A Service of Prayer for the Sick

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

A-men. O Heave-n-ly King, the Com-forter, the Spi-rit of Truth

Who art ev'rywhere and fil lest all things. Treasu-ry of Blessings, and Giv er of Life: Come and a-bide in us, and cleanse us from ev'ry im-pur-i-ty, and save our souls, O Good One.
Reader: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (3)
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 Thy name’s sake.
Lord, have mercy. (3)
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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, 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. 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 90
He that dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the
God of heaven. He shall say unto the Lord, “Thou art my helper and my refuge. He
is my God, and I will hope in Him.”
For He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters and from every
troubling word. With His shoulders will He overshadow thee, and under His wings
shalt thou have hope. With a shield will His truth encompass thee; thou shalt not be
afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the thing
that walketh in darkness, nor for the mishap and demon of noonday.
A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but unto
thee shall it not come nigh. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, and thou shalt
see the reward of sinners.
For Thou, O Lord, art my hope. Thou madest the Most High thy refuge; no
evils shall come nigh thee, and no scourge shall draw nigh unto thy dwelling. For
He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. On their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Upon the asp and basilisk shalt thou tread, and thou shalt trample upon the lion and dragon.

For he hath set his hope on Me, and I will deliver him; I will shelter him because he hath known My name. He shall cry unto Me, and I will hearken unto him. I am with him in affliction, and I will rescue him and glorify him. With length of days will I satisfy him, and I will show him My salvation.

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. (3)

The Great Litany
Kievan Chant

Lord, have mer - cy.  Lord, have mer - cy.  Lord, have mer - cy.

To Thee, O Lord.  A-men.
The Great Litany

Priest: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: 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.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For His Beatitude, our Metropolitan _______, and for His (Eminence, Grace) our (Archbishop, Bishop) _______, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For seasonable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For travelers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That He will be merciful to His servant(s)________, and forgive (him, her, them) (his, her, their) transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.
Priest: That from the goodness of His heart, He will have mercy on His servant(s), and will pardon (him, her, them) every sin which (he, she, they have) has committed from (his, her, their) youth to this present day and hour, and grant health to (his, her, their) afflicted body (bodies), let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That He will not turn His face away from His suffering servant(s), and will not despise the prayer we offer for (him, her, them) today, but will grant (him, her, them) health in His goodness and love for mankind, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That every illness in (his, her, their) body (bodies) may be healed by the visitation of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That the merciful God will hear the cries of His unworthy servants, as He accepted the pleading of the Canaanite woman, and will heal the servant(s) of God________, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: 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: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.
Priest: (In the Fourth 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 to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.

**God is the Lord**
Tone 4 – after D. Yaichkov

Priest: All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I destroyed them.

Choir: Repeat “God is the Lord…”

Priest: I shall not die, but live, and recount the works of the Lord.

Choir: Repeat “God is the Lord…”

Priest: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this is the Lord’s doing, and it is wonderful in our eyes.

Choir: Repeat “God is the Lord…”
Troparion – Same Tone

Thou a-lone can help us, O Christ! Vi-sit Thy suf-f er-ing ser-vant(s)!

De-liver (him, her, them) from sickness and af-flic-tion! Raise (him, her, them)

up to sing Thy praise, O Lover of man,// through the prayers of the The-o-

Glory, Now and Ever (Straight)
Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. A-men.

A Second Troparion – Tone 2 Obikhod

O Sav-i-or, Thou didst heal the para-ly-tic car-ried to Thee! Thou didst raise Peter's mother in-law from her in-firm-i-ty! Take pi-ty on Thy

“servant(s)!"
The Epistle Reading

*Priest:* Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

*Reader:* And to thy spirit!

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.

---

**The Epistle Reading**

*Priest:* Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

*Reader:* And to thy spirit!

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.
Reader: For in death there is no remembrance of Thee; in the grave who can give Thee praise?

Choir: Repeat the prokeimenon…

Reader: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak.

Choir: “Heal me, O Lord…”

Priest: Wisdom!


Priest: Let us attend!
BRETHREN, as an example of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we call those happy who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, that you may not fall under condemnation.

Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the Church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects.

Priest: Peace be unto thee, reader.

Reader: And to thy spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Archbishop Ionafan

Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (Matthew 8:1-17).

**Priest:** Let us attend!

AT THAT TIME, when Jesus was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped Him, saying, “Lord, if Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth His hand, and touched him, saying, “I will; be thou clean.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. And Jesus saith unto him, “See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him, and saying, “Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, “I will come and heal him.” The centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only,
and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having
soldiers under me: and I say to this man, ‘Go,’ and he goeth; and to another,
‘Come,’ and he cometh; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he doeth it.”

