

Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Monday

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

Reader: Amen. Glory to thee, O God, glory to thee.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art everywhere 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. (3x)

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. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

All: 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.

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

Reader: Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace, goodwill towards man (3x).

O Lord, open Thou my lips and my mouth
shall show forth Thy praise (2x).

The Six Morning Psalms (*Three are taken*)

Psalm 3

O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising
against me; many are saying of me, there is no help for
him in God. But thou, O LORD, art a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head. I cry aloud to the
LORD, and he answers me from his holy hill. I lie down
and sleep; I wake again, for the LORD sustains me. I
am not afraid of ten thousands of people who have set
themselves against me round about.

Arise, O LORD! Deliver me, O my God! For thou dost
smite all my enemies on the cheek, thou dost break the
teeth of the wicked. Deliverance belongs to the LORD;
thy blessing be upon thy people!

Psalm 38

O LORD, rebuke me not in thy anger, nor chasten me in thy wrath! For thy arrows have sunk into me, and thy hand has come down on me. There is no soundness in my flesh because of thy indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me.

My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness, I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. For my loins are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart.

Lord, all my longing is known to thee, my sighing is not hidden from thee. My heart throbs, my strength fails me; and the light of my eyes -- it also has gone from me. My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my kinsmen stand afar off. Those who seek my life lay their snares, those who seek my hurt speak of ruin, and meditate treachery all the day long. But I am like a deaf man, I do not hear, like a dumb man who

does not open his mouth. Yea, I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth are no rebukes.

But for thee, O LORD, do I wait; it is thou, O LORD my God, who wilt answer. For I pray, "Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!" For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever with me. I confess my iniquity, I am sorry for my sin. Those who are my foes without cause are mighty, and many are those who hate me wrongfully. Those who render me evil for good are my adversaries because I follow after good.

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

Psalm 63

O God, thou art my God, I seek thee, my soul thirsts for thee; my flesh faints for thee, as in a dry and weary land where no water is. So I have looked upon thee in the sanctuary, beholding thy power and glory. Because thy steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise thee. So I will bless thee as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on thy name.

My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat, and my mouth praises thee with joyful lips, when I think of thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the watches of the night; for thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of thy wings I sing for joy.

My soul clings to thee; thy right hand upholds me. But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth; they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals. But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall glory; for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

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

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God.

The Great Litany

Priest: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

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

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

For His Beatitude our Metropolitan _____ ; for His Eminence (Grace) our Archbishop (Bishop) _____ ; for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

All: 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.

All: Amen.

The Alleluias

Priest: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. In the night, my soul
rises early for thee, O God, for Thy
commandments are a light on the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest: Learn righteousness, all you inhabitants of the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest: Jealousy shall grasp an untaught people.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Priest: Bring more evils on them, O Lord, bring more evils on those who are glorious on the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Troparion

Behold, the Bridegroom comes at midnight, and blessed is the servant whom He shall find watching. And again, unworthy is the servant whom He shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, do not be weighted down with sleep, lest you be given up to death, and lest you be shut out of the Kingdom. But rouse yourself crying: Holy, holy, holy, art Thou, O our God. Through the Theotokos, have mercy on us.

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

Behold the Bridegroom comes at midnight ...

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

Behold the Bridegroom comes at midnight ...

(If included, the Kathismata are now chanted.)

Gospel Reading

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of hearing the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

Choir: Lord have mercy. (3x)

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace, be unto all!

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: The reading is from the Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Priest: Let us attend!

(Matthew 21:18-43) At that time, as Jesus was returning to the city, he was hungry. ¹⁹ And seeing a fig tree by the

wayside he went to it, and found nothing on it but leaves only. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once.²⁰ When the disciples saw it they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?"²¹ And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and never doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' it will be done."²² And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

²³ And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"²⁴ Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you a question; and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things."²⁵ The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven or from men?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'"²⁶ But if we say, 'From men,' we are afraid of the multitude; for all hold that John was a prophet."²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do

these things. ²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; and he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he repented and went. ³⁰ And he went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots believed him; and even when you saw it, you did not afterward repent and believe him.

³³ "Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴ When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; ³⁵ and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. ³⁷ Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'
³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and

have his inheritance.' ³⁹ And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? ⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation producing the fruits of it."

