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Holy Week

Bridegroom Service on Tuesday Evening

Matins of Holy Wednesday

Text in English

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Holy Week
Bridegroom Service on Tuesday Evening
Matins of Holy Wednesday

SERVICE OF MATINS

PRIEST

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

READER

Amen.

PRIEST

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.

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

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.

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 forever and to the
ages of ages.

READER

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12)

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

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

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

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

Psalms 19 (20).

May the Lord hear you in the day of
afflictions; may the name of the God of Jacob

defend you. May He send you help from His holy place, and may He support you from Zion. May He remember every sacrifice of yours, and may your whole burnt offering be honored. May He give you according to your heart, may He fulfill all your counsel. We will greatly rejoice in Your salvation, and in the name of our God we will be magnified. Now I know the Lord has saved His anointed; He will hear him from His holy heaven; the salvation of His right hand is mighty. Some glory in chariots, some in horses, but in the name of the Lord our God we shall be magnified. Their feet were tied together; so they fell; but we rose up and were restored. O Lord, save Your King, and hear us in the day we call upon You.

Psalm 20 (21).

O Lord, the king shall be glad in Your power, and in Your salvation he will greatly rejoice. You gave him his soul's desire, and You did not deprive him of his lips' request. For You anticipated him with blessings of goodness; You placed a crown of precious stones on his head. He asked You for life, and You gave it to him, length of days unto ages of ages. Great is his glory in Your salvation; glory and majesty You shall place upon him. For You shall give him blessing unto ages of ages; You shall fill him with the joy of Your presence. For the king hopes in the Lord, and in the mercy of the Most High he will not be shaken. May Your hand be found on all Your enemies; may Your right hand find all who hate You. You

shall make them like a fiery furnace in the time of Your presence; the Lord shall throw them into confusion in His wrath, and the fire shall devour them. You shall destroy their offspring from the earth and their seed from among the sons of men. For they vented all their evils against You; they reasoned through a counsel they could not establish. For You shall make them turn their back; among Your remnants, You shall make ready their countenance. Be exalted, O Lord, in Your power; we will sing and praise Your mighty deeds.

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

Trisagion Prayers.

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.

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 forever and to the ages of ages.

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.

PRIEST

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

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Let us pray for pious and Orthodox Christians.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

Again we pray for (episcopal rank) (name).

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

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.

CHANTER

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

PRIEST

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

(Amen.)

READER

The Six Psalms.

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)

Psalms 3.

O Lord, why do those who afflict me multiply? Many are those who rise up against me. Many are those who say to my soul, "There is no salvation for him in his God." But You, O Lord, are my protector, 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 will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who set themselves against me all around. Arise, O Lord, and save me, O my God, for You struck all those who were foolishly at enmity with me; You broke the teeth of sinners. Salvation is of the Lord, and Your blessing is upon Your people.

I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. [SAAS]

Psalms 37 (38).

O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, nor chasten me in Your anger. For Your arrows are fixed in me, and Your hand rests on me; there is no healing in my flesh because of Your wrath; there is no peace in my bones because of my sins. For my transgressions rise up over my head; like a heavy burden they are heavy on

me. My wounds grow foul and fester because of my folly. I suffer misery, and I am utterly bowed down; I go all the day long with a sad face. For my loins are filled with mockeries, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and greatly humbled; I roar because of the groaning 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 fails me, and the light of my eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and neighbors draw near and stand against me, and my near of kin stand far off; and those who seek my soul use violence, and those who seek evil for me speak folly; and they meditate on deceit 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. I am like a man who does not hear, and who has no reproofs in his mouth. For in You, O Lord, I hope; You will hear, O Lord my God. For I said, "Let not my enemies rejoice over me, for when my foot was shaken, they boasted against me." For I am ready for wounds, and my pain is continually with me. For I will declare my transgression, and I will be anxious about my sin. But my enemies live, and are become stronger than I; and those who hate me unjustly are multiplied; those who repaid me evil for good slandered me, because I pursue righteousness; and they threw away my love as though it were a stinking corpse. Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, do not depart

from me; give heed to help me, O Lord of my salvation.

