

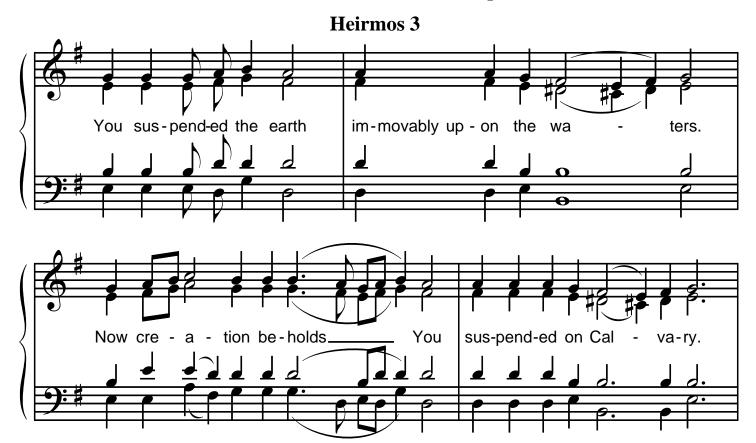
Unto You I sing a hymn for the departed and a song of burial, O Lord my God, Who by Your burial opened for me the entrance to life and by Your death has put death and Hades to death.

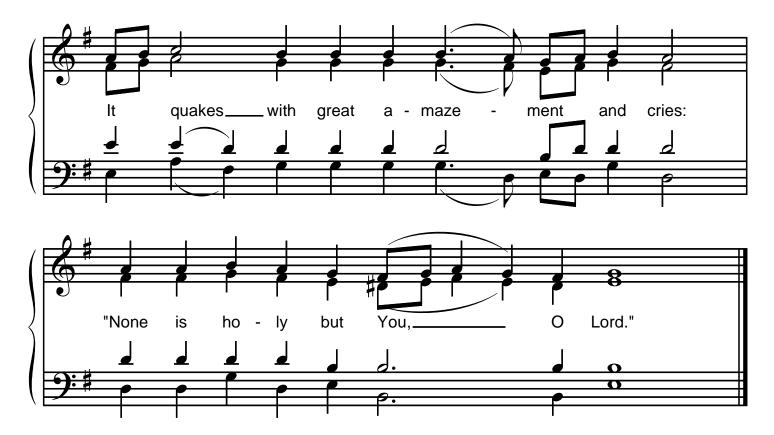
Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Beholding You upon the throne on high and in the grave below, the things of heaven and the things beneath the earth trembled at Your death; for in a manner past understanding were You, the very source of life, seen dead.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

You descended to the depths of the earth to fill all with Your glory; for my person that is in Adam was not hidden from You, and when You were buried, You renewed me who am corrupt, O Lover of mankind.





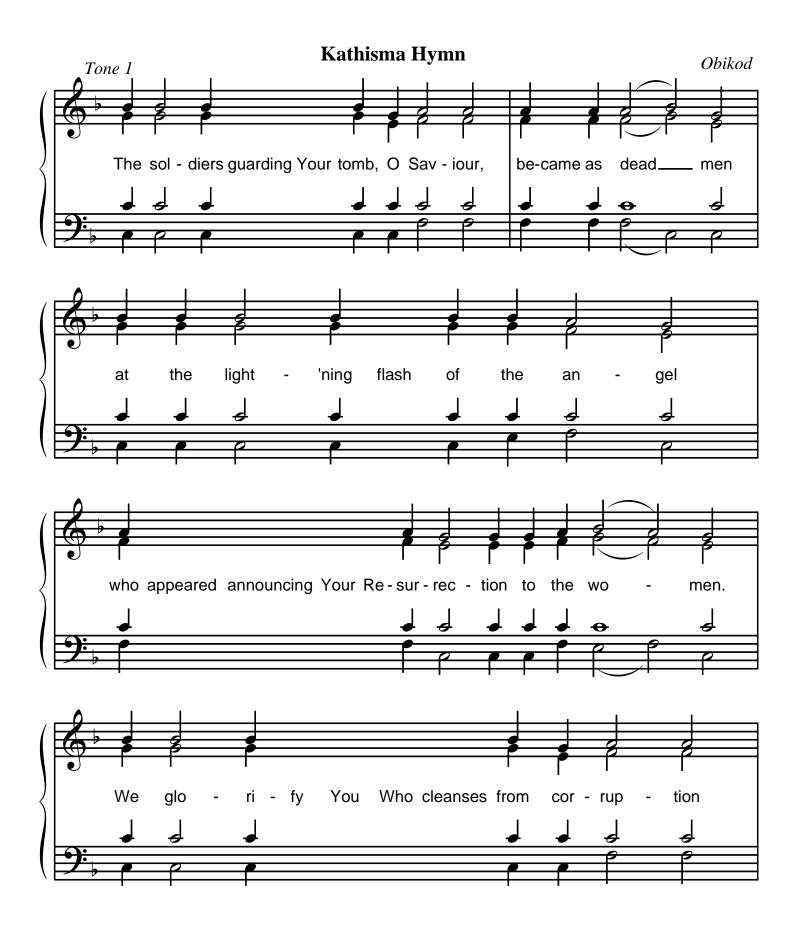
By a multitude of visions You indicated the signs of Your burial, O Master. But now, as God and man, You make clear Your hidden things even unto those in Hades, who cry: "None is holy but You, O Lord."

