

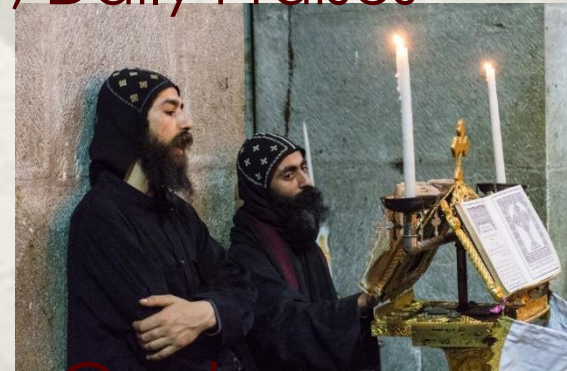
Being Orthodox!



Praising

Orthodox Praising

- Essential feature of the Orthodox Church
 - Coptic: Kiahk, Pascha, Apocalypse, Daily Praises
- Has many forms
- Related to the church's:
 - history, culture, and doctrine.
- *Different forms, same goal: Praise God*
- *Oh come, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us shout joyfully to the Rock
of our salvation. Let us come
before His presence with thanksgiving;
Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.
(Ps 95:1-2)*



Tewahedo Ethiopian Orthodox



Malankara Syrian Orthodox



Coptic Orthodox Church of Africa



Orthodox Praising

- Praise the Name of the Lord
- Communal Praise
- Dogmatic Praise
- Penitent Praise
- Humble Praise



The Name of the Lord

- Orthodox praise is focused on glorifying the name of Christ
 - “*The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe.*” (Prov 18:10)
- Repetitive joyous meditation and contemplation on the Name of the Lord
- “Jesus Prayer”: a simple praise



Seven times everyday, I will praise Your name, **my Lord Jesus**, help me.
O how beloved, is Your holy name, **my Lord Jesus**, help me. (Sunday Psali)

Remembering Your holy name, brings joy to souls,
O **my Lord Jesus Christ**, my good Savior. (Saturday Psali)

For truly I approached, a great Prince,
which is the name of salvation, of **our Lord Jesus Christ**.
Our Lord Jesus Christ, gave a sign to His servants, who do fear him...
This is the name of salvation, of **our Lord Jesus Christ**, and His life-giving
Cross, which He was crucified upon. (Friday Psali)

Communal Praise

- Λειτουργία (leitourgia) “work for the people”
 - “litos ergos” or “public service”.
 - All must be involved in the work
 - People called out for a certain purpose, separated from everyone else, to offer praise to God.
- Every service is a “liturgy”
 - Liturgy of the Eucharist
 - Liturgy of the Waters
 - Liturgy of the Baptism
 - Liturgy of the Crowning



Communal Praise



- A priest can't pray any liturgy alone.
 - Priest, deacon, congregation
 - Story: Palm Sunday during COVID; Fr. Mina's first "blizzard" liturgy
- All liturgy prayers are accompanied with congregation hymns/responses
 - No "long" isolated priest prayers
 - No "deacons/choir" hymns – congregation
- Hymns are in the nominative form: we, us
 - *Through the intercessions, of the Theotokos Saint Mary, O Lord grant us the forgiveness of our sins.*
 - *We look for the resurrection of the dead...*
 - *We worship Your holy Body*



Dogmatic Praise

- We believe in the Orthodox faith
 - We praise with this faith
- Doctrine is *chanted* more than lectured
 - We chant our faith
 - It becomes established in our hearts
 - Every church hymn is a chanted creed
 - Who repelled Arius?



Hiten nip~recbia n~te]yeo~tokoc eyouab
Maria: P[oic a~rih~mot nan m~pi,w e~bol
n~te nennobi.

Through the intercessions of the
Theotokos, Saint Mary, O Lord, grant us
the forgiveness of our sins.

Tenouwst m~mok w~ Pi,~rictoc: nem Pekiwt
n~a~gayoc: nem Pip~neuma eyouab: je (aki~)
akcw] m~mon.

We worship You, O Christ, with Your
good Father and the Holy Spirit, for You
have (come) and saved us.

Eleoc i~r/n/c yucia e~necewc.

A mercy of peace, a sacrifice of praise.

Hiten nip~recbia(Dogma)

Through the Intercessions

- *Intercession of the saints*

Of the Theotokos

- *Incarnation*
- *"Mother of God"*
Who gave birth to God in truth

Grant us the forgiveness
of our sins

- *Salvation, Redemption,
Salvific work, Repentance, Confession*

We worship You, O Christ

- *Christ is true God: we worship God*

With Your good Father
and the Holy Spirit

- *Holy Trinity*
- *Co-essential- n~O~mooucioc – المساوي*

You have come
and saved us

- *Salvation through Incarnation*

Mercy of peace

- *Salvation through grace (mercy of God)*

Sacrifice of praise

- *Abolition of animal sacrifices*
- *Christ: our true sacrifice*
- *We praise Him*



Dogmatic Praise

Am/n a~m/n a~m/n: Ton yanaton cou
Kurie~ kataggelomen: ke t/n a~gian cou
a~nactacin ke t/n a~nalu'in cou en t/c ouranic
ce omologoumen.

Ce e~noumen ce eulogoumen ce~
eu,arictoumen Kurie~: ke deo~meya cou o~
Yeoc /~mwn.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Your Death, O
Lord, we proclaim; Your holy
Resurrection and Ascension into the
heavens, we confess.

We praise You, we bless You, we thank
You, O Lord, and we entreat You, O
our God.

*They likened the high priest, to our Savior,
the true Sacrifice, for the forgiveness of sins.
+ He who offered Himself, as an acceptable sacrifice,
upon the Cross, for the salvation of our race.
His good Father, smelled Him, in the evening, on Golgotha.
+ He opened the gate, of Paradise,
and restored Adam again, to his authority.
Through Mary, the daughter of Joachim,
we learned of the true Sacrifice, for the forgiveness of sins.
+ And we too, hope to win mercy, through your
intercessions, with the Lover of Mankind. (Sunday Theotokia)*



Simple. Repetitive. Dogmatic.



I/couc Pi,~rictoc p~ouro n~te p~w~ou: <u>aftwnf</u> e~bolqen n/eymwout	Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, is <u>risen</u> from the Dead
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Dogma of Resurrection: 15 times in Ps 150 (for 50 days)

Ywk tw ljom nem piw~ou nem pic~mou nem pia~mahi sa eneh a~m/n.	Thine is the power, the glory, the blessing, and the majesty, forever Amen.
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Dogma of Christ's Omnipotence: 574 times during Pascha Week

Kurie e~le/~con.	Lord have mercy.
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Dogma of Repentance and Salvation: 369 times during Agpia

Hiten nip~recbia...	Through the intercessions...
Hiten nieu,/ ...	Through the prayers...
Arip~recbeuin e~h~r/i e~jwn...	Intercede on our behalf...
Twbh m~P[oic e~~~h~r/i e~jwn...	Pray to the Lord on our behalf

Dogma of Intercession of saints:

60+ times during Liturgy

70+ times during commemoration of saints in midnight praises

To Learn the Church Dogma...

Praises

Attend

Liturgies



Penitent Praise

- In Orthodox prayers - three words:
 - *Am/n All/louia Kurie e~le/~con.*
 - *Amen... Alleluia... Kyrie-layson* (Lord have mercy)



Amen

- Continuous faith
- Part of our constant praise

Alleluia (*hallū yāh*), "praise ye Jah!"

- Joy in God's gifts and benevolences.
- Especially His life-giving sacraments.

Kyrie-layson (Lord, have mercy)

- Continuous heartfelt request for mercy.

No one can praise sincerely if he is not:

a believer (**Amen**), and a repentant (**Kyrie-layson**)

To praise (**Alleluia**)... We must also master the words: Amen and Kyrie-layson.

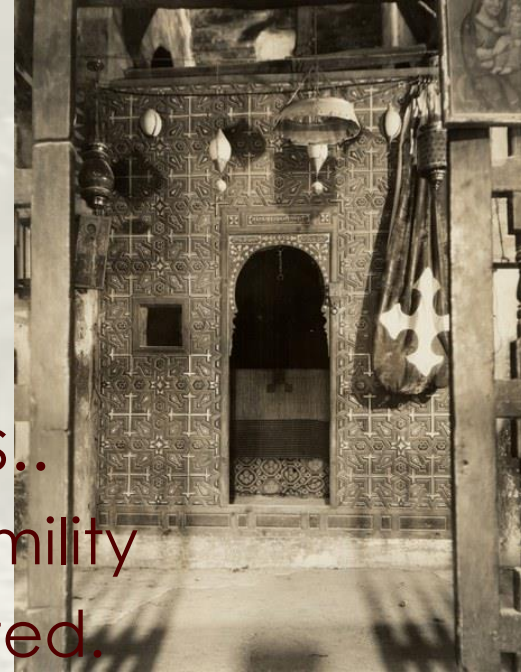
Life of Repentance → Life of Praise

- “Deliver me from **blood**, O God, The God of my **salvation**, And my tongue shall **rejoice in** Your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall declare Your **praise**.” (Ps 51)
- “Have **mercy** on me, and hear my prayer...
You have put **gladness** in my heart...
I will both lie down in **peace**, and **sleep**;
For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in **safety**.” (Ps 4)
- **Alleluia**. I shall go in, unto the altar of God,
before the face of God, who gives **gladness**
to my youth. I will **confess** to You, O God, my God
with a **harp**. **Remember** O Lord, David and all
his **meekness**. Alleluia. (Hymn: *All/louia eiei*)
- Our mouth is filled with gladness and our tongue
with rejoicing from our **partaking** of Your immortal
Mysteries, O Lord... (Thanksgiving at the end of the Liturgy)



Humble Praise

- Orthodox praise raises the person to *feel* the divine presence, and the presence of angels and saints..
 - Increases awe and reverence → Humility
 - Helps us to focus and not be distracted.
 - We become less absorbed in sound, music and more in meanings, contemplations and prayers
- “You are He whom the angels praise and the archangels worship... You are He unto whom the thrones send up the honor... (Anaphora of St Gregory)
- “...Raise your eyes toward the East: To see the Altar, and the Body and Blood of Immanuel our Lord placed upon it. The angels and archangels are standing...praising in one voice...” (long Acpazecye)



Being Orthodox: Praising

- Praising is the longing of the struggling church to enjoy the taste of eternity and the fellowship of the victorious church.
 - Praises are seized moments from eternity
 - As Orthodox believers we chant as we are excited, zealous, and waiting for this heavenly destiny.
- Praising is:
 - For the Name of the Lord
 - Communal Praise
 - Dogmatic Praise
 - Penitent Praise
 - Humble Praise

