

## The Order of Matins for Great and Holy Friday As a Reader Service

*Note: The translation used for the Horologion is primarily that of Fr. Lawrence of Jordanville, parish abbreviations are made at the point of the Kathisma, and the text of the Triodion is that of Bishop Kallistos and Mother Mary.*

**Senior Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

**Reader:** Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. **Thrice.**

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. **Thrice.**

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

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

**Senior Reader:** O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

**Reader:** Amen.

Lord have mercy. **Twelve Times.**

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

O come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

### *Psalm 19*

The Lord hear thee in the day of affliction; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee. Let Him send forth unto thee help from His sanctuary, and out of Zion let Him help thee. Let Him remember every sacrifice of thine, and thy whole-burnt offering let Him fatten. The Lord grant thee according to thy heart, and fulfill all thy purposes. We will rejoice in Thy salvation, and in the name of the Lord our God shall we be magnified. The Lord fulfill all thy requests. Now have I known that the Lord hath saved His anointed one; He will hearken unto him out of His holy heaven; in mighty deeds is the salvation of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God. They have been fettered and have fallen, but we are risen and are set upright. O Lord, save the king, and hearken unto us in the day when we call upon Thee.

### *Psalm 20*

O Lord, in Thy strength the king shall be glad, and in Thy salvation shall he rejoice exceedingly. The desire of his heart hast Thou granted unto him, and hast not denied him the requests of his lips. Thou wentest before him with the blessings of goodness, Thou hast set upon his head a crown of precious stone. He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest him length of days unto ages of ages. Great is his glory in Thy salvation; glory and majesty shalt Thou lay upon him. For Thou shalt give him blessing for ever and ever, Thou shalt gladden him in joy with Thy countenance. For the king hopeth in the Lord, and through the mercy of the Most High shall he not be shaken. Let Thy hand be found on all Thine enemies; let Thy right hand find all that hate Thee. For Thou wilt make them as an oven of fire in the time of Thy presence; the Lord in His wrath will trouble them sorely and fire shall devour them. Their fruit wilt Thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from the sons of men. For they have intended evil against Thee, they have devised counsels which they shall not be able to establish. For Thou shalt make them turn their backs; among those that are Thy remnant, Thou shalt make ready their countenance. Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we will sing and chant of Thy mighty acts.

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

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *Thrice.*

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. *Thrice.*

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

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

*Senior Reader:* O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

*Reader:* Amen. *And these troparia:*

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Grant Thou victory unto Orthodox Christians over their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross do Thou preserve Thy commonwealth.

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

O Thou Who wast lifted up willingly upon the Cross, bestow Thy mercies upon the new community named after Thee, O Christ God; gladden with Thy power the Orthodox Christians, granting them victory over enemies; may they have as Thy help the weapon of peace, the invincible trophy.

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

O Awesome intercession that cannot be put to shame, O good one, disdain not our prayer; O all-hymned Theotokos, establish the commonwealth of the

Orthodox, save the Orthodox Christians, and grant unto them victory from heaven, for thou didst bring forth God, O thou only blessed one.

**Choir:** Lord have mercy. *Nine Times*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Senior Reader:** Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

**Reader:** Amen.

### ***The Six Psalms***

*We begin Matins with the Six Psalms, listening in silence and with compunction (standing, with no moving about). And the reader, with reverence and fear of God, says:*

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.  
**Thrice** (*With the sign of the Cross and a bow from the waist each time.*)

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise.  
**Twice**

### ***Psalm 3***

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

### ***Psalm 37***

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me.

There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome and corrupt in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mockings, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftinesses all the day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

### *Psalm 62*

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory. For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips of rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee, Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

At the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee, Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *Thrice, with the sign of the Cross, but without bows.*

Lord. have mercy. *Thrice*

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

### *Psalm 87*

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication. For filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead. Like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee? Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.

## *Psalm 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 that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, longsuffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered, neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.

## *Psalm 142*

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. 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 humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face

away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

Hearken unto me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness, and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. ***Twice***

Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. ***Thrice, with the sign of the Cross and a bow each time.***

***Choir:*** Lord, have mercy. ***x12***

***Senior Reader:*** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

***Choir:*** Amen.

***Senior Reader:*** Alleluia, in the **8 Tone**: *Stichos 1*: Out of the night my spirit waketh at dawn unto Thee, O God, for Thy commandments are a light upon the earth.

***Choir:*** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Stichos 2*: Learn righteousness, ye that dwell upon the earth.

***Choir:*** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Stichos 3*: Zeal shall lay hold upon an un instructed people.

***Choir:*** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Stichos 4*: Add more evils upon them, O Lord; add more evils upon them that are glorious upon the earth.

**Choir:** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Tone 8:** When the glorious disciples were enlightened at the supper during the washing of the feet, /  
then Judas the ungodly one was stricken and darkened with the love of silver. /  
And unto the lawless judges did he deliver Thee, the righteous Judge. /  
Behold, O lover of money, him that for the sake thereof did hang himself; /  
flee from that insatiable soul that dared such things against the Master. //  
O Thou Who art good unto all, Lord, glory be to Thee.

