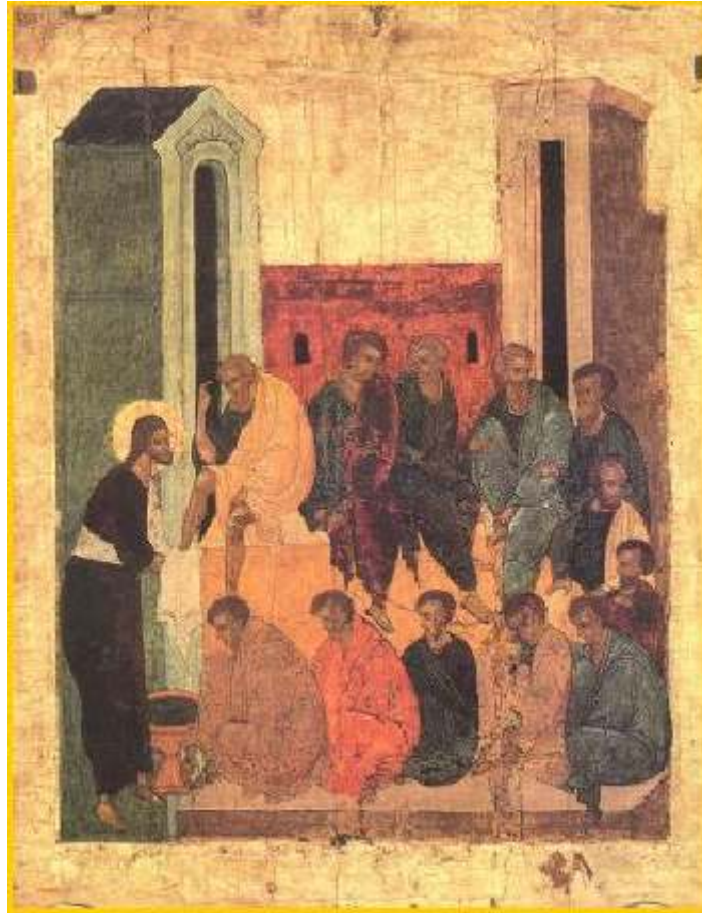


HOLY WEDNESDAY EVENING

THE OFFICE OF HOLY UNCTION

PRAYER OF THE HOLY OIL



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

10620 RIVER ROAD | POTOMAC, MD 20854 | (301) 765-3400

**THE OFFICE OF HOLY UNCTION
AS PERFORMED ON WEDNESDAY EVENING OF PASSION WEEK**

This service is held in the Nave of the Church, before the Holy Doors. A small table upon which is set the Holy Book of the Gospels, a Cross, Candles, and a vessel in the middle, containing wheat; and on the wheat is placed an Oil Lamp filled with oil and a little of wine. Seven wands with cotton tips are thrust into the wheat around the lamp. These are used to anoint those who are repenting from their sins. Also, seven lit candles are thrust into the wheat around the lamp. At the completion of the service, the faithful come forward and are anointed with the Holy Oil by the Priest.

(The Faithful Stand)

Priest

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

Reader

Amen.

O Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us. *(Thrice)*

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

O All-Holy Trinity, have mercy upon us, O Lord, cleanse us from our sins, O Master, pardon our iniquities, O 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 by 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. Amen.

Choir

Lord have mercy. *(Twelve times)*

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

PSALM 142

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and consider my desire; hearken unto me for Thy truth and righteousness' sake. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; He hath smitten my life down to the ground; he hath laid me in the darkness, as the men that have been long dead. Therefore, is my spirit vexed within me; and my heart within me is desolate. Yet, do I remember the time past; and I muse upon all Thy works; yea, I exercise myself in the works of Thy hands. I stretch forth my hands unto Thee; my soul gaspeth unto Thee as a thirsty land. Hear me, O Lord, and that soon; for my spirit waxeth faint: Hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. O let me hear Thy loving-kindness betimes in the morning; for in Thee is my trust; show Thou me the way that I should walk in; for I lift up my soul unto Thee. Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies; for I flee unto Thee to hide me. Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth Thee; for Thou art my God; let Thy loving

spirit lead me forth unto the land of righteousness. Quicken me, O Lord, for Thy Name's sake; and for Thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble. And of Thy goodness slay mine enemies, and destroy all them that vex my soul; for I am Thy servant.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to Thee, O Lord. (*Thrice*)

O our God and our Hope, Glory to Thee.

