



**MATINS  
OF  
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY**

*"The Twelve Passion Gospels"*



ST. ATHANASIUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

# MATINS OF GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

## "The Twelve Passion Gospels"

**Priest:**

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

**People:**

Amen. Heavenly King, comforter, 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.

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

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.

**People:**

Amen

**Chanter:**

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all adversaries, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thine Estate.

*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.

*Both 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 upon to govern us, leading us to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest birth to God, and alone art blessed.

**THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION**

**(The people respond after each petition: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.)**

**Deacon**

- Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.
- Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.
- Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_, for our father and Bishop \_\_\_\_\_, and for all our Brotherhood in Christ.
- For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

**Chanter:** 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.

**People:** Amen.

**Chanter:**

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

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth 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 mocking, 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 craftiness 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 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 ages of ages. Amen.*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE)  
Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

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

#### PSALM 87

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

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, long-suffering 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.

O Lord, give ear unto my supplication 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 ages of ages.  
Amen.*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE)  
O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!*

### **THE GREAT LITANY**

**Deacon:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy. (after each petition)

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

- For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the Holy Churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.
- For this Holy House, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God, enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.
- For our father and Metropolitan \_\_\_\_\_, for our father and Bishop \_\_\_\_\_, for the venerable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.
- For the President of the United States, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.
- That He will aid them and grant them victory over every enemy and adversary, let us pray to the Lord.
- For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.
- For healthful seasons, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.
- For travelers by sea, by land, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.
- Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

**Deacon:** Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

**People:** To Thee, O Lord.

**Priest:** For unto Thee are due glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

### **ALLELUIA VERSES, tone 8**

**Chanter:**

- My soul yearns for Thee in the night, for Thy commandments are a light in the earth. (Isaiah 26:9)

**People:**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (The people respond after each verse.)

**Chanter:**

- Learn righteousness, O inhabitants of the earth (Isaiah 26:9b)
- Thy zeal will take hold of the ignorant people, and fire will consume thine adversaries. (Isaiah 26:11b)
- Increase Thy punishment upon them, increase Thy punishment upon the glorious ones of the earth. (Isaiah 26:15)

### **TROPAR, Tone 8**

**Chanters:**

While the glorious disciples, being illuminated at the evening washing, Judas, O evil worship, was stricken and darkened with the love of the silver, and unto lawless judges, O righteous Judge, he delivered and surrendered Thee. Wherefore, O lover of wealth, behold him who for its sake did hang himself and flee thou from that greedy soul which ventured thus far against the Master. O Thou whose goodness pervadeth all, glory to thee, O Lord.

## THE GOSPEL READINGS

(The following responses are sung before each Gospel reading.)

DEACON: And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE:



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of a treble and bass clef staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is primarily composed of quarter notes and half notes, with some longer notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

DEACON: Wisdom! Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE:



And to thy Spi - rit.

The musical notation consists of a treble and bass clef staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is primarily composed of quarter notes and half notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

PRIEST: The reading from the Holy Gospel, according to Saint John.

PEOPLE:



Glo - ry to Thy pas - sion, O Lord, O Lord.

The musical notation consists of a treble and bass clef staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is primarily composed of quarter notes and half notes, with some longer notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

## **GOSPEL READING 1**

The Lord said to his disciples, "Now is the Son of man glorified, and in him God is glorified; if God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

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

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

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to my Father. Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son; if you ask anything in my name, I will do it.

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

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

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

Rise, let us go hence.

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

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

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

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

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more; concerning judgment, because the ruler of the world is judged.

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

“A little while, and you will see me no more; again a little while, and you will see me, because I go to the Father.” Some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while,

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

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

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

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

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

"I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, are in me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us, so that the world may believe that Thou has sent me. The glory which Thou has given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and Thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that Thou has sent me and hast loved them even as Thou has loved me.

Father, I desire that they also, whom that hast given me may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which Thou has given me, for Thou loved me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world has not known Thee, but I have known Thee; and these know that Thou hast sent me. I made known to them Thy name, and I will make it known, that the love with which Thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

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

**People:** (The following response is sung after each Gospel reading.)



### 1st ANTIPHON, Tone 8

**Chanters:**

The rulers of the people took counsel together against the Lord and His anointed.

They denounced me with a lawless accusation. Lord, Lord, do not forsake me.