**Glory... Repeat:** “When the glorious disciples ...”

**Both now... Repeat:** “When the glorious disciples...”

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The First Gospel [John 13:31-18:1 §46 through §58]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

## Antiphon I

**Tone 8 [Sticheron Melody]:** The rulers of the people /  
took counsel together //  
against the Lord and against His Christ.

They laid a lawless accusation against Me. //  
O Lord, Lord, forsake Me not.

Let us bring to Christ pure senses and affections, /  
and as His friends let us sacrifice our lives for His sake. /  
Let us not, as Judas, choke ourselves with the cares of this life, /  
but in the inner chambers of our hearts let us cry: /  
Our Father who art in the heavens, //  
deliver us from the evil one.

### Glory... Both now...

As a virgin inviolate thou hast borne child /  
and hast remained a virgin, /  
O Mother who hast not known wedlock, //  
Theotokos Mary. //  
Pray to Christ our God that we may be saved.

## Antiphon II

**Tone 6:** Judas ran to the lawless scribes and said: /  
“What will ye give me, and I shall deliver Him to you?” /  
And while they conspired together, /  
Thou against whom thy were conspiring, /  
wast Thyself standing invisibly in their midst. /  
O Thou who knowest the hearts of men, //  
spare our souls.

In loving compassion let us minister to God, /  
as Mary at the supper; /  
and let us not as Judas acquire love of money, //  
that we may ever abide with Christ our God.

**Glory... Both now...**

Cease not to pray, O Virgin, /  
unto Him Whom thou hast borne in ways past all interpretation, /  
for He loves mankind: /  
that He may save from danger //  
all who flee to thee for refuge.

**Antiphon III**

**Tone 2:** Because of the raising of Lazarus, /  
the children of the Hebrews cried Hosanna unto Thee, /  
O Lord Who lovest mankind: //  
but Judas the transgressor had no wish to understand.

At Thy supper, O Christ our God, /  
Thou hast foretold to Thy disciples: /  
“One of you shall betray Me.” //  
But Judas the transgressor had no wish to understand.

When John asked Thee, O Lord, /  
“Who is he that shall betray Thee?” /  
Thou hast shown him through the giving of the bread. //  
But Judas the transgressor had no wish to understand.

With thirty pieces of silver, O Lord, /  
and with a false kiss, /  
the Jews sought to kill Thee. //  
But Judas the transgressor had no wish to understand.

During the washing of the feet, O Christ our God, /  
Thou hast commanded Thy disciples, /  
“Do as ye have seen Me do.” //  
But Judas the transgressor had no wish to understand.

“Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation”, /  
Thou, our God, hast said to Thy disciples. //  
But Judas the transgressor had no wish to understand.

**Glory... Both now...**

Keep thy servants safe from danger, O Theotokos, /  
for after God we all flee to thee for refuge, //  
as an unconquerable rampart and protection.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both  
now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

*During this and the following sessional hymns, we do not sit, but remain  
standing.*

*Sessional Hymn:*

**Tone 7 [Sticheron Melody]:**

As Thou gavest food to the disciples at the Supper, /  
knowing the plot for Thy betrayal, /  
Thou hast accused Judas of it. /  
Thou hast understood that he would not come to repentance, /  
yet hast Thou desired to show to all that Thou was betrayed of Thine own will, /  
to save the world from the enemy. //  
O longsuffering Lord, glory to Thee.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The Second Gospel [John 18:1-28 §58]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

## Antiphon IV

### **Tone 5 [Sticheron melody]:**

Today Judas forsakes the Master and accepts the devil: /  
he is blinded by the passion of avarice /  
and darkened he falls from the Light. /  
For how could he see, who sold the Light for thirty pieces of silver? /  
But He who suffered for the world has shone upon us as the dawn. /  
To Him, let us cry: //  
O Thou who sufferest with men and for their sakes, glory to Thee.

Today Judas makes a pretence of Godliness /  
and become a stranger to the gifts of grace; /  
though a disciple, he turns traitor, /  
and under a guise of friendship he conceals deceit. /  
In his foolishness he prefers thirty pieces of silver to the Master's love, /  
and acts as guide to the lawless Sanhedrin. //  
But we have Christ as our salvation: let us glorify Him.

**Tone 1:** As brethren in Christ, let us acquire brotherly love; /  
and let us not be lacking in compassion for our neighbor, /  
lest for money's sake we be condemned like the unmerciful servant, //  
and repent like Judas to no purpose.

### **Glory... Both now...**

Glorious things are spoken of thee throughout all the world, /  
for thou hast borne in the flesh the Maker of all, /  
O Theotokos Mary unwedded, //  
worthy of all praise.

## Antiphon V

### **Tone 6:**

The disciple agreed upon the price of the Master, /  
and for thirty pieces of silver he sold the Lord; /  
with a deceitful kiss he betrayed Him //  
to the transgressors to be put to death.

