

Bridegroom

Matins

of

Tuesday

of Holy Week

(Sung on Monday Evening)

BRIDEGROOM MATINS of HOLY TUESDAY

(served Monday Evening)

(The people stand.)

Deacon: Father, give the blessing.

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

All: Amen.

Priest: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Chanter: Amen.

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserve 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 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 the 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 all to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest birth to God and alone art blessed.

The Priest censes around the Altar as he says.

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

All: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

All: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan PHILIP, and our father and Bishop JOSEPH, and all our brethren in Christ.

All: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Amen. Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

The Priest, making the sign of the Cross with the censor over the Holy Gospel:

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

All: Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. *(Thrice)*

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

The Six Psalms

The priest quietly says the 12 Morning Prayers.

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 noisesome 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: now and ever, and unto the ages
of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (*Thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

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,
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: now and ever, and unto the 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.

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our father and Metropolitan _____, and our father and Bishop JOSEPH, for the venerable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, and for the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the President of the United States and all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: 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.

All: To Thee, O Lord.

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

All: Amen.

ALLELUIA (TONE 8)

Reader: In the night my soul rises early for Thee, O God, for Thy commandments are a light on the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reader: Learn righteousness, you inhabitants of the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reader: Jealousy shall grasp an untaught people.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reader: Increase thy punishment upon them, O Lord, increase Thy punishment upon those who are glorious on the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

While the Choir or the Chanter sings the Troparion of the Bridegroom, the Priest, vested in dark colored Epitrachelion and Phelonion, in a dark Church, and preceded by the Altar Boys with Cross, candles, and censer, carries the icon in a procession similar to that of the Great Entrance, to the Solea, where a stand should be. The Priest goes around the stand three times and then places the icon on the stand. He makes three reverences, kisses the icon and returns to the Altar followed by the Altar Boys. (This is done on Sunday evening only. The icon should remain there until the end of the service on Tuesday evening.)

LITTLE LITANY

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: 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.

All: To Thee O Lord.

Priest: For Thine is the majesty, and Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory: of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

KATHISMA HYMNS

TONE 4

Let us love the Bridegroom, O brethren. Let us keep our lamps aflame with virtue and true faith, so that we, like the wise virgins of the Lord, may be ready to enter with Him into the marriage feast. For the Bridegroom, as God, grants unto all an incorruptible crown.

In envy the priests and scribes cunningly gathered a council against Thee, O Savior, moving Judas to betrayal. He shamelessly went forth and spoke against Thee, saying to a transgressing people: “What will you give me if I deliver Him into your hands?” From his condemnation save our souls, O Lord.

Tone 8

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

Judas loves money with his mind. The impious one moves against the master. He wills and plans the betrayal. Receiving darkness he falls from the light. He agrees to the price and sells the priceless one. As payment for his deeds the wretch gains hanging and a terrible death. From his lot deliver us, O Christ God, granting remission of sins to those who celebrate Thine immaculate passion with love.

THE GOSPEL

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

All: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom! Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel, peace be to all.

All: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
[Matthew 22:15 to end; 23:1 to end]

All: Glory to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.

Deacon: Let us attend.

At that time, the Pharisees went and took counsel on how to entangle Jesus in his talk. And they sent their disciples to him, along with Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the money for the tax." And they brought him a coin. And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said, "Caesar's." Then Jesus said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard it, they marveled; and they left and went away.

That same day Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies, having no children, his brother must marry the widow, and raise up children for his brother.' Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married, and died, and having no children left his wife to his brother. So, too, the second and third, down to the seventh. After them all, the woman died. In the resurrection, therefore, to which of the seven will she be wife? For they all had her."

But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the scripture nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like the angels of God in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the

God of Jacob?' God is not the God of the dead, but of the living." And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked Jesus a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment of the law?" And Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool.' If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at the feasts and the chief seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called 'Rabbi, Rabbi' by men. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest amongst you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in."

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you devour widows' houses and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore, you will receive the greater condemnation. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is guilty.' You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? And you say, 'If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is

guilty.' You blind fools! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it."

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You blind Pharisees! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean."

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity."

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation."

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

All: Glory to Thee, 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 built up.

Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

LITTLE LITANY

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: 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.

All: To Thee O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

CANON

THIRD ODE (HEIRMOS - Tone 2)

Choir: **Thou hast established me upon the rock of faith, Thou hast opened wide my mouth against my enemies. For my spirit rejoices in singing: None is holy but our God, and none is righteous but Thee, O Lord!**

Chanter: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

Troparia

In vain the counsel of the transgressors of the law gathers together to pronounce maliciously the sentence of condemnation upon Thee, O Christ, our deliverer, to whom we sing: Thou art our God, and Thou alone art holy.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

The terrible council of the transgressors of the law, with their souls fighting against God, conspires to kill as a criminal the righteous Christ, to whom we sing: Thou art our God, and Thou alone art holy.

Choir: Katavasia

Thou hast established me upon the rock of faith, and Thou hast opened wide my mouth against my enemies. For my spirit has rejoiced to sing: None is holy as our Lord, none is righteous besides Thee.

LITTLE LITANY

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: 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.

All: To thee O Lord.

Priest: For thine is the majesty, and thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

KONTAKION – Tone 2

You know that this is the last hour, O wretched soul, and fear the cutting of the fig tree. Work diligently, therefore, at the talent given to you. Keep watch and cry: Let us not remain outside the bridal chamber of Christ!

OIKOS

Reader: O wretched soul, why art thou indifferent, and why dost thou vainly imagine unavailing ventures? Why dost thou direct thine energies to things passing? For it is the last hour; and we are about to be separated from what is here. Wherefore, while you still have time, listen and cry, I have sinned, O Christ my Savior; despise me not like the barren fig tree. But since Thou art compassionate, have mercy on me, who cry to Thee in fear, lest I remain outside the chamber of Christ.

SYNAXARION

On this day we make remembrance of the Parable of the Ten Virgins which Jesus spake along with others as He was coming to the Passion. It teaches us not to rest as though safe in virginity, but to guard it whenever possible, and not to desist from any virtues and good deeds, especially deeds of mercy, which make the lamp of virginity shine brilliantly. It teaches us also to be ready for our end, not knowing when our hour is coming, as the wise virgins were ready to meet the bride, lest death overtake us and close the door of the heavenly chamber in our face, and we hear the terrible judgment which the foolish virgins heard, Verily, I know you not. (*Matthew 25:1-13*)

Wherefore, O Christ the Bridegroom, number us with the wise virgins and have mercy on us. Amen.

EIGHTH ODE - KATAVASIA (TONE 2)

Choir: The three holy youths would not obey the decree of the tyrant. When cast into the furnace they sang: Bless the Lord, O works of the Lord!

Chanter:

Let us cast indifference away from us, and with sparkling lamps and songs of praise let us welcome Christ the Bridegroom who dieth not, crying, Bless the Lord, all His works.

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

Let there be sufficient of the oil of mercy in our vessels, lest we make time of receiving prizes a time of bargaining; and let us sing: Bless the Lord, all His works.

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

O ye who have received the talent from God, double it with the help of Christ, who granteth equal grace, as ye sing, Bless the Lord, all His works.

Choir:

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

(repeat the Irmos)

The three holy youths would not obey the decree of the tyrant. When cast into the furnace they sang: Bless the Lord, O works of the Lord!

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

The Deacon censures the whole Church.

NINTH ODE (HEIRMOS - TONE 2)

Choir:

In your womb you contained God who cannot be contained. You conceived the joy of the world. We praise you, O most holy Virgin.

Chanter:

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

Thou didst say to Thy Disciple, O good One, Watch; for ye know not the hour in which the Lord cometh to reward everyone.

Choir:

In your womb you contained God who cannot be contained. You conceived the joy of the world. We praise you, O most holy Virgin.

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

In Thy terrible Second Coming, O Master, establish me, with the sheep on Thy right hand, overlooking the multitude on my sins.

Choir: (repeat the Irmos)

In your womb you contained God who cannot be contained. You conceived the joy of the world. We praise you, O most holy Virgin.

THE LITTLE LITANY

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: 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.

All: To Thee O Lord.

Priest: For all the powers of heaven praise thee, 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.

All: Amen.

EXAPOSTEILARION IN TONE 3

Choir: Thy bridal chamber I see adorned, O my Savior, and I have no wedding garment that I may enter. Enlighten the vesture of my soul, O Giver of Light, and save me. (*Thrice*)

THE PRAISES IN (*Tone 1*)

IDIOMELA HYMNS IN TONE 1

Chanter:

Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness.

Choir:

How shall I, the unworthy one, appear in the splendor of Thy Saints? For if I dare enter Thy bridal chamber with them, my garments will betray me; They are unfit for a wedding. The angels will cast me out in chains. Cleanse the filth of my soul, O Lord, and save me in Thy love for mankind.

Chanter:

Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp. Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

Choir:

O Christ the Bridegroom, my soul has slumbered in laziness. I have no lamp aflame with virtues. Like the foolish virgins I wander aimlessly when it is time for work. But do not close Thy compassionate heart to me, O master. Rouse me, shake off my heavy sleep. Lead me with the wise virgins into Thy bridal chamber, that I may hear the pure voice of those that feast and cry unceasingly: "O Lord, glory to Thee!"

Chanter:

Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Chanter: (*Tone four*)

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

Choir:

You have heard the condemnation, O soul, of the man who hid his talent. Do not hide the Word of God. Proclaim his wonders, that, increasing the gift of grace, you may enter into the joy of your Lord.

LITTLE DOXOLOGY

Reader: Thine is the glory, O Lord our God, and unto thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
Amen.

All:

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 prayer to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy.

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

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: 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.

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: 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.

All: Grant this, O Lord.

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

All: 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.

All: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art the God of mercies and of bounties, and of love toward mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to all.

All: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

All: 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 we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive, in as much as Thou art a good God and the lover of mankind, vouchsafing unto us Thy earthly and heavenly good things.

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

All: Amen.

APOSTICHA IN TONE 6

Choir:

Come, O faithful, let us work zealously for the Master, for He distributes wealth to his servants. Let each of us according to his ability increase his talent of grace: Let one be adorned in wisdom through good works. Let another celebrate a service in splendor. The one distributes his wealth to the poor; the other communicates the word of those untaught. Thus we shall increase what has been entrusted to us, and, as faithful stewards of grace, we shall be accounted worthy of the Master's joy. Make us worthy of this, O Christ our god, in Thy love for mankind.

Chanter:

Satisfy us in the morning with Thy steadfast love that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as Thou has afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Let Thy work be manifest to Thy servants, and Thy glorious power to their children.

Choir:

When Thou shalt come in glory, O Jesus, with the angelic hosts, and shalt sit upon the throne for judgment, do not drive me away, O good shepherd. For Thou knowest the paths on thy right hand, but those on Thy left hand lead astray. Do not destroy me with the goats, though I am course with sin, but number me with the sheep on Thy right hand, and save me in Thy love for mankind.

Chanter:

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us: yea, the work of our hands, establish Thou it.

Choir:

Thou art more beautiful than all men, O Bridegroom. Thou has invited us to the spiritual banquet of Thy bridal chamber. Strip me of the ugly garment of my sins as I participate in Thy passion. Adorn me in the glorious robe of Thy beauty that proclaims me a guest in Thy kingdom, O merciful Lord.

Chanter: (Tone 7)

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

Choir:

Behold, the Master has entrusted you with a talent, O my soul. Receive the gift with fear. Repay the one who gave by giving to the poor, and gain the Lord as your friend, so that when He comes in glory, you may stand at his right hand and hear his blessed voice: "Enter my servant, into the joy of your Lord." Though I have gone astray, make me worthy of this, O Savior, through Thy great mercy.

Priest: It is a good thing to confess to the Lord, and sing to Thy Name, O Most High, to show forth Thy Mercy in the morning and Thy Truth every night.

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

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

All: Amen.

KONTAKION - Tone 2

You know that this is the last hour, O wretched soul, and fear the cutting of the fig tree. Work diligently, therefore, at the talent given to you. Keep watch and cry: Let us not remain outside the bridal chamber of Christ!

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*12 Times*)

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

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.

Bless, father, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest: Wisdom! Christ, our God, the existing is blessed, always: now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

All: Amen.

Priest: O Heavenly King, strengthen our civil authorities, establish the Faith, pacify the nations, give peace to the world, protect this city, place our departed fathers and brethren in the dwellings of the just, and of Thy Goodness and Mercy, receive us who come to Thee with penitence and thanksgiving.

PRAYER OF SAINT EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

All: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me a spirit of laziness, faintheartedness, love of power and idle talk. (*prostration*)

But freely give to me, thy servant, a spirit of soberness, humility, patience and love. (*prostration*)

Yes, O Lord and King, grant that I may see my own faults, and not condemn my brother, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen (*prostration*)

DISMISSAL

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

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

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

Priest: May He who did come to His voluntary Passion for our salvation, Christ our True God, through the intercessions of His all immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; of Saint *N. (Saint of the day)*, of Saint *N. (Patron Saint of the Church)*, and of all the Saints, have mercy upon us and save us, forasmuch as He is Good and loveth mankind.

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

All: Amen.

(The people come forward and reverence the Icon of the Bridegroom.)