

# Holy Tuesday Bridegroom Matins

*Matins of Holy Tuesday are sung on  
Great and Holy Monday evening.*

*The priest, standing before the Royal Doors, makes three metanoias and says in an audible voice:*

Bless, Master.

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

Amen.

Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

O heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, who art in all places, and fillest all things, treasury of good things, and Giver of life, come and dwell in us, and cleanse us from every stain and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

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

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

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<sup>1</sup> bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.<sup>2</sup>

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.”

Amen. Lord have mercy. *(12 times)*

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

O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King. *(low bow)*

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God. *(low bow)*

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ himself, our King and our God.” *(low bow)*

*And Reader the following Psalms:*

### ***Psalm 20 (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 give you support from Zion;  
May he remember all your offerings, and enrich your burnt sacrifices.  
May he grant you according to your heart’s desire, and fulfill all your plans.  
We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the name of our God we will boast!  
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions.

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<sup>1</sup>Or, “living.”

<sup>2</sup>Or the evil one.

Now I know that the Lord hast saved his anointed;  
he will answer him from his holy heaven, with mighty salvation by his right hand.  
Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses;  
but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.  
They have collapsed and fallen; but we have risen and stand upright.  
Save the king, O Lord, and answer us when we call.

*Psalm 21 (20)*

In thy strength the king rejoices, O Lord; and in thy  
salvation how greatly he exults!  
Thou hast given him his heart's desire,  
and hast not withheld the request of his lips.  
For thou hast met him with the blessings of goodness;  
thou hast set a crown of precious stones on his head.  
He asked thee for life, and thou gavest it to him;  
length of days forever and ever.  
His glory is great through thy salvation;  
glory and majesty thou hast placed upon him.  
For thou bestowest on him blessings forever;  
thou makest him exceedingly glad with thine appearance.  
For the king trusts in the Lord,  
and through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.  
Let thine hand find all thine enemies;  
let thy right hand find those who hate thee.  
Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of thine appearance;  
the Lord shall afflict them in his wrath, and the fire shall consume them.  
Their offspring thou shalt destroy from the earth,  
and their descendants from among mankind.  
For they intended evil against thee;  
they devised a plot which they are not able to perform.  
Therefore thou wilt make them turn their backs;  
thou wilt make ready thine arrows on thy string toward their faces.

Be exalted, O Lord, in thine own strength!  
we will sing and praise thy power.

*The priest takes up the censer and does the great censuring.*

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

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

All-Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

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<sup>3</sup> bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.<sup>4</sup>

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.

Amen.

### *Troparia*

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, granting them victory over all adversaries, and by thy Cross protect thy community.

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<sup>3</sup>Or, "living".

<sup>4</sup>Or the evil one.

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

O Christ our God, uplifted on the Cross by thine own will, bestow thy mercy upon the new people of thy name; and in thy might make glad the Orthodox, granting to them victory over all adversaries. May they have as an ally thine invincible weapon of peace.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

O eminent and victorious champion, O good and all-praised Theotokos, do not overlook our supplications. Strengthen the community of the Orthodox; save those called to govern; and grant them victory from heaven; for thou, O only blessed one, gavest birth to God.

### *Litany*

*The priest, standing before the Holy table, censes one side on every petition while intoning the following petitions:*

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

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

Again we pray for our Father and Metropolitan PHILIP and for all our brethren in Christ.

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

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

Amen. Father, bless in the name of the Lord.

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

Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men *(Three times)*.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>Or "Those whom he favors".

O Lord open thou my lips, and my mouth will declare thy praise (*Two times*).

### *Psalm 3*

O Lord, how they have increased who afflict me!  
many are rising against me;  
many are saying concerning my soul,  
there is no salvation for him from 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 from his holy mountain.  
I laid down and slept,  
I awoke, for the Lord sustains me.  
I will not be afraid of tens of thousands of people  
who have set themselves against me all around.  
Rise up, O Lord!  
Deliver me, O my God!  
For thou hast struck all who are my enemies without cause,  
thou hast broken the teeth of the wicked.  
Deliverance belongs to the Lord;  
thy blessing is upon thy people.

I laid down and slept,  
I awoke, for the Lord sustains me.

### *Psalm 38(37)*

O Lord, do not rebuke me in thine anger,  
or discipline me in thy wrath.  
For thine arrows have pierced me,  
and thine hand hast pressed down upon me.  
There is no health in my flesh,  
because of thine anger.  
There is no peace in my bones  
because of my sins.

For my iniquities are piled over my head;  
a burden too heavy for me.

My wounds grow foul and fester  
because of my foolishness;  
I have been wretched and bowed down continually;  
all day I went around mourning,  
for my soul was filled with delusion.  
There is no health in my flesh,  
I have been utterly afflicted and brought down.  
I have roared because of the tumult of my heart.

