

OFFICE OF THE HOLY OIL

Sung by Seven Priests assembled in Church or in a house

Gathered in the church or a house, seven priests put on the epitrachilion (and the first also the phelonion) and stand in front of a prepared tetrapod on which are placed the holy Gospel and a seven-branched lamp with wine and oil with seven anointing brushes.

Deacon: Bless, Master.

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

Choir: Amin.

The Superior (or, in churches, the Reader): Glory to you, our God, glory to you.

Heavenly king, comforter, Spirit of the Truth, who are everywhere present and fill all things, treasury of good things and giver of life, come and tabernacle 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. (x3)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, watch over and heal our infirmities, for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

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 Yours 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 to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Lord, have mercy (x12). Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin.

Come let us worship, and fall down before the king, our God.

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

Come let us worship, and fall down before Christ himself, the king and our God.

Psalm 142

Lord, hear my prayer, give ear to my supplication in your truth, hear me in your righteousness.

And do not enter into judgment with your servant, for everyone living will not be righteous before you.

For the enemy closely pursued my soul, to the ground he humbled my life.

He made me sit in dark places like the dead of the age, and my spirit became despondent in me, and my heart was troubled within me.

I have remembered days of old, I have been thoughtful of all your works, I was thoughtful of the makings of your hands.

I stretched out my hands toward you, my soul – like waterless land, to you.

Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit has vanished.

Do not turn your Face from me, and I will be like the ones who go down into the pit.

Make your mercy heard to me in the morning, for I have hoped in you.

Lord, make known to me the way in which I will walk, for I have lifted up my soul toward you.

Take me away from my enemies, O Lord, for I have run to you for refuge. Teach me to do your will, for you, you are my God.

Your good Spirit will guide me in a straight land; for your name's sake, O Lord, you will make me live.

In your righteousness you will lead my soul out of affliction, and in your mercy you will destroy my enemies.

And you will lay waste to all who afflict my soul, for I, I am your servant.

After this Allilulia is chanted in Tone 6:

Chanter: Allilulia, allilulia, allilulia.

Reader: Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger, nor chastise me in your wrath.

Chanter: Allilulia, allilulia, allilulia.

Reader: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak.

Chanter: Allilulia, allilulia, allilulia.

And the following Troparia. Tone 6.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, for putting aside all excuse, we the sinners offer to you, as Master, this supplication, have mercy on us.

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

Lord, have mercy on us, for in you we have put our trust. Do not be angry with us severely, nor remember our iniquities, but watch over us even now, as tender-hearted, and deliver us from our enemies, for you are our God, and we are your people, all works of your hands, and we call on your name.

Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. **Theotokion.**

Open the door of loving kindness to us, Blessed Birthgiver of God, that we who hope in you not fail and be delivered from adversities through you, for you are the salvation of the Christian people.

Then the Reader reads Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your great mercy, and according to the fullness of your compassions blot out my transgression.

More thoroughly wash me from my lawlessness, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I do know my lawlessness, and my sin is ever before me.
Against you only I have sinned and have done the evil before you, so that you are righteous in your words and conquer in your judging.
For, behold, in iniquities I was conceived, and in sins my mother bore me.
For, behold, you have loved truth, the unseen and hidden things of your wisdom you have shown me.
You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be cleansed; you will wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow.
You will make me hear joy and gladness; the humbled bones will rejoice.
Turn away your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right Spirit in my inward parts.
Do not cast me away from your Face, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.
Give me back the joy of your salvation, and make me steadfast with a governing Spirit.
I will teach the lawless your ways, and the impious will turn around to you.
Deliver me from blood, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue will rejoice in your righteousness.
Lord, you will open my lips, and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
For if you had willed a sacrifice, I would have given it; you will not well-will whole burnt offerings.
A sacrifice to God is a shattered spirit; a shattered and humbled heart God will not despise.
Do good, Lord, to Zion in your good pleasure and the walls of Jerusalem be rebuilt.
Then you will well-will sacrifice of righteousness, offering and whole burnt offerings.
Then they will offer calves upon your altar.

And after the 50th Psalm the Canon is read, of which the Acrostic is: Psalm of blessing of oil from Arsenios.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Ode 1. Through the Red Sea's deep

Deacon/Priest: With the oil of your compassion, Master, you always make glad the souls and bodies of mortals, and guard the faithful by oil; take pity now on your servants who approach you through Oil.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: The whole earth is full of your mercy, Master; and so we ask in faith that we who are today mystically anointed with divine oil, may be granted your mercy which passes understanding.

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

Deacon/Priest: Lover of mankind, in your compassion you ordered your Apostles to perform the sacred anointing on your sick servants; at their intercessions have mercy on us all by your seal.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. **Theotokion.**

Deacon/Priest: O Pure one, alone enriched with the ocean of peace, by your prayers to God, ever deliver your servants from diseases and afflictions, that they may unceasingly magnify you.

Ode 3. *Your Church, O Christ.*

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: You alone, O Christ, are wonderful and pity those who are faithful; give your grace from on high to those who are grievously sick.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: By your divine help, O Lord, you once used an olive branch to show the abatement of the Flood; in mercy save the ailing.

