

## The 15<sup>th</sup> Day of July

✙ **Commemoration of the Holy Great Prince Vladimir, Equal-to-the-Apostles, given the name Basil in Holy Baptism;** also, the Commemoration of the Martyrs Cyricus (Quiricus) and his mother Julitta of Tarsus, whose service is sung on the preceding day.

### Great Vespers

**After the Introductory Psalm, “Blessèd is the man...,” the first Kathisma.**

**At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stichera of the Saint in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”***

**T**ruly thou wast a second Constantine /

In both word and deed: /

He was born in a Christian age, yet remained a pagan for many years, /

While thou wast born among pagans, yet thou didst come to love Christ, who loved thee, /

And now, thou hast gone to Him rejoicing. ///

Never cease to pray Him on behalf of those who honor thy memory. *(twice)*

**E**ternally does Mount Sinai rejoice and shine brightly /

For it was sanctified by the law of Moses and beheld the Invisible God; /

And thy great city, O Prince Vladimir,<sup>1</sup> rejoices also and brightly shines /

For no longer does it dwell in darkness, /

But as beholding in the Spirit the Son glorified in thee, with the Father. ///

Beseech Him now to save and enlighten our souls. *(twice)*

**F**or the people of Rus', O holy Prince Vladimir, /

Thou wast their father in spirit, and in substance, their king, /

A true preacher and apostle of Christ /

Proclaiming the coming baptism of salvation. /

And by it thou hast brightly enlightened and sanctified the people ///

Throughout thy realm, O blessèd one.

**T**hou art the root of the true Faith watered by the Holy Spirit, /

O holy Prince Vladimir, /

Sprouting divinely planted branches to grow for us /

And flowers that that bloom with sweet fragrance, /

Boris the wondrous and Gleb the zealot of piety /

---

<sup>1</sup> Slav text has the name: *Басілій* (vocative). Cf. Gr. *Βασιλιά* (voc.). An intentional parallel with Vladimir's Christian name, Basil, and the Greek word for "king" — SDA

Who abundantly pour forth miracles upon all the faithful. /  
And standing with them now before Christ God ///  
Intercede that He may save and enlighten our souls.

**Glory..., in Tone 8:**

Come, all ye people /  
And let us hasten in celebration of the feast of Vladimir /  
The father and guide of the lands of Rus' /  
Who was born of the heathens and came to love Christ who loved him /  
And he went to Him, rejoicing, /  
With his grandmother Olga.<sup>2</sup> /  
For he taught his people to believe and worship one God in Trinity, /  
And destroying the idols, he trampled them underfoot /  
And gave to us his precious sons, Boris and Gleb. /  
Therefore, with faith and love we praise and honor their memory, /  
Entreating that they may pray for us before the Lord, /  
That He may give Orthodox Christians victory over their adversaries, ///  
And grant peace to the world and salvation to our souls.

**Now and ever..., Dogmatic Theotokion in the same Tone:**

**The** King of heaven, in His love for man, /  
Appeared on earth and dwelt among men /  
For He received flesh from the pure Virgin. /  
And after assuming it, He was born of her. /  
The One Son, two natures in one person, /  
So proclaiming Him as the perfect man /  
By proclaiming Him as the perfect God, /  
Let us confess to Christ our Lord, ///  
Entreat Him, O Virgin Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

*Or the Dogmatic Theotokion in the Tone of the Week if a Resurrection Service.*

**The Entrance and the Prokeimenon of the day.**

**Three Readings:**

**The Reading from the Third Book of Kings. (3 [1] Kings 8:22-23, 27-30):**

---

<sup>2</sup> In the stichera, in addition to Vladimir being occasionally referred to as Basil (see preceding note), his grandmother Olga, is referred to by her baptismal name Elena (Helen), and his sons Boris and Gleb, as Roman and David, respectively.

<sup>8:22</sup> **N**ow Solomon stood before the altar in the presence of all the congregation of Israel and spread forth his hands toward heaven. <sup>23</sup>And he said, “Lord God of Israel, there is no God like Thee in heaven above and on the earth beneath. <sup>27</sup>If the heaven and heaven of heavens will not suffice Thee, how much less will this house that I have built to Thy name? <sup>28</sup>Yet Thou, O Lord God of Israel, shalt have respect unto my supplication, to hearken unto the prayer which Thy servant maketh unto Thee

before Thee this day, <sup>29</sup>that Thine eyes may be open toward this house day and night even toward the place whereof Thou hast said, ‘My name shall be there,’ that Thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which Thy servant prayeth at this place day and night. <sup>30</sup>And Thou shalt hearken unto the prayer of Thy servant and of Thy people Israel when they shall pray toward this place, and Thou shalt hear in Thy dwelling-place in heaven, and Thou shalt do and be gracious.

