



"The Festal Service (Akalouthia) to our Venerable and God-bearing Father Gabriel the Confessor and Fool-for-Christ (Urgebadze), commemorated on October 20th.  
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## At Small Vespers

On “Lord, I have cried”, we allow for four verses and chant the following Stichera, repeating the first one:

### Fourth Tone

Let us cry aloud to Gabriel, the God-bearing Father, full of holiness, a great ascetic, the vanquisher of the snares of the enemy, through his humility and life an imitator of the angelic hosts, unto the all-blessed one, let us sing a heavenly hymn, for he hath bestowed, upon all the Earth, great joy. *Twice*

Thou hast found that which thou didst desire, and that which thou didst seek, a priceless pearl, the sanctifying grace of the Holy Spirit, which dwelt within thy soul, O blessed one, and sanctified thee, O God-bearing Gabriel, who dost ever plea unto Christ that He may grant unto our souls peace and great mercy.

Thou didst utterly abolish iniquity by thy holiness, and ascend unto the highest degree, O holy one. Thou didst become a fool for Christ's sake, and didst have compassion on thy people. The ungodly thou didst rebuke, and didst shine forth, O all-blessed one, with holy light. Thy relics do pour forth a sweet fragrance, and bestow upon us healings, consolation, and great joy.

Glory. *Second Tone*

From thy youth, thou didst follow the divine path of thy Lord, O blessed Gabriel and by thy many labors thou didst crush the darkness of sins, and by the Uncreated Light was thy mind illumined. For the sake of the faith, thou didst endure persecutions as a valiant warrior, and didst show us the path of righteous laboring. Thou didst pour forth heavenly teachings from thy lips, and didst sweeten the

assembly of the faithful. Therefore, we rightly chant praises unto thee as our intercessor, that thou mayest deliver us all, O venerable Father, before God.

Both now. *Theotokion*

All my hope do I place in thee, O Mother of God; keep me safe under thy protection.

For the Aposticha, the following Stichera:

Second Tone. *O House of Ephrathah*

Thou didst appear, O Gabriel, as a ladder of virtues, reaching unto heaven, and thou dost lift up all those upon the earth unto heaven.

*Verse:* Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

Thou didst acquire boldness, O good shepherd of Christ, and didst lay down thy life for thy sheep, O Gabriel, and hast found favor with God.

*Verse:* His seed shall be mighty upon the earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Thou wast exalted by thy fervent prayers, O blessed one, and didst burn the passions, and ever dost shine forth in glory, in the triumph of thy struggles.

Glory; both now. *Theotokion*

O Virgin Theotokos, together with Gabriel, we cry aloud to thee, "Rejoice!" For thou didst firstly receive the glad tidings from on high, and with that joy dost fill us all.

## Dismissal Hymns

First Tone. *As a Dweller of the Desert*

Thou didst acquire the grace of God, O Confessor Gabriel, and didst reach the summit of foolishness for Christ's sake, O blessed one. Thou didst rebuke the ungodly with thy wisdom, and didst strengthen the faithful by thy deeds. Therefore, all the world glorifies and chants praises unto thee. The Glory which gave thee grace! The Glory which strengthened thee! The Glory which through thee works wonders for all!

Glory; both now. *Theotokion*

Gabriel cried aloud to the Virgin, "Rejoice!" And with that voice, the King of all was incarnate. Within thy holy womb, as the righteous David foretold, He was seen to be greater than the heavens. Thou didst bear Him who is thy Creator. The Glory which dwelt within thee! The Glory which came forth from thee! The Glory which through thy birth has set us free!

## At Great Vespers

On "Lord, I have cried", we allow for eight verses, repeating each.

