

HOLY AND GREAT FRIDAY

SERVICE OF THE ROYAL HOURS

FIRST HOUR

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

Reader: Amen.

Priest: 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.

Reader: 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. Amen.

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. Amen.

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

Priest: For 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: Amen.

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 5

To completion, over her who inherits, a psalm to David.

Give ear to my words, O Lord, understand my cry.

² Attend to the voice of my supplication, my king and my God.

³ For I will pray to you, O God; in the morning you will hear my voice.

⁴In the morning I will stand in your presence and you will watch over me, for you are not a God who wills lawlessness.

⁵The evil-doer will not dwell beside you, nor will the lawless endure in front of your eyes.

⁶You have hated all who work lawlessness, you will destroy all those who speak lie.

⁷The Lord loathes a man of blood and deceitful.

⁸But I, in the magnitude of your mercy, will enter your house, I will worship toward your holy temple in fear of you.

⁹Lord, lead me in your righteousness. On account of my enemies, make straight my way before you.

¹⁰For in their mouth there is not truth, their heart is empty.

¹¹An open tomb their throat, with their tongues they deceived. Judge them, O God.

¹²Let them fall by their plans. According to the magnitude of their impieties cast them out, for they have embittered you, O Lord.

¹³And may all who hope in you be gladdened; they will rejoice to the age, and you will tabernacle within them.

¹⁴And all who love your name will boast in you, for you will bless a righteous one.

¹⁵Lord, you crowned us as with a shield of good-will.

Psalm 2

A psalm to David.

What for did nations rage, and were peoples thoughtful of empty things?

²The kings of the earth stood side by side, and the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against his christ.

³Let us break asunder their shackles, and cast away their yoke from us.

⁴The one who dwells in the heavens will laugh out at them, and the Lord will scorn them.

⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and in his anger will confound them.

⁶But it is I who have established king by him, over Sion his holy mountain, proclaiming the precept of the Lord.

⁷The Lord said to me, You are my son, today I have begotten you.

⁸Ask of me and I will give you nations as your inheritance, and as your possession the ends of the earth.

⁹You will shepherd them with an iron staff, like a potter's vessels you will shatter them.

¹⁰And now, O kings, understand. Be chastised, all you who judge the earth.

¹¹Serve the Lord in fear, and rejoice in him with trembling.

¹²Grasp chastisement, lest the Lord be wrathful and you will perish from the righteous way.

¹³When his anger blazes out swiftly, happy are all who trust in him.

Psalm 21

To completion, over the upholding at dawn. A psalm to David.

O God, my God, attend to me. What for have you forsaken me? The words of my faults are far from my salvation.

²My God, I will cry out during the day, and you will not hear; and at night, and it will not be unto folly for me.

³ And as for you, you dwell in the holy place, the praise of Israel; our fathers hoped in you, they hoped, and you delivered them.

⁴ They cried out to you and were saved, they hoped in you and were not put to shame.

⁵ As for me, I am a worm and no human, blame of men and contempt of the people.

⁶ All who see me mock me, talk with the lips, shake their head.

⁷ He hoped in the Lord, let him deliver him. Let him save him, for he wills him.

⁸ For you are the one who drew me out of stomach, my hope from my mother's breasts.

⁹ I threw myself upon you from womb, you are my God from my mother's stomach.

¹⁰ Do not depart from me, for affliction is near, for there is not one to help me.

¹¹ Many calves encircled me, fat bulls surrounded me.

¹² Their mouth opened upon me like a plundering and roaring lion.

¹³ I poured out like water, and all my bones fell apart.

¹⁴ My heart became like wax melting within my belly.

¹⁵ My strength dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue stuck to my throat, and you brought me down to the dust of death.

¹⁶ For many dogs encircled me, an assembly of evil-doers surrounded me.

¹⁷ They gouged my hands and my feet, they counted all my bones, and they pondered and stared at me.

¹⁸ They divided my clothes among them, and cast lots for my raiment.

¹⁹ As for you, O Lord, do not take your help far off from me, attend to my upholding.

²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword, and my only-begotten from the hand of the dog.

²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion, and my lowliness from the horns of the unicorns.

²² I will tell your name to my brothers, I will hymn you in the midst of the church.

²³ The ones who fear the Lord, praise Him. The entire seed of Jacob, glorify him. So then the entire seed of Israel, fear him.

²⁴ For he has not despised, nor has been angry with the supplication of the poor, nor has he turned his face away from me, and he heard me when I cried out to him.

²⁵ My praise is from you, in a great church I will confess to you. I will repay my vows before the ones who fear you.

²⁶ The needy will eat and will be filled, and the ones who seek him will praise the Lord, their hearts will live to age of age.

²⁷ All the ends of the earth will remember and will turn to the Lord.

²⁸ All the families of the nations will worship before him. For the Lord's is the kingdom, and himself has dominion over the nations.

²⁹ All the fat ones of the earth ate and worshiped, all who go down into the earth will fall down before him.

³⁰ And my soul lives for him, and my seed will serve him.

³¹ The coming generation will be proclaimed to the Lord, and they will proclaim his righteousness to the people to be born, whom the Lord has made.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God! (x3)

Lord have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **Tone 1**

When you were crucified, O Christ, the tyranny of the enemy was destroyed, his power trampled underfoot; for it was not an Angel, not a human, but you, the Lord himself, who saved us. Glory to you!

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Theotokion.*

What shall we call you, O Full of grace? Heaven? For you made the Sun of righteousness to dawn. Paradise? For you made the flower of incorruption blossom. Virgin? For you remained incorrupt. Pure Mother? For you held in your holy embrace a Son who is the God of all. Implore Him that our souls may be saved.

*And we sing at once the following idiomels in **Tone 8**:*

Today the veil of the Temple is rent, as a reproof against the transgressors; and the sun hides its own rays, as it sees the Master crucified. (*Twice, without a verse*)

Verse: What for did nations rage, and were peoples thoughtful of empty things? (*Psalms 2:1*)

You were led like a sheep to the slaughter, Christ King, and as an innocent lamb you were nailed to the Cross by lawless men for our sins, O Lover of mankind.

Verse: The kings of the earth stood side by side, and the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against his christ. (*Psalms 2:2*)

You were led like a sheep to the slaughter, Christ King, and as an innocent lamb you were nailed to the Cross by lawless men for our sins, O Lover of mankind.

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

Allowing the lawless to arrest you, Lord, you cried out, 'Though you strike the shepherd and scatter the twelve sheep, my disciples, I could call to my side more than twelve legions of Angels; but I forbear, that the hidden and secret things, which I revealed to you through my Prophets, may be fulfilled.' Lord, glory to you!

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

Allowing the lawless to arrest you, Lord, you cried out, 'Though you strike the shepherd and scatter the twelve sheep, my disciples, I could call to my side more than twelve legions of Angels; but I forbear, that the hidden and secret things, which I revealed to you through my Prophets, may be fulfilled.' Lord, glory to you!

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the 4th Tone. (*Psalms 40:6-7*) He gathered lawlessness to himself; / he went out and spoke together.

People: He gathered lawlessness to himself; / he went out and spoke together.

Reader: Happy the one who understand the poor and the needy, on an evil day the Lord will deliver him. (*Psalms 40:1*)

People: He gathered lawlessness to himself; / he went out and spoke together.