### **The Reading from Isaiah (61:10-11, 62:1-5):**

<sup>61:10</sup> ...**L**et my soul rejoice in the Lord, for He hath clothed me with a robe of salvation and a garment of gladness; He hath put a crown upon me, as upon a bridegroom, and decked me with ornaments as a bride. <sup>11</sup>And as the earth bringeth forth her flowers and as a garden the seed thereof, so shall the Lord cause righteousness and exceeding joy to spring forth before all the nations. <sup>62:1</sup>For Sion’s sake I will not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not slacken until the righteousness thereof go forth as light and my salvation burn as a torch. <sup>2</sup>And the nations shall see thy righteousness and

all kings thy glory, and He shall call thee by a new name, which the Lord shall name. <sup>3</sup>Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. <sup>4</sup>And thou shalt no more be termed “Forsaken,” and thy land shall no more be called “Desert.” For thou shalt be called “My Pleasure” and thy land “Inhabited,” for the Lord hath taken pleasure in thee, and thy land shall be inhabited. <sup>5</sup>And as a young man liveth with a virgin, so shall my sons dwell in thee, and it shall come to pass that as a bridegroom shall rejoice over a bride, so shall the Lord rejoice over thee.

### **The Reading from Isaiah (60:1-16)**

<sup>60:1</sup> **S**hine, shine, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. <sup>2</sup>For behold, darkness and gloom shall cover the earth upon the nations, but the Lord shall appear upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. <sup>3</sup>And kings shall walk in thy light and the Gentiles in Thy brightness.

<sup>4</sup>Lift up thine eyes round about and behold thy children gathered together; all thy sons are come from far, and thy daughters shall be borne upon their shoulders. <sup>5</sup>Then shalt thou see and fear and be astonished in thine heart, for the riches of the sea shall come ‘round about thee, and of nations and peoples, and

herds of camels shall come unto thee. <sup>6</sup>And the camels of Midian and Ephah shall cover thee; all they from Sheba shall come bringing gold, and they shall bring frankincense, and they shall show forth the salvation of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>And all the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together, and the rams of Nebaioth shall come, and acceptable sacrifices shall be offered on Mine altar, and My house of prayer shall be glorified. <sup>8</sup>Who are these that fly as clouds and as doves with young to see Me? <sup>9</sup>The isles have waited for Me, and the ships of Tarshish among the first, to bring thy children from afar and their silver and gold with them, and for the sake of the holy name of the Lord, and because the Holy One of Israel is glorified. <sup>10</sup>And strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee, for because of My wrath I smote thee, but because of mercy I loved thee. <sup>11</sup>And thy gates shall be

open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night to bring unto thee the power of the Gentiles and their kings leading them. <sup>12</sup>For the nations and the kings that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted. <sup>13</sup>And the glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee with the cypress and pine and cedar together, to glorify My holy place, and I will make the place of My feet glorious. <sup>14</sup>The sons also of them that afflicted thee and of them that provoked thee shall come unto thee in fear, and thou shalt be called the city of the Lord, Sion, the Holy One of Israel. <sup>15</sup>Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, and there was no helper, therefore I will make thee a perpetual joy, a gladness from generation to generation. <sup>16</sup>Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles and shalt eat the riches of kings, and thou shalt know that I, the Lord, am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the God of Israel.

### **At the Litya, the stichera of the Temple, and this of the Saint, in Tone 2:**

Today the memorial of the holy Prince Vladimir has come /  
 Shimmering like a flow of myrrh, /  
 For coming to love Christ he came to disdain the idols /  
 And he built churches on earth to Him crucified for our sakes ///  
 And thus, he received the kingdom and the crown in heaven.

### **Glory..., in Tone 6:**

**O** come all ye faithful, /  
 And let us hasten to the precious memorial of Vladimir /  
 The father and guide of the lands of Rus' /  
 For he was born of the heathens and came to love Christ who loved him /  
 And he went to Him, rejoicing, with his grandmother Olga. /  
 Therefore, we lovingly keep this feast, /  
 Entreating him to pray to the Lord for us ///  
 That He may grant peace to the world and save our souls.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

**M**y maker and redeemer Christ the Lord, /  
Was born of thee, O most pure Virgin; /  
By accepting my nature He freed Adam from the ancestral curse. /  
Therefore, we magnify thee unceasingly as the Mother of God. /  
Rejoice, O joy of heaven! ///  
Rejoice, O protection, intercession, and salvation of our souls.

**At the Aposticha, these stichera, in Tone 8: To the melody, “O most glorious wonder....”**

**O** most glorious wonder, /  
The armies of the wicked one weep /  
As they behold their great schemes cast down today, /  
For Vladimir the Great, our faithful ruler and king, /  
Their own branch, once completely wild, /  
But now firmly planted in the strength of God, /  
Is glorified and crowned by Him.

*Verse:* I have exalted one chosen out of My people.

**W**ondrous is the depth of miracles! /  
Those who once were proud in manner and stubborn in mind /  
Now rejoice in the Holy Church on the feast of Prince Vladimir. /  
And Christ our God reigns, for He has obtained him as a second Paul /  
And set him who had illumined and baptized his people ///  
As a faithful prince over his own land.

*Verse:* Therefore God, thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness.

