

*A Molieben of Thanksgiving
for Receiving a Petition and
for Every Gift from God*



St. Herman Orthodox Church
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“Let it be known to every right-believing Christian in what manner we must entreat God, the Giver of every benefit, both secretly in our inner chambers and openly in our churches, for all the spiritual and bodily things that are necessary for us. In this way, whether for the reception of our petition and for every good gift of God, or for everything in general, or for only one thing that occurs for us, it is necessary always for everyone, whether privately in our inner chambers or collectively and openly in the churches, to render thanksgiving unto God our Benefactor, that, not being thankful for His benefits which have been manifested unto us, like that other lazy and ungrateful servant who hid the talent of the good gift of his Lord, we shall suffer, and not only simply and terribly suffering the loss of the reception of benefits, but we shall be returned again to the eternal punishment of the guilty.

Therefore, O priest, teach the people of God whom you have gotten, who are betrothed to you, and who are well-pleasing unto God. For, terribly, the blood from the destruction of their souls shall be required from your hands.

Therefore, whoever has received any good gift from God, must immediately make haste unto the church and entreat the priest to render thanksgiving unto God from Him according to this model.”*

Choir: Amen.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through His grace and love for mankind, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Lord, have mercy! (3x)



**From The Great Book of Needs, Vol. IV, published by St. Tikhon's Seminary Press, 1999, South Canaan, PA, pp. 339-352.*

Thou didst overcome the sting of death, Thou didst open the Heavenly Kingdom them that believe. Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that Thou shalt come as Judge. Therefore, we entreat Thee: Help Thy servants, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious Blood. Count them worthy to reign with Thy Saints in Thine eternal glory. O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Govern them and exalt them forever. Day by day we bless Thee, and we praise Thy Name forever, even unto the ages of ages. Vouchsafe, O Lord, that we may be kept this day without sin. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, even as we have set our hope on Thee. In Thee, O Lord, have we trusted; let us not be put to shame forever. Amen.

Priest: Wisdom! Most-holy Theotokos save us!

Choir: It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify thee!

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee!

Choir: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy! (3x) Father (*Master*), bless!

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the prayers of His Most-pure Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of Saint_____ (*of the church*); of Saint_____ (*of the day*) whom we commemorate today; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the Saints: Have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves Mankind!

Priest: Glory to the Holy Consubstantial and Life-creating, and Undivided Trinity, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages!

People: Amen.

(*Tone 6*): O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things. Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life, come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!

Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (3x) Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy! (3x) Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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 the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Lord, have mercy! (12x) Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Reader: Come let us worship God our King! Come let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God! Come let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

(Psalm 117/118) O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel now say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever. Let the house of Aaron now say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever. Let all that fear the Lord now say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever. Out of mine affliction I called upon the Lord, and He heard me and brought me into a broad place. The Lord is my Helper, and I will not fear what man shall do to me. The Lord is my Helper, and I shall look down upon my enemies. It is better to trust in the Lord than to trust in man. It is better to hope in the Lord than to hope in princes. All the nations compassed me round about, and by the Name of the Lord I withstood them. Surrounding me they compassed me, and by the Name of the Lord I withstood them. They compassed me about like unto bees around a honeycomb, and they burst into flame like a fire among the thorns, and by the Name of the Lord I withstood them. I was pushed and overturned that I might fall, but the Lord was quick to help me. The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous. The right hand of the Lord hath wrought strength, the right hand of the Lord hath exalted me, the right hand of the Lord hath wrought strength. I shall not die, but live, and I shall tell of the works of the Lord. With chastisement hath the Lord chastened me, but He hath not given me over to death. Open to me the gates of righteousness, and I will enter therein and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter there. I will give thanks unto Thee, for Thou hast heard me and art become my salvation. The Stone which the builders rejected, the same

Father, have mercy on us. For Thou only art holy, Thou only art Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. Ev'ry day will I bless Thee and praise Thy Name forever and ever. Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have put our trust in Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. (3x) O Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, be merciful to me. Heal my soul for I have sinned against Thee. Lord, I flee unto Thee; teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For with Thee is the Fountain of Life and in Thy Light shall we see Light. Pour forth Thy mercy unto those who know Thee. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Or, The Hymn of St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan
Te Deum Laudamus

We praise Thee, O God, we confess Thee to be the Lord. All the earth magnifies Thee, the Father everlasting. Unto Thee, all the Angels, unto Thee, the Heavens and all the Powers therein, unto Thee the Cherubim and the Seraphim cry aloud with voices unceasing: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory. The most-glorious choir of the Apostles, the praiseworthy fellowship of the Prophets, and the resplendent army of Martyrs praise Thee. The Holy Church throughout the world confesses Thee: the Father of infinite Majesty, Thine adorable, true, and Only-begotten Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father. When Thou didst accept to deliver man, Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb. When

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, the God of all mercies and compassions, Whose mercy cannot be measured and Whose love for mankind is an unfathomable deep: As unprofitable servants falling down with fear and trembling before Thy majesty, now humbly bearing thanksgiving unto Thy deep compassion for Thy benefits bestowed upon Thy servant(s), we glorify, praise, hymn and magnify Thee as Lord and Master and Benefactor; and again falling down in thanksgiving for Thine immeasurable and ineffable lovingkindness, humbly we pray: That, as now Thou hast counted Thy servants worthy that their supplications be received and mercifully fulfilled, likewise in the time to come, as they flourish in sincere love for Thee and in every virtue, Thou wilt vouchsafe all Thy faithful to receive of Thy benefits. Delivering Thy holy church and this city (town, village, monastery, household...) from every evil circumstance, and granting unto them peace and tranquility, do Thou count them worthy always to offer thanksgiving, to tell of Thy most-gracious benefits, and to sing unto Thee, together with Thy father Who is without beginning, and Thy Most-holy, Good, and Consubstantial Spirit, God worshipped in one essence: *Glory to Thee, our God and Benefactor, unto the ages of ages!*

Choir: Amen. [Now we sing/chant either the Great Doxology or the Hymn of St. Ambrose of Milan]:

The Great Doxology

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will t'wards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty! O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father Who takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the

is become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the Day that the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! [Hosanna,] O Lord; save now! O Lord, send now prosperity. Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord. We have blessed you out of the house of the Lord. God is the Lord, and hath revealed Himself to us. Ordain a feast with thick boughs, even unto the horns of the altar. Thou art my God, and I will confess Thee; Thou art my God, and I will exalt Thee. I will give thanks unto Thee, for Thou hast heard me, and Thou art become my salvation. O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

The Great Litany

Priest: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir/People: Lord, have mercy! (after each petition)

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this holy house and for those who enter with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

For our Metropolitan (*N.*); for our Bishop [or Archbishop] (*N.*); for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

For travelers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

That He will mercifully accept the present thanksgiving and prayer of us, His unworthy servants, on His most-heavenly Altar and compassionately have mercy on us, let us pray to the Lord.

That He will not despise the thanksgiving of us, His unprofitable servants, which we offer with humble hearts for the good things we have received from Him, but that it be acceptable unto Him as fragrant incense and a whole burnt-offering, let us pray to the Lord.

That He will hearken now unto the voice of supplication of us, His unworthy servants, and in His bounty always fulfill the good intent and desire of His faithful as may be most expedient for them; and, in that He is compassionate, will always be gracious unto us and His Holy Church, and will grant the petitions of all His faithful servants, let us pray to the Lord.

That He will deliver His Holy Church (and His servant(s), N.), and all of us from every affliction, misfortune, wrath and necessity, and from all enemies, both visible and invisible, and will always fence His faithful round about with health, length of days and peace, and the host of His Angels, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy Grace.

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir/People: To Thee, O Lord!

Choir: Lord, have mercy! (3x)

As Thou, in Thy mercy, hast now hearkened unto the prayers of Thy servants, O Lord, and hast manifested unto us the deep-compassion of Thy love for mankind, so also not despising us in the time to come, fulfil unto Thy glory all the good desires of Thy faithful, and make manifest unto all of us Thy rich mercy, disregarding all our transgressions, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy!

Choir: Lord, have mercy! (3x)

May this, our thanksgiving, as fragrant incense and a whole-burnt offering of fat, be well-pleasing before the majesty of Thy glory, O All-good Master, and as Thou art compassionate, do Thou always send down the riches of Thy mercies and compassions unto Thy servants. And deliver this Thy holy Church (habitation, city, household...) from every assault of enemies, both visible and invisible. ?And grant unto all Thy people, a sinless and healthy length of days and success in every virtue, we pray Thee, O All-compassionate King, mercifully hearken and quickly have mercy!

Choir: Lord, have mercy! (3x)

Priest: Harken unto us, O God our Savior, Thou hope of all the ends of the earth and of them that be far off at sea; and be merciful, be merciful, O Master, regarding our sins, and have mercy on us; for Thou art a merciful God, and the Lover of Mankind, and unto Thee do we send up glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

Priest: Let us attend! [St. Luke 17:12-19]

At that time, as Jesus entered into a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Teacher, have mercy on us!" And when He saw them, He said unto them, "Go, show yourselves unto the priests." And it came to pass that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them when he saw that he was healed, turned back and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks; and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? How is it that none are found that returned to give glory unto God, except this stranger?" And He said unto him, "Arise; go thy way. Thy faith has saved thee."

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy!

Choir: Lord, have mercy! (3x)

Priest: As unprofitable servants, with fear and trembling we give thanks unto Thy deep compassion, O Lord, our Savior and Master, for Thy benefits which Thou hast poured out abundantly upon Thy servants, and we fall down before Thee and send up glory unto Thee as God. And with compunction we cry out: Do Thou deliver Thy servants from all misfortunes, and as Thou art merciful, fulfil always the desires of us all as may be expedient for us, diligently we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy!

Priest: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

"God is the Lord" (Tone 4)

Priest: In the 4th Tone: God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord! O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

Choir: God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!

(Sung 4x by Choir while Priest chants verses)

Priest: All the nations surrounded me, but in the Name of the Lord I withstood them!

Priest: I shall not die but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord!

Priest: The Stone which the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes!

Troparion of Thanksgiving, Tone 4

We Thine unworthy servants, O Lord, grateful for Thy great benefits unto us, glorifying Thee, we praise, bless, give thanks, hymn and magnify Thy deep compassion, and with submission and love we cry out unto Thee: O our Savior and Benefactor, glory to Thee!

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

Kontakion of Thanksgiving, Tone 3

Freely having been counted worthy of thy gifts and benefits, although unprofitable servants, O Master, making haste we bring heartfelt thanksgiving unto Thee according to our strength, and glorifying Thee as Benefactor and Creator, we cry out: Glory to Thee, O Most-compassionate God!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Same Tone) O Theotokos, Help of Christians, we, thy servants having acquired thy protection, cry out unto thee with thanksgiving: Rejoice, O Most-pure Virgin Theotokos, and always deliver us by thy prayers from every misfortune, as thou only art quick to protect us!

Priest: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: *The Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone:* I will sing unto the Lord Who has dealt bountifully with me, and I will sing psalms unto the Name of the Lord Most High!

Choir: I will sing unto the Lord Who has dealt bountifully with me and I will sing psalms unto the Name of the Lord Most High!

Reader: My heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation.

Choir: I will sing unto the Lord...

Reader: I will sing unto the Lord Who has dealt bountifully with me...

Choir: ...and I will sing psalms unto the Name of the Lord Most High!

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the *Ephesians*.

Priest: Let us attend! [Ephesians 5:8-21]

Reader: *Brethren*, walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth), proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them, for it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the Light, for whatsoever makes manifest is Light. Therefore, He says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from thy bed, and Christ shall give thee Light." See, then, that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, for the days are evil. Therefore, be you not unwise, but understanding what is the will of God. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things unto God the Father in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

Priest: Peace be unto you, [reader].

Reader: And to you spirit.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Alleluia in the 4th Tone: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Priest: And that we may be accounted worthy of hearing the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God!

Choir: Lord, have mercy! (3x)

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit.