

MATINS

OF GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

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

Reader: Amen. Glory to thee, O God, glory to thee.

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

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. *(3x)*

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(3x)*

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 the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father, and of the

Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. In the name of the Lord, Master, bless.

Priest: Glory to the holy, con-substantial, life-creating, and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards man *(3x)*.

O Lord, open Thou my lips and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise *(2x)*.

THE SIX PSALMS

PSALM 3

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

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

PSALM 38

O Lord, rebuke me not in thy anger, nor chasten me in thy wrath! For thy arrows have

sunk into me, and thy hand has come down on me. There is no soundness in my flesh because of thy indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me. My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness, I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. For my loins are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart. Lord, all my longing is known to thee, my sighing is not hidden from thee. My heart throbs, my strength fails me; and the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me. My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my kinsmen stand afar off. Those who seek my life lay their snares, those who seek my hurt speak of ruin, and meditate treachery all the day long. But I am like a deaf man, I do not hear, like a dumb man who does not open his mouth. Yea, I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth are no rebukes. But for thee, O Lord, do I wait; it is thou, O Lord my God, who wilt answer. For I pray, "Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!" For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever with me. I confess my iniquity, I am sorry for my sin. Those who are my foes without cause are mighty, and many are those who hate me wrongfully. Those who render me evil for good are my adversaries because I follow after good. Do not forsake me, O Lord! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Do not forsake me, O Lord! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

PSALM 63

O God, thou art my God, I seek thee, my soul thirsts for thee; my flesh faints for thee, as in a dry and weary land where no water is. So I have looked upon thee in the sanctuary, beholding thy power and glory. Because thy steadfast love is better than life,

my lips will praise thee. So I will bless thee as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on thy name. My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat, and my mouth praises thee with joyful lips, when I think of thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the watches of the night; for thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of thy wings I sing for joy.

My soul clings to thee; thy right hand upholds me. But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth; they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals. But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall glory; for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

My soul clings to thee; thy right hand upholds me.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

PSALM 88

O Lord, my God, I call for help by day; I cry out in the night before thee. Let my prayer come before thee, incline thy ear to my cry! For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol. I am reckoned among those who go down to the Pit; I am a man who has no strength, like one forsaken among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom thou dost remember no more, for they are cut off from thy

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

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

PSALM 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so

great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, hearkening to the voice of his word! Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will! Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

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

PSALM 143

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my supplications! In thy faithfulness answer me, in thy righteousness! Enter not into judgment with thy servant; for no man living is righteous before thee. For the enemy has pursued me; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead. Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled. I remember the days of old, I meditate on all that thou hast done; I muse on what thy hands have wrought. I stretch out my hands to thee; my soul thirsts for thee like a parched land. Make haste to answer me, O Lord! My spirit fails! Hide not thy face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the Pit. Let me hear in the morning of thy steadfast love, for in thee I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to thee I lift up my soul. Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies! I have fled to thee for refuge! Teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God! Let thy

good spirit lead me on a level path! For thy name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In thy righteousness bring me out of trouble! And in thy steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am thy servant.

In thy faithfulness answer me, in thy righteousness! Enter not into judgment with thy servant. In thy faithfulness answer me, in thy righteousness! Enter not into judgment with thy servant.

Let thy good spirit lead me on a level path!

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

THE GREAT LITANY

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

Choir: Amen.

THE ALLELUIAS

Priest: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. In the night, my soul rises early for thee, O God, for Thy commandments are a light on the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest: Learn righteousness, all you inhabitants of the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest: Jealousy shall grasp an untaught people.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest: Bring more evils on them, O Lord, bring more evils on those who are glorious on the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE TROPARION

When the glorious disciples were enlightened at the washing of their feet before the supper, then the impious Judas was darkened, ailing with avarice, and to the lawless judges he betrays Thee, the Righteous Judge. Behold, O lover of money, this man who because of money hanged himself. Flee from the greedy soul which dared such things against the Master! O Lord who art good towards all men, glory to Thee!

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

When the glorious disciples were enlightened ...

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

When the glorious disciples were enlightened ...

GOSPEL READING

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

Choir: Lord have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel! Peace, be unto all!

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest: Let us attend!

(Luke 22:1-39) At that time, the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill Him, for they feared the people. Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. So he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of the multitude. Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat." So they said to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare?" And He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters." "Then you shall say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, 'Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?'" "Then he will show you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready." So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover. When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. Then He said to them, "With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; "for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in

the kingdom of God." Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. "But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. "And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!" Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing. Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.' "But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. "For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves. "But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. "And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, "that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel." And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. "But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." But he said to Him, "Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death." Then He said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me." And He said to them, "When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?" So they said, "Nothing." Then He said to them, "But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. "For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: 'And He was numbered with the

transgressors.' For the things concerning Me have an end." So they said, "Lord, look, here are two swords." And He said to them, "It is enough." Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

PSALM 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy steadfast love; according to thy abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight, so that thou art justified in thy sentence and blameless in thy judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will return to thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of thy deliverance. O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise. For thou hast no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Do good to Zion in thy good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on thy altar.

THE CANON (TONE 6)

ODE 1

Irmos: At a stroke the Red Sea was parted in two, the swelling depths were dried up: a path for those unarmed, a grave for those in full array. A song befitting God was sung, for gloriously has Christ our God been glorified.

Reader: *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!*

Cause of all and Giver of life, the infinite Wisdom of God has built a house from a pure, unwedded mother. For clothed in the temple of His body, gloriously has Christ our God been glorified!

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Initiating His friends into the mystery, the true Wisdom of God has set a table that nourishes the soul, and has mixed a cup of immortality for the faithful. Let us draw near with reverence and cry out: “Gloriously has Christ our God been glorified!”

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

Let us the faithful all listen as the uncreated and innate Wisdom of God calls out with a loud voice. For He cries: “Taste, and knowing that I am God, exclaim: Gloriously has Christ our God been glorified!”

ODE 3

Irmos: The Lord and Creator of all, the changeless God descended to unite the creature to Himself. Now, as the Passover, He offers Himself to those for whom He is about to die, crying: “Eat My Body and be confirmed in faith.”

Reader: *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!*

Thou did fill Thy cup of gladness which redeems all the race of men and did give it to Thy disciples crying: “Drink my blood and be confirmed in faith.”

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

“Foolish is the man among you who is a betrayer,” foretold the patient One to His disciples. “He shall not know these things, and being without understanding. He shall not understand. Yet abide in Me and be confirmed in faith.”

Reader: Lord, have mercy. *(3x)* Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen

KATHISMA HYMNS

The Lord, who alone loves mankind, Who created the lakes, the rivers, and the seas, gave us, a special commandment of love, when he wrapped a towel around His waist and washed the feet of His Disciples, He humbled Himself in the greatness of His goodness raising us from the depths of evil.

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

In Thy goodness Thou didst humble Thyself washing the feet of thy Disciples. Peter would not allow this, not seeing the divine plan. When Thou didst reveal it, he obeyed and was washed. We fervently pray to Thee. Grant unto us great mercy.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Eating with Thy Disciples, O Master, Thou didst reveal a holy mystery to them, that Thou wouldst be slain, delivering us from corruption. For we venerate Thy holy passion.

ODE 4

Irmos: Foreseeing Thine ineffable mystery, the prophet foretold Thee, O Christ: “Thou hast shown a mighty love, O compassionate Father, by sending Thine only-begotten Son into the world as its atonement.”

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Going to the passion which pours forth freedom from passion to all of Adam’s race. Thou did say to Thy friends, O Christ: “I have earnestly desired to share this Passover with you. For the Father has sent me, the only-begotten Son, into the world as its atonement.”

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Partaking of the cup, Thou did cry out to Thy disciples, O Immortal One: “No more shall I drink of the fruit of the vine while I am living among you. For the Father has sent me, the only-begotten Son, into the world as its atonement.”

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

ages. Amen.

You did say to Thy friends, O Christ: “In my Kingdom I shall drink of a new vintage beyond understanding, so that I shall be with you as God among gods. For the Father has sent me, the only-begotten Son, into the world as its atonement.”

ODE 5

Irmos: The Apostles were united by a bond of love, dedicated to Christ, who rules over all. Their beautiful feet were washed for the preaching of the Gospel of peace to all.

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

The Wisdom of God, who rules the ungovernable waters of the heavens, who tames the deeps and restrains the seas, now pours water into the basin, and the Master washes the feet of His servants.

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

The Master shows the disciples an example of humility; He who wraps the vault of heaven in clouds girds Himself with a towel; He who holds in His hands the breath of all that exists, kneels down to wash the feet of His servants.

ODE 6

Irmos: The final abyss of sins has encompassed me. Unable to bear its waves, like Jonah I cry to Thee: “Lead me from corruption, O Master!”

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

“You call me Lord and Teacher, O disciples, for so I am. Therefore imitate the example which you have seen in me.”

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

He who has no filth does not need to wash, except for his feet. And you are clean, O disciples, but not all of you. For a mad impulse rages within one of you.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

KONTAKION (TONE 2)

Choir: With his hands the betrayer receives the bread. With his hands he secretly receives the silver, the price of Him who fashioned man with His hand; so the servant and deceiver Judas remains depraved.

IKOS (TONE 2)

Reader: Let us all approach the mystical table in fear and receive the Bread with pure souls; and let us stay with the Master so that we may see how He washes His disciples' feet and wipes them with a towel. Let us do as we have seen Him do. submitting to one another and washing one another's feet. for Christ Himself thus commanded His disciples But the servant and deceiver Judas did not take heed.

ODE 7

Irmos: The youths in Babylon were not afraid of the flaming furnace. When cast into the midst of the flames, they were washed in dew and sang: Blessed art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers!”

Reader: *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!*

Nodding his head in agreement, Judas deliberately stirs up evil, seeking an opportunity to hand over to condemnation the Judge who is Lord of all and God of our fathers.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Christ cried out to His friends, “One of you will betray me.” They forgot their gladness and were seized by anxiety and grief, saying: “Tell us who it is, O God of our fathers.”

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

“He that boldly dips his hand in the same dish with me. It would be better for that man if he had never passed through the gate of life.” Thus the God of our fathers disclosed the one who would betray Him.

ODE 8

Irmos: The blessed youths in Babylon / braved dangers for their fathers’ laws. They ignored the ignorant command of the king. United by a fire which did not consume them, they sang a hymn worthy of the Almighty: “Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Exalt Him throughout all ages!”

Reader: *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!*

The blessed Apostles, those guests faithfully present with the Word in Zion, followed the Shepherd like sheep; and united by Christ, from whom they were not parted, they fed upon the divine Word, crying out in thanksgiving; Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Exalt Him throughout all ages!

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Iscaiot, that man of ill-omened name, forced from his mind the law of love, and moved to betrayal the feet which Thou had washed, O Christ. He that ate Thy bread, even Thy Divine Body, lifted up his heel against Thee, and knew not how to cry: Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Exalt Him throughout all ages!

Let us bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Lord, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Without conscience Judas accepted the Body that cleanses from sin and the Blood that was shed for the world. But he was not ashamed of drinking what he had sold for a price. He was not offended at evil, and knew not how to cry: Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Exalt Him throughout all ages!

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

ODE 9

Irmos: Come, O faithful, let us enjoy the Master's hospitality, the banquet of immortality in the upper chamber with uplifted minds, let us receive the exalted words of the Word, Whom we magnify.

Reader: *Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!*

“Go,” says the Word to His disciples, “and in the upper chamber prepare the Passover which confirms the mind of those whom I initiate with the unleavened word of truth; and magnify the strength of grace”

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Before the ages the Father begot me, His creative Wisdom. He made me the beginning of His ways for His works, which now have been mystically perfected. For being by nature the uncreated Word. I make my own words of that nature which I have now assumed.

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

Just as I am man in essence and not in imagination, so also the nature which has been united to me is God by reason of communion. Therefore know me, the one Christ, who am saving those things from which and in which I was brought forth.

LITTLE LITANY

Priest: For all the powers of heaven praise Thee, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

EXAPOSTILARION

Thy bridal chamber I see adorned, O my Savior, and I have no wedding garment that I may enter. O Giver of Light, enlighten the vesture of my soul, and save me.

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

Thy bridal chamber ...

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thy bridal chamber ...

THE PRAISES (PSALM 148, 149, 150)

Reader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His host! Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars! Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the Lord! For He commanded and they were created. And He established them forever and ever; He fixed their bounds which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling His command! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel.

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song. His praise in the assembly of the faithful! Let Israel be glad in his Maker, let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King!

Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with timbrel and lyre!
For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches. Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands, to wreak vengeance on the nations and chastisement on the peoples, to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron, to execute on them the judgment written! This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary, praise Him in His mighty firmament!

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

The assembly of Jews gathers together to deliver to Pilate the Maker and Creator of all. What lawlessness! What faithlessness! The judge of the living and the dead they prepare for judgment. The Healer of suffering they prepare for sufferings. How great is Thy mercy, O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!

Praise Him with trumpet sound, praise Him with lute and harp.

The transgressor Judas, O Lord, dipped his hand in the plate with Thee at supper, but now he unlawfully stretches forth his hand for silver. He calculated the price of the woman's myrrh, yet he does not shudder in selling Thee, the priceless One. He let the Master wash his feet, yet he deceitfully kisses Him in betrayal to the lawless men. Cast out from the ranks of the Apostles, he casts away the thirty pieces of silver not seeing the Resurrection on the third day by it, have mercy on us!

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

Judas, the treacherous deceiver, with a deceitful kiss betrayed the Lord and Savior. He

sold the Master as a slave to lawless men, and the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, the only greatly merciful One was led as a sheep to the slaughter.

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

Servant and deceiver, disciple and betrayer, friend and devil, Judas has been revealed by his deeds. While following the Master, he plotted his betrayal. He said to himself: I shall betray him and gain the purse. He sought to have the myrrh sold, and by deceit to have Jesus seized. He gave the kiss and gave up the Christ. But like a sheep led to the slaughter, so went the Only compassionate Lover of mankind

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

The Lamb, whom Isaiah proclaimed, goes willingly to the slaughter. He gives His back to scourging, His cheeks to buffeting. He does not turn his face from the shame of spitting, He is condemned to a shameful death. He, who is sinless, willingly submits to all, to grant to all resurrection from the dead.

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

LESSER DOXOLOGY

Reader: Glory to Thee who hast show us the light!

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

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the Only-Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou alone art holy. Thou alone art Lord. Thou only, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless Thee and praise Thy name forever. Yea, O Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. Lord, to Thee have I fled for refuge, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For in Thee is the fountain of life, in Thy light shall we see light. O continue Thy mercy unto those who know Thee.

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

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us 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 commandments. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy precepts.

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

LITANY OF MATINS

Priest: For Thou art a good God and the Lover of mankind, and to Thee we ascribe glory. To the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto

ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace, be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: O Holy Lord, who dwells on high and regards the humble of heart, and who with Thine all-seeing eye beholds all creation: to Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body and we entreat Thee: Stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, whether voluntary or involuntary, forgive, inasmuch as Thou art a good God, and the lover of mankind, vouchsafing to us Thy earthly and heavenly good things.

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

Reader: Amen.

APOSTICHA

Today the evil assembly gather against the Christ and devises false charges against Him to deliver the innocent One over to Pilate to die. Today Judas sets up for himself the gallows of wealth abandoning both earthly and heavenly life. Today Caiaphas

prophesies unwittingly saying “It is expedient that one man should die for the people.” For truly Christ came to suffer for our sins to free us from bondage to the enemy. For He is good and loves mankind.

He who ate of my bread has lifted his heel against me.

Today Judas abandons all pretense of love for the poor. Not caring for them, he assumes the very shape of greed. Instead of selling the sinful woman’s myrrh, he sells the anointed One of God, and steals the proceeds. He runs to the lawless Jews and asks “What will you give me if I betray Him to you?” Cursed be the traitor’s love of silver!

He lowers the price and bargains like a trader. He sells Jesus like a runaway slave, not asking much, for thieves never regard the value of precious things. Now the disciple casts Holy Things to the dogs maddened with avarice, he howls against the Master. Let us flee from his example and cry, O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee.

When he goes out, he tells it abroad.

Your life, O lawless Judas, is filled with deceit. Sick with avarice, you gained the contempt of all men. If you desired wealth, why did you follow Him who taught poverty? If you loved the priceless One, why did you sell Him? Why did you hand Him over to be murdered? Shudder, O Sun! O Earth, lament and cry with fear O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee.

He utters lawless words against me.

Let no one be ignorant of the Lord’s supper, O believers. Let no one approach the banquet with deceit like Judas. For he received a morsel, yet abandoned the Bread of life.

He looked like a disciple, but in fact he was a murderer. He lived with the Apostles but he rejoiced with the Jews. With hatred he kissed, and with a kiss he sold God Who had redeemed us from the curse, the Savior of our souls.

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

Instructing Thy disciples in the mystery, O Lord, Thou didst say to them, "My beloved, see that no fear separates you from me. Though I suffer, it is for the sake of the world. Let me not be a cause of scandal to you. I came, not to be served but to serve. To give myself for the redemption of the world. If you are my friends, then imitate me. Let the first among you be the last. Let the master be like the servant. Abide in me and bear fruit for I am the vine of Life."

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most-high; to declare Thy steadfast love in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. *(3x)*

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

O most holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. *(3x)*

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 the evil one.

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

Choir: Amen.

TROPARION

When the glorious disciples were enlightened at the washing of their feet before the supper, then the impious Judas was darkened, ailing with avarice, and to the lawless judges he betrays Thee, the Righteous Judge. Behold, O lover of money, this man who because of money hanged himself. Flee from the greedy soul which dared such things against the Master! O Lord who art good towards all men, glory to Thee!

AUGMENTED LITANY

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

Choir: Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy! Father bless!

Priest: May the Lord who is going to His voluntary passion on behalf of us men and for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amen.

THE END OF MATINS