
AKATHIST *of* THANKSGIVING

GLORY *to* GOD
for ALL THINGS

PRIEST: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

READER: Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling 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.

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. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your 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.

EVERYONE: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive

those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

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

READER: 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.

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 8

O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is Your Name in all the earth, for You have exalted Your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babies and infants You have perfected praise because of Your enemies, to destroy the enemy and the avenger. For I behold Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars that You have established. What is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You visit him? Yet You have made him a little lower than the angles, and crowned him with

glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands, and put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is Your Name in all the earth.

PSALM 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. He made us, and not we ourselves, we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, praise His Name, for the Lord is good, His mercy endures forever, and His truth endures to all generations.

PSALM 138

I give thanks to You, O Lord, with all my heart, before the angels I sing Your praise, for You hear the words of my mouth. I worship toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your Name for Your mercy and Your truth, for You have exalted Your Name and Your word above everything. On the day I called, You answered me, You increased my strength of soul. All the kings of the earth will praise

You, O Lord, for they have heard the words of Your mouth. They will sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord. For though the Lord is high, yet He regards the humble, but the proud He perceives from far away. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve me against the wrath of my enemies, You stretch out Your hand, and Your right hand saves me. The Lord will repay them on my behalf. Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever, do not forsake the work of Your hands.

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 You, O God (3x).

TROPARION of THANKSGIVING

We, Your thankful and unworthy servants, praise and glorify You, O Lord, for Your great benefits which we have received: we bless You, we thank You, we sing to You, and we magnify Your great goodness, and with humility and love we hymn You, O Benefactor and Savior, glory to You.

This Akathist was written in Russia by Metropolitan Tryphon Turkestanov not long before his death in 1934. The title comes from the last words of Saint John Chrysostom, as he was dying in exile in 407 AD. It is a song of praise from amidst the most terrible sufferings. The Akathist was first discovered among the belongings of Archpriest Gregory Petrov shortly before his death in Soviet prison camp in 1940.

KONTAKION 1

O Everlasting King, Your will for our salvation is full of power. Your right hand controls the whole course of human life. We give thanks to You for all Your mercies, known and unknown, both for this earthly life and for the heavenly joys of the Kingdom to come. Grant mercy to us, who sing Your praises, both now and in the time to come.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

IKOS 1

I was born a weak, defenseless child, but Your angel spread his wings over my cradle to defend me. From birth until now Your love has illumined my path, wondrously guiding me towards the light of eternity. From birth until now the generous gifts of Your providence have been marvelously showered upon me. I give thanks to You, together with all who have come to know You, who call upon Your Name.

Glory to You for calling me to life.

Glory to You for showing me the beauty of the universe.

Glory to You for spreading out before me heaven and earth, like the pages in a book of eternal wisdom.

Glory to You for Your eternity in this fleeting world.

Glory to You for Your mercies, seen and unseen.

Glory to You through every sigh of my sorrow.

Glory to You for every step of my life's journey
and for every moment of joy.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 2

O Lord, how lovely it is to be Your guest. Breeze full of scents, mountains reaching to the skies, waters like boundless mirrors, reflecting the sun's golden rays and the sailing clouds. All of nature whispers mysteriously, full of tender love. Birds and beasts of the forest bear the imprint of Your love. Blessed is mother earth in her fleeting loveliness, which wakens our yearning for our eternal fatherland, in the place where, amid beauty that does not grow old, the cry rings out: Alleluia.

IKOS 2

You have brought me into this life as into an enchanted paradise. We have seen the sky like a chalice of deepest blue, where the birds sing in the sky-blue heights. We have heard the soothing whisper of the forest and the melodious music of the streams. We have tasted fruit of fine flavor and the sweet-scented honey. We can live very well on Your earth. It is a pleasure to be Your guest.

Glory to You for the Feast Day of life.

Glory to You for the perfume of lilies and roses.

Glory to You for the sweet variety of berries and fruits.

