

WEEK 10: LITURGY - ANTIPHONS, SMALL ENTRANCE, & TRISAGION HYMN

PRE-K - KINDERGARTEN

GOALS

What does Antiphon mean?
What is the Small Entrance?
Give a brief explanation of the Trisagion Hymn.

LESSON

Lesson on antiphonal singing and then demonstrate by splitting the class in half (one teacher with each half) and singing back and forth “Lord have mercy”

*Watch the Small Entrance video starting at 1:40:39 - <https://youtu.be/VAyZMNTH1s?t=4946>
or share picture from the book on page 36*

Let’s sing together! - The Trisagion Hymn <https://youtu.be/VAyZMNTH1s?t=5190>

Lesson: (in reference to pages 31 - 40 in “Christ Amongst Us”)

We begin the Divine Liturgy as the priest says, “Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.” As we begin the Divine Liturgy, let’s remember that this is a “peek” or a glimpse into the Kingdom of Heaven.

After this our deacon (or priest) will lead us with the Litany of Peace. These are requests from us to God and we respond after each one of these requests with “Lord, have mercy.” We pray for peace, the safety and health of everyone around us, for our country and president, for good weather, for people who are traveling, for people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger and worry.

Next, we will hear the Antiphons being sung. We have people who are called chanters singing towards the front of our church. Some of them sing on the left side and some of them sing on the right side. They take turns singing the Antiphons, which are verses from the Bible. Antiphon means “opposite voice” and it refers to the chanters taking turns singing. Can I hear you say antiphon? What does it mean? (It means “opposite voice” or that the chanters are taking turns singing from the Bible.)

Let's see how this works! Does everyone remember how to sing "Lord have mercy"? (Demonstrate) Okay, great! Now, we're going to split up the class in half and we're going to take turns singing. (Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.) Good job! You took turns singing, which is what our chanters do when they sing the Antiphons during the Divine Liturgy.

Shortly after this, you see some of the altar boys leave the altar with our deacon and priest. This is called the Small Entrance. (Show YouTube video https://youtu.be/_VAyZMNTH1s?t=4946 or share picture from the book on page 36.)

The holy Gospel will be carried in a procession during the Small Entrance. Do you remember who wrote the 4 Gospels? (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John!)

Our priest quietly says a prayer to God that the angels and archangels join us in singing to God. The next song in the Divine Liturgy is called the Trisagion Hymn. (Show video or sing the hymn to the kids) While we're singing, "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us" - both the angels and all the people are singing together to praise God. Can we try singing it together?

Review questions:

When does the Divine Liturgy begin? (When we hear "Blessed is the Kingdom...")

Our deacon (or priest) leads us in a prayer called the Litany of Peace. What are we praying for? (For peace in the world, the safety and health of everyone around us, for our country and president, for good weather, for people who are traveling, for people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger and worry.)

What is an antiphon? (Opposite singing or when the chanters take turn singing)

What happens during the Small Entrance? (Our priest carries the Gospel book in a procession and an altar boy will carry a candle)

Can we sing the Trisagion Hymn one more time?

WEEK 10: LITURGY - ANTIPHONS, SMALL ENTRANCE, & TRISAGION HYMN

1ST - 2ND GRADE

GOALS

What does Antiphon mean?
What is the Small Entrance?
Give a brief explanation of the Trisagion Hymn.

LESSON

Lesson on antiphonal singing and then demonstrate by splitting the class in half (one teacher with each half) and singing back and forth "Lord have mercy"

*Watch the Small Entrance video starting at 1:40:39 - <https://youtu.be/VAyZMNTH1s?t=4946>
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Let's sing together! - The Trisagion Hymn <https://youtu.be/VAyZMNTH1s?t=5190>

Lesson: (in reference to pages 31 - 40 in "Christ Amongst Us")

We begin the Divine Liturgy as the priest says, "Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages." As we begin the Divine Liturgy, let's remember that this is a "peek" or a glimpse into the Kingdom of Heaven.

After this our deacon will lead us with the Litany of Peace. These are requests from us to God and we respond after each one of these requests with "Lord, have mercy." We pray for peace, the safety and health of everyone around us, for our country and president, for good weather, for people who are traveling, for people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger and worry.

Next, we will hear the Antiphons being sung. We have people who are called chanters singing towards the front of our church. Some of them sing on the left side and some of them sing on the right side. They take turns singing the Antiphons, which are verses from the Bible in the book of Psalms. Antiphon means "opposite voice" and it refers to the chanters taking turns singing. Can I hear you say antiphon? What does it mean? (It means "opposite voice" or that the chanters are taking turns singing from the Bible.)