O Lord, all my longing is before thee;  
my sighing is not hidden from thee.  
My heart throbs, my strength fails me;  
and the light of my eyes has gone from me.  
My friends and neighbors drew near and stand against me,  
but my relatives stand far off.  
Those who seek my spirit pressed hard on me,  
those who seek to hurt me spoke of ruin,  
and meditated treachery all day long.

But I was like the deaf, who do not hear;  
I was like the mute, who cannot speak.  
Truly, I was like one who does not hear,  
and in whose mouth is no retort.

For in thee, O Lord, I trusted;  
it is thou, O Lord my God, who wilt hear me.  
For I said, "Do not let my enemies rejoice over me."  
For when my feet slipped, they boasted against me.

For I am ready to fall,  
and my pain is ever before me.  
I confess my iniquity;  
I am sorry for my sin.

But my enemies are mighty  
and are stronger than I,  
and those who hate me wrongfully have multiplied.  
Those who render evil for good slandered me,  
because I followed after righteousness.

Forsake me not, O Lord;  
O my God, do not be far from me;  
make haste to help me,  
O Lord, my salvation.

Forsake me not, O Lord;  
O my God, do not be far from me;  
make haste to help me,  
O Lord, my salvation.

*Psalm 63(62)*

O God, thou art my God, early will I seek thee,  
my soul thirsts for thee;  
my flesh also longs for thee,  
as in a dry and trackless land,  
where there is no water.  
Thus I have looked upon thee in the sanctuary,  
beholding thy power and glory.  
Because thy mercy is better than life,  
my lips will praise thee.  
Thus I will bless thee as long as I live;  
in thy name I will lift up my hands.

Let my soul be filled with fat and abundance,  
and my joyful lips will praise thy name.  
When I was thinking of thee in my bed,  
I meditated on thee in the watches of the night:  
for thou hast been my help,  
and in the shelter of thy wings I rejoice.  
My soul clung to thee;  
thy right hand upheld me.

And those who sought my soul in vain  
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 exult,  
for the mouths of those who speak lies shall be stopped.  
I meditated on thee in the watches of the night:  
for thou hast been my help,  
and in the shelter of thy wings I rejoice.  
My soul clung to thee;  
thy right hand upheld me.

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. (low bow)

Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy,

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

*Psalm 88 <87>*

O Lord, God of my salvation,  
I have cried out day and night before thee;  
let my prayer come before thee;  
incline thine ear to my supplication.  
For my soul is full of trouble,  
and my life draws near to Hades.  
I have been counted among those who  
go down to the pit;  
I became like those who have no help,  
adrift among the dead,  
like the wounded ones, cast out,  
who sleep in the tombs,  
like those whom thou rememberest no more,

for they were cut off from thy hand.  
Thou hast put me in the depths of the pit,  
in the dark regions, and in the shadow of death.  
Thy wrath has lain heavily upon me,  
and thou hast overwhelmed me with  
all thine anger.

Thou hast removed my companions far from me;  
they have made me an abomination to themselves,  
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;  
my eyes grew dim through misery.  
Every day I call on thee, O Lord;  
I spread out my hands to thee.  
Dost thou work wonders for the dead?  
Or do the physicians raise them to praise thee?  
Is thy mercy declared in the grave,  
or thy truth in Hades?  
Are thy wonders known in the darkness,  
or thy righteousness in the land of  
forgetfulness?

But I cry out to thee, O Lord;  
in the morning my prayer comes before thee.  
O Lord, why dost thou cast me off?  
Why dost thou hide thy face from me?  
I am in misery and trouble from my youth up,  
I have been exalted and brought low,  
I am driven to despair.  
Thy wrath has overwhelmed me;  
thy terrors have frightened me,  
they surrounded me like a flood all day long;  
they have closed in upon me, and cut off all assistance.  
Thou hast removed friends and acquaintances far from me  
because of my wretchedness.

O Lord, God of my salvation,

I have cried out day and night before thee;  
let my prayer come before thee;  
incline thine ear to my supplication.

*Psalm 103 <102>*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me  
bless his holy name.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits--  
who forgives all your iniquities,  
who heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from corruption,  
who crowns you with mercy and compassion,  
who satisfies your desire with good,  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord works mercy and justice for all who are oppressed.  
He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.  
The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
forbearing and very merciful.  
He will not keep his anger forever,  
nor will he forever be wrathful.  
He does not deal with us  
according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his mercy toward those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.  
As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.  
For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.