Do not forsake me, O Lord; O my God, do not depart from me. Give heed to help me, O Lord of my salvation. [SAAS]

Psalm 62 (63).

O God, my God, I rise early to be with You; my soul thirsts for You. How often my flesh thirsts for You in a desolate, impassable, and waterless land. So in the holy place I appear before You, to see Your power and Your glory. Because Your mercy is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You in my life; I will lift up my hands in Your name. May my soul be filled, as if with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall sing praise to You with lips filled with rejoicing. If I remembered You on my bed, I meditated on You at daybreak; for You are my helper, and in the shelter of Your wings I will greatly rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand takes hold of me. But they seek for my soul in vain; they shall go into the lowest parts of the earth. They shall be given over to the edge of the sword; they shall be a portion for foxes. But the king shall be glad in God; all who swear by Him shall be praised, for the mouth that speaks unrighteous things is stopped.

I meditated on You at daybreak. For You are my helper, and in the shelter of Your wings I will greatly rejoice. My soul follows close

behind You; Your right hand takes hold of me.

[SAAS]

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

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

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Psalm 87 (88).

O Lord God of my salvation, I cry day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my supplication, O Lord. For my soul is filled with sorrows, and my soul draws near to Hades; I am counted among those who go down into the pit; I am like a helpless man, free among the dead, like slain men thrown down and sleeping in a grave, whom You remember no more, but they are removed from Your hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in dark places and in the shadow of death. Your wrath rested upon me, and You brought all Your billows over me. You removed my acquaintances far from me; they made me an abomination among themselves; I was betrayed, and did not go forth. My eyes weakened from poverty; O Lord, I cry to You the whole day long; I spread out my hands to You. Will You work wonders for the dead? Or will physicians raise

them up, and acknowledge You? Shall anyone in the grave describe Your mercy and Your truth in destruction? Shall Your wonders be known in darkness, and Your righteousness in a forgotten land? But I cry to You, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer shall come near to You. Why, O Lord, do You reject my soul, and turn away Your face from me? I am poor and in troubles from my youth; but having been exalted, I was humbled and brought into despair. Your fierce anger passed over me, and Your terrors greatly troubled me; they compassed me like water all the day long; they surrounded me at once. You removed far from me neighbor and friend, and my acquaintances because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, I cry day and night before You. Let my prayer come before You; incline Your ear to my supplication, O Lord. [SAAS]

Psalm 102 (103).

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards: who is merciful to all your transgressions, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from corruption, who crowns you with mercy and compassion, who satisfies your desire with good things; and your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord shows mercies and judgment to all who are wronged. He made known His ways to Moses, the things He willed to the sons of Israel. The Lord is compassionate

and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. He will not become angry to the end, nor will He be wrathful forever; He did not deal with us according to our sins, nor reward us according to our transgressions; for according to the height of heaven from earth, so the Lord reigns in mercy over those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so He removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him, for He knows how He formed us; He remembers we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass, as a flower of the field, so he flourishes; for the wind passes through it, and it shall not remain; and it shall no longer know its place. But the mercy of the Lord is from age to age upon those who fear Him, and His righteousness upon children's children, to such as keep His covenant and remember His commandments, to do them. The Lord prepared His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, all you His angels, mighty in strength, who do His word, so as to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, His ministers who do His will; bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion; bless the Lord, O my soul.

In all places of His dominion; Bless the Lord, O my soul. [SAAS]

Psalm 142 (143).

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear to my supplication in Your truth; answer me in Your

righteousness; do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul; he humbled my life to the ground; he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, and my spirit was in anguish within me; my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me; turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning, for I hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for to You I flee for refuge. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life; in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies; You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

Answer me in Your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant.

