

Imperial Hours of Holy Friday



Served on Holy Friday Morning

Liturgical Calendar and Rubrics

Divine Services According to the Revised Julian Calendar [New Style]

Compiled and revised by Sergei D. Arhipov with the assistance of Paul Kappanadze and the Brotherhood of the Monastery of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk.

The Lectionary as set forth in the 2021 Liturgical Calendar and Rubrics is in accordance with the practice of The Orthodox Church in America to follow the Lectionary as established in the practice of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Approved by and printed with the blessing of
+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington D.C., Metropolitan of All America and Canada.

Great and Holy Friday

Fast Day

Imperial Hours of Holy Friday on Holy Friday Morning

THE IMPERIAL HOURS OF GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY:

About the 2nd Hour of the day (8 o'clock on Friday morning), we begin the Imperial Hours. [All from the Triodion.] the priest gives the opening blessing, "Blessèd is our God " and then the usual beginning. The royal doors are opened and the priest, vested in phelonion, carries the Gospel and places it on an analogion in the center of the church.

During the Psalms of the First Hour there is a complete censuring of the church, beginning with the Gospel Book. At the Third and Sixth Hours, there is a small censuring and again a full censuring at the Ninth Hour. The censuring at the First Hour is done by the priest with the deacon, while the rest are done by the deacon alone.

At each Hour there are 3 Psalms, one being part of the usual Psalms of the Hour and two special ones. Then the Troparion, Stikhera, Prokeimenon, Old Testament Reading, Epistle and Gospel [before the reading of which is sung, "Glory to Thy Passion, O Lord." After the Gospel Reading, "Glory to Thy longsuffering, O Lord."] (cf. Lectionary and Triodion for the appropriate texts.)
Kontakion: "Come, let us all sing "

During the Ninth Hour, when the Gospel Reading is finished, the priest carries the Gospel into the altar, closes the royal doors, and removes his phelonion. After the Prayer of the Ninth Hour, we begin the Typica.

TYPICA:

The Beatitudes are read quickly and then the rest of the Typica, as usual. After "Our Father,"
Kontakion: "Come, let us all sing...." "Lord, have mercy... (40 times), O All-holy Trinity...
Blessèd be the Name of the Lord... (thrice); Glory, now and ever..." and Psalm 33, "I will bless the Lord...." Priest: "Wisdom!" Choir: "It is truly meet" Priest: "Most Holy Theotokos, save us!"
Choir: "More honorable...." Then the Dismissal "May He Who endured fearful sufferings" (as at the end of the Vespers of Holy Saturday) before the closed royal doors.

NOTE: On Great Friday there is no celebration of the Liturgy; neither the complete Liturgy nor that of the Presanctified Gifts. No meal is served in the refectory, and on this day of the Crucifixion, we eat nothing, according to the words which the Lord spoke to the Pharisees: "The day will come, when the Bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast" (Matt. 9:15). But if, as frequently happens, anyone is weak or very old, and cannot keep the fast, let him be given bread and water after sunset.

IMPERIAL HOURS OF HOLY AND GREAT FRIDAY ON HOLY AND GREAT FRIDAY MORNING

Composed By Saint Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria

PRIEST: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

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

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

Trisagion

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our 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 the ages of ages.

Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

FIRST HOUR

Psalm 5

Unto my words give ear, O Lord, hear my cry.

Attend unto the voice of my supplication, O my King and my God; for unto Thee will I pray, O Lord.

In the morning shalt Thou hear my voice.

In the morning shall I stand before Thee, and Thou shalt look upon me; for not a God that willest iniquity art Thou.

He that worketh evil shall not dwell near Thee nor shall transgressors abide before Thine eyes.

Thou hast hated all them that work iniquity; Thou shalt destroy all them that speak a lie.

A man that is bloody and deceitful shall the Lord abhor.

But as for me, in the multitude of Thy mercy shall I go into Thy house, I shall worship toward Thy holy temple in fear of Thee.

O Lord, guide me in the way of Thy righteousness; because of mine enemies, make straight my way before Thee, For in their mouth there is no truth; their heart is vain.

Their throat is an open sepulcher, with their tongues have they spoken deceitfully; judge them, O God.

Let them fall down on account of their own devisings; according to the multitude of their ungodliness, cast them out, for they have embittered Thee, O Lord.

And let all them be glad that hope in Thee; they shall rejoice, and Thou shalt dwell among them.

And all shall glory in Thee that love Thy name, for Thou shalt bless the righteous. O Lord, as with a shield of Thy good pleasure hast Thou crowned us.

Psalm 2

Why have the heathen raged, and the peoples meditated empty things?

The kings of the earth were aroused, and the rulers were assembled together, against the Lord, and against His Christ.

Let us break their bonds asunder, and let us cast away their yoke from us.

He that dwelleth in the heavens shall laugh them to scorn, and the Lord shall deride them.

Then shall He speak unto them in His wrath, and in His anger shall He trouble them.

But as for Me, I was established as king by Him, upon Sion His holy mountain, proclaiming the commandment of the Lord.

The Lord said unto Me: Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee.

Ask of Me, and I will give Thee the nations for Thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for Thy possession.

Thou shalt herd them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt shatter them like a potter's vessels.

And now, O ye kings, understand; be instructed, all ye that judge the earth.

Serve ye the Lord with fear, and rejoice in Him with trembling.

Lay hold of instruction, lest at any time the Lord be angry, and ye perish from the righteous way.

Psalm 21

○ God, my God, attend to me; why hast Thou forsaken me? Far from my salvation are the words of my transgressions.

My God, I will cry by day, and wilt Thou not hearken? And by night, and it shall not be unto folly for me.

But as for Thee, Thou dwellest in the sanctuary, O Praise of Israel.

In Thee have our fathers hoped; they hoped, and Thou didst deliver them.

