

## PRAYER TO THE HOLY PRINCE VLADIMIR, EQUAL OF THE APOSTLES

O great favorite of God, divinely elect one, glorified by God, Prince Vladimir, equal of the apostles! Thou didst reject the false belief and impiety of the pagans, and didst come to believe in the one true God in three Hypostases. And, having received holy baptism, with the light of divine faith and piety thou didst illumine the whole land of Rus. Therefore, glorifying and giving thanks to our all-merciful Creator and Savior, we glorify and give thanks also unto thee, our enlightener and father; for through thee have we come to know the saving Faith of Christ and have been baptized in the name of the all-holy and most divine Trinity. By this Faith have we been delivered from the just condemnation of God, from everlasting bondage to the devil and the torments of hell; by this Faith have we received the grace of adoption by God and the expectation to inherit the blessedness of heaven. Thou art our first leader to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Author and Accomplisher of our everlasting salvation; thou art the fervent intercessor and mediator for the land of Rus and all its suffering and oppressed people. Our tongue is unable to describe the magnitude and exalted height of the benefactions poured forth by thee upon our land, our fathers and forefathers, and on us also, unworthy though we are. O our all-good father and enlightener: look down upon our infirmities and entreat the all-merciful King of heaven, that he be not exceeding wroth with us, even though, in our weakness, we sin all the days of our life; that He not destroy us in our iniquities, but that He have mercy and save us in His mercy; that He implant in our hearts the saving fear of Him; that He illumine our mind with His grace, that we may understand the ways of the Lord, may forsake the paths of impiety and error, and hasten along the paths of salvation and the truth, of the determined fulfillment of the commandments of God and the precepts of the Holy Church. Entreat God who loveth mankind, O kind-hearted One, that He increase upon us His great mercy; that He deliver us from the invasion of aliens, from internal strife, sedition and upheavals, from famine, deadly plagues and from every evil; that He preserve and save our nation from all the wiles and assaults of the enemy; that He grant it victory over the adversary and fulfill all its good desires; that He defend its might with wise and faithful servants and maintain righteousness and mercy among its judges and governors; that He grant to our pastors zeal for the salvation of their flock and assistance to all men to conduct their affairs virtuously, to have love one for another and oneness of mind, and to struggle faithfully for the good of their homeland and the Holy Church; that He shine forth the light of the saving Faith in our land, unto the uttermost ends thereof, that all heresies and schisms may be abolished, and that, living thus in peace on earth, we may be counted worthy with thee of the blessings of heaven, praising and exalting God supremely forever. Amen.