Glory to You for the sparkling silver of early morning dew.

Glory to You for the joy of dawn's awakening.

Glory to You for the new life each day brings.

Glory to You for life in this age, a foretaste of heaven.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 3

By the power of the Holy Spirit each blossom breathes with fragrance: it gives its exquisite scent, shows its delicate color, and reveals the beauty of the Most High God in the tiniest of things. Glory and honor to the life-giving God, Who covers the fields with their carpet of flowers, crowns the harvest with gold, and gives to us the joy of gazing at it with our eyes. Let us rejoice and sing to Him: Alleluia.

IKOS 3

How glorious You are in the springtime, when every creature awakes to new life and joyfully sings You praises with a thousand tongues. You are the Source of Life, the Destroyer of Death. By the light of the moon, nightingales sing, and the valleys and hills lie like wedding garments white as snow.

All the earth is Your promised bride awaiting her spotless Bridegroom. If the grass of the field is clothed like this, how gloriously will we be transfigured in the Second Coming after the Resurrection. How splendid our bodies, how spotless our souls.

Glory to You for bringing from the depth of the earth an endless variety of colors, tastes, and scents.

Glory to You for the warmth and tenderness of the world of nature.

Glory to You for the numberless creatures around us.

Glory to You for the depths of Your wisdom, the whole world a living sign of it.

Glory to You, on my knees, I kiss the traces of Your unseen hand.

Glory to You for enlightening us with the clearness of eternal life.

Glory to You for the hope of the unutterable, imperishable beauty of immortality.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 4

How filled with delight are those whose thoughts dwell on You. How life-giving is Your holy Word. To speak with You is more soothing than anointing with oil and sweeter than

the honeycomb. Prayer before You lifts up the spirit and refreshes the soul. How majestic nature becomes, how clearly it points to You. Where You are not, there is only emptiness, hearts are smitten with sadness, nature and life itself become sorrowful. Where You are, the soul is filled with abundance, and its song resounds like a stream of life: Alleluia.

IKOS 4

When the sun is setting, when quietness falls like the peace of eternal sleep, and the silence of the spent day reigns, then in the splendor of the sun's declining rays, filtering through the clouds, I see Your dwelling-place: fiery and purple, gold and blue, they speak prophet-like of the inexpressible beauty of Your presence, and they call to us in their majesty, "Let us turn to the Father."

Glory to You at the hushed hour of nightfall.

Glory to You for covering the earth with peace.

Glory to You for the last ray of the setting sun.

Glory to You for sleep's repose that restores us.

Glory to You for Your goodness even in the time of darkness, when all the world is hidden from our eyes.

Glory to You for the fervent prayers offered by a trembling soul.

Glory to You for the pledge of our reawakening on that glorious Last Day, which has no evening.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 5

The dark storm clouds of life bring no terror to those in whose hearts Your fire is burning brightly. Outside is darkness and rain, the terror and howling of the storm, but in the soul, in the presence of Christ, there is light and peace – silence. The heart sings: Alleluia.

IKOS 5

I see Your heavens resplendent with stars. How glorious You are, radiant with light. Eternity watches me by the rays of the distant stars. I am small, insignificant, but the Lord is with me. Your right hand guides me wherever I go.

Glory to You for ceaselessly watching over me.

Glory to You for the encounters You arrange for me.

Glory to You for the love of parents, for the faithfulness of friends.

Glory to You for the humbleness of the animals which serve me.

Glory to You for the unforgettable moments of life.

Glory to You for the heart's innocent joy.

Glory to You for the joy of living and moving and being able to return Your love.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 6

How great and how close You are in the powerful track of the storm. How mighty Your right hand in the blinding flash of the lightning. How awesome Your majesty. The voice of the Lord fills the fields, it speaks in the rustling of the trees. The voice of the Lord is in the thunder and the downpour. The voice of the Lord is upon many waters. Praise be to You in the roar of mountains ablaze. You shake the earth like a garment, You pile up to heaven the waves of the sea. Praise be to You for humbling the pride of man and rousing in him a cry of penitence: Alleluia.