Priest

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us O God, by Thy grace; calling to remembrance our All Holy Immaculate, Most Blessed and Glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our 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 to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (*Tone 6*)

After which the following Tropars are chanted:

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: For in our lack of all defense, we

sinners offer this supplication unto Thee, Our Master: Have mercy on us.

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

O Lord, have mercy upon us, for in Thee have we put our trust; be not exceedingly wroth with us, neither remember our iniquities, but look down upon us even now as Thou art compassionate, and deliver us from our enemies. For Thou art our God, and we are Thy people; we are all the work of Thy hands, and we call upon Thy name.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Open unto us the door of Thy tender compassion, O Blessed Theotokos. Hoping that we shall not fail, in putting our trust in Thee. That, through Your intercessions, we may be saved from all tribulations. For Thou art the salvation of all Christians.

(Then this hymn:)

It is truly meet to call Thee, blessed, Lady Theotokos; Lady ever greatly blessed and most perfect in innocence, and the Mother of our God. Lady more precious than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond all measure than the Seraphim; that without corruption gavest birth to God, the word, and art truly Theotokos: we magnify Thee.

PSALM 50

Have mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness; according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offenses. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight; that Thou mightest be justified in Thy saying, and clear when Thou art judged. Behold, I was shapen in wickedness, and in sin hath my mother conceived me. But lo,

Thou requirest truth in the inward parts, and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly. Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. Turn Thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds. Make 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. O give me the comfort of Thy help again, and establish me with Thy free spirit. Then shall I teach Thy ways unto the wicked, and sinners shall be converted unto Thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, Thou that art the God of my health; and my tongue shall sing of Thy righteousness. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall show Thy praise. For Thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it to Thee; but Thou delightest not in burnt offerings. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt Thou not despise. O be favorable and gracious unto Zion; build Thou the walls of Jerusalem. Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt offerings and oblations; then shall they offer young bullocks upon Thine altar.

Chanter

The following Canons in the 4th Tone.

1) When Israel of old had passed through the Abyss of the Red Sea, with unwet feet, he overcame the power of Amalek in the wilderness, when the hands of Moses were stretched forth in the shape of a cross.

3) Thy Church rejoiceth in Thee, O Christ, crying: Thou art my fortress, O Lord, my refuge and my strength.

4) The Church, beholding Thee uplifted upon the Cross, O sun of righteousness, remained steadfast in its praises and worthily cried unto Thee, glory to Thy might, O Lord.

5) Thou art come, O My Lord, as a light to the world, a holy light, turning from the darkness of ignorance those who with faith sing praises unto Thee.

6) The Church crieth unto Thee, O Lord, I will sacrifice unto Thee, with a voice of praise and thanksgiving, purified from the evil of demons, with the blood which flowed from Thy side, with the abundance of Thy mercy.

(Kondak) My Savior and my Redeemer has freed and uplifted the earth-born from bondage, and shattered the gates of Hades, for He is Lord; and in that He is Master, He arose from the grave on the third day.

(Verse) Let us praise, all we earthly beings, Christ, the giver of life; who has risen from the dead, and has crushed the doors of death with His might putting Hades to death, and destroying its spearheads of death, and saved Adam and Eve; let us cry unto Him with the voice of thanksgiving; with continuous praises, to Him who has risen from the dead on the third day; for He is the all-powerful, Lord and Master.

7) The Abrahamic children in the Persian furnace, fired rather by love of godliness than by the flame, cried aloud: Blessed art Thou, O Lord, in the Tabernacle of Thy glory.

8) Daniel stretched forth his hand, and stopped the gaping mouths of the lions in the pit. And the Holy children, zealous in piety, girding themselves with virtue, quenched the raging fire, as they cried: O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord.

9) O Virgin, the stone which is unhewn by hand, was the cornerstone hewn from thy unquarried mount; for it is Christ who has bound together the divided nature, therefore, with gladness, we magnify Thee O Theotokos.

(Exapostilarion) O Gracious One, cast Thine merciful sight upon the petitions of us, who today are gathered in Thy Holy Temple, and anoint with Thine Divine Oil, Thy penitent servants.