First Tone. *O All-Praised Ones!*

Thou didst proclaim righteousness, O blessed one, and didst rebuke falsehood. Like lightning thou didst shine forth, and with thy purity thou didst thunder. The ends of the earth thou didst adorn with thy teachings, and didst plant in the hearts of men the love of Christ. To Him do thou ever plea, O Gabriel, that He may grant unto us remission of sins. *Twice*

**B**y the labors of thy monastic life thou didst purify thyself, and didst ascend to the heavens, O laborer, with thy holy mind. With the angels thou didst chant a holy hymn, and didst offer praise, O blessed one, unto the holy Lord. To Him do thou ever plea, O Gabriel, that He may grant mercy unto our souls.

*Twice*

**B**y humility thou didst ascend to the heights, and didst find consolation, and didst give consolation unto many by thy words. By poverty thou didst find imperishable riches, and didst impart that wealth to the poor through thy teachings. Pray unto the merciful God, that He may grant unto our souls on this day mercy. *Twice*

**T**he adornment of monastics thou wast, and an imitator of the saints. Filled with divine zeal, O blessed one, O valiant servant of Christ, thou didst burn the image of the godless one and didst glorify God, and O Gabriel, luminary of the world, thou didst cry aloud with a mighty voice: glory belongs to the one God, and to Him alone do we offer praise forever. *Twice*

Glory. *Sixth Tone*

**F**rom thy youth thou didst seek and find God, O blessed one. With a pure heart thou didst receive Him, and didst follow Him. Thou didst forsake the cares of the world and didst clothe thyself in the angelic sartorial. By fasting and prayer and labors thou didst adorn thy soul with godly beauty. Thou didst ascend that height of foolishness for Christ's sake, and through persecutions thou becamest likened to the martyrs, O blessed Gabriel. Thou didst acquire divine zeal and didst rebuke the ungodly with thy divine words, and didst teach all to worship the Holy Trinity. Before Whom be thou an intercessor for

us.

Both now. *Theotokion*

Who would not call thee blessed, O all-holy Virgin? Who would not sing praises unto thy immaculate birth-giving? For He who shone forth from the Father before all ages, the Only-Begotten Son, He came forth from thee, the spotless one, ineffably incarnate. He was God by nature, and for our sakes by Grace became man, not divided into two persons, but was made known in two natures. Unto Him do thou plea, O venerable and all-blessed one, for the salvation of our souls.

*The Entrance, Gladsome Light, the Prokeimenon of the day, and the following readings:*

*The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon (3:1-9)*

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, and their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. Though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality. And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. As the gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering. And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever. They that put their trust in him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with him: for grace and mercy is upon his saints, and he hath care for his elect.

The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon (5:15-23  
& 6:1-3)

The righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. Therefore shall they receive a kingdom of glory, and a crown of beauty from the Lord's hand: for with his right hand shall he cover them, and with his arm shall he protect them. He shall put on the whole armour of his zeal, and make the creature his weapon for the revenge of his enemies. He shall clothe himself with righteousness as a breastplate, and fit on the helmet of judgment unfeigned. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield; and his severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword. The world shall fight with him against the unwise. Then shall the swift-flying arrows go abroad; and as from a well-drawn bow, so shall they go forth. And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast upon them; and the spirit of fury shall pour out upon them. And all the earth shall be full of wickedness, and the evil-doing shall overthrow the throne of the mighty. Hearken, ye kings, and understand; learn, ye judges of the ends of the earth. For there is an understanding given you from the Lord, and your power from the most High.

The Reading is from the Wisdom of Solomon (4:7-15)

But though the righteous be prevented, yet shall he be in rest. For honourable age is not that which standeth in length of time, nor that is measured by number of years: But wisdom is the gray hair unto men, and an unspotted life is old age. He pleased God, and therefore was beloved of him: so that living among sinners he was translated. Yea, speedily was he taken away, lest that wickedness should alter his understanding, or deceit beguile his soul. For the bewitching of naughtiness doth

obscure things that are honest; and the wandering of concupiscence doth undermine the simple mind. He, being made perfect in a short time, fulfilled a long time: for his soul pleased the Lord: therefore hasted he to take him away from among the wicked. This the people saw, and understood not, neither laid they up in their hearts, that his grace and mercy is with his saints, and that he hath respect unto his chosen.

