

*(Monday Evening)*

# *Bridegroom Matins/Orthros*

## *Of Great & Holy Tuesday*



*The End of the World*

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

### *The Prayer to the Holy Spirit*

PRIEST: Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

O heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of truth, Who are in all places and fill all things, the Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O good One.

### *The Trisagion Prayers*

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

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

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 Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

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

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

READER/PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

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

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

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

### *The Royal Psalms*

#### *Psalm 20 (LXX 19)*

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble; may the name of the God of Jacob defend you; may He send you help from the sanctuary, and strengthen you out of Zion; may He remember all your offerings, and accept your burnt sacrifice. May He grant you according to your heart's desire, and fulfill all your purpose. We will rejoice in your salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners! May the Lord fulfill all your petitions. Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the Lord our God. They have bowed down and fallen; but we have risen and stand upright. Save, Lord! May the King answer us when we call.

#### *Psalm 21 (LXX 20)*

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

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

### ***Troparion and Kontakion of the Cross and Theotokion***

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance, granting to Your people victory over all adversaries, and by Your Cross preserving Your habitation.

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

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

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

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

### ***Litany and Blessing***

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: Again we pray our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) N., and all our brotherhood in Christ.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

PRIEST: For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

READER/PEOPLE: Bless, father, in the name of the Lord.

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

READER: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. (3x)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Your praise. (2x)

### *The Six Psalms*

#### *Psalm 3*

Lord, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, "There is no help for him in God." But You, O Lord, are a shield for me, my glory and the One Who lifts up my head. I cried to the Lord with my voice, and He heard me from His holy hill. I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. Arise, O Lord; save me, O my God! For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; You have broken the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongs to the Lord. Your blessing is upon Your people.

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

#### *Psalm 38 (LXX 37)*

O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure! For Your arrows pierce me deeply, and Your hand presses me down. There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your anger, nor any health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. My wounds are foul and festering because of my foolishness. I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are full of inflammation, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my heart. Lord, all my desire is before You; and my sighing is not hidden from You. My heart pants, my strength fails me; as for the light of my eyes, it also has gone from me. My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, and my relatives stand afar off. Those also who seek my life lay snares for me; those who seek my hurt speak of destruction, and plan deception all the day long. But I, like a deaf man, do not hear; and I am like a mute who does not open his mouth. Thus I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth is no response. For in You, O Lord, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God. For I said, "Hear me, lest they rejoice over me, lest, when my foot slips, they exalt themselves against me." For I am ready to fall, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare my iniquity; I will be in anguish over my sin. But my enemies are vigorous, and they are strong; and those who hate me wrongfully have multiplied. Those also who render evil for good, they are my adversaries, because I follow what is good. Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

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

***Psalm 63 (LXX 62)***

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

My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

***Psalm 88 (LXX 87)***

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my cry. For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to the grave. I am counted with those who go down to the pit; I am like a man who has no strength, adrift among the dead, like the slain who lie in the grave, whom You remember no more, and who are cut off from Your hand. You have laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the depths. Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and You have afflicted me with all your waves. You have put away my acquaintances far from me; You have made me an abomination to them; I am shut up, and I cannot get out; my eye wastes away because of affliction. Lord, I have called daily upon You; I have stretched out my hands to You. Will You work wonders for the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise You? Shall Your loving-kindness be declared in the grave? Or Your faithfulness in the place of destruction? Shall Your wonders be known in the dark? And Your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness? But to You I have cried out, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before You. Lord, why do You cast off my soul? Why do You hide Your face from me? I have been afflicted and ready to die from my youth; I suffer Your terrors; I am distraught. Your fierce wrath has gone over me; Your terrors have cut me off. They came around me all day long like water; they engulfed me altogether. Loved one and friend You have put far from me, and my acquaintances into darkness.

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

*Psalm 103 (LXX 102)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executes righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not always strive with us, nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are but dust. As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them. The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, You His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His word. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, you ministers of His, who do His pleasure. Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

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

*Psalm 143 (LXX 142)*

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, and in Your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight no one living is righteous. For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, like those who have long been dead. Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is distressed. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works; I muse on the work of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Answer me speedily, O Lord; my spirit fails! Do not hide Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your loving-kindness in the morning, for in You do I trust; cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to you. Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies; in You I take shelter. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness. Revive me, O Lord, for Your name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble. In Your mercy cut off my enemies, and destroy all those who afflict my soul; for I am Your servant.

O Lord, give ear to my supplications and do not enter into judgment with Your servant. (2x)

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

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God. (3x)

O our God and our Hope, glory to You.

### *The Great Litany*

DEACON: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: 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.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For our father, (*metropolitan, archbishop, or bishop*) N., the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For our president, all civil authorities, and for our armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

DEACON: For this city, every city and countryside, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

*Exclamation of the First Morning Prayer*

PRIEST: For unto You 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.

PEOPLE: Amen.

*Alleluia (Tone 8)*

READER: My spirit seeks You early in the morning, O God, for Your commandments are a light upon the earth.

PEOPLE: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

READER: Learn righteousness, you who dwell upon the earth.

PEOPLE: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

READER: The wrath of God shall fall upon a disobedient people, and fire shall now devour the enemy.

PEOPLE: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

PEOPLE: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*Troparion - "Behold the Bridegroom..."*

PEOPLE/CHOIR: Behold, the bridegroom comes in the middle of the night, and blessed is the servant whom He shall find watching, but unworthy is the one whom He shall find in slothfulness. Beware, then, O my soul, and be not overcome by sleep, lest you be given over to death and shut out from Kingdom. But return to soberness and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy are You, O God:

*(First ending)* Through the prayers of the Forerunner, have mercy on us.

*(Second ending)* Through the prayers of *(patron of the Church)* the holy apostle and evangelist John, have mercy on us.

*(Third ending)* Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, have mercy on us.



### *The Little Litany*

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: For Yours is the majesty, and Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

### *Holy Tuesday Kathisma Hymns*

*(Tone 4)*

READER: Brethren, let us love the Bridegroom and prepare our lamps with care, shining with the virtues and right faith; that, like the wise virgins of the Lord, we may be ready to enter with Him into the wedding feast. For God the Bridegroom grants to all the crown incorruptible.

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

The priests and scribes with wicked envy gathered a lawless council against You, and persuaded Judas to betray You. Shamelessly he went and spoke against You to the transgressing people: "What will you give me, and I will betray Him into your hands?" O Lord, deliver our souls from the condemnation that was his.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*(Tone 8)*

Impious Judas with self-seeking and greedy thoughts plots against the Master, and ponders how he will betray Him. He falls away from the light and accepts the darkness; he agrees upon the payment and sells Him Who is above all price; and as the reward for his actions, in his misery he receives a hangman's noose and death in agony. O Christ our God, deliver us from such a fate as his, and grant remission of sins to those who celebrate with love Your most pure Passion.

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

DEACON: That we may be counted worthy to hear the holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (3x)

DEACON: Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us hear the holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE: And to your spirit.

PRIEST: The reading from the holy Gospel according to *Matthew*.

PEOPLE: Glory to You, O Lord. Glory to You.

DEACON: Let us attend.

PRIEST: (*The priest reads the Gospel from the Holy Doors.*)

### ***Psalm 51 (LXX 50)***

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight — that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sins my mother conceived me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You. Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart — these, O God, You will not despise. Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; build the walls of Jerusalem. Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering; then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

*(Note: On Holy Tuesday there is no portion of the Matins Canon appointed following Psalm 51. Instead the deacon intones immediately the Little Litany followed by the Kontakion and Ikos.)*

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

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: For You are a merciful God and love mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

### *Kontakion (Tone 2)*

READER: Think, O wretched soul, upon the hour of the end; recall with fear how the fig tree was cut down. Work diligently with the talent that is given to you; be vigilant and cry aloud: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ.

### *Ikos*

READER: Why are you slothful, O my wretched soul? Why do you waste your days in thinking of unprofitable cares? Why are you busy with the things that pass away? The last hour is at hand and we shall soon be parted from all that is here. While there is still time, return to soberness and cry: I have sinned against You, O my Savior, do not cut me down like the unfruitful fig tree; but, O Christ, in Your compassion take pity on me as I call on You in fear: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ!

### *Synaxarion*

READER: On this Holy and Great Tuesday we remember the Parable of the Ten Virgins which Jesus spoke along with others as He was coming to the Passion. It teaches us not to rest in virginity as though safe, but to be on guard at all times, and not to desist from any virtues and good deeds, especially deeds of mercy, which make the lamp of virginity shine brilliantly. It teaches us also to be ready for our end, not knowing when our hour is coming, as the wise virgins were ready to meet the bride, lest death overtake us and close the door of the heavenly chamber in our face, and we hear the terrible judgment which the foolish virgins heard, "Truly, truly, I do not know you." (*Matthew 25:1-13*).

Therefore, O Christ the Bridegroom, number us with the wise virgins and have mercy upon us. Amen.

### *Matins Canon - Ode 8 (Tone 2)*

*Irmos*: The three holy Children were not obedient to the decree of the tyrant; but when cast into the furnace they confessed God, singing: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord.

*Refrain*: Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Let us cast aside slothfulness and go to meet Christ, the immortal Bridegroom, with brightly shining lamps and with hymns, crying: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord.

We bless the Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

You have all received equal grace from God; cause your talent to increase, with the help of Christ Who gave it to you, and sing: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord.

*Katavasia:* The three holy Children were not obedient to the decree of the tyrant; but when cast into the furnace they confessed God, singing: O all you works of the Lord, bless the Lord.

*At the conclusion of the 8<sup>th</sup> ode the deacon with the censer stands in the holy doors, facing the Icon of the Theotokos, and says:*

DEACON: The Theotokos and Mother of the Light, let us honor and magnify in song.

*While the choir chants the 9th ode, the deacon does a great censuring of the church.*

### ***Matins Canon - Ode 9 (Tone 2)***

*Irmos:* You have enclosed within your womb the God Whom nothing can enclose, and you have brought joy into the world. We sing your praises, O most holy Virgin.

*Refrain:* Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

“Watch,” You have said to Your disciples, O loving Savior. “For you do not know in what hour the Lord shall come to reward every man.”

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

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

*Katavasia:* You have enclosed within your womb the God Whom nothing can enclose, and you have brought joy into the world. We sing your praises, O most holy Virgin.

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

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

### ***Exclamation of the Eleventh Morning Prayer***

PRIEST: For all the powers of heaven praise You, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

**Exapostilarion**  
**Photogogikon / Hymn of Light**

*(Tone 3, special melody)*

READER: I see Your bridal chamber adorned, O my Savior, and I have no wedding garment that I may enter there. Make the robe of my soul to shine, O Giver of Light, and save me. (3x)

***The Praises***

***Psalm 148***

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! To You, O God, is due a song.

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

*Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you stars of light!*

*Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens!*

*Let them praise the name of the Lord, for He commanded and they were created. He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.*

*Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all the depths; fire and hail, snow and clouds; stormy wind, fulfilling His word.*

*Mountains and all hills; fruitful trees and all cedars; beasts and all cattle; creeping things and flying fowl;*

*Kings of the earth and all peoples; princes and all judges of the earth; both young men and maidens; old men and children.*

*Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and heaven.*

*And He has exalted the horn of His people, the praise of all His saints — of the children of Israel, a people near to Him.*

***Psalm 149***

*Sing to the Lord a new song, and His praise in the assembly of saints. Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.*

*Let them praise His name with the dance; let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp. For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation.*

*Let the saints be joyful in glory; let them sing aloud on their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand;*

*To execute vengeance on the nations, and punishments on the peoples; to bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron,*

*To execute on them the written judgment — this honor have all His saints.*

***Psalm 150***

*Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament!*

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

*(Tone 1)*

READER: Into the splendor of Your saints how shall I enter? For I am unworthy, and if I dare to come into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and I shall be cast out by the angels, bound hand and foot. Cleanse, O Lord, the filth from my soul and save me in Your love for mankind.

Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the lute and harp!

*Repeat the verse above: Into the splendor of Your saints...*

Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!

*(Tone 2)*

READER: I slumber in slothfulness of soul, O Christ the Bridegroom; I have no lamp that burns with virtue, and like the foolish virgins I go wandering when it is time to act. Close not Your compassionate heart against me, Master, but dispel dark sleep from me and rouse me up; and lead me with the wise virgins into Your bridal chamber, where those who feast sing with pure voice unceasingly: O Lord, glory to You.

Praise Him with loud cymbals; praise Him with clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

*Repeat the verse above: I slumber in slothfulness...*

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

*(Tone 4)*

READER: O my soul, you have heard the condemnation of him who hid his talent. Hide not the word of God. Proclaim His wonders, increase the gifts of grace entrusted to you, and you shall enter into the joy of your Lord.

***“Yours is the glory...”***

READER: Yours is the glory, O Lord our God, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

***The Little Doxology***

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

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

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

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, You Who take away the sins of the world

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

For You only are holy, You only are the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever; yes, forever and ever.

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: "Be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."

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

For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we shall see light.

Continue Your mercy to those who know You.

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

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

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on You.

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

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

Blessed are You, O holy One; enlighten me with Your statutes.

Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever; despise not the works of Your hands.

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

### *The Morning Litany*

DEACON: Let us complete our [morning] prayer to the Lord.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

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

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

DEACON: For all things good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

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

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

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

PEOPLE: Grant this, O Lord.

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

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: For You are the God of mercy and compassion and love toward mankind, and unto You we ascribe glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

PEOPLE: Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be to all.

PEOPLE: And to your spirit.

### *The Prayer with Heads Bowed*

DEACON: Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

PEOPLE: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: O holy Lord, Who dwell on high and regard the humble of heart and with Your all-seeing eye behold all creation, to You have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we entreat You, O Holy of holies: Stretch forth Your invisible hand from Your holy dwelling-place and bless us all. And if in anything we have sinned, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, forgive us, inasmuch as You are a good God, and love mankind; granting us Your earthly and heavenly good things.

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

PEOPLE: Amen.



***Aposticha and "It is a good thing..."***

*Aposticha are read or sung with verses from Psalm 90 (LXX 89), concluding with "It is a good thing..."*

*(Tone 6)*

Come, you faithful, and let us serve the Master eagerly, for He gives riches to His servants. Let each of us, according to the measure that we have received, increase the talent of grace. Let one gain wisdom through good deeds; let another celebrate the Liturgy with beauty; let another share his faith by preaching to the uninstructed, let another give his wealth to the poor. So shall we increase what is entrusted to us, and as faithful stewards of His grace we shall be counted worthy of the Master's joy. Bestow this joy upon us, Christ our God, in Your love for mankind.

*Verse: Satisfy us early with Your mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days! Make us glad according to the days in which You have afflicted us, the years in which we have seen evil. Let Your work appear to Your servants, and Your glory to their children. (Psalm 90 (LXX 89): 14 - 16)*

When You shall come, O Jesus, in glory with the angelic hosts and shall sit upon the throne of judgment, do not send me from Your presence, O good Shepherd. You accept those who stand upon the right, but those upon the left have turned away from You. Destroy me not with the goats, though I am hardened in sin, but number me with the sheep on Your right hand, and save me in Your love for mankind.

*Verse: And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands for us; yes, establish the work of our hands. (Verse 17)*

O Bridegroom, surpassing all in beauty, You have called us to the spiritual feast of Your bridal chamber. Strip from me the disfigurement of sin, through participation in Your sufferings; clothe me in the glorious robe of Your beauty, and in Your compassion make me feast with joy at Your Kingdom.

*(Tone 7)*

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

Behold, my soul, the Master entrusts you with a talent. Receive His gift with fear; make it gain interest for Him; distribute to the needy, and make the Lord your friend. So shall you stand on His right hand when He comes in glory, and you shall hear His blessed words: "Enter, servant, into the joy of your Lord." I have gone astray, O Savior, but in Your great mercy count me worthy of this joy.

**PRIEST:** It is a good thing to confess to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High, to declare Your mercy in the morning and Your truth by night.

### *The Trisagion Prayers*

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

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

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 Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

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

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

### *Kontakion (Tone 2)*

READER: Think, O wretched soul, upon the hour of the end; recall with fear how the fig tree was cut down. Work diligently with the talent that is given to you, be vigilant and cry aloud: May we not be left outside the bridal chamber of Christ.

### *Forty-fold "Lord, have mercy"*

READER/PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy. (40x)

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

More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim, who without corruption gave birth to God the Word and are truly Theotokos, we magnify you.

Bless, father, in the name of the Lord.

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

***“O heavenly King, support the faithful...”***

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

***The Prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian***

PRIEST/PEOPLE: O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, lust of power, and idle talk. (*prostration*)

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

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

*Then bow twelve times, saying each time:*

O God, be gracious to me, a sinner.

*The prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian is then said once more, with only one prostration at the end.*

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Your servant. O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother; for You are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

***The Blessing and Dismissal***

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (*3x*)

Father, bless.

PRIEST: May Christ our true God, *Who is going to His voluntary passion for our salvation*, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-blameless, holy Mother, at the supplication of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner, and Baptist John, of (*N., patron of the church*), of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

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

PEOPLE: Amen.

## Recessionals

### Troparion: Tone 8 (Kievan)

Be-hold the Bride - groom comes in the mid - dle of the night; and  
6 blessed is the ser-vant whom He shall find watch - ing, but un-worthy is the  
10 one whom He shall find in sloth-ful - ness. Be - ware, then O my soul, and  
15 be not ov-er-come by sleep, lest you be giv-en o - ver to death  
22 and shut out from the King - - - dom. But re-turn to sober-ness and  
28 cry a - loud: "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly are You, O God.  
33 Through the intercessions of the The-o-to - kos, have mer - cy on us."

### Exapostilarion / Hymn of Light: Tone 3 (Byzantine)

I see Your bri-dal cham - ber a - dorned, O my Sa - vior,  
6 and I have no wed-ding gar - ment that I may en - ter there.  
11 Make the robe of my soul to shine, O Giv-er of Light, and  
15 1. save me. 2. save me.