**R**ejoice, O boast of all the lands of Rus’! /  
Rejoice, guide and teacher of the faithful! /  
Rejoice, our leader, holy Prince Vladimir! /  
Rejoice, invincible bastion and beacon of the Faith! /  
Rejoice, glorious wonder of wonders! /  
Rejoice, calm haven for those who run to thee with faith! /  
Rejoice, all-holy root of the Faith ///  
And intercessor of those who faithfully magnify thee!

**Glory..., in Tone 8:**

**H**aving assembled today, O ye faithful, /  
Let us praise Vladimir the Great, /

15 JULY

The author of piety and the preacher of faith, /  
Chief among the princes of the lands of Rus' /  
And equal-to-the-apostles, /  
And with songs and spiritual hymns, let us praise and crown him today /  
Singing, Rejoice, O valiant soldier of Christ, /  
Who wore down the enemy and destroyed him in the end /  
Delivering us from his evil plans /  
And leading us to Christ the King and our God. /  
O most-blessèd and all-laudable and holy Prince Vladimir /  
Beseech Him to grant peace and health to all Orthodox Christians, /  
That He may grant them victory over their adversaries, ///  
And that great mercy may be granted to our souls.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

Accept, O Sovereign Lady /  
The prayers of us, thy servants, ///  
And deliver us from every danger and necessity.

**After the Blessing of the Loaves, the Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 4:**

**O** holy Prince Vladimir, /  
Thou wast like a merchant in search of fine pearls. /  
By sending servants to Constantinople for the Orthodox Faith, /  
Thou didst find Christ, the priceless pearl. /  
He appointed thee to be another Paul, /  
Washing away in baptism thy physical and spiritual blindness. /  
We celebrate thy memory, /  
Asking thee to pray for all Orthodox Christians of Russia /  
And for us, thy spiritual children.

**Glory..., now and ever..., and the Theotokion:**

**T**he mystery of all eternity /  
Unknown even by angels /  
Through thee is revealed on earth, O Mother of God, /  
God incarnate by union without confusion. /  
For our sake He voluntarily endured the Cross, /  
By it He resurrected the first-created Adam ///  
And saved our souls from death.

**Matins**

**At “God is the Lord...” the Troparion of the Saint (twice);** Glory..., now and ever..., **Theotokion**, “The mystery of all eternity....”

**After the 1<sup>st</sup> Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 1:**

**O** equal-to-the-apostles and holy Prince Vladimir, /  
Destroyer of idols and the cultivator and root of the Faith, /  
We entreat thee to pray to Christ our God ///  
That He may grant remission of sins to those who celebrate with love thy holy memory. (twice)

**Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

**Guide** us back onto the path of repentance, /  
Who have strayed into the wastelands of evil /  
And have angered the most good God against us /  
O blessed Mary, who knew not man, ///  
For thou art the refuge of those in despair and the dwelling-place of God.

**After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kathisma, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 8:**

**Taught** divine and ineffable wisdom by God, /  
Richly hast thou gained the understanding of faith in Him /  
And quickly hast thou hastened toward His goodness. /  
Thou hast cleared the eyes of thy mind /  
And lifted thyself up to the comprehension of piety, /  
Therefore, keeping thy feast we cry aloud to thee, /  
O blessed Prince Vladimir, /  
Blessèd is God who hast enlightened thy heart with the light of knowledge! /  
Entreat Him that He may grant remission of sins ///  
To those who celebrate with love thy holy memory. (twice)

**Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

**I** am covered by my shameful deeds and the darkness of my sins /  
And the oppression of my conscience tortures me! /  
Woe is me! Whereto can I flee and where can I hide? /  
To whom can I run in search for help again? /  
I fall down before thee alone, O Mother of God, do I beg thee, ///  
Never cease to pray that our souls may be saved.

**Polyeley and Magnification:**



**W**e magnify thee, // O holy equal-of-the-apostles, great Prince Vladimir, / and we honor thy holy memory, / for thou didst trample the idols underfoot / and with baptismal grace, thou didst enlighten all the lands of Rus’.

*Selected Psalm verses:*

**T**he heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.  
**T**he heavens shall confess Thy wonders, O Lord, and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints!

**After the Polyeley, the Sessional Hymn, in Tone 4:**

**S**wiftly and firmly hast thou acquired zeal for the true faith in Christ /  
And having found the fount of divine wisdom, /  
Quickly didst thou hasten to it with love /  
And having cleansed the defilement of sin /  
Thou didst likewise sanctify thy people. ///  
Pray now to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

**Glory..., in the same Tone:**

**M**ake speed, O prince and leader of the faithful, /  
Make hast and quickly overtake us and protect us, /  
For our enemies blaspheme and threaten us! /  
By thy faith, destroy those who fight against us /  
That they may also learn to glorify thy memory, /  
And save from all from danger who sing to thee, ///  
O holy Prince Vladimir, thou favorite of Christ.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

**O** Virgin Theotokos, /  
Thou alone art pure and most-blessèd; /  
We have come to know that the Word of the Father /  
Christ our God was made incarnate through thee. /  
Therefore, we ceaselessly sing thy praises ///  
And we magnify thee!

