Holy Week

Service of the Graveside Lamentations

Maui Orthodox Christian Mission

Metropolis of San Francisco Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Service held at Saint Theresa Church Kihei, Maui, Hawaii (Dated: April 30, 2021)

> Octoechos First Tone On Friday Evening

Maui Orthodox Christian Mission Project for a Daily Sequential Hymnal in English

Liturgical Texts courtesy from the following:

Holy Cross Press 50 Goddard Avenue, Brookline, Massachusetts The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Denver 4550 East Alameda Avenue, Denver, Colorado Fr. Seraphim Dedes 7900 Greenside Ct., Charlotte, North Carolina Sophia Press 158 Pleasant Street, Brookline, Massachusetts Music courtesy and copyright from the following:

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Part I

Akolouth (Fixed portion)

DEACON

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

READER

Amen.

DEACON

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, present in all places and filling all things, treasury of good things and giver of life: come; take Your abode in us; cleanse us of every stain, and save our souls, O Good one.

A. Trisagion Prayers

READER

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

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

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

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

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

DEACON

By the prayers of the Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

READER

Amen.

Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over the enemy, and by Your Cross protecting Your commonwealth.

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

You who were lifted on the cross voluntarily, O Christ our God, bestow Your tender compassions upon Your new community to which You gave Your name. Cause our faithful emperors to be glad in Your power, granting them the victories against their adversaries. And for an ally, Lord, may they have You, peace as their armor, the trophy invincible.

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

O awesome and unshamable Protection, O good and praiseworthy Theotokos, do not despise our petitions; make firm the community of the Orthodox; save those whom you

have called to rule; grant them victory from heaven, for you gave birth to God and are truly blessed.

DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for our Archbishop Elpidophoros.



DEACON

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen. In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

DEACON

Glory to the holy and consubstantial, and life giving, and undivided Trinity, always, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



I. THE SIX PSALMS

READER

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

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

A. Psalm 3

O Lord, why are those who afflict me multiplied?

Many rise up against me. Many say to my soul: there is no salvation for him in his God.

But You, O Lord, are my Helper, my Glory, and the One who lifts up my head.

I cried to the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain.

I laid down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves round about against me.

Rise, O Lord; save me, my God; for You have struck down all who without cause are my enemies; You have broken the teeth of sinners.

Salvation is of the Lord, and Your blessing is on Your people.

I laid down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

B. Psalm 37 (38)

O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your anger, nor chasten me in Your wrath!

For Your arrows are fastened in me, and You have laid Your hand heavily upon me.

There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Your wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins.

For my iniquities have risen higher than my head; they have pressed heavily on me as a heavy burden.

My wounds have become foul and festering in the face of my foolishness.

I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; I went all the day long with downcast face.

For my loins are filled with inflammation, and there is no healing in my flesh.

I am afflicted and exceedingly humbled, I have groaned from the turmoil of my heart.

O Lord, all my desire is before You, and my groaning is not hidden from You.

My heart is troubled, my strength has failed me; and the light of my eyes, even this is not with me.

My friends and my neighbors drew near over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off.

And those who sought after my soul used violence; and those who sought evils for me spoke vain things, and they meditated deception all the day long.

But as for me, like a deaf man I did not hear them, and I was as a speechless man who does not open his mouth.

And I became as a man that does not hear, and that has no reproofs in his mouth.

For I have hoped in You, O Lord; You will hear me, Lord my God.

For I said: Let my enemies never rejoice over me; indeed, when my feet were shaken, those men spoke boastful words against me.

For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me.

For I will declare my iniquity, and I will anguish concerning my sin.

But my enemies live and are made stronger than I, and those who hated me unjustly are multiplied.

Those who render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness.

Do not forsake me, O Lord my God, do not depart from me. Be attentive to my help, O Lord of my salvation.

C. Psalm 62 (63)

O God, my God, to You I rise early at dawn.

My soul has thirsted for You; how often has my flesh longed after You in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered.

So I have appeared before You in the sanctuary to see Your power and Your glory.

For Your mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise You.

So shall I bless You in my life, and I will lift up my hands in Your name.

Let my soul be filled as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with lips of rejoicing.

If I remembered You on my bed, I meditated on You at the dawn.

For You have become my Helper; I will rejoice in the shelter of Your wings.

My soul has cleaved after You, Your right hand has been quick to help me.

But as for those who in vain have sought after my soul, they shall go into the lowest parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered to the edge of the sword, they shall be portions for foxes.

But the king shall be glad in God; everyone shall be praised that swears by Him; for the mouth of those who speak unjust things is stopped.

At the dawn I meditated on You; for You have become my Helper; in the shelter of Your wings I will rejoice.

My soul has cleaved after You, Your right hand has been quick to help me.

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

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

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

D. Psalm 87 (88)

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

O Lord, God of my salvation, I have cried by day and by night before You.

Let my prayer come before You, bow down Your ear to my supplication.

For my soul is filled with evils, and my life has drawn near to Hades.

I am counted with those who go down into the pit; I have become as a man without help, free among the dead.

I am like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, Whom You remember no more, and who are cut off from Your hand.

They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and the shadow of death.

Your anger lies heavily on me, and You have afflicted me with all Your waves.

You have removed my friends far from me; they have made me an abomination to themselves.

I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; my eyes have grown weak from poverty.

I have cried to You, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands to You.

No, will You work wonders for the dead? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks to You?

No, shall any in the grave tell of Your mercy, and of Your truth in that destruction?

No, shall Your wonders be known in that darkness, and Your righteousness in that land that is forgotten?

But as for me, I have cried to You, O Lord; and in the morning my prayer shall come before You.

O Lord, why do You therefore cast off my soul and turn Your face away from me?

I am as a poor man, and in troubles from my youth; indeed, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress.

Your fierce wrath has gone over me, and Your terrors have sorely troubled me.

They came around me all day long like water, they engulfed me altogether.

Because of my misery You have removed friend and neighbor and my acquaintances far from me.

O Lord God of my salvation, I have cried by day and by night before You.

Let my prayer come before You, bow down Your ear to my supplication!

E. Psalm 102 (103)

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 that He has done for you.

Who is gracious to all your iniquities, Who heals all your infirmities.

Who redeems your life from corruption, Who crowns you with mercy and compassion.

Who fulfills your desire with good things; your youth shall be renewed as the eagle's.

The Lord does deeds of mercy, and executes judgment for all those who are wronged.

He has made His ways known to Moses, the things that He has willed to the sons of Israel.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; He will not be angered to the end, neither will He be angry to eternity.

He has not dealt with us according to our iniquities, neither has He rewarded us according to our sins.

For according to the height of heaven from the earth, so has the Lord made His mercy to

prevail over those who fear Him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our iniquities from us.

Like a father has compassion on his sons, so has the Lord had compassion on those who fear Him; for He knows of what we are made, He has remembered that we are dust.

As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth.

For when the wind passes over it, then it shall be gone, and its place will no longer remember it.

But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even to eternity, on those who fear Him.

And His righteousness is on sons of sons, on those who keep His testament and remember to do His commandments.

The Lord in heaven has prepared His throne, and His kingdom rules over all.

Bless the Lord, O all you His Angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words.

Bless the Lord, O all you His hosts, His ministers that do His will.

Bless the Lord, O all you His works, in every place of His dominion; bless the Lord, my soul.

F. Psalm 142 (143)

O Lord, hear my prayer, in Your truth give ear to my supplications; hear me in Your righteousness.

And do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight no man living shall be

justified.

For the enemy has persecuted my soul; he has humbled my life down to the earth.

He has sat me in darkness as those who have been long dead, and my spirit within me has become despondent; my heart within me is troubled.

I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Your works, I pondered on the creations of Your hands.

I stretched forth my hands to You; my soul thirsts after You like a waterless land.

Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit has fainted away.

Do not turn Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down into the pit.

Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning; for I have put my hope in You.

Cause me to know, O Lord, the way in which I should walk; for I have lifted up my soul to You.

Rescue me from my enemies, O Lord; I have fled to You for refuge.

Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God.

Your good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; You shall quicken me for Your name's sake, O Lord.

In Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction, and in Your mercy You shall utterly destroy my enemies.

And You shall cut off all those who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

Hear me in Your righteousness, O Lord, and do not enter into judgment with Your servant. (2)

Let Your good spirit lead me on a level path!

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

Alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to You, O God.

READER

(intoned) Alleluia, alleluia; Glory to You, O God. Lord, my Hope, glory to You.