Reader: He gathered lawlessness to himself;

People: he went out and spoke together.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Prophecy of Zacharias [11:10-13]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Thus says the Lord: I shall take my beautiful staff and I shall throw it away, to annul my covenant that I had made with all the peoples. And it shall be annulled on that day, and the Chananites, the sheep that will be guarded for me, will know that it is the word of the Lord. And I shall say to them, 'If it seems right to you, weigh out and give me my wages; but if not, keep them.' So they weighed out as my wages thirty pieces of silver. Then the Lord said to me, 'Cast it into the furnace, and see if it is proved metal, in the same way that I was proved by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the furnace into the house of the Lord, as the Lord had commanded me.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the epistle of the apostle Paul to the Galatians. [6:14-18]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, may I never boast of anything except the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule - peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

After the reading from the Apostle:

Deacon/Priest: And that we be accounted worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us implore the Lord our God.

Reader: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

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! [27:1-56]

Priest: At that time, when morning had come, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. And having bound him, they led him away and handed him over to Pontius Pilate the governor. Judas, seeing that Jesus had been condemned, repented and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, 'I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.' But they said, 'What is that to us? See to it yourself.' And flinging down the pieces of silver in the temple he went away and hanged himself. But the chief priests picked up the pieces of silver and said, 'It is not permitted to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood.' So they conferred together and bought with them the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners. And so that field has been called *Field of Blood* until today. Then what had been said by the prophet Jeremy was fulfilled, when he said, And the took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one who was prized, whom they prized from the children of Israel, and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord had commanded me. But Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor questioned him saying, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus said to him, 'You say so.' And when he was accused by the chief priests and elders he made no answer. Then Pilate says to him, 'Do you not hear how many things they are testifying against you?' But he did not answer him with a single word, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now on the occasion of the feast the governor was accustomed to release to the crowd one prisoner whom they wished. They had at the time a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had assembled Pilate said to them, 'Whom do wish me to release to you? Barabbas or Jesus called Christ?' For he knew that they had handed him over through envy. But while he was seated on the tribunal, his wife sent to him saying, 'Have nothing to do with that just man. For I have suffered many things today in a dream because of him.' But the chief priests and elders had persuaded the crowds that they should ask for Barabbas. Pilate says to them, 'So what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?' They say to him, 'Let him be crucified!' The governor said, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted even louder, saying, 'Let him be crucified!' So Pilate, seeing that he was getting nowhere, but that a riot was starting instead, took water and washed his hands in full view of the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of the blood of this just man. You look to it.' And the whole people answered and said, 'His blood be on us and on our children.' Then he released Barabbas to them, but Jesus he had scourged and handed him over to be crucified. Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the praetorium and gathered the whole cohort round him. They stripped him and dressed him in a scarlet cloak, and having woven a crown of thorns, they placed it on his head and a reed in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!'

They spat on him and took the reed and struck it on his head. And when they had mocked him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. As they went out they found a Cyrenian named Simon; they forced him to carry his cross. At that time, when the soldiers had reached a place called Golgotha, which means place of a Skull, they gave him vinegar to drink mixed with gall. And when he had tasted it he would not drink. But when they had crucified him they divided up his garments, casting lots. And they sat there and watched him. And they placed over his head his written accusation: This is Jesus the king of the Jews. Then they crucified with him two thieves, one on his right and one on his left. While the passers-by blasphemed him, wagging their heads and saying, 'You who destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days! Save yourself. If you are Son of God, come down from the cross.' Likewise the chief priests mocked him along with the scribes and elders and Pharisees, saying, 'He saved others. He cannot save himself. If he is the king of Israel, let him now come down from the cross and we will believe in him. He trusted in God, let him now deliver him, if he wants him. For he said, 'I am the son of God.' And the thieves who were crucified with him reviled him in the same way. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. But around the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli, Eli, lama savachthani?' That is, 'My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?' Some of those who stood there when they heard this said, 'This one is calling on Elias.' And immediately one of them ran and taking a sponge filled it with vinegar and putting it on a reed gave him to drink. But the rest said, 'Stop, let us see if Elias is coming to help him,' But Jesus, having once more cried out with a loud voice, gave up the spirit. And behold, the veil of the Temple was rent in two, from the top to the bottom, and the earth was shaken and the rocks were rent, and the graves were opened, and many bodies of the saints that slept were raised, and coming out of their graves after his rising they entered the Holy City and appeared to many. But the centurion and those with him, when they saw the earthquake and all that happened, were greatly afraid and said, 'Truly this was a son of God.' And there were many women there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him. Among them were Mary Magdalen and Mary the mother of Jacob and Joses, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee. (End)

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

At once the Reader says:

Make straight my steps according to your saying, and let not any lawlessness lord over me. Redeem me from the accusation of men, and I will keep your commandments. Show your Face upon your servant, and teach me your precepts. (*Psalms 118:133-135*) Let my mouth be full of praise, so that I hymn your glory, all day your majesty. (*Psalms 70:8*)

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. Amen.

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. (*thrice*)

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

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

Kontakion.

Come, let us all sing the praise of him who was crucified for us; for Mary looked upon him on the Tree and said: 'Though you endure the Cross, yet you are my Son and my God'.

Then: Lord, have mercy. (x40)

At every time and at every hour, in heaven and on earth worshipped and glorified, Christ God, long-suffering, great in mercy, great in compassion, loving the just and merciful to sinners, calling all to salvation by the promise of the blessings to come; do you, Lord, yourself accept our entreaties at this hour, and direct our lives to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our ideas and deliver us from every distress, evil, and pain. Wall us about with your holy Angels, that protected and guided by their host we may reach the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your unapproachable glory; for you are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.

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. Amen.

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! In the name of the Lord, bless, Father.

Priest: God have pity on us and bless us, show his Face to us and have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

And the Superior says the following prayer:

Christ, the true light, coming into the world, who enlighten and sanctify everyone, the light of your Face be signed upon us, that in it we see the unapproachable light of your Glory; and direct our steps to the doing of your commandments; at the intercessions of your all-most pure Mother and of all your Saints. Amen.

Reader: To you, defender leader, O Birthgiver of God, I your city, delivered from dread, ascribe this thankful feast of victory. But as one who has invincible dominion, Free me from all dangers, so that I cry to you: "Rejoice, O Bride unwedded!"

We read CATECHESIS 73

On the Saving Passion of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ

by our Venerable Father Theodore the Studite.

