HYMNS OF SUNRISE OFFICE
OF THE
ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

HARMONIZED BY
WARDAN SARXIAN

ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY
ARCHBISHOP TIRAN NERSOYAN

PUBLISHED BY
TORKOM VARTABED MANOOGIAN

JERUSALEM
ST. JAMES' ARMENIAN MONASTERY
1957
The present volume of the Hymns of Sunrise Office with parts for a mixed chorus and with the organ accompaniment is the first attempt of its kind. With the publication of it, we hope partly to meet the wide demand of the Armenian Church Choirs of America for a comprehensive compilation of the music requisite for the choir members.

As the volume is primarily intended for the American-Armenian, an English transliteration is placed below the words under the music. Also, a conscientious translation of the classical Armenian text, carried out by His Eminence, Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan, former Primate of the American Diocese of the Armenian Church, appears on each corresponding page.

The melodies of the hymns, save for some slight alterations towards simplification, are the traditional ones chanted in the Armenian Cathedrals in Jerusalem, Antioch, Constantinople and other centres (most probably in Etchmiadzin as well). The composer, Wardian Sarxian, who is one of the five students of the renowned Komitas Vardapet, helped by his sound knowledge of Armenian music and inspired by his outstanding musical intuition, has been able to create the harmony and atmosphere peculiar to the Armenian hymns. When we listen to the tunes being played on the organ, we intensely feel the undertones of thought expressed in the notes; we are thrilled so much that ‘we forget ourselves to marble.’

Heartfelt thanks are due to Mr. & Mrs. Paul Chapoutin of Long Island, New York, who, in memory of their beloved grandson, Gary Paul Torosian, have supplied the forty-six photo-engraving plates used in this volume; and to Mr. & Mrs. Aram Atarian of Philadelphia, Pa., who, in order to encourage their children, Mr. & Mrs. Mardiores Atarian, and their grandchildren, Aram and Leon, in their love for the Church, have contributed to the publication of this volume.
THE SUNRISE OFFICE
OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

THE ORDER OF THE COMMON PRAYER
OF THE SUNRISE HOUR

ADDRESSED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

ALSO IN VIEW OF THE RESURRECTION
OF CHRIST WHO APPEARED TO THE DISCIPLES

THE PRIEST:
Blessed be our Lord Jesus Christ; Amen.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed
be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will
be done, as in heaven also on earth. Give
us this day our daily bread; and forgive us
our debts, as we also forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory unto the ages.
Amen.

(Inscript. Ps. 72: 17-19)

The name of the Lord shall be blessed
for ever; for His name is before the sun.
THE DEACON:
All the nations of the earth shall be blessed in Him; and all generations shall call Him happy.
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel Who only doeth wondrous things; and blessed be His glorious name for ever, and let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen, Amen.

THE PRIEST:
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

THE DEACON:
Now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Again in peace let us beseech the Lord. Receive, save and have mercy.

THE PRIEST:
Blessing and glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; now and for ever and unto the ages of ages; Amen.
FROM THE EAST (HYMN MODE VIII)

THE CLERKS:

I. From the East to the West, from the North and from the South all nations and peoples bless the creator of creatures with a new blessing; for He made the light of the sunrise today over the world.

II. O congregations of the righteous, who glorify the Holy Trinity in the morning of light, praise ye the Christ, the morning of peace, together with the Father and the Spirit; for He has made the light of His knowledge shine over us.

VARIATION

THE CLERKS:

I. From the East to the West, O children of the Sion, bless always and incessantly Him that maketh the light to shine forth.

II. O congregations of the righteous and ye who glorify the Lord, praise Him that gave us the understanding of the Light.

LITANY

THE DEACON:

From the East to the West, in all places of Christendom, wherever men call upon the name of the Lord in holiness, through their prayers and intercessions may the Lord have mercy upon us. Let us make vows and beseech God that He may deliver us from sins and from the desires of the world. May He accept the vows and requests of our hearts, and may He make us worthy of His faith and of His commandments, together with all His saints. Almighty Lord, our God, save and have mercy.

THE PRIEST:

Save, O Lord.

THE DEACON:

That we may pass this morning of light and the day now before us in peace and in faith, let us ask of the Lord.

THE PRIEST:

Grant, O Lord.

THE DEACON:

The angel of peace to guard our souls, let us ask of the Lord.

THE PRIEST:

Grant, O Lord.

THE DEACON:

The forgiveness and the remission of our transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

THE PRIEST:

Grant, O Lord.

THE DEACON:

The great and mighty power of the Holy Cross to help our souls, let us ask of the Lord.

THE PRIEST:

Grant, O Lord.

THE DEACON:

Again with one accord for our true and holy faith, let us beseech the Lord.
THE PRIEST:
Lord, have mercy.

THE DEACON:
Let us commit ourselves and one another to the Almighty Lord God.

THE PRIEST:
Let us, O Lord, be committed unto Thee.

THE DEACON:
Have mercy upon us, O Lord our God, according to Thy great mercy. Let us all say with one accord.

THE PRIEST:
Lord have mercy; Lord have mercy; Lord have mercy.

COLLECT

THE PRIEST:
From the East to the West Thou art blessed, O Lord; for Thou art a gracious King and Thy name is fearful over the whole world. May our palms and incense before Thee, may judgement come forth of Thy righteousness for our weakness and may Thy all-holy name be glorified. And may we be worthy to abide by Thy commandments and to sing unto Thee praise and glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Peace unto all;
Let us bow down to God.
O HERmits OF GOD (hymn mode VIII)

THE CLerKS:

I. O hermits of God and heirs to the kingdom of heaven, who did exchange the passing things and received the good things that pass not away; intercede with the Lord for the children of the Church.

II. O glorious champions and the beloved of the heavenly Father, who were baptized in your blood together with Christ into the death of the Cross; intercede with the Lord for the children of the Church.

III. O beloved martyrs and habitations of the Spirit of truth, who did conquer by the Spirit your desires and passions; intercede with the Lord for the children of the Church.

IV. O praised ones of the world and desirable ones of the supernal dominions, who did attain the part of beatitude before all the sons of men; intercede with the Lord for the children of the Church.

V. O willing sacrifices, children of age and perfect in wisdom, who did drink the exciting wine, instead of the milk; intercede with the Lord for the children of the Church.

VARIATION

THE CLerKS:

I. O ye true hermits, witnesses of Christ, intercede with the Lord for our souls.

II. O ye living champions, lovers of Christ, who suffered in body for the name of the Lord.

III. O beloved martyrs and desirable ones of men, implore the Holy Spirit to grant us His bounties.

IV. O ye praised-ones of the supernal ranks and the glorious-ones of the world, entreat the Lord to grant peace to the Church.

V. O ye willing holy sacrifices, children of stature, pray to the Lord that we may be crowned together with you.
ASCIPTION  

THE PRIEST:  
We beseech Thee, have mercy on us good Lord; we beseech Thee have mercy on us, through the prayers of the holy hermits; we beseech Thee, have mercy upon us.

UTANY  

THE PRIEST:  
Let us beseech the Lord through the holy hermits, who vanquished the evil-ones, endured tribulations, and were made worthy of the resplendent, heavenly and unfading crowns. May the Lord have mercy upon us through their prayers and intercessions. Almighty Lord our God, save and have mercy.

COLLECT  

THE PRIEST:  
Holy art Thou O Lord and dost rest in the saints. We beseech Thee through the holy witnesses, through the intercessions of the holy Mother-of-God and through the prayers of all Thy saints, cast us not away from Thy mercy, but save us through their prayers. For Thou art God of many mercies and to Thee is fitting glory, dominion and honour, now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

BIDDING  

THE CLERKS:  
Remember, lord, thy servants, our parents, our teachers, our brothers, our friends, our nourishers, the pilgrims, the travellers, the rest-givers, the labourers, the confessors, the penitents, the slaves, the sick, the afflicted, the princes, our malcontents, our benefactors, our enemies, those that hate us and those that have charged us in faith to pray for them.

COLLECT  

THE PRIEST:  
Be mindful, Lord, and have mercy.

O beneficent and merciful God, with Thy unforgetful knowledge and infinite love of man remember all Thy faithful and have mercy upon all. Help them and save them from every danger and temptation. Make them worthy to glorify the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

PSALM 63  

THE CLERKS:  
O God, my God, early will I seek Thee; my soul thirsteth for Thee, my flesh longeth for Thee.

As a desert and waterless land; where there is no road. So I shall appear before Thee in the sanctuary; to see Thy power and Thy glory.

For Thy loving-kindness is better than my life; my lips shall praise Thee.
So will I bless Thee while I live; I will lift up my hands in Thy name.
My soul shall be satisfied as with fat of fatnesses; and my mouth shall praise Thee with joyful lips.
When I remember Thee upon my bed; I speak with Thee in the morning.
For Thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of Thy wings will I rejoice.
My soul followeth hard after Thee; Thy right hand hath upheld me; but they sought my soul in vain.
They shall go into the lower parts of the earth; they shall be given over to the power of the sword and they shall be a portion for the beasts.
The king shall rejoice in God; every one that swareth by Him shall glorify; for the mouth of them that speak iniquities shall be stopped.

(Psalm 64)
Hear my voice, O God; when I beseech Thee; preserve my life from fear of the enemy.
Hide me from the counsels of evildoers; from the thong of the workers of iniquity.
Who have what their tongue like a sword; and have aimed their arrows, even bitter words.
That they may shoot in secret places at the perfect; suddenly do they shoot at Him and fear not.
They encourage in their souls evil purposes; they continue of laying snares privately and they say: The Lord does not see this.
They search out iniquities; they have accomplished a diligent search.
A man shall go near the inward thought of his heart; and God shall be exalted.
With the arrows of children shall they be wounded; their tongue shall be made weak in them, and all that see them shall be troubled.
And all men shall fear when they declare the works of God; and when they wisely consider His creatures.
The righteous shall be glad in the Lord and shall trust in Him; and all the upright in heart shall glory in Him.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
O LIGHT! (HYMN MODE VII)

THE CLERKS:
I. O Light! Creator of light, primal light that dwellest in unapproachable light, O heavenly Father, blessed art Thou by the ranks of the luminous ones. At the rising of the morning light, shine forth upon our souls Thine intelligible light.

II. O Light! Born of the light, righteous Sun, ineffable generation, Son of the Father, Thy name is praised with the Father before the Sun. At the rising of the morning light, shine forth upon our souls Thine intelligible light.

III. O Light! Procession from the Father, source of goodness, Holy Spirit of God, the children of the Church praise Thee together with the angels. At the rising of the morning light, shine forth upon our souls Thine intelligible light.

IV. O Light! Divine and one indivisible Holy Trinity, we, born of the earth, glorify Thee always together with the heavenly hosts. At the rising of the morning light shine forth upon our souls Thine intelligible light.

VARIATION

THE CLERKS:
I. God uncreate, Almighty Father, receive the supplications of us, Thy servants.

II. Ineffable generation from the Father, righteous Sun, shine forth upon our souls the Light of Thy mercy.

III. O Spirit that proceedeth from the Father, source of goodness, fill us with Thy light in this morning.

IV. Three persons and one nature, one godhead, we for ever confess Thee, Holy Trinity.
ASCIATION
THE PRIEST:
With Thy light, O Christ, we have all been enlighten mankind, and in Thy Holy Cross, O Saviour, we, Thy faithful, take refuge. Hear us; O God our Saviour, grant us Thy peace, and show Thy mercy upon us, good Lord.

LITANY
THE DEACON:
Again in peace let us beseech the Lord.
Let us glorify the Almighty God, who made the morning light shine forth upon his creatures. May He make His abundant mercy shine forth upon them that glorify His name. Almighty Lord our God, save and have mercy.

COLLECT
THE PRIEST:
Receive, O great and Almighty God, these our morning prayers and reasonable service into thine undiffused and heavenly tabernacles. Make Thy Light of righteousness and wisdom shine forth upon us and make us sons of light and sons of day, so that in godliness we may lead our life and fulfil it without offence; for Thou art our helper and Saviour and to Thee is fitting glory, dominion and honour, now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

PSALM 23
THE CLERKS:
The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death; I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me.

Thy rod and Thy staff; they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me; in the presence of my enemies.
Thou hast anointed my head with oil; Thy cup of unmixed wine hath me drunk.

Thy mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of the Lord for length of the days.

(Prayer 133, 8-12)
Cause me to know the way wherein I shall walk; for I have lifted up my soul unto Thee.
Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies; for I have made Thee my refuge.
Teach me to do Thy will; for Thou art my God.
Cause Thy good Spirit; to lead me in the land of uprightness.
Save me, O Lord, for Thy name's sake; in Thy righteousness bring my soul out of trouble.

In Thy loving-kindness destroy mine enemies; and cause all them that afflict my soul to perish, for I am Thy servant.

(Prayer 45)
God is our refuge and strength; a helper in trouble, which have overaken us.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth do change; and though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.
Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled; though the mountains shake with the power thereof.
The streams of the rivers make glad the city of God; and the Most High hath made His tabernacles pure.

God is in the midst of them, they shall not be moved; God will help them from morn to morn.

The nations raged and kingdoms were made lowly; the Most High abated His voice and the earth moved.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord; who hath given signs and wonders in the earth.

He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; He breaketh the bow, cutteth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire.

Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

(Psalm 70)
O God make haste to deliver me; make haste to help me, O Lord.
Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul; let them be turned back and brought to dishonour that delight in my hurt.
Let them be turned back; they that say: Aha, aha.
Let those that seek Thee rejoice; and be glad in Thee.

Let such as love Thy salvation my continually: God is great.
I am poor and needy, O God, help me; Thou art my help and my deliverer, my Lord, make no tarrying.

(Psalm 86:16-17)
Give Thy strength unto Thy servant; save the Son of Thine handmaid and show me a token for good.
Let they that hate me may see it and be ashamed; because Thou, Lord, hast helped me and comforted me.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
Now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
O CHRIST (HYMN MODE VIII)

THE CLERKS:
1. O Christ, Who art the way and the truth and the life, guide our souls to ascend from the earth into heaven.
2. O Jesus, door of entrance into life, make us also go in unto Thy Father and the Spirit, to sing always Thy glory.

VARIATION

THE CLERKS:
1. O Christ, the good way and the truth, be the guide of our souls from the earth into heaven.
2. O Jesus, door of the entrance into life, very God, make us also go in unto Thy Father through the Holy Spirit.

ASCRIPION

THE PRIEST:
O Lord, make our goings aright in the ways of peace. O Lord, direct and guide our souls and the souls of all the faithful to walk on the way of righteousness and into life eternal.

LITANY

THE DEACON:
Let us beseech the Almighty God, that He may direct aright the ways of His servants unto that which is good and unto peace. Almighty Lord, our God, save and have mercy.

COLLECT

THE PRIEST:
O Christ our God, author of life and giver of peace, guide us so that we may walk in Thy ways of righteousness and we may arrive at the haven of life and salvation.
in peace, through Thy mercy. For Thou art our helper and our deliverer and to Thee is fitting glory, dominion and honour, now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

COLLECT
(For Fast Days, on which there is no feast)

THE PRIEST:
Blessed art Thou, O Lord God our Saviour, Who art always with us and wilt never abandon them that call upon Thee in faith and in truth. We beseech Thee and request from Thee, Lord, be a fellow traveller unto us, Thy servants, keeping us in peace under Thy rule. And be Thou our leader so that each one of us may again reach in peace and in joy our abodes in Christ Jesus, our Lord, to whom is fitting glory, dominion and honour, now and for ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER
Blessed be our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, as in heaven also on earth. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory unto the ages. Amen.

Be ye blessed by the grace of the Holy Spirit. Depart in peace and the Lord be with you all. Amen.

CONTENTS

On this Publication
Dedication

PART I

The Lord’s Prayer
The name of the Lord (Psalm)
Harvêëlit (Hymns)
Harvêëlit “From the East” (Words)
From the East (Litany)
From the East (Collect)

PART II

Cry unto the Lord (Psalm)
Juknavork (Hymns)
Juknavork “O horns’” (Words)
We beseech Thee (Ascription)
Let us beseech (Litany)
Holy art Thou (Collect)
Remember, lord (Bidding)
Be mindful, Lord (Collect)

PART III

O God, my God (Psalm)
Looyo (Hymns)
Looyo “O light” (Words)
With Thy light (Ascription)
Let us glorify (Litany)
Receive, O great (Collect)

PART IV

The Lord is my shepherd (Psalm)
Janabar (Hymns)
Janabar “O Christ” (Words)
O Lord (Ascription)
Let us beseech (Litany)
O Christ our God (Collect)
Blessed art Thou (Collect)
The Lord’s Prayer ... (Dismissal)
### LIST OF HYMNS

#### PART I.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Armenian</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tbody>
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