IKOS 6

When the lightning flash lights up the palaces, how feeble seems the light from the lamp. And You, like the lightning, unexpectedly light up my soul with flashes of intense joy. After Your blinding light, how drab, how colorless, how false all else seems. And so my soul clings to You.

Glory to You, the highest peak of men's dreaming.

Glory to You for our unquenchable thirst for communion with God.

Glory to You for making us dissatisfied with earthly things.

Glory to You for turning on us Your healing rays.

Glory to You for subduing the power of the spirits of darkness and dooming to death every evil.

Glory to You for the signs of Your presence and for the joy of hearing Your voice and living in Your love.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 7

In the wondrous blending of sounds it is Your call we hear. In the harmony of many voices, in the sublime beauty of music, in the glory of the works of great composers, You are there, leading us to the threshold of paradise to come. All true beauty has the power to draw the soul towards You, and to make it sing in happiness: Alleluia.

IKOS 7

The breath of Your Holy Spirit inspires artists, poets, and scientists. The power of Your supreme knowledge makes them prophets and interpreters of Your laws, who reveal the depths of Your creative wisdom. Their works speak

unknowingly of You. How great You are in Your creation. How great You are in man.

Glory to You for manifesting Your unsurpassable power in the laws of the universe.

Glory to You, for all nature is filled with Your laws.

Glory to You for what You have revealed to us in Your mercy.

Glory to You for what You have hidden from us in Your wisdom.

Glory to You for the inventiveness of the human mind.

Glory to You for the dignity of man's labor.

Glory to You for the tongues of fire that bring inspiration.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 8

How near You are in the day of sickness and pain. You Yourself visit the sick. You Yourself bend down over the sufferer's bed and his heart speaks to You. In the times of sorrow and suffering You bring peace and unexpected consolation. You are the Comforter. You are the Love that watches over and heals us. To You we sing the song: Alleluia.

IKOS 8

When in childhood I called upon You consciously for the first time, You heard my prayer and filled my heart with the blessing of peace. At that moment I knew Your goodness and knew how blessed are those who turn to You in prayer. I began to call upon You night and day, and even now I call upon Your Name.

Glory to You for satisfying my desires with good things.

Glory to You for watching over me day and night.

Glory to You for treating pain and loss with the healing flow of time.

Glory to You for with You there is no grief without hope, O Giver of eternal life to all.

Glory to You for making immortal all that is lofty and good.

Glory to You for promising us the desired meeting with our loved ones who have died.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 9

Why is it that on a Feast Day the whole of nature mysteriously smiles? Why is it that then a heavenly gladness fills our hearts, a gladness far beyond anything earthly, and the very air in the church and in the altar becomes radiant? It is the

breath of Your grace. It is the reflection of the glory of Mount Tabor. Then heaven and earth sing Your praise: Alleluia.

IKOS 9

When You inspired me to serve my neighbors and filled my soul with humility, then one of Your deep-piercing rays shone into my heart, becoming radiant, full of light, like iron glowing in the furnace. I have seen Your face, face of mystery and of unapproachable glory.

Glory to You for transfiguring our lives with deeds of love.

Glory to You for making wonderfully sweet the keeping of Your commandments.

Glory to You for making Yourself known where man shows mercy on his neighbor.

Glory to You for sending us failure and misfortune that we may understand the sorrows of others.

Glory to You for rewarding us so well for the good we do.

Glory to You for welcoming the impulse of our heart's love.

Glory to You for raising to the heights of heaven every act of love in earth and heaven.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 10

No one can restore what has crumbled into dust, but You can restore a conscience turned to ashes. You can restore to its former beauty a soul lost and without hope. With You, there is nothing that cannot be redeemed. You are love. You are the Creator and Redeemer. We praise You, singing: Alleluia.

