thou didst arise, O Christ God, granting great mercy to the world.

R. Sessional Hymns for the Apostle Matthew
The exceeding most wise Matthew, who was first to record the Gospel of Christ and illumined all creation under the sun, the excellent initiate of the mysteries of Christ, who is now honoured with sacred hymns, doth beg forgiveness of sins for those who honour him with love.

Resplendent with words of the right Faith, thou didst extinguish all false religion; and as an insuperable victor thou hast proclaimed the Gospel unto all and hast richly adorned all the Churches, O Apostle Matthew. Entreat Christ God, that He grant us great mercy.

Glory... Truly the sound of thy wise words hath gone forth to all the ends of the earth, O most lauded apostle of the Lord, for thou didst manifestly preach to all the vision of God, and didst bring the nations from ignorance to understanding. Wherefore, having dispelled the darkness of idolatry, thou hast shone forth the light of knowledge upon those who sit in darkness, O most praised Matthew. Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins unto those who honour thy holy memory with love.

Both... All of us, the generations of men, bless thee, the Virgin who, alone among women, gavest birth without seed to God in the flesh; for the fire of the Godhead dwelt within thee, and thou didst nourish the Creator and Lord with milk, as a babe. Wherefore, we, the generation of angels and men, glorify thine all-holy birthgiving as is meet, and cry out to thee together: entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of offenses unto those who with faith worship thine all-holy birthgiving.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon One)
When I am sorrowful, hearken unto my pain, O Lord. Unto Thee do I cry.
Unceasing divine desire befitteth those in the wilderness, who are beyond this vainglorious world.
G/B... Worship and glory are due the Holy Spirit, as also to the Father and the Son. Wherefore, let us hymn the single dominion of the Trinity.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Two)
Thou hast brought me up to the mountains of Thy laws, O God. Illumine me with the virtues, that I may hymn Thee.
Taking me in Thy right hand, O Word, preserve and protect me, that the fire of sin may not consume me.
G/B... By the Holy Spirit is every creature restored, returning to its primal state; for He is equal in power with the Father and the Son.

Hymn of Degrees: (Antiphon Three)
My spirit was glad and my heart rejoiceth for those who said to me: Let us enter into the courts of the Lord.
There is great fear in the house of David, for there, when the thrones are set up, all the tribes and nations of the earth will be judged.
G/B... It is meet and fitting to offer honour and worship, glory and power unto the Holy Spirit, as to the Father and the Son, for the Trinity is a unity in nature, but not in Persons.

P. Prokimenon:
Now will I arise, saith the Lord,/ I will establish them in salvation, I will be manifest therein.
V. The words of the Lord are pure words.

C. Let every breath praise the Lord.
P. GOSPEL #4

C. Having Beheld the Resurrection of Christ...
R. Psalm 50
C. Glory... Now... Have mercy on me... Jesus having risen...

P. Save, O God, Thy People...
Anointing.

Canticle One

Irmos: Thy victorious right arm/ hath in godly manner been glorified in strength;/ for as almighty, O Immortal One,/ it smote the

adversary,// fashioning anew the path of the deep for the Israelites.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

O Thou Who in the beginning didst divinely fashion me out of dust with Thine all-pure hands, Thou didst stretch out Thine arms upon the Cross, calling forth from the earth my corrupt body, which Thou hadst received from the Virgin.

Thou didst assume mortality for my sake and didst surrender Thy soul unto death, O Thou Who by Thy divine breath didst instill my soul within me; and having loosed the everlasting bonds, thou didst glorify it with incorruption, raising it up with Thee.

Theotokion

Rejoice, O wellspring of grace! Rejoice, O ladder and door of heaven! Rejoice, O lampstand and golden jar, thou unquarried mountain, who for the world gavest birth unto Christ, the Bestower of life.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Christ deifieth me, assuming my flesh; Christ exalteth me, humbling Himself; Christ, the Bestower of life, maketh me dispassionate, suffering in His fleshly nature. Wherefore, I chant a hymn of thanksgiving, for He hath been glorified.

Crucified, Christ lifteth me up; put to death, Christ raiseth me up with Himself. Christ giveth me life. Wherefore, clapping my hands in gladness, I chant a hymn of victory to the Saviour, for He hath been glorified.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

What fitting hymnody can our weakness offer thee, who alone art full of grace, to whom Gabriel hath mystically taught us to chant: "Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mother unwedded!"?