DEACON

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR



DEACON

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



DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

For pious and Orthodox Christians, let us pray to the Lord.



DEACON

For our Archbishop Elpidophoros, for the honorable presbyterate, for the diaconate in Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR



DEACON

For our country, for the president, and for all in public service, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR



DEACON

For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.



DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

For those who travel by land, sea, and air, for the sick, the suffering, the captives and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR



DEACON

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger and distress, and from the peril of the coronavirus against us, let us pray to the Lord.



DEACON

For our brethren, those who lead the fight against the coronavirus, the doctors, the medical workers and the scientists, let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



DEACON

For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



Part II

Sequences (Variable portion)

CHOIR



Verse: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His holy name.

- *Verse:* All the nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I defended myself against them.
- Verse: This came about from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes.





DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



DEACON

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

CHOIR



G. Kathisma I





READER

II. PSALM 50 (51)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my lawlessness, and my sin is always before me. Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight; that You may be justified in Your words, and overcome when You are judged. For behold, I was conceived in transgressions, and in sins my mother bore me. Behold, You love truth; You showed me the unknown and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow. You shall make me hear joy and gladness; my bones that were humbled shall greatly rejoice. Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out all my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right 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 with Your guiding Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For if You desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built; then You will be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar. [SAAS]



A. The Canon














Lord."

ord."





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

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



For you are our God, and to you we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.



bur-ied

and rose from the

CHOIR

Kathisma I. Mode 1. Original Melody. G Soft Chromatic С 0 tomb, O my The sol - diers keep-ing watch at Your Sav-ior, 8 be - came dead for fear of the ra di - ant An-gel. And as he pro - claimed that who You a - rose to the wom-en came at 0 Ø dawn. We ex tol You, Lord, for You a bol ished cor-Ø ل 8 rup-tion, wor - ship You, on - ly God, who was and we our 8

sep - ul - cher.

в. Kathisma I

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









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

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



For You are the King of peace and the savior of our souls, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.



READER

C. Kontakion

He who closed the abyss is seen as dead; As a mortal the Deathless one, Wrapped in spice and linen, Is laid within a grave. Women came to anoint Him, Wailing bitter, crying out, "Exceeding blessed is this Sabbath, On which the Christ has slumbered, To rise on the third day." [GKD]

1. Oikos

He who holds all things together is raised upon a Cross, And all creation mourns beholding this One hung Naked on a Tree. The sun hid its beams, And the stars withheld their shine. The earth, full-feared, was shaken, And the sea has fled away. The rocks were split as under, And the graves of scores were opened, And the forms of holy men arose. Hades groans below, Yet Judeans plan to slander The resurrection of Christ. And the women cry aloud, "Exceeding blessed is this Sabbath, On which the Christ has slumbered, To rise on the third day." [GKD]

III. SYNAXARION

On May 1 we commemorate the holy Prophet Jeremiah.

On this day we also commemorate the contest of the holy Hieromartyr Batas of Persia.

On this day was the dedication of the New Church, when the Patriarch entered by the Palace and from there go in procession to the New Church and liturgize there.

On this day we also commemorate the three new devout monastic Martyrs: Efthymios of Dimitsana (March 22), Ignatios of Eski Zagaran (October 8), and Akakos of Nibori, Thessaloniki. Their joint memory is observed in their holy shrine in the Skete of the Honorable Forerunner [on Mt. Athos].

On great and holy Saturday, we celebrate the burial of the divine Body and the descent into Hades of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through which He recalled our human race from corruption and passed it over into life eternal.

In vain you guard the grave, O guards.

No tomb can hold Him who is life itself.

By Your ineffable condescension, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.













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Let us honor and magnify in song the Theotokos and the Mother of the light.










IV. THE LAMENTATIONS.

The clergy come out of the sanctuary and stand in front of the Epitaphion, censing and beginning each stanza.

CHOIR



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

Verse: Blessed are the blameless in the way who walk in the law of the Lord.

In the tomb they laid you, * you, O Christ, who are Life; * in amazement angel armies lift up their song * as they glorify your self-abasement, Lord. [EL]

Verse: Blessed are those who search out His testimonies; they shall search for Him with their whole heart.