**1<sup>st</sup> Antiphon of the 4<sup>th</sup> Tone (The Song of Ascents), “From my youth...”**

**Prokeimenon, in Tone 4:**

**I** have exalted one / chosen out of My people. *Verse:* For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.



*Let everything that hath breath....*

**Gospel:** (36) John 10:9-16

**After Psalm 50 (51), the Post-Gospel sticheron of the Saint, in Tone 8:**

**H**aving assembled today, O ye faithful, /  
Let us praise our father and teacher Vladimir the Great, /  
Who strove to emulate the apostles. /  
Through him we have come to know Christ our God /  
And have travelled from the darkness to the light /  
Thus, enlightening our eyes and hearts. /  
Therefore, let us make glad celebrate his memory today, ///  
For we have found in him a true and faithful guide to the kingdom of heaven.

### **The Canon**

**The Supplicatory Canon to the Mother of God (*Paraklesis*), with 6 Troparia,  
including the Irmos, in Tone 8;  
and two Canons of the Saint, with 8 Troparia:**

### **Ode 1**

#### **First Canon of the Saint, Tone 8**

*Irmos: The Indivisible divided that which could not be divided, and the sun beheld the earth which before could not be seen; the wicked enemy was drowned in the sea, and Israel passed over the impassable singing: Let us sing to the Lord, for gloriously hath He been glorified.*

**Refrain:** Holy equal-to-the-apostles, great Prince Vladimir, pray to God for us!

**○** Word of God without beginning, Creator of the four elements of old, with which thou hast bound together the whole world, set loose my soul bound by the passions that I may sing, rejoicing, the praises of Prince Vladimir.

**○** Master who hast come down from the heights of heaven, Thou who livest outside physical matter on the spiritual mountain, send down from Thyself on-high, abundant light to illumine our souls, that we may rightly glorify as is due the wondrous Prince Vladimir.

**Refrain:** Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

**Theotokion:** **T**hou art the boast of mothers and virgins, O Lady, who hast borne the Creator of the world without bearing the pains of childbirth, but while being a mother, hast thou remained virgin. Therefore, we cry out to thee: Rejoice!

#### **Second Canon of the Saint, Tone 6**

15 JULY

*Irmos:* When Israel passed on foot over the deep as if it were dry land, and beheld their pursuer Pharaoh drowning in the sea, they cried aloud: Let us sing to God a song of victory!

*Refrain:* Holy equal-to-the-apostles, great Prince Vladimir, pray to God for us!

**C**ome all ye faithful, and let us sing a spiritual song and glorify Christ who has radiantly glorified Vladimir, the holy and mighty prince.

**O**ur Benefactor, who givest seed to the sower, loosen the bonds of my tongue and renew it, O Savior, that I may glorify Thee with faith.

**G**lory...,

**T**hou callest all to glorify Thee, not by force, but willingly; and as Thou of old hast called Moses and Isaiah, likewise hast Thou spoken in the heart of faithful Prince Vladimir.

**N**ow, and ever...,

*Theotokion:* **A**dorned with the beauty of the virtues, O pure Mother of God, thou hast conceived the True God who hast enlightened us with divine and heavenly virtues.

*Katavasia:* “I shall open my mouth...”

### Ode 3

#### First Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* My heart is strengthened in the Lord, and my horn is lifted up unto my God; my mouth is opened against mine enemies, and I rejoice in Thy salvation.

**T**hy tongue rang out, O blessed saint, like a clarion call of the spiritual trumpet, announcing to all the lands of Rus’ their baptism into the Orthodox Faith in Christ, and through this, thou hast illumined all the earth!

**T**hine all-glorious memorial shines forth today, O Vladimir, and the Orthodox people whom thou hast led to the light of understanding keep feast praising thee as their forefather in the Faith.

*Theotokion:* **B**y the birth of thy Child the shadow of the Law passed away since the grace of the Word of the Father, Christ our God had come, and when our glorious prince came to know Him, he brightly adorned thy Church.

#### Second Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* There is none as holy as Thou, O Lord my God, who hast exalted the power of Thy faithful, O Blessed One, and hast established us upon the rock of thy confession.

**A**s Thou hast enlightened the eyes of Paul and made him one of Thy chosen, so hast Thou now dispelled, through baptismal grace, the blindness of Vladimir, the father of

all Rus’.

**O** Prince Vladimir, thou hast appeared as a likeness of the faithful Constantine and, having received Christ in thy heart, hast thou gone forth, like an apostle, and taught His commandments to all the lands of Rus’.

**A**ided by the power of God, thou didst topple the idol of the pagan god Perún, and having bound him to a horse’s tail, the idol was dragged and beaten by the soldiers at thy command.

*Theotokion:* **V**ladimir, the great prince, the vessel of God, and the emulator of the Apostle Paul, found the Virgin Mary, the holy tabernacle of God, and built this holy temple in her name.