With a pure heart, O ye faithful, let us spiritually cry out to the Ever-virgin Mother of the King of the hosts on high: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mother unwedded!

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

O most glorious Matthew, servant of Christ, richly bestow upon me the grace with abideth within thee, that I may cry out, splendidly proclaiming, and, rejoicing, may hymn thy wonders.

Thou didst utterly abandon the tumult of earthly things; for, having hearkened to the voice of the incarnate Word, thou wast shown to be a steward and God-pleasing herald of His grace.

Glory... As an eye-witness and servant of the shining Word of the pre-eternal Father, O apostle, thou didst go forth, proclaiming the glad tidings of His coming to all the nations.

Both... Thou didst announce the glad tidings of the destruction of death, the abolition of corruption and the manifestation of life, O wise one; for, having conceived the Unapproachable One in her womb, the Virgin hath restored the world.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

I shall **o**pen my mouth/ and the Spirit will in**spire** it,/ and **I** shall utter the words of my song to the Queen and **Mo**ther:/ I shall be seen radiantly **keep**ing feast// and joyfully praising her **won**ders.

Canticle Three

Irmos: Thou, Who alone hast known the weakness of human nature,/ having in Thy mercy formed Thyself therein:/ Thou girdest me about with power from on high,/ that I may chant to Thee:/ Holy is the living temple of Thine ineffable glory,// O Thou Who lovest mankind!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

As God, O Good One, Thou hast taken pity on me who have fallen; and it being Thy good pleasure to come down to me, Thou hast by Thy crucifixion raised me up to cry unto Thee: Holy is the Lord of glory, immutable in goodness!

As enhypostatic Life, O Christ, clothing Thyself in me who have become corrupt, in that Thou art the God of lovingkindness, and descending to my mortal dust, O Master, Thou didst destroy the dominion of death; and having risen after three days of death, Thou hast clothed me in incorruption.

Theotokion

Conceiving God in thy womb through the all-holy Spirit, O Virgin, thou didst remain unconsumed; for the bush which burned without being consumed clearly, to Moses the Law-giver, proclaimed thee beforehand, who received the unbearable Fire.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

To Christ God, Who took the lost sheep upon His shoulder and by the Tree erased its sin, let us cry aloud: Holy art Thou, O Lord, Who hast lifted up our estate!

O ye faithful, in truth and a godly spirit let us serve Him Who led Christ, the great Shepherd out of hell and doth manifestly shepherd the nations through the apostles, His hierarchy.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The choir of the prophets truly called thee the sealed wellspring and the closed door, clearly describing for us the signs of thy virginity, O most hymned one, which thou didst preserve even after giving birth.

Accounted worthy to perceive the transcendent Mind as far as he was able, Gabriel offered thee a cry of joy, O immaculate Virgin, openly announcing the conception of the Word and proclaiming His ineffable birth.

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

O Word of God, thou hast shown Thine apostles forth as beacons of life which drive away the gloom of ungodliness and illumine the whole world with Thy divine glory, O Master.

Having armed the most valiant Matthew with Thine armor, O Saviour, thou hast made him mightier than the tyrants and hast shown him to be the destroyer of the deception of idolatry, O Master Who lovest mankind.

Glory... The sound of thy fiery tongue consumed the temples of the demons, O divinely inspired Matthew, thou instrument of the Comforter, through whom Christ, the hypostatic Life of all, is proclaimed.

Both... The clarion of theology which soundeth forth mightily hath illumined the divinely wise Matthew to proclaim to the people the Effulgence of the Trinity and the incarnation of the Word from thee, O all-pure one, in manner past understanding.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

O **Mo**ther of God,/ thou living and **plen**tiful fount,/ give **strength** to those united in spiritual **fel**lowship,/ who sing hymns of **praise** to thee:/ And in thy divine **glo**ry// vouchsafe unto them crowns of **glo**ry.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion for the Apostle Matthew (Tone 4)

Casting off the yoke of thy publican's office,/ thou didst shoulder the yoke of righteousness/ and wast shown to be a most excellent merchant,/ bringing in the wisdom from on high as riches./ Wherefore, thou didst preach the Word of truth/ and hast uplifted the souls of the despondent,// describing the hour of judgment.

