

Matins of Great and Holy Thursday

(Reader's service - for use when there is no priest)

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

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things, 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. *(x3)*

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

O Most-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; O Lord, blot out our sins; O Master, pardon our iniquities; 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, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in the heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

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

Lord, have mercy. *(x12)*

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

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. *(x3)*

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise.
(x2)

The Six Psalms

Psalm 3

Reader: 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

Reader: 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

Reader: 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.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*x3*)

Lord, have mercy. (*x3*)

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

Psalm 87

Reader: 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

Reader: 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 fulfillleth 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

Reader: 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.

Reader: Hearken unto me, O Lord, in Thy righteousness, and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. **(x2)**

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

Reader: 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. **(x3)**

Lord. have mercy. **(x12)**

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

Reader: Alleluia, in the 8th Tone: Out of the night my soul rises early to Thee, O God, for Thy commandments are light upon the earth.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Learn righteousness, ye that dwell upon the earth.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Jealously shall grasp an untaught people.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Bring more evils upon them, O Lord; bring more evils upon those who are glorious upon the earth.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Troparion of Holy Thursday

People: *(Tone 8)* When the glorious Disciples were enlightened at the washing of the 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!

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

(Repeat 'When the glorious Disciples...')

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

(Repeat 'When the glorious Disciples...')

Reader: Lord, have mercy. *(x3)*

The Gospel Reading

Reader: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

People: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

Reader: *[Read Luke 22:1-39. Tonsured readers or subdeacons may chant the Gospel; others should read using a normal speaking voice.]*

At that time, the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people. Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them. And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money. And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude.

Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed. And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat. And they said unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare? And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready. And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.

And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table. And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed! And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing.

And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth. Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing. Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one. For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end. And they said, Lord, behold, here are two swords. And he said unto them, It is enough. And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him.

People: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

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 Zion, 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.

Reader: Lord. have mercy. (*x12*)

The Canon

Ode 1

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) At a stroke the Red Sea was parted in two, the swelling depths were dried up— a path for those unarmed, a grave for those in full array. A song befitting God was sung, for gloriously has Christ our God been glorified.

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

Cause of all and Giver of life, the infinite Wisdom of God, has built a house from a pure, unwedded mother. For, clothed in the temple of His body, gloriously has Christ our God been glorified.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Initiating His friends into the mystery, the true Wisdom of God has set a table that nourishes the soul, and has mixed a cup of immortality for the faithful. Let us draw near with reverence and cry out: “Gloriously has Christ our God been glorified!”

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

Let us the faithful all listen as the uncreated and innate Wisdom of God calls out with a loud voice, for He cries: "Taste, and knowing that I am God, exclaim: 'Gloriously has Christ our God been glorified!'"

Ode 3

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) The Lord and Creator of all, the Changeless God, descended to unite the creature to Himself. Now as the Passover He offers Himself to those for whom He is about to die, crying: "Eat my Body and be confirmed in faith!"

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

Thou didst fill Thy cup of gladness, which redeems all the race of men, and didst give it to Thy Disciples to drink, O Good One. Thou didst offer Thyself, crying: "Drink My Blood and be confirmed in faith!"

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

"Foolish is the man among you who is a betrayer," foretold the Patient One to His Disciples. "He shall not know these things, and being without understanding, He shall not understand. Yet abide in Me and be confirmed in faith!"

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*x3*)

Kathisma Hymns

People: (*Tone 1*) The Lord, Who alone loves mankind, Who created the lakes, the rivers, and the seas, gave us a special commandment of love when He wrapped a towel around His waist and washed the feet of His Disciples. He humbled Himself in the greatness of His goodness, raising us from the depths of evil.

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

People: (*Tone 3*) In Thy goodness Thou didst humble Thyself, washing the feet of Thy Disciples. Peter would not allow this, not seeing the divine plan. When Thou didst reveal it, He obeyed and was washed. We fervently pray to Thee: “Grant us great mercy!”

Reader: Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

People: (*Tone 4*) Eating with Thy Disciples, O Master, Thou didst reveal a holy mystery to them: that Thou wouldst be slain, delivering us from corruption, for we venerate Thy holy Passion.

Ode 4

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) Foreseeing Thine ineffable mystery, the Prophet foretold Thee, O Christ: “Thou hast shown a mighty love, O Compassionate Father, by sending Thine only-begotten Son into the world as its atonement.”

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

Going to the Passion, which pours forth freedom from passion to all of Adam’s race, Thou didst say to Thy friends, O Christ: “I have earnestly desired to share this Passover with you. For the Father has sent Me, the only-begotten Son, into the world as its atonement.”

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Partaking of the Cup, Thou didst cry out to Thy Disciples, O Immortal One: “No more shall I drink of the fruit of the vine while I am living among you! For the Father has sent Me, the only-begotten Son, into the world as its atonement.”