Let us present our senses purified to Christ, and as His friends let us lay down our lives for His sake. Let us not, as Judas, choke ourselves with the cares for this life, but let us cry in the private rooms of our hearts: Our Father who art in heaven, rescue us from the evil one.

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

As a virgin thou hast not known wedlock, yet thou hast given birth to a child and hast remained virgin, O unwed Mother, Mary the Theotokos, implore Christ our God to save us.

### 2nd ANTIPHON, Tone 6

Judas ran to the law-transgressing scribes and said: "What will you give me if I betray Him to you?" while they were conspiring to betray Thee, Thou stood invisibly in the midst of them. O Lord, who knowest human hearts, have pity on our souls.

In compassion let us serve God, as did Mary at the supper, and let us not acquire love of money, like Judas, so that we may be ever with Christ our God.

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

O Virgin, never cease to implore Him to whom thou didst inexplicably give birth, so he may rescue those who take refuge in thee, for He is the lover of mankind.

### **KATHISMA, Tone 7**

#### **Chanters:**

When Thou didst help the Disciples at the supper and knewest the intent of Judas to betray, Thou didst reproach him for it, knowing all the while that he was beyond redemption, but preferring to make known to all that Thou wast betrayed of Thin own will so that Thou might snatch the world from the stranger. wherefore, O long suffering one, glory be to Thee.

#### **Deacon:**

The reading is from the Holy gospel according to St. John (18:1-28).

#### **People:**

Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

#### **Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

### ***GOSPEL READING 2***

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

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

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

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

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

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

**People:**

Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**4th ANTIPHON, Tone 5**

**Chanters:**

Today Judas rejects the Master and accepts the devil. Blinded by the passion of the love of money, he became darkened losing light. How could he see, having sold the illuminating star for thirty pieces of silver? But he who suffered for the world's sake has risen for us. To Him let us cry: Glory to thee, for thou sufferest and sharest human sufferings.

Today Judas is disguised under godliness and thus alienates himself from the divine gift; though a disciple, he turns a traitor. Under a guise of fraternity, he hides his guile. He foolishly prefers thirty pieces of silver to the Master's love, and becomes a guide to the law-transgressing council. But we have Christ as our salvation, let us glorify Him.

**Tone 1**

As brethren in Christ, let us obtain brotherly love. Let us not be careless to our neighbor, so that we may not be condemned like the unmerciful servant for money's sake, or repend like Judas to no profit.

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

O Mary, Theotokos, virgin worthy of all praise, glorious things have been spoken of thee in all places, for thou gavest birth in the flesh to the Creator of all.

## 6th ANTIPHON, Tone 7

### Chanters:

Today Judas is watchful to betray the Lord, the pre-eternal Savior of the world, who fed the multitude with five loaves. Today the transgressor of the Law denies his Teacher; though a disciple, he betrays the Teacher. He sold for money the One who fed the people with manna.

Today the Jews nailed to the Cross the Lord, Who divided the sea with a rod and led them in the wilderness. Today they pierced His side with a spear, Who for their sake stroke Egypt with plagues. They offered Him gall to drink, who showered down upon them manna for food.

O Lord, when Thou didst approach Thy voluntary passion, Thou didst cry out to Thy disciples: "If you could not stay awake with me one hour, how did you promise to die with me? Do you see Judas, how he does not sleep but spares no effort to betray me to the transgressors of the law? Awake, and pray so that none of you may deny Me when you see me on the Cross." O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee.

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

Rejoice, O Theotokos: Whom the heavens cannot contain thou hast contained in thy womb. Rejoice, O Virgin, for thou art the proclamation of the prophets, and from thee Emmanuel has shone on us. Rejoice! O Mother of Christ God.

## KATHISMA, tone 7

### Chanters:

What caused thee, O Judas, to betray the Savior? Did He set thee aside from the disciples? Did He deny thee the gift of healing? Did He eat with the others and send thee away from the table? Did He wash the feet of the rest and then pass thee by? How much goodness hast though forgotten. Yea, thine unpraiseworthy mind hath been exposed. But His longsuffering which is beyond all measure and His great mercies are proclaimed with praise.

### Deacon:

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (26:57-75).

### People:

Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

### Deacon:

Let us be attentive!