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

Deacon/Priest: With a divine lamp of light, O Christ, in your mercy make bright those who with faith in your mercy now hasten for anointing.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Theotokion.*

Deacon/Priest: Look favourably from on high, O Mother of the Maker of all, and do away with the bitter illness of the sick by your prayers.

Kathisma. Tone 8 *The song of shepherd pipes.*

Reader: As you, O Merciful, are a divine river of mercy, an abyss of great compassion, show us the divine streams of your mercy, and heal us all; pour out unstintingly the springs of your wonders, and cleanse us all; for ever hastening fervently to you, we implore your grace.

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

Another. *Lifted up on the Cross.*

Reader: Physician and helper of those in pains, deliverer and Savior of those in sickness, Master and Lord, give healing to your sick servants; have pity, have mercy on those who have often stumbled, and deliver them from their falls, O Christ, that they may glorify your divine power.

Ode 4. *Seeing you, the Sun of justice.*

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: As you, O Saviour, are an incorruptible ointment, emptied out by grace and purifying the world, have pity, have mercy on those who anoint the bruises of the flesh with divine faith.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: Master, by now sealing with the gladness of the seal of your mercy your servants' senses, make them impenetrable, unapproachable to the entry of every hostile power.

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

Deacon/Priest: Lover of mankind, you bid the sick to summon your sacred ministers and to be saved by their entreaty and anointing with your Oil; in your mercy save your ailing servants.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Theotokion.*

Deacon/Priest: All-holy, ever-Virgin, Mother of God, my firm shelter and guard, harbour and wall, ladder and tower, have mercy, have pity; for to you alone have I fled for refuge.

Ode 5. *You, Lord, my light.*

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: O Good One, as you are an abyss of mercy, have mercy, O Merciful, on the ailing by your divine oil, as you are compassionate.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: Having ineffably hallowed our souls and bodies from on high, O Christ, with the divine imprint of your seal, heal us all by your power.

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

Deacon/Priest: O Lord, supremely good, in your ineffable love you accepted the anointing with sweet ointment from a harlot; take pity on your servants.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. **Theotokion.**

Deacon/Priest: Sovereign Lady, pure and all-praised, supremely good, have mercy on those who are anointed with the divine Oil, and save your servants.

Ode 6. I will sacrifice to you.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: By your words, Lover of mankind, you ordained anointing with oil for kings, and performed it through high priests; save the suffering also by your sealing as you are compassionate.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: May no influence of wicked demons touch the senses of those signed by divine anointing, O Saviour, but wall them about with the shelter of your glory.

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

Deacon/Priest: Stretch out your hand from on high, Lover of mankind, and by hallowing your oil give health and deliverance from all diseases to your servants.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. **Theotokion.**

Deacon/Priest: You have been shown to be a fruitful olive tree in the house of your God, Mother of your Creator, though whom the world has appeared full of mercy; save the ailing with the touch of your intercessions.

Kontakion. Tone 2. Seeking the things on high.

Reader: You are a fountain of mercy, O Supremely Good, deliver from every ill those who with fervent faith fall down before your ineffable mercy, O Compassionate, and taking away their diseases, grant them the divine grace from on high.

Ode 7. The children of Abraham.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: O Saviour, only God, as in your mercy and pity you heal the passions of the soul, the afflictions of the bodies of all, treat and heal too those who are suffering from diseases.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: By anointing with the anointment of oil the heads of all, give the joy of gladness to those who seek the mercy of your redemption in your rich mercy, O Lord.

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

Deacon/Priest: Your seal, O Saviour, is a sword against demons, and a fire consuming the passions of souls, through the entreaties of priests; and so, having received healing, we sing your praise with faith.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. **Theotokion.**

Deacon/Priest: Mother of God, you carried within your womb, in a manner befitting God, and ineffably gave a body to the One who holds all things in the hollow of his hand; we beg you to have pity on the ailing.

Ode 8. *Stretching out his hands.*

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us all, O Saviour, in accordance with your great and divine mercy; for mystically symbolizing its figure, Master, we bring the anointing with sacred oil for the sick; heal them all by your power.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: With the streams of your mercy, O Christ, and with anointings by your priests, wash away, Lord, as you are compassionate, the pains, the wounds, the attacks of sufferings of those worn down by the constraints of passions, that through your cleansing they may find strength.

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

Deacon/Priest: Do not withdraw your mercy, Master, from us who depict your divine oil as a symbol of help and joy from on high, nor despise those who cry out with faith: Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. *Theotokion.*

Deacon/Priest: Nature received as a glorious crown, O Pure One, your divine Offspring, who crushed the ranks of foes and mightily defeated them; and so, crowned with the bright rays of your graces, we hymn you, Sovereign Lady, all-praised.

Ode 9. *A stone not cut by human hand.*

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: Look down from heaven, O Compassionate, and show to all your mercy; through the divine anointing of your priests now give your help and your strength to those who approach you.

Reader: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Deacon/Priest: All-loving Saviour, rejoicing we have seen the divine oil, which by your divine decision beyond the power of the partakers you have accepted, and symbolically shared with those who partake of the divine washing.

