**JANUARY 6: The Holy Theophany of Our Lord**

***[Music for the Feast of the Theophany from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at*** [***www.oca.org***](http://www.oca.org)***]***

**Matins**

**"God is the Lord..." Tone 1**

**Tone 1 Troparion of the Feast**

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,

the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.

For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,

calling You His Beloved Son;

and the Spirit in the form of a dove

confirmed the truthfulness of His word.

O Christ our God, You have revealed Yourself,//

and have enlightened the world, glory to You! *(thrice)*

**Kathisma Hymns** *(following the first reading of the Psalter)*

**Tone 3** *(“Awed by the beauty…”)*

When You shone forth in the Jordan, O Savior,

when You were baptized, O Christ, by the Forerunner,

You received testimony as the beloved Son.

Thus You were revealed as coeternal with the Father.

And the Holy Spirit descended on You.

We who are also enlightened by the Spirit cry aloud://

“Glory to the God in Trinity.”

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

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen*.

**Tone 4** *(“Go quickly…”)*

You sanctified the streams of the Jordan

and shattered the power of sin, O Christ our God.

You submitted to the hands of the Forerunner

and saved the human race from error.//

Therefore we beseech You: “Save your world!”

**Kathisma Hymns** *(following the second reading of the Psalter)*

**Tone 5** *(The Word Who is equally…)*

You wrapped Yourself in the streams of the Jordan,

Who clothe Yourself in light as with a garment;

in the waters, O Word of God, You renewed the nature of Adam

broken by wicked disobedience.//

Therefore we praise You and glorify Your holy Epiphany.

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

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen*.

**Tone 4** *(“Joseph marvelled…”)*

What have you seen, O river Jordan?

Why are you amazed?

I saw the Unseeable One standing naked

and I trembled with fear.

How could I not tremble and turn away?

Seeing Him, the Angels trembled,

heaven wondered and the earth shook,

the sea drew back with all things visible and invisible.//

Christ has appeared in the Jordan to sanctify the waters.

**Magnification**

We magnify You,

O Christ, the Giver of life:

for our sake You are now baptized in the flesh

by John in the river Jordan.

*v: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us. (Ps. 66:2/67: 1)*

*v: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord upon many waters. (Ps.28/29:3)*

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

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen*.

**Tone 4 Kathisma Hymn** *(“Joseph marvelled … “)*

Come you faithful,

let us see where Christ was baptized!

Let us follow Him to the river Jordan,

to the voice of one crying in the wilderness!

And let us see there the Maker of Adam,

as He receives the laying on of hands from a servant

because of His ineffable loving-kindness!

And let us cry aloud to Him://

“You have come and appeared in the Jordan to sanctify the waters!”

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

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

(Repeat: “Come, you faithful”)

**Tone 4 The Prokeimenon**

The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back. *(Ps. 113/114:3)*

*v: What ails you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?* *(ibid., x. 5)*

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

*v: Praise God in his sanctuary! Praise him in his mighty firmament!*

**Gospel**

Mark 1:9-11

**Tone 2 Post-Gospel Stichera**

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

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Today let all things greatly rejoice://

Christ has appeared in the Jordan.

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Today let all things greatly rejoice://

Christ has appeared in the Jordan.

**Tone 6**

Have mercy on me, O God,

according to Your great mercy;

and according to the abundance of Your compassion,//

blot out my transgression!

**Tone 6**

God the Word shone forth in the flesh to the human race.

He stood waiting to be baptized in the Jordan.

And the Forerunner said to Him:

“How can my hand touch the head that rules all things?

Though You are the child of Mary,

yet I know that You are God before the ages.

You are hymned by the Seraphim, yet You walk on the earth.

And I, a servant, have not learned how to baptize the Master.//

O Lord past understanding, glory to You!”

**The Canon**

*(Two canons are used. The two heirmoi are repeated as the katavasia at the end of each ode. The refrain "Glory to You, our God, glory to You" precedes the troparia.)*

**First Canon Tone 2** *(by Cosmas)*

**Ode 1 – Heirmos**

The Lord uncovered the floor of the deep

and on the dry ground drew His people out.

But his enemies He covered in the deep.

The Lord did this, the Lord mighty in battle;

for He has been glorified.

*Glory to You, our God, glory to You!*

The Lord refashions broken Adam in the streams of the Jordan.

And He smashes the heads of dragons lurking there.