Life, how can you perish, * or how dwell in a tomb? * Yet the royal hall of Death you now bring to nought, * and from Hades' realm you raise the dead again. [EL]

Verse: For those who work lawlessness do not walk in His ways.

Now we magnify you, * O Lord Jesus, our King, * we pay honor to your Passion and burial

* for from foul corruption you saved us thru them. [EL]

Verse: You commanded us regarding Your commandments, that we should be very diligent to keep them.

King of all, O Jesus, * who established earth's bounds * on this day you make your home in a little tomb, * raising up the dead of ages from their graves. [EL]

Verse: Would that my ways were led, that I might keep Your ordinances.

O my Christ, my Jesus, * King and Monarch of all, * seeking what have you descended to those in Hell? * Was it not to liberate the mortal race? [EL]

Verse: Then I would not be ashamed when I regard all Your commandments.

He who governs all things * here is seen as a corpse, * new the grave in which his body is laid to rest, * he the one who empties graves of all their dead. [EL]

Verse: I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with an upright heart, when I learn the judgments of Your righteousness.

In the tomb they laid you, * you, O Christ who are Life; * death itself you brought to nothing by your own death, * and became the fount of life for all the world. [EL]

Verse: I shall keep Your ordinances; do not utterly forsake me.

Guilty with the guilty * you were judged, O my Christ, * at the moment you wrought justice for all of us, * from the ancient trickster's foul and evil deeds. [EL]

Verse: How shall a young man keep his way straight? when he keeps Your words.

Fairer he in beauty * than are all mortal kind, * now a corpse we see, unsightly, bereft of

form, * he who beautified the nature of all things. [EL]

Verse: I searched for You with my whole heart; do not drive me away from Your commandments.

How could Hell endure it, * when in splendor you came, * and how not be swiftly shattered and plunged in dark, * blinded by the blazing glory of your light? [EL]

Verse: I hid Your teachings in my heart so as not to sin against You.

Light that saves, O Jesus, * you are sweetness to me, * in the darkness of the grave how can you lie hid? * O forbearance that no language can express! [EL]

Verse: Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your ordinances.

Angels are bewildered, * and the bodiless host * at a loss, O Christ, before that great mystery * your ineffable entombment, beyond speech. [EL]

Verse: With my lips I declared all the judgments of Your mouth.

O most strange of wonders! * What new deeds we now see! * He who gave me my life's breath, lies unbreathing now, * borne to burial at noble Joseph's hands. [EL]

Verse: I delight in the way of Your testimonies as much as in all riches.

Like the sun when setting, * to the tomb you descend, * yet, O Christ, your Father's bosom you do not leave. * What strange paradox, what wondrous thing this is. [EL]

Verse: I shall meditate on Your commandments, and I shall understand Your ways.

As the sky's true monarch, * as true king of the earth, * though enclosed within the narrowest sepulcher, * you were known by all creation, Jesus Lord. [EL]



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

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



For blessed is your name, and glorified is your kingdom, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



CHOIR



Verse: Your hands made and fashioned me; instruct me, and I will learn Your commandments.

It is right indeed * you to magnify, who fashion all things, * your pains from corruption deliver us, * and your Passion grants dispassion to our souls. [EL]

Verse: Those who fear You will see me and be glad, because I hope in Your words.

All Earth quaked in fear * and the sun concealed itself, O Savior, * when, O Christ, our light, you set bodily, * as the light that knows no evening was entombed. [EL]

Verse: I know, O Lord, Your judgments are righteousness, and You humbled me with truth.

Sleeping in the tomb * with the sleep that breathes forth life, Anointed, * from sin's heavy sleep you, as God, aroused * all the human race that sin had held enthralled. [EL]

Verse: Let Your mercy be for my comfort, according to Your teaching to Your servant.

"Of all woman-kind * I alone bore you, my child, without pain; * cruel pangs now wrack me as I behold * your great suffering", the Holy Virgin cries. [EL]

Verse: Let Your compassions come to me, and I shall live; for Your law is my meditation.

Seeing you on high, * never separated from the Father, * yet below on Earth, laid out as a corpse, * the dread Seraphim, my Saviour, shake with fear. [EL]

Verse: Let the arrogant be shamed, for they transgressed unjustly against me; but I shall meditate on Your commandments.

See, the Temple Veil, * rent as under at your crucifixion, * Heaven's beacons hide, O my Christ, their light, * to see you, the Sun, now hid beneath the earth. [EL]

Verse: Let those who fear You turn to me, and those who know Your testimonies.

He who at the start * by His will alone set Earth revolving, * lifeless as a mortal sets under earth; * let the sky now shake and tremble at the sight. [EL]

Verse: Let my heart be blameless in Your ordinances, that I may not be disappointed.

Human-kind you formed, * with your own hand fashioned us, O Saviour, * now, O Sun, you set underneath the earth, * raising companies of mortals from the fall. [EL]

Verse: My soul earnestly longs for Your salvation, and I hope in Your word.

Come, now, let us sing, * let our sacred hymn lament the dead Christ, * singing as the Myrrh-bearing women did, * that with them we too may hear the word "rejoice!" [EL]

Verse: My eyes strained to look at Your teaching, saying, "When will You comfort me?"

Truly you are Myrrh, * truly, Word of God, the Myrrh Unfailing, * so it was myrrh-bearers brought myrrh to you, * to the Living God brought myrrh as to the dead. [EL]

Verse: I am like a leather bag in a frost; I did not forget Your ordinances.

Buried, O my Christ, * the great palaces of Hell you shattered, * Death you put to death by your death, O Lord, * from corruption you set free those born of earth. [EL]

Verse: How many are the days of Your servant? When will You execute judgment for me upon those who persecute me?

To the grave descends * he, the Wisdom of our God, that pours out * streams of life; descending into a tomb, * giving life to those in Hades deepest depths. [EL]

Verse: Transgressors described their meditations to me, but these are not like Your law, O Lord.

"Willingly by death * I was wounded in the flesh, dear Mother, * thus the broken nature of mortal kind * to renew, so do not beat your breast in grief." [EL]

Verse: All Your commandments are truth; they persecuted me unjustly; help me.

When beneath the Earth * you had set, the Morning Star of justice, * you aroused the dead as if they but slept, * as you put to flight the murk and gloom of Hell. [EL]



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

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



For holy are You, our God, resting on the glorious throne of the cherubim, and to You we send up glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



CHOIR



Verse: Look upon me and have mercy on me, according to the judgment of those who love Your name.

The Noble Joseph takes you * down from the Tree, my Saviour, * and in the tomb he lays you. [EL]

Verse: Direct my steps according to Your teaching and let no lawlessness rule over me.

Myrrh-bearing Woman came then, * providently bringing * to you, O Christ, the sweet myrrh. [EL]

Verse: Ransom me from the slander of men, and I will keep Your commandments.

Let all Creation join us, * as to the Creator * our farewell hymns we now sing. [EL]

Verse: Make Your face shine upon Your servant and teach me Your ordinances.

With myrrh-bearing women * let us, with understanding, * anoint as dead the Living. [EL]

Verse: My eyes poured down streams of tears because they did not keep Your law.

O thrice-blessed Joseph, * entomb Messiah's body, * the corpse of Him who grants life. [EL] Verse: Righteous are You, O Lord, and upright is Your judgment.

Those he fed with manna * raised their heels against him, * against the Benefactor. [EL]

Verse: You commanded Your testimonies exceedingly In righteousness and truth.

Those he fed with manna * bring vinegar and gall now * to offer to the Saviour. [EL]

Verse: The zeal of Your house caused me to yearn for home, for my enemies forgot Your words.

O the boundless folly * of those who slew the prophets * and now slay God's Anointed. [EL]

Verse: Your teaching is exceedingly purified in fire, and Your servant loves it.

Initiate yet traitor, * he, the senseless servant, * sold the Abyss of Wisdom. [EL]

Verse: I am young, and beheld as nothing, but I have not forgotten Your ordinances.

Judas the deceiver * for silver sold the Saviour, * and thus became a captive. [EL]

Verse: Your righteousness is righteousness forever, and Your law is truth.

Solomon declared it: * like a deep-dug pit the mouth * of Law-transgressing Hebrews. [EL]

Verse: Affliction and trouble found me, but Your commandments are my meditation.

Law-transgressing Hebrews * on the crooked paths they tread * face pits and traps and sharp snares. [EL]

Verse: Your testimonies are righteousness forever; give me understanding, and I shall live.

