The Gospel Readings

of the

Coptic Rite

The Gospel Readings of the Coptic Rite

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# Great and Holy Week

## Lazarus Saturday

#### The Morning or Prime Gospel

##### Psalm 29:4, 12

A Psalm of David.

O Lord, You have brought my soul up from Hades;

You have saved me from those who go down to the pit.

You have turned my mourning into dancing;

You have torn off my sackcloth

and clothed me with gladness.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 18:35-43

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

As he came near Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the road, begging. Hearing a crowd going by, he asked what this meant. People told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. He cried out, “Jesus, you son of David, have mercy on me!” Then, those who led the way rebuked him, ordering him to be quiet. But the blind man cried out all the more, “You son of David, have mercy on me!”

Standing still, Jesus commanded that the blind man be brought to him. When the man had come near, Jesus asked him, ”What do you want me to do?”

The man replied, “Lord, that I may see again!” Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight. Your faith has healed you.”

Immediately, the man received his sight and began to follow Jesus, glorifying God. When all the people saw this, they praised God. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Liturgy Gospel

##### Psalm 128:8bc, 2

A Psalm of David.

The blessing of the Lord be upon you;

we bless you in the Name of the Lord.

many times have they warred against me from my youth,

yet they could not prevail against me.

Alleluia.

##### John 11:1-45

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. John. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister, Martha. It was that [same] Mary who had anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair and whose brother, Lazarus, was sick. So the sisters sent [word] to Jesus, saying, “Lord, behold, he whom you love is sick!” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.” Now, Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. Yet, when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed two days in the place where he was. After this, he said to the disciples, “Let us go into Judea again.”

The disciples told him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you, and you are going there again?”

Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Someone who walks in the day does not stumble because he sees the light of this world. But someone who walks in the night will stumbles because the light is not in him.” He said these things, and then added, “Our friend, Lazarus, has fallen asleep, but I am going so that I may awake him out of sleep.”

At this, the disciples said, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.”

Now, Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he had spoken of taking rest in sleep. And so, Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. I am glad for your sake that I was not there, so that you may believe. But, let us go to him.”

Then Thomas (who is called Didymus) said to his fellow-disciples, “Let us go also, so that we may die with him.”

And so, when Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had been in the tomb four days already. Now, Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. Many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. Then, when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary stayed in the house.

Therefore, Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died! Even now, I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life! The one who believes in me, even though he dies, will live! Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

She answered, “Yes, Lord! I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who comes into the world.”

When she had said this, she went away, and called her sister Mary in private, saying, “The Teacher is here, and [he] is calling you.”

When Mary heard this, she arose quickly and went to him. Now, Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was in the place where Martha had met him. Then the Jews who were with Mary in the house consoling her saw that she got up quickly and went out. They followed her because they thought, “she is going to the tomb to weep there.” Therefore, when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell down at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you would have been here, my brother would not have died!”

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her [also] weeping, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled. He asked, “Where have you laid him?”

They told him, “Lord, come and see.”

Jesus wept.

At this, the Jews said, “See how much affection he had for Lazarus!” Some of them said, “Could not the one who opened the eyes of the man who was blind have also kept Lazarus from dying?”

Jesus therefore, being again deeply moved, came to the tomb. Now, it was a cave, and a stone was placed against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days!”

Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see God’s glory?”

And so, they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, “Father, I thank you that you have listened to me. I know that you always listen to me, but because of the multitude that stands around, I said this, so that they may believe that you sent me.” After saying this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

Then, he who was dead came out, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth.

Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

As a result, many of the Jews who had come to Mary and had seen what Jesus had accomplished believed in him. Glory be to God forever.

## Palm Sunday

#### The Evening or Vespers Gospel

##### Psalm 117:26,

A Psalm of David.

Blessed be he who comes in the Name of the Lord;

we have blessed you from the house of the Lord.

[Ordain a feast, in those who reach to the horns of the altar.]

Alleluia.

##### John 12:1-11

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. John. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus (who had been dead and whom he had raised from the dead) lived. Therefore, they gave a supper for him there. Martha served while Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with him. Then Mary took a pound of fragrance of pure nard, very precious; she anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. Then Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, one of his disciples and the one who would betray him, said, “Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” Now, Judas said this, not because he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and having the money box, he used to steal what was put into it. But Jesus said, “Leave her alone! She has kept this for the day of my burial. For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

Meanwhile, a large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there. They came, not only for Jesus’ sake, but also in order to Lazarus whom he had raised from the dead. The chief priests even conspired to put Lazarus to death as well, because on account of him, many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believed in him. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Procession

See the Procession of the Feast of the Cross, page 30.

#### The Morning or Prime Gospel

##### Psalm 67:20ab, 36 half of a, bc

A Psalm of David.

Blessed be the Lord God;

blessed be the Lord from day to day.

The God of Israel

will give strength and power to His people.

Blessed be God!

Alleluia.

##### Luke 19:1-10

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. There was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, and could not because of the crowd, because he was short. He ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus who was [about] to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up, saw Zacchaeus, and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house!” He hurried, came down, and received Jesus with joy. But when the people saw it, they all grumbled, saying, “He has gone in to stay with a man who is a sinner!”

Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have wrongfully obtained money from anyone, I restore four times as much!”

Then Jesus said to him, “Today, salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.” Glory be to God forever.

#### The First Liturgy Gospel

##### Psalm 80:4, 2, 3

A Psalm of David.

Sound a trumpet at the new moon,

on the high day of our festival,

Rejoice in God our helper;

shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

Take up a psalm, and sound a drum,

a delightful harp with the lyre.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 21:1-17

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

As they were approaching Jerusalem and came to Bethsphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples [ahead of the group]. He told them, “Go into the village that is opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them, and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need ofthem,’ and immediately, he will let them go.”

All this was done so what had been spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled:

*Tell the daughter of Zion,*

*behold, your King comes to you,*

*humble, and riding on a donkey,*

*on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

The disciples went and did exactly what Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and Jesus sat on them. A very great crowd spread their clothes on the road while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Many people went before him and those who followed kept shouting, “Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

When he had come into Jerusalem, the entire city was stirred up and people were saying, “Who is this?” And the multitude answered, “This is the prophet, Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee!”

Jesus entered into the temple of God and drove out all of those who did business there. He overthrew the table of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers!”

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did and that children were shouting in the temple and saying “Hosanna to the son of David!”, they were very displeased. They asked him, “Do you hear what these [children] are saying?”