R. Ikos

The tyranny of the enemy oppresseth me constantly and seizeth all the seed of my soul, O Matthew, friend of Christ; yet, providing me with the seed of thy prayers, render me fruitful to serve thee, and show me to be if only the least of those who hymn thee and a recounter of thy many and great corrections, for, forsaking all things for the love of Christ without hesitation, thou didst ardently follow after Him Who called thee, being the first evangelist in the world, describing the hour of judgment.

R. Sessional Hymns

Truly the sound of thy wise words hath gone forth to all the ends of the earth, O most lauded apostle of the Lord, for thou didst manifestly preach to all the vision of God, and didst bring the nations from ignorance to understanding. Wherefore, having dispelled the darkness of idolatry, thou hast shone forth the light of knowledge upon those who sit in darkness, O most praised Matthew. Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins unto those who honour thy holy memory with love.

Glory... O apostle of the Lord, we all praise thee as the lamp and disciple of the Light, an eye-witness of the divine Word; for, spreading thy nets of grace, by thy command thou didst ensnare reason-endowed fish. Wherefore, through the power of the Spirit thou hast entrapped the nations, who are now guided by faith, O most lauded initiate of the mysteries of heaven. Entreat Christ God, that He grant remission of sins unto those who honour thy holy memory with love.

Both... In that thou art the most immaculate Bride of the Creator, the Mother of the Deliverer who knewest not wedlock, the receptacle of the Comforter, O all-hymned one, haste thou to deliver me, who am the vile abode of iniquity and in mind am the plaything of the demons, from their wickedness, and make of me a radiant dwelling-place of the virtues, O luminous and incorrupt one. Drive from me the cloud of the passions and vouchsafe that I may partake of the never-waning light of the Most High, through thy supplications.

Canticle Four

Irmos: Gazing with the eyes of foresight upon thee,/ the mountain overshadowed by the grace of God,/ Habbakuk prophesied that the Holy One of Israel would come forth from thee,// for our salvation and restoration.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

Who is this Saviour Who issueth forth from Edom, wearing a crown of thorns, His robe stained red, lifted up upon the Tree? He is the Holy One of Israel, Who is come for our salvation and restoration!

Behold, ye disobedient people, and be ashamed! For He Whom ye madly asked Pilate to lift up on the Cross as a malefactor hath destroyed the power of death and risen as God from the tomb!

Theotokion

O Virgin, we know thee to be the tree of life; for it is no fruit deadly for men to eat which thou hast put forth, but the delight of everlasting Life, for the salvation of us who hymn thee.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Who is this Beautiful One from Edom, Whose robe is dyed red by the grapes of Bozrah? He Who is comely as God, and as man weareth vesture of

flesh stained with blood? Unto Him, O ye faithful, let us chant: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

Showing Himself to be the High Priest of the good things to come, Christ destroyed our sins; and indicating the strange way by His own blood, as our forerunner He hath entered the higher and more perfect tabernacle, the Holy of holies.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Hearken, O heaven, to the wonders! Pay heed, O earth! For the daughter of fallen Adam who was made of dust hath been appointed for God, to be the Mother of her own Creator, for our salvation and restoration.

O most hymned Theotokos, thou Holy of holies, expectation of the nations and salvation of the faithful: from thee hath the Deliverer, Lord and Bestower of life shone forth, Whom do thou entreat, that thy servants be saved.

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

Taught by Thy hypostatic Word, O God, the God-seeing disciple destroyed worldly wisdom, crying aloud unto Thee: Glory to Thy power, O Lord!

What manner of praise can we offer unto thee who wast blessed by Christ, O divinely eloquent one? For no man is able to describe in words the grace which blossomed forth in thee, O right wondrous one.

Glory... Looking upon thine undefiled and pure mind as a lamp placed on a lofty stand, shining upon those in darkness, O divinely manifest one, the Most High hath set thee before all.

Both... O blessed and most lauded Maiden, thou hast elevated slain human nature, in that, in manner surpassing nature, thou gavest birth to the might of the Most High, as Matthew hath taught.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

He Who sits in glory upon the throne of the **God**head,/ Jesus the **true** God,/ is **come** in a **swift** cloud,/ and with His pure hand He has saved **those** who cry:// Glory to Thy **po**wer, O Lord.

Canticle Five

Irmos: O Christ, Who hast enlightened the ends of the world/ with the radiance of Thy coming,/ and illumined them by Thy Cross:/ With the light of Thy divine knowledge/ enlighten the hearts of those// who hymn Thee in Orthodox manner.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The Jews put the great Shepherd and Lord of the sheep to death by the Tree of the Cross; but the dead buried in hades did He deliver, like sheep, from the dominion of death.

