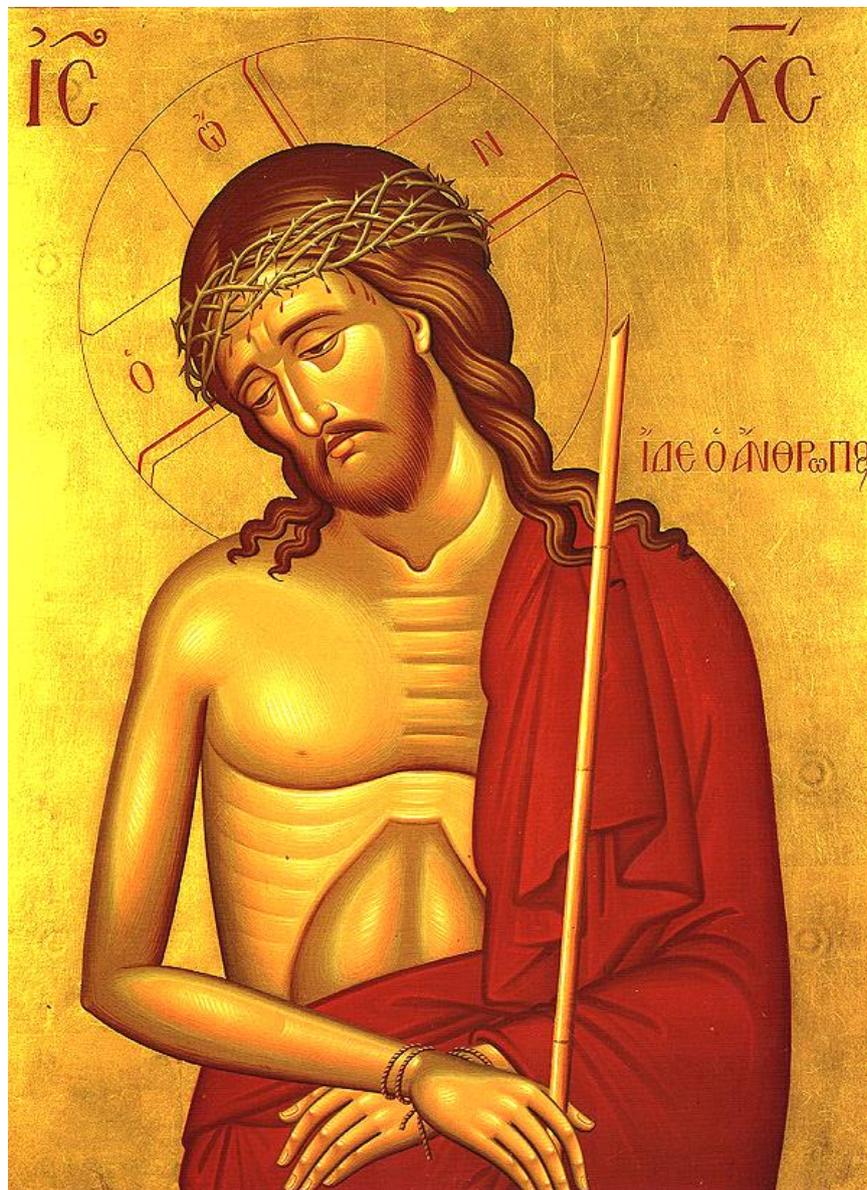


The Third Service of Bridegroom

Great and Holy Tuesday Evening



The Third Service of Bridegroom – Great and Holy Tuesday Evening

The Third Service of Bridegroom

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

People: Amen.

Priest: Glory be to You, our God, glory be to You.

O Heavenly King, Comforter and Spirit of Truth, You that are in all places and fill all things, the Treasury of Blessings and the Giver of Life: come to dwell in us, cleanse us from every stain and save our souls, O Gracious One.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(x3)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

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

Priest: For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (x12)

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

O come let us worship and fall down before 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, our Lord, and our God.

Psalm 19

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble; May the Name of the God of Jacob defend you; May He send you help from the sanctuary, And strengthen you out of Zion; May He remember all your offerings, and accept your burnt sacrifice. May He grant you according to your heart's desire and fulfil all your purpose. We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the Name of our God we will set up our banners! May the Lord fulfil all your petitions.

Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy Heaven with the saving strength of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the Name of the Lord our God. They have bowed down and fallen; But we have risen and stand upright.