Jesus replied, “Yes! Have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of babes and nursing babies you have prepared praise?’”

He left them, went out of the city to Bethany and spent the night there. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Second Liturgy Gospel

##### Mark 11:1-11

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. Mark. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

As they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethsphage and Bethany near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go your way into the village that is facing you. Immediately as you enter into it, you will find a young donkey tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie him, and bring him [to me]. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs him and will send him back right away.’”

They went away and found a young donkey tied by a door outside, in the open street. As they untied him, some of the bystanders asked them, “What are you doing, untying the young donkey?” The two disciples replied just as Jesus had said, and the people let them go.

They brought the young donkey to Jesus, threw their garments on it, and Jesus sat on it. Many spread their garments on the way, while others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Those who went in front as well as those who followed cried out,

*“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord!*

*Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”*

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. After looking around at everything, since it was now evening, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Third Liturgy Gospel

##### Luke 19:29-48

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

It so happened that when he approached Bethsphage and Bethany, at the mountain that is called Olivet, he sent two of his disciples, saying, “Go your way into the village on the other side. There, as you enter, you will find a colt tied up, on which no man has ever sat. Untie it, and bring it. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ reply, ‘The Lord needs it!’”

Those who were sent went away found things exactly as Jesus had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They replied, “The Lord needs it!” They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and set Jesus on them. As he went, they [also] spread their cloaks in the way. As Jesus was now approaching, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the deeds of power which they had seen. [They were] saying, “Blessed is he is coming, a King in the Name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest!”

And from the multitude, some of the Pharisees said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

But he answered them, “I tell you that if these were silent, the stones would cry out!”

As he was drawing near, he saw the city and wept over it, saying, “If you, even you, had known today the things which belong to your peace! But now, those things are hidden from your eyes! For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will throw up a fortification against you, surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you and your children within you to the ground. They will not leave in you one stone [standing] on another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

Then Jesus entered into the temple, and he began to drive out those who bought and sold in it, saying to them, “It is written, ‘My house is a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘den of robbers’!”

He was teaching every day in the temple, but the chief priests, the scribes and the leading men among the people were looking for a way to destroy him. However, they could not find a way to do so because all the people were captured by every word that he said. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Fourth Liturgy Gospel

##### Psalm 64:2, 3

A Psalm of David.

Praise is due to You, O God, in Zion,

and prayer will be offered to You in Jerusalem.

Hear my prayer [O God]!

All flesh will come to You.

Alleluia.

##### John 12:12-19

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. John. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

On the next day, a great multitude had come to the feast. When they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took branches from palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!”

Having found a young donkey, Jesus sat on it. As it is written, “Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion! Behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt.” His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about him, and that they had done these things to him. Now, the multitude that had been with him when he had called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify about it. For this reason also, the crowd went out to met him, because they heard that he had done this sign. The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, “See how this is accomplishing nothing! Behold, the world has gone after him!” Glory be to God forever.

#### The Gospel of the General Burial Service

##### Psalm 64:5

A Psalm of David.

Blessed is he whom You have chosen

and taken to Yourself;

he will dwell in Your courts [forever].

We will be filled with the good things of Your house;

Your temple is holy, wonderful in righteousness.

Alleluia.

##### John 5:19-29

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Accordingly, Jesus answered them, “Amen, amen, I tell you; the Son can do nothing of himself, but [only] what he sees the Father doing. Indeed, whatever the Father does, the Son also does likewise. For the Father has deep affection for the Son, and shows him all things that he himself does. And the Father will show him greater works than these, so that you may be astonished. For [just] as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, likewise the Son also gives life to whom he desires. As it is, the Father judges no one, but he has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honor the Son even as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him!

Amen, amen, I tell you; the one who hears my word and believes in him who sent me has eternal life and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. Amen, amen, I tell you; the hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will come to life. For as the Father has life in himself, so has he given to the Son to have life in himself. He also gave him authority to execute judgment, because he is Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this, because the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Gospel of the Ninth Hour of Palm Sunday

##### Psalm 8:3, 4

A Psalm of David.

You have prepared praise

out of the mouth of babies and nursing infants,

because of Your enemies,

to silence the enemy and the avenger.

For I behold the heavens, the work of Your fingers;

You have established the moon and stars.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 21:10-17

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

When he had come into Jerusalem, the entire city was stirred up and people were saying, “Who is this?” And the multitude answered, “This is the prophet, Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee!”

Jesus entered into the temple of God and drove out all of those who did business there. He overthrew the table of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers!”

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did and that children were shouting in the temple and saying “Hosanna to the son of David!”, they were very displeased. They asked him, “Do you hear what these [children] are saying?”

Jesus replied, “Yes! Have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of babes and nursing babies you have prepared praise?’”

He left them, went out of the city to Bethany and spent the night there. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Gospel of the Eleventh Hour of Palm Sunday

##### Psalm 8:3ab, 2ab

A Psalm of David.

You have prepared praise

out of the mouth of babies and nursing infants,

O Lord, our Lord,

how wonderful is Your Name in all the earth!

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 20:20-28

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, kneeling and asking a certain thing of him. He said to her, “What do you want?”

She said to him, “Command that these, my two sons, may sit, one on your right hand, and one on your left hand, in your Kingdom.”

But Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking! Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”

They said to him, “We are able!”

Jesus answered, “You will indeed drink my cup and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with, but to sit on my right and on left hand is not mine to give! It is [reserved] for whom it has been prepared by my Father.”

When the ten heard [about] this, they were upset with the two brothers.

However, Jesus called them together, and said, “You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and great ones make their authority felt. But it shall not be so among you! Instead, whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. Whoever desires to be first among you shall be your servant, even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Glory be to God forever.

## Monday of the Holy Pascha

### The First Hour of the Eve of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 26:6d, 7, 8a

A Psalm of David.

I will sing and praise the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, my voice when I cry;

have mercy on me and hear me,

[for] my heart speaks to You.

Alleluia.

##### John 12:20-36a

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Now, among those that went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. They came to Philip who was from Bethsaida of Galilee and asked him, “Sir, we want to see Jesus.” Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn, Andrew came with Philip and they told Jesus. But Jesus answered them, “The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I tell you; unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself a single seed. But if it dies, it bears much fruit! The one who loves his life will lose it. The one who hates his life in this world will keep it to eternal life. Anyone who serves me must follow me! Where I am, there will my servant also be. The Father will honor anyone who serve me.

Now, my soul is troubled. What shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this time?’ But for this reason, I have come to this time. Father, glorify your Name!”

Then, there came a voice out of heaven, saying, “I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

At this, the multitude who stood by heard it, and they said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

Jesus answered, “This voice has not come for my sake, but for your sakes. Now, judgment is upon this world! Now, the prince of this world will be cast out! And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all [people] to myself.” But he said this to indicate by what kind of death he should die. The multitude answered him, “We have heard out of the law that the Christ remains forever. How do you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up?’ Who is this Son of Man?”

Jesus therefore said to them, “The light is with you a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, so that darkness may not overtake you. Whoever walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of the Eve of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 27:9, 2ab

A Psalm of David.

Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;

shepherd them and raise them up forever.

Hear, O Lord, the cry of my supplication

when I pray to You.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 9:18-22

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Once, as Jesus was praying alone and the disciples were with him, he asked them, “Who do the multitudes say that I am?”

They answered, “‘John the Baptizer,’ but others say, ‘Elias,’ and others, that one of the old prophets is risen again.”

Jesus said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

Peter answered, “The Christ of God!”

But he warned them, and commanded them to tell this to no one, saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the presbyters, the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and the third day be raised up.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of the Eve of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 28:1, 2

A Psalm of David.

Bring to the Lord, O you sons of God,

bring to the Lord young rams;

bring to the Lord honour and glory.

Bring to the Lord glory due to His Name;

worship the Lord in His holy court.

Alleluia.

##### Mark 10:32-34

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

They were on their way up to Jerusalem, and as Jesus was going in front of them, they were as stunned; and those who followed were afraid. Again, he took the Twelve [aside] and began to tell them about the things that were going to happen to him. “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes. They will condemn him to death and deliver him to the Gentiles. They will mock him, spit on him, scourge him, and kill him. On the third day, he will rise again.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of the Eve of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 16:6, 1a

A Psalm of David.

I cried out, O God, and You heard me;

incline Your ear to me, and hear my words.

Hear, O Lord, my righteousness; attend to my supplication.

Alleluia.

##### Mark 8:27-33

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

Jesus went out with his disciples into the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”

They told him, “John the Baptizer, and others say Elias, but others yet [say that you are] one of the prophets.”

Jesus said to them, “But you, who do you say that I am?”

Peter answered, “You are the Christ!”

Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone who he was. He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the presbyters, the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He spoke to them openly. Peter took him [aside] and began to rebuke him. But Jesus, turning around and seeing his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you have in mind not the things of God, but the things of men.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of the Eve of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 17:18, 19a

A Psalm of David.

He will deliver me from my powerful enemies,

and from those who hate me,

for they are too strong for me.

They [have overtaken] me in the day of my affliction.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 17:19-23

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Then, the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, “Why were not we able to cast it out?”

He replied, “Because of your unbelief! Amen, I tell you that if you have faith [even] like a grain of mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you! But this kind [of spirit] does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

While they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and the third day, he will be raised up.”

They were extremely distressed. Glory be to God forever.

### The First Hour of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 71:18, 19ac

A Psalm of David.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel

Who alone does wonders.

And blessed be the [holy] Name of His glory forever…

Amen! Amen!

Alleluia.

##### Mark 11:12-24

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

The next day, as they were coming out from Bethany, Jesus was hungry.

Seeing in the distance a fig tree with leaves, he came to see if perhaps, he might find something on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. Jesus then said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again!” and his disciples heard it.

They arrived in Jerusalem and Jesus entered into the temple. He began to drive out those who did business in the temple and he overthrew the tables of the money changers, as well as the seats of those who sold doves. He would not allow anyone to carry a container through the temple. He taught them, saying, “Is it not written, ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations?’ But you have made it a den of thieves!” When the chief priests and the scribes heard this, they considered how they might destroy him. As it is, they feared Jesus, because the crowd was astonished at his teaching.

When evening came, he left the city. As they passed by in the morning, the disciples saw the fig tree withered from the roots. Peter, remembering, said to him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree which you cursed has withered away.”

Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God! For amen, I tell you that if anyone tells this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ without doubt in the heart but believing that what he says is happening; he shall have whatever he says. Therefore, I tell you, whatever things you pray for and ask for, believe that you have received them, and you shall have them. Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 121:1, 2

A Psalm of David.

I was glad when they said to me,

“we will go to the house of the Lord.”

Our feet stood

in your courts, O Jerusalem.

Alleluia.

##### Mark 11:11-19

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. After looking around at everything, since it was now evening, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

The next day, as they were coming out from Bethany, Jesus was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree with leaves, he came to see if perhaps, he might find something on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. Jesus then said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again!” and his disciples heard it.

They arrived in Jerusalem and Jesus entered into the temple. He began to drive out those who did business in the temple and he overthrew the tables of the money changers, as well as the seats of those who sold doves. He would not allow anyone to carry a container through the temple. He taught them, saying, “Is it not written, ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations?’ But you have made it a den of thieves!”

When the chief priests and the scribes heard this, they considered how they might destroy him. As it is, they feared Jesus, because the crowd was astonished at his teaching.

When evening came, he left the city. Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 121:4

A Psalm of David.

For the tribes go up there,

the tribes of the Lord,

as a testimony to Israel,

to confess the Name of the Lord.

Alleluia.

##### John 2:13-17

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Now, the Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple, he found those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers sitting [at their booths]. So, he made a whip of cords and drove [them] all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; he also poured out the changers’ money and overthrew their tables. To those who sold the doves, he said, “Take these things out of here! Do not make my Father’s house a marketplace!” Then, his disciples remembered that it was written:

*“Zeal for your house will consume me.”* Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 64:6ab, 5abc

A Psalm of David.

Hear us, O God our Saviour,

the hope of all the ends of the earth.

Blessed is he whom You have chosen

and taken to Yourself;

he will dwell in Your courts [forever].

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 21:23-27

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

When he had come into the temple, the chief priests and the presbyters of the people came to him as he was teaching. They asked, “By what authority do you do these things? Who gave you this authority?”

Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question and if you answer me, I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, where was it from? From heaven or from men?”

They reasoned among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From men,’ we fear the crowd because everyone considers John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus: “We do not know.”

He also said to them, “Then neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of Monday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 12:4, 5a

A Psalm of David.

Look upon me and hear me, O Lord my God;

enlighten my eyes lest I sleep in death,

lest my enemy say, “I prevailed against him.”

Alleluia.

##### John 8:51-59

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Amen, amen, I tell you; whoever keeps my word will never see death.”

Then the Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, and [so did] the prophets; and [yet] you say, ‘whoever keeps my word will never see death.’ Are you greater than our father, Abraham, who died? The prophets died [too]. Who do you claim to be?”

Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say that he is our God. You have not known him, but I know him. If I said, ‘I do not know him,’ I would be like you, a liar. But I [do] know him, and I keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day. He saw it, and was glad!”

At this, the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?”

Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I tell you; before Abraham came into existence, I am.”

Therefore, they took up stones to throw at him, but Jesus was hidden, and <having gone through their midst and so passing by>, he went out of the temple. Glory be to God forever.

## Tuesday of the Holy Pascha

### The First Hour of the Eve of Tuesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 61:8, 3

A Psalm of David.

My salvation and my glory are in God;

He is the God of my help,

and my hope is in God.

For He is my God and my Saviour,

my Protector;

I will [never] be shaken.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 13:23-30

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Someone asked him, “Lord, are those who are saved [only] a few?”

Jesus replied, “Do your utmost to enter in by the narrow door! For I tell you that many will try to enter, but they will not be able. Once the master of the house has risen up and shut the door, you will stand outside and knock on the door, saying: ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ But then, he will answer, ‘I do not know you or where you come from!’ Then you will start saying, ‘We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets!’ But the master will reply, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from! Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity.’ In that place, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, and yourselves being thrown outside. People will come from the east, west, north, and south, and they will have a place in the Kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of the Eve of Tuesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 12:4, 6

A Psalm of David.

Look upon me and hear me, O Lord my God;

enlighten my eyes lest I sleep in death,

But [as for me,] I hope in Your mercy;

my heart will rejoice in Your salvation.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 13:31-35

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

On that same day, some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, “Leave this place and go somewhere else, for Herod wants to kill you!”

Jesus replied, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I fulfill my end. Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the next day, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish outside of Jerusalem.’

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [you] that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often have I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! Behold, your house is left to you desolate! I tell you, you will not see me, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the Name ofthe Lord!’” Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of the Eve of Tuesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 90:2bc, 3

A Psalm of David.

My Protector and my Refuge—

my God, and I will hope in Him,

for He will deliver me from the snare of the hunters,

and from a troublesome word.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 21:34-38

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

And so, be on guard, for fear that your hearts may be weighed down with entertaining distractions, overdrinking, and the worries of this life, and that day will come upon you unexpectedly. For it will come like a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Therefore, be watchful all the time, praying that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will happen, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Every day, Jesus was teaching in the temple, and every evening, he would go out and spend the night on the mountain that is called Olivet. Then early in the morning, all the people came to him in the temple in order to listen to him. Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of the Eve of of Holy Week

##### Psalm 32:10, 11

A Psalm of David.

The Lord scatters the counsels of nations,

He frustrates the thoughts of peoples,

and rejects the counsels of rulers.

But the counsel of the Lord endures forever,

the thoughts of His heart from generation to generation.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 11:37-52

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Now, as Jesus was speaking, a certain Pharisee asked him to dine with him. Jesus went in, and sat at the table. When the Pharisee saw it, he was astonished that Jesus had not first washed himself before dinner. But the Lord said to him, “You Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and platter, but your inside is full of extortion and wickedness. You fools! Did not the one who made the outside also make the inside? But as for what is inside you, be generous to the needy, and behold, all things will be clean to you. But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every herb, but you bypass justice and the love of God. You should have done these while not leaving the other undone. Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seats in the synagogues and the greetings in the marketplaces. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! You are like hidden graves, and people who walk over them do not [even] know it.”

One of the experts in the law exclaimed, “Teacher, in saying this you insult us also.”

Jesus said, “Woe to you lawyers also! For you load men with burdens that are difficult to carry, and you yourselves will not even lift one finger to help carry those burdens! Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and your fathers killed them. And so, you testify and consent to the works of your fathers! For they killed the prophets, and you build their tombs. Therefore, the wisdom of God also said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles. Some of them they will kill and persecute, so that the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world may be required of this generation; from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zachariah who perished between the altar and the sanctuary.’ Yes, I tell you that this generation will be charged with this blood. Woe to you experts of the law! You have taken away the key to knowledge; you yourselves have not entered, and you have hindered those who were entering.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of the Eve of of Holy Week

##### Psalm 121:4

A Psalm of David.

For the tribes go up there,

the tribes of the Lord,

as a testimony to Israel,

to confess the Name of the Lord.

Alleluia.

##### Mark 13:32-14:2

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

But no one knows that day or that hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time is.

It is like a man who journeyed to another country. He leaves his house, gives authority to his servants and to each one his task. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. Watch therefore, for you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning. But fear that coming suddenly, he might find you sleeping. What I tell you, I [also] tell everyone: keep watch!”

It was now two days before the feast of the Passover and of the unleavened bread. The chief priests and the scribes were seeking a way to arrest him by deception in order to kill him. They said, “Not during the feast, because there might be a riot of the people.” Glory be to God forever.

### The First Hour of Tuesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 119:2, 7

A Psalm of David.

O Lord, [You will] deliver my soul from unjust lips,

and from a deceitful tongue.

I was peaceful with those who hate peace;

when I speak to them,

they fought against me without cause.

Alleluia.

##### John 8:21-29

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Then, Jesus spoke to them again, “I am going away; you will seek me, and you will die in your sins. Where I go, you cannot come.”

At this, the Jews said, “Will he kill himself, since he says, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come?’” Jesus said to them, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you therefore that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am {he}, you will die in your sins.”

Therefore, they asked him, “Who are you?”

Jesus said to them, “Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning! I have much to say concerning you and [much] to condemn. However he who sent me is true; and the things which I heard from him, these [things] I say to the world.”

They did not understand that he spoke to them about the Father. So Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am {he}. I do nothing of myself, but as my Father taught me, this is what I proclaim. He who sent me is with me. The Father has not left me alone because I always do the things that are pleasing to him.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of Tuesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 118:154, 155

A Psalm of David.

Plead my cause and redeem me;

Revive me for the sake of Your word.

Salvation is far from sinners,

for they have not sought Your statutes.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 23:37-24:2

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often have I desired to gather your children, just as a hen gathers her brood under her wings; but you were not willing! Behold, your house is left to you in a desolate state. For I tell you, you will not see me from now on until [the day when] you are saying, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord!’”

Jesus went out from the temple and was going on his way. His disciples came to him and showed him the buildings of the temple. But he told them, “You see all of these things, do you not? Amen, I tell you that not one stone will be left standing on another; all will be thrown down.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of Tuesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 17:49, 18

A Psalm of David.

My deliverer from angry enemies;

You will lift me above my aggressors.

You will deliver me from the unrighteous man.

He will deliver me from my powerful enemies,

and from those who hate me,

for they are too strong for me.

Alleluia.

##### John 8:12-20

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Then again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.”

At this, the Pharisees said to him, “You bear witness to yourself! Your testimony is not true!”

Jesus answered them, “Even if I bear witness to myself, my testimony is true, because I know where I came from and where I am going. But you do not know where I came from or where I am going. You judge according to the flesh. I judge no one. Even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent me. It is also written in your law that the testimony of two people is truthful. I am one who testifies about myself, and the Father who sent me [also] bears witness to me.”

At this, they asked him, “Where is your Father?”

Jesus answered, “You do not know me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” Jesus spoke these words in the treasury, as he taught in the temple. Yet no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come. Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of Tuesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 24:1, 2, 3b

A Psalm of David.

I lift up my soul to You, O Lord.

O my God, I trust in You;

do not let me be put to shame [forever],

nor let my enemies laugh at me.

Let those who do wrong without cause be ashamed.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 24:3-35

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him in private, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? What is the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

Jesus answered them, “Be careful not to be led astray! For many will come in my Name, saying: ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many people astray. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. Do not be troubled; all of this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there will be famines, plagues, and earthquakes in various places. But all these things are [only] the beginning of the birth pains. Then, they will deliver you up to oppression and they will kill you. You will be hated by all the nations for my Name’s sake. Many will stumble and will betray and hate each other. Many false prophets will arise and they will lead many astray. Because wickedness will be multiplied, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. This Good News of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Therefore, when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken about by the prophet Daniel standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. The one who is on the housetop should not [even] go down to carry out the things that are in the house. The one who is in the field should not [even] return to get his clothes. But woe to those who are with child and to nursing mothers in those days! Pray that your flight will not be in the winter or a Sabbath day. For then, there will be great oppression, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, and such as will never be again. Unless those days were cut short, no flesh would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, those days will be shortened.

Then, if any one tells you, ‘Behold, here is the Christ,’ or, ‘There,’ do not believe it! For false messiahs and false prophets will arise, and they will show great signs and wonders in order to lead many astray, and if possible, even the elect.

Behold, I have told you this in advance. If therefore people tell you, ‘Behold, he is in the wilderness,’ do not go out; or ‘Behold, he is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it! For as the lightning flashes from the east and is seen even to the west, this is how the coming of the Son of Man will be.

For wherever the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together. But immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from the sky, the powers of the heavens will be shaken; and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky. All the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. He will send out his angels with a great sound of a trumpet and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Now, learn this parable from the fig tree. When its branch has become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that the summer is near. Likewise, when you see all these things, know that the time is near, even at the doors. Amen, I tell you that this generation will not pass away, until all these things are accomplished. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of Tuesday of the of Holy Week

##### Psalm 44:7, 40:2

A Psalm of David.

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;

the sceptre of Your Kingdom is a sceptre of justice.

Blessed is he who considers the poor and needy;

the Lord will deliver him in an evil day.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 25:14-26:2

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Indeed, the Kingdom is like a man who was leaving for another country. He called his own servants and entrusted his goods to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one; to each according to his own ability. Then he went on his journey. Immediately, the one who received five talents went off, did business with them and earned another five talents. In the same way, the one who had received two gained another two. But the servant who received one talent went off, dug [a hole] in the ground and hid his lord’s money.

After a long time, the lord of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The one who had received the five talents came forward and brought another five talents, saying: ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents. Behold, I have gained another five!’

The lord said to the servant, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful over a few things, I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord!’

The one who had received the two talents also came forward and said, ‘Lord, you entrusted me with two talents. Behold, I have gained another two talents!’

The lord said to this servant, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful over a few things, I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord!’

The one who had received one talent now came forward and said, ‘Lord, I knew you that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter. I was afraid, went away and hid your talent in the earth. Behold, you have what is yours!’

But his lord answered, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! You understood that I reap where I did not sow, and that I gather where I did not scatter. And so, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming, I would have received it back with interest. Therefore, take away the talent from this one, and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has [more] will be given and he will have in abundance. But from the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. Throw out the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. Before him, all the nations will be gathered and he will separate them one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then, the King will tell those on his right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of my Father! Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world! For I was hungry and you gave me food to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in. I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison, and you came to me.’

Then the righteous will answer him, saying: ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and take you in; or naked, and clothe you? When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visited you?’

The King will answer them, ‘Amen, I tell you: as much as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’ Then, he will also say to those on his left hand, ‘Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels! For I was hungry and you gave me no food; I was thirsty and you gave me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not receive me; naked, and you did not clothe me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit me.’

Then, they will answer, saying: ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not help you?’ Then he will answer them, saying: ‘Amen, I tell you: as much as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ These [ones on the left] will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous int eternal life.”

When Jesus had finished speaking, he said to his disciples, “You know that in two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” Glory be to God forever.

## Wednesday of Holy Week

### The First Hour of the Eve of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 58:17cd, 18

A Psalm of David.

You are my protector,

and my refuge in the day of my affliction.

You are my helper, I will sing to You,

for You, O God, are my protector, my God, my mercy.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 22:1-14

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Jesus now addressed them with another parable, saying: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a king who planned a wedding feast for his son. He then sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they refused to come. Again, the king sent out other servants, saying: ‘Tell those who are invited, “Behold, I have prepared my dinner! My cattle and my fatted calves have been killed and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast!”’ But those who were invited made light of it and went off, one to his own farm, another to his merchandise, and the others seized the king’s servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. When the king heard about it, he was furious. He sent out his soldiers to destroy those murderers and to burn their city.

Then, the king said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the crossroads of the highways, and as many people as you may find, invite to the wedding feast.’

Those servants went out into the highways and gathered as many people as they could find, both good and bad. Thus, the wedding [hall] was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man who was not wearing a wedding garment. He asked him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here, not wearing a wedding garment?’ And the man was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and throw him into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.’ For many are called, but few chosen.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of the Eve of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 64:5abce

A Psalm of David.

Blessed is he whom You have chosen

and taken to Yourself;

he will dwell in Your courts [forever].

Your temple is holy, wonderful in righteousness.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 24:36-51

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

No one knows that day and hour, not even the angels of heaven, but only my Father.

As in the days of Noah, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. Just as in those days which were before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ship. They did not understand until the flood came and took them all away, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. Then, two men will be in the field: one will be taken and one will be left; two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and one will be left! Watch therefore, for you do not know in what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what watch of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore, be ready, for it is at an hour which you do not expect that the Son of Man will come.

Who then is the faithful and wise servant whom his lord has set over his household, to give them their food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his lord finds doing so when he comes. Amen, I tell you that he will set him over all that he has. But if that evil servant should say in his heart, ‘My lord is delaying his return,’ and if he should begin to beat his fellow-servants and eat and drink with the drunkards, the lord of that servant will come in a day when he does not expect it and in an hour when he does not know, and he will cut him into pieces and appoint his portion with the hypocrites. And there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of the Eve of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 101:2, 3d

A Psalm of David.

O Lord, hear my prayer,

and let my cry come to You.

hear me quickly in the day when I call upon You.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 25:1-13a

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Then, the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. Those who were foolish took their lamps but brought no oil along with them whereas the wise ones brought oil in their vessels along with their lamps. Now, since the bridegroom was late, they all became tired and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Behold! The bridegroom is coming! Come out to meet him!’ Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish virgins said to the wise ones, ‘Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’ But the wise virgins answered: ‘What if there is not enough for us and you? You should rather go to those who sell [oil] and buy some for yourselves.’ While they went away to buy [oil], the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and then the door was shut. Afterwards, the other virgins also arrived and said: ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ But he answered, ‘Amen, I tell you that I do not know you!’ Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day or hour [the Son of Man is coming.]\* Glory be to God forever.

\*Coptic concludes “for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

### The Ninth Hour of the Eve of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 21:1, 2

A Psalm of David.

Deliver my soul from the sword,

my only[-begotten] from the power of the dog.

Save me from the mouth of the lion,

and my lowliness from the horns of unicorns.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 23:29-36

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the tombs of the righteous, saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have partaken with them in the blood of the prophets.’ Therefore, you testify to yourselves that you are children of those who killed the prophets! Fill up, then, the measure [of sin] of your forefathers. You serpents, offspring of vipers, how will you escape the judgment of Gehenna? Therefore, behold, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes. Some of them, you will kill and crucify; others you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from city to city. Thus all the righteous blood shed on the earth will come upon you, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zachariah son of Barachiah whom you killed between the sanctuary and the altar. Amen, I tell you: all these things will come upon this generation. Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of the Eve of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 56:2

A Psalm of David.

Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me,

for my soul trusts in You;

and I will hope in the shadow of Your wings

until iniquity passes away.

Alleluia.

##### John 11:55-57

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Now, the Passover of the Jews was near. Many went up from the countryside to Jerusalem before the Passover in order to perform their purification rites. Then, they began to look for Jesus and discussed with one another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think? Is he not coming to the feast at all?” Now, the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who knew where Jesus was should report it, so that they might arrest him. Glory be to God forever.

### The First Hour of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 50:6cd, 32:10ab

A Psalm of David.

That You may be justified in Your words

and overcome when You are judged,

the Lord [will] scatter the counsels of nations,

[and] He [will] frustrate the thoughts of peoples.

Alleluia.

##### John 11:46-57

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, “What are we to do? This man does many signs! If we leave him alone like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You understand nothing at all! Do you not consider that it is better fo us that one man should die for the people rather than the whole nation should perish.” Now, he did not say this of himself, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also in order to gather as one the children of God scattered abroad. And so, from that day forward, they planned together to put him to death. For this reason, Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews. Instead, he left that place [and went] into the countryside near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim. He stayed there with his disciples.

Now, the Passover of the Jews was near. Many went up from the countryside to Jerusalem before the Passover in order to perform their purification rites. Then, they began to look for Jesus and discussed withone another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think? Is he not coming to the feast at all?” Now, the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who knew where Jesus was should report it, so that they might arrest him. Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 40:7ab, 2

A Psalm of David.

[When] he comes to see me, he speaks vanity;

his heart gathers iniquity to itself.

Blessed is he who considers the poor and needy;

the Lord will deliver him in an evil day.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 22:1-6

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Now, the feast of unleavened bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a away to do away with Jesus by killing him, but they feared the people. Then Satan entered into Judas, called Iscariot, who was numbered with the Twelve. So Judas went and talked with the chief priests and officers of the guard about how he might deliver him to them. They rejoiced and agreed to give him money. Judas agreed and began to look for an opportunity to deliver him to them when there would be no crowd. Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 82:3, 6

A Psalm of David.

For behold, Your enemies make a tumult,

and those who hate You rasied their heads.

For they conspired together with one accord;

they have made a covenant against You.

Alleluia.

##### John 12:1-8

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus (who had been dead and whom he had raised from the dead) lived. Therefore, they gave a supper for him there. Martha served while Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with him. Then Mary took a pound of fragrance of pure nard, very precious; she anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. Then Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, one of his disciples and the one who would betray him, said, “Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” Now, Judas said this, not because he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and having the money box, he used to steal what was put into it. But Jesus said, “Leave her alone! She has kept this for the day of my burial. For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 40:6a, 8a, 7ab

A Psalm of David.

My enemies speak evil things against me,

[they] whisper together against me.

[When] he comes to see me, he speaks vanity;

his heart gathers iniquity to itself.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:3-16

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Then, the chief priests, the scribes, and the presbyters of the people were assembled in the court of the high priest who was called Caiaphas. They were taking counsel together in order to take Jesus by deceit and kill him. But they were saying, “Not during the feast, for fear that the people may cause a riot.”

Now, when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar containing very expensive fragrant oil. And she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. But when his disciples saw this, they were upset and said, “Why this waste? For this oil could have been sold for a good amount and given to the poor.”

However, knowing this, Jesus said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? She has done a good deed for me! For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me. But by pouring this oil on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. Amen, I tell you: wherever this Good News is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

Then one of the Twelve who was called Judas Iscariot went to the chie priests and said, “What are you willing to give me in order for me to hand him over to you?” They weighed out for him thirty pieces of silver. From that time on, Judas looked for an opportunity to betray Jesus. Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of Wednesday of Holy Week

##### Psalm 6:3b, 4a, 68:18

A Psalm of David.

Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled,

and my soul is greatly troubled.

Do not turn Your face from Your servant,

for I am in affliction; hear me quickly.

Alleluia.

##### John 12:27-36a

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Now, my soul is troubled. What shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this time?’ But for this reason, I have come to this time. Father, glorify your Name!”

Then, there came a voice out of heaven, saying, “I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

At this, the multitude who stood by heard it, and they said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

Jesus answered, “This voice has not come for my sake, but for your sakes. Now, judgment is upon this world! Now, the prince of this world will be cast out! And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all [people] to myself.” But he said this to indicate by what kind of death he should die. The multitude answered him, “We have heard out of the law that the Christ remains forever. How do you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up?’ Who is this Son of Man?”

Jesus therefore said to them, “The light is with you a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, so that darkness may not overtake you. Whoever walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” Glory be to God forever.

## Maundy Thursday

### The First Hour of the Eve of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 68:2, 17b

A Psalm of David.

Save me, O God,

for the waters have come in, even to my soul.

Look upon me according to the abundance of Your compassion.

Alleluia.

##### John 10:17-21

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Therefore, the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, so that I may take it again. No one takes my life away from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. I received this commandment from my Father.”

Once again, a division arose among the Jews on account of these words. Many of them said, “He has a demon, and is insane! Why do you listen to him?” Others said, “These are not the sayings of someone possessed by a demon. It is not possible for a demon to open the eyes of the blind, is it?” Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of the Eve of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 54:22bc, 2

A Psalm of David.

His words were smoother than oil,

and yet they are arrows.

Give ear, O God, to my prayer,

and do not despise my supplication.

Alleluia.

##### Mark 14:3-11

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

While Jesus was at Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar, and poured the oil over his head. But there were some who were upset and who said, “Why has this ointment been wasted? It could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and given to the poor.” They grumbled against her, but Jesus said, “Leave her alone! Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for me. You always have the poor with you, and whenever you want to, you can do them good; but you will not always have me! She has done what she could: she has anointed my body in advance for the burial. Amen, I tell you: wherever this Good News will be preached throughout the whole world what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

Judas Iscariot, who was one of the Twelve, went off to [meet] the chief priests, in order to deliver Jesus to them. When they heard this, they were glad, and promised to give him money. Judas began to seek sought how he might conveniently deliver him. Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of the Eve of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 139:2, 3

A Psalm of David.

Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man;

deliver me from the unjust man,

who schemed wrongdoing in their heart;

all day long they kept stirring up wars.

Alleluia.

##### John 12:36b-43

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

After Jesus had said this, he left and hid from them. But even though he had performed so many signs in front of them, they did not believe in him. This was to fulfill the word of Isaias the prophet:

*Lord, who has believed our report?*

*To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?*

For this reason, they could not believe, for Isaias said elsewhere:

*He has blinded their eyes and he hardened their heart,*

*lest they should see with their eyes,*

*and perceive with their heart,*

*and would turn,*

*and I would heal them.*

Isaias said these things when he saw his glory and spoke of him. Still, even many among the rulers believed in him, but because of the Pharisees, they did not confess it [openly], so that they would not be put out of the synagogue, for they loved human praise more than God’s praise. Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of the Eve of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 7:2, 3a

A Psalm of David.

O Lord my God, I hope in You;

save me from all who pursue me, and deliver me,

lest he seize my soul like a lion.

Alleluia.

##### John 10:29-38

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

Again, the Jews picked up rocks to stone him. Jesus told them, “I have shown you many good works from my Father. For which of those do you stone me?”

The Jews answered him, “We do not stone you for a good work, but for blasphemy: because you, being a man, make yourself God.”

Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your law, ‘I said, you are gods?’ If he called them gods, (those to whom the word of God came, and the Scripture cannot be broken), do you say of him whom the Father has consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You blaspheme,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God?’ If I do not do the works of my Father, do not believe me. But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may recognize and believe that the Father is in me, and I in the Father.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of the Eve of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 61:8, 7

A Psalm of David.

My salvation and my glory are in God;

He is the God of my help,

and my hope is in God.

For He is my God and my Saviour,

my Protector; I will never be moved.

Alleluia.

##### John 12:44-50

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus cried aloud, “Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in the one who sent me! Whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come as a light into the world, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in the dark. If anyone listens to my sayings and does not believe, I do not judge this person. For I came not to judge the world, but to save the world! Whoever rejects me and does not receive my sayings has a judge [already]: the word that I spoke is what will judge such a person in the last day. For I did not speak from myself; instead, the Father who sent me has given me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. I know that his commandment is eternal life. And therefore what the Father has told me is what I speak.” Glory be to God forever.

### The First Hour of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 54:22bc, 13

A Psalm of David.

His words were smoother than oil,

and yet they are arrows.

For if an enemy had reproached me,

I could have endured it;

and if one who hated me had boasted against me,

I would have hidden from him.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 22:7-13

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Then, the day of unleavened bread came, on which the Passover must be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat [the Passover meal]”

They said to him, “Where do you want us to make preparations?”

Jesus replied, “Behold, when you have entered into the city, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him into the house which he enters. Then tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, “Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with m disciples?”’ He will show you a large, furnished upper room. Make preparations there.”

They went, found things as Jesus had told them, and made preparations

for the Passover. Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 93:21, 23

A Psalm of David.

They will hunt down the soul of a righteous man,

and condemn innocent blood.

And the Lord will repay them for their iniquity,

and according to their wickedness,

the Lord our God will destroy them.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:17-19

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Now, on the first day of unleavened bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

He replied, “Go into the city to a certain person and tell him, ‘The Teacher says, “My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.”’”

The disciples did as Jesus instructed them and they prepared the Passover. Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 30:19ab, 14

A Psalm of David.

Let lying lips become speechless,

when they speak iniquity against the righteous.

For I heard the [slander] of many

who hover around me,

as they gathered together against me

and plotted to take my life.

Alleluia.

##### Mark 14:12-16

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

On the first day of unleavened bread, when the Jews sacrificed the Passover, his disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go and make preparations so that you may eat the Passover?”

He sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and there you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and wherever he enters in, tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?”’ He will himself show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.”

His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found things as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover. Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 22:1, 2

A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my Shepherd, and I will lack nothing.

He settles me in a place of green pastures,

and raises me on refreshing water.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:17-19

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Now, on the first day of unleavened bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

He replied, “Go into the city to a certain person and tell him, ‘The Teacher says, “My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.”’”

The disciples did as Jesus instructed them and they prepared the Passover. Glory be to God forever.

### The Prayer Over the Baisen (Lakane)

##### Psalm 50:9, 12

A Psalm of David.

You will sprinkle me with hyssop,

and I will be cleansed;

You will wash me,

and I will be whiter than snow.