Today the Creator of heaven and earth said to His disciples: /  
“The hour is at hand, /  
and Judas who betrays Me has drawn near. /  
Let none of you deny Me /  
when ye see Me on the Cross between two thieves. /  
For as man I suffer, /  
but as Lover of mankind //  
I save those who believe in Me.”

**Glory... Both now...**

O Virgin who in the last days /  
hast ineffably conceived /  
and borne thine own Creator, //  
save those who magnify thee.

**Antiphon VI**

**Tone 7:**

Today Judas watches how he may deliver up the Lord, /  
the preeternal Savior of the world, /  
who with five loaves satisfied the multitude. /  
Today the transgressor denies his Teacher; /  
though a disciple he betrays the Master. /  
He sells for money the Lord who fed His people //  
with manna in the wilderness.

Today the Jews nailed to the Cross the Lord /  
who divided the sea with a rod /  
and led them through the wilderness. /  
Today they pierced with a lance the side of Him /  
Who for their sake smote Egypt with plagues. /  
They gave Him gall to drink, //  
Who rained down manna on them for food.

O Lord, as Thou camest to Thy voluntary Passion, /  
Thou hast cried aloud to Thy disciples: /  
“If ye could not even watch with Me one hour, /  
why then did ye promise to die for My sake? /  
See ye how Judas sleeps not, /  
but makes haste to deliver Me to the transgressors? /  
Awake, rise and pray, /  
and let none deny Me when he sees Me on the Cross.” //

O longsuffering Lord, glory to Thee.

**Glory... Both now...**

Rejoice, Theotokos, who hast contained within thy womb /  
Him Whom the heavens cannot contain. /  
Rejoice, Virgin whom the prophets preached: /  
through thee Emmanuel has shone forth upon us. //

Rejoice, Mother of Christ our God.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

*Sessional Hymn:*

**Tone 7 [Sticheron Melody]:**

What reason led thee, Judas to betray the Savior? /  
Did He expel thee from the company of the apostles? /  
Did He deprive thee of the gift of healing? /  
When thou wast at supper with the others, did He drive thee from the table? /  
When He washed the other's feet, did He pass thee by? /  
How many are the blessings that thou hast forgotten! /  
Thou art condemned for thine ingratitude, //  
but His measureless longsuffering and great mercy are proclaimed to all.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

## **The Third Gospel [Matthew 26:57-75 §109]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **Antiphon VII**

#### **Tone 8 [Sticheron Melody]:**

Suffering the transgressors to lay hold on Thee, O Lord, /  
Thou hast cried aloud: /  
Although ye smite the Shepherd /  
and scatter abroad the twelve sheep, My disciples, /  
yet could I call to Mine aide more than twelve legions of angels. /  
But in My patience I forbear, /  
that the hidden secrets I made known to you through My prophets /  
may be fulfilled.” //  
O Lord, glory to Thee.

Peter denied Thee three times, /  
and straightway he understood Thy words; /  
but he offered Thee tears of repentance. //  
O God, be merciful to me and save me.

#### **Glory... both now...**

The holy Virgin is a gateway of salvation, /  
a fair Paradise, and a cloud of everlasting light: /  
let us all sing in praise of her //  
and say to her, “Rejoice!”

### **Antiphon VIII**

**Tone 2:** O ye transgressors, tell us what ye heard from our Savior? /  
Did He not expound the Law and the teaching of the prophets? /  
How then have ye taken counsel to deliver up to Pilate /  
Him Who is God the Word that came from God, //  
and the Deliverer of our souls?

“Let Him be crucified!” they cried, /  
though they had always taken pleasure in Thy gifts of grace; /  
and the murderers of the righteous asked for the release of an evildoer /  
in place of their Benefactor. /  
But Thou, O Christ, wast silent and hast endured their impudence, //  
wishing to suffer and to save us in Thy love for mankind.

**Glory... Both now...**

As there is no boldness in us because of the multitude of our sins, /  
do thou, O Virgin Theotokos, /  
intercede with the Son Whom thou hast borne, /  
for the entreaty of His Mother has great power to win the favor of the Master. /  
Despise not, O all-honored Lady, the prayer of sinners, /  
for He who took upon Himself to suffer for our sake //  
is merciful and strong to save.

**Antiphon IX**

**Tone 3:** They took the thirty pieces of silver, /  
the price of Him that was valued, /  
on Whom the children of Israel had set a price. /  
Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: /  
the spirit indeed is willing //  
but the flesh is weak. Therefore watch!

They gave Me gall to eat, /  
and in My thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. /  
But do Thou raise Me up, O Lord, //  
and I shall grant them their reward.

**Glory... Both now...**

We Gentiles sing of thee, O pure Theotokos, /  
for thou hast borne Christ our God, //  
Who through thee delivered mankind from the curse.

