

THE THEOPHANY OF THE OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

DAY 1, CELEBRATED ON JANUARY 6/19
HOLY THEOPHANY
SYMBOL: DOVE

Scripture Reading for Day 1:

Mark 1: 9–11

It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Hymn Choice #1 for Day 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!*

Hymn Choice #2 for Day 1:

*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.*

DAY 2, CELEBRATED ON JANUARY 7/20
SYNTAXIS OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
SYMBOL: STRAIGHT ROAD

Scripture Reading for Day 2:

Isaiah 40:1–5

*“Comfort, yes, comfort My people!”
Says your God.
“Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her,
That her warfare is ended,
That her iniquity is pardoned;
For she has received from the LORD’s hand
Double for all her sins.”*
*The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the LORD;
Make straight in the desert
A highway for our God.
Every valley shall be exalted
And every mountain and hill brought low;
The crooked places shall be made straight
And the rough places smooth;
The glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together;
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”*

Hymn for Day 2:

*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.”*

DAY 3, CELEBRATED JANUARY 8/21
SYMBOL: HAND

Scripture Reading for Day 3:

Exodus 15:22–16:1

So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah. And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet.

There He made a statute and an ordinance for them, and there He tested them, and said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you."

Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there by the waters. And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt.

Hymn for Day 3:

*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!*

DAY 4, CELEBRATED JANUARY 9/22
SYMBOL: RIVER (OR DIVIDED RIVER)

Scripture Reading for Day 4:

Joshua 3:7–8, 15–17

And the LORD said to Joshua, “This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. You shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, saying, “When you have come to the edge of the water of the Jordan, you shall stand in the Jordan.””

“and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho. Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan.”

Hymn for Day 4:

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!”*

DAY 5, CELEBRATED JANUARY 10/23
SYMBOL: DRAGON

Scripture Reading for Day 5:

Psalm 74:1–2, 12–17, 22–23

*O God, why have You cast us off forever?
Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture?
Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old,
The tribe of Your inheritance, which You have redeemed—
This Mount Zion where You have dwelt.
For God is my King from of old,
Working salvation in the midst of the earth.
You divided the sea by Your strength;
You broke the heads of the sea serpents in the waters.
You broke the heads of Leviathan in pieces,
And gave him as food to the people inhabiting the wilderness.
You broke open the fountain and the flood;
You dried up mighty rivers.
The day is Yours, the night also is Yours;
You have prepared the light and the sun.
You have set all the borders of the earth;
You have made summer and winter.
Arise, O God, plead Your own cause;
Remember how the foolish man reproaches You daily.
Do not forget the voice of Your enemies;
The tumult of those who rise up against You increases continually.*

Hymn for Day 5:

Tone 2 (by Byzans)

*You bowed Your head before the Forerunner
and crushed the heads of the dragons.
You stood in the waters and enlightened all things
that they might glorify You, O Savior, the Light of our souls.
Let us, the faithful, praise the greatness of God's plan for us!
For He Who alone is pure and undefiled
becomes a Man because of our transgressions.
He is cleansed with our cleansing in the Jordan,*

*sanctifying both us and the waters,
and crushing the heads of the dragons in the water.
Therefore, let us draw water in gladness,
for upon those who draw in faith
the grace of the Spirit is invisibly bestowed by Christ God,
the Savior of our souls!*

DAY 6, CELEBRATED JANUARY 11/24
SYMBOL: RADIANT LIGHT

Scripture Reading for Day 6:

Isaiah 35:1–10

*The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them,
And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;
It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice,
Even with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
The excellence of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
The excellency of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands,
And make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are fearful-hearted,
“Be strong, do not fear!
Behold, your God will come with vengeance,
With the recompense of God;
He will come and save you.”
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
Then the lame shall leap like a deer,
And the tongue of the dumb sing.
For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness,
And streams in the desert.
The parched ground shall become a pool,
And the thirsty land springs of water;
In the habitation of jackals, where each lay,
There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there, and a road,
And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.
The unclean shall not pass over it,
But it shall be for others.
Whoever walks the road, although a fool,
Shall not go astray.
No lion shall be there,
Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it;
It shall not be found there.*

*But the redeemed shall walk there,
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
And come to Zion with singing,
With everlasting joy on their heads.
They shall obtain joy and gladness,
And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

Hymn Choice #1 for Day 6:

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.”
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.*

Hymn Choice #2 for Day 6:

Tone 2 (by John the Monk)

*Our Light that enlightens all comes to be baptized.
The Forerunner sees Him and rejoices in His soul.
His hand trembles as he shows Him to the people:
“Behold, the Redeemer of Israel,
the One Who frees us from corruption!”
O sinless One, Christ our God, glory to You!*

DAY 7, CELEBRATED JANUARY 12/25
SYMBOL: FONT

Scripture Reading for Day 7:

Isaiah 55:1–13

*“Ho! Everyone who thirsts,
Come to the waters;
And you who have no money,
Come, buy and eat.
Yes, come, buy wine and milk
Without money and without price.
Why do you spend money for what is not bread,
And your wages for what does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good,
And let your soul delight itself in abundance.
Incline your ear, and come to Me.
Hear, and your soul shall live;
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you—
The sure mercies of David.
Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people,
A leader and commander for the people.
Surely you shall call a nation you do not know,
And nations who do not know you shall run to you,
Because of the LORD your God,
And the Holy One of Israel;
For He has glorified you.”
Seek the LORD while He may be found,
Call upon Him while He is near.
Let the wicked forsake his way,
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;
Let him return to the LORD,
And He will have mercy on him;
And to our God,
For He will abundantly pardon.
“For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD.
“For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways,
And My thoughts than your thoughts.*

*“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven,
And do not return there,
But water the earth,
And make it bring forth and bud,
That it may give seed to the sower
And bread to the eater,
So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.
“For you shall go out with joy,
And be led out with peace;
The mountains and the hills
Shall break forth into singing before you,
And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree,
And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree;
And it shall be to the LORD for a name,
For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”*

Hymn for Day 7:

Tone 8 (by Sophronios, Patriarch of Jerusalem)

*The voice of the Lord is upon the waters crying:
“Come, one and all,
receive the Spirit of wisdom,
the Spirit of understanding,
the Spirit of the fear of God,
from Christ Who now has shone forth!”*

DAY 8, CELEBRATED JANUARY 13/26
SYMBOL: WHITE ROBE

Scripture Reading for Day 8:

Galatians 3:6–9, 13–14, 26–29

Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Hymn for Day 8:

For as many of you as have been baptized in Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.