Having announced peace by Thy Cross and proclaimed remission to those held captive, O my Saviour, Thou didst put to shame him who hath dominion, as though he were naked, by Thy divine resurrection showing him to be impoverished.

Theotokion

Disdain not the requests of those who petition thee with faith, O most hymned and all-pure one, but accept and convey them to thy Son, the one God and Benefactor; for thee have we acquired as our intercessor.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

O the richness, O the depth of the wisdom of God! Laying hold of the wise, the Lord delivered us from their wiles; for having of His own will suffered in the weakness of the flesh, by His might He hath raised up the dead, granting them life.

Christ God, He Who Is, uniteth Himself to the flesh for our sake, and is crucified and dieth; He is buried, and riseth again, and with His flesh He ascendeth unto the Father in splendor. And therewith He shall come and save those who worship Him in piety.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The hosts of heaven are gladdened at the sight of thee, and with them the companies of men rejoice; for they have been joined together by thy birthgiving, O Virgin Theotokos, which we glorify as is meet.

Let all the tongues and thoughts of men be moved to the praise of thee who art truly the adornment of mankind, for the Virgin standeth forth, clearly raising to glory those who with faith hymn her wonders.

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

Receiving the grace of the most Holy Spirit, thou wast shown to be a divine habitation, in godly manner teaching the light of divine knowledge and being entrusted with the task of committing to writing the dogmas of Christ, as a chosen eye witness of God.

Thy tongue was the pen of the Paraclete, Who giveth speedy deliverance unto those who acknowledge His dominion and doth breathe heavenly understanding into the souls of the wise, O most honoured Matthew.

Glory... Christ sent thee to the world shining with miracles and the grace of healing, trampling upon the might of the demons and enlightening the souls of all the faithful who hymn thee, the preacher of the world.

Both... O Virgin, thou gavest birth to the pre-eternal Son Who clothed Himself in human nature and hath saved it from corruption in His utter goodness, as the divinely eloquent one said in his teaching; and thou didst remain a Virgin.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The whole **world** was amazed at thy divine **glo**ry,/ for **thou**, O Virgin who hast not known **wed**lock,/ hast **held** in thy womb the **God** of all,/ and hast given birth to an e**ter**nal Son,// Who rewards with salvation all who sing thy **pra**ises.

Canticle Six

Irmos: The uttermost abyss hath engulfed us,/ and there is none to deliver us./ We are accounted as lambs for the slaughter./ Save Thy people, O our God,// for Thou art the strength and correction of the weak!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

We were grievously wounded by the offense of the first-created man, O Lord, but we have been healed by the wounds wherewith Thou wast wounded for us, O Christ; for Thou art the strength and correction of the weak.

Thou hast led us up out of hades, O Lord, having slain the all-devouring monster and set his power at naught by Thy might, O Omnipotent One; for Thou art Life, Light and Resurrection.

Theotokion

The ancestors of our race rejoice in thee, O all-pure Virgin, receiving through thee the Eden which they lost through transgression; for thou wast pure before giving birth and art so after birthgiving.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Christ God, the dispassionate and immaterial Mind, doth associate Himself with the mind of man, which standeth midway between the divine Essence and the grossness of the flesh; and, wholly immutable, He hath united Himself unto all of me, that, crucified, He might grant salvation unto the whole of me who have fallen.

Tripping, Adam fell and was broken, deceived of old by the hope of deification; yet he ariseth, deified through union with the Word, and through His suffering receiveth dispassion, and is glorified as a son, sitting upon the throne with the Father and the Spirit.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

As servants the ranks of heaven attend thy birthgiving, marveling, as is meet, at thy seedless parturition, O Ever-virgin; for thou wast pure before birthgiving and art so even after giving birth.

The enemy was slain by thy life-bearing Fruit, O thou who art full of the grace of God; and we who were in bonds have been freed. Wherefore, I cry: Destroy Thou the passions of my heart!

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

By Thine omnipotent might, O Maker of all, the divinely eloquent and most excellent Matthew was transformed from a publican into an evangelist, in that he followed Thee.

By the spiritually nourishing words of thy glad tidings, O most blessed Matthew, a multitude of the gentiles are lifted up and directed to the lofty summit of the virtues.