Unto Thee they cried, and were saved, in Thee they hoped, and were not brought to shame.

But as for me, I am a worm, and not a man, a reproach of men, and the outcast of the people.

All that look upon me have laughed me to scorn; they have spoken with their lips and have wagged their heads: He hoped in the Lord; let Him deliver him, let Him save him, for He desireth him.

For Thou art He that drewest me forth from the womb; my hope from the breasts of my mother.

On Thee was I cast from the womb; from my mother's womb, Thou art my God.

Depart not from me, for tribulation is nigh, for there is none to help me.

Many bullocks have encircled me, fat bulls have surrounded me.

They have opened their mouth against me, as might a lion ravenous and roaring.

I have been poured out like water, and scattered are all my bones; my heart is become like wax melting in the midst of my bowels.

My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue hath cleaved to my throat, and into the dust of death hast Thou brought me down.

For many dogs have encircled me, the congregation of evil doers hath surrounded me; they have pierced my hands and my feet.

They have numbered all my bones, and they themselves have looked and stared upon me.

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

But Thou, O Lord, remove not Thy help far from me; attend unto mine aid.

Rescue my soul from the sword, even this only-begotten one of mine from the hand of the dog.

Save me from the mouth of the lion, and my lowliness from the horns of the unicorns.

I will declare Thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I hymn Thee.

Ye that fear the Lord, praise Him; all ye that are of the seed of Jacob, glorify Him; let all fear Him that are of the seed of Israel.

For He hath not set at naught nor abhorred the supplications of the pauper, nor hath He turned His face from me; and when I cried unto Him, He hearkened unto me.

From Thee is my praise, in the great church will I confess Thee; my vows will I pay before them that fear Thee.

The poor shall eat and be filled, and they that seek the Lord shall praise Him; their hearts shall live for ever and ever.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and shall turn unto the Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before Him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's and He Himself is sovereign of the nations.

All they that be fat upon the earth have eaten and worshipped; all they that go down into the earth shall fall down before Him.

Yea, my soul liveth for Him, and my seed shall serve Him.

The generation that cometh shall be told of the Lord, and they shall proclaim His righteousness to a people that shall be born, which the Lord hath made.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (3)

Lord have mercy. (3)

Troparia, Tone 1

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

○ Christ, when Thou wast crucified, • the tyranny of the enemy perished, • his might trampled underfoot. • For not an angel nor a man hath saved us, • but Thou Thyself, O Lord: • glory be to Thee.

Theotokion

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

What shall we call thee, O thou who art full of grace? Heaven, for from thee hast dawned forth the Sun of Righteousness. Paradise, for from thee hath blossomed forth the flower of immortality. Virgin, for thou hast remained incorrupt. Pure Mother, for thou hast held in thy holy embrace the Son, the God of all. Do thou entreat Him to save our souls.

Stichera, Tone 8

Today the veil of the temple is rent in twain, • reproving the transgressors; • and the sun hideth its rays, • seeing the Master crucified. (2)

Why did the heathen rage, • and the people imagine vain things?

Tone 8

Thou wast led as a sheep to the slaughter, • O Christ our King, • and as an innocent Lamb Thou wast nailed to the Cross • by wicked men for our sins, • O Tho Who lovest mankind.

The kings of the earth were aroused, and the rulers were assembled together against the Lord, • and against His Christ.

REPEAT: Thou wast led as a sheep to the slaughter...

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

Tone 8

Suffering the transgressors to take hold of Thee, • Thou didst cry aloud O Lord: • “Even though ye smite the Shepherd and scatter the twelve sheep, • My disciples, • I could summon more than twelve legions of angels. • But in My patience I forbear, • that the hidden secrets I made known to you through My prophets • may be fulfilled.” • O Lord, glory be to Thee.



READINGS

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the Fourth Tone. His heart spake vanity, he gathered iniquity unto himself.

His heart spake vanity, • he gathered iniquity unto himself.

Blessed is the man that hath understanding for the poor and the pauper.

His heart spake vanity, • he gathered iniquity unto himself.

His heart spake vanity...

...he gathered iniquity unto himself.

Zechariah 11:10-13

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Zechariah.

DEACON: Let us attend

I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people. And it was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of the Lord. And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was priced at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord.

Galatians 6:14-18

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Galatians.

DEACON: Let us attend

Brethren: God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be to thee that readest.

And to thy spirit.

Matthew 27:1-56

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

DEACON: Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be unto all.

And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

DEACON: Let us attend.

PRIEST: At that time: When the morning was come...

Glory to Thy long-suffering, O Lord.

Let my mouth be filled with Thy praise, that I may hymn Thy glory and Thy majesty all the day long.

Trisagion

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our 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 the ages of ages.

Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8

Come, and let us all sing the praises of Him who was crucified for us. • For when Mary beheld Him on the Tree she said: • “Though Thou dost endure the Cross, yet Thou art my Son and God.”

Lord have mercy. (40)

Prayer of the Hours

Thou Who at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ God, Who art long-suffering, plenteous in mercy, most compassionate, Who lovest the righteous and hast mercy on sinners; Who callest all mankind to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Receive, O Lord, our prayers at this hour, and guide our life toward Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, make chaste our bodies, correct our thoughts, purify our intentions, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil, and ill. Compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guarded and guided by their array, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory: For blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

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

In the name of the Lord Father Bless.

PRIEST: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, and be merciful unto us.

Amen.

Prayer of the First Hour

PRIEST: O Christ, the True Light, Who enlightenest and sanctifiest every man that cometh into the world: Let the Light of Thy countenance be signed upon us, that in it we may see the Unapproachable Light, and guide our steps in the doing of Thy commandments, through the intercessions of Thy most pure Mother, and of all Thy saints. Amen.