### For the Entreaty

#### First Tone

With holy light was thy mind illumined, and to the never setting Light didst thou direct thy steps, O Gabriel. Thou didst offer praise unto the Lord, and gifts to the Most-Holy, and didst shine forth gloriously like the sun, and dost illumine the faithful, O valiant confessor, who honor thy stalwart and wondrous labors and thy memory.

#### Second Tone

Thou didst burn the image of the godless one, O valiant warrior, and with joy didst endure imprisonment, persecution, insult, and reproach. And thou didst come forth radiant, tried in the furnace, fervent in spirit. Thou didst not fear to behold the ungodly authorities, for Thou art a defender of Orthodoxy and a beauteous herald of the Gospel teachings.

#### Third Tone

Thou didst proclaim divine teachings by thy deeds, O adornment of the Church and boast of monastics. Thou didst ascend to the great height and didst become a fool for Christ, and didst consume the passions of the world. Therefore, all cry out unto thee: Rejoice, O blessed Gabriel!

Glory. *Fourth Tone*

O teacher and leader of Orthodoxy, O radiant luminary of the Church, O unshaken rock of the faith, thou didst preach Christ God fearlessly, O wise Gabriel, and wast rightly called a confessor, a light shining brighter than the sun. And all the assembly and Church of Christ celebrate thy memory with hymns, and venerate thy holy relics.

Both now. *Theotokion*

Protect us, thy servants, from temptations O blessed Theotokos, that we may glorify thee, the hope of our souls.

*For the Aposticha, the following Stichera:*

*Fifth Tone. Rejoice!*

Rejoice, O holy candle, who dost shine brightly upon all the earth, and dost lift up to heaven the faithful, O blessed one. By thy wondrous teachings thou didst receive a glorious crown of labors. Thou didst utterly subdue the impure passions, and didst shine forth with grace, O divinely blessed one, and didst ascend into the heavens, and dost sing a most godly hymn, and art united with the angels in the vision of the Lord. Unto Him do thou ever plea, O Gabriel, that He may grant great mercy unto our souls.

*Verse:* Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

Rejoice, O good shepherd, who didst lay down thy life for thy sheep. Thou didst follow the narrow path, and didst endure, O blessed one, persecution, reviling, and many tribulations. Thou

wast reckoned as a fool, O godly beautiful one, who dost emit the fragrance of paradise. O wise Gabriel, ascend in prayer to heaven, and preach that of heaven, and grant unto all hope and peace and imperishable joy. And thy holy relics doth abundantly bring forth healings, O blessed one.

*Verse:* His seed shall be mighty upon the earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

**R**ejoice, O pillar of light, who dost warm the iciness of ungodliness. Thou didst endure temptations and many tribulations, you humbled yourself, O blessed one, and hast found supplication in the heavens, O friend of the poor and nourisher of the hungry, O healer of the sick of soul and body. Thou didst work many miracles, O Gabriel, and didst crush the snares of the demons, O lance piercing the teachings of evil and eradicator of impurity, and didst cry aloud with a mighty voice: truly, the truth is in the immortality of the soul.

Glory. *Fifth Tone*

**T**oday the divine trumpet sounds forth beautifully, proclaiming the holy confessor Gabriel. Today he truly calls us all in the Church to shine forth, that we may glorify the merciful God. Therefore, let us come, O faithful ones, let us adorn with hymns the good laborer, the sweet-sounding flute, rich in all virtues and worker of great wonders. Entreat Christ God, O blessed one, and be thou an intercessor for us before Him, that He may grant unto us unity, peace, and great mercy.

Both now. *Theotokion*

**W**e rightly magnify thee, O Theotokos Virgin, and glorify thee, we faithful ones, a city impregnable, a

wall unshakeable, a steadfast intercessor and advocate for our souls.

## Matins

After the First Reading from the Psalter, the following Sessional Hymns:

Fourth Tone. *Quickly hasten unto me*

With boldness thou didst confess the Most-Holy Trinity, and didst not fear tribulations and awful persecutions, O blessed Gabriel. Thou wast a confessor of the true faith, and didst crush wickedness by thy purity, O beautiful ascetic. Now thou art rejoicing in the heavens.