Glory... With the divinely woven nets of the disciple Matthew are assemblies of the faithful ever drawn up, guided to the knowledge of Thee, O our Benefactor.

Both... O most immaculate one, the most excellent Matthew announceth glad tidings, describing thee as the Virgin who gave birth without seed and corruption unto Him Who fashioned all things.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

As we **ce**lebrate/ this sacred and solemn feast of the **Mo**ther of God,/ **let** us come, **clap**ping our hands,/ O people **of** the Lord,/ and give **glo**ry to God// Who was **born** of her.

P. Small Ectenia

C. Kontakion, Tone 1

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,/ raising the world with Thyself./ Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished./ Adam exults, O Master!/ Eve rejoices, for she is free from bondage, and cries to Thee;// Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ.

R. Ikos

Let us hymn as God the Almighty Who rose on the third day, Who broke down the gates of hades, Who raised up from the grave those held there from ages past, and Who appeared to the myrrh-bearing women, as He was well pleased to do, telling them first to rejoice and to proclaim joy unto the apostles, in that He alone is the Bestower of life; wherefore, with faith the women proclaimed the signs of victory to the disciples. Hades groaneth and death uttereth lamentation; the world is filled with gladness, and all rejoice with it, for Thou, O Christ, didst grant resurrection unto all.

Canticle Seven

Irmos: O Theotokos, we the faithful,/ perceive thee to be a noetic furnace;/ for, as the supremely Exalted One saved the three youths,/ in thy womb the praised and most glorious God of our fathers// wholly renewed the world.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

The earth was afraid, the sun hid itself, the light grew dim, the divine veil of the temple was rent in twain, and the rocks split asunder; for the Righteous One, the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers, hung upon the Cross.

Wounded among mortals of Thine own will for our sake, as though helpless, O supremely Exalted One, Thou, the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers, hung upon the Cross.

Theotokion

Rejoice, O wellspring of the water of eternal life! Rejoice, paradise of delight! Rejoice, bulwark of the faithful! Rejoice, thou who knewest not wedlock! Rejoice, universal joy, through whom the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers hath shone forth!

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Of old, the earth was cursed, having been stained with the blood of Abel by his murderous brother's hand; but dyed with Thy divinely shed blood it hath been blessed, and leaping up it crieth: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Let the God-opposing people of Judea lament their audacity in slaying Christ; but let the gentiles be glad, and let them clap their hands and cry aloud: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Rejoice, O pure one! From thee hath the Shepherd, the supremely Exalted One, come forth, in His unapproachable compassion truly clothing Himself in the skin of Adam, in me, in all of man: the praised and all-glorious God of our fathers.

The pre-eternal God truly became the new Adam through thy pure blood. Him do thou now entreat that He restore me who have grown old, who cry: Praised and all-glorious is the God of our fathers!

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

Thou wast a divine image of the primal Effulgence, as a disciple set afire by His splendors; and, chanting to Him, thou didst say: O all-hymned Lord and God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

As servant of the Word, O most blessed one, thou hast made thine abode in the divine mansions where Christ abideth, as the one all-divine Lord and God of all the fathers promised thee.

Glory... Infirmities are banished and a multitude of demons are forced to flee by the gifts of the divine Spirit which are in thee,

wherein thou didst chant: O all-hymned Lord and God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

Both... With thy divine words, O apostle, thou didst describe the all-hymned Virgin who gave birth to the Creator. To Him do we all chant: O all-hymned Lord and God of our fathers, blessed art Thou!

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)

The **Ho**ly Children bravely trampled upon the **threa**tening fire,/ preferring not to worship created things rather than the Cre**a**tor,/ and they **sang** in joy:/ 'Blessed art Thou and **praised** above all,// O Lord God of our **fa**thers.'

Canticle Eight

Irmos: Shining in the furnace more brightly/ than gold in a crucible in the beauty of their piety,/ the children of Israel said:/ Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord!// Hymn and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

O Word of God, Who by Thy will dost create and refashion all things, transforming the shadow of death into life everlasting by Thy sufferings: Thee do all of us, the works of the Lord, unceasingly hymn and supremely exalt for all ages.

Thou didst destroy distress and misery within the gates and strongholds of hades, O Christ, rising from the tomb on the third day. Thee do all Thy works unceasingly hymn and supremely exalt as Lord for all ages!

Theotokion

Let us hymn her who without seed supernaturally gave rise to Christ, the Pearl of great price, through the divine Effulgence; and let us say: Bless the Lord, all ye works of the Lord! Hymn and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Come, O ye people, let us bow down before the place where the all-pure feet stood, and to the divine Tree where Christ stretched out His life-creating arms for the salvation of all men; and standing round about the tomb of Life, let us chant: Let all creation bless and exalt the Lord supremely for all ages.

The all-iniquitous slander of the God-slaying Jews hath been exposed; for He Whom they called a deceiver hath risen as One powerful, mocking the foolish seals. Wherefore, rejoicing, let us chant: Let all creation bless and exalt the Lord supremely for all ages.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

The radiant bridal-chamber, whence Christ the Master of all issued forth like a Bridegroom, let us all hymn, crying aloud: Hymn the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

O most hymned Virgin who for us gavest birth to the Lord, the Author of our salvation, pray for all who earnestly cry out: Hymn the Lord, all ye works of the Lord, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

Deified by the mighty forces within Thee and by ordination and nature, O Master, the most sacred Matthew prevailed upon the whole world to chant to Thee: Hymn the Lord, ye works, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

The Word sent the theologian forth like lightning to the whole world, driving away the darkness and enlightening the nations with the dogmas of theology. Wherefore, he chanted: Hymn the Lord, ye works, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Let us bless Father, Son, Holy Spirit, the Lord!
With pure discourse and mind did God converse with thee; for when thou didst rid thyself of mire, thou didst draw nigh and associate with Him, O glorious one. Wherefore, thou dost chant: Hymn the Lord, ye works, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

Both... The Word willed to become incarnate for the good of men; for the Lord passed through the portal of virginity and showed her forth as the Theotokos. Wherefore, we cry out: Hymn the Lord, ye works, and exalt Him supremely for all ages!

We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, praising and supremely exalting Him unto all ages.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)
The **Off**spring of the Theo**to**kos/ saved the holy Children in the **fur**nace./ **He** Who was then prefigured has since been **born** on earth,/ and He gathers together all the cre**a**tion to sing:/ O all ye **works** of the Lord,// bless ye the Lord and exalt Him above all for**e**ver.

P. Magnificat
C. Song of the Most Holy Theotokos.

Canticle Nine

Irmos: The bush which burnt with fire yet was not consumed/ showed forth an image of thy pure birthgiving./ And we pray now that the furnace of temptations/ which rageth against us may be extinguished,// that we may magnify thee unceasingly, O Theotokos.

Glory to Thy Holy Resurrection, O Lord.

How have the iniquitous and disobedient people, plotting evils, justified a proud and ungodly man, yet condemned to the Tree the Righteous One, the Lord of glory, Whom we magnify as is meet?

O Saviour, Thou unblemished Lamb Who takest away the sins of the world: Thee Who hast risen on the third day do we glorify with the Father and Thy divine Spirit; and, theologizing, we magnify the Lord of glory.

Theotokion

Save Thy people, whom Thou hast acquired by Thy precious blood, O Lord, granting peace to Thy churches through the supplications of the Theotokos, O Thou Who lovest mankind.

Glory to Thy Precious Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Thy Cross, O Lord, hath been glorified by Thine ineffable power, for Thy weakness hath been revealed unto all as transcending power. Thereby have the mighty been cast down upon the earth, and the poor are lifted up to the heavens.

Our vile death hath been put to death, for, appearing unto those in hades, O Christ, Thou didst grant them resurrection from the dead; wherefore, chanting, we magnify Thee as hypostatic Life, Resurrection and Light.

Most Holy Theotokos, Save us.

Thou didst spring forth from the root of David, the prophet and ancestor of God, O Virgin; and thou hast truly glorified David, giving birth to the prophesied Lord of glory, Whom we magnify as is meet.

Every rule of praise is overturned by the magnitude of thy glory, O all-pure one. Yet accept the hymns of praise which we, thine unworthy servants, earnestly offer thee with love, O Mistress Theotokos.

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, pray to God for us!

Thou didst receive the divine diadem of noetic beauty, O apostle, and wast adorned with the most magnificent crown of the kingdom by the right hand of the Almighty, O wise one. And thou dost shine, standing with the angels before the throne of Christ the Master, O most blessed one.

Thou didst receive the tree of life as is meet, O preacher of the living God, having spread the glad tidings of life, the visitation of God to the world; for thou didst not permit thy mind to become corrupt through the tree of knowledge, remaining an unshaken and immovable foundation of the Church, O most blessed one.

Glory... In godly manner didst thou adorn the Church, the Bride of Christ, with thy Gospel as with a diadem, O divinely blessed one, and now

it splendidly celebrateth thy divine memory. Pray thou, O Apostle Matthew, that it be delivered from every evil circumstance and cruel misfortune.

Both... Without leaving the bosom of the unoriginate Father, the Word Who is without beginning became incarnate of thee, O pure and most lauded one, wholly clothing Himself in human guise and accepting its traits, as Matthew writeth, proclaiming the glad tidings.

C. Katavasia (Tone 4)
Let every mortal **born** on earth,/ radiant with light, in spirit **leap** for joy;/ and **let** the hosts of the angelic powers **ce**lebrate/ and honor the holy feast of the **Mo**ther of God,/ and **let** them cry:// Hail! Pure and blessed ever-Virgin, who gavest **birth** to God.

P. Small Ectenia
C. Holy is the Lord our God...

R. Exapostilarion Four, (Luke 24:1-12)
Lightning-bright with the virtues, we see standing upon the life-bearing tomb a man in shining garments while the women bearing myrrh bowed down their faces to the earth. Let us learn of the rising of Him Who reigns over heaven and let us hasten with Peter to Life in the tomb and wondering at that which has happened let us stay to behold Christ.

Glory... Exapostilarion for the Apostle Matthew
The God-pleasing Matthew, the glorious recorder of the Gospel of Christ, hath related divine wonders unto us. Honouring him with love, let us chant unto him melodiously.

Both... Theotokion
Uttering loud and clear the sound: Hail! Thou, O Lord, hast changed the sorrow of the forefathers, bringing to the world in its stead the joy of Thy Resurrection. Then, O Giver of life, through her who brought Thee forth, Light that has enlightened hearts, do Thou send down the light of Thy mercies that we may cry aloud to Thee: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O God and Man Who lovest mankind.

C. Lauds: Tone 1 Stichera
Let **ev**ery bre-ath **praise** the Lord/
Praise the Lord from the **Hea**vens/
Praise Him in the **high**est/
To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God/
Praise Him, all ye His **An**gels;/
Praise Him, all **ye** His hosts.//
To Thee is due a **hymn**, O God.

R. (The following may be read or sung antiphonally)
Praise Him, O sun and moon; praise Him, all ye stars and light.
Praise Him, ye heavens of heavens, and thou water that art above the heavens.
Let them praise the name of the Lord; For He spake, and they came to be; He commanded, and they were created.

He established them forever, yea, forever and ever; He hath set an ordinance, and it shall not pass away.
Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all ye abysses,
Fire, hail, snow, ice, blast of tempest, which perform His word,
The mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars,
The beasts and all the cattle, creeping things and winged birds,
Kings of the earth, and all peoples, princes and all judges of the earth,
Young men and virgins, elders with the younger; let them praise the name of the Lord, for exalted is the name of Him alone.
His praise is above the earth and heaven, and He shall exalt the horn of His people.
This is the hymn for all His saints, for the sons of Israel, and for the people that draw nigh unto Him.
Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the church of the saints.
Let Israel be glad in Him that made him, let the sons of Sion rejoice in their king.
Let them praise His name in the dance; with the timbrel and the psaltery let them chant unto Him.
For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and He shall exalt the meek with salvation.
The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds.
The high praise of God shall be in their throat, and two-edged swords shall be in their hands.
To do vengeance among the heathen, punishments among the peoples,
To bind their kings with fetters, and their nobles with manacles of iron,

V. To do among them the judgment that is written/ This glory shall be to **all** His saints.

1. We **praise** in song Thy saving **pas**sion, O Christ,// and glorify Thy Resur**rec**tion.

V. Praise ye God in His saints,/ praise Him in the firmament of His **po**wer.

2. Give **peace** to our **lives**,/ O Thou, the only Al**might**y Lord,/ Who hast endured the Cross and hast **laid** death low// and risen **from** the dead.

V. Praise Him for His mighty acts,/ praise Him according to the multitude of His **great**ness.

3. Vouch**safe** that we may praise and glorify Thee with a pure **heart**, O Christ,/ Who hast des**poiled** death,// and raised up man through Thy Resur**rec**tion.

V. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet,/ praise Him with **psalt**ery and harp.

4. **Glo**rifying Thy divinely fitting condes**cen**sion,/ we praise **Thee**, O Christ./ Born of the Virgin without parting from the **Fa**ther,/ Thou hast suffered as man and willingly en**dured** the Cross./ Glory be to

Thee, O Lord, Who, preceding as from a **cham**ber,// hast risen from the tomb to **save** the world.

V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance,/ praise **Him** with strings and flute.

Stichera for the Apostle Matthew (Tone 4)

5. Thou didst shine **forth**, O apostle, as luminous as the sun, with the rays of the **Spi**rit,/ and hast illumined the whole world with the knowledge of God, O **bles**sed one./ And thou hast dis**pelled** the gloom of polytheism, O most wise **Mat**thew./ Wherefore, we celebrate today thine all-radiant and right wondrous so**lem**nity// as a well-spring of sanctifi**ca**tion.

V. Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation./ Let **ev**ery breath praise the Lord.

6. **Seat**ed on the heights of divine knowledge, O a**pos**tle,/ thou didst receive the effulgence of the Spirit, which appeared to thee in the guise of a **tongue** of fire;/ and thou didst **ma**nifestly consume all the tinder of the impiety of un**god**liness./ Wherefore, we honour thee as an apostle and **her**ald of God,// celebrating thy holy **fest**ival today.

V. Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

7. **Thou** didst thunder forth sacred and saving teachings unto the whole world, O most wise **Mat**thew,/ hast cleansed all creation of the madness of i**dol**atry,/ and il**lum**ined the people with the splendors of the **Gos**pel./ And, having destroyed the pagan temples by **means** of grace,// thou didst raise up churches to the **glo**ry of God.

V. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaimeth the work of His hands.

(Tone 2)

8. Abandoning the yoke of injustice and casting away the gold of **u**sury,/ thou didst make haste to the yoke of **right**eousness/ and dost grasp inexhaustible wealth like an able **mer**chant,/ trading transitory things for what is everlasting and corruptible things for what a**bi**deth./ For, having acquired the divinely lustrous pearl of **great** price,/ thou didst wisely leave to Caesar the things which keep **men** below;/ and having obediently followed after Christ, the **King** of all,/ thou didst enrich all creation with the divine words of the Gospel, O **wise** one.// O all-excellent Matthew, beg thou now that salvation and great mercy be given to those who **ho**nour thee.

Glory... Gospel Sticheron, (Tone 4)

It is very early in the **mor**ning/ and the women went to Thy **tomb**, O Christ,/ but the **Bo**dy desired by them was **not** to be found./ Therefore two men stood by them in shining **gar**ments/ and said to them as they were **much** perplexed:/ "Why seek ye the living a**mong** the dead?/ He is risen as He

be**fore**hand said./ Why remember ye **not** His words?"/ And believing the things they had seen they pro**claimed** them/ but it was thought that the good tidings were **i**dle tales./ So dull still were the dis**ci**ples.// But Peter ran and beholding, gave Thee glory in himself for the **won**ders.

Both now and ever... (Tone 2)

Most Blessed art Thou, O Virgin Theo**to**kos,/ for through Him Who became incarnate of thee is hades led **cap**tive,/ **A**dam recalled, the curse annulled, Eve set fre-e, **death** slain,/ and we are given life. Wherefore, we cry a**loud** in praise:/ Blessed art Thou, O **Christ** God,// Who hast been thus well-pleased, **glo**ry to Thee.

The Great Doxology

Dismissal Tropar:

Today is salvation come unto the world; let us sing to Him Who arose from the tomb, and is the Author of our life. For having destroyed death by death, He hath given us the victory and great mercy.

P. Litanies
Dismissal

R. Hours:
Tropar: Resurrection & Apostle
Kontak: Apostle/Resurrection alternating

At Liturgy:

Order of Troparia & Kontakia as per Polyeleos type service

Prokimenon for Tone 1
Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.
V. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright.

Prokimenon for the Apostle Matthew (Tone 8)
V. Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Epistle(s): Eph 5:8-19 & ICor 4:9-16

Alleluia for Tone 1
V. The God that giveth avengement unto me hath subdued peoples under me.
V. It is He that magnifieth the salvation of His king and worketh mercy for His anointed, for David, and for his seed unto eternity.

Alleluia for the Apostle Matthew (Tone 1)
V. The heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of saints.

Gospel(s): Luke 10:25-37 & Matt 9:9-13

Communion Verse: Praise Ye & Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.