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy steadfast love; according to thy abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight, so that thou art justified in thy sentence and blameless in thy judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors thy ways, and sinners will return to thee.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of thy deliverance. O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise. For thou hast no delight in

sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, thou wouldst not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Do good to Zion in thy good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then wilt thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on thy altar.

Priest: O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Visit Thy world in mercy and compassion. Exalt the estate of Orthodox Christians, and send down upon us Thy rich mercies; through the prayers of our all-pure Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; by the power of the precious and life-creating Cross; through the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; through the supplications of the honorable, glorious, Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of our Fathers among the Saints, great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom; of our Fathers among the Saints, Athanasius

and Cyril of Alexandria, Ignatius of Antioch, Polycarp of Smyrna, Irenaeus of Lyons and Cyprian of Carthage; of our Fathers among the Saints, Nicholas of Myra and Lycia, Wonderworker and patron of this holy house, Leo and Gregory of Rome, Ambrose of Milan, and the holy Confessor Patrick of Ireland; of the Holy Methodius and Cyril, teachers of the Slavs, of the holy Prince Vladimir, the blessed Princess Olga, Nina, Enlightener of Georgia, and Nicholas, equal to the Apostles and Enlightener of Japan; of our Fathers among the saints, the hierarchs of all Rus, Peter, Alexis, Kyprian Jonah and Philip, Innocent, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to America, and Tikhon the Confessor; of our Fathers among the Saints, Clement of Okhrid, Sava of Serbia and Euthymius of Trnovo; of the holy, glorious, and right-victorious martyrs, the great martyr and healer, Panteleimon, the great martyrs Demetrios, George, Katherine and Barbara; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers, Anthony and Theodosius and the other Wonderworkers of the Caves in Kiev, Sergius of Radonezh, Seraphim of Sarov, Makarios of Corinth,

Nektarios of Aegina, Nikodemos and Silouan of the Holy Mountain, and Cosmas the Aitolian; of our venerable Father Herman, Elder and Wonderworker of Alaska and All-America; of our Fathers among the saints Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn, and John, the Wonderworker and Bishop of San Francisco; of our righteous Fathers Alexis of Minneapolis and Wilkes-Barre, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy, John and Alexander, Missionaries to America and Hieromartyrs under the Bolshevik yoke; of the first martyrs in North America, our Father Juvenaly and Peter of Alaska; of Nicholas, Bishop of Zicha, and our Righteous Father John of Kronstadt; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the Saints, hear us sinners, who pray to Thee, and have mercy on us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy (12x).

Priest: Through the mercy and compassion and love for mankind of Thine only-begotten Son with whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, good, and life creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The Canon

Ode 1 (Tone 2)

Irmos: Let us sing to the Lord! / By His divine command He dried up the raging and impassible sea, / and led the people of Israel through on foot, // for gloriously has he been glorified!

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee! O the inexpressible condescension of the Word of God! For Christ, who is both God and man, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself and appeared to His disciples in the form of a servant. Gloriously has He been glorified!

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee! “With the wealth of my divine nature, I came in order to minister to Adam in his poverty. I fashioned his body and now willingly I put it on. Though in my divine nature I am not

subject to passion, I lay down my life to ransom his.”

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

Katavasia: Let us sing to the Lord ...

Kontakion (Tone 8)

Jacob lamented the loss of Joseph / but his noble son was seated on a chariot and honored as a king. / For when he refused to be enslaved by the pleasures of the Egyptian woman / he was glorified by the Lord who beholds the hearts of men, / and bestows upon them an incorruptible crown.

Ikos (Tone 8)

Today let us add lamentation to lamentation. / Let our tears flow with those of Jacob, / who weeps for his celebrated and sober-minded son. / For though bodily, Joseph was indeed a

slave, / he preserved the freedom of his soul
and was lord over all Egypt. // For God
prepares for His servants an incorruptible
crown.

Ode 8 (Tone 2)

Irmos: The relentless fire was fed by fuel in endless
supply, / yet it shrank before the flesh of the
holy youths, as pure as their souls, / and when
the never-ending flame was quenched, / the
singing of an everlasting hymn began: / praise
the Lord, all works of the Lord, // and exalt
Him throughout all ages.