Glory. Repeat the same.

Both now. *Theotokion*

Surrounded by many temptations of evil, O Virgin, and ever oppressed by afflictions, thou alone art our help, O Mother of God, for salvation and hope and protection. And we rightly beseech thee: save thy servants.

After the Second Reading from the Psalter, the following Sessional Hymns:

Fifth Tone. *You Who without Beginning*

From thy youth, O Gabriel, thou didst know the Lord, and didst follow Christ, and didst take up thy cross and bear it worthily, O all-blessed one, O adornment of monastics, boast of the people, and holy pillar of the Church. Pray unto Christ God, that He may grant great mercy unto us.

Glory. Repeat the same.

Both now. *Theotokion*

From heaven was bestowed upon thee, O Gabriel,  
joy upon the earth, a wonder beyond telling. For  
the Creator of the angels, beholding the incarnation  
in thy womb, did proclaim unto thee, O spotless  
one, the joyful hymn, the teacher of all, for thou  
alone didst appear unto all men as the cause of joy.

After the Polyeleos, the Magnification:

Fourth Tone. *You who Ascended*

As a divine and beautiful tree, richly bearing fruit,  
thou hast sprung forth for us, O blessed ascetic, a  
source of healings, and dost gladden the faithful.  
Therefore, we cry out unto thee, O blessed laborer:  
Heal our souls of the passions, that we may ever  
glorify thee, O Gabriel.

Glory. Repeat the same.

Both now. *Theotokion*

We, thine unworthy servants, will never be silent,  
O Theotokos, in praising thy mighty acts.  
For if thou didst not protect us with thy shelter,  
who would deliver us from so many tribulations? Or  
who would preserve us until now? We have never  
been separated from thee, O blessed Queen, for  
thou hast delivered our souls from all temptations.

Then for the Hymns of Ascent, First Antiphon in the Fourth Tone.

Prokeimenon. Sixth Tone

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that  
delighteth greatly in his commandments.

Verse: His seed shall be mighty upon the earth: the  
generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Then Let every breath and the Reading from the Holy Gospel  
according to Luke (Luke 12:8-12).

And straightway the Fiftieth Psalm.

Glory. **Second Tone**

By the intercessions of Thy saint, O Merciful One, blot out the multitude of mine offences.

Both now. *Theotokion*

By the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Merciful One, Blot out the multitude of mine offences.

**Verse:** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great Mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions Blot out my transgression.

**Second Tone**

O venerable and God-bearing Father Gabriel, greatly didst thou labor in prayer, fasting, vigils, and poverty, lying upon a stone in a tomb. And thou didst build a church with great tribulation, and didst spiritually adorn and beautify the Samtavro Monastery. Pray, O blessed one, unto Christ God, that He may grant us remission of sins.

**We say the Canon to the Theotokos, and to the Saint. Before the Troparia we say,** O Saint of God, intercede in our behalf

**Canon. Eighth Tone**

**ODE 1.**

**Irmos:** The wonderworking staff of Moses, striking and dividing the sea in the figure of a cross, once drowned Pharaoh the pursuing charioteer, while it saved the fleeing people of Israel as they fled on foot, chanting a hymn unto God

Thou didst appear, O wise guide, with a lamp kindled by grace, which thou didst light from thy youth, O blessed one, and dost illumine the path of all those ascending to heaven, O wondrous shepherd Gabriel, granting us heavenly joy.

From thy youth thou didst find a priceless pearl, and didst renounce the world, and didst take up thy cross and follow Christ, and wast enriched, O Gabriel, with heavenly riches, and dost enrich the faithful with thy divine teachings.

Thou didst traverse a wondrous path, O Gabriel, full of great tribulations, narrow and light, O adornment of monastics. And by thy tears thou didst purify thy heart, O blessed one. The Lord did rest within thee, and did adorn thee with grace in the heavens.