O Lord, save the king: and answer us in the day that we shall call on You.

Psalm 20

The king shall have joy in Your strength, O Lord; And in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice! You have given him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. For You meet him with the blessings of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold upon his head. He asked life from You, and You gave it to him length of days forever and ever. His glory is great in Your salvation; Honour and majesty You have placed upon him. For You have made him most blessed forever; You have made him exceedingly glad with Your presence. For the king trusts in the Lord, and through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.

Your hand will find all Your enemies; Your right hand will find those who hate You. You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger; The Lord shall swallow them up in His wrath, and the fire shall devour them. Their offspring You shall destroy from the earth, and their descendants from among the sons of men. For they intended evil against You; They devised a plot which they are not able to perform. Therefore, You will make them turn their back; You will make ready Your arrows on Your string toward their faces. Be exalted, O Lord, in Your own strength! We will sing and praise Your power.

The Trisagion Prayers

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(x3)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

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

Priest: For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Troparion of the Holy Cross

O Lord save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to Your people over their adversaries, and by virtue of Your Cross preserve Your habitation.

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

Kontakion of the Holy Cross

O Christ our God, Who of Your own good will was lifted up on the Cross, bestow Your bounties upon the new nation which is called by Your Name. Make glad in Your might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Your aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion to the Theotokos

O fearsome champion, who cannot be put to confusion despise not our petitions, O good and all-praised Theotokos, Mother of God. Establish the way of the Orthodox, save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us all to that victory which is from Heaven, for you are she who gave birth to God and alone are blessed.

The Litany

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great goodness, we pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

People: Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

People: Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Priest: Again we pray for our Father and Metropolitan (Name), and all our brethren in Christ.

People: Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Priest: For You are a merciful God and loving toward mankind, and to You we ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen. Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-giving and Undivided Trinity, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards all people. (x3)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim Your praise. (x2)

Six Psalms

Psalm 3

Lord, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, “There is no help for him in God.” But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the One Who lifts up my head. I cried to the Lord with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill.

I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. Arise, O Lord; Save me, O my God! For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; You have broken the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongs to the Lord. Your blessing is upon Your people.

I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me.

Psalm 37

O Lord do not rebuke me in Your wrath, Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure! For Your arrows pierce me deeply, and Your hand presses me down. There is no soundness in my flesh Because of Your anger, nor any health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. My wounds are foul and festering because of my foolishness. I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are full of inflammation, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my heart.

Lord, all my desire is before You; And my sighing is not hidden from You. My heart pants, my strength fails me; As for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me. My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, and my relatives stand afar off. Those also who seek my life lay snares for me; Those who seek my hurt speak of destruction, and plan deception all the day long. But I, like a deaf man, do not hear; And I am like a mute who does not open his mouth. Thus I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth is no response.

For in You, O Lord, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God. For I said, "Hear me, lest they rejoice over me, lest, when my foot slips, they exalt themselves against me." For I am ready to fall, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin. But my enemies are vigorous, and they are

strong; And those who hate me wrongfully have multiplied. Those also who render evil for good, they are my adversaries, because I follow what is good.

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

Psalm 62

O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water. So, I have looked for You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus, I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your Name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips. When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me. But those who seek my life, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth. They shall fall by the sword; They shall be a portion for jackals.

But the king shall rejoice in God; Everyone who swears by Him shall glory; But the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped. I meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadows of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God! (x3)

Lord have mercy. (x3)

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

Psalm 87

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; Incline Your ear to my cry. For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to the grave. I am counted with those who go down to the pit; I am like a man who has no strength, adrift among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, Whom You remember no more, and who are cut off from Your hand. You have laid me in the lowest pit, In darkness, in the depths. Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and You have afflicted me with all Your waves. You have put away my acquaintances far from me; You have made me an abomination to them; I am shut up, and I cannot get out; My eye wastes away because of affliction. Lord, I have called daily upon You; I have stretched out my hands to You. Will You work wonders for the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise You? Shall Your lovingkindness be declared in the grave? Or Your faithfulness in the place of destruction? Shall Your wonders be known in the dark? And Your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?

But to You I have cried out, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before You. Lord, why do You cast off my soul? Why do You hide Your face from me? I have been afflicted and ready to die from my youth; I suffer Your terrors; I am distraught. Your fierce wrath has gone over me; Your terrors have cut me off. They came around me all day long like water; They engulfed me altogether. Loved one and friend You have put far from me, and my acquaintances into darkness.

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; Incline Your ear to my cry.

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 His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executes righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities.

For as the Heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, To such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them.

The Lord has established His throne in Heaven, and His kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure. Bless the Lord, all His works, In all places of His dominion.

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

Psalm 142

Hear my prayer, O Lord, Give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, and in Your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight no one living is righteous. For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, like those who have long been dead. Therefore, my spirit is overwhelmed within me; My heart within me is distressed.

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; My soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Answer me speedily, O Lord; My spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You.

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies; In You I take shelter. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness. Revive me, O Lord, for Your Name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

In Your mercy cut off my enemies and destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant.

O Lord Give ear to my supplications: Do not enter into judgment with Your servant. (x2)

Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God! (x3)

O our God and our hope, glory to You.

The Great Litany

Priest: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For the peace, from on high, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For our Father Metropolitan (*Name*), for the venerable Priesthood, for the Diaconate in Christ, for all the Clergy, monks, nuns, and all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For those who govern this country, for all civil authorities and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For this blessed city, for every monastery, city, town and village, and for the faithful, who dwell in them; let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For favourable weather, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times; let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For those who travel by sea, by land, by air, for the sick and suffering; for those in captivity; and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: For to You belong all glory, honour, and adoration to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Alleluia Verses (Tone 8)

From the early night watch my spirit keeps vigil for You, O God, for Your commandments are a light on the Earth.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Learn righteousness, you that dwell upon the Earth.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Envy shall seize upon an untaught people, and now, fire shall consume the adversaries.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Bring more evils upon them, O Lord, bring more evils upon those who are vainglorious on Earth.

People: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Troparion of the Bridegroom (Tone 8)

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom He shall find watching; and again unworthy is he whom He shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, lest you be borne down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be

shut out from the Kingdom. But rather rouse yourself and cry: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O our God; by the power of Your Cross have mercy on us.

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

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom He shall find watching; and again unworthy is he whom He shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, lest you be borne down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out from the Kingdom. But rather rouse yourself and cry: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O our God; through all Your Saints, have mercy on us.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Behold, the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is that servant whom He shall find watching; and again unworthy is he whom He shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, lest you be borne down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and be shut out from the Kingdom. But rather rouse yourself and cry: Holy, Holy, Holy are You, O our God; through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

The Little Litany

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For Yours is the might, and Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathismata

Tone 3

The harlot came to You, O Merciful Lord, pouring out on Your feet myrrh, mixed with her tears, and was redeemed of her vices at Your command; but Your ungrateful Disciple, though he breathed Your grace, rejected it, and becoming mixed in the filthy mire, he sells You in his greed. O Christ, glory to Your compassion.

Tone 4

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

The deceitful Judas, in his love for money, set out cunningly to betray You, O Lord, the Treasure of Life. Therefore in his folly he hastens to the Judeans, saying to the lawless: "What will you give me, and I will deliver Him to you, that He may be crucified?"

Tone 1

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The harlot, in her grief, called out to You, O compassionate Lord, and fervently dried Your sacred feet with the hair of her head; and from the depths of her heart she groaned: "Cast me not out, neither abhor me, O my God; but receive me in my repentance and save me, for You alone are Merciful."

Matins Gospel

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

People: Lord have mercy. (x3)

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend and hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to you all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.
(Chapter 12:17-50)

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Priest: Let us attend.

At That time, the crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign. The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see

that you can do nothing; look, the world has gone after Him.” Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So, these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew went with Philip and they told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honour him. “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify thy name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing by heard it and said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.” Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” He said this to show by what death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” When Jesus had said this, He departed and hid Himself from them. Though He had done so many signs before them, yet they did not believe in Him; it was that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” Therefore, they could not believe. For Isaiah again said, “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they should see with their eyes and perceive with their heart and turn for me to heal them.” Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke of Him. Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in Him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than

the praise of God. And Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in me, believes not in me but in Him who sent Me. And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If any one hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings has a judge; the word that I have spoken will be his judge on the last day. For I have not spoken on my own authority; the Father who sent me has himself given me commandment what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has bidden me.”

People: Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

Psalm 50

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart These, O God, You will not despise. Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem. Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

The Canon Third Ode (Tone 2)

Heirmos

You have edified me on the rock of faith. You have opened wide my mouth against my enemies; for my spirit has rejoiced in singing: “There is none Holy as our God, and there is none righteous, beside You, O Lord.”

Glory be to You, Our God, glory be to You.

In vain, the council of the lawless men is assembled, and in a perverse manner agree to declare You, the Deliverer, condemned, to Whom we sing; “You are our God, and there is none Holy, beside You, O Lord.”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The arbitrary council of lawless men convenes, with a God-fighting spirit, to put to death as inexpedient the righteous Christ, to Whom we sing: “You are our God, and there is none Holy, beside You, O Lord.”

Katavasia

You have edified me on the rock of faith. You have opened wide my mouth against my enemies; for my spirit has rejoiced in singing: “There is none Holy as our God, and there is none righteous, beside You, O Lord.”

The Little Litany

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For You are our God and to You we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kontakion

I have transgressed, O Master, more than the harlot, but I have not offered You a shower of tears; praying though, in silence, I fall down before You with fervour, kissing Your sacred feet, that You will forgive my debts, as I cry out to You: “O Saviour, deliver me from the filth of my evil deeds.”

Oikos

The woman, who was once a prodigal, showed herself suddenly wise, despising her shameful sins and carnal pleasure; she reflected on the magnitude of her shame, and the judgment of hell, which harlots and prodigals suffer. Of these I am the first, and I am terrified; but, fool that I am, I persist in my perverse habits. The harlot also, was in terror, but she hastened, and came to the Redeemer, crying out: “O Loving and Merciful Master, deliver me from the filth of my evil deeds.”

Synaxarion

The more accurate and exacting of the commentators on the four Gospels acknowledge that two women anointed the Lord, one long before His Passion, and one a few days before. One of these was a harlot, while the other was a chaste, virtuous woman. On this day the Church commemorates this act of piety and righteousness which proceeded from the harlot, contrasting it with the treachery of Judas and his Betrayal of Christ. Both of these acts fell on Wednesday, corresponding to the twenty-first of March, two days before the Mosaic Passover, as it appears from the course of the account of St Matthew the Evangelist.

The above mentioned harlot anointed the head and feet of Jesus with spikenard, and wiped them with the hair of her head. The precious ointment was worth three hundred dinars, or about fifteen pieces of Venetian gold. When the Disciples saw this they stumbled, especially Judas, the money-lover, and were angry because of the wasting of such an amount of ointment. Jesus rebuked them lest the woman be embarrassed. Judas was wroth, and went to the high priests, where they were gathered in the house of Caiphas, taking counsel against Jesus, and agreed with them to deliver the Master for thirty pieces of silver. From that time Judas sought an opportunity to deliver him. Because of this the fast of Wednesday was instituted from the days of the apostolic age itself.

Wherefore, O Bridegroom Christ, anointed with the supersensuous ointment deliver us from suffering, and have mercy on us. Amen.

The Canon (continued)

Eighth Ode (Tone 2)

Heirmos

When the tyrant's order prevailed, the furnace was fired sevenfold. In it, the Children were not burned; but trampling underfoot the king's decree they cried out: "All the works of the Lord, praise the Lord, and exalt Him forever."

Glory to You, Our God, glory to You.

The woman, O Christ, poured out the precious myrrh on Your exalted, Divine and awesome head; and touched Your most pure feet with her defiled hands crying out: "All the works of the Lord, praise the Lord, and exalt Him forever."

We bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

She who was immersed in sin, washed the feet of the Creator with her tears, and dried them with her hair. She was forgiven for all that she had committed in her life and cried aloud: "All the works of the Lord, praise the Lord, and exalt Him forever."

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The grateful woman was ransomed from her sins through the saving Love of God and a fountain of tears. Washed clean by her confession, she was not ashamed, but cried aloud: "All the works of the Lord, praise the Lord, and exalt Him forever."

We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.

Katavasia

When the tyrant's order prevailed, the furnace was fired sevenfold. In it, the Children were not burned; but trampling underfoot the king's decree they cried out: "All the works of the Lord, praise the Lord, and exalt Him forever."

Priest: The Theotokos and Mother of the Light let us honour and magnify in Hymns.

Nineth Ode (Tone 2)

Heirmos

Come, let us with pure souls and blameless lips magnify the undefiled and all-pure Mother of Emmanuel; offering through her, to Him, Who was born of her, this prayer: "Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us."

Glory to You, Our God, glory to You.

Showing himself ungrateful, envious, and cunning, Judas calculates the God worthy Gift, by which a debt of sins was forgiven; and as a knave he exploited the Divine favour. Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us.

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

Going to the lawless rulers, Judas says: "What will you give me, and I will deliver to you the Christ, Whom you want and seek?" From the closest bond with Christ, Judas is drawn away by gold. Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us.

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O for your vicious love of silver, you traitor, which made you forget what you have been taught, that you are a soul, whose worth the world does not equal. For you, O betrayer, in despair hanged yourself by the neck. Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us.

Katavasia

Come, let us with pure souls and blameless lips magnify the undefiled and all-pure Mother of Emmanuel; offering through her, to Him, Who was born of her, this prayer: "Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us."

The Little Litany

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

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For all the Powers of Heaven praise You, and to You we ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Exaposteilarion (Tone 3)

I see Your Bridal Chamber adorned, O my Saviour, and I have no wedding garment, that I may enter there within; make the robe of my soul to shine, O Giver of Light and save me. (x3)

The Praises (Tone 1)

Let every breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights. To You is due praise, O God.

Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts. To You is due praise, O God.

Tone 1

Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

The harlot recognising You, the Son of the Virgin, as God, and weeping besought You with tears, equal to her past deeds, and said: "Loose my debt, as I unloose my tresses; show love to the one, justly hated, who loves You, and who with the publicans hails You, O Benefactor, Lover of mankind."

Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp.

With the precious myrrh the harlot mixed her tears, and poured it over Your sacred feet, as she kissed them. Immediately You justified her; grant also forgiveness to us, You, Who suffered for us, and save us.

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and organs

While the sinful woman was offering the myrrh, the Disciple was making terms with the lawless; she rejoiced in emptying out that, which was precious; he hastened to sell Him, Who was above all price. She acknowledged the Master, he severed himself from the Master; she was set free, and Judas became a slave to the enemy. Monstrous was his callousness! Great was her repentance! Grant me this also, O Saviour, Who suffered for us, and save us.

Praise Him upon the loud cymbals; praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

O misery of Judas! He saw the harlot kissing the feet, and with guile he meditated the kiss of betrayal. She unloosed her tresses, and he bound himself with fury, bringing instead of myrrh, his foul wickedness; for envy knows not to appreciate even its own advantage. O wretchedness of Judas! From this, O God, deliver our souls.

Tone 2

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

The woman who was a sinner hastened to the market, that she might purchase precious myrrh to anoint the Benefactor. To the myrrh-seller she cried out: "Give me the myrrh, that even I may anoint Him, Who has wiped away all my sins."

Tone 6

Now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

She who was engulfed in sin found You, the haven of salvation; and pouring out myrrh with her tears, cried out: "Behold Him, Who bears the repentance of sinners!" O Master, in Your great mercy, rescue me from the tempest of sins.

Little Doxology

Priest: To You, Lord our God, belongs glory, and to You we send up glory: To the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill among men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for Your great glory.

O Lord, King, heavenly God the Father almighty; O Lord the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord, God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who take away the sin of the world: Have mercy on us, You that take away the sins of the world.

Receive our prayer, You that sit at the right hand of the Father; and have mercy on us.

For You alone are Holy, You alone are the Lord, Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your Name forever and unto the ages of ages.

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: O Lord have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.

Lord, to You have I fled for refuge; teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.

For in You is the fountain of Life, in Your light we shall see light.

Continue Your mercy to those who know You.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin.

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name to the ages. Amen.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, even as we have hoped in You.

Blessed are You, O Lord, teach me Your statutes.

Blessed are You, O Master, make me to understand Your commandments.

Blessed are You, O Holy One, enlighten me with Your precepts.

Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever: Despise not the works of Your hands.

To You belongs worship, to You belongs praise, to You belongs glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

The Litany of Supplication

Priest: Let us complete our prayer unto the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: Pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: All things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

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

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful; and a good defence before the dread Judgment Seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

People: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: Commemorating our all-holy, pure, most blessed and glorious Lady, Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary, (*Most Holy Theotokos, save us*) with all the saints; let us entrust ourselves and one another, and our whole life, to Christ our God.

People: To You O Lord.

Priest: For You are a God of mercies and of bounties and loving toward mankind, and to you we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Peace be to you all.

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Priest: O Holy Lord, Who dwells on high and regards the humble of heart and with Your all-seeing eye does behold all creation, to You have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we entreat You: O Holy of holies, stretch forth Your invisible hand from Your Holy dwelling-place, and bless us all. And if indeed we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive, inasmuch as You are a good God and love mankind, vouchsafing to us Your Earthly and Heavenly good things.

For Yours it is to show mercy and to save us, O our God, and to You we ascribe glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Aposticha

Tone 6

Today Christ comes to the house of the Pharisee, and a sinful woman approached Him falling at His feet and crying out: "Behold me, engulfed in sin, and in despair for my deeds; and yet, not despised by Your goodness. Grant me, O Lord, the remission from evil, and save me."

O satisfy us early with Your mercy, That we may rejoice and be glad all our days!

The harlot spread out her hair before the Master; Judas spread out his hands to the lawless men; the one to receive forgiveness, the other to receive the silver. Therefore, let us cry out to You, Who was sold, and Who has freed us: "O Lord, glory to You."

Make us glad according to the days in which You have afflicted us, The years in which we have seen evil. Let Your work appears to Your servants, and Your glory to their children.

A sinful and defiled woman drew near to You, O Saviour, and poured out tears upon Your feet, proclaiming Your passion. "How can I look upon You, O Master? For You indeed have come to save the harlot. You, Who raised Lazarus from the tomb after four days, raise me, out of the depths who is dying; accept me, the wretched one, O Lord, and save me."

And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us, prosper the work of our hands; Yes, prosper the work of our hands.

She who was in despair for her life, with her evil ways well known, holding the myrrh, came to You crying out: "You, Who was born of a Virgin, reject me not, the harlot; disregard not my tears, You, Who are the joy of the Angels; but, O Lord, through Your great mercy, receive me in repentance, whom as a sinner, You did not cast out."

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

The Hymn of Kassiani (Tone 8)

O Lord, the woman had fallen into many sins, yet when she perceived Your divinity, she joined the ranks of the myrrh-bearing women. In tears she brought You myrrh before Your burial. She cried, "Woe is me! For I live in the night of licentiousness, shrouded in the dark and moonless love of sin. But accept the fountain of my tears, O You Who gathered the waters of the sea into clouds. Bow down Your ear to the sighing of my heart, O You Who bowed the heavens in Your ineffable condescension. Once Eve heard Your footsteps in paradise in the cool of the day, and in fear she ran and hid herself. But now I will tenderly embrace those pure feet and wipe them with the hair of my head. Who can measure the multitude of my sins, or the depth of Your judgements, O Saviour of my soul? Do not despise Your handmaid in Your immeasurable mercy."

Priest: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

The Trisagion Prayers

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(x3)

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

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

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

Priest: For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kontakion

I have transgressed, O Master, more than the harlot, but I have not offered You a shower of tears; praying though, in silence, I fall down before You with fervour, kissing Your sacred feet, that You will forgive my debts, as I cry out to You: “O Saviour, deliver me from the filth of my evil deeds.”

Lord have mercy. (x40)

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

More honourable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare, more glorious than the Seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God the Word, the very Theotokos: you do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father give the blessing.

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: O Heavenly King, support the faithful; confirm the faith; guide the nations; give peace to the world; and preserve well this holy church and this city. Grant repose to our departed fathers and brethren in the dwelling-place of the righteous. Receive us in repentance and confession, for You are a good and merciful God and love mankind.

People: Amen.

The Prayer of St. Ephraim The Syrian

O Lord and Master of my life take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and vain talk. (*Full Prostration*)

But bestow upon me, Your servant, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love. (*Full Prostration*)

Yes, my Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and faults and not to judge my brother or sister; for You are blessed to ages of ages. Amen. (*Full Prostration*)

The Dismissal

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

People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord have mercy. (x3)

In the name of the Lord, Father give the blessing.

Priest: May He Who is going to His voluntary passion for our salvation, Christ our True God, through the prayers of His most pure, blameless and holy Mother; at the supplications of the honourable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of Saint (*Name*), the patron(s) of this Church, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the Saints; have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us.

People: Amen.



Saints Michael and Gabriel Antiochian Orthodox Church