

HOLY THURSDAY EVENING

READING OF THE TWELVE GOSPELS



**SAINTS PETER AND PAUL
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

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**THE SERVICE OF THE HOLY PASSION
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST HIGHLIGHTED BY THE
READING OF THE 12 GOSPELS**

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Chanter

Amen.

Priest

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee

O Heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who art in all places and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of Life, come and dwell in us and cleanse us from every stain and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

Reader

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(thrice)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins; Master, pardon our iniquities; Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy name's sake. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto Ages of Ages

Reader

Amen.

Lord have mercy. *(twelve times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Come let us worship and fall down before God our King.

Come let us worship and fall down before our King and our God.

Come let us worship and fall down before the very Christ, our King and God.

(This Psalm is chanted in monotone while the priest censes the icons and the congregation with a small hand censer:)

Psalm 19

THE LORD answer you in time of distress; the name of the God of Jacob defend you! May he send you help from the sanctuary; from Zion may he sustain you. May he remember all your offerings and graciously accept your holocaust. May He grant you what is in your heart and fulfill your every wish. May we shout for joy at your victory and raise the standards in the name of our God. The Lord grant all your requests! Now I know that the Lord has given victory to his anointed, that He has answered him from His Holy Heaven with the strength of His victorious right hand. Some are strong in

chariots; some in horses; but we are strong in the name of the Lord our God.

Though they bow down and fall, yet we stand erect and firm. O Lord, grant victory to the King and answer us when we call upon you.

Psalm 20

O LORD, in your strength the king is glad; in your victory greatly he rejoices! You have granted him his heart's desire; you refused not the wish of his lips. For you welcomed him with goodly blessings, you placed on his head a crown of pure gold. He asked life of you: you gave him length of days forever and ever. Great is the glory in your victory: majesty and splendor you conferred upon him. For you made him a blessing forever; you gladdened him with the joy of your presence. For the king trusts in the Lord, and through the kindness of the Most High he stands unshaken. May your hand reach all your enemies, may your right hand reach your foes! Make them burn as though in a fiery furnace when you appear. May the Lord consume them in his anger: let fire devour them. Destroy their fruit from the earth and their posterity from among men. Though they intend evil against you, devising plots, they cannot succeed. For you shall put them to flight; you shall aim your shafts against them.

Be extolled, O Lord, in your strength! We will sing and chant the praise of your might.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins; Master, pardon our iniquities; Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy name's sake. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto Ages of Ages.

Reader

Amen.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, granting to thy people victory over all adversaries, and by thy Cross, protect thy community.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Do thou, who of thine own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by thy Name; make glad in thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

O Champion dread, who canst not be put to confusion, despise not our petitions, O good and all-praised Theotokos; establish the way of the Orthodox; save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us all to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest birth to God, and alone art Blessed.

Deacon

Have mercy on us, O God, according to thy goodness; we pray thee hearken and have mercy.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

Again we pray for the pious and Orthodox Christians; for priests, Deacons, and all other clergy; for our Archbishop (N.) and for all our brethren in Christ.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

For thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and to thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Chanter

Amen. In the name of the Lord, Father bless.

Priest

Glory the holy, consubstantial, lifegiving, and undivided Trinity always, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Reader

Amen.

THE SIX PSALMS

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to men. (*thrice*)

O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise. (*twice*)

(*The faithful sit*)

Psalm 3

(*Trust in God in time of danger*)

O LORD, how many are my adversaries? Many rise up against me! Many are saying of me, "There is no salvation for him in God." But you, O Lord, are my shield; my glory; you lift up my head! When I call out to the Lord, he answers me from His Holy mountain. When I lie down in sleep, I wake again, for the Lord sustains me. I fear not the myriads of people arrayed against me on every side. Rise up, O Lord! Save me, my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek: The teeth of the wicked you break. Salvation is the Lord's! Upon your people be your blessing! When I lie down in sleep, I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.

Psalm 37

(*Prayer of an afflicted sinner*)

O LORD, in your anger punish me not, in your wrath chastise me not. For your arrows have sunk deep in me, and your hand has come down upon me. There is no health in my flesh because of your indignation; there is no peace in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have overwhelmed me; they are like a heavy burden, beyond my strength. Noisome and festering are my sores because of my folly, I am stooped and bowed down profoundly; all the day I go in mourning. For my loins are filled with burning pains; there is no health in my flesh, I am numbed and severely crushed; I roar with anguish of heart. O Lord, all my desire is before you; from you my groaning is not hid. My heart throbs; my strength forsakes me; the very light of my eyes has failed me. My friends and my companions stand back because of my affliction; my neighbors stand afar off. Men lay snares for me seeking my life; they look to my misfortune, they speak of ruin, they talk of treachery all the day. But I am like a deaf man, hearing not, like a dumb man who opens not his mouth. I am become like a man who neither hears nor has in his mouth a retort. Because for you, O Lord, I wait; you,

O Lord my God, will answer. When I say, "Let them not be glad on my account who, when my foot slips, glory over me." For I am very near to falling, and my grief is with me always. Indeed, I acknowledge my guilt; I grieve over my sin. But my undeserved enemies are strong; many are my foes without cause. Those who repay evil for good harass me for pursuing good. Forsake me not, O Lord, my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Psalm 62

O GOD, O my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water. Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory. For your mercy is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you. Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you. I will remember you upon my couch, and through the night-watches I will meditate on you: That you are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me. But they shall be destroyed who seek my life, they shall go into the depths of the earth; they shall be delivered over to the sword, and shall be the prey of jackals. The king, however, shall rejoice in God; everyone who swears by him shall glory, but the mouths of those who speak falsely shall be stopped.