**Small Litany**

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

*Sessional Hymn:*

**Tone 8 [Sticheron Melody]:**

O how could Judas, who was once Thy disciple, plot to betray Thee! /  
In his treachery and wickedness he ate with Thee at the supper, /  
and then he went to the priests and said: /  
“What will ye give me, and I will deliver to you /  
Him Who set the Law at naught and defiled the Sabbath?” //  
O longsuffering Lord, glory to Thee.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The Fourth Gospel [John 18:28-19:16 §59]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Antiphon X**

**Tone 6 [Sticheron Melody]:**

He Who clothes Himself in light as in a garment, /  
stood naked at the judgment; /  
on His cheek He received blows from the hands which He had formed. /  
The lawless people nailed to the Cross the Lord of Glory. /  
Then the veil of the temple was rent in twain /  
and the sun was darkened, /  
for it could not bear to see such outrage done to God, /  
before Whom all things tremble. //  
Let us worship Him.

The disciples denied Thee /  
and the thief cried aloud: //  
Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom.

**Glory... Both now...**

O Lord Who lovest mankind, /  
for the sake of Thy servants /  
Thou wast pleased to take flesh from the Virgin: /  
grant peace to the world, //  
that with one accord we may glorify Thee.

**Antiphon XI**

**Tone 6:** In return for the blessings which Thou hast granted, O Christ, /  
to the people of the Hebrews, /  
they condemned Thee to be crucified, /  
giving Thee vinegar and gall to drink. /  
But render unto them, O Lord, according to their works, //  
for they have not understood Thy loving self-abasement.

The people of the Hebrews were not satisfied with Thy betrayal, O Christ, /  
but they wagged their heads, and reviled and mocked Thee. /  
But render unto them, O Lord, according to their works, //  
for they have devised vain things against Thee.

Neither the quaking of the earth, nor the splitting of the rocks, /  
nor the rending of the veil of the temple, /  
nor the resurrection of the dead persuaded the Jews. /  
But render unto them, O Lord, according to their works, //  
for they have devised vain things against Thee.

**Glory... Both now...**

O Theotokos Virgin, /  
who alone art pure and alone blessed, /  
through thee we have come to know God, /  
for He took flesh from thee. /  
Therefore without ceasing we sing thy praises //  
and we magnify thee.

## Antiphon XII

**Tone 8:** Thus saith the Lord to the Jews: /  
“O My people, what have I done unto thee? /  
Or wherein have I wearied thee? /  
I gave light to thy blind and cleansed thy lepers, /  
I raised up the man who lay upon his bed. /  
O My people, what have I done unto thee, /  
and how hast thou repaid Me? /  
Instead of manna thou hast given Me gall, /  
instead of water vinegar; /  
instead of loving Me, thou hast nailed Me to the Cross. /  
I can endure no more. /  
I shall call My gentiles and they shall glorify Me /  
with the Father and the Spirit; //  
and I shall bestow on them eternal life.”

Today the veil of the temple is rent in twain, /  
as a reproof against the transgressors; /  
and the sun hides its own rays, //  
seeing the Master crucified.

O lawgivers of Israel, ye Jews and Pharisees, /  
the company of the apostles cries aloud to you: /  
Behold the Temple that ye have destroyed; /  
behold the Lamb that ye have crucified. /  
Ye gave Him over to the tomb, /  
but by His own power He has risen again. /  
Be not deceived, ye Jews: /  
for this is He Who saved you in the sea /  
and led you in the wilderness. //  
He is the Life and Light and Peace of the world.

### **Glory... Both now...**

Rejoice! Gate of the King of Glory, /  
through which the Most High alone has passed; /  
and He left thee sealed again, //  
for the salvation of our souls.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

*Sessional Hymn:*

**Tone 8 [Sticheron Melody]:**

When Thou the Judge, O God, /  
wast standing before Caiaphas and wast delivered unto Pilate, /  
then the powers of heaven quaked with fear. /  
Thou wast raised upon the Cross between two thieves, /  
and though sinless Thou wast numbered with transgressors, /  
for the salvation of mankind. //  
O longsuffering Lord, glory to Thee.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The Fifth Gospel [Matthew 27:3-32 §111]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Antiphon XIII**

**Tone 6 [Sticheron Melody]:**

The assembly of the Jews besought Pilate to crucify Thee, O Lord. /  
For though they found no guilt in Thee, /  
they released Barabbas the malefactor /  
and condemned Thee the Righteous; /  
and so they incurred the guilt of murder. /  
But give them, O Lord, their reward, //  
for they devised vain things against Thee.

He before Whom all things quake and tremble, /  
to Whom every tongue gives praise, /  
Christ the Power of God and the Wisdom of God, /  
is struck on the face by the priests, /  
and they give Him gall to drink. /  
Yet He was pleased to suffer all things, /  
wishing to save us from our sins by His own blood, //  
in His love for mankind.

**Glory... Both now...**

O Theotokos, /  
who through a word in ways past speech /  
hast borne thine own Creator, //  
pray unto Him for the salvation of our souls.

**Antiphon XIV**

**Tone 8 [Sticheron Melody]:**

O Lord, Thou hast taken as Thy companion the thief /  
who had soiled his hands with blood: /  
in Thy goodness and love for mankind, //  
number us also with him.

Few were the words that the thief uttered upon the Cross, /  
yet great was the faith that he showed. /  
In one moment he was saved: /  
He opened the gates of Paradise and wast the first to enter in. //  
O Lord, Who hast accepted his repentance, glory to Thee.