As for people, their days are like grass;  
they flourish like a flower of the field;  
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows 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 those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.  
The Lord has prepared his throne in the heavens,  
and his kingdom rules over all.  
Bless the Lord, all his angels,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
obedient to his voice.  
Bless the Lord, all his hosts,  
his ministers who do his will.  
Bless the Lord all his works,  
in all places of his dominion.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
in all places of his dominion.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

*Psalm 143 (142)*

Hear my prayer, O Lord;  
give ear to my supplications  
in thy faithfulness;  
answer me in thy righteousness.  
Enter not into judgment with thy servant,  
for no one living is righteous before thee.

For the enemy has persecuted my soul,  
crushing my life to the ground,  
making me sit in darkness like those  
who have been long dead.  
Therefore, my spirit was grieved within me;  
my heart within me was troubled.

I remembered the days of old,  
I meditated on all thy deeds,  
I meditated on the works of thy hands.  
I stretched out my hands to thee;  
my soul thirsts for thee like a dry land.

Answer me quickly, O Lord;  
my spirit has failed.  
Hide not thy face from me,  
or I shall be like those who go down to the pit.

Let me hear of thy mercy in the morning,  
for in thee I have put my hope.  
Teach me the way I should go,  
for to thee have I lifted up my soul.

Save me, O Lord, from my enemies;  
I have fled to thee for refuge.  
Teach me to do thy will,  
for thou art my God.  
Let your good Spirit lead me in a straight path.

For thy name's sake, O Lord,  
give life to me.  
In thy righteousness,  
bring my soul out of affliction.  
In thy mercy, destroy my enemies;  
and bring to naught all my adversaries;  
for I am thy servant.

Answer me in thy righteousness.  
Enter not into judgment with thy servant (*Twice*).

Let thy good Spirit lead me in a straight path.

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. *(low bow)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, glory to thee, O God. *(low bow)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, glory to thee, O God. *(low bow)*

Our God and our Hope, Glory to thee.

*While the preceding six psalms are being read, the priest says the following twelve morning prayers. The first three are said before the Altar, and the remaining nine are said standing before the icon of Christ.*

**1.**

We give thanks to thee, O Lord our God, who raised us from our beds, and put a word of praise in our mouths,<sup>6</sup> so that we may worship and call on thy holy name.<sup>7</sup> We implore thy mercies, which thou hast given always for our life. Send thy help<sup>8</sup> upon us and all who stand before the face of thy holy glory, eagerly waiting the rich mercy, which is from thee. Grant that we, in awe and love, may always worship thee, praise thee, sing hymns to thee, and fall down before thine indescribable goodness. 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, Amen.

**2.**

Our soul yearns for thee, O our God, in the night;<sup>9</sup> for thy commandments are a light upon the earth. Teach us to fulfill righteousness and holiness in thy fear; for we glorify thee, our God, HE WHO IS. Incline thine ear, and hear us, and remember, O Lord, by name those who are present with us and those who pray with us, and save them by thy might. Bless thy people and sanctify thine inheritance, give peace to thy world, to thy churches, to the priests, to all civil authorities, and to all thy people. For blessed and glorified is thy most honorable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

**3.**

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<sup>6</sup>(Ps.40<39>:3).

<sup>7</sup>(Ps.80<78>:18).

<sup>8</sup>(Ps.20<19>:2).

<sup>9</sup>(Is.26:9).

Our soul yearns for thee, O our God, in the night;<sup>10</sup> for thy commandments are a light upon the earth. Teach me, O God, thy righteousness, thy commandments, and thy statutes;<sup>11</sup> or I will sleep the sleep of death<sup>12</sup> in sins. Drive away all darkness from our hearts; and grant us the sun of righteousness; and by the seal of thy Holy Spirit, preserve our life unaffected. Guide our steps in the way of peace. Grant us to behold the dawn and the day with rejoicing, that we may send up our morning prayers to thee; for thine is the majesty, the kingdom, 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, Amen.

4.

O Master, our God, holy and incomprehensible, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness”;<sup>13</sup> who gave us rest through the sleep of the night and raised us up to glorify and implore thy goodness: as we now ask thy tender loving-kindness, receive us who fall down before thee and give thanks to thee to the utmost of our power. Grant us all our petitions which lead us to salvation. Appoint us to be children of light and of the day,<sup>14</sup> and heirs of thine everlasting good things. Remember, O Lord, according to thine abundant mercy,<sup>15</sup> all thy people who are present with us and who pray with us, and all our brethren who are on land, on sea, and in the air, and in every place of thy mastery, who implore thy love for mankind and thy help; and grant thy great mercy to all, that being preserved in safety in body and soul, we may with boldness glorify thy marvelous and blessed name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

5.

O treasury of good things, ever-flowing fountain, O wonder-working, omnipotent and almighty holy Father: we all fall before thee; and we pray to thee, calling upon thy mercies and thy compassion to aid and help our affliction. Remember, O Lord, thy suppliants; receive our morning prayers as incense before thee; consider not anyone of us to be without worth; but preserve us all with thy compassion. Remember, O Lord, those who watch over thy flock

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<sup>10</sup>(Is.26:9).