Answer me in Your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment with Your servant.

Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. [SAAS]

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

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

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

(intoned)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to You, O God. Our hope, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST/DEACON

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

For (episcopal rank) (name), for the honorable presbyterate, for the diaconate in

Christ, and for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

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.

(Amen.)

CHOIR

Mode pl. 4.

Verse 1: *My spirit rises early in the morning to You, O God, for Your commands are a light upon the earth.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 2: *Learn righteousness, you who dwell on the earth.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 3: *Jealousy will seize an untaught people; and now fire will devour the adversaries.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 4: *Bring more evils on them, O Lord, bring more evils on them, on the glorious of the earth.* [SAAS]

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Troparion. Mode pl. 4.

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night; and blessed is the servant He shall find awake and watching; unworthy is the other He shall find being lazy. So beware, O soul of mine, be not overcome by sleep, so that you not be handed over to death and be shut out from the Kingdom. Come to your senses

and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy are You our God. By the power of Your Cross save us. [SD]

Glory.

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night; and blessed is the servant He shall find awake and watching; unworthy is the other He shall find being lazy. So beware, O soul of mine, be not overcome by sleep, so that you not be handed over to death and be shut out from the Kingdom. Come to your senses and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy are You our God. By the intercessions of the Saints save us.

[SD]

Both now.

Behold, the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night; and blessed is the servant He shall find awake and watching; unworthy is the other He shall find being lazy. So beware, O soul of mine, be not overcome by sleep, so that you not be handed over to death and be shut out from the Kingdom. Come to your senses and cry aloud: Holy, holy, holy are You our God. Through the Theotokos have mercy on us.

[SD]

PRIEST

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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.

(To You, O Lord.)

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.

(Amen.)

From Triodion - -

CHOIR

Kathisma I.

Mode 3. Seeing how beautiful.

The harlot came to You who love humanity. * She poured perfume and tears over Your feet, O Lord. * At Your command she was absolved from the stench of her sinful deeds. * Judas, on the other hand, still exhaling the scent of grace, * ungratefully rejected it, and disfigured himself with mire; * for he betrayed You for the love of money. * Glory to Your compassion, O Christ! [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

The harlot came to You who love humanity. * She poured perfume and tears over Your feet, O Lord. * At Your command she was absolved from the stench of her sinful deeds. * Judas, on the other hand, still exhaling the scent of grace, * ungratefully rejected it, and disfigured himself with mire; * for he betrayed

You for the love of money. * Glory to Your compassion, O Christ! [SD]

From Triodion - - -

Kathisma II.

Mode 4. Come quickly.

In love with the love of money, scheming Judas the knave * deceptively premeditated his betrayal of You, * the Treasure of Life, O Lord. * Thus intoxicated, he runs to the Judeans. * He speaks to the unlawful, saying, "What will you give me, * and I shall betray Him to you, * for you to crucify Him?" [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

In love with the love of money, scheming Judas the knave * deceptively premeditated his betrayal of You, * the Treasure of Life, O Lord. * Thus intoxicated, he runs to the Judeans. * He speaks to the unlawful, saying, "What will you give me, * and I shall betray Him to you, * for you to crucify Him?" [SD]

Kathisma III.

From Triodion - - -

Mode 1. The soldiers keeping watch.

The harlot wept and sobbed, and she ardently wiped dry * Your undefiled feet, O compassionate Master, * with the hair of her head, and sighed from the depths of her soul and cried, * "O my God, I pray do not reject or abhor me, * but accept me back who am repentant, and save me, * for only You love humanity." [SD]

Glory. Both now. **Repeat.**

The harlot wept and sobbed, and she ardently wiped dry * Your undefiled feet, O compassionate Master, * with the hair of her head, and sighed from the depths of her soul and cried, * "O my God, I pray do not reject or abhor me, * but accept me back who am repentant, and save me, * for only You love humanity." [SD]

DEACON

Let us pray to the Lord our God that we may be made worthy to hear the holy Gospel.

(Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.)

DEACON

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to John.

DEACON

Let us be attentive.

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

PRIEST (from the gate)

12:17-50

At that time, the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness.

The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see that you can do nothing; look, the world has gone after him." Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew went with Philip and they told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If any one serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honor him. Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing by heard it and said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." He said this to show by what death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law

that the Christ remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said this, he departed and hid himself from them. Though he had done so many signs before them, yet they did not believe in him; it was that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Lord, who has believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" Therefore they could not believe. For Isaiah again said, "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they should see with their eyes and perceive with their heart, and turn for me to heal them." Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke of him. Nevertheless many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God. And Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. And he who sees me sees him who sent me. I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If any one hears my sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects me and

does not receive my sayings has a judge; the word that I have spoken will be his judge on the last day. For I have not spoken on my own authority; the Father who sent me has himself given me commandment what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has bidden me." [RSV]

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

READER

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]

CHOIR

The Canon.

By Cosmas the Monk.

Ode iii. Mode 2. Heirmos.

You strengthened me on the rock of faith, O Savior. * You made me smile at my enemies and deride them. * My spirit is rejoicing, as I am singing, * "No one is holy like our God, * and no one is righteous but You, O Lord." (2)

Troparia.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

The council of unlawful men now assembles * to bring idle charges against You with malice, * to rule on Your conviction, and to

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condemn You, * O Christ. We sing to You * and say, "You are our God, * and no one is holy but You, O Lord." (2)

Glory. Both now.

Today, the wicked council of the unlawful, * whose soul opposes God, confers in order * to kill the Righteous One, as inconvenient. * O Christ, we sing to You * and say, "You are our God, * and no one is holy but You, O Lord." (2)

Katavasia.

You strengthened me on the rock of faith, O Savior. * You made me smile at my enemies and deride them. * My spirit is rejoicing, as I am singing, * "No one is holy like our God, * and no one is righteous but You, O Lord." [SD]

DEACON

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

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.

(Amen.)

From Triodion - -

READER

Kontakion.

Mode 4. *(not metered)*

More than the harlot have I transgressed, and yet no torrents of tears have I offered You, O Good One. But praying in silence, I fall before You, and with longing I kiss Your immaculate feet, so that You, as Master, will grant forgiveness of trespasses to me who cry out to You, O Savior: From the mire of my sinful burdens deliver me. [SD]

Oikos.

The woman, once prodigal, suddenly appeared restrained, hating the works of shameful sins and physical pleasures, and reflecting on the great shame and punishment to which harlots and prodigals will be condemned. I myself am first among them, and I am afraid, yet I persist in my bad habit, mindless that I am. The harlot, on the other hand, was afraid and hastened quickly, and came crying to You the Redeemer: O Compassionate Lord who love mankind, from the mire of my sinful burdens deliver me. [SD]

Synaxarion.

From the Triodion.

On great and holy Wednesday, as the most divine fathers ordained, we commemorate the harlot who anointed the Lord's feet with

fragrant ointment, since this occurred shortly before the saving Passion.

Verses

With ointment the woman anointed the body
Of Christ, in advance of the aloes of Nikodemus.

O Christ God, who were anointed with
the spiritual ointment, free us from the influent
passions and have mercy on us, for only You
are holy and love mankind.

CHOIR

Ode viii. Heirmos.