**Glory... Both now...**

Rejoice, for through the angel thou hast received the joy of the world! /  
Rejoice, for thou hast borne thy Maker and thy Lord! /  
Rejoice, for thou wast counted worthy //  
to become Mother of Christ our God!

*During the singing of Antiphon Fifteen, in most Greek churches there takes place the entry with the Crucifix: the Cross is set it up in the center of the church.*

## Antiphon XV

**Tone 6:** Today He Who hung the earth upon the waters is hung upon the Cross. /

He Who is King of the angels is arrayed in a crown of thorns. /

He Who wraps the heaven in clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery. /

He Who in Jordan set Adam free receives blows upon His face. /

The Bridegroom of the Church is transfixed with nails. /

The Son of the Virgin is pierced with a spear. /

We venerate Thy Passion, O Christ. /

We venerate Thy Passion, O Christ. /

We venerate Thy Passion, O Christ. //

Show us also Thy glorious Resurrection.

Let us not keep festival as the Jews: /

for Christ our God and Passover is sacrificed for us. /

But let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement, /

and with sincerity entreat Him. /

Arise, O Lord, and save us //

in Thy love for mankind.

Thy Cross, O Lord, /

is life and resurrection to Thy people; /

and putting all our trust in it, /

we sing to Thee, our crucified God: //

Have mercy upon us.

**Glory... Both now...**

Beholding Thee hanging on the Cross, O Christ, /

Thy Mother cried aloud: /

“O my Son, what is this strange mystery that I behold? /

Nailed in the flesh, O Giver of Life, //

how dost Thou die upon the Tree?”

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

*Sessional Hymn:*

**Tone 4 [Sticheron Melody]:**

Thou hast redeemed us from the curse of the law by Thy precious Blood. /  
Having been nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear, /  
Thou hast poured forth immortality upon mankind. //  
O our Savior, glory to Thee.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The Sixth Gospel [Mark 15:16-32 §67]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Tone 4**

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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

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

Through a tree Adam lost his home in Paradise, /  
and through the Tree of the Cross the thief made Paradise his home. /  
For the one, by eating, transgressed the commandment of his Maker; /  
but the other, crucified at Thy side, /  
confessed Thee as the hidden God. //  
Remember us also, Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

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

The lawless people bought the Maker of the Law from His disciple, /  
and they led Him as a transgressor before the judgment-seat of Pilate, /  
crying "Crucify Him", /  
though it was He Who gave them manna in the wilderness. /  
But, following the example of the righteous thief, we cry with faith: //  
Remember us also, Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

The murderers of God, the lawless nation of the Jews, /  
cried to Pilate in their madness, saying, /  
“Crucify the innocent Christ”; /  
and they asked rather for Barabbas. /  
But with the words of the good thief we cry to Him: //  
Remember us also, Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

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

Thy life-giving side, O Christ, /  
flowing as a fountain from Eden, /  
waters Thy Church as a living Paradise. /  
Then, dividing into the four branches of the Gospels, /  
with its streams it refreshes the world, /  
making glad the creation and teaching the nations //  
to venerate Thy Kingdom with faith.

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

For my sake Thou wast crucified, /  
to become for me a fountain of forgiveness. /  
Thy side was pierced, that Thou mightest pour upon me streams of life. /  
Thou wast transfixed with nails, /  
that through the depths of Thy sufferings /  
I might know with certainty the height of Thy power, /  
and cry to Thee, O Christ the Giver of Life: //  
O Savior glory to Thy Cross and Passion.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs  
is the kingdom of heaven.

When Thou wast crucified, O Christ, /  
all the creation saw and trembled. /  
The foundations of the earth quaked in fear of Thy power. /  
The lights of heaven hid themselves /  
and the veil of the temple was rent in twain, /  
the mountains trembled and the rocks were split. /  
With the faithful thief we cry: //  
Remember us, O Savior.

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

O Lord, on the Cross Thou hast torn up the record of our sins; /  
numbered among the departed, Thou hast bound fast the ruler of hell, /  
delivering all men from the chains of death by Thy Resurrection. /  
Through this Thy Resurrection, O Lord Who lovest mankind /  
we have been granted light, and cry to Thee: //  
Remember us also, Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in the heavens.

Thou wast lifted up, O Lord, upon the Cross /  
and hast destroyed the power of death; /  
and as God Thou hast blotted out the record of our sins that was against us. /  
Grant to us also the repentance of the thief, /  
O Christ our God Who alone lovest mankind, /  
for we worship Thee with faith and cry to Thee: //  
Remember us also, Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

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

Let us the faithful pray with one accord /  
that we may rightly glorify the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, /  
one Godhead in three Persons, /  
remaining unconfused, simple, undivided; /  
Whom no man can approach, //  
and by Whom we are delivered from the fire of punishment.