IKOS 10

You know, my God, the fall of the angel Lucifer, full of pride: keep me safe by the power of Your grace. Save me from falling away from You, save me from doubting You. Sharpen my hearing to hear Your mysterious voice every moment of my life and to call upon You, for You are everywhere present.

Glory to You for every happening, every condition Your providence has put me in.

Glory to You for what You speak to me in my heart.

Glory to You for the command of Your mysterious voice.

Glory to You for what You reveal to me, asleep or awake.

Glory to You for scattering our vain imaginations.

Glory to You for raising us from the heat of our passions through suffering.

Glory to You for humbling the pride of our heart for the sake of our salvation.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 11

Across the cold chains of the centuries, I feel the warmth of Your divine breath, I feel Your blood pulsing in my veins. Part of time has already gone, but You are present. I stand by Your Cross – I was the cause of it. I cast myself down in the dust before it. Here is the triumph of love, the victory of salvation. Here the centuries themselves cannot remain silent, singing Your praises: Alleluia.

IKOS 11

Blessed are they who will taste of the supper in Your Kingdom, but already on earth You give me a foretaste of this blessedness. How many times with Your own hand have You held out to me Your Body and Your Blood? And I, though a miserable sinner, have received this Mystery, and have tasted Your love, so inexpressible, so heavenly.

Glory to You for the unquenchable fire of Your grace.

Glory to You for building Your Church, a calm haven of peace in a tortured world.

Glory to You for the life-giving water of Baptism, in which we find new birth.

Glory to You for restoring purity, spotless as the lily, to those who repent.

Glory to You for the bottomless abyss of forgiveness.

Glory to You for the Cup of salvation and the Bread of eternal joy.

Glory to You for exalting us to the highest heaven.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 12

How often have I seen the reflection of Your glory in the faces of the dead. How resplendent they were with joy and heavenly beauty. How otherworldly, how radiant their faces. How triumphant over suffering and death, their happiness and peace. Even in their silence they were calling upon You. In the hour of my death, enlighten my soul also, that it may cry out to You: Alleluia.

IKOS 12

What sort of praise can I give You? I have never heard the song of the Cherubim, a joy reserved for the spirits above. But I know the praises that nature sings to You. In winter, I have beheld how silently in the moonlight the whole earth offers You prayer, dressed in its white mantle of snow, sparkling like diamonds. I have seen how the rising

sun rejoices in You, how the choirs of birds thunder in praise to Your glory. I have heard the mysterious whispers of the forests about You, and the winds singing Your praise as they stir the waters. I have heard choirs of stars proclaim Your glory as they move forever in the depths of infinite space. What is my poor worship? All nature obeys You, I do not. Yet while I live, I see Your love, I long to thank You, to pray, and to call upon Your Name.

Glory to You for giving us the light.

Glory to You for loving us with love so deep, divine, and infinite.

Glory to You for blessing us with light, and with the host of angels and saints.

Glory to You, O Father Most Holy, for promising us an inheritance in Your Kingdom.

Glory to You, O Son the Redeemer, for showing us the path to salvation.

Glory to You, O Holy Spirit, life-giving Sun of the age to come.

Glory to You for all things, O Holy and Most merciful Trinity.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 13

This kontakion is repeated three times.

O life-giving and merciful Trinity, receive our thanksgiving for all Your goodness. Make us worthy of Your blessings, so that, multiplying the talents You have entrusted to us, we may enter into the eternal joy of our Lord, forever exulting in the shout of victory: Alleluia.

And again:

IKOS 1

I was born a weak, defenseless child, but Your angel spread his wings over my cradle to defend me. From birth until now Your love has illumined my path, wondrously guiding me towards the light of eternity. From birth until now the generous gifts of Your providence have been marvelously showered upon me. I give thanks to You, together with all who have come to know You, who call upon Your Name.

Glory to You for calling me to life.

Glory to You for showing me the beauty of the universe.

Glory to You for spreading out before me heaven and earth, like the pages in a book of eternal wisdom.