Note: The Deacon, or the Priest if there be no Deacon, censeth the Gospels, Iconostasis, the Church, and the people. Immediately there follows the Third Hour.



Third Hour

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

Psalm 34

Judge them, O Lord, that do me injustice; war against them that war against me.

Take hold of weapon and shield, and arise unto my help.

Draw out a sword, and shut the way against them that persecute me; say to my soul, I am thy salvation.

Let them that seek my soul be shamed and confounded.

Let them be turned back, and be utterly put to shame, they that devise evils against me.

Let them become as dust before the face of the wind, an angel of the Lord also afflicting them.

Let their way become darkness and a sliding, an angel of the Lord also pursuing them.

For without cause have they secretly prepared for me destruction in their snare, without reason have they cast reproach on my soul.

Let a snare come upon him, which he knoweth not; and let the trap, which he hath hidden, catch him, and into that same snare let him fall.

But my soul shall rejoice in the Lord, it shall delight in His salvation.

All my bones shall say: Lord, O Lord, who is like unto Thee?

Delivering the beggar from the hand of them that are stronger than he, yea, poor man and pauper from them that despoil him.

Unjust witnesses rose up against me; things I knew not they asked me.

They repaid me with evil things for good, and barrenness for my soul.

But as for me, when they troubled me, I put on sackcloth.

And I humbled my soul with fasting, and my prayer shall return to my bosom.

As though it had been a neighbor, as though it had been our brother, so sought I to please; as one mourning and sad of countenance, so humbled I myself.

Yet against me they rejoiced and gathered together; scourges were gathered together upon me, and I knew it not.

They were rent asunder, yet not pricked at heart; they tempted me, they mocked me with mockery, they gnashed upon me with their teeth.

O Lord, when wilt Thou look upon me?

Deliver my soul from their evil doing, even this only-begotten one of mine from the lions.

I will confess Thee in the great congregation; among a mighty people will I praise Thee.

Let not them rejoice against me that unjustly are mine enemies, they that hate me without a cause, and wink with their eyes.

For peaceably indeed they spake unto me, but in their wrath were they devising deceits.

And they opened wide their mouth against me; they said: Well done, well done, our eyes have seen it.

Thou hast seen it, O Lord; keep not silence.

O Lord, depart not from me.

Arise, O Lord, and be attentive unto my judgment, my God, and my Lord, unto my cause.

Judge me, O Lord, according to Thy righteousness; O Lord my God, let them not rejoice against me.

Let them not say in their hearts: Well done, Well done, our soul.

Let them not say: We have swallowed him up.

Let them be shamed and confounded together who rejoice at my woes.

Let them be clothed with shame and confusion who speak boastful words against me.

Let them rejoice and be glad who desire the righteousness of my cause, and let them that desire the peace of Thy servant say continually: The Lord be magnified.

And my tongue shall treat of Thy righteousness, and of Thy praise all the day long.

Psalm 108

God, my praise do not pass over in silence; for the mouth of the sinner and the mouth of the deceitful man are opened against me.

They have spoken against me with a deceitful tongue, and with words of hatred have they encompassed me, and they have warred against me without a cause.

In return for my love, they have falsely accused me; but as for me, I gave myself to prayer.

And they repaid me evil for good, and hatred for my love.
Set Thou a sinner over him, and let the devil stand at his right hand.
When he is judged, let him go forth condemned, and let his prayer become sin.
Let his days be few, and his bishopric let another take.
Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow.
Let his children be vagabonds without a dwelling-place, and let them beg; let them be cast out from their ruined dwellings.
Let his creditor search out all his substance, and let strangers plunder all his labors.
Let there be for him no helper, nor anyone to pity his fatherless children.
Let his children be given over to utter destruction, in a single generation let his name be blotted out.
Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the Lord, and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out.
Let them be before the Lord continually, and let the memory of them perish from off the earth, because he remembered not to show mercy; and persecuted a man that was poor and a beggar, and one broken in heart, that he might slay him.
And he loved cursing, and it shall come upon him; and he delighted not in blessing, and it shall be far from him.
And he put on cursing like a garment, and it went in like water into his bowels, and like oil into his bones.
Let it be for him like a garment wherewith he is clothed, and like a girdle wherewith continually he is girded.
This is the dealing of the Lord with them that slander me, and with them that speak evil things against my soul.
But Thou, O Lord, O Lord, deal Thou with me for Thy name's sake; for Thy mercy is good.
Deliver me, for a poor man am I and a pauper, and my heart is troubled within me.
Like a shadow when it declineth am I taken away, I am shaken oil as the locusts.
My knees are grown weak through fasting, and my flesh is changed for want of oil.
And I am become a reproach unto them; they saw me and wagged their heads.
Help me, O Lord my God, and save me according to Thy mercy.
And let them know that this is Thy hand and that Thou, O Lord, hast wrought it.

They will curse, and Thou wilt bless; let them that rise up against me be put to shame, but Thy servant shall be glad.

Let them that slander me be clothed with confusion, and let them be covered with shame as with a mantle.

I will greatly praise the Lord with my mouth, and in the midst of many will I praise Him.

For He hath stood at the right hand of the poor, to save my soul from them that persecute me.

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 Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded.

Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings.

Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (3)

Lord have mercy. (3)

Troparia, Tone 6

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

O Lord, the Jews condemned to death, • Thou who art the Life of all; • with the rod of Moses, Thou didst lead them through the Red Sea on dry ground, • yet they nailed Thee upon the Cross; • Thou didst suckle them with honey from the rock, • yet they gave Thee gall to drink. • But Thou hast willingly endured all these things, • to free us from the bondage of the enemy. • O Christ God, glory be to Thee.

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

Theotokion

O Theotokos, thou art the true vine • that hast budded forth for us the Fruit of life. • Thee do we entreat: • Pray thou, O Lady, • with the holy Apostles, • that He have mercy upon our souls.

Stichera, Tone 8

For fear of the Jews, Thy friend and companion Peter • denied Thee, O Lord, • and weeping bitterly he cried aloud: • “Ignore not my tears in silence, O compassionate One; • for I said I would keep the faith, • but did not keep it.” • Accept also our repentance and have mercy on us.

Unto my words give ear, O Lord; • hear my cry.

Tone 8

Before Thy precious Cross, O Lord, • the soldiers mocked Thee, • and the noetic hosts were struck with wonder. • For Thou who hast adorned the earth with flowers • wast arrayed in a crown of shame; • and Thou who hast arrayed the

firmament with clouds • wast adorned in a robe of mockery. • Thus in Thy loving providence, O Christ, • Thou hast made known Thy compassionate goodness and great mercy: • glory be to Thee.

Attend unto the voice of my supplication, • O my King and my God

REPEAT: Before Thy precious Cross, O Lord ...,

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

Tone 5

When Thou wast led to the Cross, O Lord, • Thou didst cry aloud: • “For what deed do ye seek to crucify Me, O ye Jews? • Is it because I made your paralyzed to walk, • because I raised the dead as though from sleep? • I healed her that had an issue of blood, • and I took pity on the Canaanite woman: • for what deed do ye seek to kill Me, O ye Jews? • But, O ye transgressors, ye shall look on Christ Whom now ye pierce.”

READINGS

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the Fourth Tone. For I am ready for scourges: and my sorrow is continually before me.

For I am ready for scourges: • and my sorrow is continually before me.

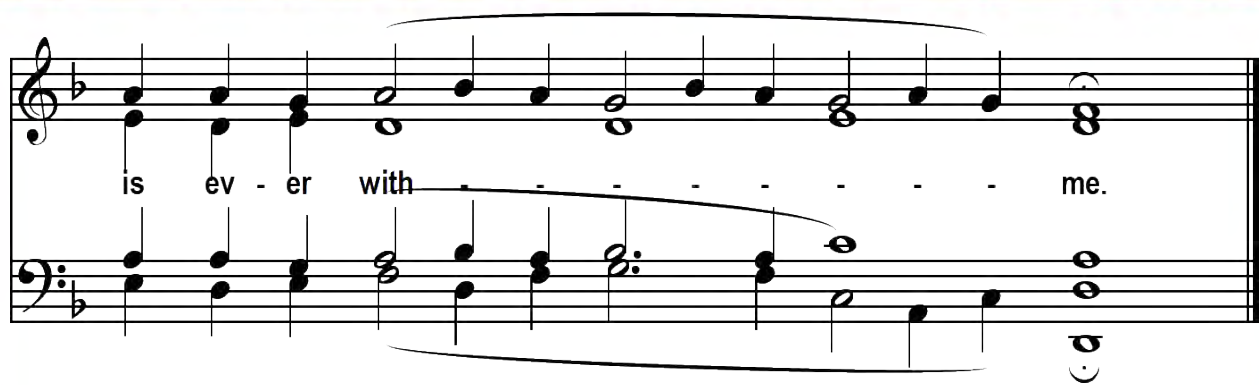
O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger: nor chasten me in Thy wrath.

For I am ready for scourges: • and my sorrow is continually before me.

For I am ready for scourges...

...and my sorrow is continually before me.

I am ready for scourging, and my pain



Isaiah 50:4-11

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

DEACON: Let us attend

The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord God hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair, I hid not my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord God will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed. He is near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who is mine adversary? let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord God will help me; who is he that shall condemn me? Lo, they all shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up. Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God. Behold, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks: walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.

Romans 5:6-10

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Romans.

DEACON: Let us attend

Brethren: when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when

we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

PRIEST: Peace be to thee that readest.

And to thy spirit.

Mark 15:16-41

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

DEACON: Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be unto all.

And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

DEACON: Let us attend.

PRIEST: At that time: They called together the whole band of soldiers...

Glory to Thy long-suffering, O Lord.

Blessed is the Lord God, blessed is the Lord day by day; the God of our salvation shall prosper us along the way; our God is the God of salvation.

Trisagion

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our 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 the ages of ages.

Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8

Come, and let us all sing the praises of Him who was crucified for us. • For when Mary beheld Him on the Tree she said,: • “Though Thou dost endure the Cross, yet Thou art my Son and God.”

Lord have mercy. (40)

Prayer of the Hours

Thou Who at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ God, Who art long-suffering, plenteous in mercy, most compassionate, Who lovest the righteous and hast mercy on sinners; Who callest all mankind to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Receive, O Lord, our prayers at this hour, and guide our life toward Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, make chaste our bodies, correct our thoughts, purify our intentions, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil, and ill. Compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guarded and guided by their array, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory: For blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

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

In the name of the Lord Father Bless.

PRIEST: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, and be merciful unto us.

Amen.

Prayer of the Third Hour

PRIEST: O Master God, the Father Almighty, O Lord, the Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and O Holy Spirit, one Godhead, one Power: Have mercy on me a sinner, and by the judgments which Thou knowest, save me, Thine unworthy servant; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Note: The Deacon, or the Priest, censeth the Gospels, and Iconostasis. Immediately there follows the Sixth Hour.

Sixth Hour

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

Psalm 53

O God, in Thy name save me, and in Thy strength do Thou judge me.

O God, hearken unto my prayer, give ear unto the words of my mouth.

For strangers are risen up against me, and mighty men have sought after my soul and have not set God before themselves.

For behold, God helpeth me, and the Lord is the protector of my soul.

He will bring evils upon mine enemies.

Utterly to destroy them by Thy truth.

Willingly shall I sacrifice unto Thee, I will confess Thy name, O Lord, for it is good.