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

Deacon/Priest: Have pity, have mercy, Saviour, deliver from fears and sufferings, rescue from the arrows of the evil one the souls and bodies of your servants, for you, Lord, are merciful and heal by divine grace.

Reader: Now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. *Theotokion.*

Deacon/Priest: Accept, O Virgin, the hymns and supplications of your servants; deliver by your entreaties from harsh pains and sufferings, O all-pure, those who through us flee to your divine protection.

It is truly right to call you blessed, who gave birth to God, ever-blessed and most pure, and Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word: true Birthgiver of God, we magnify you!

Exapostilarion. Our Savior, the Dayspring.

Look with your merciful eye on our entreaty, loving Lord, as we gather today in your holy Temple, to anoint with divine oil your sick servants.

At Praises, prosomia. Tone 4: You have given as a sign.

Reader: [Psalm 148]

Let every breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the highest. To you is due hymn, O God.

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his powers.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all the stars and the light.

Praise him, heavens of the heavens, and water above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for himself spoke and they were made, he commanded and they were created.

He made them stand to the age, and to the age of age; he set a precept, and it will not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, dragons and all deeps.

Fire, hail, snow, ice, and wind of tempest, which do his word.

Mountains and all hills, fruit-bearing trees and all cedars.

Beasts and all herds, creeping things and winged birds.

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

Young men and maidens, old with the young, let them praise the name of the Lord, for the name of him alone has been lifted up.

The confession of him is upon earth and heaven, and he will lift up the horn of his people.

A hymn to all his venerable ones, to the sons of Israel, to a people which draws near him.

[Psalm 149]

Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in a church of the venerable ones.

Let Israel be gladdened in him who made him, and the sons of Sion rejoice in their king.

Let them praise his name in dance, let them chant his praise with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord is well-pleased in his people, he will lift up the meek in salvation.

Venerable ones will boast in glory, and will rejoice in their beds.

The liftings-up of God in their throat, and two-edged swords in their hands.

To make vengeance within the nations, punishments within the peoples.

To bind their kings in shackles, and their nobles in wrist-chains of iron.

To make in them a written judgment, this glory will be to all his venerable ones.

[Psalm 150]

Praise God in his holies, praise him in the firmness of his power.

Praise him for his powerful acts, praise him according to the magnitude of his majesty.

Praise him in sound of trumpet, praise him with harp and lute.

Choir: Tone 4: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

Lover of mankind, easily placated, through your Apostles you have given your grace by your holy oil to heal all wounds and diseases; and so, as you are compassionate, hallow, have mercy by your oil on those who draw near in faith, cleanse them of every kind of sickness and make them worthy, Lord, of your incorruptible delight. *(Twice)*

Praise him in timbrel and dance, praise him with strings and pipe.

Choir: Tone 4: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

O Incomprehensible, as you are compassionate and seal our senses with your invisible hand by your divine oil, look down from heaven, Lover of mankind, upon those who run to you with faith and ask forgiveness of offences; and grant them healing of soul and body, that with love they may glorify you as they magnify your might.

Praise him with tuneful cymbals, praise him with cymbals of great shout. Let every breath praise the Lord.

Choir: Tone 4: O Master Christ, have mercy on your servant[s].

With the anointing of your mercy and the touch of your priests, Lover of mankind, hallow your servants from on high, deliver them from diseases, cleanse and wash away their defilement of soul, O Saviour, and deliver them from the manifold occasions of sin; comfort their toils, drive away disasters, and wipe out their afflictions, as you are full of pity and compassion.

Reader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amin. **Theotokion.**

O highly praised, all-pure Palace of the King, I entreat you: purify my mind, sullied with every sin, and make it a fair dwelling for the divine Trinity; so that I, your unprofitable servant, may be saved and magnify your power and limitless mercy.

Holy God. Holy Mighty. Holy Immortal. Have mercy on us. (x3)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, watch over and heal our infirmities, for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

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 yours 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 to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Troparion. Tone 4. Speedily anticipate

As you alone, O Christ, are quick to help, quickly show your visitation from high to your servants who are suffering; free them from diseases and bitter pains; raise them up to praise you and glorify you unceasingly; at the prayers of the Mother of God, only Lover of mankind.

EKTENIA

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

APOLYSIS

Deacon: Wisdom!

Choir: Bless!

Priest: Blessed is He-who-is, Christ our God, always, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amin. The Lord God make firm the holy and blameless faith of the pious and right-glorifying Christians with this church to the ages of ages.

Priest: All-holy Birthgiver of God, save us.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word: true Birthgiver of God, we magnify you!

Priest: Glory to you, Christ God, our hope, glory to you!

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

The Priest, loosening the phelonion, makes the great apolysis. And on Sunday he begins saying He who is risen from the dead or, if it is a feast of the Lord, with what is proper to it, and on another day:

Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-pure and all-blameless holy Mother; by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; by the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; through the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and baptist John, of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles, of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, of the holy (of the day), whose remembrance we also fulfill, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, as one who is good and loves mankind.

Choir: Amin.

Deacon: Bless, Master.

The first of the Priests: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Choir: Amin.