Through the night-watches I will meditate on you: That you are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Psalm 87

(Lament and prayer in affliction)

O LORD, my God, by day I cry out, at night I clamor in your presence. Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my call for help. For my soul is surfeited with troubles and my life draws near to the nether world. I am numbered with those who go down into the pit; I am a man without strength; like the slain who lie in the grave, whom you remember no longer and who are cut off from your care. You have plunged me into the bottom of the pit, into the dark abyss. Upon me your wrath lies heavy, and with all your billows you overwhelm me. You have taken my friends away from me; you have made me an abomination to them; I am imprisoned and I cannot escape. My eyes have grown dim through affliction; daily I call upon you, O Lord; to you I stretch out my hands. Will you work wonders for the dead? Will the shades arise to give you thanks? Do they declare your mercy in the grave and your truth among those who have perished? Are your wonders made known in the darkness or your justice in the land of oblivion? But I, O Lord, cry to you; with my morning prayer I wait upon you. Why, O Lord, do you reject me? Why hide from me your face? I am afflicted and in agony from my youth; I am dazed with the burden of your dread. Your furies have swept over me, your terrors have cut me off; they encompass me like water all the day; on all sides they close in upon me. Companion and

neighbor you have taken away from me: My only friend is darkness.

O LORD, my God, by day I cry out, at night I clamor in your presence. Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my call for help.

Psalm 102

(Praise of Divine Goodness)

BLESS THE LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his Holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; He pardons all your iniquities, He heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, He crowns you with mercy and compassion, He fills your lifetime with good; your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed. He has made known his ways to Moses, and his deeds to the children of Israel. Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness. He will not always chide, nor does he keep his wrath forever. Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes. For as the heavens are high above the earth so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him. For he knows how we were formed; he remembers that we are dust. Man's days are like those of grass; like a flower of the field he blooms; The wind sweeps over him and he is gone and his place knows him no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity to eternity toward those who fear him. And his justice toward children's children among those who keep his covenant and remember to fulfill his precepts. The Lord has established his throne in Heaven and his Kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, all you his angels, you mighty in strength, who do his bidding, obeying his spoken word. Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, his ministers, who do his will. Bless the

Lord, all his works, everywhere in his domain. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, everywhere in his domain.

Psalm 142

(Prayer of a penitent in distress)

O LORD, hear my prayer; hearken to my pleading in your faithfulness; in your justice answer me. and enter not into judgment with your servant, for before you no living man is just. For the enemy pursues me; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has left me dwelling in the dark, like those long dead. My spirit is faint within me and my heart within me is appalled. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all your doings, the works of your hands I ponder. I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like parched land. Hasten to answer me, O Lord, for my spirit fails me. Hide not your face from me lest I become like those who go down into the pit. At dawn let me hear of your kindness, for in you I trust. Show me the way in which I should walk, for to you I lift up my soul. Rescue me from my enemies, O Lord, for in you I hope. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. May your good spirit guide me on level ground. For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve me; in your justice free me from distress, and in your mercy destroy my enemies; bring to naught all my foes, for I am your servant.

In your justice, O Lord, answer me. And enter not into judgment with your servant. (*twice*)

May your good Spirit guide me on level ground.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)

Our hope O Lord, glory to Thee.

(*The faithful stand*)

Deacon

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. (*Repeated after each petition*)

Deacon

For the peace from above and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the Holy Churches of God, and for the union of them all, let us pray to the Lord.

For this Holy House and for those that enter it, with faith, reverence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

For our Archbishop (N.), the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the President of the United States, and all civil authorities and our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell in them, let us pray to the Lord.

For healthful seasons, for the abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

For travelers by sea, by land, and by air, for the sick and the suffering, for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by thy grace.

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and our whole life unto Christ our God.

Choir

To Thee, O Lord.

Priest

For unto Thee are due all glory, honor and worship, to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Choir

Amen.

(*Tone 8*)

My spirit seeks Thee early in the nightwatches, for Thy commandments are a light on the earth. (*In chanted tone*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Learn righteousness, ye that dwell upon the earth.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Zeal shall seize upon an untaught people, and now, fire shall devour the adversaries.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Bring more evils upon them, O Lord, bring more evils upon those who are glorious upon earth.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

(Tone 8)

When the glorious disciples were enlightened at the washing of their feet before the supper, then the impious Judas was darkened ailing with avarice, and to the lawless judges he betrays Thee, the righteous judge. Behold O lover of money, this man who because of money hanged himself. Flee from the greedy soul which dared such things against the master. O Lord, who art good towards all men, glory to Thee. (*thrice*)

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. (*thrice*)

(*The faithful stand*)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

FIRST GOSPEL

John 13:31-38; 14:1-31; 15:1-27; 16:1-33;
17:1-26; 18:1

Priest

The Lord said to his disciples, "Now is the Son of man glorified, and in him God is glorified; if God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' A new

commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now; but you shall follow afterward." Peter said to him, "Lord, why cannot I follow you now? I will lay down my life for your sake." Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for my sake? Truly, truly, I say to you, the cock will not crow, till you have denied me three times.

"Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And where I am going you know, and the way you know." Thomas said to him, "Lord we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also; henceforth you know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we shall be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you do not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority; but the Father who dwells in me does the works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else believe me for the sake of the works themselves.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and

greater works than these will he do, because I go to my Father. Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; if you ask anything in my name, I will do it.

"If you love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.

"I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more, but you will see me; because I live, you will live also. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. He who has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me; and he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?" Jesus answered him, "If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me does not keep my words; and the word which you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

"These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I go to the Father; for my Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He

has no power over me; but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go hence.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine dresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. This I command you, to love one another.

"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore, the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But all this they will do to you for my name's sake, because they do not know him who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. It is to fulfill the word that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.' But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me; and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do this because they have not known the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you of them.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin,

because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

"I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

"A little while, and you will see me no more; again a little while, and you will see me, because I go to the Father." Some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and 'because I go to the Father'?" They said, "What does she mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he means." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him; so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'? Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is in travail she has sorrow, because her hour has come; but when she is delivered of the child, she no longer remembers her anguish, for joy that a child is born into the world. So you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask anything of the Father, he will give it to you in my name. Hitherto you have asked nothing in my name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

"I have said this to you in figures; the hour is coming when I shall no longer speak to you in figures but show you plainly of the Father. In that day you will ask in my name; and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure! Now we know that you know all things, and need none to question you; by this we believe that you came from God." Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, every man to his own, and will leave me alone; yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify thy Son that thy Son may glorify thee, since thou hast given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. I glorified thee on earth, having accomplished the work which thou gavest me to do; and now, Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

"I have manifested thy name to the men whom thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them to me, and they have kept thy word. Now they know that everything that thou hast given me is from thee; for I have given them the words which thou gavest me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from thee; and they have believed that thou didst send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the

world but for those whom thou hast given me, for they are thine; all mine are thine, and thine are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name, which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name, which thou hast given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not pray that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; thy word is truth. As thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I sanctify myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

"I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. The glory which thou hast given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me. Father, I desire that they also, whom thou hast given me, may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which thou hast given me, for thou loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world has not known thee, but I have known thee; and these know that thou hast sent me. I made known to them thy name, and I will make it known, that the love with which thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them."

When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples across the Kidron valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

(The faithful sit)

1st Antiphon (Tone 8)

Chanter

The rulers of the people have assembled against the Lord and His Christ.

A Lawless charge is hurled against me. Lord, O Lord, forsake me not.

Let us present our pure affections to Christ, and as His friends, through Him, make an offering of our souls. Let us not, like Judas choke ourselves with the cares of this world, but from the treasures of our hearts let us cry: Our Father which art in Heaven, deliver us from evil.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

O Mary Theotokos, as a Virgin thou didst virginally bear, and yet remain Virgin, O unwedded Mother. Do thou supplicate Christ our God, that we may be saved.

2nd Antiphon (Tone 2)

Judas hastened to the lawless scribes and said to them: What will ye give me, and I will deliver Him unto you? And Thou didst stand unseen in the midst of those who made the covenant, and didst thyself submit to it. O Thou who knowest men's hearts, spare our souls.

With mercy let us serve God, as did Mary at the supper, and let us not, like Judas, foster

avarice; that we may ever be with Christ, our God.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Cease not, O Virgin, to implore Him whom thou didst inexplicably bring forth, that He may save from dangers those who flee unto Thee, for He is ever merciful.

3rd Antiphon (Tone 2)

By reason of the raising of Lazarus, O Merciful Lord, the Hebrew children cried: Hosanna to Thee; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

At thy Supper, O Christ our God, Thou didst foretell to thy disciples: One of you shall betray me; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

When John asked Thee, O Lord, who is he that shall betray Thee? Thou didst reveal him by the bread; But the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

By thirty pieces of silver, and by a treacherous kiss, the Jews sought to slay Thee, O Lord; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

At the washing of the feet, Thou, O Christ our God, didst exhort thy disciples Do ye as ye see me do; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

Watch and pray, that ye be not tempted, Thou, O God, didst say to thy disciples; but the lawless Judas was unwilling to understand.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

O Theotokos, do thou preserve thy servants from dangers, For all, after God, flee for protection unto thee, as an unconquerable bulwark.

KATHISMA (*Tone 7*)

When Thou wast feeding Thy disciples at the supper, Thou didst know Judas' intention to betray Thee, and Thou didst accuse him of this though recognizing him to be beyond correction. For Thou didst desire all to know that Thou wast willingly betrayed, to snatch the world from the grasp of the enemy. O longsuffering Lord glory to Thee.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, Let us pray to the Lord.

Chanter

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE SECOND GOSPEL

John 18:1-28

Priest

At that time Jesus went forth with his disciples across the Kidron valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with

his disciples. So Judas, procuring a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to befall him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. Again Jesus asked them, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he; so, if you seek me, let these men go." This was to fulfill the word which he had spoken, "Of those whom thou gavest me I lost not one." Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup which the Father has given me?"

So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews seized Jesus and bound him. First they led him to Annas; for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had given counsel to the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. As this disciple was known to the high priest, he entered the court of the high priest along with Jesus, while Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the maid who kept the door and brought Peter in. The maid who kept the door said to Peter, "Are not you also one of this man's disciples?" Peter said, "I am not." Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were warming themselves; Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogue and in the temple, where all Jews come together; I have said nothing secretly. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me, what I said to them; they know what I said." When Jesus had said this, one of the officers standing by struck him with his hand, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They said to him, "Are you not also one of his disciples?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the servants of the high priest, a kinsman of the man whose ear Peter had cut off asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Peter again denied it; and at once the cock crowed.

Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the praetorium. It was early. They themselves did not enter the praetorium, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the passover.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

(The faithful sit)

4th Antiphon (Tone 5)

Chanter

Today Judas forsakes the Master and takes the devil as his friend. He is blinded by the passion of avarice. Darkened he fall from the light. He sold the Sun for thirty pieces of silver. How, then, is he able to see? But He who suffers for the world has risen as the dawn for us. To Him let us cry aloud: O Thou who sufferest for us and with us, glory to Thee!

Today Judas simulates piety and estranges himself from grace. He is a disciple and he becomes a betrayer, and under a guise of kindness hides deceit. He in his folly prefers thirty pieces of silver to the love of the Master and becomes a guide to the council of lawless men. Let us, who have Christ as our salvation, glorify Him.

(Tone 1)

As brothers in Christ, let us seek after brotherly love, and let us not lack sympathy with our neighbors, that we be not condemned like the unmerciful servant on account of money, repent like Judas to no purpose.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

O Mary Theotokos, glorious and pure, in every place most excellent things have been spoken of thee; for thou didst engender in the flesh the Maker of All.

5th Antiphon (Tone 6)

The disciple of the Master agrees to the price and sells his Lord for thirty pieces of silver. With a treacherous kiss he betrays Him to death at the hands of the lawless men.

Today the Creator of heaven and earth saith to His disciples: The hour is near and Judas, who betrays Me, is at hand. Let none deny Me when they see Me on the Cross between two thieves; for as Man I suffer, and as man's Redeemer I save those who believe in Me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

O Virgin who didst in the last days ineffably conceive and bear the Creator Himself, do thou save them who magnify thee.

6th Antiphon (Tone 7)

Today Judas watches how to betray the Lord, the Savior of the world before all ages, Who with five loaves satisfied the multitude. Today the transgressor denies the Teacher; he became a disciple and betrayed the Master.

Today the Jews nailed to the Cross the Lord who had divided the sea with a rod, and who had led them into the wilderness. Today they pierced His side with a spear, Who for their sakes smote Egypt with plagues; and gave Him gall to drink, Who had rained manna upon them for food.

O Lord, when Thou camest willingly to thy Passion, Thou didst say to thy disciples: If ye have not strength to watch with Me for one hour, how did ye promise to die for me? Do ye see Judas, how he sleeps not, but hastens to betray Me to the enemy? Arise, pray, lest any of you deny Me, when ye see Me on the Cross. O long suffering One, glory to Thee.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Hail! Theotokos, for thou didst contain in thy womb Him Who in Heaven is Infinite. Hail! O Virgin, for thee the prophets did proclaim, and from thee Emmanuel is made manifest. Hail! O Mother of Christ our God.

KATHISMA (Tone 7)

What caused you to betray the Savior, O Judas? Did he expel you from the ranks of the apostles? Did He take from you the gift of healing? Did He send you from the table while taking supper with the others? Did He wash their feet and pass you by? How have you forgotten such good things? Your ingratitude is notorious, but His boundless longsuffering and great mercy are proclaimed to all.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE THIRD GOSPEL

Matthew 26:57-75

Priest

At that time the soldiers seized Jesus and led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter followed him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.'" And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of

Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face and struck him and some slapped him, saying, "Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a maid came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." And when he went out to the porch, another maid saw him and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again Peter denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly, you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then Peter began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the cock crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

(The faithful sit)

7th Antiphon (Tone 8)

Chanter

While permitting transgressors to arrest Thee, Thou didst cry out to Them, O Lord: "Though you smite the shepherd and scatter the twelve sheep, my disciples, I am able to surround myself with more than thirty legions of angels. But I forebear so that the secret and hidden things might be fulfilled which were revealed to you by my prophets." O Lord, glory to Thee.

Peter having denied Thee thrice, straightway recalled thy words to him, and he was brought to Thee with tears of penitence, saying: God forgive me and save me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Let us all praise the Holy Virgin, as the gate of salvation and a peaceful Paradise and as having been the cloud over the Everlasting Light. To her let all us say: Hail!

8th Antiphon (Tone 2)

Say ye, O transgressors of the law, what heard ye from our Savior? Is it not that He appointed a law, and the teachings of the prophets? Now then did ye think to deliver unto Pilate the Word, God of God, and the Deliverer of our souls? They, O Christ, who benefited always by thy gifts, were crying, Let him be crucified, and the killers of the righteous sought to free an evil doer in the place of the benefactor, but Thou wast silent, enduring their arrogance, wishing to suffer, and to save us, since Thou art the Lover of mankind.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

O Virgin Theotokos, since through our manifold sins we dare not approach, do thou plead with Him, who was brought forth from thee; for the prayer of the Mother availeth much for the favor of the Master. Most Holy Lady, overlook not the entreaties of us sinners, for He Who deigned to suffer for us is merciful and able to save.

9th Antiphon (Tone 3)

They weighed the thirty pieces of silver, the price of Him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value. Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the

spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak;
wherefore watch.
They gave me gall to eat, and when I was
thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink; but
Thou, O Lord, raise me up again, and I shall
reward them.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of
Ages. Amen.

We, the Gentiles, praise thee O Holy
Theotokos, for thou didst give birth to Christ
our God, Who through thee freed mankind
from the curse.

KATHISMA (*Tone 8*)

How could Judas, who was once Thy
disciple, plan to betray Thee. That
treacherous and unrighteous man deceitfully
ate with Thee and went to the priests and
said: "What will you give me if I deliver to
you Him who abolished the law and profaned
the Sabbath?" O longsuffering Lord, glory to
Thee.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the
Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord
have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.
Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel
according to St. John. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE FOURTH GOSPEL

John 18:28-40, 19:1-16

Priest

At that time, they led Jesus from Caiaphas to
the praetorium. It was early. They themselves
did not enter the praetorium, so that they
might not be defiled, but might eat the
passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,
"What accusation do you bring against this
man?" They answered him, "If this man were
not an evildoer, we would not have handed
him over." Pilate said to them, "Take him
yourselves and judge him by your own law."
The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us
to put any man to death." This was to fulfill
the word which Jesus had spoken to show by
what death he was to die. Pilate entered the
praetorium again and called Jesus and said to
him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus
answered, "Do you say this of your own
accord, or did others say it to you about me?"
Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own
nation and the chief priests have handed you
over to me; what have you done?" Jesus
answered, "My kingdom is not of this world;
if my kingdom were of this world, my
servants would fight, that I might not be
handed over to the Jews; but my kingdom is
not from the world." Pilate said to him, "So
you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say
that I am a king. For this I was born, and for
this I have come into the world, to bear
witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the
truth hears my voice." Pilate said to him,
"What is truth?"

After Pilate had said this, he went out to the
Jews again, and told them, "I find no crime in
him. But you have a custom that I should
release one man for you at the Passover; will
you have me release for you the King of the
Jews?" They cried out again, "Not this man,
but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and arrayed him in a purple robe; they came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again, and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you, that you may know that I find no crime in him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to crucify you, and power to release you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin."

Upon this Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend; every one who makes himself a king speaks against Caesar." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

10th Antiphon (Tone 6)

He who clothes Himself with light as with a garment stood naked for trial. He was struck on the cheek by hands that He Himself had formed. A people that transgressed the law nailed the Lord of glory to the Cross. Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then the sun was darkened, unable to bear the sight of God outraged, before whom all things tremble. Let us worship Him.

The disciple denied Him, and the thief exclaimed: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Give peace to the world, O Merciful Lord, Thou Who didst deign, for thy servants' sake, from a Virgin to become incarnate; wherefore with one voice we glorify Thee.

11th Antiphon (Tone 6)

In return for the benefits which Thou, O Christ, didst bestow upon the Hebrew race, they condemned Thee to be crucified, and gave Thee to drink vinegar mixed with gall. Render unto them, O Lord according to their works, for they comprehended not thy condescension.

Thy betrayal, O Christ, was not enough for the Hebrew race, but they shook their heads, and approached Thee with scoffing and derision. Render unto them, O Lord, according to their works, for in vain they strove against Thee.

Neither the earth in its quaking, nor the rocks when they were split, neither the veil of the Temple, nor the raising from the dead convinced the Jews. But Thou, O Lord, reward them according to their deeds; for they ridiculed Thee falsely.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen

Only pure and only blessed Virgin, Theotokos, we know that God took flesh from thee; therefore thee, we unceasingly praise and magnify.

12th Antiphon *(Tone 8)*

Thus says the Lord unto the Jews: My people, what have I done unto thee? And wherewith have I harmed thee? Thy blind have I lighted. Thy lepers have I cleansed, and the man on his couch have I raised.

O my people, what have I done unto thee, and how hast thou recompensed Me? Instead of manna, gall; instead of water, vinegar; instead of my love ye nailed me to the Cross. No longer will I shelter you; I will call the nations mine, and they shall glorify me, with the Father and the Spirit; and I will give to them the life everlasting.

Today the veil of the Temple is rent in twain, as a reproof to the lawless men and even the sun hides its rays, beholding the Master on the Cross.

The company of the Apostles exclaims to you, O law-givers of Israel, Jews, and Pharisees; behold the Temple which ye have destroyed; behold the Lamb which ye have crucified; ye have delivered Him to the tomb, but by His own power He has arisen. Deceive not yourselves, Jews, for in the sea He saved, and in the desert He fed; He is the Life and Light and Peace of the world.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Hail, Gate of the King of Glory, which only the Most High has entered, and again left sealed, for the salvation of our souls.

KATHISMA *(Tone 8)*

O God, Thou didst stand before Caiaphas. O judge, Thou wast given over to Pilate. Then the heavenly powers shook with fear. Though sinless, Thou was numbered among the transgressors, lifted up on the wood between two thieves in order to save mankind. O patient Lord, glory to Thee!

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE FIFTH GOSPEL

Matthew 27:3-32

Priest

At that time, when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt regret and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." And throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood

money." So they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him who was valued, who was valued by the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me."

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?" But Jesus gave him no answer, not even to a single charge; so that the governor wondered greatly.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified." And Pilate said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified."

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this

righteous man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" Then Pilate released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon byname; this man they compelled to carry the cross of Jesus.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

(The faithful sit)

13th Antiphon (Tone 6)

Chanter

The assembly of the Jews demanded of Pilate that Thou, O Lord, shouldst be crucified, and finding no cause against Thee, they released the prisoner, Barabbas, and condemned Thee, the Just One, and hence inherited for themselves the accusation of bloodguiltiness. Render unto them, O Lord, according to their works, for in vain they strove against Thee.

The priests gave Him gall to drink, and they smote with their hands, Him before Whom all things tremble and quake, Christ, the Power and Wisdom of God, Whom every tongue praises. Through His mercy He deigned to endure all things, that He might through His own Blood save us from our sins.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

O Theotokos, who didst, through the word, ineffably bear thine own Creator, do thou implore Him to save our souls.

14th Antiphon (Tone 8)

Thou, O Lord, didst accept as thy fellow-traveler, even the thief, whose hands were defiled with blood. Do thou number us with him, for Thou art righteous and full of compassion.

The thief upon his cross uttered a few words, but found a great faith. In a moment he was saved, and he was the first to enter Paradise when the gates were opened. O Lord, who didst accept his repentance, Glory to Thee.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Hail to thee, who through an Angel didst receive the joy of the world. Hail to thee, who didst bear thy Creator and thy Lord. Hail to thee, who wast held worthy to become the Mother of Christ our God.

At this point the Priest carrying the Crucifix exits from the Sanctuary and proceeds all around the Church, reciting in a monotone the following hymn. The faithful remain kneeling throughout the procession.

15th Antiphon (Tone 6)

Today He who hung the earth upon the waters is hung upon the tree. (thrice)

The King of angels is decked with a crown of thorns. He who wraps the heavens with clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery. He who freed Adam in the Jordan is slapped on the face. The bridegroom of the Church is

affixed to the cross with nails. The Son of the Virgin is pierced by a spear.

We worship Thy passion, O Christ. (thrice)

Show us also Thy glorious resurrection.

(The above hymn is repeated by the chanter)

(The faithful sit)

Chanter

Christ, our God, who is our Passover, is sacrificed for us; therefore not as the Jews let us keep the Feast, but let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement and with sincerity beseech Him: Arise, O Lord, and of thy mercy save us.

Thy Cross, O Lord, is life and resurrection to thy people, and trusting in it we praise Thee, our crucified Lord; do Thou have mercy upon us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

When she who engendered Thee, saw Thee, O Christ, hanging upon the Cross, she cried out: What strange mystery do I see, O my Son? How, with thy flesh transfixed, dost Thou, the Giver of Life, die upon the Tree?

KATHISMA (Tone 4)

Thou didst ransom us from the curse of the law by thy precious blood; Thou didst shed forth immortality upon mankind by being nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear. O Savior of us all, glory to Thee.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.
Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel
according to St. Mark. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE SIXTH GOSPEL

Mark 15:16-32

Priest

At that time, the soldiers led Jesus away inside the palace (that is, the praetorium); and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck his head with a reed, and spat upon him, and they knelt down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

And they compelled a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry the cross of Jesus. And they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mingled with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour, when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled

which says, "He was reckoned with the transgressors." And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads, saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests mocked him to one another with the scribes, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe."

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

THE BEATITUDES (Tone 4)

Chanter

In thy Kingdom, remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in thy Kingdom.

Blessed are those that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth.

Because of a tree, Adam was estranged from Paradise; and the thief because of the tree of the Cross abode in Paradise; for the former in tasting, disobeyed the commandment of the Creator; but the latter, who was crucified with Thee, confessed, admitting to Thee that Thou art a hidden God. O Savior, also remember us in thy Kingdom.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.

The law-transgressors verily did buy the ordainer of the law from a disciple. And as a law-breaker they brought Him before Pilate, crying out that He who gave them manna in the wilderness be crucified. But we, emulating the righteous thief, cry out in faith, Remember also us, O Savior, in thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy.