When Jesus heard it, He marvelled, and said to them that followed,
“Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And
I say unto you, that many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit
down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But
the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall
be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” And Jesus said unto the centurion, “Go
thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.” And his servant
was healed in the selfsame hour.

And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother
laid, and sick of a fever. And He touched her hand, and the fever left her:
and she arose, and ministered unto them. When the even was come, they
brought unto Him many that were possessed with devils: and He cast out the
spirits with His word, and healed all that were sick: that it might be fulfilled
which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, “Himself took our
infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.”
The Augmented Litany
Kievan Chant

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hear us and have mercy.

Priest: O Healer of souls and bodies, with broken and repentant hearts we fall down before Thee. Heal every sickness and evil passion afflicting Thy servant(s)________. Forgive (him, her, them) every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary, and in the goodness of Thy heart quickly raise (him, her, them) from (his, her, their) bed(s) of illness, we beg Thee, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (3).

Priest: O Merciful Lord, Who desires not the death of the sinner, but that he should turn from his wickedness and live, take pity on Thy servant(s)________. Heal (his, her, their) sickness, take away the pain, forgive (his, her, their) sins, for we are conceived in sin, and our hearts incline to evil even from birth. As Thou didst deliver the daughter of Jairus from the jaws of death, stretch forth Thy strong right hand and raise (him, her, them) from this bed of pain and restore (him, her, them) quickly to health, we beg Thee, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (3).

Priest: O Lord, by a touch of Thy hand Peter’s mother-in-law was healed of her fever. By the tender mercy of Thy compassionate heart heal today the illness of Thy servant(s)________, for (his, her, their) affliction is great, and (he, she, they) has (have) no hope except in Thee, O foundation of healings, we beg Thee, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (3).
Priest: O Lord, Thou didst accept the tears of Hezekiah when he begged Thee to preserve him from death; Thou didst receive the repentance of Manasseh and the Ninevites and the humble confession of David. As Thou didst quickly have mercy on them, so also receive our prayer and restore Thy suffering servant(s) to health, for Thou art our mighty fortress, the hope of the hopeless, O Fountain of Life and Immortality, in tears we fall down before Thee; hear us, Lord, and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (3).

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those far off upon the sea, and show mercy, show mercy O Master, upon us sinners. For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Priest: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

(From the following prayers, the priest may choose which are the most suitable in each situation):
Priest:  O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, Who by Thy word didst heal all diseases; Who didst raise the mother-in-law of Thy chosen apostle Peter from her sickbed; Who in Thy pity and goodness didst bear all our infirmities, come now to help this (these) servant(s)________; heal (him, her, them) of every sickness which afflicts (him, her, them). Raise (him, her, them) from this bed of pain, and send down on (him, her, them) Thy great mercy, and if it is Thy Will, grant (him, her, them) health and a complete recovery. For Thou art the Physician of our souls and bodies, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir:  Amen.

Priest:  Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir:  Lord, have mercy.

Priest:  O Almighty Master of all and Holy King; Who chastens but destroys not; Who gives strength to the falling and raises up those who have fallen; Who gives healing to mortal flesh, we beg Thee, visit Thy suffering servant(s)________ with Thy grace; heal (his, her, their) illness, and forgive all (his, her, their) sins both voluntary and involuntary. Yes, O Lord, send down Thy healing power from on high; sooth the pain, cool the fever, calm the mind, and ease (his, her, their) suffering and distress. In Thy great mercy, be a physician to Thy servant(s); raise (him, her, them) from (his, her, their) bed of pain and suffering. Restore (him, her, them) in safety and health to Thy holy Church, that (he, she, they) may accomplish all things well-pleasing to Thee. For Thine it is to have mercy and to save us, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir:  Amen.

Priest:  Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir:  Lord, have mercy.
Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, Who art a cooling stream of water in a thirsty land, and a rock of refuge for the weary; Who at the request of the apostle Peter didst subdue the fever of his mother-in-law, we beseech Thee to hear our prayer for Thy servant(s)________, and forgive all (his, her, their) sins. Grant (him, her, them) ease and refreshment, that in the heat and pain of (his, her, their) illness (he, she, they) will take refuge in Thee. Stretch forth Thine almighty hand and quench the fire of pain which consumes (him, her, them), and in Thy mercy raise (him, her, them) from (his, her, their) bed of sickness. For Thou art our God, the God of mercy and compassion, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

