

January 9

**Fourth day of Theophany;
Commemoration of the Holy Martyr Polyeuctos**
(5th Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for Theophany (Tone 8)

6. Lord, although in Your humanity You stood before John at the Jordan, You never left the throne of the Father where You are seated with Him. Allowing Yourself to be baptized for us, You delivered the world from its bondage to the Enemy in Your love for mankind and the compassion of Your heart.
5. Lord, although in Your humanity You were covered by the streams of the Jordan, the Spirit, in His descent from the heights of Heaven, testified on Your behalf; and the voice of the Father bore witness to You as His Son. Manifest Your presence and grant immortality to our souls.
4. O Lord, begotten by the Father before all ages: You, the Immutable One, in these latter times took the form of a servant and renewed Your own image as Creator. For, being baptized, You grant immortality to our souls.

For Polyeuctos (Tone 1)

3. As David was taken from the pit of calamity, O holy martyr Polyeuctos, so Christ drew you up from the mire and mud to which you had been misled by the worship of idols. He made your footsteps firm on the rock of knowledge of Him in a mystic way. Intercede with Him to grant our souls great mercy.

2. O holy martyr, neither love for your wife nor affection for your children, nor respect for your father-in-law, nor wealth nor fortune and its goods, could shake your steadfastness in the faith which your soul had placed in Christ, O blessed Polyeuctos!
1. In the combat which you waged, O blessed one, the works of justice were your true armament. Thus, as a result, you became a faithful witness to Christ, when at your death for the faith, you were baptized in your own blood.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

Doxastikon (Tone 2)

Today the hosts of angels exult with joy in the memory of Polyeuctos the martyr. The human race celebrates this feast in faith and joyfully proclaims: "Hail, O illustrious saint, who foiled the traps and snares of Belial and received from Christ the conqueror's crown! Hail, O valiant soldier of the great King, our Savior, who overthrew the altars of the false gods! Hail, O pride of martyrs! Intercede with God to save from every evil at all times the faithful who celebrate your venerable memory!"

- now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Dogmatikon

Today the Creator of Heaven and earth comes in the flesh to the Jordan River; the One who is free from stain seeks baptism in order to cleanse mankind from the Enemy's error. The Master of all is baptized at the hand of a servant in order to grant mankind the cleansing through water. Let us cry out to Him: "O God made manifest, have mercy on us!"

"O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of Wednesday evening.

APOSTICHA (*Tone 6*)

1. No one can comprehend You, yet You have come to the waters and bowed Your head under the hand of the Forerunner. Sanctifying the world by Your Baptism, You, the sinless One, freed it from bondage to the Enemy.

All: The sea fled at the sight; the Jordan turned back on its course.

2. O Christ. from the heights of Heaven, the Father and the Spirit bore witness to You as the beloved Son. Thus, at Your Baptism in the Jordan, the mystery of the Holy Trinity was made known.

All: Why was it, O sea, that you fled? That you turned back, Jordan, on your course?

3. O Savior, as God You sanctified not only the whole flow of the Jordan, but also the very nature of the waters. Thus the human race glorifies You and celebrates Your divine Theophany!

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Dogmatikon (*Tone 4*)

He who covers Himself with light as with a garment has deigned for our sake to become as we are. Today He is covered by the streams of the Jordan, though He had no need to be cleansed by them: but through the cleansing that He Himself receives, He bestows a regeneration on us. O wonder! Without fire, He casts anew and without shattering, He refashions. And He saves those who are enlightened in Him, Christ our God, the Savior of our souls!

TROPARION OF POLYEUCTOS (*Tone 4*)

Your martyr, O Lord, received the crown of immortality from You, O our God, on account of his struggles. Armed with Your strength, he has vanquished his persecutors and crushed the powerless arrogance of demons. Through his supplications, O Christ God, save our souls!

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

TROPARION OF THEOPHANY (*Tone 1*)

At Your Baptism in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was revealed. For the Father's voice bore witness to You by calling You His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of these words. O Christ God who have appeared to us and enlightened the world, glory to You!