The assembly of the Jews, that lawless, God-attacking nation, madly cried to Pilate, saying, Crucify Christ the innocent; pleading that Barabbas be rather released. But we cry in the voice of the grateful thief, Remember also us, O Savior, in thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God.

Thy life-bearing side, O Christ, overfloweth like a spring from Eden, watering thy church as a paradise endowed with speech; and thence divideth the glad tidings into four Gospels, as into four heads, watering the world, gladdening creation, and teaching the gentiles to adore thy Kingdom in faith.

Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the sons of God.

Thou wast crucified O Christ, for my sake, that Thou mightest pour forth salvation for me. And thy side was pierced with a spear, that it might cause rivers of life to flow for me. Thou wast fastened with the nails; and so realizing the depth of thy Passion and the height of thy might, I will cry unto Thee, Glory to thy Passion and to thy crucifixion, O life-giving Savior.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake; for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

The whole creation, O Christ, beholding thy crucifixion, trembled; the foundations of the earth were shaken for dread of thy might; the luminaries went into hiding; the veil of the temple was rent; the mountains quaked; and the rocks burst asunder, as the believing thief cried with us unto Thee, Savior, remember me.

Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.

Thou hast torn with the spear, O Lord, the handwriting of ordinances that were against us, and Thou wast numbered among the dead,

binding there the usurper, and delivering all from the bonds of death by thy Resurrection, by which we have been enlightened. Wherefore, we cry to Thee, O Lover of mankind, remember also us in thy Kingdom.

Rejoice and be glad, for great is your reward in Heaven.

O Lord, who wast elevated on the Cross, and who, being God, loosed the bonds of death and blotted out the handwriting of ordinances against us, grant us the repentance of the thief, O Thou who art alone the Lover of mankind, we who worship Thee in faith, O Christ our God, and who cry to Thee, Remember also us in thy Kingdom.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Come, all ye believers, let us with one mind beseech, glorifying as is meet, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the one Godhead in three Persons, permanent without confusion, simple, indivisible, and unapproachable, through whom we escape the fire of punishment.

Now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

We offer Thee for intercession, O most merciful Christ Lord, thy mother, the true Virgin, who without seed, gave birth in the body and remained without corruption after her birth-giving, that Thou mightest forgive the transgressions of those who cry to Thee constantly, Remember also us, O Savior, in thy Kingdom.

PROKEIMENON (Tone 4)

They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. (*thrice*)

Verse

O God, my God, hear me; why hast Thou forsaken me?

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE SEVENTH GOSPEL

Matthew 27:33-54

Priest

At that time, the soldiers led Jesus to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), and they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots, that what was spoken by the prophet might be fulfilled: "They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked

him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. If he is the King of Israel, let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, la'ma sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." And Jesus cried again with a loud voice and gave up the spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

(The faithful sit)

PSALM 50**Reader**

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy great mercy; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out mine iniquity. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge

mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against thee only have I sinned, and done evil in thy sight; that thou mightest be justified in thy words, and prevail when thou art judged. For behold, I was shapen in iniquity: and in sin did my mother conceive me. For behold, thou hast loved truth; the unclear and hidden things of thy wisdom thou hast made clear to me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones which thou hast broken shall rejoice. Turn away thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and steady me with a guiding spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways, and the impious shall be converted unto thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. O Lord, open thou my lips and my mouth shall declare thy praise. For hadst thou desired sacrifice, I would have given it thee; thou delightest not in burnt offerings. Sacrifices to God are a contrite spirit; a contrite and humble heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Do good, O Lord, in thy goodwill unto Zion, that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up. Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE EIGHTH GOSPEL

Luke 23:32-49

Priest

At that time, two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Jesus. And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people who stood by watching and the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ, the Chosen of God!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, in letters of Greek and Latin and Hebrew, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "If you are the Christ, save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he gave up the spirit. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he glorified God, and said, "Certainly this was a righteous man!" And all the multitudes who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

(The faithful sit)

5th Ode, Tone 6

Chanter

I approach Thee early, O Word of God, Thou who, through thy compassion for fallen man, didst without change become of no account, and without suffering, even to suffering, bow thyself down. O merciful Lord, to me grant peace.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

With washed feet, and themselves purified by participation in the Divine Mystery, thy servants, O Christ, now come together from Zion to the great mount of olives, and they praise Thee, O merciful Lord.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

Thou didst say: See, O my friends, that ye be not troubled, for now the hour is nigh for me to be given up and slain by the hands of lawless men. All ye shall be scattered, forsaking me; but those whom I shall gather shall preach my mercy.

KONTAKION *(to be read)*

Reader

Come, let us all praise Him, who was crucified for us. For Mary beheld Him on the Tree and said: Even if Thou endure the Cross, Thou art my Son and my God.

OIKOS *(to be read)*

The Virgin Mother, seeing her own Lamb led to the slaughter, followed wailing with the other women, and she cried: Whither goest Thou, O my child? Why dost Thou travel along so fast? Surely there is not another wedding in Cana? Whither dost Thou speed in order to turn for them water into wine? Can I not come with Thee, O my child? or tarry with Thee? Give me a word O Thou, who art the Word. Pass me not by in silence, Thou who didst keep me, holy, for Thou art my Son and my God.

SYNAXARION

The Synaxarion is first read from the Menaion Book, then the Synaxarion of Great Friday.

On Great Friday is celebrated the holy saving, and awful Passion of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. For us He willingly endured the spittings, the scourgings, the buffetings, the scorn, the mocking, and the purple robe; the reed, the sponge, the vinegar, the nails, the spear, and above all, the Cross and Death.

Also celebrated is the confession on the cross unto salvation of the penitent thief, who was crucified with Him.

Lines for the Crucifixion

Thou art a living God, and yet wert Thou lifeless on the Tree. O naked corpse, yet Word of the living God.