## **GOSPEL READING 3**

At that time, the soldiers seized Jesus and led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter followed him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false

witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.'" And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes, and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face, and struck him and some slapped him, saying, "Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

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

**People:**

Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**7th ANTIPHON, Tone 8**

**Chanters:**

While enduring the transgressors of the law seizing Thee, O Lord, Thou didst cry aloud: "Even if you strike the shepherd and scatter the twelve sheep, my disciples, yet I could bring into your presence more than twelve legions of angels. But I endure patiently, so that the secret and hidden things that I have manifested through my prophets may be fulfilled. O Lord, glory to Thee.

Having denied thee three times, Peter comprehended Thy words to him, so he offered to Thee the tears of repentance. O Lord, have mercy on me and save me.

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

As a gate of salvation and a pleasant paradise, and a cloud of the eternal light, let us sing praises to the Holy Virgin and say to her, "Rejoice!"

**9th ANTIPHON, Tone 3**

**Reader:**

They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the most precious One, on whom some of the children of Israel had set a price. Stay awake and pray, that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak. Therefore, stay awake.

"They gave me gall to eat and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink." O Lord, raise me up and I will grant them their reward.

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

O pure Theotokos, we the gentiles sing praises to thee, for you gave birth to Christ our God, who through thee delivered mankind from the curse.

### **KATHISMA, Tone 8**

#### **Chanters:**

Woeful and sad is it that Judas, who had been Thy disciple, plotted Thy betrayal in Thy very presence. He ate with Thee in deceit, that unrighteous assassin, then went unto the priests saying, "What will ye give me to deliver unto you Him who broke the law and profaned the sabbath?" Wherefore, O lord, glory be to Thy longsuffering.

#### **Deacon:**

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (18:28-19:16).

#### **People:**

Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

#### **Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

### ***GOSPEL READING 4***

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

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

Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns, and put it on his

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

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

**People:**

Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**10th ANTIPHON, Tone 6**

**Chanters:**

The One who is robed in light as with a garment stood naked on trial; on His cheeks He received slaps from the hands which He created. The law-transgressing people crucified the Lord of Glory. At that moment, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, and the sun was darkened, for it could not bear to see being cursed the God before whom all the universe trembles. Let us fall down before Him.

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

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

O Lord, Thou consented to take flesh from the Virgin for the sake of Thy servants: grant peace to the world, that accordingly we glorify Thee, O lover of mankind.

**11th ANTIPHON, Tone 6**

**Chanters:**

O Christ, in return for the good things that Thou hast provided to the Hebrew people, they condemned Thee to be crucified, giving Thee vinegar and gall to drink. But render to them, O Lord, according to their works, for they did not comprehend Thy condescension.

The Hebrew people were not satisfied with Thy betrayal, O Christ, but they derided and mocked Thee shaking their heads. Render to them, O Lord, according to their works, for they plot in vain against thee.

Neither the shaking of the earth, nor the splitting of the rocks, nor the tearing of the curtain of the temple, nor the raising of the dead persuaded the Jews. But render to them, O Lord, according to their works, for they plot in vain against Thee.

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

O Virgin Theotokos, who alone art pure and blessed, we know that God took flesh from thee. therefore, we continually sing praises to thee and magnify thee.

### **Kathisma, Tone 8**

#### **Chanters:**

When thou didst stand before Caiaphas, O God of judgment, and wast delivered to Pilate, the heavenly powers trembled for fear. Then upon a tree Thou wast raised between two thieves and counted among the wicked, O Innocent One, to save mankind. Wherefore, O longsuffering Lord, glory be to Thee!

**Deacon:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (27:3-32)

#### **People:**

Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

#### **Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

### ***GOSPEL READING 5***

At that time, when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt regret and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." And throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money." So they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him who was valued, who was valued by the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me."

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

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate

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

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this righteous man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" Then Pilate released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

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

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

**People:**

Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**14th ANTIPHON, Tone 8**

**Chanters:**

O Lord, Thou hast accepted as companion the thief who had stained his hands with blood. Number us also with him, for Thou art good and the lover of mankind.

The thief uttered few words upon the cross, yet he proved to have great faith. In one moment he was saved, and he was the first to enter Paradise when Thou opened its gates and accepted his repentance. O Lord, glory to Thee.

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

Rejoice, for thou hast received from the angel the Joy of the world. Rejoice, for thou has given birth to thy Creator and thy Lord. Rejoice, for thou wast made worthy to become Mother of Christ our God!