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

O Christ, we offer Thee as intercessor Thy Mother /  
who without seed bore Thee in the flesh, /

true Virgin who remained inviolate after childbirth. /  
O Master rich in mercy, /  
ever grant forgiveness of their sins unto those who cry: //  
Remember us also, Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

### **Prokimenon**

**Reader:** Let us attend. Wisdom. The Prokimenon in the **4<sup>th</sup> Tone:** *They have parted my garments amongst themselves, and for my vesture have they cast lots.*

**Choir:** They have parted my garments amongst themselves, and for my vesture have they cast lots.

**Reader:** *O God, my God, attend to me; why hast Thou forsaken me?*

**Choir:** They have parted my garments amongst themselves, and for my vesture have they cast lots.

**Reader:** *They have parted my garments amongst themselves.*

**Choir:** And for my vesture have they cast lots.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **The Seventh Gospel [Matthew 27:33-54 §113]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **Psalm 50**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me

thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine 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 with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **The Eighth Gospel [Luke 23:32-49 §111]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **The Canon**

*Then we sing the three-canticle Canon by St. Kosmas. According to the Typikon, in each ode, the Irmos is sung twice, and then the troparia are repeated three or six times so as to make up the number twelve. The irmos is sung at the end of each ode as katavasia. According to parish practice, there are fewer, if any repetitions.*

### **Ode V**

**Irmos, Tone 6:** I seek Thee early in the morning, Word of God; /  
for in Thy tender mercy towards fallen man, /

without changing Thou hast emptied Thyself, /  
and impassibly Thou hast submitted to Thy Passion. //  
Grant me Thy peace, O Lord Who lovest mankind.

*Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee.*

Their feet were washed, and in preparation they were cleansed by partaking of the divine Mystery; and now, O Christ, Thy servants went up with Thee from Zion to the great Mount of Olives, singing Thy praises, O Lord Who lovest mankind.

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

“See that ye be not troubled, O My friends”, Thou hast said. “For now the hour is come when I shall be taken and slain by the hands of wicked men; and ye shall all be scatted and forsake Me. But I shall gather you together to proclaim Me, in My love for mankind.”

**Katavasia, Tone 6:** I seek Thee early in the morning, Word of God; /  
for in Thy tender mercy towards fallen man, /  
without changing Thou hast emptied Thyself, /  
and impassibly Thou hast submitted to Thy Passion. //  
Grant me Thy peace, O Lord Who lovest mankind.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

***Kontakion:***

**Tone 8:** Come, and let us all sing the praises of Him Who was crucified for us. /

For Mary said, when she beheld Him on the Tree: //

“Though Thou dost endure the Cross, yet Thou art my Son and God.”

**Ikos:** Seeing her own Lamb led to the slaughter, Mary His Mother followed Him with the other woman and in her grief she cried: “Where dost Thou go, my Child? Why dost Thou run so swiftly? Is there another wedding in Cana, and art Thou hastening there, to turn the water into wine? Shall I go with Thee, my Child, or shall I wait for Thee? Speak some word to me, O Word; do not pass me by in silence. Thou hast preserved me in virginity, and Thou art my Son and God.”

**Ode VIII**

**Irmos, Tone 6:**

The holy Children brought mockery upon the idol of ungodly wickedness; / and the lawless Sanhedrin raged and took vain counsel against Christ, /

purposing to kill Him Who holds life in the hollow of His hand. //

The whole creation blesses Him, and glorifies Him to all ages.

*Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee.*

“Shake the sleep now from your eyelids,” Thou hast said to the disciples, O Christ. “Watch in prayer, that ye fall not into temptation. And thou, O Simon, most of all: for the trial is greater to the strong. Know Me, O Peter, for the whole creation blesses me and glorifies Me to all ages.”

*Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee.*

“No profane word shall ever pass my lips, O Master,” Peter cried. “Gladly will I die with Thee, though all men shall deny Thee. Neither flesh nor blood, but Thy Father has revealed Thee to me: and the whole creation blesses Thee and glorifies Thee to all ages.”

*We bless Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Lord.*

“Thou hast not fathomed the full depth of divine wisdom and knowledge,” said the Lord. “Thou hast not understood the abyss of My judgments. Therefore do not boast, for thou art flesh, and three times shalt thou deny Me, though the whole creation blesses Me and glorifies Me to all ages.”

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

“Thou dost protest, O Simon Peter, against the very thing that thou shalt shortly do, even as I have foretold. A maidservant shall suddenly approach and fill thee with fear,” said the Lord. “Yet weeping bitterly, thou shalt find Me merciful; for the whole creation blesses Me and glorifies Me to all ages.”

**Choir:** We praise, we bless, we worship the Lord, //  
praising and supremely exalting Him unto all ages.

**Katavasia, Tone 6:**

The holy Children brought mockery upon the idol of ungodly wickedness; /  
and the lawless Sanhedrin raged and took vain counsel against Christ, /  
purposing to kill Him Who holds life in the hollow of His hand. //  
The whole creation blesses Him, and glorifies Him to all ages.

*At Ode IX we do not sing the Magnificat, but rather continue immediately with Ode 9.*

**Ode IX**

**Irmos, Tone 6:** More honorable than the Cherubim, /  
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, /  
who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word: /  
the very Theotokos, //  
thee do we magnify.

*Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee.*

The destructive band of evil men, hateful to heaven, the synagogue of the murderers of God, drew near to Thee, O Christ, and as a malefactor they led Thee away, Who art the Creator of all. Thee do we magnify.

*Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee.*

Ignorant of the Law in their impiety, studying the words of the prophets in vain and to no purpose, unjustly they led Thee, the Master of all, as a lamb to the slaughter. Thee do we magnify.

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

Moved by jealous wickedness, the priests and scribes took Him Who is by nature Life and Life-giver, and they delivered Him to the Gentiles to be put to death. Him do we magnify.

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

Like many dogs they compassed Thee, O King, and struck Thee on the face; they questioned Thee and bore false witness against Thee. And all of these things Thou hast endured to save us all.

**Katavasia, Tone 6:** More honorable than the Cherubim, /  
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, /  
who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word: /  
the very Theotokos, //  
thee do we magnify.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Thrice.*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**The Exapostilarion:**

**Tone 3:** O Lord, this very day hast Thou vouchsafed the Good Thief Paradise. /  
By the Wood of the Cross //  
do Thou enlighten me also and save me.

**Glory... Repeat:** "O Lord, this very day ..."

**Both now... Repeat:** "O Lord, this very day ..."

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The Ninth Gospel [John 19:25-37 §61]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

***The Lauds (the Praises)***

**Reader:** In the **3rd Tone**, Let every breath praise the Lord.

**Choir:** Let every breath praise the Lord. \* Praise the Lord from the heavens, \* praise Him in the highest. \* To Thee is due praise, O God.

Praise Him, all ye His angels; \* praise Him, all ye His hosts. \* To Thee is due praise, O God.

**Reader:** Praise Him, O sun and moon; praise Him all ye stars and light. Praise Him, ye heavens of heavens, and thou water that art above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord; for He spake, and they came to be; He commanded, and they were created.

He established them for ever, yea, for ever and ever; He hath set an ordinance, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons, and all ye abysses.

Fire, hail, snow, ice, blast of tempest, which perform His word.

The mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars.

The beasts and all the cattle, creeping things and winged birds.

Kings of the earth, and all peoples, princes and all the judges of the earth.

Young men and virgins, elders with the younger; let them praise the name of the Lord, for exalted is the name of Him alone.

His praise is above the earth and heaven, and He shall exalt the horn of His people.

This is the hymn for all His saints, for the sons of Israel, and for the people that draw nigh unto Him.

Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the church of the saints.

Let Israel be glad in Him that made him, let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise His name in the dance; with the timbrel and the psaltery let them chant unto Him.

For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and He shall exalt the meek with salvation.

The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds.

The high praise of God shall be in their throat, and two-edged swords shall be in their hands.

To do vengeance among the heathen, punishments among the peoples.

To bind their kings with fetters, and their nobles with manacles of iron.

To do among them the judgment that is written, this glory shall be to all His saints.

Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power.

***Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise \* Him according to the multitude of His greatness.***

**Tone 3:** Israel, My first-born Son, has committed two evils: /  
he has forsaken Me, the fountain of the water of life, /  
and dug for himself a broken cistern. /  
Upon the Cross has he crucified Me, /  
but asked for Barabbas and let him go. /  
Heaven at this was amazed and the sun hid its rays; /  
yet thou, O Israel, wast not ashamed, /  
but hast delivered Me to death. /  
Forgive them, Holy Father, //  
for they do not know what they have done.

***Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, \* praise Him with the psaltery and harp.***

Israel, My first-born Son, has committed two evils: /  
he has forsaken Me, the fountain of the water of life, /  
and dug for himself a broken cistern. /  
Upon the Cross has he crucified Me, /  
but asked for Barabbas and let him go. /  
Heaven at this was amazed and the sun hid its rays; /  
yet thou, O Israel, wast not ashamed, /  
but hast delivered Me to death. /  
Forgive them, Holy Father, //  
for they do not know what they have done.

***Praise Him with timbrel and dance, \* praise him with strings and flute.***

Every member of Thy holy body endured dishonor for our sakes: /  
Thy head, the thorns; Thy face, the spitting; /  
Thy cheeks, the buffeting; /  
Thy mouth, the taste of gall mingled with vinegar; /

Thine ears, the impious blasphemies; /  
Thy back, the scourging and Thy hand, the reed; /  
Thy whole body, the stretching on the Cross; /  
Thy limbs, the nails; and Thy side, the spear. /  
Thou hast suffered for us and by Thy Passion set us free from passions; /  
in loving self-abasement Thou hast stooped down to us and raised us up: //  
O Savior almighty, have mercy upon us.

***Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation. \* Let every breath praise the Lord.***

Seeing Thee crucified, O Christ, the whole creation trembled. /  
The foundations of the earth shook with fear at Thy power. /  
For when Thou wast raised up today, the people of the Hebrews was destroyed. /  
The veil of the temple was rent in twain, /  
the graves were opened, and the dead rose from the tombs. /  
When the centurion saw the wonder, he was filled with dread. /  
And Thy Mother, standing by Thee, cried with a mother's sorrow: /  
"How shall I not lament and strike my breast, /  
seeing Thee stripped naked and hung upon the wood as one condemned?" /  
Thou wast crucified and buried, and Thou hast risen from the dead: //  
O Lord, glory be to Thee.