LITANY OF PEACE

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*and so after each petition*)

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

For the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

For our Archbishop and father (name), for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

For the civil authorities of this country and for those serving in its armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

For the people standing here, awaiting eagerly the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

For this oil to be sanctified by the power and operation and descent of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

For the servants of God standing here and their care in God, and that the grace of the Holy Spirit comes upon them, let us pray to the Lord.

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

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by your grace.

Remembering our all-holy, pure, most blessed, and glorious Lady, the Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another, and our whole life to Christ God.

Reader: To you, O Lord.

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

Reader: Amin.

Then the Priests and the Deacon come and stand on both sides of the lamp, with the first Priest in front of it, who says the Prayer of the Oil. And when he says yourself, Master, sanctify also this oil, all bless the oil.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

The Priest says the prayer of the oil:

Lord, who in your mercy and pity heal the afflictions of our souls and bodies, yourself, Master, sanctify also this oil, that it be to those anointed with it for healing and relief of every passion, bodily illness, stain of flesh and spirit, and every evil; so that in it also your all-holy Name be glorified, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

These Troparia are sung.

Tone 4. *Speedily anticipate.* You alone, O Christ, are quick to help, quickly show your visitation from on high to your servants who are suffering; free them from illnesses and bitter pains; raise them up to praise you and glorify you unceasingly; at the prayers of the Mother of God, only Lover of mankind.

Tone 4. *Today you have appeared.* Blinded in the eyes of my soul, I come to you, O Christ, like the man blind from birth, as I cry to you in repentance: You are the shining Light of those in darkness.

Tone 3. *Today the Virgin* Raise my soul, grievously paralyzed by every sort of sin and abominable deed, by your divine presence, O Christ, as you raised the paralytic of old, that saved I may cry to you: O merciful Christ, glory to your might!

Tone 8. As the Lord's Disciple, O Just one, you received the Gospel; as a martyr you cannot be turned away; as God's brother you have freedom to speak; as Hierarch you have the right to intercede. Implore Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Tone 4. *Lifted up on the Cross.* The Only-begotten of the Father, God the Word, who dwelt among us in these last days, declared you, venerable James, first shepherd and teacher of Jerusalem, and faithful steward of the spiritual mysteries; therefore, O Apostle, we all honor you.

Tone 3. *Today the Virgin.* In Myra, O Saint, you were revealed as priest, for having fulfilled Christ's Gospel you laid down your life for your people; you saved the innocent from death; therefore you have been sanctified as a great initiate of God's grace.

Tone 3. *Your confession.* The world found in you a great champion in dangers, O victor, who routs the nations. As then you humbled Lyaio's pride, by giving courage to Nestor in the stadium, so now great Martyr Demetrios, implore Christ God to grant us his great mercy.

Tone 3. O holy Champion and Healer, Panteleimon, intercede with the merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

Tone 8. Holy Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, visit our weaknesses; freely you received, freely give to us.

Tone 2. Who will recount your mighty works, O virgin man? For you pour out wonders, are a fount of healing, and you intercede on behalf of our souls, as Theologian and friend of Christ.

Tone 2. Fervent intercession and unshakeable Wall, fount of mercy, refuge of the world, earnestly we cry to you: Mother of God, Sovereign Lady, hasten and deliver us from dangers, who alone are prompt to protect.

FIRST READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Priest: Let us attend! Peace to all!

Deacon: And to your spirit!

Priest: Wisdom!

Deacon: The prokeimenon in the first Tone. [Psalm 32] Let your mercy, O Lord, come to be upon us, just as we hoped in you.

Reader: Let your mercy, O Lord, come to be upon us, just as we hoped in you.

Deacon: Rejoice, O righteous ones, in the Lord, to the upright is due praise.

Reader: Let your mercy, O Lord, come to be upon us, just as we hoped in you.

Deacon: Let your mercy, O Lord, come to be upon us,

Reader: just as we hoped in you.

Priest: Wisdom!

Deacon: The Reading is from the general Epistle of Jacob. [5:10-16]

Priest: Let us attend!

Deacon: Brethren, as an example of suffering and patience take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your 'Yes' be yes and your 'No' be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

Priest: Peace to you [who have read].

Deacon: And to your spirit. In the eighth tone Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Reader: Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Deacon: Mercy and judgment I will sing to you, Lord; I will chant and I will understand in a blameless way.

Reader: Allilua. Allilua. Allilua.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [10:25-37]

Priest: At that time a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.' And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.' But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend'. Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

And the Priest says this Prayer:

O God without beginning, without end, Holy of Holies, who sent forth your only-begotten Son who heals every illness and every weakness of our souls and bodies, send down your Holy Spirit and sanctify this oil and cause it to be to these your anointed servants for complete deliverance from their sins, for inheritance of the kingdom of heaven.

For you are God, great and wonderful, who keep your testament and your mercy to the ones who love you, who through your holy child Jesus Christ give deliverance from sins, who have re-begotten us from sin, who enlighten the blind and set upright the ones cast down, who love the righteous and are merciful to sinners, who have renewed us out of darkness and shadow of death, saying to the ones in chains “Come forth,” and to the ones in darkness “Reveal yourselves.” For the light of the knowledge of your Only-begotten Son shone in our hearts, since for us he appeared on earth and lived among men, and to as many as received him he gave authority to become your children, O God, granting us sonship through the washing of rebirth and making us un-partakers of the oppression of the devil. For he was not well-pleased in the cleansing by blood, but he gave us in holy oil the type of his Cross so that, having purified us by water and sanctified us by the holy Spirit, we become Christ’s flock, a royal house, a priesthood, a holy nation.