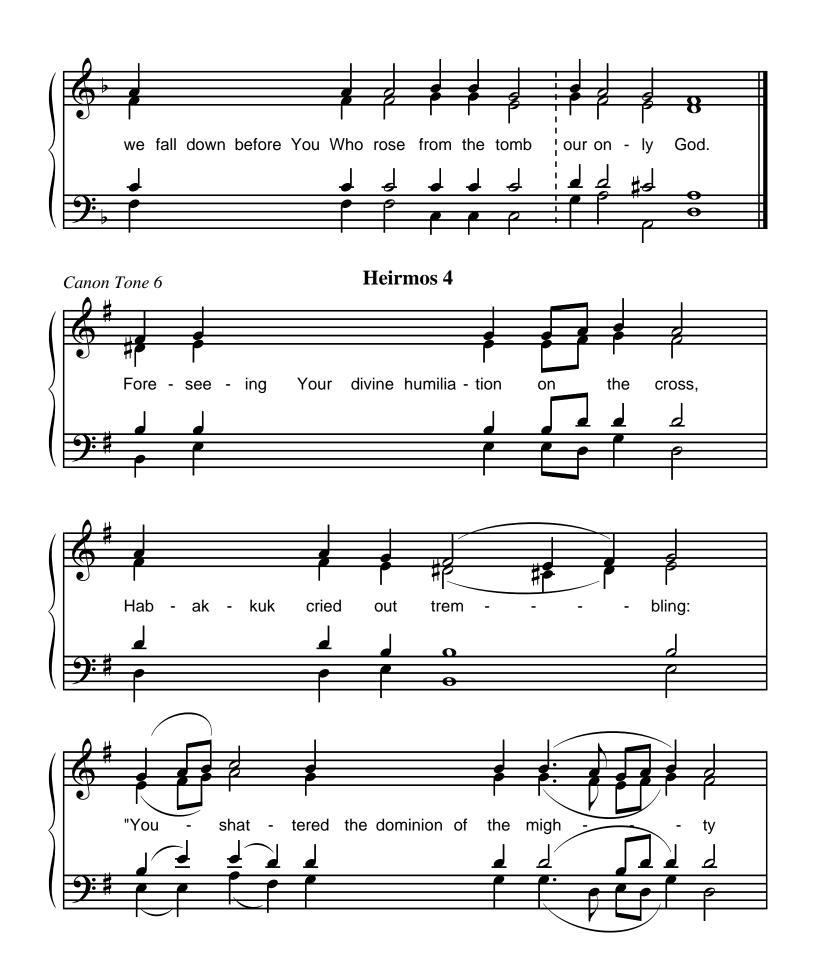
Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

You stretched out Your hands, O Saviour, and united what before had been divided; and by clothing Yourself in a winding-sheet You have saved even those held captive by the tomb, who cry, "None is holy but You, O Lord."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

By Your will a sealed tomb contained You, who cannot be contained; for by Your divine accomplishments You have made known Your power unto those who sing, "None is holy but You, O Lord Who love mankind."