(Einos - in the 4th Tone)

Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the Heavens; Praise Him in the highest; for to Thee praise is due, O God.

Praise ye Him, all His angels; praise ye Him, all His hosts; for to Thee praise is due, O God.

Praise ye the Lord in His sanctuary. Praise ye Him in the firmament of His power. Praise ye Him according to the multitude of His greatness.

Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet. Praise Him with psalms and the harp.

Praise Him with the timbels and the choir. Praise Him with strings and organs.

O compassionate lover of mankind, who has granted grace through the hands of Thine apostles, to heal with Thy Holy Oil, those who are afflicted with infirmities. Therefore, make Holy and have mercy upon them, who approach now with faith, unto Thy Holy Oil, for Thou art of tender compassion; cleanse them of all afflictions that they may be worthy of Thy incorruptible food, O Lord.

Praise Him with high sounding cymbals. Praise Him with cymbals of joy. Let everything which hath breath, praise the Lord.

O incomprehensible One, look down from heaven, for Thou art compassionate; and seal, O lover of mankind, with Thy invisible hand, our senses, with Thy Divine Oil. Grant unto those who come to Thee with faith; beseeching forgiveness of transgressions, and healing of their souls and bodies alike, that

with love they may glorify Thee, magnifying Thy majestic power.

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

O most pure palace of the King, O greatly extolled One, I implore Thee, to purify my mind which is stained with all manners of sin. Make me the fair abode of the exceedingly divine Trinity; that, being saved, I, Thy meek servant, may magnify Thy power, and Thy boundless mercy.

(And this Tropar in the 4th Tone:)

O Christ, in Thee alone we have a speedy succor, manifest Thy speedy visitation from on high upon Thy servants, who are in pain; deliver them from their infirmities, and cruel pain; and raise them up again to sing praises unto Thee ceaselessly; through the intercessions of the Holy Theotokos, O Thou who alone is the lover of mankind.

(Then the following litany:)

Priest

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

For the peace from above and for the salvation of our souls:

For the peace of the whole world; for the good estate of the Holy Churches of God; and for the union of all men; let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

For this Holy Temple, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God, enter therein:

That this oil will be blessed with the power, operation, and descent of the Holy Spirit: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

For the servants of God who are repenting from their sins, that they may deserve the visitation of God; and that the grace of the Holy Spirit may descend upon them:

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

Help us, save us, have mercy upon us, and keep us O God by Thy grace.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

Calling to remembrance our all Holy, Immaculate Most Blessed, and Glorious, Lady Theotokos, and ever-Virgin Mary, with all the saints; let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our 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 to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: Now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir

Amen.

(Then the Priest recites the Prayer over the Oil:)

Priest

O Lord, who in Thy mercies and bounties, healest the disorders of our souls and bodies: Do Thou, O Master, sanctify this oil, that it may be effectual for those who shall be anointed therewith, unto healing, and unto redemption from every passion, every malady of the flesh and of the Spirit, and all evil, and that therein may be glorified Thy most Holy Name, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir

Amen. Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord; rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

THE FIRST EPISTLE

(James 5:10-17)

Choir

“Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord; rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.”

The lesson from the General Epistle of James:

Brethren: take the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea, be yea; and your nay, be nay; lest ye fall into condemnation. Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord: and the

prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Choir

Alleluia. (Thrice)

"Of mercy and judgment, will I sing unto Thee, O Lord."

THE FIRST GOSPEL

(St. Luke 10:25-37)

Priest

The lesson from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Let us attend:

In that time, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted Him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, what is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. And He said unto him, Thou hast answered right: This do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbor? And Jesus answering, said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, and when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his

beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow, when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him: and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, he that showed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest

(The Ektenia of Fervent Supplication)

Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir

Lord have mercy. *(Thrice)*

Priest

Further, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation, for the servants of God, and for the remission of their sins.

Choir

Lord have mercy. *(Thrice)*

Priest

Further, we pray for the pardon of their every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary.

Choir

Lord have mercy. *(Thrice)*

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

Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

The Priest now recites the first Prayer over the Holy Oil.

Priest

O Thou art eternal, and without beginning, the Holy of Holies; who didst send forth Thine only begotten son to heal every infirmity and every weakness, in both our souls and bodies: Send down Thy Holy Spirit, and sanctify this Oil; and cause it to be the complete salvation of the sins, of Thy servants, who are about to be anointed with it; and for their inheritance of the heavenly kingdom; for from Thee is mercy, and salvation, O our God, 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.

