



CHURCH STUDY

MIDNIGHT PRAISES

TASBEHA



*Praise
the Lord*

WHEN?

There is a praise for each day of the week, but the Sunday Midnight Praise is the most common one.

WHAT?

Praise is the work of the angels standing before the throne of God always praising Him.

It is a holy time where the believers gather to praise God with different kinds of beautiful praises.



WHY?

- ❖ To prepare each believer for the Holy Liturgy.
- ❖ To purify the souls to be ready for receiving the Holy Communion.
- ❖ To learn more about God and the Holy Bible.

HOW?

We use a book called the *Psalmody*. It is made up of selected parts of the Holy Bible, praises made by the Church Fathers and special praises for St. Mary and the saints.

Praise The Lord



Sing A Joyful Song

TUNES!

Adam: A tune especially for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday praises.

Watos: A tune especially for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday praises.

Seasonal tune: For specific times, for example Annual, Kiahk, Lenten, Palm Sunday, **and** Festive.



DEFINITIONS!

- **Psalmody:** The book that contains all praises sung throughout the year. There are 2 different Psalmody (Annual Psalmody and Kiahk Psalmody)
- **Hoos:** Coptic word meaning praise.
- **Psali:** A Greek word meaning chanting for our *Lord Jesus Christ*.
- **Lobsh:** A Greek word meaning explanation.
- **Doxology:** A Greek word meaning glorification.
- **Theotokia:** A Greek word meaning glorification to the Mother of God.

CONTENT

❖ Midnight praises begin with the

1- MIDNIGHT PRAYERS (3 services)

- 1st Service: the Gospel of **the ten virgin**
- 2nd Service: the Gospel of **the sinful woman whom the Lord has forgiven**
- 3rd Service: the Gospel of **the little flock whom the Lord promised to grant the kingdom**

2- TEN THENO – Arise O children of the light!

A call for all the believers to awake from both their physical and spiritual sleep to praise the Lord.



3- FIRST HOOS

Is the praise of Moses the prophet, his sister Miriam and all the children of Israel after crossing of the Red Sea. This praise is taken from the *Book of Exodus chapter 15*.

The church declares that it is living in the faith of salvation.

The Lobsh explains the hoos in a poetic hymn.

MIDNIGHT PRAISES - TASBEHA -Cont.



CONTENT- cont.



4- SECOND HOOS

Psalm 136- It declares God's awesome power and His mercy which endures forever. **The Lobsh** is also a thanksgiving praise with David the psalmist.

5- THIRD HOOS

It is the hymn of the three youths Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego sung when they were thrown in the fiery furnace. It is taken from *the book of Daniel*. It brings to light the true life of Christianity and the endurance through the trials and tribulations.

6- ARIPSALEEN The praise of the three saintly youth in the fiery furnace.

The Lobsh is the Prayer of Azariah (Book of Daniel). "We follow you with all our hearts and we fear you and we seek Your Face, O God, do not forsake us."



7- THE COMMEMORATION OF THE SAINTS

We become friends with the saints by remembering their lives. We ask them to pray for us and encourage us in our way to heaven.

8- THE DOXOLOGIES We sing a praise for St. Mary, the patron saint of the church and the specific saint whose feast we are celebrating that day.



9- FOURTH HOOS

Consists of the last 3 psalms (**148, 149 and 150**)

Psalm 148 : the whole creation praises the Lord.

Psalm 149 and 150 : man is urged to praise God



10- PSALI OF THE DAY

- There is a Psali for each day and there are Psalis for the seasons.
- Focus on the Name of the *Lord Jesus Christ*
- “The name of the **LORD** is a strong tower...”
(Prov. 18:10)



11- THE THEOTOKIAS

- Veneration of the Virgin Saint Mary, Mother of God.
- There is a Theotokia for each day.
- Mystery of the incarnation

Some Symbols of Saint Mary from the Old Testament.

12- THE CONCLUSION

(Adam or Watos according to the day)

- ❖The Orthodox Creed
- ❖Lord Have Mercy
- ❖The priest concludes by reading the midnight absolution and the gives the final blessing.



1- THE BEAUTIFUL DOVE



2- NOAH'S ARK



3- THE LADDER OF JACOB



4- THE BURNING BUSH



5- AARON'S ROD



6- THE GOLDEN POT OF MANNA



7- THE GATE OF EZEKIAL



8- THE TABLETS OF THE
10 COMMANDMENTS



9- THE ARK OF
COVENANT- THE
MERCY SEAT



10- THE GOLDEN CENSOR



11- THE CITY OF GOD



12- THE GOLDEN LAMPSTAND