Glory to You for Your eternity in this fleeting world.

Glory to You for Your mercies, seen and unseen.

Glory to You through every sigh of my sorrow.

Glory to You for every step of my life's journey
and for every moment of joy.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.

KONTAKION 1

O Everlasting King, Your will for our salvation is full of power. Your right hand controls the whole course of human life. We give thanks to You for all Your mercies, known and unknown, both for this earthly life and for the heavenly joys of the Kingdom to come. Grant mercy to us, who sing Your praises, both now and in the time to come.

Glory to You, O God, from age to age.



On Thanksgiving Day:

PRIEST: **A**nd that we may be accounted worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord our God.

EVERYONE: **L**ord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: **W**isdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be to all.

EVERYONE: **A**nd to your spirit.

PRIEST: The reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (17:11-19).

EVERYONE: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST: Let us attend.

At that time, as Jesus entered a certain village, ten lepers approached Him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When He saw them, He said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He fell down at Jesus’ feet and thanked Him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then Jesus said to him, “Get up and go on your way, your faith has made you well.”

EVERYONE: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.



PRIEST: Have mercy on us, O God, in Your great mercy, we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

EVERYONE: Lord, have mercy. *(3x after each petition)*

Again we pray for our Patriarch (*name*), for our Bishop (*name*), and all our brethren in Christ.

Again we pray for this country, its president, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God, (*names*), and all the parishioners of our community, and for the forgiveness and remission of our sins.

Giving thanks with fear and trembling for Your benefits which You have showered upon us abundantly, we Your servants pray You, O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

We offer before You, O Lord Most High, the first-fruits of our labor as a token of the thanks we owe to You for Your gracious goodness toward us. As stewards of all the good things You have bestowed on us, we pray You, O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

Make us ever mindful of Your bountiful goodness, and of our stewardship of that goodness, that we may use those things of which we are stewards to Your glory, the upbuilding of Your Holy Church, and the benefit of those who are in need of the necessities of life. We pray You, O Lord, hear us and have mercy.

For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and to You we give glory, to Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

EVERYONE: Amen.

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord.

EVERYONE: Lord, have mercy.

On Thanksgiving Day:

O Lord, hear our prayer and attend to our supplication as we pray today for each member of our family and for our friends and for our neighbors: grant them health, strength, success and well-being. We bow our heads on this day of Thanksgiving to offer thanks to You, with a heart full of gratitude as we remember the poor, the injured and the victims of terrorism and those persecuted throughout the world.

We thank You for our church family and for the church built for Your glory. O Lord, if anything is needed today, we ask for peace in our land and in your world. Bless our cities and our nation. Remember our loved ones who have gone into eternal life. Bless the food, which we will receive today in Your Name, and the hands that prepared it, and through us provide for those who are hungry. For we always give thanks to You: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

EVERYONE: Amen.

On any other occasion:

O Jesus Christ, our Lord and God, we give thanks for Your loving-kindness and all the blessings that You have richly bestowed upon us. We fall down in worship and adoration before You. We praise You, we glorify You, we bless You, and we give thanks to You for Your great goodness and loving mercy. To You we come, our sweet Lord and loving Master: Shine in our hearts the light of Your grace. Enlighten our minds, that we may walk uprightly all our life by keeping Your commandments.

O Christ our God, deliver us from all adversities and mercifully fulfill in us those of our desires that are beneficial for us. Hear us, we pray You, and have mercy, for You are the Hope of all the ends of the earth, and to You, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, we give glory, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

EVERYONE: Amen.

DISMISSAL

PRIEST: Wisdom. Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

READER: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the

Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos we magnify you.

PRIEST: **G**lory to You, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to You.

READER: **G**lory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. **L**ord, have mercy (3x). **F**ather, bless.

PRIEST: **M**ay Christ our true God, by the prayers of His most pure Mother; by the prayers of the holy Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John, the heavenly intercessor of our community; by the prayers of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and by the prayers of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

EVERYONE: **A**men.