Yourself, O Master and Lord, give grace toward this your service as you gave to Moses your servant and Samuel your beloved, to John your chosen one and to all who in every generation have been well-pleasing to you. So also make us servants of the new testament of your Son for this oil, which you have obtained for yourself by his precious blood, so that, having taken off worldly desires, we die to sin and live to righteousness, putting on our Lord Jesus Christ through the anointing of sanctification of the oil which is about to be laid on. May this oil, Lord, be an oil of gladness, an oil of sanctification, a royal garment, an unassailable seal, gladness of heart, eternal delight; so that all who are anointed with this oil of rebirth become fearsome to their adversaries and, having neither blemish or wrinkle, shine with the brightness of your saints, and be received into your eternal rest and receive the prize of their calling from above.

For yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O God, our God, and to you we send up glory, together with your only-begotten Son and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

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SECOND READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the second Tone. [Psalm 117] My strength and my hymning – the Lord, and for me he became unto salvation.

Chanter: My strength and my hymning – the Lord, and for me he became unto salvation.

Reader: The Lord chastising chastised me, and did not give me over to death.

Chanter: My strength and my hymning – the Lord, and for me he became unto salvation.

Reader: My strength and my hymning – the Lord

Chanter: and for me he became unto salvation.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the Epistle of Paul to the Romans. [15:1-7]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbour for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, 'The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me'. For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Priest: Peace to you [who have read].

Deacon: And to your spirit. In the fifth tone Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Reader: Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Deacon: Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing to the age, to generation and generation I will declare your truth in my mouth.

Reader: Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [19:1-11]

Priest: At that time Jesus was passing through Jericho. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today'. So he hurried down and welcomed him with joy. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'See, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much'. Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost'.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

And the Priest says this Prayer:

O God, great and most high, who are worshiped by all creation, fount of wisdom, truly inscrutable abyss of goodness and boundless ocean of compassion, yourself, Master who love mankind – God of things eternal and wonderful, whom no one among humans is able to grasp by thought and to look upon – hear us your unworthy servants, and, wherever we bring forth this oil in your great name, send down the healings of your gift and remission of sins, and heal them in the magnitude of your mercy.

Yes, Lord who are easy to be entreated, who alone are merciful and love mankind, who repent of our own evils, who know that the mind of man is set on wicked things from his youth, who do not will the death of the sinner, but rather that he turn and live, who, being God, became man for the salvation of sinners and, for your creature, became a creature. It is you who said: “I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.” It is you who sought the lost sheep; it is you who sought the lost coin and found it. It is you who said, “The one who comes to me I will not, will not cast out.” It is you who did not loathe the harlot who washed your pure feet with her tears. It is you who said, “As many times as you might fall, arise and you will be saved.” It is you who said, “There is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.”

Yourself, compassionate Master, behold from your holy dwelling place on high, overshadowing us the sinners and your unworthy servants with the grace of the holy Spirit at this hour, and tabernacling in these your servants, who acknowledge their own offenses and approach you in faith. And receiving them by your own love for mankind, and forgiving them whatever they have erred in word or deed or thought, cleanse and purify them from every sin. And, being ever present with them, keep them during the remaining time of their life walking in your statutes, so as to be no longer a laughing stock to the devil, that your all-holy name be glorified in them. For yours it is to have mercy and to save us, Christ our God, and to you we send up glory, together with your unoriginate Father and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin. ++++++

THIRD READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the third Tone. [Psalm 26] The Lord – my illumination and my savior, whom will I fear?

Chanter: The Lord – my illumination and my savior, whom will I fear?

Reader: The Lord is the protector of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?

Chanter: The Lord – my illumination and my savior, whom will I fear?

Reader: The Lord – my illumination and my savior,

Chanter: whom will I fear?

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the first Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians. [12:27-13:7]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous, love is not boastful or arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

Priest: Peace to you [who have read].

Deacon: And to your spirit. In the second tone Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia. [Psalm 30]

Reader: Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia.

Deacon: In you, O Lord, I hoped, let me not be put to shame to the age. In your righteousness deliver me and take me away.

Reader: Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [10:1 & 5-8]

Priest: At that time, Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near'. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you have received; freely give'.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

And the Priest says this Prayer:

Master ruler of all, holy King, who chastise and do not put to death, who support the ones who fall and set upright the ones who are cast down, who make right the bodily afflictions of mankind, we implore you, our God, to send your mercy upon this oil and upon those who are anointed from it in your name, so that it may become to them for healing of soul and body, and for the cleansing and driving out of every passion and every illness and sickness and defilement of flesh and spirit.

Yes, O Lord, send forth from heaven your healing power; touch the body, quench the fever, soothe the suffering, and chase away every lurking infirmity. Be the physician of these your servants. Raise them up from the bed of pain and the couch of distress. Give them to your Church safe and whole, well-pleasing to you and doing your will.

For yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O God, our God, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

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FOURTH READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the fourth Tone. [Psalm 101] On whichever day I will call upon you, quickly hear me.

Chanter: On whichever day I will call upon you, quickly hear me.

Reader: Lord, hear my prayer and let my cry come to you.

Chanter: On whichever day I will call upon you, quickly hear me.

Reader: On whichever day I will call upon you,

Chanter: quickly hear me.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the second Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians. [6:16-7:1]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, 'I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be your father, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty'. Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of flesh and spirit, making holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Priest: Peace to you [who have read].

Deacon: And to your spirit. In the second tone Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia. [Psalm 39]

Reader: Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia.

Deacon: Awaiting I awaited the Lord with endurance, and he attended to me, and heard my supplication. And he brought me up out of a pit of wretchedness, and from mud of dirt.

Reader: Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [8:14-23]

Priest: At that time, when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him. That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick. This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet Isaias 'He took our infirmities and bore our diseases'. Now when Jesus saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. A scribe then approached and said, 'Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go'. And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head'. Another of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father'. But Jesus said to him, 'Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead'. And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

And the Priest says this Prayer:

O Lord, who are good and love mankind, compassionate and most merciful, who are great in mercy and rich in loving kindness, Father of mercies and God of every consolation, who have enabled us through your holy apostles to heal the infirmities of the people by oil with prayer, yourself also enjoin this oil for healing for those anointed from it, for the expelling of every illness and every sickness, for deliverance from evils of those who await the salvation which comes from you.

Yes, Master, Lord our God, we pray you, O all powerful, to save us all. Only physician of souls and bodies, sanctify us all. You who heal every illness, heal your servants also; raise them from their bed of pain through the mercy of your goodness; watch over them with your mercy and acts of pity. Drive from them every ailment and infirmity, so that, having risen by your mighty hand, they may serve you with all thanksgiving, in order that now we also, who share in your unutterable love for mankind, may hymn and glorify you who do great and wondrous things, glorious and extraordinary.

For yours it is to have mercy and to save us, O God, our God, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

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FIFTH READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the fifth Tone. [Psalm 11] Yourself, O Lord, keep us and preserve us.

Chanter: Yourself, O Lord, keep us and preserve us.

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for a venerable one is fading away.

Chanter: Yourself, O Lord, keep us and preserve us.

Reader: Yourself, O Lord, keep us

Chanter: and preserve us.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the second Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians. [1:8-11]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, we do not want you to be ignorant of the affliction we experienced in Asia; for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. Why, we felt that we had received the sentence of death; but that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead; he delivered us from so deadly a peril, and he will deliver us; on him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us in answer to many prayers.

Priest: Peace to you [who have read].

Deacon: And to your spirit. In the fifth tone Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia. [Psalm 40]

Reader: Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Deacon: Happy the one who understands the poor and the needy, on an evil day the Lord will deliver him. The Lord keep him and give him life.

Reader: Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [25:1-14]

Priest: The Lord spoke this parable: The kingdom of heaven shall be compared to ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him'. Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out'. But the wise replied, 'Perhaps there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves'. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast; and the door was shut. Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us'. But he replied, 'Truly, I tell you, I do not know you'. Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

And the Priest says this Prayer:

Lord our God, who chastise and heal again, who raise the poor from the earth and lift up the needy from the dung heap, Father of the orphans and haven of the bestormented and physician of the sick, who bear our infirmities without pain and take our illnesses, who are merciful in gentleness, who pass over transgressions and take away lawlessness, who are swift to help and slow to anger, who breathed on your own disciples and said, "Take the Holy Spirit, if you remit the sins of any, they are remitted to them;" who accept the repentance of sinners and have authority to pardon many and grievous sins, and who grant healing to all who live in infirmity and long sickness; who have also called me – your lowly and sinful and unworthy servant who am entangled in many sins and wallow in the passions of pleasures – to the holy and most great rank of the priesthood, and to enter within the innermost veil, into the Holy of holies, where the holy angels desire to stoop and peer in and hear the gospel voice of the Lord God, and to gaze with my own eyes at the Face of the holy oblation, and to delight in the divine and sacred liturgy; who have counted me worthy to minister your heavenly mysteries and to offer you gifts and sacrifices for our sins and for the unknowing errors of the people, and to mediate on behalf of your rational sheep, so that through your great and unutterable love for mankind you would wipe away their offenses.

Yourself, King beyond goodness, give ear to my prayer at this hour and on this holy day, and at every hour and in every place, and attend to the voice of my supplication; and give healing to these your servants who are in infirmity of soul and body, granting them remission of sins and forgiveness of offenses both voluntary and involuntary, healing their incurable wounds and every illness and every sickness. Give them healing of soul, you who touched Peter's mother-in-law and the fever left her and she arose and served you. Yourself, Master, grant also to these your servants healing and soothing of every wasting pain, and remember your rich compassions and your mercy. Remember that the mind of man is set on wicked things from his youth and that no one is found sinless on earth. For you alone are without sin, who came and saved the human race and freed us from the slavery of the enemy; for if you enter into judgment with your servants, no one will be found pure of stain, but every mouth will be shut, having nothing with which to make defense, for before you all our righteousness is like the rag of a woman who sits apart. Therefore do not remember the sin of our youth, O Lord.

For you are the hope of the hopeless and the rest of the ones who toil and are heavy laden with iniquities, and to you we send up glory, together with your unoriginate Father and your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

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SIXTH READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the sixth Tone. [Psalm 50] Have mercy on me, O God, according to your great mercy, and according to the fullness of your compassions blot out my transgression.

Chanter: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your great mercy, and according to the fullness of your compassions blot out my transgression.

Reader: Create a clean heart within me, O God, and renew an upright spirit within me.

Chanter: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your great mercy, and according to the fullness of your compassions blot out my transgression.

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your great mercy,

Chanter: and according to the fullness of your compassions blot out my transgression.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of Paul to the Galatians. [5:22-6:2]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if any one is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore them in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Priest: Peace to you [who have read].

Deacon: And to your spirit. In the sixth tone Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia. [Psalm 111]

Reader: Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Deacon: Happy the man who fears the Lord, who will greatly will in his commandments.

Reader: Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [15:14-29]

Priest: At that time, Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, 'Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon'. But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she is crying after us'. He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel'. But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me'. And he answered, 'It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs'. She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table'. Then Jesus answered her, 'O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire'. And her daughter was healed instantly.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

And the Priest says this Prayer:

We thank you, Lord our God, who are good and love mankind and are the physician of our souls and bodies, who bear our illnesses without pain, by whose bruises we have been healed; good shepherd who came to seek the sheep which had gone astray, who give comfort to the faint-hearted and life to the crushed, who healed the flow of the woman with an issue of blood for twelve years, who healed the daughter of the Canaanite woman of the cruel demon, who forgave the two debtors their debt and gave forgiveness to the sinful woman, who granted healing to the paralyzed man together with the forgiveness of his sins, who made the Publican righteous by a word and received the thief on the cross in his final confession, who lifted up the sins of the world and nailed them to the Cross. We pray you and implore you: In your goodness, forgive, remit, pardon, O God, the iniquities and sins of these your servants, their offenses both voluntary and involuntary, in knowledge and in ignorance, by transgression and disobedience, by night and by day; or, if they have come under the curse of a Priest or of father or mother; or if they have feasted their eyes, indulged their sense of smell, been seduced by touch or fornicated by taste, or by whatever movement of flesh and spirit have become estranged from your will and from your holiness. Forgive whatever they or we have sinned, as a good God who does not remember evil and loves mankind, and do not let them or us fall into an unclean life or run off onto destructive paths.

Yes, Master and Lord, hear me the sinner at this hour on behalf of your servants. As a God who does not remember evil, look past all their offenses, free them from eternal punishment, fill their mouth with your praise, open their lips to glorify your name, stretch out their hands to the working of your commandments, direct their feet to the course of your Gospel, unshackling all their members and their thoughts by your grace.

For you are our God, who commanded us by your holy apostles, saying, "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosened in heaven." And again, "If you remit the sins of any they are remitted to them; if you hold the sins of any they are held." And as you listened to Ezechías in the affliction of his soul at the hour of his death and did not disregard his petition, so also listen to me, your lowly and sinful and unworthy servant at this hour as I entreat you.

For you, Lord Jesus Christ, are the one who, in your goodness and love for mankind, commanded to forgive the ones who fall seventy times seven, and who repent of our own evils and rejoice at the turning back of those who have gone astray.

For as is your majesty so is your mercy, and to you we send up glory, together with your unoriginate Father and your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

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SEVENTH READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the eighth Tone. [Psalm 68] Do not turn your face away from your child, for I am afflicted.

Chanter: Do not turn your face away from your child, for I am afflicted.

Reader: Poor and in pain I am; your Salvation, O God, took hold of me.

Chanter: Do not turn your face away from your child, for I am afflicted.

Reader: Do not turn your face away from your child,

Chanter: for I am afflicted.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the first Epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians. [5:14-24]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, we exhort you, admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophesying, but test everything; hold fast what is good, abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Priest: Peace to you [who have read].

Deacon: And to your spirit. In the sixth tone Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia. [Psalm 19]

Reader: Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia.

Deacon: The Lord hear you in the day of affliction; the name of the God of Jacob shield you.

Reader: Allilulia. Allilulia. Allilulia.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom! Upright, let us hear the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace to all.

Reader: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [9:9-13]

Priest: At that time, as Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me'. And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice'. For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

Reader: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Deacon/Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, care, and the pardon and remission of the sins of the servants of God the people standing here, and that they be forgiven every offense, both voluntary and involuntary.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Priest: For you are a merciful God and love mankind, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

And the Priest says this Prayer:

Master, Lord our God, physician of souls and bodies, who cure prolonged sufferings and heal every illness and sickness among the people, who will that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth, who do not desire the death of the sinner, but rather that he turn and live. For it was you, Lord, who in the old testament established repentance for the sinners, for David and the Ninevites and for the ones before and for the ones after them. But also during the course of your economy in the flesh you did not call the righteous, but the sinners to repentance, such as the publican, the harlot, and the thief, such as the blasphemer and persecutor the great Paul whom you received through repentance. Peter, the leader and your apostle, who had denied you three times, you received through repentance, and took him to yourself and promised him saying, "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven."

Therefore, O good one who love mankind, we also, being bold in accordance with your faithful promises, pray and implore you at this hour: Hear our supplication and receive it like incense offered to you, and watch over these your servants. And if they have transgressed in word or deed or thought, by night or by day, or if they have come under the curse of a Priest, or fallen under their own ban, or been embittered by a curse and have forsworn themselves, we implore you and ask you: Loose, remit, forgive them, O God, overlooking their iniquities and their sins and those committed by them in knowledge and in ignorance. And if they have sidestepped your commandments, or transgressed as people bearing flesh and living in the world, or through the work of the devil, yourself, as a good God who love mankind, forgive, for there is no human who lives and does not sin, for you alone are without sin, your righteousness is righteousness to the age, and your word is truth. Because you did not fashion the human being for destruction, but for the observance of your commandments and inheritance of incorruptible life.

And to you we send up glory, together with your unoriginate Father and your all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. **Reader:** Amin.

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Then the Priests, lifting up the holy Gospel and turning toward the west, place it on the heads of the ones who make the unction and

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

First Priest: Holy King, compassionate and most merciful, Lord Jesus Christ, Son and Word of the living God, who do not desire the death of the sinner, but rather that he turn and live, I do not place my sinful hand on the head of these who have come forth to you in sins and who ask from you through us remission of sins, but yourself stretch out your ruling and powerful hand which is in this holy Gospel, that my co-liturgizers (or I) hold upon the heads of these your servants. And (with them) I ask and implore your co-suffering love for mankind which does not remember evil. O God our Savior, who through your prophet Nathan granted to the repentful David remission of his sins, and received Manassée's prayer of repentance, yourself also, in your customary love for mankind, accept these your servants who repent over their own offenses, overlooking all their transgressions. **The ekphonisis:**

For you are our God who commanded us to forgive seventy times seven those who fall into sins, because as is your majesty, so is your mercy, and to you is due all glory, honor and worship, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

And the Priests coming and forming a circle before the lamp, the first of them says this prayer.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy.

First Priest: Holy Father, physician of our souls and bodies, who sent your Only-begotten Son, the Lord and our God Jesus Christ, who heals every infirmity and delivers from death, by the grace of your Christ heal also these your servants from the ills of body and soul which hold them, and, as it is well-pleasing to you, give them life, who in well-doing fulfill the thanksgiving due to you.

Through the intercessions of our all-holy Lady Birthgiver of God and ever-virgin Mary, by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, through the protections of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven, of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John, of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles, of the holy, glorious, and right-victorious martyrs, of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, of the holy and healing unmercenary saints Cosmás and Damian, Kýrus and John, Panteleïmon and Ermólaos, Samson and Diomédes, Mókios and Aníketos, Thallélaios and Trýphon, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Ioakeim and Ana, and of all the saints.

The ekphonisis:

For you are the fountain of healings, O God, our God, and to you we send up glory, together with your Only-begotten Son and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

Reader: Amin.

After these, each Priest taking a brush and coming in front of the holy Gospel, makes above it three times the sign of the cross with the brush and, kissing it, anoints the other Priests and is anointed by them, saying at each anointing:

The servant of God (**name**) is anointed to the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, for the healing of soul and body.

Then they anoint the people in the form of the cross on the face (forehead, cheeks, and chin) and the palms. And while the Priests anoint the people, are sung the following troparia or the canon of the unction or the troparion at the Great Lent Lord, the woman fallen into many sins.

Idiomel. Tone 4:

Holy unmercenaries, who possess a fount of healings, as you have been counted worthy of the greatest gifts from the eternal fount, our Savior, grant healings to all who ask. For the Lord says to you, as equal in zeal to the apostles: See, I have given you authority against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every illness and every sickness. And so, as you lived well by his commandments, freely you received, freely give, healing the passions and sufferings of our souls and bodies.

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

Amin. Theotokion.

Attend to the entreaties of your suppliants, O All-blameless, putting an end to the assaults of dire evils upon us and freeing us from every affliction. For we have you as our only safe and sure anchor, and we have gained your protection. May we who call upon you, sovereign Lady, not be put to shame. Hasten to the entreaty of those who cry out to you with faith: Rejoice, sovereign Lady, the help, joy and protection of all, and the salvation of our souls.

And then the dismissal thus:

Priest: Glory to you, Christ God, our hope, glory to you!

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. **Amin.** Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Holy father, bless.

Priest: Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-pure and all-blameless holy Mother; by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross, by the supplications of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Ioakeim and Ana, of the holy, glorious and all-venerable apostle Jacob, the brother of God, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, as one who is good and loves mankind.

Reader: **Amin.**

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

Reader: **Amin.**

Translation taken from Euchologion (Cherubim Press, forthcoming), The Orthodox Psalter (Cherubim Press) and Archimandrite Ephrem Lash with some modifications.