<sup>11</sup>(Ps.119<118>:135).

<sup>12</sup>(Ps.13<12>:3).

<sup>13</sup>(2 Cor. 4:6).

<sup>14</sup>(I Thess. 5:5)

<sup>15</sup>(Ps.69<68>:16).

and sing to thy glory and to the glory of thine only-begotten Son and thy Holy Spirit. Be their helper and protector. Receive their supplications upon thy celestial and spiritual altar; for thou art our God, and unto thee we give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

**6.**

We give thanks unto thee, O Lord God of our salvation; for thou dost all things for the benefit of our souls, so that we may ever look up to thee, the Savior and Benefactor of our souls; for thou gavest us rest in the night just passed, and raised us from our beds, and enabled us to stand and to fall down before thy most holy name. Wherefore, we entreat thee, O Lord, give us grace and power, so that we may in full awareness be made worthy to sing praises to thee and to pray without ceasing, working out our salvation in fear and trembling, by the help of thy Christ. Remember, O Lord, those who cry out to thee in the night. Hear them, and have mercy, and crush under their feet the invisible and hostile enemies. For thou art the King of Peace, and Savior of our souls, and unto thee we give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

**7.**

O God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, thou hast raised us up from our beds and hast gathered us together at this hour of prayer. Grant us grace in the opening of our mouths; and receive our thanksgiving, offered to the utmost of our ability; and teach us thy statutes, for we do not know how to pray as we ought<sup>16</sup> unless thou guidest us, O Lord, by thy Holy Spirit. Wherefore, we entreat thee: Remit, forgive, pardon all the sins we may have committed to this present hour by word or deed or thought, voluntary or involuntary: for if thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, who could stand?<sup>17</sup> For from thee is redemption, and thou only art holy and mighty and the helper and protector of our life. Our praise is continually of thee.<sup>18</sup> Blessed and glorified be the supreme might of thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

**8.**

O Lord our God, thou hast driven away from us the indolence of sleep and hast assembled us together by a holy calling, so that in the night also we may lift up our hands and give thanks for thy righteous ordinances.<sup>19</sup> Receive our prayers, petitions, praises, and night-time worship. And grant us, O Lord, a confident faith that cannot be put to shame, firm hope and sincere love. Bless our going out and our coming in,<sup>20</sup> our deeds, words and thoughts. Grant us that we may come to the beginning of the day, praising, singing hymns, and blessing the goodness of thine inexpressible kindness; for blessed be thy most holy name, and glorified be thy Kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

**9.**

O Master, lover of mankind, shine within our hearts the pure light of thy divine knowledge; and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend<sup>21</sup> the message of thy Gospel. Instill in us, also, reverence for thy blessed commandments, so that having conquered<sup>22</sup> sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual

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<sup>16</sup>(Ro.8:26).

<sup>17</sup>(Ps. 130 <129>:3).

<sup>18</sup>(Ps 71<70>6).

<sup>19</sup>(119<118>:160).

<sup>20</sup>Ps.121<120>:8).

<sup>21</sup>(Eph.1:18).

way of life, both thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to thee.<sup>23</sup> For thou art our sanctification, and unto thee we give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

*10.*

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<sup>22</sup>(Ps. 91<90>:13).

<sup>23</sup>(1 John 3:22).

O Lord our God, thou hast given us forgiveness through repentance and hast shown the repentance of the prophet David as a pattern of the acknowledgment of sin and of confession that leads to forgiveness. Have mercy, O Master, according to thy great mercy, on us who are falling into many and great sins.<sup>24</sup> According to thine abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.<sup>25</sup> Against thee have we sinned, O Lord, who knows the hidden and secret things in the human heart and has authority to forgive sins.<sup>26</sup> Thou hast created a clean heart in me and established a yearning spirit within me and made known the joy of thy salvation. Cast me not away from thy presence.<sup>27</sup> But as thou art good and the lover of mankind, take delight that, until our uttermost breath, we may offer unto thee the sacrifice of righteousness, and an oblation upon thine altar. Through the mercy and compassion and love for mankind of thine only-begotten Son, with whom thou art blessed, together with thine all-holy and good and life giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

### **11.**

God, our God, thou hast brought into existence by thine own will the powers endowed with reason and intelligence. We pray thee and we supplicate thee: Receive our glorification, offered together with all thy creatures, according to the utmost of our power. Reward us with the rich gifts of thy goodness; for unto thee every knee bows, whether in heaven, or on earth, or in the underworld, and every human spirit and creature sings hymns to thine inexpressible glory; for thou alone art the true and most merciful God. For all the powers of heaven praise thee, and unto thee they give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

### **12.**

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<sup>24</sup>(Ps.51<50>:1).