Brethren and Fathers, while the sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ when they are recalled are always able to pierce the soul, they do so especially in these present days, on which each of them reached its end. What then are they? The murderous council against him, the arrest, his being led away to death, his arraignment before Pilate's tribunal, the interrogation, the scourging, the blows, the spittings, the insults, the mockeries, the ascent of the Cross, the nailing of his hands and feet, the tasting of gall, the piercing of his side and all the other things which blazed forth with them, which the world cannot contain, nor can anyone worthily proclaim, not human tongue, nor even all the tongues of angels together. For let us consider, brethren, this great and ineffable mystery. The Lord *who reveals the counsels of hearts* and knows every human desire is the one who is taken before a council of death; the Lord *who bears all things by the word of his power* is the one who is handed over to sinners; the Lord *who binds the water in the clouds* and sows in the earth in due season and uniformly is the one who is led away prisoner; the Lord *who measures the heavens with the span of his hand and the earth in a handful and weighed all the mountains in the balance* is the one who is struck by the hand of a servant; the Lord who adorned the boundaries of the earth with flowers is the one who is dishonourably crowned with thorns; the Lord who planted the tree of life in Paradise is the one who is hanged upon an accursed tree. O great and more than natural sights! The sun saw them and faded, the moon saw them and was darkened, the earth perceived them was shaken, the rocks perceived them and were rent, all creation was turned back at the outrages done to the Master. The lifeless elements which have no senses, as if endowed with life and sensation from fear of the Lord and from the spectacle of what is seen, were amazed and altered; and do we, who have been honoured with reason, for whose sake Christ died, remain untouched and unweeping in these days? How could we be less rational than things which have no reason, more unfeeling than the stones? In no way, my brothers, in no way. Let us rather be amazed in a manner worthy of God, by being changed with a fair change; let us draw down tears, sacrifice the passions, changing insults for insults and exchanging wounds for wounds, the one through obedience, the other through unflinching confession. Do we not see the burning incitements of divine love? Who ever dwelt in prison for a friend? Who accepted slaughter for their beloved? But our good God not only did the one and both of them, but accepted ten thousand sufferings for the sake of us, the condemned. Fittingly then the blessed Apostle, when he thought on these things and became powerfully aware of the love of God, said *For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rules nor powers, neither present nor future, neither height nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.* For such was the love God had for us *that he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him might not perish, as it is written, but have eternal life.* As an exchange for this love, the saints, when they had nothing to offer,

offered their own bodies and blood by asceticism and struggle, singing with blessed David the song: *What return may we make to the Lord for all that he has given to us?* Let us also, brethren, cry out these words each day, as we serve him with an unceasing attitude of love, striving again and again for what is better, so that we may become heirs with the saints of the eternal blessings in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory and might with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages.

THIRD HOUR

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 34

To David.

Make righteousness, O Lord, to the ones who do me unrighteousness, war the ones who war me.

² Take hold of armor and shield, and be risen to my help.

³ Pour out a sword and close up in front of the ones who pursue me closely, say to my soul, I am your salvation.

⁴ Let them be ashamed and embarrassed who seek my soul, let them be turned back and be put to shame who think me bad things.

⁵ Let them become like dust in the face of the wind, and an angel of the Lord afflicting them.

⁶ Let their way become darkness and slipperiness, and an angel of the Lord pursuing them closely.

⁷ For they for nothing hid from me the ruin of their snare, in vain they reproached my soul.

⁸ Let come to him a snare which he does not know, and let the hunting which he hid catch him, and in the snare he will fall in it.

⁹ But my soul will rejoice in the Lord, will be delighted in its salvation.

¹⁰ All my bones will say, Lord Lord, who is like you? Delivering a poor from the hand of the ones harder than him, and a poor and needy from the ones plundering him.

¹¹ Unrighteous witnesses rising up for me, the things I did not know they asked me.

¹² They repaid me evil things for good, and to my soul childlessness.

¹³ But I, when they caused me trouble, I put on sackcloth, and humbled my soul in fasting, and my prayer will return into my bosom.

¹⁴ As to a neighbor, as to a brother of ours, so I was well-pleasing to them; as one grieving and glooming, so I humbled myself.

¹⁵ And against me they were gladdened and gathered together, whips gathered together upon me, and I did not know.

¹⁶ They parted and were not pierced, they tested me, they mocked me with mocking, they gnashed their teeth upon me.

¹⁷ Lord, when will you see? Restore my soul from their evil-working, my only-begotten from lions.

- ¹⁸ I will confess to you in a great church, within a hard people I will praise you.
- ¹⁹ Let them not be joyful who are at enmity with me unrighteously, who hate me for nothing and wink with their eyes.
- ²⁰ For to me they spoke peaceful things, and in wrath they thought deceits.
- ²¹ And they enlarged their mouth upon me, said, Good, good, our eyes saw.
- ²² You saw, O Lord, do not keep silent. Lord, do not keep away from me.
- ²³ Be awakened, O Lord, and attend to my judgment, my God and my Lord, unto my ruling.
- ²⁴ Judge me, O Lord, according to your righteousness, Lord my God, and let them not be joyful about me.
- ²⁵ May they not say in their hearts, Good, good for our soul. Nor may they say, We swallowed him up.
- ²⁶ May they be put to shame and embarrassed at once who are joyful at my bad things, let them be clothed in shame and embarrassment who speak boastfully over me.
- ²⁷ Let them rejoice and be gladdened who will my righteousness, and let them say always, The Lord be magnified, who will the peace of his servant.
- ²⁸ And my tongue will be thoughtful of your righteousness, of your praise all the day.

Psalm 108

To completion. A psalm to David.

O God, my praise do not keep silent, for the mouth of a sinner and the mouth of a deceiver was opened upon me.

² It spoke against me with a deceitful tongue, and in words of hatred encircled me, and warred me for nothing.

³ For my loving they accused me, but I, I prayed.

⁴ And they set against me bad things for my good things, and hatred for my love.

⁵ Set down a sinner upon him, and let a devil stand at his right.

⁶ When he will be judged, let him come out condemned, and let his prayer turn into sin.

⁷ Let his days become few, and his care let another take.

⁸ Let his sons become orphans, and his woman a widow.

⁹ Staggering, let his sons wander around and beg, be thrown out from their homes.

¹⁰ Let the money-lender search out all that are sustenance to him, and strangers plunder his toils.

¹¹ Let there not be to him one to take hold of him, nor to become pitying for his orphans.

¹² Let his children come to be in utter destruction, in one generation his name be blotted out.

¹³ Let the lawlessness of his fathers be remembered before the Lord, and the sin of his mother not be blotted out.

¹⁴ Let them come to be before the Lord always, and their remembrance be destroyed utterly from the earth.

¹⁵ For he did not remember to make mercy, and pursued closely a man needy and poor and pierced in heart, to put to death.

¹⁶ And he loved a curse, and it will come to him. And did not will a blessing, and it will be taken far off from him.

¹⁷ And he clothed himself with a curse as with a garment, and it entered into his inward parts like water, and like oil in his bones.

¹⁸ Let it be to him like a garment, which is wrapped around, and like a belt with which he is always girded.

¹⁹ This is the work of the ones who accuse me from the Lord, and of the ones who speak evils against my soul.

²⁰ And you, Lord Lord, make with me for your Name's sake, for kind is your mercy.

²¹ Deliver me, for I am poor and needy, and my heart is troubled within me.

²² Like a shadow when it vanishes, I was taken away, I was shaken off like locusts.

²³ My knees became weak from fasting, and my flesh was changed through oil.

²⁴ And I became a reproach to them; they saw me, they shook their heads.

²⁵ Help me, Lord my God, and save me according to your mercy.

²⁶ And let them know that this is your hand, and you, Lord, made it.

²⁷ They will curse, and you will bless; let the ones who rise up upon me be put to shame, but your servant will be gladdened.

²⁸ Let the ones who accuse me be clothed with embarrassment, and let them wrap themselves with their shame like a double-cloak.

²⁹ I will confess to the Lord greatly with my mouth, and in the midst of many I will praise him.

³⁰ For he stood at the right hand of a needy one, to save from the ones who pursue his soul closely.