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

Thou didst say to Thy friends, O Christ: “In My Kingdom I shall drink a new vintage beyond understanding, so that I shall be with you as God among gods. For the Father has sent Me, the only-begotten Son into the world as its atonement.”

Ode 5

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) The Apostles were united by a bond of love, dedicated to Christ, Who rules over all. Their beautiful feet were washed for the preaching of the Gospel of peace to all.

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

The Wisdom of God, Who rules the ungovernable waters of the heavens, Who tames the deeps and restrains the seas, now pours water into a basin, and the Master washes the feet of His servants.

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

The Master shows the Disciples an example of humility; He Who wraps the vault of heaven in clouds girds Himself with a towel; He Who holds in His hands the breath of all that exists, kneels down to wash the feet of His servants.

Ode 6

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) The final abyss of sins has encompassed me. Unable to bear its waves, like Jonah I cry to Thee: "Lead me from corruption, O Master!"

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

"Ye call me Lord and Teacher, O Disciples, for so I am. Therefore, imitate the example which ye have seen in 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.

He who has no filth does not need to wash, except for his feet, and ye are clean, O Disciples, but not all of you. For a mad impulse rages within one of you.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*x3*)

Kontakion

People: (*Tone 2*) With his hands the betrayer receives the bread. With his hands he secretly receives the silver, the price of Him Who fashioned man with His hands; so the servant and deceiver Judas remains depraved.

Ikos

Reader: (*Tone 2*) Let us all approach the mystical table in fear and receive the Bread with pure souls; and let us stay with the Master, so that we may see how He washes His Disciples' feet and wipes them with a towel. Let us do as we have seen Him do, submitting to one another and washing one another's feet, for Christ Himself thus commanded His Disciples. But the servant and deceiver Judas did not take heed.

Ode 7

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) The Youths in Babylon were not afraid of the flaming furnace. When cast into the midst of the flames, they were washed in dew and sang: "Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers!"

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

Nodding his head in agreement, Judas deliberately stirs up evil, seeking an opportunity to hand over to condemnation the Judge Who is Lord of all and God of our fathers.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Christ cried out to His friends: "One of you will betray me." They forgot their gladness and were seized by anxiety and grief, saying: "Tell us who it is, O God of our fathers!"

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

"He that boldly dips his hand in the same dish with Me. It would be better for that man if he had never passed through the gate of life." Thus did Christ, the God of our fathers, disclose the one who would betray Him.

Ode 8

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) The blessed Youths in Babylon braved dangers for their fathers' laws. They ignored the ignorant command of the king. United by a fire which did not consume them, they sang a hymn worthy of the Almighty: "Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Exalt Him throughout all ages!"

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

The blessed Apostles, those guests faithfully present with the Word in Zion, followed the Shepherd like sheep; and united by Christ, from Whom they were not parted, they fed upon the divine Word, crying out in thanksgiving: "Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord. Exalt Him throughout all ages!"

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Iscariot, that man of ill-omened name, forced from his mind the law of love, and moved to betrayal the feet which Thou hadst washed, O Christ. He then ate Thy Bread, even Thy Divine Body, lifted up his heel against Thee, and knew not how to cry: "Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Exalt Him throughout all ages!"

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

Without conscience Judas accepted the Body that cleanses from sin and the Blood that was shed for the world. But he was not ashamed of drinking what he had sold for a price. He was not offended at evil, and knew not how to cry: "Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Exalt Him throughout all ages!"

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

Ode 9

People: (*Irmos, Tone 6*) Come, O faithful, let us enjoy the Master's hospitality: the Banquet of Immortality! In the upper chamber with uplifted minds, let us receive the exalted words of the Word, Whom we magnify.

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

"Go," says the Word to His Disciples, "and in the upper chamber prepare the Passover that confirms the mind of those whom I initiate with the unleavened word of truth; and magnify the strength of grace!"

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!

Before the ages the Father begot Me, His creative Wisdom. He made Me the beginning of His ways for His works, which now have been mystically perfected. For, being by nature the uncreated Word, I make my own the words of that nature which I have now assumed.

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

Just as I am Man in essence and not in imagination, so also the nature that has been united to me is God by reason of communion. Therefore know Me, the one Christ, Who am saving those things from which and in which I was brought forth!

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*x3*)

Exapostilarion

People: (*Tone 8*) 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

(Repeat 'Thy bridal chamber...')

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

(Repeat 'Thy bridal chamber...')

The Praises

Reader: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. To Thee is due praise, O God. Praise Him, all ye His angels; praise Him, all ye His hosts. To Thee is due praise, O God. 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 forever, 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 per-form 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.

People: *(Tone 2)* The assembly of the Jews gathers together to deliver to Pilate the Maker and Creator of all. What lawlessness! What faithlessness! The Judge of the living and the dead they prepare for judgment. The Healer of suffering they prepare for sufferings. How great is Thy mercy! O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!

Reader: Praise him with the sound of the trumpet. Praise him with the psaltery and harp.