<sup>25</sup>(Ps. 51<50:1).

<sup>26</sup>(Mt. 9:6).

<sup>27</sup>(Ps 51<50>10-12).

We praise thee, we sing unto thee, we bless thee, we give thanks unto thee, O God of our fathers; for thou hast made the shades of night to pass away and hast shown us once more the light of the day. And we entreat thy goodness: be gracious to our sins, and receive our prayer in thy great tenderness. For we flee unto thee, the merciful and almighty God. Shine within our hearts the true sun of thy righteousness. Enlighten our minds. And guard all our senses that, walking decently as in the day in the way of thy commandments, we may reach the eternal life--for thou art the fountain of life--and we may be accounted worthy to enjoy thine unapproachable light.<sup>28</sup> For thou art our God, and unto thee we give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages, Amen.

### *The Litany of Peace*

N: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

N: For the peace of the whole world; for the good estate of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

N: For our Father and Metropolitan PHILIP, for the venerable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

N: For the President of the United States and all civil authorities, and for our armed forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

N: For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

N: For healthful seasons, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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<sup>28</sup>(1 Tim 6:16).

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

N: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, 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.

To thee, O Lord.

CHOIR: 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. Amen.

*They chant Alleluia (3 times) in the eighth Tone:*

### ***Eighth Tone***

CHOIR: 1. My soul yearns for thee in the night, for thy commandments are a light in the earth<sup>29</sup>.

Alleluia (*3 times*)

2. Learn righteousness, O inhabitants of the earth<sup>30</sup>.

Alleluia (*3 times*)

3. Thy zeal will take hold of the ignorant people, and fire will consume thine adversaries<sup>31</sup>.

Alleluia (*3 times*)

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<sup>29</sup>(Is. 26:9).

<sup>30</sup>(Is. 26:9).

<sup>31</sup>(Is. 26:11).

4. Increase thy punishment upon them, increase thy punishment upon the glorious ones of the earth<sup>32</sup>.

Alleluia (*3 times*)

*Tone Eight*

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<sup>32</sup>(Is. 26:15).

Behold the bridegroom comes at midnight: blessed is the servant whom he shall find awake<sup>33</sup>. But he whom he shall find neglectful is verily unworthy. Beware, therefore, O my soul, that you do not fall into a deep slumber and be delivered to death and locked out of the kingdom. Watch instead and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy art thou, O God, through the protection of the heavenly Hosts<sup>34</sup>, have mercy on us. (*Three times*)

### *The Little Litany*

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, 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.

To thee, O Lord.

For thine is the might, and 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.

Amen.

### *The Sessional Hymn* *Fourth Tone*

Brethren, let us love the bridegroom, trimming our lamps with care, so that we shine brilliantly with the virtues and right faith. Thus, like the wise virgins of the Lord, we may be ready to enter with him into the wedding feast; for being God, the bridegroom grants on all imperishable crowns.

### *Fourth Tone*

O Savior, the priests and the scribes jealously gathered together with hostility a lawless council against thee, stirring up Judas to betray thee. And with shameless persistence he went out and spoke against thee to the law-transgressing

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<sup>33</sup>(Is. 26:15).

<sup>34</sup>During the second chanting of the hymn we sing “through the intercessions of all thy saints have mercy on us.” And during the third chanting we sing: “through the intercessions of the THEOTOKOS have mercy on us.”

PEOPLE: “What do you give me, if I will betray him to your hands?”<sup>35</sup> O Lord, deliver our souls from the condemnation that was his.

### *Eighth Tone*

The impious Judas, moved by avaricious thoughts, plans the conspiracy against the Master, plotting to betray him. He falls away from the light and accepts darkness. He agrees on the sale and betrays the priceless one. And as the reward of his actions, this miserable man sends himself to the gallows, getting a painful death. O Christ our Lord, deliver us from his fate, granting forgiveness of sins to those who celebrate with fervor thy pure passion.

### *The Gospel*

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

: Lord, Have mercy (*Thrice*).

N: Wisdom. Attend, let hear the Holy Gospel.

: Peace be to all.

: And to thy Spirit.

: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

: Glory to thee, O Lord, Glory to thee.

N: Let us attend.

### *Matthew 22:15-46, 23:1-39*

At that time, the Pharisees went and took counsel how to entangle Jesus in his talk. And they sent their disciples to him with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, without regard for any man; for you do not regard the positions of men.