*Katavasia.*

### **Sessional Hymn, in Tone 2:**

**E**ver vigilant in prayer and with a joyful soul, O Vladimir, /  
Hast thou drawn the spirit of wisdom from the fount that descended from on high. /  
Like the sun, therefore, thou didst shine with faith /  
In thy ceaseless prayers to Christ. /  
Make haste now with all speed, O compassionate one, ///  
And pray Christ God that the world be saved from its transgressions. (twice)

### **Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone:**

**O** Virgin unwedded and Mother of God, /  
Who gavest birth without seed to the Master of all, /  
Together with all the angels, entreat Him for us, O Lady /  
That we may be delivered from all doubts and evil circumstance /  
And that He may grant to us the spirit of compunction and the enlightenment of our  
souls, /  
And the cleansing of our transgressions, ///  
As thou art truly quick to come to our defense.

## **Ode 4**

### **First Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos:* In wisdom did the prophet Habbákuk foresee Thy coming, O Lord, and he sang: God cometh from Teman! Glory to Thy condescension, O Lord!

**R**adiant and sweet is the sun in the sky after it comes out from behind a cloud; and gladsome and joyous is the coming of the spring after the hardships of winter; And thou, O holy Prince Vladimir, through baptism hast shone forth for us as a shining sun coming

after the gloomy darkness of idolatry.

**O**n the road to Damascus Saul the Pharisee was struck blind by just the smallest flash of the great Light and his sight was restored and he was baptized. Thou, O glorious one, hast truly emulated the Apostle Paul, for coming to the city of Chèrsonne, the darkness fell from before thine eyes.

*Theotokion:* **O** Virgin, thou hast appeared as an unwatered stem shooting forth the flower of our Deliverance, bearing the radiant fruit — Christ our God. Enlighten thou my soul grown weak by my passions and entreat the Lord for the remission of my sins.

### **Second Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos:* *Christ is my strength, my God and my Lord, the sacred Church sings in a manner befitting God, with a pure mind, keeping festival unto the Lord.*

**T**he Master Christ works an awesome and glorious miracle, for by divine baptism He enlightens Prince Vladimir and restores all the lands of Rus’.

**C**ome, O ye spiritual children of Rus’, and let us raise aloft our voices and call out to Vladimir our father, and let us brightly feast his memorial with faith.

**T**hou hast chased away the uncleanness of thy father and hast come to love the Orthodox Faith of thy most-honorable grandmother, O holy Prince Vladimir, thou equal-to-the-apostles.

*Theotokion:* **W**e bless thee as the divine and gate of paradise full of light, and as the spiritual place of sanctification, and as the beauty of Jacob, O Virgin.

### **Ode 5**

#### **First Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos:* *Grant us peace, O Lord our God! O Lord our God, take us for Thy possession for we know no other God but Thee and we call upon Thy name.*

**R**ejoice and make thyself glad in spirit, O great ruler Prince Vladimir; for thou hast offered to Christ chosen and divinely planted branches — thine own fruit elected by God, Boris the glorious and godly Gleb. Standing together with them now before the Lord, entreat thou Him on our behalf.

**W**ondrous things were foretold by Isaiah for the city of Jerusalem: that she would be the mountain of the Lord and the dwelling-place of God atop the mountains. And rightly have we understood this, O Saint, for the grace of the spirit was upon thee, and thou didst build a house for the Master on the summit of a mountain.

*Theotokion:* **W**ondrous things were foretold in the Spirit by Isaiah concerning thee who, although a virgin, would be willing to give birth to Christ without seed; and David, thy

forefather, wondrously foretold thy mighty works! Yea, Christ saves us in that He is merciful!

### Second Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* With Thy divine light, O Good One, illumine, I ask Thee, the souls of those who in love keep vigil that they may know Thee, O Word of God as the true God who recalls them from the darkness of sin.

**T**oday the angels of God rejoice amidst the splendors of heaven at thy memorial feast, for thou hast saved us from every evil and hast delivered a multitude of people and the whole of Rus' that once sacrificed to idols.

**T**he numerous and dark assemblies of demons weep beholding, trampled on the ground, the idols that had been set up by men to their perdition, and that thou, O Vladimir, hast broken into pieces by divine command.

**R**ejoice and be glad, O great servant of Christ and wise prince, the intercessor for our souls; for through thee are we delivered from the wiles of the devil, and we cry out to thee: Rejoice!

*Theotokion:* **S**hining from afar in purity, O Lady, thou art the divine habitation of the Master whom all mankind praises, for thou alone hast been Mother of God who hast carried Him in thine arms!

### Ode 6

#### First Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* I am adrift upon the waters of the storm-tossed sea of life, O Thou who lovest mankind, and like Jonah I cry out to Thee: Lead my life out of corruption, O compassionate Lord!

**T**hou, O Vladimir, wast revealed to be a likeness of the godly Emperor Constantine who enlightened the Hellenes by baptism, for like him, thou didst gloriously renew thy people in the waters of the Spirit.