### Theotokion

I will not be silent in singing of the most pure and glorious things of thee. For if thou wert not my intercessor with thy Son, O Maiden, who would deliver me from such tempests and evil temptations?

### ODE 3

**Irmos:** O Christ fortify me on the rock of Thy commandments, Thou who in the beginning didst establish the heavens with understanding and didst establish the earth upon the waters, for there is none holy save Thee, O only Lover of mankind.

O fruitful tree, bring forth fruit—prayer, vigilance, and fasting, O blessed Gabriel—and give unto the people the fruit of a pure heart, which thou didst acquire by thy great labors.

Thou wast reckoned as a fool, O blessed Gabriel. Revilings and insults thou didst endure greatly, and with patience thou didst heal the people, O blessed one, and didst grant unto all healing from infirmities.

Thou didst work miracles great and many, O blessed one, and didst rebuke the rulers with thy great wisdom, and didst draw forth many souls, O Gabriel, O shepherd, and with patience didst unite them to Christ.

### Theotokion

Truly, we confess thee to be the Theotokos, O Queen, vanquisher of the power of death. For through thee did our Savior raise up this generation from the depths of hell to life.

### Sessional Hymn

#### First Tone

#### *The Soldiers Standing Guard*

All the Church rejoices splendidly, for thou hast appeared, O blessed one, as a protector of all the people, a trampler of demons, a foiler of heresies, good shepherd, one sanctified by holy grace. Thou rejoicest in the heavens, and art an intercessor to Christ forever for thy children.

Glory. Both now *Theotokion*

Thou hast become on behalf of all a petitioner unto the Lord, O holy one, and we have entered into thy holy Church, and through you we forever ask for help, O Virgin. Deliver us from the evil snares of the demons and from tribulations and terrible punishments, we who magnify thee.

### ODE 4

**Irmos:** Thou, O Lord, art my strength and Thou art my power, Thou art my God and Thou art my joy, Thou Who, while never leaving the bosom of Thy Father, hast visited our poverty. Therefore with the Prophet Habbakuk I cry unto Thee, 'Glory to Thy power, O Lover of mankind!'

As a garment of sackcloth, O blessed one, thou didst love the garment of heaven, the all-holy grace of the Lord. Thou didst trample the passions by thy poverty, O Gabriel, and by the abundant shedding of tears thou didst enter into the Kingdom, and now thou art clothed in a garment of light.

Thou didst build a temple, a house of prayer unto the Lord, with many tribulations and persecutions, and didst receive strength from God. Thou didst subdue the passions through prayer and repentance, and didst glorify God unceasingly, O Gabriel, and didst sing a hymn from thy heart unto Him.

Thou wast likened unto the Lord in humility, O blessed one, and didst shine forth with uncreated grace, and didst grant unto all joy by the intoxication of grace. Thou didst heal the passions of drunkenness, and didst cast down the proud by thy teachings, and didst raise up many who had fallen.

### *Theotokion*

How can I rightly speak of thy boundless mercies, O Queen, who like waters ever surround my wretched soul? O how great is thy providence and thy workings, which I, the wretched one, have foolishly squandered!

### ODE 5

**Irmos:** O Light never-waning, why hast Thou turned Thy face from me and why hath the alien darkness surrounded me, wretched though I be? But do Thou guide my steps I implore Thee and turn me back towards the light of Thy commandments.

You spent thy holy life in the remembrance of

death, slept in graves, and thou didst direct thy mind to Christ, remembering His judgment. Thus, thou didst conquer the pleasures of the world, and wast radiant, O blessed Gabriel.

**T**hou became a stranger among men, and as you were estranged from the pleasures of this world they did not heed you. Thou didst endure many persecutions, thou wast reckoned as a fool, O most-wise luminary of the world, and didst make wise all the faithful.

**T**hou became a dwelling-place of the Holy Trinity, O laborer Gabriel, meek in spirit, thou didst enrich all with thy teachings. Thou didst burn the image of the godless one, and didst glorify the Lord, and didst preach the immortality of the soul.

### *Theotokion*

**W**hat worthy offerings can I bring unto thee for the sweetness of thy gifts and thy boundless goodness? Therefore, I glorify and sing praises and magnify that ineffable mercy which thou hast shown unto me.

### **ODE 6**

**Irmos:** Cleanse me, O Savior, for many are mine iniquities; lead me up from the abyss of evils I pray Thee, for unto Thee have I cried, and Thou hast hearkened unto me, O God of my salvation.

**T**hou didst offer thyself as an eternal sacrifice unto God, O blessed Gabriel, that He may deliver our souls and bodies from the passions, and make us worthy of the eternal dwelling-place. Therefore, we glorify thee and sing praises unto thee: Rejoice, O blessed confessor!

Thou didst destroy the sting of the enemy by thy prayerful forbearance, O Gabriel, and didst receive from God a crown, incorruptible and heavenly, O blessed one. Teach us likewise to endure temptations.

You performed many miracles, and all who beheld them were amazed. Thou didst strengthen the assembly of the faithful during the time of persecutions, O blessed one. Therefore, thy relics sends forth myrrh, and grants us manifold healings.

### *Theotokion*

The cares of the world surround me like swarming bees, O Virgin, and the arrows of suffering pierce my heart. But be thou my helper and protector and deliverer, O all-holy one.

### Kontakion

#### Third Tone

#### *On this day the Virgin*

Imitating Christ, O Gabriel, through much suffering thou didst ascend to the highest degree of foolishness for Christ's sake. Thou didst preach love among men, becoming equal to the angels, and didst cry aloud, O blessed one: The truth is in the immortality of the soul.

### Ikos

From thy youth thou didst hear the voice of thy heart and didst follow Christ. Thou didst flee from the world and didst trample upon the multitude of the passions. By thy priesthood thou wast sanctified and didst purely offer a heavenly sacrifice. Thou didst burn the image of the godless one and didst endure persecutions and many tribulations, and didst ascend to the great heights of foolishness for Christ's sake. By thy foolishness thou didst rebuke the assembly of the godless and didst preach the true faith with radiance. Thou didst perform many

miracles, O Gabriel, and didst cry aloud, O blessed one: Truth is in the immortality of the soul.

### Synaxarion

On the twentieth of October we commemorate the memory of our venerable and God-bearing Father Gabriel the Confessor and Fool for Christ's sake.

On this same day is commemorated the memory of the holy Great Martyr Artemius.

On this same day is commemorated the memory of the holy Martyrs Ebores and Enoës of Persia.

On this same day is commemorated the memory of the holy Martyrs Zebinas, Germanus, Nicephorus, Antoninus, and Manatho the Virgin of Caesarea in Palestine, who were perfected by fire and the sword.

On this same day is commemorated the memory of our Venerable and God-Bearing Father Gerasimus the New Ascetic and Wonderworker of Cephalonia.

On this same day is commemorated the memory of our Venerable Mother Matrona of Constantinople.

By their holy intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

### ODE 7

**Irmos:** Once in Babylon the fire stood in awe of God's condescension; for which sake the youths in the furnace, dancing with joyous steps as in a meadow, chanted: O God of our fathers, Blessed art Thou!

Amidst the broad path you didst choose the narrow one, O blessed Gabriel. Many persecutions thou

didst endure with joy, and wast numbered among the holy fathers.

**T**hou didst behold the angelic hosts and didst put on the garment of monks. By thy holy prayers thou didst trample the evil one, and by thy deeds thou didst preach the immortality of the soul.

**T**hou wast a fellow-ascetic of the fathers of Betania, George and John, O blessed one, and didst imitate them in many virtues, and now ye rejoice together, O blessed ones.

### *Theotokion*

**L**ook down with a merciful eye and behold my wretchedness, and from temptations and passions and misfortunes and sorrows do thou deliver me, by thy boundless mercy.