Tell us, then, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus aware of their malice said, “Why do you put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the money used for the tax.” And they brought him a coin. And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said, “Caesar’s.” Then Jesus said to them, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard it, they marveled, and left him and went away. That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and asked him a question, saying: “Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were seven brothers among us. The first married and died, and having no children, left his wife to his brother. So too the second, and third, down to the seventh. After them all the woman died. In the resurrection, therefore, to which of the seven will she be wife? For they all had her.” But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage,

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<sup>35</sup>(Mtt 26:14).

but are like angels of God in heaven. But as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching. But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked Jesus a question, to test him, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Now, while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose Son is he?" They said to him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How is it then, David in the Spirit calls him 'Lord,' saying: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool"'? If David thus calls him 'Lord,' how is he his Son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare to ask him anymore.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat; so practice whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, and do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. They do all their deeds to be seen by men. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love the place of honor at feasts, the chief seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the marketplaces, and being called 'Rabbi, Rabbi' by men. But you are not to be called 'Rabbi'; for you have one Teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on earth; for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters; for you have one Master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor do you allow those who would enter to go in.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. Therefore you will receive the greater condemnation.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If anyone swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is guilty. You blind Fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that makes the gold sacred? And you say, 'If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on it, he is guilty.' You blind Fools! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So, he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it. And he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it. And he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You Blind Pharisee! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside may be clean.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which outwardly appear beautiful, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers’ guilt. You Serpents, you brood of vipers! How are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation.

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold! Your house is forsaken and desolate; for I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

Glory to thee, O Lord, Glory to thee.

*Psalm 51<50>*

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to thy great mercy,  
according to the multitude of thy compassions,  
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 ever before me.  
Against thee only have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in thy sight,  
so that thou art justified in thy sentences,  
and prevailest when thou passest judgment.

For indeed, I was conceived in iniquities,  
and in sins did my mother conceive me.

For behold: thou lovest truth,  
thou hast made known to me the secret  
and hidden things of thy wisdom.

Sprinkle me with hyssop,  
and I shall be clean,  
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness,  
then the afflicted bones shall rejoice.

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

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

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,  
the God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will joyfully  
sing aloud of thy righteousness.

O Lord, open my lips;  
and my mouth will declare thy praise;  
for if thou hadst delight in sacrifice,  
I would have given it;  
but thou wouldst not be pleased by burnt offering.  
The sacrifice to God is a broken spirit:  
a broken and contrite heart,  
O God, thou wilt not despise.

Do good in thy good pleasure to Zion,  
and let the walls of Jerusalem be built;  
then thou wilt delight in a sacrifice of righteousness,  
in offerings and whole burnt offerings;  
then they will offer bulls upon thine altar.

### *Third Ode Irmos, Second Tone*

Thou hast established me upon the rock of faith, and thou hast opened wide my mouth against my enemies. For my spirit has rejoiced to sing: None is holy as our Lord, none is righteous besides thee.

### *Troparia*

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

In vain the council of the transgressors of the law gathers together, to pronounce maliciously the sentence of condemnation upon thee, O Christ our deliverer, to whom we sing: Thou art our God, and thou alone art holy.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The terrible council of the transgressors of the law, with their souls fighting against God, conspires to kill as a criminal the righteous Christ, to who we sing: thou art our God, and thou alone art holy.

### ***Katavasia***

Thou hast established me upon the rock of faith, and thou hast opened wide my mouth against my enemies. For my spirit has rejoiced to sing: None is holy as our Lord, none is righteous besides thee.

### ***The Little Litany***

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

: Lord, have mercy.

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

: Lord, have mercy.

N: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, 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.

: To thee, O Lord.

: For thou art the king of peace and Saviour of our souls, and unto thee we give glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

: Amen

### ***The Kontakion***

O my soul, think of the last hour and be frightened at the cutting down of the fig tree. Work diligently with the talent that is given to thee; be vigilant and cry aloud: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ.

### ***The Oikos***

Why are you careless, O my wretched soul? Why do you deceive yourself with useless cares at such a time? Why do you keep yourself busy with transient things? The last hour is at hand, and we are about to be separated from all that is here. While you still have time, be vigilant and cry: I have sinned against thee, O Christ my Savior, do not cut me down like the unfruitful fig tree; but, being merciful, have compassion on me, who cry aloud to thee in awe: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ.

### ***The Synaxarion***

On the holy and great Tuesday we commemorate the parable of the ten Virgins, of the Holy Gospel<sup>36</sup>.

This Holy Tuesday brings with it the memory of the ten virgins who are carrying the Triumph of the just Master.

O Bridegroom Christ, count us among the wise virgins, place us among the chosen flock and have mercy on us. Amen.

### ***Eighth Ode-irmos, Second Tone***

When the three holy young men did not yield to the decree of the tyrant, they were thrown into the furnace, but they were singing hymns to God: “Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.”<sup>37</sup>

### ***Troparia***

Let us cast idleness away and let us go to meet Christ, the immortal Bridegroom, with radiant lamps and with hymns crying: “Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.”<sup>38</sup>

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

Let there be sufficient oil of fellowship in the vessels of our souls, so that we may not lose our reward while we are buying oil, and let us sing: “Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord”<sup>39</sup>.

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

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<sup>36</sup>(Cf. Matthew 25:1-14).

<sup>37</sup>(The prayer of Azariah 35).

<sup>38</sup>(The prayer of Azariah 35).

<sup>39</sup>(The prayer of Azariah 35).

You have all received a talent from God, increase it with the help of Christ, who gave the power of equal grace to you, and sing: “Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord”<sup>40</sup>

### ***Katavasia***

We praise, we bless and worship the Lord.

When the three holy young men did not yield to the decree of the tyrant, they were thrown into the furnace; but they were singing hymns to God: “Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.”<sup>41</sup>

*The Deacon stands in the Holy door facing the icon of the Theotokos and says:*

The Theotokos and Mother of Light let us honor and magnify in song.

*The Deacon censens the sanctuary and the people in the usual manner, while People chant the following:*

### ***Ninth Ode-irmos, Second Tone***

O most holy Virgin, thou hast contained in thy womb the uncontainable God, bringing joy to the world: and so we sing thy praises.

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

O Good One, thou hast said to thine apostles: “Keep awake, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming”<sup>42</sup> to reward every person.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

At thine awesome second coming, O Master, number me with the sheep at thy right hand, overlooking the multitude of my sins.

### ***Katavasia***

O most holy Virgin, thou hast contained in thy womb the uncontainable God bring joy to the world: and so we sing thy praises.

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<sup>40</sup>(The prayer of Azariah 35).

<sup>41</sup>(The prayer of Azariah 35).

<sup>42</sup>(Mtt. 24:42).

### ***The Little Litany***

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, 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.

To thee, O Lord.

For all the powers of heaven praise thee, and unto thee they give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

### ***The Exapostelaron, Third Tone***

I behold thy bridal chamber adorned, O my Savior; but I have no wedding garment to enter it. Make radiant the robe of my soul, O Giver of light, and save me. *(Three times)*.

### ***The Praises (Ainoi), First Tone***

Let every thing that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens: praise him in the heights! To thee, O God, is due our song.

Praise him all his angels; praise him all his hosts! To thee, O God, is due our song.

*(The congregation is seated)*

*The Idiomela hymns are sung along with the following verses:*

### ***First Tone***

Verse: Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

How shall I, so unworthy, enter into the splendor of thine Holy Places? For if I dare to come into the bridal chamber, my clothing will condemn me, since it is not a wedding garment. Then I shall be bound and cast out by the angels. O Lord, Cleanse the impurity of my soul and save me, for thou lovest mankind.

Verse: Praise him with tambourine and dance; Praise him with strings and pipe!

### *Second Tone*

O Bridegroom Christ, my soul slumbers in slothfulness. I have no lamps alight with virtue, and like the foolish virgins wandering about, when it is time to act. O Master, do not seal against me thy compassionate heart, but raise me up to throw off the dark sleep from me, and lead me with the wise virgins into thy bridal chamber, where the pure voice of those who celebrate the feast cry ceaselessly: O Lord, glory to thee.

### *Tone Four*

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

O my soul, thou hast heard the condemnation of him who hid his talent, do not bury the word of God. Proclaim his marvels, so that thou mayest cause his gifts to increase in thee, and enter into the joy of the Lord<sup>43</sup>.

### *The Little Doxology*

To thee belongs glory, O Lord our God, and unto thee we give glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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 the Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who takes away the sins of the world<sup>44</sup>, have mercy on us--Thou who takest away the sin of the world.

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<sup>43</sup>(Mt.25:21).

<sup>44</sup>(Jn 1:29).

Receive our prayer, thou who sittest at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy upon us.

For thou alone art Holy, thou alone art the Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father, Amen.

Every day I will bless thee, and praise thy name forever and ever.

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.

O Lord, unto thee have I fled for refuge: Teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God.

For thou art the source of life, and in thy light shall we see light.

O Continue thy mercy to those who know thee<sup>45</sup>.

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

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is thy name forever, Amen.

O Lord, let thy mercy be on us, even 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 statutes.

Blessed art thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with thy statutes.

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<sup>45</sup>(Ps.36<35>:10).

Thy Mercy, O Lord, endures forever:<sup>46</sup> Forsake not the works of thy hands<sup>47</sup>.

To thee belongs praise, to thee belongs song,<sup>48</sup> 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.

### *The Litany of Supplication*

N: Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

: Lord, have mercy.

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

: Lord, have mercy.

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

: Grant this, O Lord.

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

: Grant this, O Lord.

N: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

: Grant this, O Lord.

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<sup>46</sup>(Ps.107;106:1).

<sup>47</sup>(Ps.138;137:8).

<sup>48</sup>(Ps.65;65:1).

N: All that is good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

: Grant this, O Lord.

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

: Grant this, O Lord.

N: For a Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

: Grant this, O Lord.

N: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, with all the Saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

: To thee, O Lord.

: For thou art the God of mercy and compassions and love toward mankind, and unto thee we give glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever and unto ages of ages.

: Amen.

: Peace be to all.

: And to thy spirit.

N: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

: To thee, O Lord.

### ***The Prayer at the Bowing of Heads***

: O holy One who dwellest on high and regards the humble heart and with thine all-seeing eye beholds all creation, unto thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we entreat thee: O holy of holies, stretch forth thine invisible hand from thy holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in aught we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive, inasmuch as thou art a good God and lover of mankind, vouchsafing unto us thy earthly and heavenly good things.

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

Amen.

*(The congregation is seated)*

### ***The Aposticha (Idiomela), Tone Six***

Come, O faithful, let us work earnestly for the Master, for he distributes his riches to his servants. Let each of us, according to the measure of our gifts, multiply the talent of grace. Let one be adorned with wisdom through good deeds; let another perform his splendid ministry; let another communicate the teaching to the uninitiate; let another distribute his wealth to the poor; let multiply what is entrusted to us as a loan, and as faithful trustees of his grace we will be accounted worthy of the Master's joy. Account us worthy, O Christ our God, for thou lovest mankind.

*Verse: Thou hast satisfied us in the morning with thy mercy, and we have rejoiced and were glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as thou hast afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Look upon thy servants and upon thy works, and guide their children<sup>49</sup>.*

O Jesus, when thou comest in glory with all the angelic hosts, and sittest on the throne<sup>50</sup> of the great judgment, separate me not from thee, O Good Shepherd. Thou knowest the way of life of those on the right, but those on the left are led astray. Destroy me not with the goats, though I am hardened in sin, but number me among the sheep on thy right hand, and save me, for thou lovest mankind.

### ***Eighth Tone***

*Verse: Let the splendor of the Lord our God be upon us, and guide the works of our hands. O guide the works of our hands<sup>51</sup>.*

O bridegroom, exceeding all in beauty, thou hast called us for the spiritual banquet of thy bridal chamber. Strip away the ill-dressed form of my sins, by participation in thy sufferings, adorn me with the robe of glory of thy beauty, and in thy compassion accept me with joy as a guest at thy kingdom.

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<sup>49</sup>(Ps.90<89>:14-16).

<sup>50</sup>(Mt 25:31).

<sup>51</sup>(Ps.90<89>:17).

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

Behold, O my soul, the Master entrusts thee with a talent. Receive his gift with reverence, make it gain interest for him, give it to the poor, take God a friend for thyself. Thus, when he comes in glory thou mayest stand on his right hand and wilt hear that blessed voice: Enter, servant into the joy of thy Lord<sup>52</sup>. I am a prodigal, O Savior, but in thy great mercy make me worthy of this joy.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to thy name, O Most High; to declare thy mercy in the morning, and thy truthfulness by night<sup>53</sup>.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

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

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

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

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<sup>52</sup>(Mt. 25:21).

<sup>53</sup>(Ps 91<90>:1-2).

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<sup>54</sup> bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.<sup>55</sup>

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.”

Amen.

### ***The Kontakion***

O my soul, think of the last hour and be frightened at the cutting down of the fig tree. Work diligently with the talent that is given to thee; be vigilant and cry aloud: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ.

Lord, have mercy (*12 times*).

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption,<sup>56</sup> gavest birth to God the Word, and art Truly Theotokos, we magnify thee.

Father, bless, in the Name of the Lord.

Blessed is HE WHO IS, Christ our God, always now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Amen.

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<sup>54</sup>Or, “living”.

<sup>55</sup>Or the evil one.

<sup>56</sup>Or remaining virgin...etc.,

O heavenly king, strengthen all faithful rulers, make firm the faith, calm the nations, give peace to the world, rightly preserve the Holy Church and this city, grant rest to our departed parents and brethren in the dwelling places of the just, and receive us with our repentance and thanksgiving; for thou art good and the lover of mankind.

***Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian***

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the Spirit of sloth, curiosity<sup>57</sup>, lust of power, and idle talk. (*prostration*)

But give to me thy servant the spirit of chastity<sup>58</sup>, humility, patience and love. (*prostration*)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother, for thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

***The Dismissal***

Glory to thee, O our God and our hope, glory to thee.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord have mercy (*three times*).  
Father bless.

May Christ our true God, who willingly came to his passion for our salvation, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of saint (*N*) patron Saint of this Church and the ten virgins whose memory we commemorate today, and all the saints: have mercy on us and save us forasmuch as he is good, and the lover of mankind.

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

Amen.

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<sup>57</sup>Or, faint heartedness.

<sup>58</sup>Or whole-mindedness.