(Prayer for someone with a grave illness, whose condition is growing worse):
Priest: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.
Choir: Lord, have mercy.
Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, for our sake Thou wast born; for our sake Thou didst hunger and thirst; for our sake Thou didst suffer and hand Thy life over to death. Now, as it is Thy will for Thy servant________, to share Thy sufferings, make (him, her) also to share more abundantly of Thy heavenly grace. May Thy righteousness purge away all (his, her) sins, and when (he, she) shall stand before Thee, O righteous Judge, do not regard (his, her) works, but look rather upon (his, her) faith in Thee. As sickness increases in (him, her), so do Thou also increase in (him, her) Thy saving grace and Thy heavenly blessings. Let not (his, her) hope waver, nor (his, her) faith fail, nor (his, her) love grow cold; let not (his, her) dread of pain and death cause (him, her) to case away (his, her) trust in Thee, or to place it elsewhere but in Thee, but may (he, she) persevere in looking unto Thee to the end, saying, “Into Thy hands I commend my spirit,” and being thus shown as an imitator of Thy Passion may (he, she) enter Thine eternal Kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Choir: Amen.

*(Prayer for someone about to have surgery):*

Priest: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, Who didst patiently endure the scourging and crucifixion of Thy most holy body in order to save the souls and bodies of Thy people, have mercy, we beseech Thee, upon the suffering body of this Thy servant________, and give (him, her) strength to patiently endure whatever means are being used to help (him, her). Bless the hands which try to cure (him, her); enable (him, her) to offer (his, her) suffering to Thee in imitation of Thy Passion, that any bodily pain (he, she) might endure may assist in the salvation of (his, her) soul. For Thine it is to show mercy and to save us, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

*(Prayer for someone who is wounded, or has been injured in an accident):*

Priest: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord, God our Savior, Who rules over all; the physician and helper of the sick, the deliverer from pain; Who didst stretch forth Thy hand to save the blessed apostle Peter when he was drowning in the sea, mercifully grant Thy help and Thy healing to Thy servant(s)________. Receive (his, her, their) cry of faith and hear our prayer; help (him, her, them) in (his, her, their) injury and heal (his, her, their) wounds, and in Thy loving kindness restore (him, her, them) to health and wholeness. O long-suffering Lord, show Thy mercy to (him, her, them), that (he, she, they) may glorify Thy divine power and bless Thy holy name. For Thou art the physician of our souls and bodies, and our deliverer from sudden death, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Choir: Amen.

The Dismissal

Priest: Wisdom! Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

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!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, -
The priest gives the dismissal of the day, to which he may add the name(s) of the sick person(s)’s patron saint(s), as well as the Holy Unmercenary Healers. If the sick person is present, the priest sprinkles him or her with holy water.

On the following pages are listed the Troparia/Kontakia of Unmercenary Physicians and Healers, as well as those of other saints. All hymns are in their respective Tropar tones.
To St. James the Brother of the Lord—Tone 2

As the Lord’s disciple, O Righteous One,
Thou didst receive the Gospel;
As Martyr thou dost possess that which is unwritten,
Thou hast boldness as the brother of God;
As hierarch, thou hast power in prayer. ///
Intercede with Christ our God that our souls may be saved!

To St. James, Bishop of Jerusalem—Tone 4

The Only-Begotten Word of God the Father,
Who in latter days has come to us,
Declared thee, O God-bearer James,
The first pastor and teacher of those in Jerusalem,
And a faithful steward of spiritual mysteries: ///
Wherefore, O Apostle, we all honor thee!

To St. Nicholas—Tone 3

In Myra, thou, O Saint, didst show thyself a true priest,
For in fulfilling Christ’s Gospel, O Ven’rable One,
Thou didst lay down thy life for thy people,
And save the innocent from death! ///
Wherefore thou art hallowed as a great initiate in the grace of God!

To St. Demetrios—Tone 3

The world has found in thee a mighty champion in dangers,
O Endurer of Pain
Who overcame the heathen!
For as thou didst humble Lyaeus’ pride,
And in the strife make Nestor brave,
So, Saint Demetrios, entreat Christ our God ////
To bestow on us great mercy!

To St. Panteleimon – Tone 3

O Holy Endurer of Pain and Physician Panteleimon,
Intercede with the merciful God,
That He may grant unto our souls ////
Forgiveness of our offences!

To All the Unmercenary Healers – Tone 8

O Holy Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers,
Visit ye our weaknesses, ////
Freely ye have received, freely give to us!

To St. John the Theologian – Tone 2

Who shall declare thy grandeur, O virgin Saint?
For thou dost overflow with wonders
And pourest forth healing,
And as theologian and friend of Christ, ////
Thou dost intercede for our souls.

Theotokion – Tone 2

Fervent Intercessor and Wall impregnable,
Source of mercy and Refuge of the world,
To Thee we earnestly do cry,
“O Theotokos, Sovereign Lady,
Speedily come to us and deliver us from danger, ////
Thou Who alone art quick to intercede!