

COMMEMORATION OF OUR
**Holy Father Jacob, Enlightener of the Peoples of
 Alaska**

At Vespers

*At “Lord, I have cried...”, six stichera in Tone VI,
 special melody “Having placed all their hope...”:*

Rejoice, O Alaska, / exult, O North America, / for a lamp bearing the light of the Sun of Righteousness / has gloriously appeared in thee. / Father Jacob wise in God, / who didst enlighten the northern lands with the joyous message of the gospel of Christ, / now shines forth in all the world. // Therefore we sing praises to Christ who is wonderful in his saints.

O you lovers of the feasts, / let us hasten together to honor the righteous Jacob, / who poured out his life for the Church. / In countless sorrows and afflictions, / and in pain and deprivation, he bore all as the Apostles of old. / We celebrate thy memory, O chosen saint of God, // as a help to those in distress, O father Jacob.

Like the patriarch Jacob of old, / our holy father Jacob fled from the comforts of this life / and was granted a vision: / a ladder from heaven appeared in the wilds of Alaska, / on which the people might ascend to God. / With patience and love, and the labor of many years, / he obtained the longed-for Bride: / the holy Church of Christ, / brilliant in his own native land. / Therefore we cry aloud to him: / entreat the Lord for us, O holy father Jacob, // that our souls may be saved.

The holy Prophet Moses raised up a tabernacle on Mount Horeb, / and there he spoke with God face to face as one might speak with a friend. /

Our righteous Jacob pitched a tent in the Alaskan wilderness, / where he celebrated the Mysteries of Christ // unto the sanctification of the faithful.

And two stichera in Tone II, Alaskan

Born on the remote island of Atka, / thou didst become a living witness for Christ, / not by the glorious path of martyrdom, / but by humbly accepting the call to the priesthood: / preaching, healing, counseling, praying to God, // and tending thy flock for forty years in the Alaskan wilderness.

Missionary teacher of the Atkan A-le-uts, / translating the scriptures and founding schools. / Thou didst take up the missionary efforts of the holy hierarch Innocent, / following his example: / journeying to remote lands, bringing the Gospel to the Yup'iks and Athabascans, / baptizing and guiding them / to love and to unity in Christ, // sanctifying them, and bestowing blessings of peace.

Glory..., in Tone III:

Today the assembly of the faithful rejoices in the memory / of our holy father Jacob, / boast of Alaska and glory of priests, / wise preacher of the Gospel of Christ, / sure pillar of the Church, fellow citizen with the angels, / equal to the Apostles and prophets: / O holy father Jacob, // entreat Christ our God that our souls may be saved.

now and ever..., from the Octoechos

*Entrance. **Prokimenon** of the Day. Readings:*

THE READING FROM THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON (5:15-6:3)

The righteous live forevermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High. Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand: for with his right

hand shall he cover them, and with his arm shall he protect them. And his zeal will take armor, and he will arm his creation for vengeance upon his enemies. He will vest in the armor of truth, and his helmet shall be judgment without respect of persons. He shall take up the invincible shield of holiness; he shall sharpen his wrath for a sword, and the world shall fight with him against the mad ones. Then shafts of lightning shall strike down from the clouds, as from a bow well aimed, and shall fly to their mark. And hailstones of wrath shall be cast down as stones, and the waters of the sea shall rage against them, and the floods shall drown them terribly. A mighty wind shall rise against them, and like a storm shall blow them away; thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill-dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty. Hear, therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, ye that rule the people, and are proud in the multitude of nations: For power is given you from the Lord, and strength cometh of the Highest.

THE READING FROM THE FIRST GENERAL EPISTLE
OF THE HOLY APOSTLE JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN
(1 John 4:1-6)

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth

God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

THE READING FROM THE FIRST GENERAL EPISTLE
OF THE HOLY APOSTLE JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN
(1 John 4:20-5:5)

If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

Litania, Tone II

We see the fruits of the Spirit in thy holy life, O blessed father, / for thou didst live and delight in the Gospel precepts, / teaching from the abundance of thine experience. / Pray to Christ that we may worthily follow thine example, // and that he may save our souls!

O divinely-wise husbandman, thou didst not labor in vain, / for power from the Most High was granted to thee, / that a new and fruitful vineyard / would appear in the Alaskan wilderness. / Watch over us also, O father Jacob,// that by thine intercessions Christ may save our souls!

Christ commanded us to make disciples of all nations, / and thou, O holy one, hast fulfilled his word / by thy holy life and teaching. / Thou didst call all to repentance by teaching them to pray, // singing glory to Christ our Savior.

O holy father Jacob, / thou art truly blessed. / Righteous father, thy virtues are revealed in all the earth. / Who would not marvel at thy patience, / thy kindness to the needy, thy steadfastness in tribulation? / Therefore, we cry aloud in praise: // “O holy father Jacob, blesséd art thou!”

Glory... Tone 6

O good servant of the Orthodox faith, / for those in need a tireless laborer, / thou didst take upon thyself the Cross of Christ. / Thou didst increase the talent given to thee, / O wondrous father Jacob, // truly honoring the priestly rank bestowed upon thee.

Now and ever... same tone

Most-holy Lady Theotokos, Virgin, / Mary full of grace, hope of all mankind, / and help of our holy father Jacob; / receive the supplications of those in affliction / and beseech thy Son and our Gòd // to grant peace to those who honor thee!

Aposticha, Tone 8

Rejoice, O righteous Jacob, / who didst illumine Alaska / with the lamp of thy preaching, / patiently guiding the people out of darkness / into the light of the knowledge of God! / Now, dwelling with the angels in unapproachable light, // pray for us that our souls may be saved!

Verse: Giving, he has dispersed to the poor; righteousness is his for all ages.

Rejoice, O father Jacob, / equal of the Apostles and dweller in the wilderness, / example of humility and piety, / patient contender in tribulation, / pillar of Orthodoxy in the New World! // Entreat the Holy Trinity on behalf of those who celebrate thy memory!

Verse: In steadfast heart, he shall never fear.

Rejoice, O holy Jacob, / for by grace thou hast become like Jacob of old, / a father of many nations! / O joy of the Yukon and Kuskokwim, / and the Aleutian Islands, // pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved!

Glory. . . Tone 2

O father Jacob, thou hast been revealed as a true lover of Christ, / as a faithful servant at the altar of Christ; / and as a priest of the Lord, an instructor in prayer and perseverance, / an intercessor for the old world and the new. // Pray for peace and great mercy for our souls!

Now and ever. . . (from the Octoechos)

Troparion (Tone 4 - Alaskan)

O righteous father Jacob, / adornment of Atka and the Yukon Delta; / thou didst offer thyself as a living sacrifice / to bring light to a searching people. / Offspring of Russian America, / flower of brotherly unity, / healer of sickness and terror of demons: / O holy father Jacob, / pray to Christ our God // that our souls may be saved!

At Matins

*At “**The Lord is God...**”, the troparion of the saint, in Tone IV (Alaskan):*

O righteous father Jacob, / adornment of Atka and the Yukon Delta; / thou didst offer thyself as a living sacrifice / to bring light to a searching people. / Offspring of Russian America, / flower of brotherly unity, / healer of sickness and terror of demons: / O holy father Jacob, / pray to Christ our God // that our souls may be saved!

Glory..., now and ever..., Theotokion in Tone IV

The mystery hidden from eternity, / and unknown to the angels, / through thee, O Theotokos, is revealed to those on earth: / God made flesh in a union without confusion, / and willingly accepting the Cross for us, / by which he resurrected the first-formed man, // and saved our souls from death.

*After the first chanting of the Psalter, these **sessional hymns**, in Tone I:*

As a servant of the Master of all, thou wast a servant of thy flock, O holy father. By thy teaching thou brought them the light of knowledge, and by water and the Spirit, holy Illumination, O righteous and godly father Jacob, faithful priest and preacher of grace. We honor thee with hymns of praise, O blessed one and friend of Christ.

Glory...now and ever..., Theotokion, in Tone I

O pure Virgin Theotokos, intercessor and protector of the faithful, deliver from all calamity and sorrow, and from all violent assault those who put their trust in thee, and through thy supplications save our souls.

*After the second chanting of the Psalter, these **sessional hymns**, in Tone IV:*

In the depths of the Alaskan wilderness thou didst offer up prayers to the Lord. By binding the wounds of ancient enmities thou didst reconcile all

to Christ and one another. O heavenly intercessor and true priest, Jacob our father, pray to Christ for us who honor thee.

Glory...now and ever... Theotokion, Tone IV:

Accept the entreaties, O Virgin, of those who run to thy protection. Never cease to pray fervently to the lover of mankind that he will deliver your servants from all harm.

Polyeleos, and magnification:

We magnify. / O holy father Jacob, / and we honor thy *holy memory*, / for thou enlightenest the peoples of Alaska, / and thou dost *pray* to *Christ* our God for us.

Verse: Hear this, all peoples; give ear all inhabitants of the world.

Sessional Hymn, Tone IV

From thy youth thou didst take up thy cross, deny thyself, and follow Christ. Thou didst stand before the altar of God, glorifying thy master and his most-pure Mother. Therefore God has highly exalted thee, bestowing on thee abundant gifts, O blessed father Jacob.

Glory...now and ever..., Theotokion, Tone IV

O most-pure Virgin, thou gavest birth to the eternal God. Together with our holy father Jacob, beseech thy Son and our God to grant us remission of sins and amendment of life before the end, O only all-lauded one.

Hymn of Ascents, the first antiphon of Tone IV:

From my youth...

Prokimenon, Tone IV

Thy priests shall vest in righteousness, /
thy saints shall shout for joy.

Verse: Remember David, O Lord, and all his humility.

Gospel: *John 10:9-16*

The Canon, in Tone VIII:

Ode 1

Irmos: Having crossed the water as though it were dry land, / and escaped from the wickedness of the Egyptians, / the children of Israel cried aloud: // Let us sing to our Redeemer and God."

Since thou art numbered with the heavenly choirs, we beseech you, O father Jacob, priest of God: continue to intercede on our behalf that the Lord will grant us his good gifts in this life and forever.

As a chosen priest of God, O righteous one, thou didst live and proclaim the holy Gospel. By thy counsel and wise instruction thou showest thy people the paths of wisdom.

Deliver, O saint of God, thy people and thy native land from all assaults of enemies, visible and invisible. Grant peace to us who faithfully celebrate thy memory with joy.

O Mother of the Church and our defender, save us who with faith and love earnestly entreat thy protection.

Ode 3

Irmos: O Lord, creator of the vault of heaven / and founder of the Church, / in thy love do thou strengthen me, / for thou art our supreme desire and the support of the faithful, // O thou who alone lovest mankind.

Thy words, O father Jacob poured forth as sweet precious ointment, driving out the stench of ungodliness and ignorance and filling all the world with the fragrance of piety. We all run to thee with love, O our father.

O lover of the feast of feasts and joyous celebrant of the holy Mysteries, intercessor and teacher of piety, thou wast truly revealed as a priest of God. Shining now with resplendent glory, thou dost intercede for all the world.

Today, all Alaska and all those who love God everywhere celebrate the great and radiant festival of our humble father Jacob.

“Rejoice, O Theotokos,” the Holy church cries out to thee, for thou didst give birth within time to the timeless one, granting joy to all mankind.

Sessional Hymn, Tone III, to the special melody, “O marvelous wonder...”

Thou wast a servant of the Gospel of Christ, a glorious preacher of the word of God, a radiant lamp of the Alaskan land and a shining example of blessedness! By the steadfastness of thy teaching, by thy gentleness and loving heart, thou hast brought down idols and healed nations, O holy Jacob, pillar of the knowledge of God.

Ode 4

Irmos: Thou art my strength, O Lord, / my power, my God, and my joy. / Without leaving the bosom of the Father, / thou hast visited our poverty. / Therefore, with the prophet Habakkuk, I cry to thee: // glory to thy might, O lover of man.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, O blessed father Jacob, thou dost drive away evil spirits from men, making them cry aloud, “Glory to Thy power, O bountiful Lord.”

O ye hierarchs and priests, rejoice! All ye deacons of pious faithful, sing for joy! Join the chorus, ye godly monks and nuns, and sing the praises of our holy father Jacob!

Thy flock thou didst instruct, O father Jacob, teaching them the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, the divine unity of three persons, God one in essence and undivided, ever adored by the orthodox peoples of Alaska.

O all-holy Lady Theotokos, who gave birth in the flesh to the only-begotten one, intercede for our people and our land, and entreat him that he may deliver from danger all who piously call on thee in faith.

Ode 5

Irmos: Why hast thou cast me from thy presence, O never-setting light? / And why hast hostile darkness encompassed me in my repentance? / But turn me back, I entreat thee, // and guide my steps toward the light of thy commandments.

Piously fulfilling thy divine office, thou didst draw near to holy things with a pure mind. As a blameless minister of grace, thou didst bring honor to the priesthood, O most righteous and holy father Jacob.

Called by the grace of God, thou didst abolish the lawlessness of the impious; by the grace of thy words, like a river of living water, thou thawest the frozen hearts of pagan peoples.

Desiring the peace which surpasses all understanding, thou didst become a blessed peacemaker. By uniting those who had been enemies, thou wast revealed as a true child of God. Bring peace, also, to the hearts of those who honor thee with love.

O immaculate and most-pure Virgin, thou remainest virgin, yet gave birth to the Prince of Peace. Entreat him, we beseech thee, to grant peace to the world and salvation to our souls,

Ode VI

Irmos: I will pour out my prayer before the Lord; / I will make known to him my sorrow, / for my soul is filled with afflictions and my life has drawn near to hell; / and like Jonah I will pray: // O *God*, raise me up from corruption.

O trumpet of the Spirit of God, Alaska resounds with thy teachings. The saving commandments of Christ are set forth, inscribed not on tablets of stone, but written on the hearts of men who glorify thee, O father Jacob.

Exchanging the security of hearth and home for the dangers of the wilderness, thou wast revealed as a great merchant securing for thyself and countless others, Christ the Lord, the priceless pearl.

Standing by the river's edge and offering baptism to all who believed, thou revealest the precious Cross of Christ as a trophy of peace and salvation, and the source of many miracles.

The Word of God, O Lady, has shown you to be a wondrous and life-giving fount, welling up with healing water for all who cry to thee: "Most-holy Theotokos, save us!"

Kontakion, Tone 3

O holy father Jacob, / teacher of the knowledge of God, / thou didst reveal thy love for thy people, / taking up thy cross and following Christ, / enduring hardships like the Apostle Paul. / Pray on our behalf to Christ our God // to grant us great mercy!

Ikos: Hearing the voice of the Savior, O saint, thou didst wisely follow him to the wilderness. Taking no thought for the comforts of life, thou was granted heavenly grace, wisdom, and understanding. We ask thee to send down those same gifts on those who praise thee, O righteous one, and pray on our behalf to Christ our God to grant us great mercy.

Ode 7

Irmos: The Children of Judea, / who dwelt of old in Babylon, / trampled underfoot the flames of the furnace / by their faith in the Trinity, // as they *sang:* Blessed art thou, O God of our fathers!

Resplendent with the grace of God and radiant with the Holy Spirit, thou art a bright and shining star enlightening all Alaska, and illumining all who sing unto our God: Blessed art thou, O God of our fathers!

O dwelling place of God Most High and ornament of virtues, thou dost beautify the Church of Christ. In awe, we sinners join with thee in song unto our God: Blessed art thou, O God of our fathers!

The Savior appointed thee, like the Apostles of old, to teach all people and bring them unto himself, so that with thee they might also sing: Blessed are thou, O God of our fathers!

The holy Apostle James, the brother of the Lord, declared that the fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much for the healing of mankind. Therefore the entreaties of our righteous father Jacob, aided by thy supplications, O Lady, bring us health and salvation.

Ode 8

Irmos: The king of heaven whom the hosts of angels praise, // let us praise and exalt throughout all ages.

Exalted by humility, thou didst humble the proud serpent, O father Jacob. Therefore we sing and honor thee, exalting Christ above all forever.

Thy name, O holy Jacob, describes the work Christ gave thee, for thou hast supplanted the shamans of idolatry and revealed in thy holy life the nobility of the Christian priesthood. Therefore we exalt Christ forever.

He who desires that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, revealed thee to be a most sure guide on the path to salvation, O holy Jacob, wise in God. Pray that we, too, may know and exalt Christ forever.

Despise not our supplications, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace. For the sake of our holy father Jacob entreat thy Son that from our lips he may accept songs of praise and thanksgiving, glorifying his name forever.

Ode 9

Irmos: O Virgin Mother of God Most High, / at the word of the angel, thou gavest birth to God in a manner surpassing understanding. / Therefore we magnify thee with unceasing hymns of praise // as the one who is exalted above the powers of heaven.