### ODE 8

**Irmos:** **I**n his wrath the Chaldean Tyrant made the furnace blaze, with heat fanned sevenfold for the servants of God; but when he perceived that they had been saved by a greater power he cried aloud to the Creator and Redeemer; ‘ye children bless, ye priests praise, ye people, supremely exalt Him throughout all ages’.

**T**hou wast made a worker of countless miracles by Christ God, O deified Gabriel, and thou didst illumine our hearts through thee. Therefore, we glorify thee and sing praises unto thee this day, O blessed Father.

**T**hou didst appear as a healer of drunkenness, through holy drunkenness and the love of God thou didst intoxicate all with the heavenly wine, with the love of the Lord, which thou didst preach upon the earth.

**T**hou didst receive the life-giving light from the Holy Trinity, O blessed Gabriel, and didst cry aloud a holy hymn. Let us bless the Lord and exalt Him forever.

*Theotokion*

**R**ejoice, O tabernacle burning with fire, O sacred manna-receiving vessel, rejoice, O golden candlestand, O unwaning light, rejoice, O glory of virgins and beauty and boast of mothers.

**ODE 9**

**Irmos:** **H**eaven was stricken with awe, and the ends of the earth were filled with amazement, for God hath appeared in the flesh, and thy womb was rendered more spacious than the heavens. Wherefore, the ranks of men and of angels magnify thee as the Theotokos.

**A**s a divine branch, O Gabriel, and a heavenly sapling, thou didst bring forth fruit by thy labors, O blessed one, and wast illumined by the uncreated light, and didst illumine all the earth. Therefore, we cry out unto thee: Rejoice, O thou clothed in light!

**T**hou didst appear as a good shepherd, O Gabriel, and dost protect thy sheep from the wolves, O blessed one, and dost lead all to Christ. Thou didst burn the image of the godless one, and didst deliver many who were in error. Therefore, God glorified thee, O blessed one, and gave thee the crown of the martyrs.

**T**he Samtavro Monastery is radiant with thy labors, O Gabriel, and many souls are saved by thy holy prayers, and thou didst teach all to glorify the Lord, O blessed one, and with longing didst sing a holy hymn, and didst magnify the Theotokos.

*Theotokion*

Receive my humble supplication, and despise not my tears, and my weeping and groaning, but have mercy upon me as Thou art compassionate, and grant my petition, for as the Mother of the King of God, Thou art able to do all things. How shall I speak of such humility toward my wretchedness?

## Expostilaria

### Second Tone

#### *Hearken, ye Women*

Thou didst take up the cross of Christ and didst confess the Crucified One as God and King of the world. Thou didst follow Him and didst preach Him fearlessly, O God-bearing Gabriel, and didst ever praise Him and chant hymns unto Him.

#### *Theotokion*

Rejoice, O Queen, holy palace of God, rejoice, O unwedded mountain of Sinai, rejoice, O tabernacle of the King of glory, rejoice, O blessed one, rejoice, O light-bearing cloud, O Mary, Virgin and Mother.

For the Praises we allow for four verses and chant the Following Stichera, repeating the first one:

#### *Eighth Tone. O Strange Wonder*

O the wonder we have beheld, a valiant ascetic has appeared unto us, and he offered as a sacrifice unto God his spotless soul, as incense, holy and fragrant, and he received worthily many great and glorious gifts, and was illumined by grace, uncreated and divine, and he has granted unto us heavenly fragrance and great joy. *Twice*

Thou didst adorn thy soul purely with fasting and prayer and holy labors, O blessed Gabriel, O boast of monks. Thou didst serve the Holy Trinity, and wast likened in spirit unto the angels. Thou didst rebuke the godless and didst reveal to them the

way of God, and art an intercessor for all the faithful before Christ.

**T**hou didst endure persecutions and tribulations, and didst arm thyself against the godless, O blessed one. Thou didst endure, O Gabriel, many bodily afflictions. Therefore, foresight was given unto thee, and thou didst perform many healings. Thou wast a divine trumpet, O holy one, and didst preach the God of our fathers, and our Savior.

