

PALM SUNDAY EVENING

BRIDEGROOM MATINS FOR HOLY MONDAY



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

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

**PALM SUNDAY EVENING
BRIDEGROOM MATINS FOR HOLY MONDAY**

(The Faithful Stand)

Priest

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

Choir

Amen.

Priest

+ Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art in all places and fillest all things; Treasury of good things and Giver of life: + Come and abide in us and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O good One.

People

+ 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.

+ O come, let us worship and fall down before 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 Christ Himself, our King and our God.

*(The Priest censes while the
Psalm is being chanted)*

Psalm 20 (19)

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble!
The name of the God of Jacob protect you!
May he send you help from the sanctuary, and
give you support from Zion! May he
remember all your offerings, and regard with
favor your burnt sacrifices! May he grant you
your heart's desire, and fulfill all your plans!
May we shout for joy over your victory, and
in the name of our God set up our banners!
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions! Now I
know that the Lord will help his anointed; he
will answer him from his holy heaven with
mighty victories by his right hand. Some
boast of chariots, and some of horses; but we
boast of the name of the Lord our God. They
will collapse and fall; but we shall rise and
stand upright. Give victory to the king, O
Lord; answer us when we call.

Psalm 21 (20)

In Thy strength the king rejoices, O Lord; and
in Thy help how greatly he exults! Thou has
given him his heart's desire, and have not
withheld the request of his lips. For Thou
meets him with goodly blessings; Thou sets a
crown of fine gold upon his head. He asked
life of Thee; Thou gave it to him, length of
days for ever and ever. His glory is great
through Thy help; splendor and majesty Thou
bestows upon him. Yea, Thou make him most
blessed for ever; Thou make him glad with
the joy of Thy presence. For the king trusts in
the Lord; and through the steadfast love of
the Most High he shall not be moved. Your
hands will find out all your enemies; your
right hand will find out those who hate you.

You will make them as a blazing oven when
you appear. The Lord will swallow them up
in his wrath; and fire will consume them. You
will destroy their offspring from the earth,
and their children from among the sons of
men. If they plan evil against you, if they
devise mischief, they will not succeed. For
you will put them to flight; you will aim at
their faces with your bows. Be exalted, O
Lord, in Thy strength! We will sing and praise
Thy power.

People

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.

Chanter

Amen.

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance, grant victory to Thy People over their adversaries, and by Thy Cross preserve Thy habitation.

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

Do Thou, who of Thine own good will was 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 cannot 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 to govern us, leading us all to that victory which is from heaven, for Thou art she who gave birth to God, and alone art Blessed.

Deacon

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee: hear us and have mercy.

Choir

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

Deacon

Again we pray for our Archbishop (*N.*) and for all our Brotherhood in Christ.

Choir

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

Deacon

Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Choir

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

Priest

For Thou art a merciful God and loves 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. Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest

Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-giving and Undivided Trinity, always: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir

Amen.

Reader

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

**Palm Sunday Evening
Bridegroom Matins for Holy Monday**

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. *(Twice)*

(The Faithful Sit)

PSALM 3

O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of me, there is no help for him in God. But Thou, O Lord, art a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. I cry aloud to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy hill. I lie down and sleep; I wake again for the Lord sustains me. I am not afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord! Deliver me, O my God! For Thou smites all my enemies on the cheek, Thou breaks the teeth of the wicked. Deliverance belongs to the Lord; Thy blessing be upon Thy people!

I lie down and sleep; I wake again for the Lord sustains me.

PSALM 38 (37)

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thy anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath! For Thy arrows have sunk into me, and Thy hand has come down on me. There is no soundness in my flesh because of Thy indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me. My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness, I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. For my loins are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart. Lord, all my longing is

known to Thee, my sighing is not hidden from Thee. My heart throbs, my strength fails me; and the light of my eyes - it also has gone from me. My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my kinsmen stand afar off. Those who seek my life lay their snares, those who seek my hurt speak of ruin, and meditate treachery all the day long. But I am like a deaf man, I do not hear, like a dumb man who does not open his mouth. Yea, I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth are no rebukes. But for Thee, O Lord, do I wait; it is Thou, O Lord my God, who shall answer. For I pray, "Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!" For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever with me. I confess my iniquity, I am sorry for my sin. Those who are my foes without cause are mighty, and many are those who hate me wrongfully. Those who render me evil for good are my adversaries because I follow after good.

Do not forsake me, O Lord! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, of my salvation! *(Twice)*

PSALM 63 (62)

O God, Thou art my God, I seek Thee, my soul thirsts for Thee; my flesh faints for Thee, as in a dry and weary land where no water is. So I have looked upon Thee in the sanctuary, beholding Thy power and glory. Because Thy steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise Thee. So I will bless Thee as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on Thy name. My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat, and my mouth praises Thee with joyful lips, when I think of Thee upon my bed, and meditate on Thee in the watches of the night; for Thou has been my help, and in the shadow

of Thy wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to Thee; Thy right hand upholds me. But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth; they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals. But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall glory; for the mouths of liars will be stopped. I meditate on Thee in the watches of the night; for Thou has been my help, and in the shadow of Thy wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to Thee; Thy 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. (*Thrice*)

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 88 (87)

O Lord, my God, I call for help by day; I cry out in the night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, incline Thy ear to my cry! My soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol. I am reckoned among those who go down to the Pit; I am a man who has no strength, like one forsaken among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom Thou remembers no more, for they are cut off from Thy hand. Thou has put me in the depths of the Pit, in the regions dark and deep. Thy wrath lies heavy upon me, and Thou overwhelms me with all Thy waves.

Thou has caused my companions to shun me; Thou has made me a thing of horror to them. I am shut in so that I cannot escape; my eye grows dim through sorrow. Every day I call upon Thee, O Lord; I spread out my hands to Thee. Does Thou work wonders for the dead? Do the shades rise up to praise Thee? Is Thy steadfast love declared in the grave, or Thy faithfulness in Abaddon? Are Thy works known in the darkness, or Thy saving help in the land of forgetfulness? But I, O Lord, cry to Thee; in the morning my prayer comes before Thee. O Lord, why does Thou cast me off? Why does Thou hide Thy face from me? Afflicted and close to my death from my youth up, I suffer Thy terrors; I am helpless. Thy wrath has swept over me; Thy dread assaults destroy me. They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in upon me together. Thou has caused lover and friend to shun me; my companions are in darkness.

O Lord, my God, I call for help by day; I cry out in the night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, incline Thy ear to my cry.

PSALM 103 (102)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord works vindication and justice for those who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not

always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear him, and his righteousness to his children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word! Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will! Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

In all places of his dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul!

PSALM 143 (142)

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my supplications! In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness! Enter not into judgement with Thy servant; for no man living is righteous before Thee. For the enemy has pursued me; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead. Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is

appalled. I remember the days of old, I meditate on all that Thou has done; I muse on what Thy hands have wrought. I stretch out my hands to Thee; my soul thirsts for Thee like a parched land. Make haste to answer me, O Lord! My spirit fails! Hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the Pit. Let me hear in the morning of Thy steadfast love, for in Thee I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to Thee I lift up my soul. Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies! I have fled to Thee for refuge! Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God! Let Thy good spirit lead me on a level path! For Thy name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In Thy righteousness bring me out of trouble! And in Thy steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am Thy servant.

In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness! Enter not into judgement with Thy servant. In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness! Enter not into judgement with Thy servant. Let Thy good spirit lead me on a level path!

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 God and our hope, glory to Thee.

The Great Litany

Deacon

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

For the peace of the whole world; for the good estate of the holy churches of God and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

For this holy House and for those who with faith, reverence, and the fear of God enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

For the President of the United States and all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces

everywhere, that he will aid them and grant them victory over every enemy and adversary, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, most pure, 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.

(Tone 8)

Chanter

My spirit seeks Thee early in the nightwatches, for Thy commandments are a light on the earth.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Learn righteousness, you 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 the earth.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

(While the next hymn is being chanted, the Priest – holding the Icon of the Lord – exists from the North door of the Iconostasis preceded by the Altar Boys, and proceeds around the Church. When he comes to the Solea, he places the icon on a stand and censes the icon.)

(Tone 8)

Choir

Behold, the Bridegroom cometh in the midst of the night and blessed is the servant who is watching, and unworthy is he who is heedless. Behold therefore, O my soul, beware lest thou be borne down with sleep, lest thou be given up to death, lest thou be shut from the Kingdom. Wherefore rouse thyself and cry: Holy, holy, holy art Thou, O God. Through the intercessions of the angels, O Savior save us.

Behold, the Bridegroom ... through the intercessions of (*patron of the church*), O Savior save us.

Behold, the Bridegroom ... through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior save us.

Deacon

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

**Palm Sunday Evening
Bridegroom Matins for Holy Monday**

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, most pure, 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 Thine is the majesty, and 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.

(The faithful sit.)

The Kathismata (Tone 1)**Chanter**

Today Christ's holy passion dawns upon the world as a light of salvation, for Christ, of His goodness, draws, near to His suffering. He who holds all things in the hollow of his hand consents to be hung upon the tree, that He may save mankind.

O Unseen Judge, how hast Thou shown

Thyself in the flesh, and how hast Thou come to be slain by lawless men; condemning our condemnation by thy sufferings? Therefore, with one voice, O Word, we ascribe praise and dominion and glory to Thy Power.

(Tone 8)

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

This day illuminates the beginnings of the sufferings of the Lord. Come, therefore, O lovers of the feast, let us meet together with hymns; for the Creator comes, humbling Himself to the Cross, to Trail and to blows and to the judgement of Pilate. Moreover, smitten on the head by a servant, He submits to all things that He may save mankind. Wherefore let us cry; O Merciful Christ our God, grant forgiveness of sins, to those who worship in faith Thy Holy Passion.

THE GOSPEL READING**Priest**

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

Choir

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

Priest

Wisdom! Attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be to all!

Choir

And to your spirit!

**Palm Sunday Evening
Bridegroom Matins for Holy Monday**

Priest

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Choir

Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

Priest

Let us attend!

The Gospel According to St. Matthew
Chapter 21:18-43

At that time, as Jesus was returning to the city, he was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the wayside he went to it, and found nothing on it but leaves only. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once. When the disciples saw it they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?" And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and never doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' it will be done. And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

And when Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one thing; and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven or from men?" And they reasoned among themselves, "If we say, 'From heaven', he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say 'From men',

we are afraid of the multitude; for all hold that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; and he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in my vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he repented and went. And he went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir', but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots believed him; and even when you saw it, you did not afterward repent and believe him.

"Hear another parable: There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to Jesus, "He will put

those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

Jesus said to them. “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it.”

Choir

Glory to Thee O Lord, glory to Thee.

(The Faithful sit)

Psalm 51 (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 sins 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 broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good will 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 alter.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, most pure, 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 Thou art a merciful God and love mankind, and unto Thee do 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 CANON**Ode 1, Heirmos (Tone 2)****Choir**

Let us sing unto the Lord, Who by his divine command dried up the raging and impassable sea, and led the people of Israel through on foot; for gloriously has he been glorified.

Troparia

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

The Ineffable condescension of the Word of God, Who is Christ Himself, God and Man, and Who thought it not robbery to be God, shows Himself in the form of a servant to His disciples, for gloriously has He been glorified.

Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

“With the wealth of my divine nature, I came in order to minister to Adam in his poverty. I fashioned his body and now willingly put it on. I give myself as a redemption for him, even though in my divine nature I am not subject to suffering.”

Katavasia

Let us sing unto the Lord, Who by his divine command dried up the raging and impassable sea, and led the people of Israel through on foot; for gloriously has he been glorified.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

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Choir

To Thee O Lord.

Priest

For Thou art a good God and love 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.

Kontakion

Reader

Jacob lamented the loss of Joseph, but his noble son was seated in a chariot and honored as a king; for when he refused to be enslaved by the pleasures of the Egyptian woman, he was glorified by the Lord, who beholds the hearts of men and bestows an incorruptible crown.

Oikos

Let us now add our lamentation to him who laments, and let us pour out our tears with those of Jacob bewailing Joseph his glorious and wise son. For Joseph, though enslaved in body, preserved his soul in freedom and became lord over all Egypt. For God prepares for His servants an incorruptible crown.

The Synaxarion

(Verse to the wise Joseph)

On this day begins the anniversary of the holy Passion of the Savior, he of whom Joseph of exceeding beauty is taken as the earliest symbol. For this Joseph was the eleventh of the sons of Jacob, and because his father loved him exceedingly, his brothers envied him and threw him into a pit. Then they took him out and sold him to strangers, who sold him in Egypt. He was slandered for his chastity, and was thrown in prison. But finally he was taken out of prison, and he attained a high rank, and received honors worthy of kings, becoming governor of the whole of Egypt, whose people he supported. Thus he symbolized in himself the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and his consequent great glory. (Genesis 40-41.)

(Verse to the withered Fig tree)

To the remembrance of Joseph is added the story of the fig tree, which the Lord cursed on this day (corresponding at that time to the 19th day of March) because of its barrenness, so that it dried up. The fig tree was a symbol of the Council of the Jews which did not show the necessary fruits of virtue and righteousness, so that Christ stripped it of every spiritual grace. (Matthew 21:18-20)

Through the intercessions of the all-comely Joseph, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us.

ODE 8, Heirmos (Tone 2)

Choir

The relentless fire was fed by fuel in endless supply, yet it shrank before the pure flesh and spirit of the holy children. And when the never-ending flame was quenched, the singing of the ever-lasting hymn began: "Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord; exalt him throughout the ages."

Troparia

We glorify the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Passing onward to his Passion, the Savior said to his friends; all then shall know that you are my disciples if you keep my commandments. Be at peace among yourselves and with all men; seek humility and raise yourselves up and knowing me as your Lord, sing praises and exalt unto all ages.

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

“Let your order be contrary to the order of the gentiles who hold power over their fellow men, for such is not my portion, but rather self-appointed tyranny. He therefore who would be great among you must be the servant of all; and knowing that I am the Lord, sing praises and exalt me throughout all ages.”

Katavasia

We praise, we bless and worship the Lord.

The relentless fire was fed by fuel in endless supply, yet it shrank before the pure flesh and spirit of the holy children. And when the never-ending flame was quenched, the singing of the ever-lasting hymn began: “Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord; exalt him throughout the ages.”

(The faithful stand)

Deacon

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

(The Deacon censes the Icons and the people)

ODE 9, Heirmos (Tone 2)

Choir

O Christ our creator, thou hast magnified thy mother the Theotokos from whom thou didst put on a body like our own, delivering us from our ignorance. Therefore we bless her through all generations and we magnify Thee.

Troparia

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

O Wisdom of all, thou didst warn thy disciples saying “Flee from all impure passion. Seek instead the kingdom of God, where you shall be glorified and shine more brightly than the sun.”

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

The Lord said to his disciples, “As you look at me, do not be haughty, but die with the humble. The cup which I drink, drink also, that you may be glorified with Me in my Father’s Kingdom.”

Katavasia

O Christ our creator, thou hast magnified thy mother, the Theotokos, from whom thou didst put on the body like our own, delivering us from our ignorance. Therefore, we bless her through all generations and we magnify Thee.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, most pure, 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 all the Powers of Heaven praise Thee, 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.

Choir

Amen.

Exaposteilarion (Tone 3)**Choir**

Verily I behold Thy Bridal Chamber adorned, and I possess no robe to enter there into; Delight Thou in the robe of my soul, O Thou who granteth light, and save me. *(thrice)*

The Ainoi (The Praises) (Tone 1)
(Psalms 148 - 150)

Chanter

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. To Thee O God is due our song.

Praise Him all His angels. Praise him all his hosts. To Thee O God is due our song.

(The Faithful sit)

Idiomela Hymns (Tone 1)**Reader**

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

Chanter

When the Lord was going to his voluntary Passion, he said to His Apostles on the way: "Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man shall be delivered up, as it is written of him." Come, therefore, and let us accompany him with minds purified from the pleasures of this life, and let us be crucified and die with him, that we may live with him, and that we may hear him say to us: "I go now, not to the earthly Jerusalem to suffer, but to my Father and your Father, and my God and your God, and I will raise you up to the Jerusalem on high, in the Kingdom of Heaven.

(Tone 5)

Reader

Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe.

Chanter

O believers, having reached the saving passion of Christ! Let us praise his ineffable long-suffering, that by his compassion may He raise us up who are dead in sin, for He is good and the lover of mankind.

Reader

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

Chanter

Going to thy passion, O Lord, Thou didst take aside thy disciples and reassure them, saying, "How have you forgotten the words that I once spoke? Is it not written that a prophet cannot be killed but in Jerusalem? Now is the time of which I told you. Behold, I am betrayed into the hands of sinners, to be mocked, nailed to the cross, and delivered up for burial. They will regard me as a dead man, a thing of loathing. Yet, take courage, for I will arise on the third day, giving joy to the faithful and eternal life."

(The faithful stand)

The Lesser Doxology
(to be read, not sung)

Reader

To Thee, O Lord our God belongs glory, and to Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Glory 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 and 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 takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Thou that takes away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sits 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.