Let's see how this works! Does everyone remember how to sing "Lord have mercy"? (Demonstrate) Okay, great! Now, we're going to split up the class in half and we're going to take turns singing. (Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.) Good job! You took turns singing which is what our chanters do when they sing the Antiphons during the Divine Liturgy.

Shortly after this, you see some of the altar boys leave the altar with our deacon and priest. This is called the Small Entrance. (Show YouTube video https://youtu.be/_VAyZMNTH1s?t=5190 or share picture from the book on page 36.)

The holy Gospel will be carried in a procession during the Small Entrance. Do you remember who wrote the 4 Gospels? (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John!)

Our priest quietly says a prayer to God that the angels and archangels join us in singing to God. The next song in the Divine Liturgy is called the Trisagion Hymn. (Show video or sing the hymn to the kids) While we're singing, "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us" - both the angels and all the people are singing together to praise God. Can we try singing it together? We sing this hymn three times - one time for the Father, one time for the Son, and one time for the Holy Spirit.

Review questions:

When does the Divine Liturgy begin? (When we hear "Blessed is the Kingdom...")

Our deacon (or priest) leads us in a prayer called the Litany of Peace. What are we praying for? (For peace in the world, the safety and health of everyone around us, for our country and president, for good weather, for people who are traveling, for people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger and worry.)

What is an antiphon? (Opposite singing or when the chanters take turn singing)

What happens during the Small Entrance? (Fr. Vasile carries the Gospel book in a procession and an altar boy will carry a candle)

How many times do we sing the Trisagion Hymn? (3)

Who are we singing to? (The Holy Trinity)

WEEK 10: LITURGY - ANTIPHONS, SMALL ENTRANCE, & TRISAGION HYMN

3RD - 5TH GRADES

GOALS

What does Antiphon mean?
What is the Small Entrance?
Give a brief explanation of the Trisagion Hymn.

LESSON

Lesson on antiphonal singing and then demonstrate by splitting the class in half (one teacher with each half) and singing back and forth “Lord have mercy”

*Watch the Small Entrance video starting at 1:40:39 - <https://youtu.be/VAyZMNTH1s?t=4946>
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Let’s sing together! - The Trisagion Hymn <https://youtu.be/VAyZMNTH1s?t=5190>

Lesson: (in reference to pages 31 - 40 in “Christ Amongst Us”)

We begin the Divine Liturgy as the priest says, “Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.” As we begin the Divine Liturgy, let’s remember that this is a “peek” or a glimpse into the Kingdom of Heaven.

After this our deacon will lead us with the Litany of Peace. These are requests from us to God and we respond after each one of these requests with “Lord, have mercy.” We pray for peace, the safety and health of everyone around us, for our country and president, for good weather, for people who are traveling, for people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger and worry.

We have people who are called chanters singing towards the front of our church. Some of them sing on the left side and some of them sing on the right side. They take turns singing the Antiphons, which are verses from the Bible in the book of Psalms. Antiphon means “opposite voice” and it refers to the chanters taking turns singing.

Let's see how this works! Does everyone remember how to sing "Lord have mercy"? (Demonstrate) Now, we're going to split the class in half and we're going to take turns singing. (Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.) All of you just demonstrated how to take turns singing, which is what our chanters do when they sing the Antiphons during the Divine Liturgy.

Shortly after this, you see some of the altar boys leave the altar with our deacon and priest. This is called the Small Entrance. (Show YouTube video https://youtu.be/_VAyZMNTH1s?t=5190 or share picture from the book on page 36.) The holy Gospel will be carried in a procession during the Small Entrance. Do you remember who wrote the 4 Gospels? (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)

The Small Entrance represents 'the coming of the Son of God and His entry into this world'. In the earlier Church, everyone would enter the church at this time. It was act of leaving the earthly cares of this world and entering into the life of Christ. The candles are the prophets and St. John the Forerunner, which are all entering first to announce the coming of Christ represented by the Gospel.

Our priest will quietly say a prayer to God that the angels and archangels join us in singing to God. The next song in the Divine Liturgy is called the Trisagion Hymn. (Show video or sing the hymn to the kids) While we're singing, "Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on us" - both the angels and all the people are singing together to praise God. Can we try singing it together? Trisagion comes from the Greek words "tria" meaning 3 and "agios" meaning holy. In this hymn, we will sing "holy" three times - one time for the Father, one time for the Son, and one time for the Holy Spirit.

Review questions:

When does the Divine Liturgy begin? (When we hear “Blessed is the Kingdom...”)

When our deacon (or priest) leads us in the Litany of Peace, what are we praying for? (For peace, safety and health of everyone around us, our country and president, good weather, people who are traveling, people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger & worry.)

What is an antiphon? (Opposite singing or when the chanters take turn singing)

What happens during the Small Entrance? (Our priest or deacon carries the Gospel book in a procession with an altar boy carrying a candle)

How many times do we sing the Trisagion Hymn? (3)

Who are we singing to? (The Holy Trinity)

Who is singing with us to God? (The angels)

WEEK 10: LITURGY - ANTIPHONS, SMALL ENTRANCE, & TRISAGION HYMN

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOALS

What does Antiphon mean?
What is the Small Entrance?
Give a brief explanation of the Trisagion Hymn.

LESSON

Lesson on antiphonal singing

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The Trisagion Hymn <https://youtu.be/VAyZMNTH1s?t=5190>

Lesson: (in reference to pages 31 - 40 in "Christ Amongst Us")

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After this our deacon will lead us with the Litany of Peace. These are requests from us to God and we respond after each one of these requests with "Lord, have mercy." We pray for peace, the safety and health of everyone around us, for our country and president, for good weather, for people who are traveling, for people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger and worry.

Next, we will hear the Antiphons being sung. We have people who are called chanters singing towards the front of our church. Some of them sing on the left side and some of them sing on the right side. They take turns singing the Antiphons, which are verses from the Bible in the book of Psalms. Antiphon means "opposite voice" and it refers to the chanters taking turns singing.

Shortly after this, you see some of the altar boys leave the altar with our deacon and priest. This is called the Small Entrance. (Show YouTube video https://youtu.be/_VAyZMNTH1s?t=5190 or share picture from the book on page 36.) The holy Gospel will be carried in a procession during the Small Entrance. The Gospel is carried in front of the priest's face "so that his face is covered by Him who comes - Christ - he enters the nave. The lighted candle that precedes the Gospel Book is the symbol of the Forerunner, who is the burning and shining lamp." (Hieromonk Gregorios, *The Divine Liturgy*, pg. 150)

Read pages 39 and 40 as a class from "Christ Amongst Us."

What does the Trisagion Hymn mean?

(You can utilize <https://ideaboardz.com> to create a visual for your students as you break down the hymn and discuss its meaning.)

Trisagion comes from the Greek words "tria" meaning 3 and "agios" meaning holy. In this hymn, we will sing "holy" three times.

Holy God: meaning God the Father

Holy Mighty: meaning the Son and Word, who bound the devil, and has authority over us

Holy Immortal: meaning the Holy Spirit, the Giver of Life

Have mercy on us: all of creation cries out

All three of Them are God, Mighty and Immortal, equal in all these aspects.

What does it mean to ask for mercy? (We are seeking forgiveness of our sins)

This hymn is compiled from the Bible - in Isaiah the angels are singing "*Holy, holy, holy...*" to God and in the Psalms we receive *God, mighty, and immortal* from King David. The angelic hymn was joined with the psalm and the petition was added to it" in order to show the harmony of the Old Testament with the New, and that angels and men form one Church and one choir." (Hieromonk Gregorios, *The Divine Liturgy*, pg. 153)

Review questions:

When does the Divine Liturgy begin? (When we hear “Blessed is the Kingdom...”)

Our deacon leads us in a prayer called the Litany of Peace. What are we praying for? (For peace in the world, the safety and health of everyone around us, for our country and president, for good weather, for people who are traveling, for people who are sick or suffering, and from all danger and worry.)

What is an antiphon? (Opposite singing or when the chanters take turn singing)

What happens during the Small Entrance? (Our priest or deacon carries the Gospel book in a procession with an altar boy carrying a candle)

What does the Small Entrance symbolize? (Christ preaching and St. John the Baptist who is the burning and shining lamp)

How many times do we sing the Trisagion Hymn? (3)

Who are we singing to? (The Holy Trinity)

Who is singing with us to God? (The angels)

Where do the words for the Trisagion Hymn come from? (From the Bible)

WEEK 10: LITURGY - ANTIPHONS, SMALL ENTRANCE, & TRISAGION HYMN

HIGH SCHOOL

GOALS

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Give a brief explanation of the Trisagion Hymn.

LESSON

Lesson on antiphonal singing

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