When the decree of the tyrant prevailed
of old, * the fiery furnace was heated to
sevenfold strength. * The three Servants did
not burn therein, * when they defied the king's
pronouncement; * but they cried out and sang,
"All you works of the Lord, sing a hymn to the
Lord, * and exalt Him beyond measure unto all
the ages." (2)

Troparia.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

The woman poured out the very costly
fragrant oil * on Your divine and awe-inspiring
head, O Lord. * O Christ, she laid hold of Your
immaculate * holy feet with her hands defiled
in sin. * And she cried out and sang, "All you
works of the Lord, sing a hymn to the Lord,
* and exalt Him beyond measure unto all the
ages." (2)

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

The woman guilty of sins washed the
Maker's feet * with her tears and she wiped
them dry with the hair of her head. * For this
she did not fail to be absolved * of the sins she
committed all her life, * but she cried out and
sang, "All you works of the Lord, sing a hymn
to the Lord, * and exalt Him beyond measure
unto all the ages." (2)

*We bless the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy
Spirit; we sing a hymn to Him and exalt Him
beyond measure unto the ages.*

The sacrament of the grateful woman's
ransom * is performed by the Savior's tender
love and her own fountain of tears; * in which,
through confession of her many sins, * she was
washed clean and she was not ashamed, * but
she cried out and sang, "All you works of the
Lord, sing a hymn to the Lord, * and exalt Him
beyond measure unto all the ages." [SD]

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

The sacrament of the grateful woman's
ransom * is performed by the Savior's tender
love and her own fountain of tears; * in which,
through confession of her many sins, * she was
washed clean and she was not ashamed, * but
she cried out and sang, "All you works of the
Lord, sing a hymn to the Lord, * and exalt Him
beyond measure unto all the ages." [SD]

Katavasia.

We praise and we bless and we worship the Lord.

When the decree of the tyrant prevailed of old, * the fiery furnace was heated to sevenfold strength. * The three Servants did not burn therein, * when they defied the king's pronouncement; * but they cried out and sang, "All you works of the Lord, sing a hymn to the Lord, * and exalt Him beyond measure unto all the ages." [SD]

DEACON

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

CHOIR

CHOIR

Ode ix. Heirmos.

With souls that are pure, let us open unpolluted lips, * and come, let us magnify the all-immaculate * and most pure, all-holy Mother of Emmanuel, * as through her we offer up * intercession to Him, the Son she bore. * "Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us, we pray." (2)

Troparia.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Ungrateful and jealous did wicked Judas prove to be, * reckoning the value of the gift befitting God, * and through which a debt of sinfulness was forgiven; * for the scoundrel thought that he could traffic in the God-loving

favor. * "Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us, we pray." (2)

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Going to the rulers who did not uphold the Law, * Judas says to them, "What will you give to me if I * deliver Christ to you who seek Him and wish to kill Him?" * In exchange for money he rejected his relationship with Christ. * "Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us, we pray." (2)

Glory. Both now.

O pitiless man, alas, your blinding avarice! * Therefore you forgot what you were taught, that all the world * is not equal in value to a single soul. * For you fell into despair and hanged yourself and choked to death, O betrayer. * Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us, we pray. (2)

Katavasia.

With souls that are pure, let us open unpolluted lips, * and come, let us magnify the all-immaculate * and most pure, all-holy Mother of Emmanuel, * as through her we offer up * intercession to Him, the Son she bore. * "Spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us, we pray." [SD]

DEACON

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

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.

(Amen.)

From Triodion - - -

CHOIR

Exaposteilaria.

Mode 3. Automelon.

O my Savior, now I see * Your wedding hall decorated, * and I have not the garment * needed for me to enter it. * Make this raiment of my soul brightly shine, * O Giver-of-Light, and save me. (3) [SD]

Lauds. Mode 1.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God. [SAAS]

Praise Him, all you His angels; praise Him, all you His hosts. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God. [SAAS]

From Triodion - - -

Sticheron 1. Idiomelon. Mode 1.

Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to the abundance of His greatness. [SAAS]

When the harlot became aware that You, the Son of the Virgin, were God, she began to weep as one who had done things deserving tears, and imploring You she said, "Undo my debt, I pray You, as I undo my braids. Love me who am kissing You, though rightly I am hated; and alongside the publicans I will proclaim You, Benefactor who loves humanity." [SD]

Sticheron 2. Idiomelon. Mode 1.

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet; praise Him with the harp and lyre. [SAAS]

The harlot mingled the very costly fragrant oil with her tears, and she poured it out on Your immaculate feet and kissed them profusely. You immediately justified her. To us, also, grant forgiveness, O Lord who suffered for us, and save us. [SD]

Sticheron 3. Idiomelon. Mode 1.

Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and flute. [SAAS]

When the sinful woman offered the fragrant oil, then the disciple made his agreement with the transgressors of the Law. She rejoiced in pouring out the costly oil, and he lost no time in selling off the priceless One. She acknowledged the Master, and he was becoming estranged from the Master. She was emancipated, while Judas became a slave of the enemy. How dreadful was his rashness!

How great was her repentance! Grant me this repentance, O Savior who suffered for us, and save us. [SD]

Sticheron 4. Idiomelon. Mode 1.

Praise Him with resounding cymbals; praise Him with triumphant cymbals; let everything that breathes praise the Lord. [SAAS]

Oh, the wretchedness of Judas! He watched as the harlot was kissing Your feet, all the while with guile thinking about the kiss of betrayal. As she untied her braided hair, he was knotted up in anger, bringing rancid wickedness instead of fragrant oil. For envy does not know where there is profit. Oh, the wretchedness of Judas! From this deliver our souls, O God. [SD]

Glory.

From Triodion - - -

Mode 2.

The sinful woman ran to purchase ointment, costly ointment, to anoint her Benefactor; and to the perfumer she cried out, "Give me the ointment, so that I in turn may anoint the One who wiped away all my sins." [SD]

Both now.

From Triodion - - -

Mode pl. 2.

She who was submerged in sin found in You a harbor of salvation. She poured out the fragrant oil along with her tears, and she cried out to You, "Behold, the One who has authority to forgive sins! Behold, the One who waits for the repentance of sinners!" O Master, I implore

You, save me from the tempest of sin, in Your great mercy. [SD]

READER

Doxology (read)

To you belongs glory, O Lord our God, and to you we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, and we thank you, for your great glory. Lord, King, Heavenly God, Father Almighty; only-begotten Son, Lord Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit. Lord God, the Lamb of God, the 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 of the Father, and have mercy on us. For you are the only Holy One, you are the only Lord, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. Every day I shall bless you, and I shall praise your name forever, and unto the ages of ages. Lord, you have become for us a refuge from generation to generation. I have said: Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against you. Lord, to you I have fled; 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. Extend your mercy to those who know you. Grant, O Lord, that in this day we may be kept without sin. Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praised and

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glorified is your name unto the ages. Amen.
Let your mercy, Lord, come upon us, just as
we have hoped in you. Blessed are you, O
Lord, teach me your commandments. Blessed
are you, O Master, make me understand your
commandments. Blessed are you, O Holy One,
enlighten me with your commandments. Lord,
your mercy remains forever, do not turn away
from the works of your hands. To you belongs
praise, to you belongs a hymn, to you belongs
glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy
Spirit, now and ever and to the ages of ages.
Amen.

DEACON

Let us complete our morning prayer to the
Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Lord, have mercy.)

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

(Grant this, O Lord.)

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

(Grant this, O Lord.)

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

(Grant this, O Lord.)

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

(Grant this, O Lord.)

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

(Grant this, O Lord.)

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.

(Grant this, O Lord.)

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.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

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.

(Amen.)

PRIEST

Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

DEACON

Let us bow our heads to the Lord.

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(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST (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.

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.

(Amen.)

From Triodion - - -

CHOIR

Aposticha.

Mode pl. 2. Idiomelon.

Today, Christ is at the house of the Pharisee. A sinful woman approaches and grovels at His feet, and she cries to Him, "See me, a woman submersed in sin. I have given up in despair because of what I have done. And yet Your goodness does not abhor me. Grant me forgiveness for my wicked deeds, O Lord, and save me." [SD]

Mode pl. 2. Idiomelon.

Verse: *We were filled with Your mercy in the morning, and in all our days we greatly rejoiced and were glad.* [SAAS]

The harlot let out her hair for You the Master; Judas put out his hand to the transgressors of the Law. She, in order to receive forgiveness, and he to receive the silver. And so we cry out to You who were sold and who set us free: O Lord, glory to You! [SD]

Mode pl. 2. Idiomelon.

Verse: *Gladden us in return for the days You humbled us, for the years we saw evil things. And behold Your servants and Your works, and guide their sons.* [SAAS]

A woman, reeking and defiled, approached You, O Savior. She drenched Your feet with her tears, and thus announced Your Passion. "How can I look at You the Master? For You have come to save a harlot. Dead that I am, raise me up from the depths, You who raised Lazarus from the tomb after four days. Accept me, wretch that I am, O Lord, and save me." [SD]

Mode pl. 2. Idiomelon.

Verse: *And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the works of our hands.* [SAAS]

That woman, who was spurned because of her way of life, for which she had earned ill repute as a harlot, came to You with the fragrant oil in hand, and she cried out, "Please,

do not throw me out for being a harlot, O Savior, born of the Virgin. Please, do not dismiss my tears and weeping, O Master, the joy of the Angels. You did not reject me when I was sinning, so now accept me as I am repenting, O Lord, because of Your great mercy." [SD]

Glory. Both now.

From Triodion - - -

Mode pl. 4.

Lord, when the woman who had fallen into many sins perceived Your divinity, she assumed the role of a myrrh-bearing woman, and lamenting brought fragrant oils to anoint You before Your burial. "Woe is me," she says. "Night for me is a frenzy without restraint, very dark and moonless, a sinful love-affair. Accept the fountains of my tears, You who draw out from the clouds the water of the sea. Take pity on me, and incline to the sighing of my heart, You who bowed the heavens by Your ineffable self-emptying. I shall cover Your unstained feet with kisses, and wipe them dry again with the locks of my hair; those feet, whose sound at twilight in Paradise echoed in Eve's ears, and she hid in fear. Who can reckon the multitude of my sins, or fathom the depths of Your judgments, O my life-saving Savior? Do not despise me, Your servant, since without measure is Your mercy." [SD]

PRIEST

It is good to give thanks to the Lord and to sing to Your name, O Most High, to proclaim

Your mercy in the morning and Your truth at night. [SAAS]

READER

Trisagion Prayers.

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.

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 forever and to the ages of ages.

(Amen.)

READER

Kontakion.

More than the harlot have I transgressed, and yet no torrents of tears have I offered You, O Good One. But praying in silence, I fall before You, and with longing I kiss Your immaculate feet, so that You, as Master, will grant forgiveness of trespasses to me who cry out to You, O Savior: From the mire of my sinful burdens deliver me.

Lord, have mercy. (40)

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

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

PRIEST

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

(Amen.)

O heavenly King, uphold our rulers, strengthen the Faith, calm the nations, give peace to the world. Protect this holy Church (or, Monastery); grant our departed fathers and brethren that they may dwell with the righteous, and accept us in repentance and confession; for You are good and love mankind.

(Amen.)

Prayer of St. Ephraim

O Lord and Master of my life, do not permit the spirit of laziness and meddling, the lust for power and idle talk to come into me.

Instead, grant me, your servant, the spirit of prudence, humility, patience and love.

Yes, Lord and King, give me the power to see my own faults and not to judge my brother.

For you are blessed unto the ages of ages.
Amen. [HC]

DISMISSAL

PRIEST

Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

READER

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. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Father, bless!

PRIEST

May He who is coming to His voluntary Passion for our salvation, 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,
(local patron saint); 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].

(Amen.)