Lines for the penitent thief

The thief opened the locked gates of Eden with the key, "Remember me." Through thy marvelous and unbounded compassion for us, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

8th Ode Heirmos (Tone 6)

Chanter

The divine children exposed a monument of impious wickedness; and against Christ the arrogant and lawless Sanhedrin in vain took counsel, discussing how to slay Him who held life in the palm of His hand, and whom all creation blesses glorifying to all ages.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

Shake off sleep now from your eyelids, O my disciples, saith Christ. With prayer, watch, lest ye be overwhelmed by temptation; and thou, Simon, in particular, for the trial is greatest to the strong. O Peter, know me, whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

O Master, cried Peter, a profane word shall never fall from my lips. Even if all deny Thee, yet will I joyfully die with Thee. For not flesh and blood, but thy Father hath revealed Thee unto me, Thee whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

All the depth of divine wisdom and knowledge Thou hast not yet sought out, and the bed rock of my judgment thou, O man, hast not comprehended, saith the Lord. Boast not, for thou art flesh, and *thrice* thou shalt deny me, whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

Thou wilt fail me, O Simon Peter, saith the Lord, as soon as the word is put to thee, although thou art persuaded, and the maidservant approaching very hastily will dismay thee. Nevertheless, weeping bitterly, thou knowest me as very merciful, whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages.

We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.

The divine children exposed a monument of impious wickedness; and against Christ the arrogant and lawless Sanhedrin in vain took counsel, discussing how to slay Him, who held life in the palm of his hand, and whom all creation blesses, glorifying to all ages.

Deacon

The Theotokos and Mother of Light, let us honor and magnify in song.

At this point the Priest censes the crucifix, the holy icons, and the faithful.

9th Ode The Heirmos (Tone 6)

Chanter

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without stain barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos we magnify thee.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

The synagogue, that worthless company of knavish, abominable, and God-slaying men attacked Thee, O Christ, and dragged away, as an evil-doer, Thee, the Creator of all, whom we magnify.

Glory to Thee O God, glory to Thee.

The impious men, understanding neither the law nor the voices of the prophets, and making inquiry to no purpose, unjustly dragged Thee away, the Master of all, as a

sheep to the slaughter, Thee whom we magnify.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

The priests, with the scribes, caused the Gentiles to take away the life that had been betrayed, and they smote with their most envious malice Him, who is by nature the giver of life, and whom we magnify.

Now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Like many dogs they came round about Thee, O King, and smote Thee on the cheek with their hands. They questioned Thee and brought forth false witnesses, but Thou didst endure all things and hast saved all.

KATAVASIA (Tone 6)

More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word; true Theotokos we magnify you.

Deacon

Again and again in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by thy grace. Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and our whole life to Christ, our God.

Choir

To Thee O Lord.

Priest

For all the heavenly powers praise Thee and to Thee they ascribe glory, to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Choir

Amen.

EXAPOSTEILARION (Tone 3)

Chanter

In one moment Thou did graciously grant paradise to the wise thief, O Lord. Illumine Thou me also by the Tree of the Cross and save me. (*Thrice*)

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. (*thrice*)

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE NINTH GOSPEL

John 19:25-37

At that time, standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your

son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own.

After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the scripture), "I thirst." A bowl full of vinegar stood there; so they put a sponge full of vinegar on hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished"; and he bowed his head and gave up the spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness – his testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth - that you also may believe. For these things took place that the scripture might be fulfilled, "Not a bone of him shall be broken." And again another scripture says, "They shall look on him whom they have pierced."

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

THE PRAISES (*Tone 3*)

Chanter

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. O praise the Lord of heaven; praise Him in the heights. To Thee, O God, belongeth the hymn. Praise Him, all His Angels; praise Him all His hosts. To Thee, O God, belongeth the hymn.

Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to His excellent greatness.

Israel, my first-born son, committed two evil deeds; he forsook Me, the source of the water of Life, and hewed out for himself a broken well; and he crucified Me upon the Tree, and asked for the release of Barabbas. The heavens were aghast at this, and the sun hid his rays; but thou, O Israel, was not ashamed, and didst deliver Me up to death. Forgive them, O Holy Father, for they know not what they did.

Praise Him in the sound of the trumpet; praise Him upon the lute and harp.

Every member of Thy Holy Body endured dishonor for us: thy head, the thorns; thy face, the spittings; thy cheeks, the smittings; thy mouth, the taste of vinegar mixed with gall; thine ears, the impious blasphemies; thy back, the lash; thy hand, the reed; thy whole body, extension upon the Cross; thy joints, the nails; and thy side, the spear. O Thou who didst suffer for us and set us free from suffering, who by thy compassion didst stoop down and hast raised us up, Almighty Savior, have mercy on us.

Praise Him upon the well-tuned cymbals and dances; praise Him upon the strings and pipe.

All creation trembled, O Christ, at the sight of Thee crucified, and from fear of thy power the foundations of the earth were upheaved. For today by the uplifting of Thee, the Hebrew race perished, the veil of the temple was rent in twain, the tombs were opened, and the dead rose up from their graves. The centurion shuddered when he saw the miracle, and thy mother stood near and cried with a mother's lamentation: How is it possible that I should not mourn, and that my whole being should not be overwhelmed, when I see Thee naked and hanging as a criminal on the Tree? O Lord who wast

crucified and buried and didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

(Tone 6)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

They have taken my clothes from me and clothed me with a scarlet robe, and placed on my head a crown of thorns, and in my right hand a rod, wherewith I may crush them like a potter's vessel.

Now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen

I gave my back to scourgings and turned not away my face from spittings; I stood before the judgment-seat of Pilate, and endured the Cross for the salvation of the world.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE TENTH GOSPEL

Mark 15:43-47

Priest

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that Jesus was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Jesus down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where Jesus was laid.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

Priest

To Thee belongeth all glory, O Lord our God, and to Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Reader

Glory to thee, who hast shown us the Light.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will among men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory. O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.

For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord,
O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Every day will I bless thee, and I will praise
thy name forever; yea, forever and ever.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day
without sin.

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our Fathers,
and praised and glorified be thy name
forever. Amen.

Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we do
put our hope in thee.

Blessed art thou, O Lord, teach me thy
statutes. (*thrice*)

Lord, thou hast been our refuge in all
generations. I said: Be merciful unto me; heal
my soul, for I have sinned against thee.

Lord, I have fled unto thee; teach me to do
thy will, for thou art my God.