*During the procession, the crucified Christ is brought out from the Sanctuary to the middle of the Church. The people kneel as the following antiphon is sung:*

## **15th ANTIPHON, Tone 6**

### **Chanters:**

Today, He is suspended on a tree Who suspended the earth over the waters.

A crown of thorns was placed on the head of the King of angels.

He Who wore a false purple robe covered the heavens with clouds. He was smitten Who in the Jordan delivered Adam.

The Groom of the Church was fastened with nails and the Son of the Virgin was pierced with a spear.

Thy suffering we adore, O Christ.

Thy suffering we adore, O Christ.

They suffering we adore, O Christ.

Make us to behold Thy glorious resurrection.

### **Reader:**

#### **Tone 6**

Let us not observe a festival as the Jews; for Christ God, Who is our Passover, is slaughtered for us. But let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement and with purity implore Him: Arise, O Lord, and save us, for Thou lovest mankind.

O Lord, Thy Cross is life and resurrection to Thy people. Putting our confidence in it, we sing praises to Thee our Crucified God: Have mercy on us.

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

Seeing Thee hanging on the cross, O Christ, Thy Mother cried aloud: "My Son, what is this strange mystery that I see? Nailed in the flesh, O bestower of life, How dost Thou die on the Cross?"

#### **Kathisma, Tone 4**

### **Chanters:**

Thou didst redeem us, O our Savior, from the curse of the law with Thy precious blood, when Thou wast nailed to the cross and pierced with a spear, bearing deathlessness for mankind. Glory to Thee!

**Deacon:** The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (15:16-32)

### **People:**

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

**Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

**GOSPEL READING 6**

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

And they compelled a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry the cross of Jesus. And they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mingled with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour, when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was reckoned with the transgressors." And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads, saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests mocked him to one another with the scribes, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe."

**People:**

Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**The Hymns of Blessing, Tone 4**

**Choir:**

*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 those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

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

**Chanter:**

Through the tree, Adam had to live far away from his home in Paradise, and through the tree of the cross the thief came to live in Paradise. For the one by eating transgressed the commandment of the Creator; but the other, who was crucified at Thy side, confessed Thee as the hidden God. Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:**

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.*

**Chanter:**

The Law breakers took the Law maker from His disciples, and they made Him stand as a Law breaker before the court of Pilate crying: Crucify Him, crucify Him Who gave them manna in the wilderness. Following the example of the upright thief, we cry aloud in faith: Remember us, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:**

*Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy.*

**Chanter:**

The Law-transgressing people of the Jews, murderers of God, cried to Pilate madly saying: Crucify the guiltless Christ; pleading, instead, that Barabbas be released. But we cry with the voice of the grateful thief: Remember us, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:**

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

**Chanter:**

O Christ, Thy life-bearing side gushed as a fountain from Eden watering Thy Church as a spiritual Paradise. From this very source it flows into the four branches of the Gospels. It refreshes the world with its streams, making glad the creation and teaching the nations to fall down in faith before Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:**

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

**Chanter:**

Thou wast crucified for my sake, so that Thou mightest pour forth salvation for me. Thy side was pierced so that Thou might gush forth upon me streams of life. Thou wast fastened with nails so that through the depths of Thy sufferings I might believe in the height of Thy power and cry aloud to Thee: O Savior, life-giving Christ, Glory to Thy Cross and to Thy Passion.

**Choir:**

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

**Chanter:**

Seeing Thee crucified, O Christ, all creation trembled. The foundations of the earth shook in fear of Thy might. The stars hid themselves, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. The mountains trembled and the rocks were split. The faithful thief cried with us to Thee: Remember us, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:**

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

**Chanter:**

O Lord, on the Cross Thou didst tear apart the record that stood against us. When Thou wast numbered among the dead, Thou didst bind fast the tyrant, delivering all mankind from the imprisonment of death by Thy Resurrection, through which we were enlightened. Therefore, we cry aloud to Thee, O Lord, lover of mankind: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:**

*Rejoice and be exceedingly glad; for great is your reward in heaven.*

**Chanters:**

Thou wast lifted up on the Cross and didst destroy the power of death and as God Thou didst erase the record that stood against us. Grant to us also the repentance of the thief, O Christ our God, O only lover of mankind, for with faith we worship Thee and cry aloud to Thee: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**Choir:**

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

**People:**

Let us all the faithful pray accordingly, so that we might worthily glorify the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one Godhead in three Persons, simple and without confusion, inseparable and unapproachable, and by Whom we are redeemed from the fire of punishment.