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee! “By
this will all men know that you are my
disciples,” said the Savior to His friends as He
went to His passion, “if you will keep my
commandments. Be at peace among
yourselves, and with all men. Think humbly of
yourselves and you will be exalted. And,
knowing that I am the Lord, you will sing and
exalt me throughout all ages.”

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee! “Let your order be contrary to that of the Gentiles, who hold power over their fellow men, for such is not my portion, but rather is self-appointed tyranny. He, then, who would be great among you, must be servant of all, and knowing that I am the Lord, he will sing and exalt me throughout all ages.”

Reader: Let us bless the Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Choir: We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

Katavasia: The relentless fire ...

Ode 9 (Tone 2)

Irmos: Thou hast magnified the Theotokos who bore Thee, O Christ. / From her thou hast put on a body like our own, O our Creator, / which releases us from our errors. // Blessing her, we in all generations magnify Thee!

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee! Thou didst warn Thine apostles, O Wisdom of all: “Flee from impure passion. Seek instead wisdom worthy of the Kingdom of God. Thus you will be glorified and shine more brightly than the sun.”

Reader: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee! The Lord said to His disciples: “As you look at me, do not be haughty, but be joined to the lowly. The cup which I drink, drink also, that you may be glorified with me in my Father’s Kingdom.”

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

Katavasia: Thou hast magnified the Theotokos ...

Little Litany

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

Choir: Lord have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord have mercy.

Priest: 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 ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Exapostilarion

Thy bridal chamber I see adorned, O my Savior, and I have no wedding garment that I may enter. O Giver of Light, enlighten the vesture of my soul, and save me.

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

Thy bridal chamber ...

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thy bridal chamber ...

The Praises (Psalm 148, 149, 150)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens,
praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels;
praise Him, all His host! Praise Him, sun and moon;
praise Him, all you shining stars! Praise Him, you
highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the Lord! For He
commanded and they were created. And He
established them forever and ever; He fixed their
bounds which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all
deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind
fulfilling His command! Mountains and all hills, fruit
trees and all cedars! Beasts and all cattle, creeping
things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all

peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel.

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song. His praise in the assembly of the faithful! Let Israel be glad in his Maker, let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King! Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with timbrel and lyre! For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches. Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands, to wreak vengeance on the nations and chastisement on the peoples, to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron, to execute on them the judgment written! This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary, praise Him in His mighty firmament!

Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness.

(Tone 1)

As the Lord was going to his voluntary Passion
He said to the Apostles on the way.

“Behold, we go up to Jerusalem,
And the Son of man shall be delivered up, as it is
written of Him.”

Come, therefore, let us also go with Him,
Purified in mind,

Let us be crucified with Him and die through Him
To the pleasures of this life.

Then we shall live with Him and hear Him say:

“I go no more to the earthly Jerusalem to suffer.

But to my Father and your Father,

to my God and your God,

I shall raise you up into the Jerusalem on high//

In the Kingdom of Heaven.

Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp.

**(Repeat “As the Lord was going to His voluntary
Passion”)**

*Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings
and pipe!*

(Tone 5)

We have reached the saving passion of Christ our
God.

Let us, the faithful, glorify His ineffable
forbearance.

That in His compassion He may raise up who were
dead in sin//

For He is good and loves mankind.

*Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud
clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the
Lord! Praise the Lord!*

(Repeat “We have reached the saving passion ...”)

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

(Tone 5)

Going to Thy Passion, O Lord

Thou took Thy disciples aside and reassured them;

“How have you forgotten the words that I once
spoke?

Is it not written:

‘A prophet cannot be killed but in Jerusalem?’

Now is the time of which I told you.

Behold, I am betrayed into the hands of sinners to
be mocked.

They will nail Me to the cross and deliver Me up to
burial,

Regarding me, as a dead man, a thing of loathing.

Yet, take courage, for I will arise on the third day//

Giving the faithful joy and life everlasting.”

*To Thee, O Lord our God, belongs glory, and to 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. Amen.*

Lesser Doxology

Reader: Glory to Thee who hast show us the light!
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace, good will towards 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 the Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who 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 alone art holy. Thou alone art Lord. Thou only, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless Thee and praise Thy name forever. Yea, O Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.