**H**aving made thy soul well-pleasing by the love of Christ and rising aloft on the wings of understanding, thou hast soared above the darkness of idolatry driving away the gloominess of false belief, and thou hast gone to dwell in the chambers of God, the Savior of all.

*Theotokion:* **A**ll the assemblies of the true and faithful Orthodox believers are of good cheer at the memorial festival of the radiant Prince Vladimir, and they bless thy childbirth without seed, O Virgin, and earnestly magnifying thee, they glorify thy Son.

### Second Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* Beholding the sea of life surging high with the storm of temptations, I have fled to Thy tranquil haven and cry out unto Thee: Raise up my life from corruption, O greatly Merciful One!

**B**y the power of God has Satan, the destroyer of souls, and all his minions been trampled

underfoot; for Christ has shown us Vladimir, the faithful prince, as our victor who broke him, and destroyed him and cast him down under our feet.

**The Lord** once saved Israel from bondage by the mighty hand of Moses, and now he has delivered us all from the error of idolatry by the hand of Vladimir, the great and holy prince.

**Rightly** do we call upon thee and cry aloud: Rejoice, O most-honored and all-laudable holy Prince Vladimir, for we have thee with God as our deliverer. Despise us not thy servants, but ever preserve us!

*Theotokion:* **O** pure and all-praised Virgin, through thee have we found our salvation, Christ our God, whom the angels in heaven desire to see, and now is seen as an infant in thine arms.

*Katavasia.*

### **The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 8:**

**O** most glorious Vladimir, in thine old age thou didst imitate the great apostle Paul: /  
He abandoned childish things, while thou didst forsake the idolatry of thy youth. /  
Together with him thou didst reach the fullness of divine wisdom /  
And through the grace of holy baptism thou wast adorned with purity. ///  
Standing now before Christ our Savior, pray that all Orthodox Christians may be  
saved.

*Ikos:* Thou, O Christ God, who hast enlightened Israel of old with the law of Moses, hast illumined the world by the manifestation of Thy coming, sending divinely-eloquent disciples to preach throughout different lands Thy birth without seed from the Virgin. And therefore, Thou hast commanded them to baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And seeing the lands of Rus' grown old in sin, Thou hast sent Thy Spirit into the strong and wise soul of the glorious Vladimir for him to come and know Thee, Christ our God, as One of the Holy Trinity and for him to enlighten by baptism Thy chosen people, entrusted to him by Thee and to lead them singing aloud with faith: Deliver Thine inheritance from their godless adversaries.

## **Ode 7**

### **First Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos:* Taking the form of an angel, the Creator extinguished the fiery flames of the Chaldean furnace and the godly youths cried out to Him: Blessed art Thou and praised above all, O Lord God of our fathers!

**The enemy** and great destroyer of souls stripped me of the garment divinely woven for me by the forefathers; and Jesus, who is without beginning, by appearing in the flesh

and cleansing me with the water of the spirit, hath returned it back to me. And when Vladimir the glorious, recognized Him, full of gladness he cried out to Thee: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

**D**aniel, having kept the law of Moses, was granted a divine vision; and thou, O holy Prince Vladimir, having trampled thine ancestral idols underfoot, hast beheld, not in a glass darkly, but by thine understanding, the great glory of Christ together with the Father and the Spirit, and being enlightened with baptism, full of joy thou didst cry out: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

*Theotokion:* **T**he enemy stripped Adam, the first-formed man of his divine garment through deceit, O Virgin, while my sweet Jesus, who issued from thy pure, unwedded womb, saved him; and the evil one fell upon Him as he had upon Adam, but was struck down by God and cruelly broken. So, we all call upon the Son: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

### Second Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* *An angel made the furnace moist with dew for the godly children and the command of God consuming the Chaldeans made the tyrant cry out: Blessèd art Thou, O God of our fathers!*

**A**s the grandson of the most-blessèd Olga, thou, O Vladimir, wast confirmed by the love of that new Helen and hast appeared great as a new Constantine, crying aloud to Christ: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

**T**he wicked deceiver wanted thee to make war upon the Christians, but the Lord, enlightened thee at Chèrson and vouchsafed thee the grace of baptism, and granted thee the kingdom of heaven.

**A**s a great disciple of Christ thou hast driven out the age-old falsehood of the demons and hast restored us all. Being thus enlightened, we cry out to the Lord with never-ceasing voices: Blessèd art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!

*Theotokion:* **T**he pre-eternal God chose thee from among all generations, O Ever-virgin, and taking flesh from thee in latter days He appeared both perfect God and perfect man.

### Ode 8

#### First Canon of the Saint

*Irmos:* *Thou didst cover the firmament with the waters and didst confine the seas with sand; the sun sings to Thee and the moon glorifies Thee; and all creation sings praises unto Thee as the Maker from all eternity.*

**D**ivine words proclaim that the generation of the righteous shall be blessed, and this has been fulfilled in thee, O blessèd saint Vladimir, for thou hast offered to Christ a saintly and divinely chosen seed of invincible martyrs, and with them thou hast enlightened the lands of Rus', and praising them together with thee, we exalt Christ throughout all ages.



**T**he city of Kiev, in which Christ with the Father and the Spirit was glorified by thy grandmother and by thyself, is truly the mother of all the cities of thy kingdom, and there, in the Church of our Lady, is the place of thy princely repose, and so, we thy spiritual children exalt Christ throughout all ages.

*Theotokion:* **T**he voices of the prophets truly proclaimed Emmanuel, the unoriginate brightness and Word of the Father who would be born of thee without corruption, O Lady, God and man, and the mighty expectation of the nations: As His mother, entreat Him now that we may be saved.

### **Second Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos:* *Out of the flames Thou didst drop dew on the godly ones, and with water didst kindle the sacrifice of the righteous one, for Thou doest all things as Thou wilt, O Christ; we exalt thee throughout all ages!*

**T**hou hast delivered us from the ungodly idols and hast led us to Christ our God, O thou father of faithful princes and the teacher of thy flocks, who sing the praise of Christ of throughout all ages.

**O** blessed Prince Vladimir, thou art known throughout all the lands of Rus' as a new Constantine, for thou hast professed the name of Christ whom we exalt above all throughout all ages.

**T**hou standest now before the eternal King who hast crowned thee with His right hand; entreat Him now on behalf of us, thine unworthy servants, that we may praise Him and exalt Him above all throughout all ages.

***Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord!***

*Theotokion:* **T**hou art exalted by all as the cloud of the Word and the candlestick of the Sun, the most-precious chariot, the joy and exaltation of virgins, the rich and abundant mountain flowing with milk, O all-pure Virgin, beloved of the Lord!

***We praise, bless, and worship the Lord singing and exalting Him throughout all ages!***

*Katavasia.*

### **Ode 9**

#### **First Canon of the Saint**

*Irmos:* *The heavens were filled with fear, the ends of the earth were filled with awe, for God revealed Himself in the flesh to men; and thy womb became more spacious than the heavens, so the leaders of men and angels magnify thee, O Theotokos!*

**I**n ancient times, David was found to be a mighty King in Israel for he saved the people and, having laid low the gods of other nations, he proclaimed in the Spirit, the Son of God; while thou, O blessed Prince Vladimir, acknowledged God in Trinity, whom we

magnify.

**L**et the chosen people of God celebrate thy memory with gladness in the Church of the Mother of God which thou didst adorn as an earthly heaven and an everlasting memorial to thy passing; for resting therein, thou dost await the awe-inspiring trumpets of the archangels, O blessed prince, as we magnify thee.

***Theotokion:*** Inflamed with love by the Spirit of God, we all call thee blessed. O Theotokos, for thou hast destroyed the curse of our first mother, Eve, and we earnestly sing the praises of God the Word; for having received Him in thy womb without being consumed, thou hast given birth to Him in the flesh. Entreat Him, O Lady, that thy faithful flock be delivered from every necessity and sorrow.

### **Second Canon of the Saint**

***Irmos:*** It is not possible for men to see God upon whom the ranks of angels dare not gaze, but through thee, O all-pure one, was the Word incarnate revealed unto men, whom magnifying together with the heavenly hosts, we call thee blessed!

**T**hou are like a majestic fig tree that bore the sweetest fruit, a flourishing olive tree that put forth fruitful branches, and a vine that bore the sweetest clusters of grapes, thy sons, the martyrs Boris and Gleb.

**C**hoirs of noble princes together with multitudes the faithful people now present their pious offerings of praise to thee! O faithful guide and speedy intercessor, remember us all that we may find life in peace through thee.

**C**ome O ye people of the lands of Rus' and let us go to the holy Church of Saint Vladimir, the all-glorious favorite of Christ, who in baptism bore the royal name Basil, and there, let us receive life and salvation, grace and great mercy.

***Theotokion:*** **T**hou gavest birth to God on earth, O Virgin! The Incorporeal One came into union with the flesh in a single hypostasis, yet in two natures, that He may save us all who with faith glorify thee as the all-pure Mother of God.

### **Exapostilarion of the saint:**

**C**rowned by God thou, O holy Prince Vladimir, together with thy grandmother Olga the glorious, have truly appeared as beacons enlightening the whole inhabited earth with godliness and faith, and we glorify Christ who loved you, and who is wondrous in His saints. *(twice)*

### **Glory..., now and ever, Theotokion:**

**O** immaculate Lady, thou gavest birth ineffably to God in two Wills and natures, yet in a single hypostasis, who for our sakes became poor and accepted crucifixion that He may grant us divine riches, O Virgin Mother of God.

**At the Praises, 4 stichera of the Saint, in Tone 4:** *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

**O** Lord, thou hast given Thy Cross as a mighty weapon /  
 To our holy Prince Vladimir /  
 And through it he lived righteously on the earth, /  
 Shining forth with piety, /  
 And in Thy compassion, he was vouchsafed the kingdom of heaven. /  
 Therefore, we glorify Thy loving dispensation, ///  
 O almighty Lord Jesus, the Savior of our souls. *(twice)*

O Lord who lovest mankind, /  
 Thou hast given Thy pious servant Vladimir who hath so pleased Thee /  
 The meekness of David, the wisdom of Solomon, /  
 And the Orthodox faith of the apostles /  
 Therefore, we glorify Thy loving dispensation, /  
 O King of Kings and Lord of Lords, /  
 O almighty Jesus, the Savior of our souls.