**Choir:**

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**People:**

O Christ, as our intercessor, we offer Thy Mother, who without human seed gave birth to Thee in the flesh; she is the true virgin who remained virgin after childbirth. O Master, rich in mercy, ever grant forgiveness of their sins to those who cry: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.

**The Prokimenon, Tone 4**

**Chanter:**

They parted my garments among them, and upon my vestures they cast lots. (Ps. 22:18)

**People:**

Refrain: They parted my garments among them, and upon my vestures they cast lots.

**Chanter:**

Verse: My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? (Ps. 22:1)

**People:**

Refrain: They parted my garments among them, and upon my vestures they cast lots.

**Reader:**

They parted my garments among them...

**People:**

and upon my vestures they cast lots.

**Deacon:** The Reading is from the Holy gospel according to St. Matthew (27:33-54)

**People:**

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

**Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

***GOSPEL READING 7***

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

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

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

**People:**

Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord.

## Psalm 51

### Chanter:

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy: according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out mine iniquity. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge mine iniquity: and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned, and done evil in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was shapen in iniquity: and in sin did my mother conceive me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth: the unclear and hidden things of Thy wisdom Thou hast made clear to me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness: the bones which Thou hast broken shall rejoice. Turn away Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence: and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation: and steady me with a guiding spirit. Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways: and the impious shall be converted unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy righteousness. O Lord, open Thou my lips: and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For hadst Thou desired sacrifice, I would have given it Thee: Thou delightest not in burnt offerings. Sacrifices to God are a contrite spirit: a contrite and humble heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy 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 altar.

Deacon: The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (23:32-49).

### People:

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

### Deacon:

Let us be attentive!

## ***GOSPEL READING 8***

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

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

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

**People:**

Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**Canticle V, Tone 6**

**Choir: (Irmos)**

Early will I seek Thee, O Word of God, who without change emptied Thyself in Thy compassion for fallen man, who without suffering didst bow down to suffering. Grant peace to me, O Thou who lovest mankind.

**Kontak, Tone 8**

**Choir:**

Come, let us sing the praises of Him who was crucified for us, for Mary said when she beheld Him upon the tree: Though Thou dost endure the cross, Thou art my Son and my God.

**Reader: (Ikos)**

The Virgin Mother, seeing her own lamb led to the slaughter, followed wailing with the other women and cried: Where are You going, O my child? Why do You travel so fast? Surely there is not another wedding in Cana for You to turn the water into wine. Am I to go with You, O my child, or am I to wait for You? Give me a word, O You who are the Word, who kept me pure. Do not pass me in silence...

**Choir:** for You are my Son and my God.

**Synaxarion**

On this Great and Holy Friday, we celebrate the holy, dread, and saving Passion of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, the spittings, blows, and scourges; the curses, jeers, and the wearing of the purple; the rod, sponge, and vinegar; the nails, the spear, and especially the Cross and death; which he received willingly for our sakes. We celebrate also the confession of salvation which the grateful thief made on the cross with Him.

**Canticle VIII, Tone 6**

**Choir: (Irmos)**

The godly youths exposed a monument of godless wickedness, but the lawless assembly is enraged and takes vain counsel against Christ. They plan to kill Him who holds life in the palm of His hand, whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages.

**Choir:**

We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

**Canticle IX, Tone 6**

**Deacon:**

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

**Choir: (Irmos)**

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

**Chanter: (Slowly during the censuring)**

The corrupting soldiers despised God and the band of God killing wicked hastened to Thee, O Christ, and led Thee away as an unrighteous one, Thou Creator of all, Whom we magnify.

The impious for their ignorance of the law and their false study of the sayings of the prophets have unjustly led Thee like a sheep to slaughter, O Lord of all, Whom we magnify.

The priests with the scribes wounded by the evil of their utter envy, delivered life to the Gentiles to be killed, Thee, O natural source of Life Whom we magnify.

They have surrounded Thee like so many dogs, O King, and smitten falsely against Thee, and Thou hast born it all and delivered all.