Lord, to 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 those who 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 forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master, make me to understand Thy commandments. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy precepts.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endures forever. Do not despise the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongs worship. To Thee belongs praise. To Thee belongs glory. To the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Litany of Matins

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Grant it, O Lord.

Priest:

- An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.
- Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.
- All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.
- That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

- 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.
- 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 the Lover of mankind, and to Thee we ascribe glory. To the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Peace, be unto all.

Choir: And to your spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: O Holy Lord, who dwells on high and regards the humble of heart, and who with Thine all-seeing eye beholds all creation: to Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body and we entreat Thee: Stretch forth Thine invisible

hand from Thy holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, whether voluntary or involuntary, forgive, inasmuch as Thou art a good God, and the lover of mankind, vouchsafing to us Thy earthly and heavenly good things.

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

Aposticha

(Tone 5)

The mother of Zebedee's children, O Lord, could not understand the ineffable mystery of Thy dispensation.

She asked the honor of the temporal kingdom for her sons,

but instead Thou promised Thy friends that they should drink the cup of death.

A cup that Thou wouldst drink before them for the cleansing of sins

Therefore we cry out to Thee//

“O Salvation of our souls, glory to Thee!”

Satisfy us in the morning with Thy steadfast love that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as Thou hast afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Let Thy work be manifest to Thy servants, and Thy glorious power to their children.

Thou taught Thy disciples, O Lord,
to desire what is perfect,
Saying: “be not like the Gentiles, who oppress the
weak.

It shall not be so with you, O my disciples.

For of my own will I am poor.

Let the first among you, therefore, be the servant of
all.

Let the ruler be like those who are ruled.

Let him who is first be like the last.

For I have come to serve Adam in his poverty,
and to give my life as ransom for the many who cry
to me://

“O Lord, glory to Thee!”

*Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish
Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our
hands, establish Thou it.*

(Tone 8)

The fig tree was withered up because it was
unfruitful.

We should fear the same punishment, O brethren,
and bring worthy fruits of repentance to Christ//
Who brings to us great mercy.

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

The serpent found a second Eve in the Egyptian
woman

and plotted the fall of Joseph through words of
flattery.

But, leaving behind his garment Joseph fled from
sin.

He was naked but unashamed, like Adam before
the fall.//

Through his prayers, O Christ, have mercy on us.

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

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

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. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

All: 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. Standing in the temple of your glory, we think that we are in heaven, O Theotokos, Gate of heaven. Open to us the gates of your mercy.

Lord have mercy (x3).

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, true Theotokos, we magnify you! In the name of the Lord, Father bless!

Priest: Christ, Our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. O Heavenly King, establish the Orthodox Christians, confirm the Faith, quiet the heathen, give peace to the world, place our departed fathers and brethren in the tabernacles of the Righteous, and accept us sorrowers and penitents, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

Prayer of St. Ephraim

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life! Take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. (*Prostration*)

But give, rather, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. (*Prostration*)

Yea, O Lord and King! Grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. (*Prostration*)

(12 metanias while saying "O God, cleanse me a sinner." Then, the Prayer of St Ephraim is said in full, with a single prostration at the end.)

Dismissal

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! Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy! Father bless!

Priest: May the Lord who is going to His voluntary passion on behalf of us men and for our salvation, 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 loves mankind.

The First Hour

Reader: 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 5

Give ear to my words, O LORD; give heed to my groaning. Hearken to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to Thee do I pray. O Lord, in the morning thou dost hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for Thee, and watch. For Thou art not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not sojourn with Thee. The boastful may not stand before Thine eyes; Thou hate all evildoers. Thou destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors bloodthirsty and deceitful men.

But I through the abundance of Thy steadfast love will enter Thy house, I will worship toward Thy holy temple in the fear of Thee. Lead me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness because of my enemies; make Thy way straight before me. For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is destruction, their throat is an open sepulcher, they flatter with their tongue. Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; because of their many transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against Thee. But let all

who take refuge in Thee rejoice, let them ever sing for joy; and do Thou defend them, that those who love Thy name may exult in Thee. For Thou dost bless the righteous, O Lord; Thou covers him with favor as with a shield.