For with thee is the fountain of life; in thy
light shall we see light

O continue thy loving-kindness unto them
that know thee.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night
without sin. Blessed art thou, O Lord, the
God of our fathers, and praised and glorified
is thy name forever. Amen.

Let thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as
we have set our hope on thee. Blessed art
thou, O Lord; teach me thy statutes. Blessed
art thou, O Master; make me to understand

thy commandments. Blessed art thou, O Holy
One; enlighten me with thy precepts.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever: O
despise not the works of thy hands. To thee
belongeth worship, to thee belongeth praise,
to thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to
the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever,
and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(The faithful sit)

Deacon

Let us complete our morning prayer unto the
Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and
protect us, O God, by thy grace.

Choir

Grant this O Lord. (*Repeated after each
petition*)

Deacon

For this whole day, that it may be perfect,
holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the
Lord.

For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a
guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of
the Lord.

For pardon and remission of our sins and
transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

For those things that are good and profitable
for our souls, and for the peace of the world,
let us ask of the Lord.

That we may complete the remaining time of
our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of
the Lord.

That we may have a Christian ending to our
life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and that

we may have a good defense before the dread Judgment-Seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious lady, Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and our whole life unto Christ our God.

Choir

To Thee O Lord.

Priest

For Thou, O God, art gracious and merciful and full of compassion, and to Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

(The faithful stand)

Choir

Amen.

Priest

Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Deacon

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

Choir

To Thee O Lord.

PRAYER

Priest (inaudibly)

O Holy Lord, who dwellest above and beholdest things below, and with thine all-surveying eye dost look upon all creation, to Thee we bow the neck of our soul and body, and we pray Thee, Holy of the Holiest, stretch forth thine unseen hand from thy holy dwelling place and bless all of us; and if we have sinned voluntarily, or involuntarily, do Thou as our righteous and merciful God

forgive, and grant to us thine earthly and heavenly benefits.

Priest (aloud)

For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Choir

Amen.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE ELEVENTH GOSPEL

John 19:38-42

Priest

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him leave. So he came and took away Jesus' body. Nicodemus also, who had at first come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds' weight. They took the body of Jesus, and

bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

(The faithful sit)

APOSTICHA (Tone 1)

Chanter

All creation, O Christ our God, has been transfigured by fear at beholding Thee suspended on the Cross. The sun was darkened, the foundations of the earth were troubled, and everything suffered with the Creator of all. Wherefore, Thou who didst willingly endure this for us, O Lord, glory to Thee.

(Tone 2)

They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

An impious and perverse people, why do they strive in vain? Why do they condemn to death the Life of all? O wondrous marvel! The Creator of the world is betrayed into the hands of lawless men; and He who is merciful is lifted up on the Tree, that He might bring freedom to those bound in Hades who cry: O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee.

They gave me gall to eat, and when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

Today the blameless Virgin saw Thee, O Word of God, hung upon the Cross, and she mourned within herself and was sorely pierced in her heart, and she groaned in agony from the depth of her soul. Exhausted by smiting upon her breast, with hair disheveled,

she cried out wailing: Alas! My Divine Son. Alas! Light of the world. Why, O Lamb of God, hast Thou departed from mine eyes? Wherefore, also, the armies of the Heavenly Hosts were seized with trembling, and cried out: O unconquerable Lord, glory to Thee.

But God is our King of old; He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

When she saw hanging upon the Tree Thee, O Christ, the God and Creator of all, whom as a Virgin she bore, she cried out with bitterness: O my Son, whither has departed the beauty of thy form? I cannot endure to see Thee unjustly crucified; hasten therefore and arise, that I also may behold thy resurrection from the dead on the third day.

(Tone 8)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

O Lord, when Thou wast lifted upon the Cross, fear and trembling fell upon creation, Thou didst not permit the earth to engulf those who crucified Thee, and Thou didst suffer Hades to send up its captives in the regeneration of mortals. O Judge of the quick and dead, Thou camest to grant life and not death. Most merciful Lord, glory to Thee.

Now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

Already the sentencing pen is dipped by the unjust judges and Jesus is arraigned and condemned to the Cross, and all creation suffers, seeing the Lord upon the Cross. O Thou who in thy natural body for me didst suffer, most righteous Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest

That we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

Wisdom; attend. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Peace be with you all.

Choir

And with thy spirit.

Priest

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. Let us attend.

Choir

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory.

THE TWELFTH GOSPEL

Matthew 27:62-66

Priest

On the next day, that is after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, were member how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore order the sepulchre to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went and made the sepulchre secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

Choir

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord, glory.

Priest

It is a good thing to confess unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High. To proclaim thy loving kindness in the morning, and thy truth by night.

Reader

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal; have mercy on us. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen.

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins; Master, pardon our iniquities; Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy name's sake. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Choir

Amen.

DISMISSAL HYMN (Tone 4)**Chanter**

Thou did redeem us, O Savior, from the curse of the law with thy precious blood, when Thou wast nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear, bearing deathlessness for mankind. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Deacon

Have mercy on us, O God, according to thy great goodness, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir

Lord have mercy. (*Repeated after each petition*)

Deacon

Again we pray for all the pious and Orthodox Christians.

Again we pray for our Archbishop (N.).

Again we pray for our brethren, the priests, monks, Deacons, anachorites, and for our whole brotherhood in Christ.

Again we pray for grace, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and the remission of sins for the servants of God and for all the pious and Orthodox Christians of this city and community.

Priest

For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Choir

Amen.

Priest

Strengthen, O Lord God, the pure and holy faith of all pious and Orthodox Christians, with this holy church and city, unto all ages.

Choir

Amen.

Reader

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages. Amen. Lord have mercy. (*thrice*)

Father, bless.

DISMISSAL**Priest**

Wisdom. Thou who art blessed, Christ our God, always, now and ever, and unto Ages of Ages.

Choir

Amen.

Priest

Glory to Thee, O God our hope, glory to Thee. May Christ, our true God, who endured spittings, and scourgings, and reviling, and the Cross and death for our salvation, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all blameless holy Mother; by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of Saint(s) N.(NN.), whose memory we celebrate, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loveth mankind.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir

Amen.