**Choir: (Irmos)**

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

**Little Litany**

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

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

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

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Deacon:** Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

**People:** To Thee, O Lord.

**Priest:** For unto Thee are due glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

## Expostilarion

### Chanters:

The wise thief didst Thou make worthy of paradise in a single moment, O Lord: By the wood of the Cross illumine me as well, and save me! (1 time)

All: (The hymn below is sung twice.)

Kazan  
adapted and arr. JDF

Thou didst make the thief wor - thy of  
par - a - dise on the same day, O Lord,  
where - fore il - lum - in - ate me too by the  
tree of Thy Cross and save me.

**Priest:** The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (19:25-37)

**People:**

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

**Priest:**

Let us be attentive!

### ***GOSPEL READING 9***

At that time, standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own.

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

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

**People:**

Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord.

### **The Praises, Tone 3**

**Chanters:**

**Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens.**

**Praise ye Him in the heights. To Thee, O God, is due our song. Praise ye, praise ye Him all His angels. Praise ye Him all His hosts. To Thee, O God, is due our song.**

**Chanter 1: Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His surpassing greatness!**

**Chanter 2:**

My first-born son, Israel, has committed two evils: he has forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out for himself a cracked cistern. Upon the tree he has crucified me, and asked for the release of Barabbas. At this the heaven was amazed, and the sun hid its rays. Yet thou, O Israel, wast not ashamed, but has delivered Me to death. Holy Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they have done.

**Chanter 1: Praise Him with trumpet sound; Praise Him with lute and harp!**

**Chanter 2:**

Every member of Thy sacred body endured humiliation for our sakes: Thy head, thorns; Thy face, spitting; Thy cheeks, slapping; Thy mouth, taste of vinegar mixed with gall; Thine ears, impious blasphemy; Thy back, scouraging; and Thy hand, the reed. Thy whole body endured stretching on the Cross; Thy limbs, the nails, and Thy side, the spear. O Savior Almighty, Thou suffered for us and delivered us from suffering and in Thy love for mankind, Thou condescended to raise us up: Have mercy on us.

**Chanter 1: Praise Him with tambourine and dance; Praise Him with strings and pipe!**

**Chanter 2 :**

Seeing Thee crucified, O Christ, the whole creation trembled. The foundations of the earth shook vigorously for fear of Thy dominion. For when Thou wast raised today, the people of the Hebrews were ruined. The curtain of the temple was torn in two; the tombs also were opened, and many who had fallen asleep were raised. When the centurion saw the wonder, he trembled with fear. Thy mother, standing by Thee, lamented with a mother's love: "How shall I not mourn and strike my breast, seeing Thee stripped naked, hanging as a criminal on the tree?" O Lord, Who were crucified and buried and risen from the dead, glory to Thee.

**Chanter 1: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**Chanters:**

"They have taken off my clothes from me and clothed me with a scarlet robe and placed upon my head a crown of thorns, delivering to my right hand a rod with which I may crash them like pottery."

**Chanter 1: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

**Chanters (sing):**

"I have delivered my back unto scourges and my face I have not turned away from spitting. Before the tribune of Pilate did I stand and the cross I endured for the salvation of the world."

**Priest:** The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (15:43-47).

**People:**

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

**Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

***GOSPEL READING 10***

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

**People:**

Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**The Small Doxology**

**Chanter: (read)**

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.

We hymn Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory.

O Lord, King, heavenly God, Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.

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

Receive our prayer, Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, and 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 evening will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name forever; yea, forever and ever.

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.

Lord, I have fled unto Thee, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.

For with Thee is the fountain of life, in Thy light shall we see light.  
O continue Thy mercy unto them that know Thee.

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

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes.  
Blessed art Thou, O Master: make me to understand Thy statutes.  
Blessed art Thou, O Holy One: enlighten me with Thy statutes.

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

## Litany of Supplication

- Deacon:** Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.
- People:** Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon:** Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.
- People:** Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon:** That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.
- People:** 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.
- People:** Grant this, O Lord.
- Deacon:** Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.
- People:** Grant this, O Lord.
- Deacon:** All things good and profitable for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.
- People:** 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.
- People:** Grant this, O Lord.
- Deacon:** A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.
- People:** Grant this, O Lord.
- Deacon:** Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.
- People:** To Thee, O Lord.

**Priest:**

For Thou art the God of mercy and compassions and love toward mankind, and unto Thee we give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**People:**

Amen.