Psalm 50

To completion, a psalm to David when Nathan the prophet came to him, at the time when he went in to Virsavee, the woman of Ourias.

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

² More thoroughly wash me from my lawlessness, and cleanse me from my sin.

³ For I do know my lawlessness, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ 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.

⁵ For, behold, in iniquities I was conceived, and in sins my mother bore me.

⁶ For, behold, you have loved truth, the unseen and hidden things of your wisdom you have shown me.

⁷ You will sprinkle me with hyssop and I will be cleansed; you will wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow.

⁸ You will make me hear joy and gladness; the humbled bones will rejoice.

⁹ Turn away your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create a clean heart in me, O God, and renew a right Spirit in my inward parts.

¹¹ Do not cast me away from your Face, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Give me back the joy of your salvation, and make me steadfast with a governing Spirit.

¹³ I will teach the lawless your ways, and the impious will turn around to you.

¹⁴ Deliver me from blood, O God, God of my salvation, and my tongue will rejoice in your righteousness.

¹⁵ Lord, you will open my lips, and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

¹⁶ For if you had willed a sacrifice, I would have given it; you will not well-will whole burnt offerings.

¹⁷ A sacrifice to God is a shattered spirit; a shattered and humbled heart God will not despise.

¹⁸ Do good, Lord, to Sion in your good pleasure and the walls of Jerusalem be rebuilt.

¹⁹ Then you will well-will sacrifice of righteousness, offering and whole burnt offerings.

²⁰ Then they will offer calves upon your altar.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God! (x3)

Lord have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **Tone 6**

Lord, the Jews condemned you, the life of all, to death; those who by a staff crossed the Red Sea on foot nailed you to a cross, and those who sucked honey from a rock offered you gall. But you endured willingly, that you might free us from the slavery of the foe. Christ God, glory to you!

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Theotokion.*

Mother of God, you are the true vine, who gave bud to the fruit of life; we implore you, Sovereign Lady, intercede together with the Apostles and all the Saints that you have mercy on our souls.

After which we sing the following Idiomels in Tone 8:

Through fear of the Jews Peter, your friend and neighbour, denied you, Lord; and in bitter grief he cried out: Do not pass by my tears in silence, compassionate Master; for I said I would keep faith, but have not kept it. Accept our repentance too, and have mercy on us. (*Twice, without a verse*)

Verse: Give ear to my words, O Lord, understand my cry. (Psalm 5:1)

Before your precious Cross as the soldiers mocked you, Lord, the spiritual hosts were struck with amazement. For you were wreathed with a crown of outrage, you who painted the earth with flowers; and you wore a cloak of mockery, you who wrap the firmament in clouds; by such a dispensation was your compassion made known, O Christ, and your great mercy. Glory to you!

Verse: Attend to the voice of my supplication, my king and my God. (Psalm 5:2)

Before your precious Cross as the soldiers mocked you, Lord, the spiritual hosts were struck with amazement. For you were wreathed with a crown of outrage, you who painted the earth with flowers; and you wore a cloak of mockery, you who wrap the firmament in clouds; by such a dispensation was your compassion made known, O Christ, and your great mercy. Glory to you!

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

As you were dragged to the Cross, Lord, you cried out thus: For what work do you wish to crucify me, O Jews? Because I braced the paralytic? Because I raised the dead from sleep? I healed the woman with an issue of blood, I took pity on the woman of Canaan. For what work do you wish to slay me, O Jews? But, transgressors, you will see Christ whom now you pierce.

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

As you were dragged to the Cross, Lord, you cried out thus: For what work do you wish to crucify me, O Jews? Because I braced the paralytic? Because I raised the dead from sleep? I healed the woman with an issue of blood, I took pity on the woman of Canaan. For what work do you wish to slay me, O Jews? But, transgressors, you will see Christ whom now you pierce.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon in the 4th Tone. (*Psalm 37:17*) For I am prepared for whippings, / and my pain is always before me.

People: For I am prepared for whippings, / and my pain is always before me.

Reader: Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger, nor chastise me in your wrath. (*Psalm 37:1*)

People: For I am prepared for whippings, / and my pain is always before me.

Reader: For I am prepared for whippings,

People: and my pain is always before me.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias.[50:4-11]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: The Lord God has given me the tongue of instruction, that I may know when to speak a word. Very early in the morning he has given me, given me an ear to hear; and the instruction of the Lord, of the Lord opens my ear, and I do not disobey, I do not dispute. I gave my back to scourges, and my cheeks to blows; I did not turn my face from the shame of spitting. The Lord God became my helper; therefore I was not ashamed, but I set my face like solid rock, and I knew that I would not be put to shame; he who justifies me is near. Who will contend with me? Let him stand up against me at the same time; who will contend with me? Let him draw near me. See, the Lord, the Lord will help me; who will injure me? All of you will wear out like a

garment; the moth will eat you up. Who among you fears the Lord? Let him obey the voice of his servant; you that walk in darkness and have no light, trust in the name of the Lord and place your reliance on God? See, all of you burn like fire, make the flame grow strong. Walk in the light of your fire, and in the flame that you have kindled! For my sake this happened to you: you shall lie down in sorrow.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of the apostle Paul to the Romans. [5:6-10]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person - though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

Deacon/Priest: And that we be accounted worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us implore the Lord our God.

Reader: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

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 Mark.

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

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [15:16-32]

Priest: At that time, the soldiers led Jesus into the courtyard, that is the praetorium, and summoned the whole cohort. They clothed him in purple and having plaited a crown of thorns placed it on him, and they began to salute him and say, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they kept striking his head with a reed and spitting on him, and they bowed the knee and did him homage. And when they had mocked him they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes and led him out to crucify him. And they forced Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they bring him to a place Golgotha, which means place of a skull. And they gave him wine drugged with myrrh to drink. It was the third hour and they crucified him. And the inscription of his charge ran, 'The

King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two thieves, one on the right and one on the left. And the scripture was fulfilled which says, He was counted among transgressors. And the passers-by blasphemed him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days! Save yourself and come down from the cross.' Likewise the chief priests also mocked him among themselves with the scribes and said, 'He saved others. He cannot save himself. Let Christ the king of Israel now come down from the cross, that we may see and believe in him.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was the sixth hour, darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. At the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elias.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with vinegar, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see if Elias is coming to take him down.' Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the veil of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that he cried out in this way and he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was Son of God!' There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalen, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him when he was in Galilee and minister to him; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

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

The Lord God is blessed, blessed is the Lord day by day; the God of our salvations will guide us rightly. (*Psalm 67:19*)

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. Amen.

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. Amen.

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

Priest: For 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: Amen.

Kontakion.

Come, let us all sing the praise of him who was crucified for us; for Mary looked upon him on the Tree and said: 'Though you endure the Cross, yet you are my Son and my God'.

Then: Lord, have mercy. (x40)

At every time and at every hour, in heaven and on earth worshipped and glorified, Christ God, long-suffering, great in mercy, great in compassion, loving the just and merciful to sinners, calling all to salvation by the promise of the blessings to come; do you, Lord, yourself accept our entreaties at this hour, and direct our lives to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our ideas and deliver us from every distress, evil, and pain. Wall us about with your holy Angels, that protected and guided by their host we may reach the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your unapproachable glory; for you are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.

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. Amen.

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! In the name of the Lord, bless, Father.

Priest: God have pity on us and bless us, show his Face to us and have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

And the Superior says the following Prayer of St Mardarios

God and Master, Father almighty, Lord, only begotten Son, Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit, one godhead, one power, have mercy on me the sinner; and by the judgements which you know, save me your unworthy servant; for you are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.

SIXTH HOUR

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 53

O God, in your name save me, and in your power you will judge me.

²O God, hear my prayer, give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers rose up upon me, and mighty ones sought my soul, and did not put God in front of them.

⁴For behold, God will help me, and the Lord is the one who takes hold of my soul.

⁵He will return the bad things to my enemies, in your truth destroy them utterly.

⁶Willingly I will sacrifice to you, I will confess to your name, O Lord, for it is good.

⁷For from every affliction you delivered me, and among my enemies my eye saw.

Psalm 139

Take me away, O Lord, from an evil man, from an unrighteous man deliver me.

² Whoever thought unrighteousness in heart, all the day arrayed wars.

³ They sharpened their tongue like a snake's, venom of vipers – under their lips.

⁴ Keep me, O Lord, from the hand of a sinner, from unrighteous men take me away, whoever thought to make my steps stumble.

⁵ The proud hid a snare for me, and with ropes they stretched out a snare for my feet; for me they set traps which keep the path.

⁶ I said to the Lord: You are my God, give ear to the voice of my supplication.

⁷ Lord Lord, Power of my salvation, you overshadowed upon my head on the day of war.

⁸ Do not hand me over, O Lord, from my desire, to a sinner; they plotted against me, do not forsake me, that they not be lifted up.

⁹ The head of their surrounding, the toil of their lips will cover them.

¹⁰ Will fall upon them coals, with fire you will throw them down, in wretchedness they will not, will not endure.

¹¹ A garrulous man will not be made upright upon the earth, an unrighteous man wickedness will hunt down to rot.

¹² I knew that the Lord will make the judgment of the poor, and the justice of the needy.

¹³ But the righteous will confess to your name, and the upright will dwell with your Face.

Psalm 90

The one who dwells in the help of the Most High, in the shelter of the God of heaven will be abiding.

² He will say to the Lord, You are the one who takes hold of me and my refuge, my God, and I will hope in him.

³ For he will deliver you from a snare of hunters and from a troublesome word.

⁴ In the broad of his back he will overshadow you, and under his wings you will hope; with a shield his truth will surround you.

⁵ You will not be afraid of the nightly fear, of an arrow which flies at day.

⁶ Of a thing which walks through in darkness, of anything that happens and a midday demon.

⁷ At your side a thousand will fall, and tens of thousands at your right, and it will not come near you.

⁸ Save that with your eyes you will discern, and the repayment of sinners you will see.

⁹ For you, Lord, are my hope; the Most High you put your refuge.

¹⁰ For bad things will not come to you, and whip will not come near in your tent.

¹¹ For to his angels he will command about you, to keep you in all your ways.

¹² Upon hands they will bear you up, so that you do not strike your foot against a rock.

¹³ On viper and basilisk you will tread, and you will trample under foot lion and dragon.

¹⁴ Because in me he hoped, and I will deliver him. I will shelter him, for he knew my name.

¹⁵ He will cry to me, and I will hear him, with him I am in affliction. I will take him away and glorify him.

¹⁶ With length of days I will fill him, and I will show him my salvation.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God! (x3)

Lord have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **Tone 2**

You have worked salvation in the midst of the earth, Christ our God. You stretched out your most pure hands on the Cross, gathering together all the nations, as they cry: Lord, glory to you!

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Theotokion*.

Because we have no boldness because of our many sins, entreat the One born of you, O Virgin Mother of God; for a Mother's plea has great force for the kindness of the Master. Do not despise the supplications of sinners, O all-holy, for you is merciful, and able to save, you who even accepted to suffer for us.

After which we sing the following Idiomels in Tone 8.

Thus says the Lord to the Jews, 'My people, what have I done to you? Or in what have I wearied you? I gave light to your blind, I cleansed your lepers, I set upright a man lying on a bed. My people, what have I done to you, and how have you repaid me? Instead of the manna gall; instead of the water vinegar; instead of loving me, you have nailed me to a cross. I can endure no longer; I will call my nations, and they will glorify me, with the Father and the Spirit; and I shall grant them eternal life. (*twice, without a verse*)

Verse: And they gave me gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave to drink vinegar. (*Psalm 69:23*)

Lawgivers of Israel, Jews and Pharisees, the choir of the Apostles cries out to you, 'See a Temple, which you have destroyed! See a Lamb, whom you have crucified! You handed him over to a tomb, but by his own authority he has risen. Do not be deceived, O Jews, for it is he who saved you in the sea, and fed you in the desert; he is the life and the light and the peace of the world.

Verse: Save me, O God, for waters entered as far as my soul. (*Psalm 69:1*)

Lawgivers of Israel, Jews and Pharisees, the choir of the Apostles cries out to you: See a Temple, which you have destroyed; see a Lamb, whom you have crucified. You handed him over to a tomb, but by his own authority he has risen. Do not be deceived, O Jews, for it is he who saved you in the sea, and fed you in the desert; he is the life and the light and the peace of the world.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. **Tone 5.**

Come, Christ-bearing peoples, let us see what Judas the betrayer has plotted with the lawless priests against our Saviour. Today they have found the immortal Word guilty of death, and having betrayed him to Pilate, crucified him on the place of the Skull. And as he suffered all this our Saviour cried out and said, 'Forgive them this sin, Father, that the nations may know my Resurrection from the dead'.

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

Come, Christ-bearing peoples, let us see what Judas the betrayer has plotted with the lawless priests against our Saviour. Today they have found the immortal Word guilty of death, and having betrayed him to Pilate, crucified him on the place of the Skull. And as he suffered all this our Saviour cried out and said, 'Forgive them this sin, Father, that the nations may know my Resurrection from the dead'.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 4th Tone. (*Psalm 8:1*) Lord our Lord, how wondrous is your name / in all the earth.

People: Lord our Lord, how wondrous is your name / in all the earth.

Reader: For your majesty has been lifted up above the heavens. (*Psalm 8:1*)

People: Lord our Lord, how wondrous is your name / in all the earth.

Reader: Lord our Lord, how wondrous is your name

People: in all the earth.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias.[52:13-53:12]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Thus says the Lord: See, my servant will understand; he shall be exalted and glorified exceedingly. Just as there many will be astonished at you, so your appearance will be without glory from men, and your glory from the sons of men. So many nations will marvel at him; kings shall shut their mouths; for that which had not been told them about him they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? We brought a report as of a child before him, as a root out of dry ground; he had no form or glory, and we saw him, and he had neither form nor beauty. But his form was without honour and inferior to the children of men. He was a man in suffering and acquainted with bearing weakness, because his face has been away, he was dishonoured and not esteemed. He bears our sins and is in pain for us. We reckoned him to be in toil and in affliction and trouble. But he was wounded for our sins and crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment of our peace, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; Every one has gone astray in their own way, and the Lord handed him over for our sins. And he, because of his affliction, does not open his mouth; like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation his judgement was taken away; who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken away from the earth; because of the iniquities of my people he was led to death. And I will give the evil for his burial and the rich for his death, because he practised no iniquity, nor was there guile in his mouth. And the Lord wishes to cleanse him of

his blow. If you give an offering for sin, your soul will seed a long-lived descendance. And the Lord wishes to take away from the toil of his soul, to show him light and to fashion him with understanding, to justify the just one, who serves many well, and he will bear their sins. Therefore he will inherit many and divide the spoils of the strong. Because his soul was handed over to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; and he bore the sin of many, and was handed over because of their iniquities. Rejoice, barren one who do not give birth, break out and cry, you who are not in labour, for the children of the desolate are more than those of her that has a husband.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of the apostle Paul to the Hebrews. [2:11-18]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from One. For this reason he is not ashamed to call them brethren saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brethren, in the midst of the church I will praise you.' And again, 'I will put my trust in him.' And again, 'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.' Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear he did not take upon himself the nature angels, but he took on that of the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brethren in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the things of God, to make atonement for the sins of the people. For because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Deacon/Priest: And that we be accounted worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us implore the Lord our God.

Reader: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

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! [23:32-49]

Priest: At that time two others, who were criminals, were led out with Jesus to be put to death with him. And when they had come to the place called The Skull, they crucified him there and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. But Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.' And dividing his garments they cast lots. And the people stood by watching. While with them the rulers too scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ, the chosen one of God.' And the soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar and saying, 'If you the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Now there was also an inscription over him written in Greek, Roman and Hebrew letters, 'This is the king of the Jews.' One of the evil-doers who were hanged there with him blasphemed him, saying, 'If you are the Christ, save yourself and us.' But the other answering rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, for you are under the same sentence of condemnation? But we indeed justly, for we are being paid fittingly for what we did; but this man has done nothing wrong.' And he said to Jesus, 'Remember me, Lord, when you come in your kingdom.' And Jesus said to him, 'Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.' Now it was about the sixth hour and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, and the sun's light disappeared and the veil of the Temple was rent down the middle. And Jesus having cried out with a loud voice said, 'Father, into your hands I entrust my spirit.' And when he had said this he breathed his last. But the centurion on seeing what had happened glorified God and said, 'Indeed this was a just man.' And all the crowds who had gathered for the spectacle returned home beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances stood at a distance and the women who had followed him from Galilee watching these things.

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

Quickly let your pities, O Lord, seize us, for we became poor greatly. Help us, O God our savior, on account of the Glory of your name. O Lord, deliver us, and be forgiving to our sins for your name's sake. (*Psalms 79:8-9*)

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. Amen.

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. Amen.

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

Priest: For 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: Amen.

Kontakion.

Come, let us all sing the praise of him who was crucified for us; for Mary looked upon him on the Tree and said: 'Though you endure the Cross, yet you are my Son and my God'.

Then Lord, have mercy (x40)

At every time and at every hour, in heaven and on earth worshipped and glorified, Christ God, long-suffering, great in mercy, great in compassion, loving the just and merciful to sinners, calling all to salvation by the promise of the blessings to come; do you, Lord, yourself accept our entreaties at this hour, and direct our lives to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our ideas and deliver us from every distress, evil, and pain. Wall us about with your holy Angels, that protected and guided by their host we may reach the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your unapproachable glory; for you are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.

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. Amen.

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! In the name of the Lord, bless, Father.

Priest: God have pity on us and bless us, show his Face to us and have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

And the Superior says the following prayer:

Prayer of Saint Basil the Great

O God and Lord of powers, and Maker of all creation, who through the compassion of your incomprehensible mercy sent down your only-begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, for the salvation of our race, and through his precious Cross tore up the record of our sins, and by it triumphed over the principalities and powers of darkness; do you yourself, O Master who loves mankind, accept also our supplications of thanksgiving and entreaty; and deliver us from destroying and dark transgression, and from all our foes, visible and invisible, who seek to harm us. Nail down our flesh through fear of you, and do not let our hearts incline to words or thoughts of evil, but wound our souls with longing for you; that ever gazing upon you and guided by the light that comes from you, seeing you the unapproachable and everlasting light, we may give thanks to you, the Father without beginning, with your only-begotten Son and your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

According to the Typica of the Holy Mountain the Reader at once adds:

It is truly proper to call you happy, O Birthgiver of God, the ever-happy and all-blameless and the Mother of our God. The more honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God Word, truly Birthgiver of God, we magnify you.

NINTH HOUR

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 68

To completion, over the ones that will change. A psalm to David.

Save me, O God, for waters entered as far as my soul.

² I was stuck in dirt of the deep, and there is no standing. I came to the depths of the sea, and tempest drowned me.

³ I grew weary crying, my throat grew sore, my eyes faded away from my hoping in my God.

⁴ They multiplied beyond the hairs of my head, the ones who hate me for nothing.

⁵ My enemies strengthened, who pursue me away unrighteously; the things I did not seize, I then repaid.

⁶ O God, you knew my mindlessness, and my discords from you were not hidden.

⁷ Let the ones who await you with endurance not be ashamed with me, O Lord, Lord of the powers, nor turn away from me the ones who seek you, O God of Israel.

⁸ For on account of you I bore reproach, embarrassment covered my face.

⁹ I became a stranger to my brothers, and a foreigner to the sons of my mother.

¹⁰ For the zeal of your house devoured me, and the reproaches of your reproachers fell upon me.

¹¹ And I covered up my soul in fasting, and it became reproaches to me.

¹² And I made sackcloth my clothing, and I became a parable to them.

¹³ About me the ones who sit in gates murmured, and toward me chanted the ones who drink wine.

¹⁴ But I— with my prayer to you, O Lord; time of good-will.

¹⁵ O God, in the magnitude of your mercy hear me, in the truth of your salvation.

¹⁶ Save me from mud, so that I do not get stuck; I would be delivered from the ones who hate me and from the depths of waters.

¹⁷ Let not a tempest of water drown me, nor depth swallow me, nor a well close its mouth over me.

¹⁸ Hear me, O Lord, for kind is your mercy. According to the magnitude of your pities, look upon me.

¹⁹ Do not turn your Face away from your child, for I am afflicted. Quickly hear me.

²⁰ Attend to my soul and redeem it, on account of my enemies deliver me.

²¹ For you know my reproach and my shame and my embarrassment. In front of you— all who afflict me.

22 My soul looked to reproach and wretchedness, and with endurance I awaited one who hurts with me, and he was not, and ones to comfort, and I did not find.
23 And they gave gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave to drink vinegar.
24 Let their table in front of them become a snare, and a repayment and a trap.
25 Let their eyes be darkened so that they do not see, and bend their back always.
26 Pour out upon them your wrath, and the anger of your wrath seize them.
27 Let their steading become deserted, and in their tents let there not be one who dwells.
28 For the one whom you struck, they pursued closely, and upon the pain of my wounds they added.
29 Add lawlessness to their lawlessness, and let them not enter into your righteousness.
30 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and with the righteous not be written.
31 Poor and in pain I am. Your Salvation, O God, took hold of me.
32 I will praise the name of my God with ode, I will magnify him in praise.
33 And it will please the Lord more than a young calf, bearing out horns and hoofs.
34 Let the poor see and be gladdened. Seek out God, and your soul will live.
35 For the Lord heard the needy, and did not despise his shackled ones.
36 Let the heavens praise him and the earth, sea and all that creep in it.
37 For God will save Sion, and the cities of Judea will be built, and there they will dwell and will inherit her.
38 And the seed of your servants will hold her, and will tabernacles in her the ones who love your name.

Psalm 69

To completion. To David for remembrance, for the Lord to save me.

O God, attend to my help. Lord, assiduously hasten to help me.

2 Let the ones who seek my soul be put to shame and embarrassment.

3 Let be turned back and be put to shame the ones who wish me bad things.

4 Let immediately be turned back, ashamed, the ones who say to me, Good, good.

5 Let be gladdened and rejoice in you all who seek you, O God, and let all who love your salvation always say, The Lord be magnified.

6 But I am poor and needy. Help me, O God.

7 My helper and my deliverer you are, O Lord; do not delay.

Psalm 85

A prayer to David.

Incline, O Lord, your ear and hear me, for I am poor and needy.

2 Keep my soul, for I am pure. Save your servant, O my God, who hopes in you.

3 Have mercy on me, Lord, for to you I will cry all the day; gladden the soul of your servant, for to you I lifted up my soul.

4 For you, Lord, are kind and forbearing and full of mercy, to all who call upon you.

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

6 In a day of my trouble I cried to you, for you have heard me.

⁷ There is not one like you within the gods, O Lord, not one is according to your works.

⁸ All the nations which you made will come and worship in front of you, O Lord, and will glorify your name. For great are you and working wonders. You are God alone.

⁹ Guide me, Lord, in your way, and I will walk in your truth, let my heart be gladdened to fear your name.

¹⁰ I confess to you, Lord my God, in all my heart, and I will glorify your name to the age.

¹¹ For your mercy is great upon me, and you delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

¹² O God, lawless ones rose up upon me, and an assembly of mighty ones sought my soul, and did not set you in front of them.

¹³ And you, Lord my God, are pitying and merciful, long-suffering and full of mercy and true.

¹⁴ Look upon me and have mercy on me, give your might to your child and save the son of your handmaid.

¹⁵ Make with me a sign for good, and let those who hate me see it and be put to shame, for you, Lord, helped me and comforted me.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, glory to You, O God! (x3)

Lord have mercy. (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, **Tone 8**

The Thief, seeing the Prince of life hanging on the Cross, said: If he who is crucified with us was not God incarnate, the sun would not have hidden its rays, nor would the shaken earth be quaking. But you who bear all things, remember me, Lord, in your kingdom.

Now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. *Theotokion*.

O Good One, who was born of a Virgin for our sakes and endured crucifixion; who despoiled death by death and as God revealed resurrection, do not despise those whom you fashioned with your own hand; show your love for mankind, O Merciful, accept the Mother of God who bore you, as she intercedes for us, and save, O Saviour, a people in despair.

Idiomela. **Tone 7**

A strange wonder it was to see the Maker of heaven and earth hanging on a cross; the sun darkened, the day changed again into night and the earth giving back the bodies of the dead from their tombs; with them we worship you. Save us. (*Twice, without a verse*)

Verse: They divided my clothes among themselves, and cast lots for my raiment. (*Psalm 21:18*)

Tone 2 When the transgressors saw you, the Lord of glory, nailed to the Cross, you cried out to them, 'How have I grieved you? In what have I angered you? Before me, who delivered you from affliction? And now how do you repay me? With evils for blessings: instead of a pillar of fire, you have nailed me to a cross; instead of a cloud, you have dug me a tomb; instead of the

manna, you have offered me gall; instead of water, you have given me vinegar to drink. From now on I shall call the nations, and they will glorify me with the Father and the holy Spirit'.

Verse: **And they gave gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave to drink vinegar.** (*Psalm 68:23*)

When the transgressors saw you, the Lord of glory, nailed to the Cross, you cried out to them, 'How have I grieved you? In what have I angered you? Before me, who delivered you from affliction? And now how do you repay me? With evils for blessings: instead of a pillar of fire, you have nailed me to a cross; instead of a cloud, you have dug me a tomb; instead of the manna, you have offered me gall; instead of water, you have given me vinegar to drink. From now on I shall call the nations, and they will glorify me with the Father and the holy Spirit.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. **Tone 6.**

Today he is hung upon a tree, he who hung the earth upon the waters (**x3**).

He is arrayed in a crown of thorns, he who is the King of the Angels. He is wrapped in mocking purple, he who wraps the heaven in clouds. He receives a blow on the face, he who freed Adam in Jordan. He is transfixed with nails, the Bridegroom of the Church. He is pierced by a lance, the Son of the Virgin.

We worship your Sufferings, O Christ (x3).

Show us also your glorious Resurrection.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 6th Tone. (*Psalm 13:1*) The mindless said in his heart: / There is no God.

People: The mindless said in his heart: / There is no God.

Reader: There is not one doing kindness, there is not as few as one. (*Psalm 13:1*)

People: The mindless said in his heart: / There is no God.

Reader: The mindless said in his heart:

People: There is no God.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Prophecy of Jeremias. [11:18-12:5a.9b-11a.14-15]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Lord, make me know, and I shall know; then I saw their practices. But I, like an innocent lamb led to be sacrificed, did not know; against me they devised an evil thought, saying: Come, and let us cast wood into his bread and let us wipe him out of the land of the living, and let his name be remembered no more. Lord, you judge justly, you try reins and

hearts, may I see vengeance upon them from you, because I have revealed to you my justification. Therefore thus says the Lord to the men of Anathoth who seek for my life and who say: Do not prophesy in the name of the Lord, otherwise you will die at our hands. See, I shall visit them; their youths will die by the sword, their sons and daughters will perish by hunger, and there will not be a remnant of them; because I shall bring evils upon the inhabitants of Anathoth, in the year of their visitation. [12:1] You are just, Lord, so I shall make my defence to you, moreover I shall speak of judgements to you: why does the way of the ungodly go well? Those who set breaches of faith at nothing have prospered, you planted them and they have taken root; they begot children and produced fruit; you are near to their mouth and far from their reins. And you, Lord, know me, you have tried my heart before you; purify them for the day of their slaughter. How long will the land grieve and the grass of the field be dried from the wickedness of its inhabitants? Animals and birds have vanished, because they <the inhabitants> said: God will not see our ways. Your feet run and make you faint. Assemble all the beasts of the field and let them come and eat it. Many shepherds have destroyed my vineyard, they have defiled my portion, they have made my desired portion a trackless desert, it has been made into utter destruction. Because thus says the Lord of all the evil neighbours who touch my inheritance, which I have apportioned to my people Israel: See, I shall drag them from their land and I shall cast Juda out of their midst. And it shall be that after I have cast them out, I shall turn back and have mercy on them, and I shall make them dwell, each in his inheritance and each in his land.

Deacon/Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading is from the Epistle of the apostle Paul to the Hebrews. [10:19-31]

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren, since we have confidence to enter the Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. For if we wilfully persist in sin after having received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful prospect of judgement, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has violated the law of Moses dies without mercy 'on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by those who have spurned the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant by which they were sanctified, and outraged the Spirit of grace? For we know the one who said, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay.' And again, 'The Lord will judge his people.' It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Deacon/Priest: And that we be accounted worthy of hearing the holy Gospel, let us implore the Lord our God.

Reader: Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

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 John.

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

Deacon/Priest: Let us attend! [19:23-37]

Priest: At that time, there stood by the Cross of Jesus his mother and his mother's sister, Mary wife of Clopas and Mary Magdalen. And Jesus, seeing his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside him, says to his mother, 'Woman, behold your son.' Then he says to the disciple, 'Behold your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. After this Jesus, knowing that all things had been accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled says, 'I thirst.' Now there was a vessel there full of vinegar; so having filled a sponge with vinegar and put in on a branch of hyssop they held it to his mouth. So when Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, 'It is completed', and bowing his head he gave up the spirit. The Jews then, so that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the Sabbath, since it was Friday, the day of Preparation (for that Sabbath was a solemn day), asked Pilate that they might break their legs and that they might be removed. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and second who were crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus as they saw that he was already dead they did not break his legs, but one of the soldiers with a lance pierced his side, and at once there came out blood and water. And he saw it has borne witness, and his witness is true. And he knows that he speaks the truth, so that you too may believe. For these things happened that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Not a bone of him will be broken. And again another Scripture says, They will look on the one they have pierced.

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

For your holy name's sake do not finally reject us, do not annul your covenant, do not take your mercy from us for the sake of Abraham, your beloved, and for the sake of Isaac, your servant, and Israel, your holy 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. Amen.

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. Amen.

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

Priest: For 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: Amen.

Kontakion.

Come, let us all sing the praise of him who was crucified for us; for Mary looked upon him on the Tree and said: 'Though you endure the Cross, yet you are my Son and my God'.

Then Lord, have mercy (x40)

At every time and at every hour, in heaven and on earth worshipped and glorified, Christ God, long-suffering, great in mercy, great in compassion, loving the just and merciful to sinners, calling all to salvation by the promise of the blessings to come; do you, Lord, yourself accept our entreaties at this hour, and direct our lives to your commandments. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our ideas and deliver us from every distress, evil, and pain. Wall us about with your holy Angels, that protected and guided by their host we may reach the unity of the faith and the knowledge of your unapproachable glory; for you are blessed to the ages of ages. Amen.

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. Amen.

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! In the name of the Lord, bless, Father.

Priest: God have pity on us and bless us, show his Face to us and have mercy on us.

Reader: Amen.

*And the Superior says the following prayer:
Prayer of Saint Basil the Great*

Master, Lord Jesus Christ, our God, who have long endured our transgressions, and brought us to this hour in which hanging on the life-giving tree you showed the good Thief the way into Paradise and destroyed death by death, have mercy also on us sinners and your unworthy servants. For we have sinned and trespassed and are not worthy to raise our eyes and look on the height of heaven; because we have abandoned the way of your justice and walked in the will of our hearts. But we implore your unbounded goodness: spare us, O Lord, according to the multitude of your mercy, and save us for your holy name's sake, for our days have been wasted in vanity. Rescue us from the hand of our opponent, forgive us our sins, slay our carnal will, that we, having put off the old man, may put on the new, and live for you, our Master and benefactor; and that thus following your precepts we may reach eternal rest, where those who rejoice have their dwelling. For you are the true joy and gladness of those who love you, Christ our God, and to you we give glory, together with your Father who has no beginning, and your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and always and to ages of ages. Amen.

TYPIKA

In your kingdom remember us, O Lord, when you come in your kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

Blessed are the sorrowing, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are the hungering and thirsting for righteousness, for they will be fed their full.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are the persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heavens.

Blessed are you, when they reproach and pursue you, and say every evil word against you, lying on account of me.

Be glad and rejoice, for your wage is great in heavens.

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

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

Remember us, O Lord, when you come in your kingdom.
Remember us, O Master, when you come in your kingdom.
Remember us, O Holy One, when you come in your kingdom.

The heavenly choir hymns you and says: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Savaoth! Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Verse: Draw near to him and be enlightened, and your faces will not, will not be put to shame. (*Psalms 33:5*)

The heavenly choir hymns you and says: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Savaoth! Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

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

The choir of holy Angels and Archangels with all the heavenly Powers hymns you and says: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Savaoth! Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

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

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 heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; and he was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried; and the third day he rose according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Maker of Life, who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke 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.

Then

Remit, forgive, pardon, O God, our offences, willing and unwilling, in deed and in word, in knowledge and in ignorance, of the day and of the night, in mind and in thought; pardon them all, as you are good and love mankind.

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: Amen.

Kontakion

Come, let us all sing the praise of him who was crucified for us; for Mary looked upon him on the Tree and said: 'Though you endure the Cross, yet you are my Son and my God'.

Then: Lord, have mercy. (x40).

All-holy Trinity, consubstantial Might, indivisible Kingship, Cause of all blessings, be favourable even to me the sinner; strengthen and give understanding to my heart and rid me of every defilement; enlighten my mind, that I may ever glorify, praise, worship and say: One holy, one Lord, Jesus Christ, into the Glory of God the Father. Amin.

Reader: It is truly proper to call you happy, O Birthgiver of God, the ever-happy and all-blameless and the Mother of our God. The more honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God Word, truly Birthgiver of God, we magnify you.

Blessed be the name of "Lord" from now and until the age.

Blessed be the name of "Lord" from now and until the age.

Blessed be the name of "Lord" from now and until the age.

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

Psalm 33

To David, when he changed his face in front of Avimeleh, and he let him go, and he went away.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise – always in my mouth.

² In the Lord will my soul boast, let the meek hear it and rejoice.

³ You, magnify the Lord with me, and let us lift up his name together.

⁴ I sought out the Lord and he heard me, and from all my afflictions he delivered me.

⁵ Draw near to him and be enlightened, and your faces will not, will not be put to shame.

⁶ This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and from all his afflictions he saved him.

⁷ The angel of the Lord will encamp around the ones who fear him, and will deliver them.

⁸ Taste and see that the Lord is kind. Happy the man who hopes in him.

⁹ Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones, for there is no lack to the ones who fear him.

¹⁰ The rich became poor and went hungry, but the ones who seek the Lord will not be decreased in any good thing.

¹¹ Come, children, listen to me, the fear of the Lord I will teach you.

¹² Who is the man who wills life, who loves to see good days?

¹³ Stop your tongue from wickedness, and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴ Turn away from wickedness and do good, seek peace and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord – upon the righteous, and his ears toward their supplication.

¹⁶ But the Face of the Lord – against those who do bad things, to destroy their remembrance from the earth.

¹⁷ The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and from all their afflictions he delivered them.

¹⁸ The Lord is near the ones shattered of heart, and the humble in spirit he will save.

¹⁹ Many – the afflictions of the righteous, but from them all the Lord will deliver them.

²⁰ The Lord keeps all their bones, one of them will not be shattered.

²¹ The death of sinners is evil, and the ones who hate the righteous one will be in discord.

²² The Lord will redeem the souls of his servants, and the ones who hope in him will not, will not be in discord.

Reader: It is truly proper to call you happy, O Birthgiver of God, the ever-happy and all-blameless and the Mother of our God. The more honorable than the Cherubim and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God Word, truly Birthgiver of God, we magnify you.

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (x3). Father, bless!

Priest: He who suffered spittings and whippings and beatings and crucifixion and death for the salvation of the world, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-pure and all-blameless holy Mother, by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles, and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, as one who is good and loves mankind.

People: Amen.

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

People: Amen.

Translation taken from Archimandrite Ephrem Lash and Ieratikon: Volume I (Cherubim Press).