People: *(Tone 2)* The transgressor Judas, O Lord, dipped his hand in the plate with Thee at supper. But now, he unlawfully stretches forth his hand for silver. He calculated the price of the woman's myrrh, yet he does not shudder in selling Thee, the Priceless One. He let the Master wash his feet, yet he deceitfully kisses Him in betrayal to lawless men. Cast out from the ranks of the Apostles, he casts away the thirty pieces of silver, not seeing the Resurrection on the third day. By it, have mercy on us!

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

People: *(Tone 2)* Judas, the treacherous deceiver, with a deceitful kiss betrayed the Lord and Savior. He sold the Master as a slave to lawless men, and the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, the only greatly merciful One, was led as a sheep to the slaughter.

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

People: (*Tone 2*) Servant and deceiver, disciple and betrayer, friend and devil, Judas has been revealed by his deeds. While following the Master, he plotted His betrayal. He said to himself: "I shall betray him and gain the purse." He sought to have the myrrh sold and, by deceit, to have Jesus seized. He gave the kiss and gave up the Christ. But like a sheep led to the slaughter, so went the only compassionate Lover of mankind.

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

People: (*Tone 2*) The Lamb, Whom Isaiah proclaimed, goes willingly to the slaughter; He gives his back to scourging, His cheeks to buffeting. He does not turn His face from the shame of spitting. He is condemned to a shameful death. He, Who is sinless, willingly submits to all to grant to all resurrection from the dead.

The Lesser Doxology

Reader: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, 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 statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me by Thy statutes.

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.

Reader: Lord. have mercy. (*x12*)

Aposticha

People: (*Tone 8*) Today the evil assembly gathers against the Christ and devises false charges against Him, to deliver the Innocent One over to Pilate to die. Today Judas sets up for himself the gallows of wealth, abandoning both earthly and heavenly life. Today Caiaphas prophesies unwittingly, saying: “It is expedient that one man should die for the people.” For truly Christ came to suffer for our sins, to free us from bondage to the enemy, for He is good and loves mankind.

Reader: He who ate of My bread has lifted his heel against me

People: (*Tone 8*) Today Judas abandons all pretense of love for the poor. Not caring for them, he assumes the very shape of greed. Instead of selling the sinful woman’s myrrh, He sells the Anointed One of God and steals the proceeds. He runs to the lawless Jews and asks: “What will ye give me if I betray Him to you?” Cursed be the traitor’s love of silver! He lowers the price and bargains like a trader. He sells Jesus like a runaway slave, not asking much, For thieves never regard the value of precious things. Now the disciple casts holy things to the dogs. Maddened with avarice, he howls against the Master. Let us flee from his example and cry: O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!

Reader: His heart gathered iniquity to itself: he went out and spoke of it.

People: *(Tone 8)* Thy life, O lawless Judas, is filled with deceit. Sick with avarice, thou didst gain the contempt of all men. If thou didst desire wealth, why didst thou follow Him Who taught poverty? If thou didst love the priceless One, why didst thou sell Him? Why didst thou hand Him over to be murdered? Shudder, O sun! O earth, lament and cry with fear: “O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!”

Reader: He utters lawless words against Me.

People: *(Tone 8)* Let no one be ignorant of the Lord’s supper, O believers. Let no one approach the banquet with deceit like Judas, for he received a morsel, yet abandoned the Bread of Life. He looked like a disciple, but in fact he was a murderer. He lived with the Apostles, but he rejoiced with the Jews. With hatred he kissed, and with a kiss he sold God, Who had redeemed us from the curse, the Savior of our souls.

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

People: *(Tone 8)* Thy life, O lawless Judas, is filled with deceit. Sick with avarice, thou didst gain the contempt of all men. If thou didst desire wealth, why didst thou follow Him Who taught poverty? If thou didst love the priceless One, why didst thou sell Him? Why didst thou hand Him over to be murdered? Shudder, O sun! O earth, lament and cry with fear: “O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!”

Reader: Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

People: *(Tone 5)* Instructing Thy Disciples in the mystery, O Lord, Thou didst say to them: “My beloved, see that no fear separates you from Me! Though I suffer, it is for the sake of the world. Let me not be a cause of scandal to you! I came, not to be served, but to serve; to give Myself for the redemption of the world. If ye are my friends, then imitate Me! Let the first among you be the last! Let the master be like the servant! Abide in me and bear fruit, for I am the vine of life!”

Reader: It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy name, O Most High, to proclaim in the morning Thy mercy, and Thy truth by night.

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. 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, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, Who art in the Heavens, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

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

Troparion of Holy Thursday

Reader: (*Tone 8*) When the glorious Disciples were enlightened at the washing of the 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: Lord, have mercy. (*x12*)

Dismissal

People: 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. (*x3*)

O Lord, bless!

Reader: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, through the prayers of Thy most pure mother; by the power of the honorable and life-giving Cross; and by the holy bodiless powers of heaven; of our Holy, Venerable and Godbearing Fathers; and of all Thy saints, have mercy on us.

People: Amen.