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

**Tone 6:** They stripped Me of My garments /  
and clothed Me in a scarlet robe; /  
they set a crown of thorns upon My head /  
and placed a reed in My right hand, //  
that I may break them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

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

**Same Tone:**

I gave My back to scourging; /  
I did not turn away My face from spitting; /  
I stood before the judgment-seat of Pilate, /  
and endured the Cross //  
for the salvation of the world.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The Tenth Gospel [Mark 15:43-47 §69]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Reader:** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and good will among men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name forever, yea, forever and ever.

Lord, thou hast been our refuge in generation and generation. I said: O Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. O Lord, unto Thee have I fled for refuge, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For in Thee is the fountain of life, in Thy light shall we see light. O continue Thy mercy unto them that know Thee.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name unto the ages. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.. Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the works of Thy hands. To Thee is due praise, to Thee is due a song, to Thee glory is due, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Twelve Times*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **The Eleventh Gospel [John 19:38-42 §62]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **The Aposticha**

**Tone 1:** The whole creation was changed by fear, /  
when it saw Thee, O Christ, hanging on the Cross. /  
The sun was darkened /  
and the foundations of the earth were shaken; /  
all things suffered with the Creator of all. /  
Of Thine own will Thou hast endured this for our sakes: //  
O Lord, glory to Thee.

***They parted My garments among them,\* and cast lots upon My vesture.***

Why does the impious and transgressing people imagine vain things? /  
Why have they condemned to death the Life of all? /  
O mighty wonder! /  
The Creator of the world is delivered into the hands of lawless men, /  
and He Who loves mankind is raised upon the Cross, /  
that He may free the prisoners in hell, who cry: //  
O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee.

***They gave Me gall to eat:\* and in My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink.***

Today the most pure Virgin saw Thee hanging on the Cross, O Word; /  
and with a mother's love she wept /  
and bitterly her heart was wounded. /  
She groaned in anguish from the depth of her soul, /  
and in her grief she struck her face and tore her hair. /  
And, beating her breast, she cried lamenting: /  
“Woe is me, my divine Child! /  
Woe is me, Thou Light of the world! /  
Why dost Thou vanish from my sight, O Lamb of God?” /  
Then the hosts of angels were seized with trembling, and they said: //  
“O Lord beyond our understanding, glory to Thee.”

***God is our King before the ages:\* He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth.***

Seeing Thee hanging on the Cross, /  
O Christ the Creator and God of all, /  
bitterly Thy Virgin Mother cried: /  
“O my Son, where is the beauty of Thy form? /  
I cannot bear to look upon Thee crucified unjustly. /  
Make haste, then, to arise, //  
that I too may see Thy Resurrection on the third day from the dead.”

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

**Tone 8:** O Lord, when Thou hast ascended on the Cross, /  
fear and trembling seized all the creation. /  
Thou hast not suffered the earth to swallow those that crucified Thee; /  
but Thou hast commanded hell to render up its prisoners, /  
for the regeneration of mortal men. /  
O Judge of the living and the dead, /  
Thou hast come to bring, not death, but life. /  
O Thou Who lovest mankind, // glory be to Thee.

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

Already the unjust judges have dipped their pens in ink, /  
and Jesus is sentenced and condemned to the Cross; /  
the creation suffers, seeing the Lord crucified. /

O loving Master, /

Who in Thy bodily nature hast suffered for my sake, //  
glory be to Thee.

**Senior Reader:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**The Twelfth Gospel [Matthew 27:62-66 §114]**

**Choir:** Glory to Thy Longsuffering, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Reader:** It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy name, O Most High, to proclaim in the morning Thy mercy, and Thy truth by night.

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. *Thrice.*

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

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

**Senior Reader:** O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

**Choir: Tone 4 [Troparion Melody]:**

Thou hast redeemed us from the curse of the law /  
by Thy precious Blood. /  
Having been nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear, /  
Thou hast poured forth immortality upon mankind. //  
O our Savior, glory to Thee.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy. *Forty Times*

**Senior Reader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen. Establish, O God, the holy Orthodox Faith of Orthodox Christians unto the ages of ages.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim; who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

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

Lord have mercy. *Thrice.*

O Lord, Bless.

**Senior Reader (Facing the East, rather than facing the people):**

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, for the sake of the prayers of Thy most pure Mother, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, and all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

**Choir:** Amen.

***The Many years***

Our Great Lord and Father Kyrill,/  
the Most-holy Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia; /  
our Lord the Very Most Reverend Metropolitan Hilarion; /  
First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad, /  
our Lord the Most Reverend Archbishop Peter; /  
the brotherhood of this holy temple, and all Orthodox Christians: //  
preserve, O Lord, for many years.

Lord, have mercy. ***Thrice***

***The First Hour is not said at the end of Matins, but it is read later on Friday morning as part of the Office of the Royal Hours***

*Revised 4/2/2020*