With Nicodemus, Joseph * buries the Creator * as for the dead is fitting. [EL]

Verse: I cry out with my whole heart; hear me, O Lord; I shall search Your ordinances.

O Life-giving Saviour, * the conqueror of Hades, * to your great might be glory. [EL]

Repeat the following verse several times, as the priest sprinkles the tomb and the people.

Myrrh-bearers came and sprinkled * sweet myrrh upon your tomb, Lord, * at early dawn they come now.

Peace unto your Church, Lord, * salvation to your people, * grant by your Resurrection. [EL]

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

Father, Son and Spirit, * O Trinity, my One God, * have mercy on the whole world. [EL]

Verse: Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Count all your servants worthy, * to see, Most Holy Virgin, * you Son's bright Resurrection. [EL]



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

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



For You are the King of peace and the Savior of our souls, O Christ our God, and to You we send up glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



CHOIR









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

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

CHOIR



For all the powers of heaven praise You and give You glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



CHOIR



V. EXAPOSTEILARION









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VI. THEOTOKION



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VII. DOXOLOGY

Glory be to You who showed the light. Glory in the highest to God. His peace is on earth, His good pleasure in mankind. [SD]

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

Lord King, heavenly God, Father, Ruler over all; Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and You, O Holy Spirit.

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.

Accept our supplication, You who sit at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.

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

Every day I will bless You, and Your name will I praise to eternity, and to the ages of ages.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, this day, that we be kept without sin.

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

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

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

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

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

Lord, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, have mercy on 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.

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

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

Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.



The procession of the canopied Epitaphion around the Sanctuary takes place.

CHOIR

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. [GOA]

DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for our Archbishop Elpidophoros.

CHOIR



DEACON

Again let us pray for our country, the president, and all those in public service.

CHOIR



DEACON

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. [GOA]

DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians residing and visiting in this city: the parishioners, the members of the parish council, the stewards, and benefactors of this holy church.

DEACON

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

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Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. [GOA]

DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for the blessed memory and eternal repose of all pious Orthodox Christians who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection unto life everlasting, emperors, patriarchs, bishops, priests, deacons, hieromonks, deacon-monks, monks, nuns, fathers, forebears, grandparents, great-grandparents, parents, spouses, children, siblings, and all our relatives, from the beginning until the end of time; and for the forgiveness of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

DEACON

For You are the resurrection, the life and the repose of all the departed faithful Orthodox Christians, Christ our God, and to You we give glory, with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.



CHOIR

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. [GOA]

DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for the protection of this holy church, this city and every city and land, from wrath, famine, pestilence, earthquake, flood, fire, sword, foreign invasions, civil strife, and accidental death. That our good and loving God may be merciful, gracious and favorable to us by turning and keeping from us all wrath and sickness, and deliver us from His just rebuke, and have mercy on us.

DEACON

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.



As the Clergy with the canopied Epitaphion enter the Sanctuary.

DEACON

Let us be attentive. Peace be with all. Wisdom.







Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. [Repeat].

VIII. THE PROPHECY

READER

A. Prokeimenon

1. Psalm 9 (9, 10)

Arise, O Lord my God, let Your hand be lifted high.

I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart. [SAAS]

The reading is from the Prophecy of Ezekiel.

DEACON

Wisdom. Let us be attentive.

READER

Ezk 37:1-14

Again the hand of the Lord came upon me, and brought me by the Spirit of the Lord, and set me in the midst of the plain, which was full of human bones. So He led me round about them, and behold, there was a great multitude of bones on the face of the plain. They were very dry. Then He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord, You know this." Then He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the of the Lord. Thus says the Lord to these bones: "Behold, I will bring the Spirit of life upon you. I will put muscles on you and bring flesh upon you. I will cover you with skin and put my Spirit into you. Then you shall live and know that I am the Lord."" So I prophesied as He commanded me, and it came to pass while I prophesied that, behold, there was a shaking, and the bones came together, each one to its joint. So I looked, and behold, muscle and flesh grew upon them, and skin covered them over; but

no breath was in them. Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, 'Thus says the Lord: "Come from the four winds and breathe upon these dead men; and let them live."" So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the Spirit entered into them; and they lived and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great assembly. Again the Lord spoke to me, saying, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope has perished, and we are lost.' Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord: "Behold, I will open your tombs, bring you up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your tombs to lead you, My people, up from their graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you will live; and I will place you in your own land. Then you will know that I am the Lord, I have spoken, and I will do it," says the Lord." [SAAS]

IX. THE EPISTLE

DEACON

Let us be attentive.