Psalm 90

LORD, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God. Thou turn man back to the dust, and says, "Turn back, O children of men!" For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

Thou sweep men away; they are like a dream, like grass which is renewed in the morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. For we are consumed by Thine anger; by Thy wrath we are overwhelmed. Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance. For all our days pass away under Thy wrath, our years come to an end like a sigh. The years of our life are threescore and ten, or even by reason of strength fourscore; yet their span is but toil and trouble;

they are soon gone, and we fly away.

Who considers the power of Thine anger, and Thy wrath according to the fear of Thee? So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on Thy servants! Satisfy us in the morning with Thy steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as Thou has afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

Let Thy work be manifest to Thy servants, and Thy glorious power to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it.

Psalm 101

I will sing of loyalty and of justice; to Thee, O Lord, I will sing. I will give heed to the way that is blameless. Oh when will Thou come to me? I will walk with integrity of heart within my house; I will not set before my eyes anything that is base. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cleave to me. Perverseness of heart shall be far from me; I will know nothing of evil.

Him who slanders his neighbor secretly I will destroy.
The man of haughty looks and arrogant heart I will not endure.

I will look with favor on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me; he who walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me. No man who practices deceit shall dwell in my house; no man who utters lies shall continue in my presence. Morning by morning I will destroy all the wicked in the land, cutting off all the evildoers from the city of the Lord.

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

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God. (x3)

Lord, have mercy. (x3)

Troparion (Tone 6)

Priest: Hearken to the sound of my cry, my King and my God.

Choir: Hearken to the sound of my cry, my King and my God.

Priest: Give ear to my words. O Lord, give heed to my groaning.

Choir: Hearken...

Priest: For to Thee do I pray.

Choir: Hearken...

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

Reader: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
What shall we call you, O full of grace?
Heaven, for from you shone forth the sun of righteousness; paradise, for you have budded forth the flower of immortality; Virgin, for you have remained undefiled; Pure Mother, for you have held in your arms the Son, who is God of all. Beseech Him to save our souls.

Order my steps in Thy word, and so shall no wickedness have dominion over me. Deliver me from the wrongful dealings of men, and so shall I keep Thy commandments. Show the light of Thy countenance upon Thy servant, and teach me Thy statutes.

Let my mouth be filled with Thy praise, O Lord, that I may sing of Thy glory and honor all the day long.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! (x3)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and 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 (x3)

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

All: 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.

Kontakion (Tone 8)

Jacob lamented the loss of Joseph / but his noble son was seated on a chariot and honored as a king. / For when he refused to be enslaved by the pleasures of the Egyptian woman / he was glorified by the Lord who beholds the hearts of men, / and bestows upon them an incorruptible crown.

Reader: Lord, have mercy (12x)

Thou who at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified; O Christ our God, who art long-suffering, merciful and compassionate; who

loves the just and shows mercy to those who are hardened with sins, who calls all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come; O Lord, in this hour receive our supplication, and direct our lives according to Thy commandments.

Sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds; deliver us from all tribulations, evil and distress.

Surround us with Thy holy angels that guided and guarded by them, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy (x3)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim; without defilement you gave birth to God the

Word; true Theotokos, we magnify you. In the name of the Lord, Father bless.

Priest: God be bountiful unto us, and bless us, and show us the light of His countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Reader: Amen.

Prayer of St. Ephraim

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life! Take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. (*Prostration*)

But give, rather, the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. (*Prostration*)

Yea, O Lord and King! Grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. (*Prostration*)

(12 metanias while saying "O God, cleanse me a sinner." Then, the Prayer of St Ephraim is said in full, with a single prostration at the end.)

Reader: O Christ, the True Light, who enlightens and sanctifies every man who comes into the world, let the light of Thy countenance shine upon us, that in it we may behold the unapproachable light; and guide our footsteps aright to the keeping of Thy commandments; through the prayers of Thy most pure Mother, and of all Thy saints. Amen.

Dismissal

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! Lord have mercy! Lord have mercy! Father bless!

Priest: May the Lord who is going to His voluntary passion on behalf of us men and for our salvation, 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 loves mankind.

Choir: Amen! Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy!