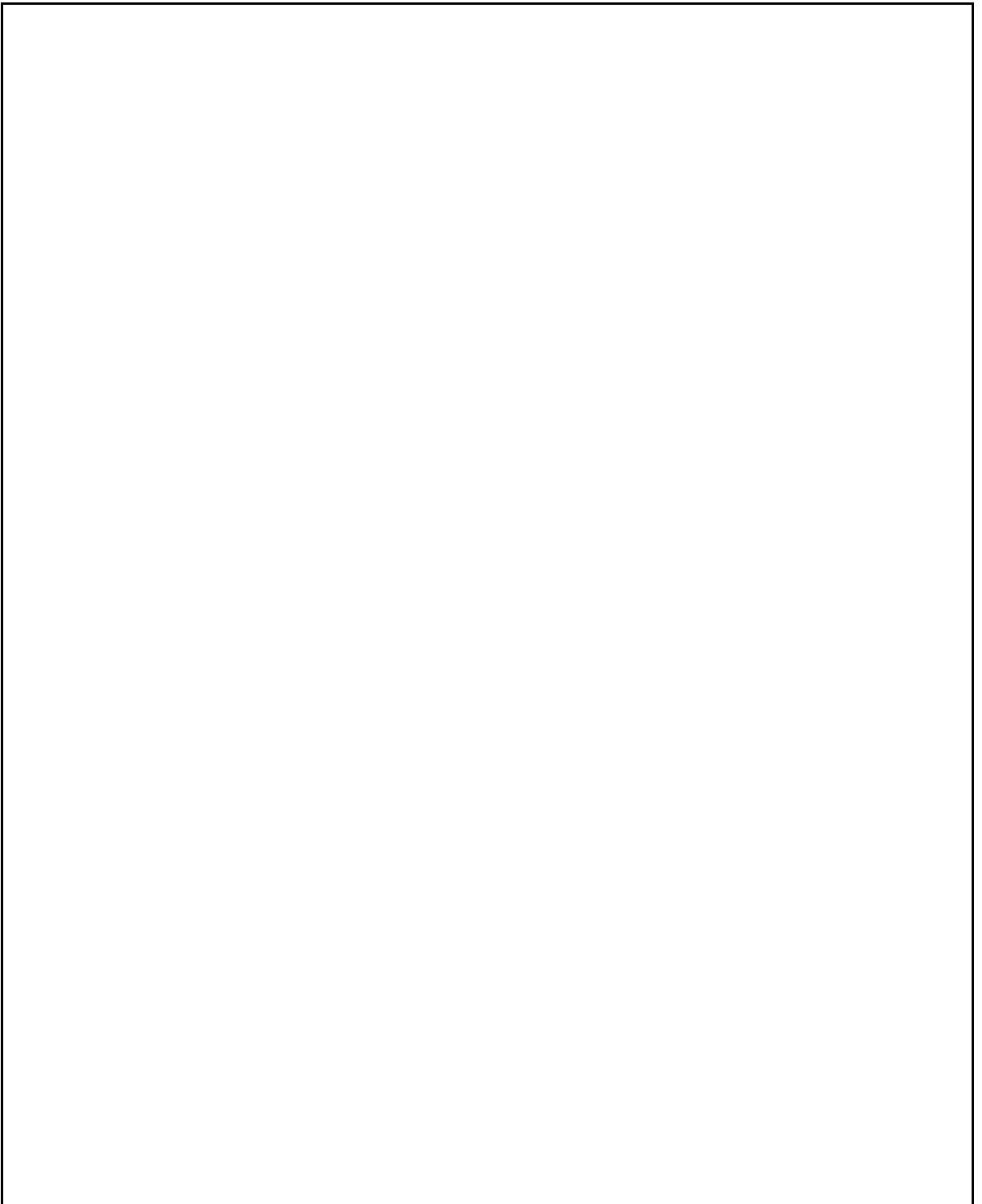


Matins of Holy Friday

With Passion Gospels

As Served at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Revised Great Lent 2025



The Royal Beginning (Abbreviated)

The priest, in epitrachelion, opens the curtain; the holy doors remain closed.

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

And the priest (not the deacon) performs a Great Censing.

Reader: Amen.

Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

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

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. *(thrice)*

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

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

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

Reader: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(twelve times)*

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

O Come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

Psalm 19

The Lord hear thee in the day of affliction; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee. Let Him send forth unto thee help from His sanctuary, and out of Zion let Him help thee. Let Him remember every sacrifice of thine, and thy whole-burnt offering let Him fatten. The Lord grant thee according to thy heart, and fulfill all thy purposes. We will rejoice in Thy salvation, and in the name of the Lord our God shall we be magnified. The Lord fulfill all thy requests. Now have I known that the Lord hath saved His anointed one; He will hearken unto him out of His holy heaven; in mighty deeds is the salvation of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God. They have been fettered and have fallen, but we are risen and are set upright. O Lord, save the king, and hearken unto us in the day when we call upon Thee.

Psalm 20

O Lord, in Thy strength the king shall be glad, and in Thy salvation shall he rejoice exceedingly. The desire of his heart hast Thou granted unto him, and hast not denied him the requests of his lips. Thou wentest before him with the blessings of goodness, Thou hast set upon his head a crown of precious stone. He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest him length of days unto ages of ages. Great is his glory in Thy salvation; glory and majesty shalt Thou lay upon him. For Thou shalt give him blessing for ever and ever, Thou shalt gladden him in joy with Thy countenance. For the king hopeth in the Lord, and through the mercy of the Most High shall he not be shaken. Let Thy hand be found on all Thine enemies; let Thy right hand find all that hate Thee. For Thou wilt make them as an oven of fire in the time of Thy presence; the Lord in His wrath will trouble them sorely and fire shall devour them. Their fruit wilt Thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from the sons of men. For they have intended evil against Thee, they have devised counsels which they shall not be able to establish. For Thou shalt make them turn their backs; among those that are Thy remnant, Thou shalt make ready their countenance. Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we will sing and chant of Thy mighty acts.

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

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. *(thrice)*

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

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

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

Reader: Amen. In the Name of the Lord, Father, bless.

And the priest takes the censer and makes the sign of the Cross before the holy table, saying:

Priest: Glory to the holy, consubstantial, life-giving, and undivided Trinity, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Six Psalms

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. *(thrice)*

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. *(twice)*

Psalm 3

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

Psalm 37

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome and corrupt in the face of my folly. I

have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mockings, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftinesses all the day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Psalm 62

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory. For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips of rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee, Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

At the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee, Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)

Lord. have mercy. (*thrice*)

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

Psalm 87

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication. For filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead. Like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee? Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.

Psalm 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth

judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, longsuffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered, neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.

Psalm 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

Hearken unto me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness, and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. *(twice)*

Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. Thrice, with the sign of the Cross and a bow each time.

Lord, have mercy. *(thrice)*

Great Litany

Deacon: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: R. Lord, have mercy. *(And so after each of the following petitions.)*

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

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

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

For our metropolitan N., for our Bishop [or Archbishop] N., for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For this country, its President [*or the title of the highest civil authority*], for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For this city, for every city and countryside, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For seasonable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord. R.

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

That we may be delivered from all affliction, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord. R.

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

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Deacon: In the eighth tone: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. In the night my soul rises early for thee, O God, for thy commandments are a light on the earth.

Choir: R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (*And so after each of the following verses.*)

V. Learn righteousness, ye that dwell upon the earth. R.

V. Jealousy shall grasp an untaught people. R.

V. Bring evils upon them, O Lord; brings evils upon those who are glorious on the earth. R.

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

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

Choir: When the glorious disciples...

1st Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to John the Theologian.

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

First Reading

The Priest reads the first Gospel - John 13:31–18:1; §46–58

The Lord said to his disciples, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him. If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him immediately. Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come,’ so now I say to you. A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, where are You going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward.” Peter said to Him, “Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake.” Jesus answered him, “Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times. “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know.” Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.” Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. “If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever — the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive,

because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?” Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me. “These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. You have heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away and coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ‘I am going to the Father,’ for My Father is greater than I. “And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here. “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that

you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. These things I command you, that you love one another. “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates Me hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father. But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, ‘They hated Me without a cause.’ “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning. “These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them. “And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you. “But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you. “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.” Then some of His disciples said among themselves, “What is this that He says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me’; and, ‘because I go to the Father?’” They said therefore, “What is this that He says, ‘A little while’? We do not know what He is saying.” Now Jesus knew that they desired to ask Him, and He said to them, “Are you inquiring among yourselves about what I said, ‘A

little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me? Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you. "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. "These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father." His disciples said to Him, "See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God." Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. "I have [t]manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and

none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them." When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered.

After the Gospel the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Antiphons (Abbreviated)

Choir: (Eighth Tone) The rulers of the people have assembled against the Lord and His Christ.

A lawless charge is hurled against me. Lord, O Lord, forsake me not.

Let us offer our pure senses to Christ. As His friends let us sacrifice our lives for his sake. Let us not be weighed down by earthly cares like Judas but let us cry in the hidden chambers of the heart: "Our Father, who are in heaven, deliver us from evil."

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

As a virgin you gave birth without knowing wedlock and remained virgin, O unwedded mother. O Mary Theotokos, pray unto Christ our God to save us.

Sessional Hymn

(Seventh Tone) When Thou was feeding Thy disciples at the supper, Thou didst know Judas' intention to betray Thee, and Thou didst accuse him of this though recognizing him to be beyond correction. For Thou didst desire all to know that Thou wast willingly betrayed, to snatch the world from the grasp of the enemy O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee.

2nd Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. **(thrice)**

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to John the Theologian.

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Second Reading

The Priest reads the second Gospel - John 18:1–28; §58

And at that time, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way," that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none." Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father

has given Me?” Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. And they led Him away to Annas first, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door, and brought Peter in. Then the servant girl who kept the door said to Peter, “You are not also one of this Man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” Now the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals stood there, for it was cold, and they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself. The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answered him, “I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said.” And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, “Do You answer the high priest like that?” Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?” Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, “You are not also one of His disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not!” One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, “Did I not see you in the garden with Him?” Peter then denied again; and immediately a rooster crowed. Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover.

After the gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Antiphons (Abbreviated)

(Fifth Tone) Today Judas forsakes the Master and takes the devil as his friend. He is blinded by the passion of avarice. Darkened he falls from the light. He sold the Sun for thirty pieces of silver. How, then is he able to see? But He who suffers for the world has risen as the Dawn for us. To Him let us cry aloud: O Thou who sufferest for us and with us, glory to Thee!

Today Judas counterfeits piety and deprives himself of the gift of grace. The disciple becomes a betrayer. In a gesture of friendship he conceals deceit. He foolishly refers thirty

pieces of silver to the Master's love and becomes a guide for the lawless assembly. But let us glorify Christ, our Salvation.

(First Tone) As brothers in Christ let us acquire brotherly love. Let us not lack sympathy for our neighbor, lest we, like the unmerciful servant, be condemned on account of money, or like Judas gain nothing from our regrets.

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

Everywhere glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary Theotokos, unwedded and all-praised, for you conceived in the flesh the maker of all.

Sessional Hymn

(Seventh Tone) What caused you to betray the savior, O Judas? Did He expel you from the ranks of the Apostles? Did He take from you the gift of healing? Did He send you from the table while taking supper with the others? Did He wash their feet and pass you by? How have you forgotten such good things? Your ingratitude is notorious but His boundless long-suffering and great mercy are proclaimed to all.

3rd Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. **(thrice)**

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

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

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Third Reading

*The Priest reads the third Gospel - **Matthew 26:57-75; §109***

At that time, those who had laid hold of Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. But Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priest's courtyard. And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end. Now

the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" And the high priest arose and said to Him, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?" But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!" Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! What do you think?" They answered and said, "He is deserving of death." Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands, saying, "Prophesy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?" Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying." And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth." But again he denied with an oath, "I do not know the Man!" And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you." Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.

After the Gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Antiphons (Abbreviated)

(Eighth Tone) While permitting transgressors to arrest Thee, Thou didst cry out to them, O Lord: "though you smite the shepherd and scatter the twelve sheep, my disciples, I am able to surround myself with more than thirty legions of angels. But I forebear so that the secret and hidden things might be fulfilled which were revealed to you by prophets." O Lord, glory to Thee!

Denying Thee for the third time, Peter at once recalled Thy words to him, but He offered Thee tears of repentance: O God, have mercy on me and save me!

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

Let us praise the holy virgin, as the gate of salvation and fair paradise, as a cloud for the eternal light. To her let us all say, "Rejoice!"

Sessional Hymn

(Eighth Tone) How could Judas, who was once Thy disciple, plan to betray Thee? That treacherous and unrighteous man deceitfully ate with Thee and went to the Priests and said: "what will you give me if I deliver to you him who abolished the law and profaned the sabbath?" O long-suffering Lord, Glory to Thee!

4th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. **(thrice)**

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to John the Theologian.

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Fourth Reading

*The Priest reads the fourth Gospel - **John 18:28–19:16; §59***

At that time, they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover. Pilate then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die. Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" Pilate

answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" Then they all cried again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber. So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. Then they said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck Him with their hands. Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him." Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!" Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God." Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin." From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar." When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified.

After the Gospel the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Antiphons

(Sixth Tone) He who clothes himself in light as with a garment, stood naked for trial. He was struck on the cheek by hands that He Himself had formed. A people that transgressed the law nailed the Lord of Glory to the cross. Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then the Sun was darkened, unable to bear the sight of God outraged, before whom all things tremble. Let us worship Him

The disciple denied Him, but the thief cried out: “remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom!”

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

O Lord, who for Thy servants' sake didst will to take flesh from the virgin, grant peace to the world, that with one voice we may glorify Thee, who lovest mankind.

Sessional Hymn

Eighth Tone

O God, Thou didst stand before Caiaphas. O Judge, Thou wast given over to Pilate. Then the heavenly powers shook with fear. Though sinless, Thou wast numbered among the transgressors, lifted up on the wood between two thieves in order to save mankind. O patient Lord, Glory to Thee!

5th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. **(thrice)**

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

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

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Fifth Reading

The Priest reads the fifth Gospel - Matthew 27:3–32; §111

At that time, Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!" Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood." And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field, as the LORD directed me." Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" Jesus said to him, "It is as you say." And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing. Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" But He answered him not one word, so that the governor marveled greatly. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished. And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, 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 persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" They said, "Barabbas!" Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!" Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!" When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it." And all the people answered and said, "His blood be on us and on our children." Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off

Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified. Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. Him they compelled to bear His cross.

After the Gospel the Choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Antiphon XIII

(Sixth Tone) The crowd of the Jews, O Lord, asked Pilate to crucify Thee, and though they found no guilt in Thee, they freed Barabbas, who indeed was guilty. They condemned Thee, the righteous one, and made the charge of murder their inheritance. But give them their retribution, O Lord, for they plotted against Thee in vain.

To Christ, the Wisdom and Power of God, who makes all things fear and tremble, whom all tongues praise, the Priests gave gall and slapped. Yet He consented to suffer all things, desiring to save us from our transgressions by His blood, for he loves mankind.

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

O Theotokos, who by a word beyond all words have borne your own creator, entreat Him to save our souls.

Fifteenth Antiphon

Priest or other singer(s), sung to a special melody: (Sixth Tone)

Today he who hung the earth upon the waters is hung upon the Tree. **(thrice)**

The King of the angels is decked with a crown of thorns.

He who wraps the heavens with clouds, is wrapped in the purple of mockery.

He who freed Adam in the Jordan is slapped on the face.

The Bridegroom of the Church is affixed to the cross with nails.

The Son of the Virgin is pierced by a spear.

We worship thy passion, O Christ. **(thrice)**

Show us also thy glorious Resurrection.

Choir: Let us not keep the feast like the Jews, for our Passover, Christ God, has been slain for us. But let us cleanse ourselves of every defilement and with sincerity let us entreat Him: Arise O Lord, and save us, for Thou lovest mankind!

Thy cross, O Lord, is life and resurrection for Thy people. Trusting in it, we praise Thee, our crucified God. Have mercy on us.

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

When she who conceived Thee, O Christ, saw Thee hanging on the cross, she cried out: What strange mystery do I behold, O my Son O giver of life, how dost Thou die, nailed on the wood in the flesh?

Sessional Hymn

(Fourth Tone) By Thy precious blood Thou hast redeemed us from the curse of the law. By being nailed to the cross and pierced by a spear Thou hast poured forth immortality for man. O our Savior, glory to Thee!

6th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. **(thrice)**

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Sixth Reading

The Priest reads the sixth Gospel - Mark 15:16–32; §67

At that time, the soldiers led Him away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together the whole garrison. And they clothed Him with purple; and they twisted a crown of thorns, put it on His head, and began to salute Him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” Then they struck Him on the head with a reed and spat on Him; and bowing the knee, they worshiped Him. And when they had mocked Him, they took the purple off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him. Then they compelled a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, the father of Alexander and Rufus, as he was coming out of the country and passing by, to bear His cross. And they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull. Then they gave Him wine mingled with myrrh to drink, but He

did not take it. And when they crucified Him, they divided His garments, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. Now it was the third hour, and they crucified Him. And the inscription of His accusation was written above: THE KING OF THE JEWS. With Him they also crucified two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left. So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And He was numbered with the transgressors.” And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, “Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself, and come down from the cross!” Likewise the chief priests also, mocking among themselves with the scribes, said, “He saved others; Himself He cannot save. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe.”

After the Gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

The Beatitudes

Tone Four

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

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

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

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

Reader: Through a tree Adam lost his home in paradise, but through the tree of the cross the thief came there to dwell. By tasting of the fruit, the first broke the Creator's commandment, but He who was crucified with Thee confessed Thee, the hidden God. Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy kingdom!

Choir: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Reader: Lawless men bought the Creator of the law from a disciple and brought Him before the judgment seat of Pilate as a transgressor. Though He had given them manna in the wilderness, they cried out: Crucify Him! But we, imitating the righteous thief, cry out in faith: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy kingdom!

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

Reader: The swarm of those who would kill God, the lawless nation of the Jews, cried out in fury to Pilate: Crucify Him! - Christ, the innocent one. And they sought instead the release of Barabbas. But with the wise thief we lift up our voices: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy kingdom!

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

Reader: From Thy life-bearing side, O Christ, a fountain flows forth as from Eden, giving drink to Thy Church as to a living paradise. From there it divided to become the four rivers of the Gospels, watering the world, gladdening creation, and teaching the nations to worship Thy kingdom in faith.

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

Reader: Thou wast crucified for my sake, in order to pour forth forgiveness for me. Thy side was pierced so that streams of life might flow for me. Thy hands were transfixed by nails so that, convinced of the height of Thy power by the depth of Thy sufferings, I might cry out to Thee, O Christ, Thou giver of life: Glory to Thy cross and to Thy Passion, O Savior!

Choir: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Reader: When it beheld Thee crucified, O Christ, all creation trembled. The foundations of the earth shook for fear of Thy might. The lights of heaven hid themselves, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. The mountains quaked, and the rocks were split, and with us the believing thief cried out to Thee, O Savior: Remember me in Thy kingdom!

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

Reader: On the cross Thou didst destroy the legal bond against us, O Lord. Thou wast reckoned with the dead and there didst bind the tyrant, delivering all from the bonds of death by Thy resurrection. By it we have been illumined, O Lord who lovest mankind, and we cry out to Thee: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy kingdom!

Choir: Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

Reader: Thou wast lifted up upon the cross, O Lord. Thou didst destroy the power of death, and as God Thou didst cancel the legal bond against us. Grant the repentance of the thief also unto us who worship Thee in faith, O only lover of mankind, and who cry out to Thee, O Christ our God: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy kingdom!

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

Reader: Let us, the faithful, all pray that with one voice we may worthily glorify the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: One God existing in three persons yet remaining unconfused, simple, undivided, and unapproachable; by Whom we escape the flames of punishment.

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

Reader: We offer to Thee as an intercessor, O Christ, Thy mother who bore Thee in the flesh without seed, the true virgin who after giving birth remained incorrupt. Through her intercessions, O most merciful Master, grant forgiveness of sins to us who cry unceasingly: Remember us also, O Savior, in Thy kingdom!

Little Litany

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

Choir: R. Lord, have mercy. (And so after each of the following petitions.)

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

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Prokeimenon

Deacon: The Prokeimenon in the fourth tone: They divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots

Choir: They divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots.

Deacon: My God, my God, look upon me: why hast thou forsaken me?

Choir: They divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots.

Deacon: They divide my garments among them.,

Choir: ...and for my raiment they cast lots

7th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (**thrice**)

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

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

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Seventh Reading

The Priest reads the seventh Gospel - Matthew 27:33–54; §113

At that time, they came to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull, they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink. Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: “They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.” Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there. And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left. And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, “You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, “He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing. Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Some of those who stood there, when they heard that, said, “This Man is calling for Elijah!” Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink. The rest said, “Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him.” And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many. So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

After the gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Psalm 50

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

8th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (**thrice**)

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

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

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Eighth Reading

The Priest reads the eighth Gospel - Luke 23:32-49; §111

At that time, there were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots. And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God." The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself." And an inscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." Having said this, He breathed His last. So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous Man!" And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned. But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

After the Gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

The 3-Ode Canon

Fifth Ode

Choir: Irmos, (Sixth Tone) Early will I seek Thee, O Word of God, Who without change didst empty Thyself in Thy compassion for fallen man, Who without suffering didst bow down to suffering. Grant peace to me, O Thou who lovest mankind.

Refrain: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Reader: With their feet washed, and themselves purified by their participation in the Divine Mystery, Thy servants, O Christ, now ascend from Zion to the great Mount of Olives, praising Thee, who lovest mankind.

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

Reader: Thou didst say: "See that you are not alarmed, O friends. For the hour is now at hand for me to be seized and slain at the hands of lawless men. All of you will be scattered, forsaking me. But I shall gather you to proclaim me, who lovest mankind."

Katavasia

Choir: Early will I seek Thee, O Word of God, Who without change didst empty Thyself in Thy compassion for fallen man, Who without suffering didst bow down to suffering. Grant peace to me, O Thou who lovest mankind.

Little Litany

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

Choir: R. Lord, have mercy. (And so after each of the following petitions.)

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

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art the King of peace, and the Savior of our souls, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Kontakion

Choir: (Eighth Tone): Come, let us all sing the praises of Him who was crucified for us, For Mary said when she beheld Him upon the tree: Though Thou dost endure the cross, Thou art my Son and my God.

Ikos

Reader: Beholding her own lamb led to the slaughter, Mary followed with the other women, in distress and crying out: "Where goest Thou, my child? Why dost Thou run so swift a course? Surely there is not another wedding in Cana to which Thou now dost hasten to change water into wine? Shall I come with Thee, my child, or shall I wait for Thee? Give me a word, O Thou who art the Word. Do not pass me by in silence, O Thou who didst keep me pure, for Thou art my Son and my God."

Eighth Ode

Choir: Irmos, (Sixth Tone) The godly youths exposed a monument of godless wickedness, But the lawless assembly is enraged and takes vain counsel against Christ. They plan to kill Him who holds life in the palm of His hand, Whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages.

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

Reader: "O my disciples, now shake off sleep from your eyelids," said Christ. "Keep watch in prayer, that you may not fall into temptation; and I speak particularly to Simon, since the test is greatest for the strongest. O Peter, acknowledge me, whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages."

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

Reader: "O Master, a profane word shall never pass my lips," cried Peter. "Even if all deny Thee, I shall die with Thee as a loyal friend. For not flesh and blood, but Thy Father has revealed to me Thee whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages."

Refrain: Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord.

Reader: "You have not sought out the depth of divine wisdom and knowledge," said the Lord. "You have not comprehended the abyss of my judgments, O man. Do not boast, for you are flesh, and three times will you deny me, whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages."

Refrain: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Reader: "You will deny your convictions as soon as the question is put to you, O Simon Peter, and the sudden approach of a servant girl will terrify you," said the 'Lord. "But after weeping bitterly you will have great mercy from me, whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages."

Choir: We praise, bless, and worship the Word, singing and exalting him throughout all ages.

Katavasia

Choir: The godly youths exposed a monument of godless wickedness, But the lawless assembly is enraged and takes vain counsel against Christ. They plan to kill Him who holds life in the palm of His hand, Whom all creation blesses and glorifies throughout all ages.

Ninth Ode

Choir: Irmos, (Sixth Tone): More honorable than the Cherubim And more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: Without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, True Theotokos, we magnify you.

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

Reader: A destructive band of God-forsaken. Wicked murderers of God, the Synagogue, attacked Thee, O Christ, and dragged Thee away as an evil-doer - the Creator of all, whom we magnify.

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

Reader: Impious men, ignorant of the law and hearing the voice of the prophets to no avail, dragged Thee away as a sheep to be unjustly slaughtered – the Master of all, whom we magnify.

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

Reader: The priests and scribes caused the life that had been betrayed to the Gentiles to be destroyed, striking in their jealous wickedness Him who by nature is the Giver of life, whom we magnify.

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

Reader: Like a pack of dogs they surrounded Thee, O King, smiting Thee on the cheek with their hands. They questioned Thee and bore false witness against Thee, yet by enduring all things Thou hast saved all.

Katavasia

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim And more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: Without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, True Theotokos, we magnify you.

Little Litany

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

Choir: R. Lord, have mercy. (And so after each of the following petitions.)

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

Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

The Exapostilarion

Translation #1	Translation #2	Translation #3
In that same hour, Thou did grant Paradise to the wise thief, O Lord. In that same hour Thou did grant Paradise illumine me and save me by the Tree of Thy cross.	O Lord, who didst make the wise thief worthy of Paradise. In one moment. O Lord who didst make the wise thief worthy of Paradise. By the wood of Thy cross illumine me and save me.	The wise thief didst Thou make worthy of paradise in a single moment, O Lord; By the wood of Thy cross illumine me as well, and save me.

Choir: *Sings the Exapostilarion*

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

Choir: *Repeats the Exapostilarion*

9th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to John the Theologion.

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Ninth Reading

The Priest reads the ninth Gospel - John 19:25–37; §61

At that time, there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the

disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken." And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

After the Gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

The Praises

Reader: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Praise Him, all ye His angels; praise Him, all ye His hosts! Praise Him, O sun and moon; praise Him all ye stars and light. Praise Him, ye heavens of heavens, and thou water that art above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord; for He spake, and they came to be; He commanded, and they were created. He established them for ever, yea, for ever and ever; He hath set an ordinance, and it shall not pass away. Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons, and all ye abysses. Fire, hail, snow, ice, blast of tempest, which perform His word. The mountains and all the hills, fruitful trees, and all cedars. The beasts and all the cattle, creeping things and winged birds. Kings of the earth, and all peoples, princes and all the judges of the earth. Young men and virgins, elders with the younger; let them praise the name of the Lord, for exalted is the name of Him alone. His praise is above the earth and heaven, and He shall exalt the horn of His people. This is the hymn for all His saints, for the sons of Israel, and for the people that draw nigh unto Him. Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the church of the saints. Let Israel be glad in Him that made him, let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King. Let them praise His name in the dance; with the timbrel and the psaltery let them chant unto Him. For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people, and He shall exalt the meek with salvation. The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds. The high praise of God shall be in their throat, and two-edged

swords shall be in their hands. To do vengeance among the heathen, punishments among the peoples. To bind their kings with fetters, and their nobles with manacles of iron. To do among them the judgment that is written, this glory shall be to all His saints. Praise ye God in His saints, praise Him in the firmament of His power. Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to the multitude of His greatness. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, praise Him with the psaltery and harp.

Choir: Israel, my first-born son, Has committed two evil deeds. He abandoned me, the fountain of living water, And dug for himself a broken well. He crucified me upon the wood And asked for Barabbas and released him. Heaven was amazed at this, And the sun hid his rays. But you, O Israel, were not ashamed But delivered me to death. Forgive them, O Holy Father, For they know not what they do.

Verse: Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise him with strings and flute.

Choir: Every member of Thy holy flesh endured dishonor for us: Thy head - the thorns, Thy face - the spitting, Thy cheeks - the buffeting, Thy mouth - the taste of vinegar mingled with gall, Thine ears - the impious blasphemies, Thy back - the scourge, Thy hand - the reed, Thy whole body - extension upon the cross, Thy joints - the nails, Thy side - the spear. By Thy sufferings Thou hast set us free from suffering. In Thy love for man Thou didst stoop down to raise us up. O Almighty Savior, have mercy on us.

Verse: Praise Him with tuneful cymbals, praise Him with cymbals of jubilation. Let every breath praise the Lord.

Choir: Beholding Thee crucified, O Christ, The whole creation trembled. The foundations of the earth shook for fear of Thy might, For by Thy lifting up today the Hebrew race perished. The curtain of the temple was torn in two. The tombs were opened and the dead arose from their graves. The centurion shuddered when he saw the wonder. Thy mother stood by and cried out with motherly lamentation: "How shall I not weep and beat my breast, Seeing Thee naked and hanging upon the cross as one condemned?" O Lord, crucified and buried and risen from the dead, glory to Thee.

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

Choir (Sixth Tone): They have stripped me of my garments and clothed me in a scarlet robe. They have set upon my head a crown of thorns and have given me a reed in my right hand That I might dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

Verse: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: I gave my back to scourging. I did not turn my face from spittings. I stood before the judgment seat of Pilate. And endured the cross, For the salvation of the world.

10th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Tenth Reading

The Priest reads the tenth Gospel - Mark 15:43–47; §69

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Josès observed where He was laid.

After the Gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Small Doxology

Priest: Glory to thee who hast shown us the light.

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and good will among men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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

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

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, give me understanding of Thy commandments. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy precepts.

O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; disdain not the works of Thy hands. To Thee is due praise, to Thee is due a song, to Thee glory is due, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

The Litany of Fervent Supplication

Deacon: Let us complete our morning prayer unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy

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

Choir: R. Grant it, O Lord. *(And so after each of the following petitions.)*

An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord. **R.**

Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord. **R.**

All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord. **R.**

That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord. **R.**

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

Deacon: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

The Prayer at the Bowing of the Heads

Priest: O holy Lord, who dwellest on high and lookest upon the humble, and who with Thine all-seeing eye lookest down upon all creation: unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we pray Thee, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, either willingly or unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as Thou art good and lovest mankind, granting us Thy good things in this world and beyond this world.

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

Choir: Amen.

11th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. **(thrice)**

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The reading from the holy Gospel according to John the Theologian.

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Eleventh Reading

The Priest reads the eleventh Gospel - John 19:38–42; §62

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus. And Nikodemos, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

Aposticha

Choir: (First Tone) All creation was changed by fear When it saw Thee hanging upon the cross, O Christ. The sun was darkened And the foundations of the earth were shaken. All things suffered with the creator of all. O Lord, who didst willingly endure this for us, glory to Thee.

Verse: They divide my garments among them, and for my raiment, they cast lots.

Choir: (Second Tone) An impious and transgressing people - Why do they imagine vain things? Why do they condemn to death the life of all? O great wonder! The Creator of the world is betrayed into the hands of lawless men. He who loves mankind is lifted up upon the wood, That He might free those bound in hell, who cry: O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!

Verse: They gave me gall for food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Choir: Today the blameless virgin Saw Thee suspended upon the cross, O Word. She mourned within herself and was sorely pierced in her heart. She groaned in agony from the depth of her soul. Exhausted from tearing her hair and cheeks and beating her breast, She cried out lamenting: "Woe is me, O my divine child! Woe is me, O light of the world! Why

hast Thou departed from my eyes, O Lamb of God?" Then the bodiless hosts were seized with trembling and cried: "O incomprehensible Lord, glory to Thee!"

Verse: God is our King before the ages: He has wrought salvation in the midst of the earth.

Choir: When she who bore Thee without seed Saw Thee suspended upon the tree, O Christ, The Creator and God of all, She cried bitterly: Where is the beauty of Thy form, O my son? I cannot bear to see Thee unjustly crucified. Hasten and arise That I too may see Thy resurrection from the dead on the third day:

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

Choir: (Eighth Tone) When Thou didst ascend the cross, O Lord, Fear and trembling fell upon creation. Yet Thou didst forbid the earth to swallow up those who crucified Thee, And Thou didst command hell to send up its captives For the regeneration of mortals. O Judge of the living and the dead, Thou hast come to grant life, not death. O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee!

Verse: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: (Sixth Tone) Now the unjust judges dip the pen of judgment. Jesus is tried and sentenced to the cross. All creation suffers as it beholds the Lord on the cross. O good Lord, who in Thy human nature didst suffer for me, glory to Thee!

12th Passion Gospel

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy. **(thrice)**

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

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

Choir: Glory to thy passion, O Lord.

Deacon: Let us attend.

Twelfth Reading

The Priest reads the twelfth Gospel - Matthew 27:62–66; §114

On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, saying, “Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise.’ Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead.’ So the last deception will be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how.” So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.

After the Gospel, the choir sings:

Choir: Glory to thy longsuffering, O Lord.

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

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

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

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

Lord, have mercy. *(thrice)*

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

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

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

Reader: Amen.

Troparion

Choir: (Fourth Tone) By Thy precious blood, Thou hast redeemed us from the curse of the law. By being nailed to the cross and pierced by a spear, Thou hast poured forth immortality for man. O our Savior, glory to Thee!

The Augmented Litany

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

Choir: R. Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*) (*And so after each of the following petitions.*)

Deacon: Again we pray for our metropolitan N., for our Bishop [or Archbishop] N., and for all our brethren in Christ. R.

Again we pray for this country, its President (*or title of the highest civil authority*), for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces. R.

Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable holy Orthodox Patriarchs; and for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church and for all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord. R.

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, and visitation for the servants of God, the brethren of this holy temple, and for the pardon and remission of their sins. R.

Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await thy great and rich mercy. R.

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

Choir: Amen.

The Great Dismissal

Deacon: Wisdom.

Choir: Father bless.

Priest: Blessed be He Who Is, Christ our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Confirm, O God, the holy Orthodox faith of Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.

Priest: Most holy Theotokos, 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 Theotokos, we magnify you!

Priest: Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to thee.

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

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Father bless.

Priest: May He who endured spitting and scourging, the cross and death, for the salvation of the world, Christ our true God, through the prayers of his most-pure Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and lovest mankind.

Choir: Amen.