READER

A. Prokeimenon

Arise, O Lord my God, let Your hand be lifted high.

Verse: I will give thanks to You, O Lord, with my whole heart.

DEACON

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

DEACON

Let us be attentive.

READER

1 Cor. 1 Cor. 5:6-8; Gal. 3:13-14.

Brethren, a little leaven leavens the whole lump. Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us, therefore, celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of

malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who hangs on a tree" that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. [RSV]

DEACON

Peace be with you.



Verse 1: Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered.

Verse 2: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire.

Verse 3: So shall the sinners perish from the face of God.

X. THE PRAYER OF THE HOLY GOSPEL

DEACON (*in a low voice*)

Shine in our hearts, O Master Who loves mankind, the pure light of Your divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our mind that we may comprehend the proclamations of Your Gospels. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments so that, having trampled down all carnal desires, we may lead a spiritual life, both thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the illumination of our souls and bodies, and to You we offer up glory, together with Your Father, Who is without beginning, and Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

A. The Gospel

DEACON

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

DEACON

Peace be with all.

CHOIR

(And with your spirit.)

DEACON

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Let us be attentive.

CHOIR

(Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.)

DEACON

Mt. 27:62-66.

Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore order the sepulcher to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went and made the sepulcher secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard. [RSV]

DEACON

Peace be with you.

After the Gospel Reading.



DEACON

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

CHOIR



Again we pray for our Archbishop Elpidophoros.

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, the hieromonks, the hierodeacons, the monastics, and all our brotherhood in Christ.

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, forgiveness, and remission of the sins of the servants of God, all pious Orthodox Christians residing and visiting in this city: the parishioners, the members of the parish council, the stewards, and benefactors of this holy church.

CHOIR



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Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church, and for all our fathers and brethren who have fallen asleep before us, who here have been piously laid to their rest, as well as the Orthodox everywhere.

CHOIR



DEACON

Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable church, for those who labor and those who sing, and for the people here present who await Your great and rich mercy.

CHOIR



DEACON

For You are a merciful God Who loves mankind, and to You we offer up glory, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

CHOIR



DEACON

Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

CHOIR



DEACON

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

CHOIR



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

CHOIR



DEACON

For pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

CHOIR



DEACON

For that which is good and beneficial for our souls, and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

CHOIR



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

CHOIR



DEACON

And let us ask for a Christian end to our life, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good defense before the awesome judgment seat of Christ.

CHOIR



DEACON

Commemorating our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.



DEACON

For You are the God of mercy and compassion and love for mankind, and to You we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to ages of ages.

CHOIR



DEACON

Peace be with all.

CHOIR

(And with your spirit.)

DEACON

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.



DEACON (in a low voice)

Holy Lord, dwelling on high and beholding things below and, with your eye that observes all, keeping watch over the whole creation, to you we have bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we beseech you, O Holy of Holies: Stretch forth your invisible hand from your holy dwelling and bless us all. And, as you are good and love humankind, pardon us if we have sinned in anything, voluntarily or involuntarily, granting us your blessings both of this world and of the world above.

(exclaimed)

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

CHOIR



DEACON

Wisdom.

(Father, bless!)

DEACON

Blessed are You, Christ our God, always now and forever and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR



DEACON

Make firm, Lord our God, the holy and pure faith of the pious Orthodox Christians, together with the Holy Church and this city forever.

READER

Amen.

Greater in honor than the Cherubim, and in glory greater beyond compare than the Seraphim; you without corruption gave birth to God the Word, and are truly Theotokos. You do we magnify.

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

XI. DISMISSAL

DEACON

May He who for us men and for our salvation voluntarily endured the awful Passion, the Cross, and Burial, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-pure and all-immaculate holy Mother, the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, the protection of the honorable, bodiless powers of heaven, the supplications of the honorable, glorious prophet and forerunner John the Baptist, of the holy, glorious, and praiseworthy apostles, of the holy, glorious, and triumphant martyrs, of our righteous and God-bearing fathers, Saints Constantine and Helen; 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].

CHOIR