**Priest:**

Peace be to all.

**People:**

And to thy Spirit.

**Priest:**

Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

**People:**

To thee, O Lord.

**Priest:**

O holy One Who dwellest on high and regards the humble 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: O holy of holies, stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in aught we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive, inasmuch as Thou art a good God and lover of mankind, vouchsafing unto us Thy earthly and heavenly good things.

For Thine it is to show mercy and save us, O our God, and unto Thee we give glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**Priest:** The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (19:38-42).

**People:**

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

**Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

***GOSPEL READING 11***

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him leave. So he came and took away Jesus' body. Nicodemus also, who had at first come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds' weight. They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

**People:**

Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord .

**Aposticha, Tone 1**

**Choir:**

All creation was changed by fear when it saw Thee hanging upon the cross, O Christ. The sun was darkened, and the foundations of the earth were shaken. All things suffered with the creator of all. O Lord, who didst willingly endure this for us, glory to Thee.

**Chanter:**

They divide my garments among them and for my raiment, they cast lots. (Ps. 22:18)

**Choir:**

An impious and transgressing people, why do they imagine vain things? Why do they condemn to death the life of all? O great wonder! The creator of the world is betrayed into the hands of lawless men. He who loves mankind is lifted up upon the wood, that He might free those bound in hell, who cry: O longsuffering lord, Glory to Thee.

**Chanter:**

They gave me gall for food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. (Ps. 69:21)

**Choir:**

Today, the blameless Virgin saw Thee suspended upon the cross, O Word. She groaned in agony from the depth of her soul. Exhausted from tearing her hair and cheeks and beating her breast, she cried out lamenting: “Woe is me, O my divine child! Woe is me, O light of the world! Why hast thou departed from mine eyes, O lamb of God?” Then the bodiless hosts were seized with trembling and cried: “O incomprehensible Lord Glory to Thee!”

**Chanter:**

God, my king from the first, author of saving acts throughout all the earth. (Ps. 74:12)

**Choir:**

When she who bore Thee without seed saw Thee suspended upon the Tree, O Christ, the creator and God of all, she cried bitterly: “Where is the beauty of Thy form, O my son? I cannot bear to see Thee unjustly crucified. Hasten and arise that I too may see Thy resurrection from the dead on the third day.

**Chanter: (Tone 8)**

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

**Choir:**

When Thou didst ascend the cross, O Lord, fear and trembling fell upon creation, yet Thou didst forbid the earth to swallow up those who crucified Thee, and Thou didst command Hell to send up its captives for the regeneration of mortals. O judge of the living and the dead Thou hast come to grant life, not death. O lover of mankind, glory to Thee!

**Chanter: (Tone 8)**

Now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

**Choir:**

Now the unjust judges dip the pen of judgment. Jesus is tried and sentenced to the cross. All creation suffers as it beholds the Lord on the cross. O Good Lord, who in Thy human nature didst suffer for me, glory to Thee!

**Priest:** The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (27:62-66).

**People:**

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

**Deacon:**

Let us be attentive!

***GOSPEL READING 12***

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

**People:**

Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord.

**Priest:**

It is just to confess the Lord and to glorify your name most high. May your mercy be proclaimed at dawn and your truth at night.

**People:**

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

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.

**People:**

Amen

**Tropar, Tone 4**

**Choir:**

By Thy precious blood Thou hast redeemed us from the curse of the law. By being nailed to the cross and pierced by a spear Thou hast poured forth immortality for man. O our Savior, glory to Thee.

**Deacon:**

Wisdom!

**People:**

Father, bless!

**Priest:**

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

**Chanter:**

Amen. Preserve, O god, the holy Orthodox Faith, and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages, Amen.

**Priest:**

Most holy Theotokos, save us.

**Chanter:**

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

**Priest:**

Glory to you, Christ God our Hope, glory to You!

**People:**

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. In the name of the Lord, Father bless.

**Priest:**

May Christ our true God, who endured spittings, scourgings, beatings, crucifixion and death for our salvation, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the precious and life-giving cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-fearing Fathers; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of Saint Athanasius, patron Saint of this church; of Saints \_\_\_\_\_, whose memory we celebrate; and of all the saints: have mercy upon us, and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loves mankind.

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

**People:**

Amen.