**O** ever-memorable holy Prince Vladimir /  
 Thou didst bring thy people of their own will to Christ /  
And they acknowledged Him as God, /  
 The King and benefactor of all, /  
 Who grants victories and blesses those in authority. /  
 Therefore, hast Jesus, who lovest mankind ///  
 Entrusted the kingship to thee who lovest Christ.

**Glory..., in Tone 2:**

**T**hou didst receive thy calling, /  
 Not from men, but like the wondrous apostle Paul /  
 Thou didst receíve it from on-high, from Christ our God, /  
 O glorious apostle Vladimir. /  
 And protecting thyself with the sign of the Cross /  
 Thou didst reveal thyself as an invincible champ'ion /  
 Over all enemies both visible and invisible. /  
 Therefore, we who are born on earth rightly honor thy memory /  
 And entreát thee to boldly pray to Christ God /  
 That He may grant us enlightenment, the cleansing of sin and great mercy.

**Now and ever..., Theotokion, in the same Tone.**

**B**ehold a new wonder greater than all the miracles of old: /  
Who has ever known a mother to bear a child without a man, /  
And hold in her arms Him who encompasses the whole creation?  
It was the will of God to be born /  
And thou, O all-pure Virgin, hast carried Him, an infant in thine arms. /  
The boldness of a mother is therefore thine. /  
Do thou pray to Him without ceasing for us who honor thee, ///  
Entreat Him to save our souls and to have mercy on us.

**The Great Doxology, Troparion of the saint, the Litanies, and the Dismissal.**

### **Liturgy**

**At the Beatitudes, 8 Troparia: 4 from the Third Ode of the Canon of the Saint, and 4 from the Sixth Ode of the Second Canon.**

- 1.** Thy tongue rang out, O blessed saint, like a clarion call of the spiritual trumpet, announcing to all the lands of Rus' their baptism into the Orthodox Faith in Christ, and through this, thou hast illumined all the earth!
- 2.** Thine all-glorious memorial shines forth today, O Vladimir, and the Orthodox people whom thou hast led to the light of understanding keep feast praising thee as their forefather in the Faith.
- 3.** As Thou hast enlightened the eyes of Paul and made him one of Thy chosen, so hast Thou now dispelled, through baptismal grace, the blindness of Vladimir, the father of all Rus.'
- 4.** Prince Vladimir, thou hast appeared as a likeness of the faithful Constantine and, having received Christ in thy heart, hast thou gone forth, like an apostle, and taught His commandments to all the lands of Rus.'
- 5.** By the power of God has Satan, the destroyer of souls, and all his minions been trampled underfoot; for Christ has shown us Vladimir, the faithful prince, as our victor who broke him, and destroyed him and cast him down under our feet.
- 6.** The Lord once saved Israel from bondage by the mighty hand of Moses, and now he has delivered us all from the error of idolatry by the hand of Vladimir, the great and holy prince.
- 7.** Rightly do we call upon thee and cry aloud: Rejoice, O most-honored and all-laudable holy Prince Vladimir, for we have thee with God as our deliverer. Despise us not thy servants, but ever preserve us!

**8. Theotokion:** O pure and all-praised Virgin, through thee have we found our salvation, Christ our God, whom the angels in heaven desire to see, and now is seen as an infant in thine arms.

**The Troparion of the Saint, in Tone 4:**

O holy Prince Vladimir, /  
Thou wast like a merchant in search of fine pearls. /  
By sending servants to Constantinople for the Orthodox Faith, /  
Thou didst find Christ, the priceless pearl. /  
He appointed thee to be another Paul, /  
Washing away in baptism thy physical and spiritual blindness. /  
We celebrate thy memory, /  
Asking thee to pray for all Orthodox Christians of Russia /  
And for us, thy spiritual children.

**The Kontakion of the Saint, in Tone 8:**

O most glorious Vladimir, in thine old age thou didst imitate the great ap<sup>o</sup>stle Paul: /  
He abandoned childish things, while thou didst forsake the idolatry of thy youth. /  
Together with him thou didst reach the fullness of divine wisdom /  
And through the grace of holy baptism thou wast adorned with purity. ///  
Standing now before Christ our Savior, pray that all Orthodox Christians may be  
saved.s

**Prokeimenon, in Tone 3:** Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our king, sing praises! *Verse:* Clap your hands, all ye people, shout to God with loud songs of joy!

**The Epistle:** (200) Galatians 1:11-19

**The Alleluia, in Tone 6:** I have exalted one / chosen out of My people. *Verse:* For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.

**The Gospel:** (35-ctr) John 10:1-9

**Communion Hymn:** The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings. Alleluia....