Glory. *Eighth Tone*

**T**hou wast adorned with the wisdom of God, and didst abundantly pour forth goodness from thy holy heart. Thou didst rebuke the godless and didst convert the ignorant. Thou didst strengthen the faithful with the power of divine grace. For this thou didst endure bitter persecutions as a new martyr, O blessed Gabriel, and didst ascend to the heavenly kingdom, crowned, and dost plea to Christ God that He may grant remission of sins unto us who desire to celebrate thy memory.

Both now. *Theotokion*

**O** Queen, receive the supplication of thy servants, and deliver us from all tribulations and sorrows.

*The Great Doxology and the remainder of Matins.*

## **The Liturgy**

*The Typika and for the Beatitudes, hymns from the third and sixth Odes of the Canon.*

*Prokeimenon of the Epistle. Seventh Tone*

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

**Verse:** What shall I render to the Lord for all his bounty me?

**The Epistle of Saint Paul to the Galatians**  
**(5:22 – 6:2):**  
Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love,  
joy, peace...

**Alleluia. Sixth Tone**  
Blessed is the man that fears the Lord, in  
His commandments shall he greatly  
delight.  
**Verse:** His seed shall be mighty upon the  
earth; the generation of the upright shall  
be blessed.

**The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke**  
**(6:17-23)**  
At that time, Jesus came down with  
them, and stood in the plain...

**The Communion Hymn**  
The righteous shall be in everlasting  
remembrance, he shall not fear evil  
tidings.

**Synaxarion**  
On the twentieth of this month is the  
commemoration of our venerable and God-bearing  
Father Gabriel the Confessor and Fool for Christ's  
sake. He was Georgian by birth from the city of  
Tbilisi. He was born in the year 1929 since Christ's  
birth during the time of the godless authorities,  
when the name of God was not uttered in our land.  
But he was chosen by God from his youth, for when  
he was twelve years old, a luminous cross appeared  
to him from heaven, which called him to follow  
God. For this reason, the devil waged fierce war  
against him and struck him on the head with a rock,  
but God delivered him, and from that time He

granted him the grace of miracles and prophecy. For this youth, even in his tender age, worked great and wondrous deeds and glorified the name of God among the ungodly. But he forsook his home and followed God, and was tonsured and became a high priest. And not only did he offer unto God a bloodless sacrifice, but finally he offered himself for Him and shed his own blood for Him, for whom he had longed from his youth. For when our people were celebrating an ungodly feast, this holy one, in the midst of the feast, burned the large image of the godless one in the square before all the celebrants, for which he was immediately seized and so severely beaten that it was not thought possible that his soul was still with him. But after this he endured many and various tortures in prisons, which it is impossible for man to recount. Only God knows them, who by His grace miraculously delivered His chosen one from the hands of the godless and preserved him from death. But not even from persecutions, for the godless persecuted and tortured this holy one for a long time, for many years he was in captivity: without shelter, without possessions, hungry and destitute. For he made himself a fool for Christ's sake, the wise man, and thus he appeared as one out of his mind. But he worked many miracles and converted many who were in error and brought them to the Church of God, for he was a knower of hidden and secret things. And finally, when the ungodly ceased, he settled in a certain monastery called Samtavro, near the tomb of the holy King Mirian, and there he spent the days of his life in fasting, prayer, and quietude, and there he lived as one of the poor, despised and unregarded. After this, he fell ill with a grievous illness and thus gave up his soul to the Lord, for whom he had longed. In the year 1995 since Christ's birth on the twentieth of October. But, O wonder! After his death, his tomb immediately and unceasingly began to bring forth healings and various miracles, the description of

which is impossible for man to recount because of their multitude, for which that place became a holy place and a source of healings. For as he was in his lifetime a healer of the sick, a comforter of the afflicted, a swift helper in tribulations and temptations, and a raiser up from the depths of sin, so also and even more so he became after his repose. For now he stands boldly before the Holy Trinity and unceasingly intercedes for our souls. And the years of his life were sixty-six years. By his intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.