The Lord does this, the King of the ages;

for He has been glorified.

The Lord clothed material flesh

with the immaterial fire of divinity.

Now He wraps Himself in the flowing waters of the Jordan.

The Lord does this, the Lord born in the flesh from the Virgin;

for He has been glorified.

The One Who cleans away the filth of people

is Himself cleansed for their sakes in the Jordan.

By His own will He became like them while remaining what He was.

The Lord enlightens those in darkness;

for He has been glorified.

**Second Canon Tone 2** *(by John of Damascus)*

**Ode 1 – Heirmos**

Israel crossed the stormy sea

which was turned into dry land.

But the dark sea, like a watery grave,

completely covered the Egyptian captains

by the might of the Master's right hand.

When the light-bearing Dawn from the wilderness

had shone forth to mortals,

You, the Lord of the Sun, bent Your neck beneath the streams of the Jordan,

to snatch our forefather from the land of darkness

and cleanse creation from all filth.

O Word without beginning, You make anew

the one destroyed by error,

who was buried with You in the waters.

You were ineffably affirmed by the mighty voice of the Father:

“This One is called My beloved Child, equal to Me by nature.”

**Ode 3 – Heirmos (First Canon)**

The Lord gives strength to our kings;

He exalts the horn of His Anointed.

Now He is born of a Virgin

and comes to be baptized.

Therefore, let us the faithful cry:

“No one is holy as our God,

and no one is righteous but You, O Lord.”

Rejoice today, O Church of Christ!

Once you were barren and childless,

but now children have been born to you

through water and the Spirit.

They raise their cry in faith:

“No one is holy as our God,

and no one is righteous but You, O Lord.”

With a loud voice the Forerunner cries in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of Christ;

make straight the paths of our God;

and raise your cry in faith:

‘No one is holy as our God,

and no one is righteous but You, O Lord.’”

**Ode 3 – Heirmos (Second Canon)**

Since we have been freed from the ancient snares

and the teeth of young lions have been smashed,

let us rejoice and open wide our mouths,

weaving a melody of words to the Word

Who delights to give us gifts!

He who once implanted death into creation

by taking the form of a malicious serpent

is cast into darkness by the coming of Christ in the flesh;

and he crushes his own most hateful head

by striking the Master, the Dawn that has shone forth.

The Master draws to Himself the nature He created.

Though it was overcome by tyrannous greed, He begets it anew.

By refashioning those born on earth

He brings His greatest work to completion.

For He came wishing to defend it.

**Tone 5 Hypakoe**

When You enlightened all things by Your Epiphany,

the salty sea of unbelief withdrew in fear

and the Jordan turned back against its flow,

carrying us up to the heights of heaven.

By the heights of Your divine commandments,

through the prayers of the Theotokos,//

preserve us, O Christ God, and have mercy on us!

**Ode 4 – Heirmos (First Canon)**

He whom You called “The voice of one crying in the wilderness”

heard Your voice, O Lord,

when You thundered upon many waters

and bore witness to Your Son.

Filled completely with the Spirit Who had come he cried:

“You are Christ, the Wisdom and the Power of God.”

“How can the Sun be cleansed,” the preacher cried aloud,

“since it is by nature bright?

How can I wash You in the waters,

You, the Radiance of the glory,

the express Image of the eternal Father?

And how can I who am but grass touch the fire of Your divinity?

For You are Christ, the Wisdom and the Power of God.”

When Moses came upon You he displayed the God-inspired reverence

that he felt;

realizing that it was You Who spoke from the Bush

he immediately turned away his gaze.

How then can I look openly upon You?

How can I lay my hand on You?

For You are Christ, the Wisdom and the Power of God.

Endowed with a rational soul

and honored with the power of reason,

I yet respect the things which have no soul.

For if I baptize You, they will be my accusers:

the mountain that smoked with fire,

the sea that fled on either side,

and this very Jordan that turned back.

For You are Christ, the Wisdom and the Power of God.

**Ode 4 – Heirmos (Second Canon)**

Cleansed by the fire of mystical vision,

the Prophet praises the renewal of mortals.

Filled by the Spirit, he raises his voice

to manifest the incarnation of the Word beyond words

Who has shattered the might of the strong.

Sent from the Father, O most radiant Word,

You come to dispel the evil darkness of night

and to uproot the sins of mortals,

and to draw up by Your baptism, O blessed Lord,

radiant children from the streams of the Jordan.

The preacher looked at the celebrated Word,

and proclaimed to creation in a loud voice:

“This is He Who was before me,

though in the flesh He came after me.

Like us in form, He shone forth with the strength of God

to dispel our loathsome sin.”

God the Word hunts in the lairs of dragons.

He destroys their terrible snares

and overthrows the one who bruises the heel of the human race.

By capturing him, God saves creation from danger,

and leads it to the pastures of life.

**Ode 5 – Heirmos (First Canon)**

Jesus, the Source of life,

came to free from condemnation Adam, the first-formed man.

As God He needs no cleansing,

yet for the fallen He is cleansed in the Jordan.

In it He brings an end to hostility

and grants peace beyond all comprehension.

When a multitude had gathered to be baptized by John,

he stood in their midst and raised his voice:

“You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee the wrath to come?

Bear worthy fruit for Christ;

for He has now come, granting peace!”

After standing in the midst of human beings as one of them,

the Creator now takes hold of human hearts like a thresher;

His winnowing fork is in His hand;

in His wisdom he clears the whole world, His threshing floor,

separating wheat from chaff.

The chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire;

to the wheat He grants eternal life.

**Ode 5 – Heirmos (Second Canon)**

Washed by the cleansing of the Spirit

from the venom of the dark and unclean foe,

we have started without error on a new path,

that leads to a joy which cannot be attained,

except by those who are reconciled by God to Himself.

Seeing the work of His own hands in the gloom of sin,

in bonds from which no one can escape,

the Maker raised him up and laid him on his shoulder.

Now in abundant waters He washes away

the shameful disposition of old Adam.

With piety and vigor let us run

to the pure springs of salvation's stream

and gaze on the Word born of the all Pure One,

He gives living water to satisfy our holy thirst,

and gently heals the sickness of the world.

**Ode 6 – Heirmos (First Canon)**

The Voice of the Word, the Lamp of the Light,

the Forerunner of the Sun, the Morning Star,

cries to all peoples in the wilderness:

“Repent now and be cleansed; for behold,

Christ comes to deliver the world from decay!”

Christ, Who was begotten without change from God the Father,

without corruption is made flesh from the Virgin.

As the Forerunner teaches, it is impossible to loose

the thong of His sandals, the bond between the Word and us.

He delivers those born on earth from falsehood.

In the fire of the Last Day Christ baptizes the disobedient,

those who do not know Him as God.

But by grace through the water He renews in the Spirit

those who acknowledge His divinity.

He delivers them from their faults.

**Ode 6 – Heirmos (Second Canon)**

With a joyous voice the Father revealed His Beloved,

Whom He had brought forth from the womb.

“Truly,” he said, “this is My Son Who shares my nature.

Bearing light, He has sprung from the human race,

My living Word, Who by My providence became a mortal man.”

The Prophet spent three nights in exile,

swallowed up in the belly of the sea monster.

Then he came forth again,

in anticipation revealing to all the salvation of rebirth,

deliverance on the last day from the man-eating dragon.

When the radiant heavens were opened,

he who knew the mysteries saw the Spirit,

Who proceeds from the Father and rests on the immaculate Word,

marvelously descend in the form of a dove.

He revealed the Master to the people, that they might run to Him.

**Tone 4 Kontakion of the Feast**

Today You have shone forth to the world, O Lord,

and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us.

Knowing You, we sing Your praises:

“You have come and revealed Yourself,//

O unapproachable Light.”

**Oikos**

On Galilee of the Gentiles, as the Prophet said,

on the land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali,

Christ, the great Light, has shone.

A bright Dawn has appeared to those who sat in darkness,

shining like lightning from Bethlehem.

The Lord born of Mary, the Sun of righteousness,

sheds His rays on the whole universe.

Come, all the naked children of Adam,

let us clothe ourselves in Him, that we might be warmed.

A covering for the naked, light for those in darkness,

**You have come and revealed Yourself,**

**O unapproachable Light.**

**Ode 7 – Heirmos (First Canon)**

By the descent of an Angel of God

and by the whistling wind of dew,

the holy Youths walked in the fiery furnace free from harm.

Refreshed with dew in the flames,

in thanksgiving they sang:

“You are blessed and highly exalted,

O Lord God of our fathers!”

Trembling and amazed as if in heaven,

the angelic powers stood by the Jordan.

They watched the great descent of God;

how the One who upholds the waters above the heavens

stood in the waters in bodily form;

He is the God of our fathers.

The wonder of the baptism of God was prefigured

by the cloud and the sea through which the people passed.

In them the people were once baptized into Moses the lawgiver.

The sea was a type of the water and the cloud a type of the Spirit.

Perfected by water and the Spirit we cry out:

“You are blessed, O God of our fathers!”

Since we have all received perfection in God,

let us the faithful speak of God without ceasing;

and with the Angels let us glorify Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For it is the Trinity, in persons of one essence yet one God,

to Whom we sing:

“You are blessed, O Lord God of our fathers!”

**Ode 7 – Heirmos (Second Canon)**

He stilled the furnace's towering flame

when it encircled the pious Youths,

and He burned the heads of the dragons in the waters.

With the dew of the Spirit He washes away

all the blindness born of sin.

By changing the fierce Assyrian flame to dew,

You stilled the fire that prefigured You;

For now You have clothed Yourself in water, O Christ,

as a flame that burns the evil trickster hidden in its depths,

who entices us to the path of destruction.

When of old the Jordan was parted in two,

the people of Israel crossed on dry land.

They thus prefigured You, O almighty Lord,

as You make haste to bear creation through the waters

to a better and changeless path.

We know that at first You sent the all-destroying flood

for the lamentable destruction of all,

You Who do things most wonderful and strange;

now in the waters You have drowned sin, O Christ,

for the salvation and welfare of mortals.

**Ode 8 – Heirmos (First Canon)**

When the furnace in Babylon poured forth dew,

it foreshadowed a marvelous mystery:

the Jordan accepted the Immaterial Fire into its streams

and encompassed the Creator when He was baptized in the flesh.

Him the peoples bless and highly exalt for ever.

“Put away all fear,” said the Redeemer to the Forerunner.

“Obey Me and come to Me, for I am good by nature!

Yield to My command and baptize Me Who have descended,

Whom the peoples bless and highly exalt for ever!”

The baptizer heard what the Master said,

and, trembling, he stretched out his hand.

But when he touched the head of his Maker,

he cried aloud to the One being baptized:

“Sanctify me, for You are my God,

Whom the peoples bless and highly exalt for ever!”

The Trinity was made known in the Jordan,

for the Father, supremely divine, loudly proclaimed:

“He Who is here baptized is My beloved Son.”

And the Spirit was present with His equal in Godhead,

Whom the peoples bless and highly exalt for ever.

**Ode 8 – Heirmos (Second Canon)**

Creation has been set free;

and those who were in darkness are made children of light.

Only the prince of darkness groans.

Let the inheritance of the nations, which was once in misery,

now eagerly bless Him Who has brought this about!

The three godly Youths, wet with dew in the fire,

plainly showed how divine nature,

brightly radiant with three-fold holiness,

would mingle with mortal nature

to consume all deadly error with a fire of dew.

*Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord,*

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Let all earthly nature be clothed in white;

for now it is raised from its fall from heaven.

It has been cleansed in the flowing streams

by the Word Who preserves all things.

Washed and resplendent, it has escaped from its former sins.

We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him

` throughout all ages.

**Ode 9 – Megalynaria and Heirmos (First Canon)**

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos,

more honorable than the heavenly hosts!

No tongue knows how to praise you worthily, O Theotokos;

even angels are overcome with awe praising you.

But since you are good, accept our faith;

for you know our love inspired by God!

You are the defender of Christians, and we magnify you.

Magnify, O my soul, Him Who comes to be baptized in the Jordan!

O David, come in spirit

and sing to those who are to be enlightened:

"Draw near to God in faith and be enlightened!

The poor man, fallen Adam, cried, and the Lord heard him."

The Lord came to the streams of the Jordan,

and in these streams restored the broken man.

Magnify, O my soul, Him who receives baptism by the Forerunner!

*(Repeat: “O David, come in spirit….”)*

Magnify, O my soul, Him who was attested by the voice of the Father!

“Wash yourselves,” says Isaiah, “make yourselves clean!

Put away the evil of your doings from before the Lord!

Everyone who thirsts, come to the living water!”

For Christ will sprinkle those who run to Him in faith

with the water that gives renewal.

He baptizes them with the Spirit unto life that grows not old.

Magnify, O my soul, One of the Trinity Who bent his neck and received baptism!

*(Repeat: “Wash yourselves, says Isaiah….”)*

O Prophet, come to Me, stretch out your hand and baptize Me quietly!

Let us, the faithful, keep ourselves through grace and our baptismal seal!

For as in former times the Hebrews fled destruction by marking the doorposts with blood,

so the divine washing of regeneration will also be an exodus for us.

Passing through it, we will see the light of the Trinity, which never sets.

O Prophet, let it be so now! Baptize Me willingly,

for I have come to fulfill all righteousness!

*(Repeat: “Let us the faithful ….”)*

**Ode 9 – Megalynaria and Heirmos (Second Canon)**

Today the Master bends His neck beneath the hand of the Forerunner.

O most pure Bride, O blessed Mother,

the wonders of your childbearing pass understanding.

Through you we have gained perfect salvation.

We extol you, our benefactor, as is right;

and we bring you a gift, a song of thanksgiving.

Today John baptizes the Master in the streams of the Jordan.

*(Repeat: “O most pure Bride….”)*

Today the Master buries the sin of mortals in the waters.

*(Repeat: “O most pure Bride….”)*

Today the Master is attested from on high as the Beloved Son.

We now see accomplished in a remarkable way

what was revealed to Moses in the Bush;

for the Virgin bore Fire and was not consumed

when she gave birth to the Benefactor Who brings us light;

and the streams of the Jordan welcomed Him and were not harmed.

Today the Master has come to sanctify the nature of the waters.

*(Repeat: “We now see accomplished….”)*

Today the Master accepts baptism at the hand of the Forerunner.

*(Repeat: “We now see accomplished….”)*.

Magnify, O my soul, the power of the undivided Godhead in Three Persons!

O King without beginning,

having washed mortal nature in unpolluted streams,

thus putting the arrogant power of darkness to shame,

You anoint and perfect it in the communion of the Spirit

and lead it into endless life.

Magnify, O my soul, her that has delivered us from the curse!

*(Repeat: “O King without beginning….”)*

*(Katavasia: the first megalynarion and the heirmos from each canon.)*

**Exapostilarion**

The Savior, Who is Grace and Truth,

shone forth in the streams of the Jordan,

and enlightened those who slept in darkness and shadow;

for He has come and revealed Himself,

the Light unapproachable. *(thrice)*

**The Praises Tone 1**

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens!

Praise Him in the highest!//

To You, O God, is due a song!

Praise Him, all you angels of His!

Praise Him, all His hosts!//

To You, O God, is due a song!

*v: Praise God in His sanctuary; praise him in His mighty firmament!*

**Tone 1 Stichera Idiomela** *(by Patriarch Germanos)*

Light of light, Christ our God,

the God Who shone forth, has shone in the world.//

O people, let us worship Him!

*v: Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness!*

*(Repeat: “Light of light…”)*

*v: Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!*

O Christ our Master,

How will we your servants worthily honor You?//

For we have all been renewed in the waters.

*v: Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!*

By being baptized in the Jordan, O our Savior,

You sanctified the waters;

by letting a servant lay his hand on You,

You healed the passions of the world.

Great is the mystery of Your divine plan.//

O loving Lord, glory to You!

*v: Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!*

The true Light has shone forth granting enlightenment to all.

Though He is beyond all purity, Christ is baptized with us.

He sanctifies the water, and it becomes a cleansing for our souls.

What is seen is earthly, but what is known is above the heavens.

Through washing comes salvation, and through water comes the Spirit.

By descending into the water we ascend to God.//

Your works are wonderful, O Lord, glory to You!

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

**Tone 6** *(by Anatolios)*

O Savior Who clothe Yourself with light as with a garment,

You clothed Yourself in the waters of the Jordan;

You Who measured the heavens with a span,

bowed Your head to the Forerunner//

to turn the world back from error and to save our souls.

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 2** *(by Anatolios)*

Today Christ has come to be baptized in the Jordan.

Today John touches the head of the Master.

The powers of heaven were shaken at the sight of the marvelous mystery.

The sea looked and fled;

the Jordan saw it and turned back;

and we who have been enlightened cry aloud://

“Glory to God Who appeared and was seen on earth and enlightened the

world!”

**Tone 1 Troparion of the Feast**

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,

the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.

For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,

calling You His Beloved Son;

and the Spirit in the form of a dove

confirmed the truthfulness of His word.

O Christ our God, You have revealed Yourself,//

and have enlightened the world, glory to You!

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