THE SECOND EPISTLE

(Romans 15:1-8)

Choir

The Lord is my strength and my praise. In chastising, the Lord has chastised me, and he has not surrendered me unto death.

The lesson from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans:

Brethren, we then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbor for his good to edification. For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, the reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me. For whatsoever

things were written aforetime, were written for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of the scriptures, might have hope. Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Choir

Alleluia. (*Thrice*)

Of Thy mercy, will I sing forever, O Lord.

THE SECOND GOSPEL

(St. Luke 19:1-10)

Priest

The lesson from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Let us attend:

At that time Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. And behold, there was a man named Zaccheus, which was the chief among the Publicans, and he was rich. And he sought to see Jesus who He was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him; for He was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zaccheus, make haste, and come down: For today I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received Him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, that He was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. And Zaccheus stood, and said unto the Lord; behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. And Jesus said unto him, this day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man

is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest

Have mercy upon us O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, for the servants of God, and for the remission of their sins.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for the pardon of their every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary.

Choir

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

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

Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

The Priest now recites the second Prayer over the Holy Oil.

Priest

O God, great and supreme, who art adored by all creatures, O fountain of wisdom and goodness and the unlimited sea of mercy; do Thou, Master, God of wonders and all things eternal, at whom no one can look; look down and hear us, Thine unworthy servants, and in Thy great name, we present this oil; send down the gift of Thy healing, and remission of sins; and heal Thy servants in the multitude of Thy mercies, yea, O Lord, who art easy to be entreated, who repentest Thee of our evil deeds, who knowest that man is inclined unto wickedness, from the beginning of his youth; who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should return and live again, who, while He was still God, became incarnate, for the salvation of the sinners; Thou has said, I am not come to call the righteous, but the sinners to repentance; and there will be joy in heaven over one sinner, who repents. Thou didst not abhor the sinful woman, when she washed Thy precious feet with her tears. Do Thou, O Master, look down from the height of Thy sanctuary, overshadowing us at this hour, with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Take up Thy abode, in these Thy servants, who repent of their iniquities, and accept them, because of Thy look towards mankind; forgiving them, whatsoever wrong they have committed, whether by word or deed, or thought; purify them from every sin; preserve the remainder of their lives; abiding in Thy statutes; and in them, may Thy most Holy Name be glorified; for Thy property it is to show mercy and to save us, O Christ our God; and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father who is from everlasting, and Thine all Holy, and good, and life-giving spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

THE THIRD EPISTLE
(1 Corinthians 12:27-13:8)

Choir

“The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of
my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

*The lesson from the First Epistle of the Holy
Apostle Paul to the Corinthians:*

Brethren, now ye are the body of Christ, and
members in particular. And God hath set
some in the Church, first apostles,
secondarily prophets, thirdly, teachers, after
that, miracles, then gifts of healings, helps,
governments, diversities of tongues. Are all
Apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers?
Are all workers of miracles? Have all the
gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues?
Do all interpret? But covet earnestly the best
gifts. And yet shew I unto you a more
excellent way. Though I speak with the
tongues of men and of angels, and have not
love, I am become as sounding brass, or a
tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of
prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and
all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so
that I could remove mountains, and have not
love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all
my goods to feed the poor, and though I give
my body to be burned, and not have love, it
profiteth me nothing. Love suffereth long,
and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth
not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave
itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not
easily provoked, thinketh no evil. Rejoiceth
not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;
beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth
all things, endureth all things. Love never
faileth.

Choir

Alleluia. (*Thrice*)

“O Lord, in Thee have I trusted; let me never
be confounded.”

THE THIRD GOSPEL
(Matthew 10:1, 5-9)

Priest

*The lesson from the Holy Gospel according to
St. Matthew.*

Let us attend:

At that time, when Jesus had called unto Him
His twelve disciples, He gave them power
against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and
to heal all manner of sickness, and all manner
of disease. These twelve Jesus sent forth, and
commanded them, saying, go not into the way
of the Gentiles, and into any city of the
Samaritans enter ye not. But go rather to the
lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as ye
go, preach saying, the Kingdom of Heaven is
at hand. Heal the sick. Cleanse the lepers,
raise the dead, cast out devils: Freely ye have
received, freely give.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee.

Priest

Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

*The Priest now recites the third Prayer over
the Holy Oil.*

Priest

O Almighty Master, O Holy King, who
chastenest and yet slayest not; who raisest up
them that fall, and restorest them that are cast
down; who relievest the bodily afflictions of
men; Thee do we beseech, O our God, to
direct Thy mercy upon this oil, and upon all
who shall be anointed, therewith in Thy
name; that it may be effectual unto the
healing of their souls and bodies, and unto the
putting away of every infirmity, and disease,
and malady, and every defilement, both of
body and spirit. And send down, O Lord,
from heaven, Thy healing might; be Thou the

physician of these Thy servants; granting unto them, through Thy Church, complete restoration of health; that they shall do and act in accordance of Thy will, and what is pleasing to Thy Holy Majesty. For it is Thine property, to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee, do we ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto ages of ages.

THE FOURTH EPISTLE
(2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1)

Choir

“Hear me speedily, O Lord, in that day when I shall call upon Thee.”

The lesson from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians:

Brethren, ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you; and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, said the Lord Almighty. Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Choir

Alleluia. (*Thrice*)

I waited patiently for the Lord, and he heard me.

THE FOURTH GOSPEL
(Matthew 8:14-23)

Priest

The lesson from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Let us attend:

At that time, when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. And He touched her hand, and the fever left her: And she arose, and ministered unto them. When the even was come, they brought unto Him many that were possessed with devils: And He cast out the spirits with His word, and healed all that were sick; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities and bare our sickness. Now, when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave commandment to depart unto the other side. And a certain scribe came, and said unto Him, Master, I will follow Thee whithersoever Thou goest. And Jesus saith unto him, the foxes have caves, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay His head. And another of His disciples said unto Him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. But Jesus said unto him, follow Me; and let the dead bury their dead. And when He was entered into a ship, His disciples followed Him.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest

Have mercy upon us O God, according to Thy great goodness we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, for the servants of God, and for the remission of their sins.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for the pardon of their every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary.

Choir

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

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

Let us pray to the Lord:

Choir

Lord have mercy.

The Priest now recites the Fourth Prayer over the Holy Oil.

Priest

O good Lord who lovest mankind, exceedingly merciful, God of all comfort; who through Thy Holy Apostles, has granted us, the power to heal the infirmities of Thy people, with oil and prayer: Do Thou confirm this oil, unto the healing of those who shall be anointed with it, unto relief from every ailment and from every malady: Unto deliverance from every evil. Yea, O Lord, our God, Thee do we beseech, O Almighty One, to save us, and to sanctify us all. Heal Thy

servants, and protect them, with the mercies of Thy goodness, visit them with Thy mercies. And if we are favored with Thine unexpressible love towards mankind, we may praise and glorify Thee who performest glorious deeds both great and miraculous. For unto Thee is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

THE FIFTH EPISTLE

(2 Corinthians 1:8-11)

Choir

“Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and protect us, from this generation, forevermore. Save me, O Lord, for the righteous are become few.”

The lesson from the Second Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians:

Brethren, for we would not have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life; but we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that He will deliver us; ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons, thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

Choir

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

“I will sing praises unto thy mercy, O Lord, forever.”

THE FIFTH GOSPEL

(Matthew 25:1-13)

Priest

The lesson from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Let us attend:

The Lord spake this parable; then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom, and five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps. And took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made; behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, give us of your oil: For our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, not so, lest there be not enough for us and you: But go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready, went in with him to the marriage: And the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us. But he answered and said, verily, I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest

Have mercy upon us O God, according to Thy great goodness we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, for the servants of God, and for the remission of their sins.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for the pardon of their every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary.

Choir

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

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

Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

The Priest now recites the Fifth Prayer over the Holy Oil.

Priest

O Lord our God, who chastenest and healest, who raisest up the poor from the earth, and lifts the miserable man from the dunghill; O Father of orphans, and the physician of the ailing, the haven of the tempest-tossed, who painlessly didst bear our diseases and our infirmities, who showest mercy and forgiveness, who art quick to help, and slow in wrath; who didst breathe upon Thy disciples, and said to them, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit, whosoever sins ye shall remit,

they are emitted unto them;" who hast called me, Thy humble and sinful, and unworthy servant, entangled in many sins, and wallowing in the lusts of pleasures, to the Holy and high degree of the Priesthood, and to enter into the Holy of Holies, where, also the angels long to penetrate, to hear and to behold, the glad tidings, from the voice of the Lord God; and to take delight in the Divine Liturgy; Thou who enabled me to administer Thy heavenly mysteries, and to offer unto Thee gifts and sacrifices for our sins, and for the ignorances of Thy people. Listen to my prayers, and hear the voice of my supplications, and grant healing unto Thy servants, pardoning their transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary; O Thou, who didst touch the mother-in-law of Peter, whereupon the fever left her, and she arose and ministered unto Thee. Do Thou, O Master, call to mind Thy rich mercies, and how perpetual the mind of man inclineth unto evil, even from his youth; for Thou art alone without sin, who didst come down and saved the human race, and freed us from the bondage of the enemy. For no one is pure of stain; and every mouth shall fail to answer, or to give excuse. Wherefore, O Lord, remember Thou not the sins of our youth; for Thou art the hope of the hopeless, and the rest of those who labor, and are heavy-laden with iniquity, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father who is from everlasting, and thine all-holy and life giving Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

THE SIXTH EPISTLE

(Galatians 5:22, 6:2)

Choir

“Have mercy upon me, O God according to Thy great mercy; create in me a pure heart, O God.”

The lesson from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians:

Brethren, the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness,

faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh, with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain-glory. Provoking one another, envying one another. Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, let thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Choir

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord.

THE SIXTH GOSPEL

(Matthew 15:21-28)

Priest

The lesson from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Let us attend:

At that time Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto Him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, Thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and besought Him, saying send her away; for she crieth after us. But He answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped Him, saying, Lord, help me. But He answered and said, it is not meet to take the children's bread and to cast it to dogs. And she said, truth, Lord, yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: Be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest

Have mercy upon us O God, according to Thy great goodness we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, for the servants of God, and for the remission of their sins.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for the pardon of their every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary.

Choir

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

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

Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

The Priest now recites the Sixth Prayer over the Holy Oil.

Priest

We thank Thee, O Lord our God, who art good and lovest mankind, the physician of our souls and bodies; who hast borne our infirmities painlessly; by whose wounds, we have all been healed, O Thou good shepherd, who didst come to seek the wandering sheep, who givest consolation to the faint-hearted, and life unto those who are broken-hearted; who didst heal the woman who had an issue of blood; who didst free the daughter of the woman of Canaan from the demon; who forgave the two debtors, their debts; who healed the paralytic and forgave his sins; who justified the publican; and didst accept the confession of the thief; who lifted the sins of the world; and nailed it to the cross. Thee do we beseech, O God, in Thy goodness, forgive the sins of these Thy servants, and all their iniquities, whether voluntary or involuntary; whether of knowledge or of ignorance. Forgive them and us, for Thou art a good God. Fill their mouths with Thy praises; open their lips, to glorify Thy Name; stretch forth their hands in the performance of Thy statutes. Guide their feet, in the way of Thy Gospel. For Thou art our God, who hast commanded us, through Thy Holy Apostles saying: "whatsoever ye bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever ye loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." And as Thou didst hearken unto Ezekiel in the sorrow of his soul, at the hour of his death, and didst not refuse his supplications, in like manner, hearken unto me, Thy sinful and unworthy servant. For Thou, O Lord, didst command to forgive the erring, even unto seven times seventy; who repentest Thee of our wickedness, and rejoicest over the return of those who have gone astray. Unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father who is from everlasting, and Thine all Holy, and good and lifegiving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE SEVENTH EPISTLE

(1 Thessalonians 5:14-23)

Choir

“O Lord, Rebuke me not in thine anger; Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak.”

The lesson from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Thessalonians:

Brethren, now we exhort you, to warn them that are unruly, comfort the feeble-minded, support the weak, be patient toward all men, see that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good. Both among yourselves, and to all men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Choir

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble.

THE SEVENTH GOSPEL

(Matthew 9:9-13)

Priest

The lesson from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Let us attend:

At that time, as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and He saith unto him, follow Me. And he arose, and followed Him. And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold many Publicans and sinners came and sat down with Him and His Disciples. And when the

Pharisees saw it, they said unto His Disciples, why eateth your Master with Publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard that, He said unto them, they that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest

Have mercy upon us O God, according to Thy great goodness we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, for the servants of God, and for the remission of their sins.

Choir

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

Priest

Further, we pray for the pardon of their every transgression, whether voluntary or involuntary.

Choir

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

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

Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

The Priest now recites the Seventh Prayer over the Holy Oil.

Priest

O Lord, our God, the physician of souls and bodies; the healer of all infirmities and all lingering diseases; who desirest that all men should be saved, and should come to the knowledge of Thy truth; who didst ordain repentance unto sinners, in the ancient covenant, unto David and Ninevites, and others; who didst come on earth, and didst become incarnate; Thou callest not the righteous, but sinners, as the Publican, the sinful woman, and the thief; and didst accept the Great Paul, who blasphemed against Thee. Thou didst accept Thy Apostle, Peter, after he had denied Thee thrice, promising him, saying, "Thou art Peter and upon this rock will I build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it, and I shall give thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven." For which cause, we are confident of Thy promises; Thee do we beseech, and Thee do we ask, at this hour, to hear and accept our supplications, as an incense offered unto Thee; visit these Thy servants; pardon and forgive them, O God; overlook their sins, that they hath committed, in word, deed, or thought, whether in knowledge or without knowledge; for there is no man who liveth and sineth not, for Thou only art without sin, and Thy righteousness is right, and Thy word is truth. For Thou hast not created man for destruction, but for the keeping of Thy commandments, and for the inheritance of everlasting life; unto Thee we ascribe glory, with Thy Father, who is without beginning, and Thine all Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Then the Priest takes the Book of the Holy Gospels, opened and with the writing down,

raised above the heads of those attending, and recites the following prayer aloud:

Priest

Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Priest

O Holy King, compassionate and all-merciful, Lord Jesus Christ, Son and Word of the living God, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but that he shall return and live; I lay not my sinful hand upon the heads of these, who come unto Thee in their iniquities, and asketh of Thee, through us, the pardon of their sins; but Thy mighty hand, which is in this, Thy Holy Gospels. I also beseech Thy compassion, and Thy love of mankind, O Savior, who did give to David, through the prophet Nathan, remission of his sins, when he repented of them; and as Thou didst accept the contrite prayers of Mannases. Receive now, also according to Thy love of mankind, these Thy servants, who are repenting from their sins, regarding not all their trespasses. For Thou art our God, who hast commanded, that those who fall into sin be forgiven, even unto seven times seventy. For as is Thy majesty, so also is Thy mercy; and unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Then the Priest raises the book of the Holy Gospels, and the faithful come forward to kiss it, and to be anointed with the Holy Oil, on their foreheads and their palms. Meanwhile, the following Tropar and hymn to the Theotokos are sung:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. *(Tone 4)*

O Holy and unmercenary ones, forasmuch ye have acquired a fountain of healing; ye shall bestow healing unto those who beseech Thee; for ye have earned the great gifts from the

everflowing fountain, our Savior. For He said unto you, ye are equal in zeal to the apostles: Behold, I have given you power over the unclean spirits; to cast them out, and to heal every malady and infirmity. Wherefore, as ye have walked nobly in His commandments, ye have received freely; so freely give us, healing the sufferings of our souls and bodies.

Both now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Amen.

O Gracious and Immaculate Lady, be favorable unto the prayers of those who entreat Thee, and stop the fierce attacks upon us, and deliver us from all sorrows. For Thee alone, have we, as our safe pier and our firm protection. We have taken Thee as our helper, and we shall not be ashamed to call upon Thee. Make haste in answering the call of those who call unto Thee in faith. Rejoice, O Gracious Lady, O help of all, their shield and joy, and the salvation of our souls.

THE BENEDICTION

Priest

O Christ our true God, who voluntarily didst suffer for our salvation; through the intercessions of His most pure and blameless Holy Mother; and of our righteous and Godmantled Fathers; of the Holy Apostle James; of the righteous saints, grandparents of Christ, Joachim and Anna; and of Ss Peter and Paul, patron saints of this church; and of all the saints, have mercy upon us and save us, for Thou art the lover of mankind.

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

Choir

Amen.