You have sanctified this, the seventh day, which of old You did bless by rest from work; for You brought all things into being and renewed them, O Saviour, while resting and reviving on the sabbath.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

By the overwhelming strength of Your divine nature You won the victory, O Word; for Your soul was parted from the flesh, sundering by Your might the bonds of Hades and death.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

When Hades encountered You, O Word, it was embittered. Seeing You as a mortal man deified, marked with wounds yet having almighty power, it cried out at Your awesome appearance.





When You became earthly, O Creator, You renewed those born on earth, and the winding-sheet and the grave revealed the mystery concerning You, O Word; for Joseph the noble counsellor, fulfills the counsel of Him Who begot You and Who wondrously renews me in You.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

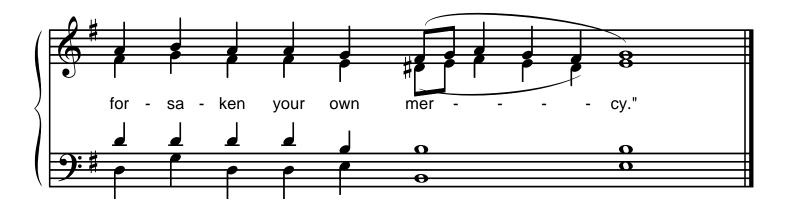
Through death You transformed what is mortal, and through burial You transformed what is corruptible; for in a manner befitting God You made incorrupt and immortal the nature which You assumed, since Your flesh did not see corruption and in a wondrous manner Your soul was not abandoned in Hades.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

You came forth from a painless birth, O my Maker, and Your side was pierced. By this have You, the new Adam, accomplished the restoration of Eve. You fell into a sleep surpassing nature and renewing nature, and, as the all-powerful One, You raised up life from sleep and corruption.

## **Heirmos 6**





You were killed, O Word, but not separated from the flesh which You shared with us; for even though the temple of Your body was destroyed at the time of the passion, the person of Your divinity and of Your flesh was one, for in both You remained one Son, Word of God, God and man.

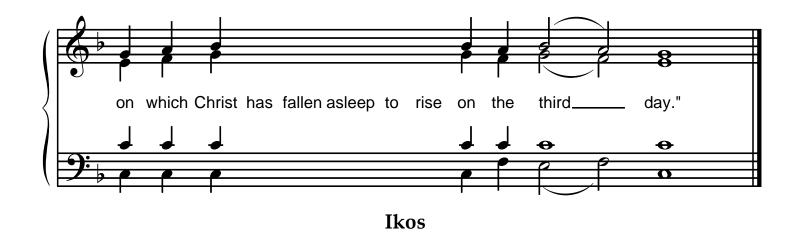
Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

The fall of Adam resulted in the death of man, not God; for even though the earthly substance of Your flesh suffered, Your divinity remained passionless. In Yourself You transformed the corruptible to incorruption, and by Your resurrection You revealed a fountain of incorruptible life.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

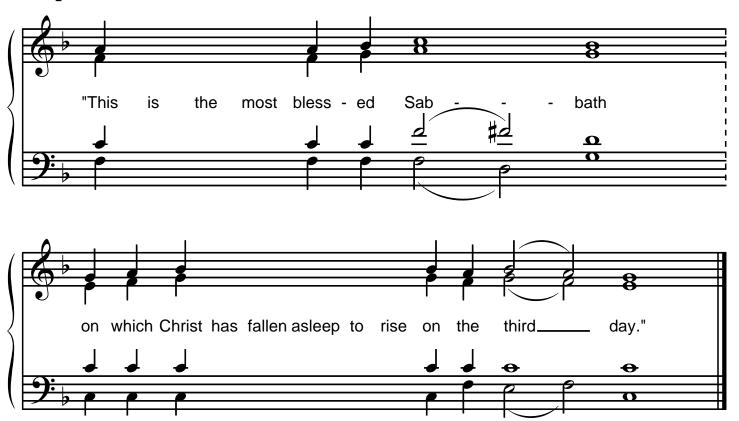
Hades rules the race of mortal men, but not eternally; for when You were placed in the grave, O powerful One, You tore asunder the bars of death by Your life-creating hand and proclaimed true deliverance to those sleeping there from the ages, since You, O Saviour, have become the first-born of the dead.





**Reader:** He Who holds all things together has been lifted up upon the cross, and all of creation weeps at seeing Him hanging, naked, upon the wood. The sun hid its rays and the stars cast aside their splendour. The earth shook with great fear, the sea fled, and the rocks were split asunder. Many tombs were opened, and the bodies of holy men arose. Hades groaned below and the Jews considered how to slander the resurrection of Christ, but the women cried:

## People:





Hades was wounded in heart when it received Him Whose side was pierced by a spear, and it groans, consumed by divine fire, unto the salvation of us who sing: "Blessed are You, O God, our Redeemer!"

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Happy is the tomb! For having received the Creator as one asleep, it became a divine treasury of life, for the salvation of us who sing: "Blessed are You, O God, our Redeemer!"

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

In accordance with the law of the dead, the Life of all accepts burial in the tomb, and the tomb becomes the source of resurrection, unto the salvation of us who sing, "Blessed are You, O God, our Redeemer!"

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

In Hades, in the tomb and in Eden, the divinity of Christ was one and undivided, with the Father and the Spirit, for the salvation of us who sing, "Blessed are You, O God, our Redeemer!"

## **Heirmos 8**





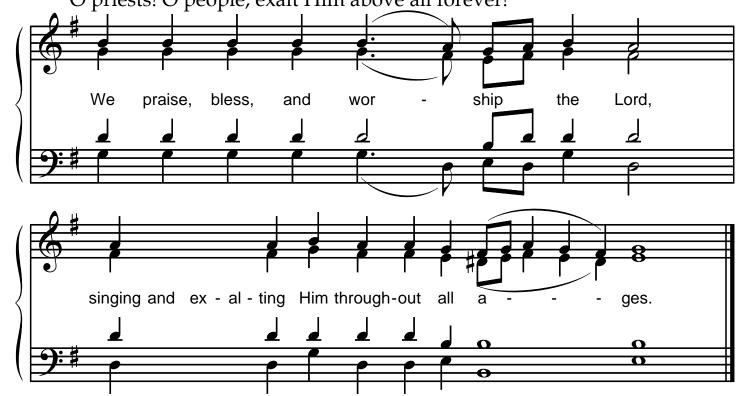
The pure Temple has been destroyed, yet He raises with Himself the tabernacle that had fallen; for the second Adam, who dwells in the highest, has descended to the first Adam, even unto the lowest chambers of Hades. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

The courage of all the disciples failed, but Joseph of Arimathea showed valour; for seeing the God of all dead and naked, he sought Him and dressed Him for burial, crying: Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!

We bless the Lord: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

What new wonders! What great goodness! What ineffable forbearance! For He Who dwells in the highest is willingly sealed beneath the earth, and God is slandered as a deceiver. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!





"I escaped sufferings and was blessed beyond nature at Your strange birth, O Son Who is without beginning. But now, beholding You, my God, dead and without breath, I am sorely pierced by the sword of sorrow. But arise, that I may be magnified."

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

"By my own will, the earth covers me, O Mother, but the gatekeepers of Hades tremble at seeing Me clothed in the blood-stained garments of vengeance; for when I have vanquished My enemies on the Cross, I shall arise as God and magnify you."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

"Let creation rejoice! Let all born on earth be glad! For hateful Hades has been despoiled. Let the women with myrrh come to meet Me; for I am redeeming Adam and Eve and all their descendents, and on the third day I shall arise!"

## The Little Litany or Matins Prayer

**Priest:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** ...For all the powers of heaven praise You and unto You we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

"I escaped sufferings and was blessed beyond nature at Your strange birth, O Son Who is without beginning. But now, beholding You, my God, dead and without breath, I am sorely pierced by the sword of sorrow. But arise, that I may be magnified."

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

"By my own will, the earth covers me, O Mother, but the gatekeepers of Hades tremble at seeing Me clothed in the blood-stained garments of vengeance; for when I have vanquished My enemies on the Cross, I shall arise as God and magnify you."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

"Let creation rejoice! Let all born on earth be glad! For hateful Hades has been despoiled. Let the women with myrrh come to meet Me; for I am redeeming Adam and Eve and all their descendents, and on the third day I shall arise!"

**People:** Repeat Heirmos 9 (see previous page)