Steadfast witness of the truth and marvelous instructor in the faith, golden-tongued teacher of the Church, intercede for us to Christ our God, that we also may delight in His commandments.

We celebrate thy memory, O father Jacob, in joy and gladness, for thou art a helper of the weak. And we call upon thee in faith: Help us in afflictions, O friend of Christ!

You now behold the glory of the Lord and the brightness of God's holy ones. Do not forget us, O holy father Jacob. Beseech the Lord and lover of mankind to grant remission of sins and eternal life to us who honor thee.

Thou alone, O Theotokos, art the protectress of the Christian race. By thine intercessions, O Lady, lead us always on the path of piety, that saving, straight, and narrow way.

*The **Magnificat** is sung.*

Exapostilarion

O venerable father Jacob, Christ shone through thee to enlighten the Alaskan people. The hardship, labor, and tears for the Gospel bore much fruit for the North American lands. Beseech Christ, O holy father, before whose throne thou dost now stand, that he enlighten and save all the people of North America.

Praises, Tone 5

The Bering Sea is warmed today; / the Arctic night is illumined. / Rivers, islands, tundra, and forest lands; / mountains, volcanoes, and glaciers resound / with the hymns of Alaska's native peoples / and all Orthodox Christians throughout the world // glorifying our humble father Jacob.

Friend and co-worker of the holy hierarch Innocent, / thou didst continue his apostolic labors in the Aleutian Islands / and enlightened the peoples of Alaska. / By thy prayers thou didst sanctify the waters of mighty

rivers, / and brought reconciliation between enemies of old. / By preaching repentance and forgiveness of sins, / thou didst bring them to the Church of Christ / as a shepherd gathers his sheep into a flock. / O Jacob our father, // pray for unity in the Church and great mercy for our souls!

The prophet Jacob saw a ladder uniting earth and heaven; / our father Jacob raised a tent in the wilderness where heaven was present on earth. / The great Moses raised his staff over the Red Sea, and led the Israelites out of bondage to Pharaoh; / father Jacob raised the Precious Cross by the Yukon River / and led the Alaskan peoples out of bondage to the enemy, / calling them to repentance as he baptized them in the waters. // Let us sing the praises of God's mercy.

Like the prophet Job, thou wast patient in suffering; / like the Apostle Paul, tireless in travel; / like Cyril and Methodius, you translated the word of God; / like Chrysostom and Basil, zealous in serving the divine praises to God. / Thou art the glory of Orthodox missionaries, teachers, and evangelists; / the joy of the Alaskan lands. / O glorious father Jacob, // entreat the Lord for us that we be made worthy to continue thy work.

Glory..., Tone 6

The Holy Pascha / was the source of thy joy, / the core of thy faith, the well-spring of thine hope, / and the chief delight of thy life. / Its celebration restored thee to physical and spiritual health, / renewing thy body and soul, / transfiguring, illumining, and sanctifying thee. / May each Pascha be also for us an entrance into this holy joy, / a foretaste of the Kingdom of God / where thou delightest eternally // in the beauty of the day which knows no evening.

Now and ever..., in the same tone:

O Virgin Theotokos: / the God who was incarnate of thee / has revealed himself to us. / Beseech him, O All-holy Lady // that our souls may be saved.

At Liturgy

Troparion, Tone 4 (Alaskan melody)

O righteous father Jacob, / adornment of Atka and the Yukon Delta; / thou didst offer thyself as a living sacrifice / to bring light to a searching people. / Offspring of Russian America, / flower of brotherly unity, / healer of sickness and terror of demons: / O holy father Jacob, / pray to Christ our God // that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion, Tone 3

O holy father Jacob, / teacher of the knowledge of God, / thou didst reveal thy love for thy people, / taking up thy cross and following Christ, / enduring hardships like the Apostle Paul. / Pray on our behalf to Christ our God // to grant us great mercy!

Prokimenon, Tone 7

The righteous man shall rejoice in the Lord / and shall set his hope in him.

Verse: Hear my voice, O God, when I pray to thee.

***Epistle:* (244-mid) Philippians 3:7-14**

Alleluia, Tone 6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Verse: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who in his commandments shall take great delight.

Verse: His seed shall be mighty on earth, the generation of the upright shall be greatly blessed.

***Gospel:* Mark 10-29-31, 42-45**

Communion Hymn:

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance, he shall not fear evil tidings.

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