+ Blessed art Thou, O Master: make me to understand thy commandments.

+ Bless are Thou, O Holy One: enlighten me with thy precepts.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endures forever: O Despise not the works of thy hands. To Thee belongs worship, to Thee belongs praise, to Thee belongs glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Litany of Supplication

Deacon

Let us complete our morning prayer unto the Lord.

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

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

Choir

Lord have mercy.

Deacon

That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir

Grant this O Lord.

Deacon

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

Choir

Grant this O Lord.

Deacon

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

Choir

Grant this O Lord.

Deacon

All things good and profitable for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir

Grant this O Lord.

Deacon

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

Choir

Grant this O Lord.

Deacon

A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the dread judgment Seat of Christ, let us ask.

Choir

Grant this O Lord.

Deacon

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, most pure, 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 Thou art a good God and love 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

Peace be to all.

Choir

And to Thy Spirit.

Deacon

Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir

To Thee O Lord.

Priest

O holy Lord, who dwells on high and regards the humble of heart, and with Thine all-seeing eye beholds all Creation, unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we entreat Thee: Stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy Holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive,

inasmuch as Thou art a good God, and loves mankind; vouchsafing unto us thy earthly and heavenly good things.

For thine it is to show mercy and to save us, 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 Faithful sit)

APOSTICHA *(Tone 5)*

Chanter

The ineffable mystery of Thy dispensation, O Lord, was incomprehensible to the mother of the children of Zebedee, and she asked of Thee that the honor of a temporal kingdom should be granted to her sons; but instead of this Thou promised to Thy friends that they should drink the cup of death, saying that Thou Thyself would drink this cup for them for the expiation of sins. Therefore we cry to Thee: O Salvation of our souls, glory to Thee.

Reader

We are filled in the morning with thy mercy.

Chanter

Lord, the last instruction to Thine own disciples was that they should not be like the gentiles who oppress the weak; Thou said to them: "It shall not be so with you. My disciples, for I am poor of my own will. Let the first among you be the servant of all. Let he that rules be as those who are ruled. And let he who is first be last. For I have come to

Adam in his poverty, to serve, and to give My life as a ransom for the many who cry to Me, 'Glory to Thee.'"

(Tone 8)

Reader

And let the splendor of the Lord our God be upon us; and do Thou direct for us the works of our hands, even the work of our hands do Thou direct.

Chanter

The fig tree was withered because it was unfruitful; therefore, brethren, we should fear the same punishment, and bring forth fruits worthy of repentance to Christ, Who has bestowed on us great mercy.

Reader

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

Chanter

The serpent found a second Eve in the Egyptian woman, and plotted the fall of Joseph through words of flattery. But waving his garment behind, Joseph fled from sin. He was naked but unashamed, like Adam before the fall. Though his prayers, O Lord, have mercy on us.

(The faithful stand)

Priest

It is a good thing to confess to 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.

People

+ 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.

Kontakion (*to be read*)

Reader

Jacob lamented the loss of Joseph, but his
noble son was seated in a chariot and honored
as a king; for when he refused to be enslaved

by the fascinations of the Egyptian woman,
he was glorified by Him, Who beholds the
hearts of men and bestows an incorruptible
crown.

Lord, have mercy (*12 times*)

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

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.

In the Name of the Lord, Father bless.

Priest

Christ, our God, the Existing One, is blessed
always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir

Amen.

Priest

O heavenly King, establish the Orthodox
Christians, confirm the Faith, pacify the
nations, give peace to the world, protect the
welfare of this city, place our departed fathers
and brethren in the dwellings of the just, and
of Thy goodness and mercy receive us also
with our penitence and Thanksgiving.

**PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM THE
SYRIAN**

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. (*prostration*)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.
(*prostration*)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not judge my brother; for blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. Amen.
(*prostration*)

DISMISSAL

Priest

Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our Hope, glory to Thee.

Choir

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. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, bless.

Priest

May He who is going to his voluntary Passion for our salvation, Christ, our true God, through the intercessions of His most

pure and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable and bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Fore-runner 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 St. (N., *patron saint of the church*); of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of (N., *the saint of the day*) whose memory we celebrate today; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us, and save us, forasmuch as he is good and loves mankind.

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

Choir

Amen.

(The faithful proceed in line to reverence the Icon of the Christ. The icon remains in its place until after the services for Holy Wednesday.)

