November 27: The Kursk-Root Icon of the Theotokos
Stichera of "Lord I have cried" (on a Sunday)
Tone 8, Special Melody, "O most glorious wonder"
Optina Hermitage Chant

(6) Reader: In the 8th Tone, Special Melody "O most glorious wonder"
If Thou shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, O Lord, who shall stand?

For with Thee there is forgiveness.

O all-hymned Virgin, immaculate Mother of God the Word, angels' astonishment, help of Christians, be thou unto us an unassailable wall

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against the assaults of the enemies, visible and invisible,
stretching forth unto thy Son thy hands which held God,
destroying by thine almighty supplication the counsels of the impious,
and revealing the sign of thy mercy unto us.
Reader: For Thy name's sake have I patiently waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited patiently for Thy word,

My soul hath hoped in the Lord.

O Lady Theotokos, our hope unashamed,
bowing the knee of our hearts at this time, we cry to thee in

compunction: The Russian land, which of old was called thy home,
do thou snatch from the hands of the devil,
stretching forth unto thy Son thy hands which held God,
by thy supplication consuming all the dominion of the enemy,
and revealing the sign of thy mercy unto us.
Let Israel hope in the Lord.

O thou joy of all joys! Most sweet consolation of those who sorrow!

Surety of sinners! Salvation of the faithful!

Lead us to the heavenly Kingdom,
Compen-sating for our weakness with thine interces-sion;
intercede for us before the dread judgement seat of Christ,
delivering us from everlasting torment, and re-vealing
the sign of thy mercy unto us.
(3) Reader: For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption;

And He shall redeem Israel out of all his iniquities.

O wondrous tidings! O most glorious sight!

An icon of the Theotokos hid within a grove, and pouring forth

a spring of living water ever flowing to eternal!
Wherefore, having found it, let us form a chorus,

and clapping our hands with gladness let us cry:

Rejoice, O most blessed one, for thou hast come

unto us who are poor!
(2) Reader: O praise the Lord, all ye nations;

Praise Him all ye peoples.

Sanctified by the wood of the Cross, the trees of the forest pay homage to the immaculate Mother of Him Who stretched forth His hands upon the Tree;
for they preserved the image of thy face - most pure,

that when it was wondrously discovered,

the Church might be robed in its comeliness,

and the faithful be partakers of grace divine.

Translation of Isaac E. Lambertsen, "The Menaion of the Orthodox Church", Vol. III, St. John of Kronstadt Press, ©1998. The entire service may be purchased through: sjkp.org

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