For out of every affliction hast Thou delivered me, and mine eye hath looked down upon mine enemies.

Psalm 139

Rescue me, O Lord, from the evil man; from the unjust man deliver me.

Who have devised injustice in their heart; all the day long have they arrayed themselves for wars.

They have whetted their tongue like that of a serpent; the venom of asps is under their lips.

Keep me, O Lord, from the hand of the sinner; rescue me from unjust men who have devised to undermine my steps.

The proud have hid a snare for me, and with cords have they spread a snare for my feet; stumbling-blocks near the paths have they set for me.

I said unto the Lord: Thou art my God; give ear, O Lord, unto the voice of my supplication.

Lord, O Lord, Thou strength of my salvation, Thou hast overshadowed my head in the day of battle.

Because of my desire, O Lord, give me not up unto the sinner.

They have taken counsel against me; forsake me not, lest they should be exalted.

As for the head of those that encircle me, the mischief of their lips shall cover them.

Coals shall fall upon them, in fire shalt Thou cast them down, and they shall not stand in afflictions.

A babbling man shall not prosper on the earth; evils shall hunt an unjust man to his destruction.

I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the poor and the justice of the paupers.

Surely the righteous shall confess Thy name, and the upright shall dwell in Thy presence.

Psalm 90

He that dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide in the shelter of the God of heaven.

He shall say unto the Lord: Thou art my helper and my refuge.

He is my God, and I will hope in Him.

For He shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters and from every troubling word.

With His shoulders shall He overshadow thee, and under His wings shalt thou have hope.

With a shield will His truth encompass thee; thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day.

Nor for the thing that walketh in darkness, nor for the mishap and demon of noonday.

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousands at thy right hand, but unto thee shall it not come nigh.

Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold, and thou shalt see the reward of sinners.

For Thou, O Lord, art my hope.

Thou madest the Most High thy refuge; no evils shall come nigh unto thee, and no scourge shall draw nigh unto thy dwelling.

For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

On their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Upon the asp and basilisk shalt thou tread, and thou shalt trample upon the lion and dragon.

For he hath set his hope on Me, and I will deliver him, I will shelter him because he hath known my name.

He shall cry unto me, and I will hearken unto him.

I am with him in affliction, and I will rescue him and glorify him.

With length of days will I satisfy him, and I will show him My salvation.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (3)

Lord have mercy. (3)

Troparia, Tone 2

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

Thou hast wrought salvation in the midst of the earth • O Christ God; • upon the Cross didst Thou stretch out Thy most pure hands, • gathering together all the nations, who cry aloud: • O Lord, glory be to Thee.

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

Theotokion

Seeing that we have no boldness on account of our many sins, do thou beseech Him that was born of thee, O Virgin Theotokos for the supplication of a mother availeth much to win the Master's favor. Disdain not the prayers of sinners, O most pure one, for merciful and mighty to save is He Who deigned also to suffer for our sake.

Stichera, Tone 8

Thus sayeth the Lord unto the Jews: • "O My people, what have I done unto you? • Or wherein have I wearied you? • I gave light to your blind and cleansed your lepers, • I raised up the man who lay upon his bed. • O My people, what is it that have I done unto you, • and how have you repaid Me? • Instead of manna you give Me gall, • instead of water vinegar; • instead of loving Me, you nail Me to the Cross. • I can endure no more. • I shall call My Gentiles • and they shall glorify Me with the Father and the Spirit; • and I shall bestow upon them life eternal."

They gave Me gall for my food: • and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

O ye lawgivers of Israel, Jews and Pharisees, • the company of the Apostles cry out to you: • Behold the Temple that ye have destroyed; • behold the Lamb that ye have crucified. • Ye gave Him over to the tomb, • but by His own power He hath arisen. • Be not deceived, O ye Jews: • for this is He who saved you in the sea • and fed you in the wilderness. • He is the Life and Light and Peace of the world.

Save me, O God: • for the waters are come in unto my soul.

REPEAT: O lawgivers of Israel ...,

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

Tone 5

Come, O ye Christ-bearing people, • let us see what Judas the traitor hath plotted • with the lawless priests against our Savior. • Today they judge the immortal Word guilty of death: • they deliver Him to Pilate and crucify Him on Golgotha. • And our Savior suffering these things, crieth aloud, saying: • “Father, Forgive them this sin, • that the Gentiles may know My Resurrection from the dead.”

READINGS

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the Fourth Tone. O Lord our Lord, how wonderful is Thy Name in all the earth!

O Lord our Lord, how wonderful is Thy Name • in all the earth!

For Thy magnificence is lifted high above the heavens.

O Lord our Lord, how wonderful is Thy Name • in all the earth!

O Lord our Lord, how wonderful is Thy Name...

...in all the earth!

Isaiah 52:13 - 54:1

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

DEACON: Let us attend

Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men: So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him, for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider. Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord.

Hebrews 2:11-18

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Hebrews.

DEACON: Let us attend

Brethren: both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted.

PRIEST: Peace be to thee that readest.

And to thy spirit.

Luke 23: 32-49

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

DEACON: Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be unto all.

And to thy spirit.

PRIEST: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

DEACON: Let us attend.

PRIEST: At that time: They led Jesus with two others to be put to death...

Glory to Thy long-suffering, O Lord.

Let Thy compassions quickly go before us, O Lord, for we are become exceedingly poor. Help us, O God our Savior, for the sake of the glory of Thy name. O Lord, deliver us and be gracious unto our sins for Thy name's sake.

Trisagion

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our 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 the ages of ages.

Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8

Come, and let us all sing the praises of Him who was crucified for us. • For when Mary beheld Him on the Tree she said,: • “Though Thou dost endure the Cross, yet Thou art my Son and God.”

Lord have mercy. (40)

Prayer of the Hours

Thou Who at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ God, Who art long-suffering, plenteous in mercy, most compassionate, Who lovest the righteous and hast mercy on sinners; Who callest all mankind to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Receive, O Lord, our prayers at this hour, and guide our life toward Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, make chaste our bodies, correct our thoughts, purify our intentions, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil, and ill. Compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guarded and guided by their array, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory: For blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

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

In the name of the Lord Father Bless.

PRIEST: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, and be merciful unto us.

Amen.

Prayer of the Sixth Hour

PRIEST: O God and Lord of Hosts, and Maker of all Creation, Who by the tender compassion of Thy mercy which transcendeth comprehension, didst send down Thine only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, for the salvation of our race, and by His precious Cross didst tear asunder the handwriting of our sins, and thereby didst triumph over the principalities and powers of darkness: Do Thou Thyself, O Master, Who lovest mankind, accept also from us sinners these prayers of thanksgiving and entreaty, and deliver us from every destructive and dark transgression, and from all enemies, both visible and invisible, that seek to do us evil. Nail down our flesh with the fear of Thee, and incline not our hearts unto words or thoughts of evil, but pierce our souls with longing for Thee, so that ever looking to Thee, and being guided by Thy Light as we behold Thee, the unapproachable and everlasting Light, we may send up unceasing praise and thanksgiving unto Thee, the Beginningless Father, with Thine Only-begotten Son, and Thy most holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Note: The Deacon, or the Priest if there be no Deacon, censeth the Gospels, Iconostasis, the Church, and the people. Immediately there follows the Ninth Hour.



Ninth Hour

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

Psalm 68

Save me, O God, for the waters are come in unto my soul.

I am stuck fast in the mire of the deep, and there is no sure standing.

I am come into the deeps of the sea, and a tempest hath overwhelmed me.

I am grown weary with crying, my throat is become hoarse; from my hoping in my God, mine eyes have failed me.

They that hate me without a cause are multiplied more than the hairs of my head.

Mine enemies are grown strong, they that persecute me unjustly; then did I restore that which I took not away.

O God, Thou knowest my foolishness, and my transgressions are not hid from Thee.

Let not them that wait on Thee be ashamed for my sake, O Lord, Thou Lord of hosts.

Nor let them that seek after Thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.

Because for Thy sake I have borne reproach, shame hath covered my face.

I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto the sons of my mother.

For the zeal of Thy house hath eaten me up, and the reproaches of them that reproach Thee are fallen on me.

Yea, with fasting I covered my soul, and it was turned into a reproach for me.

And I made sackcloth my clothing, and I became a proverb to them.

And they prated against me, they that sit in the gates; and they made a song about me, they that drink wine.

But as for me, with my prayer I cry unto Thee, O Lord, it is time for Thy good pleasure.

O God, in the multitude of Thy mercy hearken unto me, in the truth of Thy salvation.

Save me from the mire, that I be not stuck therein; let me be delivered from them that hate me and from the deeps of the waters.

Let not the tempest of water overwhelm me, nor let the deep swallow me up, nor let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

Hearken unto me, O Lord, for Thy mercy is good; according to the multitude of Thy compassions, look upon me.

Turn not Thy countenance away from Thy servant, for I am afflicted; quickly hearken unto me.

Attend unto my soul and deliver it; because of mine enemies, rescue me.

For Thou knowest my reproach, my shame and my humiliation.

Before Thee are all that afflict me; my soul hath awaited reproach and misery.

And I waited for one that would grieve with me, but there was no one; and for them that would comfort me, but I found none.

And they gave me gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Let their table before them be for a snare, for a recompense and for a stumbling-block.

Let their eyes be darkened that they may not see, and their back do Thou continually bow down.

Pour out upon them Thy wrath, and let the fury of Thy wrath take hold upon them.

Let their habitation be made desolate, and in their tents let there be none to dwell.

For they persecuted him whom Thou hast smitten, and to the pain of my wounds have they added.

Add iniquity to their iniquity, and let them not enter into Thy righteousness.

Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and with the righteous let them not be written.

Poor and in sorrow am I, may Thy salvation, O God, be quick to help me.

I will praise the name of my God with an ode, I will magnify Him with praise.

And this shall please God more than a young calf that hath horns and hooves.

Let beggars behold it and be glad; seek after God, and your soul shall live.

For the Lord hath hearkened unto the poor and hath not despised them that are fettered for His sake.

Let the heavens and the earth praise Him, the sea and all the creeping things therein.

For God will save Sion, and the cities of Judea shall be builded; and they shall dwell therein and inherit it.

And the seed of Thy servants shall possess it, and they that love Thy name shall dwell therein.

Psalm 69

○ God, be attentive unto helping me; O Lord, make haste to help me.

Let them be shamed and confounded that seek after my soul.

Let them be turned back and brought to shame that desire evils against me.

Let them be turned back straightway in shame that say unto me: Well done! Well done!

Let them be glad and rejoice in Thee all that seek after Thee, O God, and let them that love Thy salvation say continually: The Lord be magnified.

But as for me, I am poor and needy; O God, come unto mine aid.

My helper and my deliverer art Thou, O Lord; make no long tarrying.

Psalm 85.

○ Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, and hearken unto me, for poor and needy am I.

Preserve my soul, for I am holy; save Thy servant, O my God, that hopeth in Thee.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for unto Thee will I cry all the day long; make glad the soul of Thy servant, for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul.

For Thou, O Lord, art good and gentle, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer, and attend unto the voice of my supplication.

In the day of mine affliction have I cried unto Thee, for Thou hast heard me.

There is none like unto Thee among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like unto Thy works.

All the nations whom Thou hast made shall worship before Thee, O Lord, and shall glorify Thy name.

For Thou art great and workest wonders; Thou alone art God.

Guide me, O Lord, in Thy way, and I will walk in Thy truth; let my heart rejoice that I may fear Thy name.

I will confess Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify Thy name forever.

For great is Thy mercy upon me, and Thou hast delivered my soul from the nethermost Hades.

O God, transgressors have risen up against me, and the assembly of the mighty hath sought after my soul, and they have not set Thee before them.

But Thou, O Lord my God, art compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy, and true.

Look upon me and have mercy upon me; give Thy strength unto Thy servant, and save the son of Thy handmaiden.

Work in me a sign unto good, and let them that hate me behold and be put to shame; for Thou, O Lord, hast helped me and comforted me.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to Thee, O God. (3)

Lord have mercy. (3)

Troparia, Tone 8

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

Upon seeing the Author of life hanging upon the Cross, • the thief said: "If it were not God incarnate • who is crucified with us, the sun would not have hid its rays • nor would the earth have quaked and trembled. • But, do Thou O all-forbearing One, remember me in Thy Kingdom."

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

Theotokion

O Thou Who for our sake wast born of a Virgin, and didst suffer crucifixion, O Good One, and didst despoil death by death, and, as God, didst reveal the resurrection: Disdain not them which Thou hast fashioned with Thine hand; show forth Thy love for mankind, O Merciful One; accept the Theotokos who gave Thee birth, who intercedeth for us; and do Thou, our Savior, save a despairing people.

Stichera, Tone 7

Strange was the wonder, to see the Creator of heaven and earth • hanging upon the Cross. • The sun darkened and the day changed again into night, • and the earth gave up the bodies of the dead from within their tombs. • Save us who with them worship Thee.

They have parted my garments amongst themselves, • and for my vesture have they cast lots.

Tone 2

When the transgressors nailed Thee, O Lord of glory, • onto the Cross, • Thou didst cry out to them: • “How have I grieved you? Or angered you? • Before Me, who hath delivered you from tribulations? • And how do ye now repay Me? • Ye have given Me evil for good: • in return for the pillar of fire, • ye have nailed Me onto the Cross; • in return for the cloud in the wilderness, • ye have dug a grave for Me. • Instead of manna, ye have given Me gall; • instead of water, ye have given Me vinegar to drink. • Henceforth I shall call the Gentiles, • and they shall glorify Me • together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

They gave Me gall for my food: • and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

REPEAT: *When the transgressors...*

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

Tone 6

Today He who hath suspended the earth upon the waters • is hung upon the Cross • He who is the King of the heavenly hosts • hath been arrayed in a crown of thorns. • He who wrapeth the heaven in clouds • hath now been wrapped in the purple of mockery. • He who in the river Jordan set Adam free • receiveth blows upon His face. • The Bridegroom of the Church is transfixed with nails. • The Son of the Virgin is pierced with a spear. • We venerate Thy Passion, O Christ • we venerate Thy Passion, O Christ • we venerate Thy Passion, O Christ • Show us also Thy glorious Resurrection.

READINGS

Prokeimenon, Tone 6

Prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the Fourth Tone. The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.

The fool hath said in his heart, • There is no God.

There is none that doeth good, no not one.

The fool hath said in his heart, • There is no God.

His heart spake vanity, • he gathered iniquity unto himself.

The fool hath said in his heart...

...there is no God.

The fool says in his heart: "There is
no, there is no God.

Jeremiah 11:18-23; 12:1-5, 9-11, 14-15

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Jeremiah.

DEACON: Let us attend

The Lord hath given me knowledge of it, and I know it: then thou shewedst me their doings. But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised devices against me, saying, Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered. But, O Lord of hosts, that judgest righteously, that triest the reins and the heart, let me see thy vengeance on them: for unto thee have I revealed my cause. Therefore thus saith the Lord of the men of Anathoth, that seek thy life, saying, Prophesy not in the name of the Lord, that thou die not by our hand: Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts, Behold, I will punish them: the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine: And there shall be no remnant of them: for I will bring evil upon the men of Anathoth, even the year of their visitation. Righteous art Thou, O Lord, when I plead with thee: yet let me talk with thee of thy judgments: Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper? wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously? Thou hast planted them, yea, they have taken root: they grow, yea, they bring forth fruit: Thou art near in their mouth, and far from their reins. But

Thou, O Lord, knowest me: Thou hast seen me, and tried mine heart toward thee: pull them out like sheep for the slaughter, and prepare them for the day of slaughter. How long shall the land mourn, and the herbs of every field wither, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein? the beasts are consumed, and the birds; because they said, He shall not see our last end. If Thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst Thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein Thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt Thou do in the swelling of Jordan? Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird, the birds round about are against her; come ye, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour. Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness. They have made it desolate, and being desolate it mourneth unto me; the whole land is made desolate, because no man layeth it to heart. Thus saith the Lord against all mine evil neighbors, that touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them. And it shall come to pass, after that I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land.

Hebrews 10:19-31

DEACON: Wisdom.

The reading is from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Hebrews.

DEACON: Let us attend

Brethren: having therefore, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? For we know him

that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

PRIEST: Peace be to thee that readest.

And to thy spirit.

John 18: 28 - 19: 37

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

DEACON: Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be unto all.

And to thy spirit.

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

Glory to Thy passion, O Lord.

DEACON: Let us attend.

PRIEST: At that time: They led Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment...

Glory to Thy long-suffering, O Lord.

Deliver us not up utterly, for Thy holy name's sake, and neither disannul Thou Thy covenant, and cause not Thy mercy to depart from us, for Abraham's sake, Thy beloved; and for Isaac's sake, Thy servant; and for Israel's, Thy holy one.

Trisagion

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our 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 the ages of ages.

Amen.

Kontakion Tone 8

Come, and let us all sing the praises of Him who was crucified for us. • For when Mary beheld Him on the Tree she said,: • “Though Thou dost endure the Cross, yet Thou art my Son and God.”

Lord have mercy. (40)

Prayer of the Hours

Thou Who at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ God, Who art long-suffering, plenteous in mercy, most compassionate, Who lovest the righteous and hast mercy on sinners; Who callest all mankind to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Receive, O Lord, our prayers at this hour, and guide our life toward Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, make chaste our bodies, correct our thoughts, purify our intentions, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil, and ill. Compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guarded and guided by their array, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory: For blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

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

In the name of the Lord Father Bless.

PRIEST: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, and be merciful unto us.

Amen.

Prayer of the Ninth Hour

PRIEST: Master, Lord Jesus Christ our God, Who art long-suffering in the face of our transgressions, and Who hast brought us even unto this present hour, wherein Thou didst hang upon the life-giving tree, and didst make a way into paradise for the wise thief, and by death didst destroy death: Be gracious unto us sinners and Thine unworthy servants; for we have sinned and committed iniquity, and are not worthy to lift up our eyes and behold the height of heaven, for we have abandoned the way of Thy righteousness, and have walked in the desires of our hearts. But we beseech Thy boundless goodness: Spare us, O Lord, according to the multitude of Thy mercy and save us for Thy holy name's sake; for our days were consumed in vanity. Rescue us from the hand of the adversary, and forgive us our sins, and mortify our carnal mind; that, putting aside the old man, we may be clad with the new, and live for Thee, our Master and Benefactor; and that thus by following in Thy commandments, we may attain to rest everlasting, wherein is the dwelling-place of all them that rejoice. For Thou art indeed the true joy and gladness of them that love Thee, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we send up glory, with Thy beginningless Father, and Thy Most-holy and good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.



Typika

Immediately there follows the abbreviated Typika (intoned-read not chanted):

READER 1: In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

READER 2: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

READER 1: Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

READER 2: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

READER 1: Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

READER 2: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

READER 1: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

READER 2: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

READER 1: Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

READER 2: Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

READER 1: Rejoice, and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in the heavens.

READER 2: *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

READER 1: Remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!

READER 2: Remember us, O Master, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!

READER 1: Remember us, O Holy One, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom!

READER 2: The choir of angels hymneth Thee, and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

READER 1: *Come unto Him, and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed.*

READER 2: The choir of angels hymneth Thee, and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

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

READER 2: The choir of the holy angels and archangels, with all the heavenly hosts, hymneth Thee and saith: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!

READER 1: *Both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

Symbol of the Faith

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages;

Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father, by Whom all things were made;

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from the heavens, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man;

And was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered and was buried;

And arose again on the third day according to the Scriptures;

And ascended into the heavens, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father;

And shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;

Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life;

Who proceedeth from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;

Who spake by the prophets.

In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the remission of sins.

I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Prayer

Remit, pardon, forgive, O God, our offenses, both voluntary and involuntary, in deed and word, in knowledge and ignorance, by day and by night, in mind and thought; forgive us all things, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our 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 the ages of ages.

Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 8

Come, and let us all sing the praises of Him who was crucified for us. For when Mary beheld Him on the Tree she said: "Though Thou dost endure the Cross, yet Thou art my Son and God."

Lord, have mercy. (40)

Prayer

O Most holy Trinity, the consubstantial dominion, the indivisible Kingdom, and cause of every Good: Show Thy good will even unto me a sinner; make steadfast my heart and grant it understanding, and take away mine every defilement; enlighten my mind that I may glorify, hymn, worship, and say: One is holy, One is Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord from henceforth and for evermore. (3)

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 33

I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

I sought the Lord, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to Him, and be radiant, so your faces shall never be shamed.

This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

The Angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that takes refuge in Him.

O fear the Lord, you His saints: for those who fear Him have no want.

The rich suffer want and hunger; but those that seek the Lord lack no good thing.



Dismissal

DEACON: Wisdom.

It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure and the Mother of our God.

PRIEST: Most-holy Theotokos, save us.

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement Thou gavest birth to God the Word; true the Theotokos, we magnify Thee.

PRIEST: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and hope, glory to Thee.

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. (3)

Holy father, bless.

PRIEST: May He Who endured spitting and scourging, the Cross and death, for the salvation of the world, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most-pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers; of Saints (*the saints of the day*) whose memory we keep this day; 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.

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

Amen.

THE END OF THE IMPERIAL HOURS

Note: On Great Friday there is no celebration of the Liturgy neither the complete Liturgy nor that of the Presanctified. No meal is served, and on this day of the Crucifixion we eat nothing, according to the words which the Lord spoke to the Pharisees: "The days will come, when the Bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast" (Matthew 9: 15). But as frequently happens, and one is weak and/or old, and cannot keep the fast, let him be given bread and water after sunset.

MUSIC FOR THE IMPERIAL HOURS

Page 8, 18, 25, 35, 39 - Kontakion, Tone 8

1

Come, let us all sing the praises of Him Who was

2

cru - ci - fied for us, for Ma - ry said when she be - held

4

Him up - on the tree, Though Thou dost en - dure the Cross,

6

Thou art my Son and my God!



Page 39 - Blessed be the Name of the Lord

1 *Twice*

Blessed be the Name of the Lord hence - forth

3 *3rd Time*

and for - ev - er - more. Blessed be the Name

5

of the Lord, hence - forth and for - ev - er - more.



Page 40 - It is Truly Meet, Lesser Znamenny

1

It is tru - ly meet to bless thee, O The - o -

2 3

to - kos, ev - er bless - ed and most pure and the

4 5

Mo - ther of our God!



Page 40 – More Honorable, Lesser Znamenny

7

More hon'rabl than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than

8 9

the Ser - a - phim: Without corruption thou gavest birth to

10 11

God the Word. True Theotokos, we mag - ni - fy thee.