Create a clean heart in me, O God,

and renew an upright spirit within me.

Alleluia.

##### John 13:1-17

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. John. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

Now, [it was just] before the feast of the Passover. Jesus knew that his time had come for him to depart from this world to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, the devil had already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot (Simon’s son) to betray him. Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come forth from God and was going to God, arose from supper and laid aside his outer garments. He took a towel and wrapped it around his waist. After that, he poured water into the basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and wiped them with the towel that was wrapped around him. Then, he came to Simon Peter. Peter said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”

Jesus answered him, “You do not know what I am doing now, but you will understand later.”

Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet!”

Jesus replied, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with me.”

Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not only my feet, but also my hands and my head!”

Jesus told him, “Someone who has bathed only needs to have his feet washed, apart from that he is completely clean. You are clean, but not all of you.” For he knew who was going to betray him, and this is why he said, “You are not all clean.” And so, after washing their feet, he put his outer garment back on, and sat down again. He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me, ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord;’ and you say so correctly, for this is what I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you should also wash each other’s feet. I have given you an example, so that you too would do as I have done to you. Amen, amen, I tell you; a servant is not greater than his master, neither is the one who is sent greater than he who sent him. Now that you know these things, blessed are you if you do them! Glory be to God forever.

### The Liturgy Gospel Of Maundy Thursday

##### 22:5ab, 40:10bc

A Psalm of David.

You have prepared a table before me

against those that afflict me;

[he] who ate of my bread

has magnified deceit against me.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:20-29

Stand with the fear of God. Let us hear the Holy Gospel. Bless, O Lord, the reading of the Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew. Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Our Lord, God, Saviour, and King of us all, Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, to Whom is glory forever.

When evening had come, he was reclining at the table with the Twelve disciples. As they were eating, he said, “Amen, I tell you that one of you will betray me.”

They were extremely distressed, and each one began to ask him, “Surely not I, Lord?”

He answered, “He who dipped his hand with me in the dish is the one who will betray me. The Son of Man goes, even as it is written of him, but woe to that man through whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.”

Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?”

And Jesus replied, “You said it.”

As they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, and broke it. He gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is my body.” He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink [from] it all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for many, for the remission of sins. But I tell you that from now on, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father’s Kingdom.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of Maundy Thursday

##### Psalm 49:17, 18

A Psalm of David.

You hate discipline,

and you cast My words behind you.

If you see a thief, you run with him,

and you keep company with adulterers.

Alleluia.

##### John 13:21-30

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

After saying this, Jesus was troubled in spirit, and testified, “Amen, amen, I tell you that one of you will betray me!”

The disciples looked at one another, wondering who he was speaking about. One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was at the table, reclining close to Jesus’ breast. Simon Peter then motioned to this disciple and said, “Ask who it is that he is speaking of!”

Since that disciple was reclining close to Jesus’ breast, he asked him, “Lord, who is it?”

Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it.” And so, when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. Now, after [Judas received] the piece of bread, Satan entered into him.

Then Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.”

However, no one at the table knew why Jesus had said this to Judas. Some thought that because Judas had the money box, Jesus had told him, “Buy what we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor. And so, having received that piece of bread, Judas immediately went out. It was night. Glory be to God forever.

## Great and Holy Friday

### The First Hour of the Eve of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 101:2, 9

A Psalm of David.

O Lord, hear my prayer,

and let my cry come to You.

My enemies reproached me all day long,

and those who praised me swore against me.

Alleluia.

##### John 13:33-14:25

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Children, I will be with you [only] a little longer. You will seek me, and now I tell you just as I told the Jews, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment: that you love one another! Just as I have loved you, love also one another. This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples: if you have love for one another.”

Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?”

Jesus replied, “Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but later you shall follow {me}.”

Peter asked, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you!”

Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Amen, amen, I tell you; before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!”

“Do not let your heart be troubled. Have faith in God! Have also faith in me! In my Father’s house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will return and receive you to myself, so that where I am, you may be there also. You know where I am going, and you know the way.”

Thomas asked him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going! How can we know the way?”

Jesus replied to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on, you know him, and you have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us!”

Jesus answered, “I have been with you for such a long time, and still, do you not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father! How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words that I tell you, I do not speak from myself, but the Father who lives in me accomplishes his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me; or else believe on account of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I tell you; whoever believes in me will also accomplish the works that I accomplish and will do [even] greater works than these, because I am going to my Father. Whatever you will ask in my Name is what I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you will ask anything in my Name, I will accomplish it. If you love me, keep my commandments!

I will pray to the Father and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth. The world cannot receive him because it does not see him and does not know him. You know him, because he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans! I will come to you! In a short time, the world will no longer see me but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live! In that day, you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, that person is someone who loves me. Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and will reveal myself to him.”

Judas (not Iscariot) asked him, “Lord, what has happened that you are about to reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?”

Jesus answered him, “Anyone who loves me will keep my word; my Father will love him and we shall come to him and make a home in him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. The word which you hear is not mine, but it belongs to the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while still living with you. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 14:26-15:25

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

But the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my Name, will teach you all things and remind you of all that I said to you.

Peace I leave with you! My peace I give to you! I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not let it be afraid.

You heard me tell you, ‘I am going away, and I [shall] return to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced because I said ‘I am going to my Father;’ for the Father is greater than I. Now, I have told you before it happens so that, when it happens, you may believe. I will not speak with you much longer because the prince of the world is coming, and he has nothing in me. But so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father has commanded me. Arise, let us be on our way!”

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, he prunes, so that it may bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it remains in the vine, neither can you, unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you [are] the branches! Whoever remains in me and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from me, you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown out as a branch and is withered. Such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned! If you remain in me and if my words remain in you, you may ask whatever you desire and it will be done for you.

In this is my Father glorified: that you bear much fruit; and [this is how] you will be my disciples. Even as the Father has loved me, I also have loved you! Remain in my love! If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, even as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that my joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment: that you love one another, even as I have loved you. No one has a greater love than this: that someone would lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do whatever I command you. I no longer call you servants because the servant does not know what his lord is doing. Instead, I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you, so that you should go and bear fruit, and so that your fruit should remain. And so, whatever you will ask of the Father in my Name, he will give it to you.

I command these things to you, so that you may love one another.

If the world hates you, you know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own! But you are not of the world, since I chose you out of the world, and so the world hates you. Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his lord.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. But they will do all these things to you on account of my Name, because they do not know the one who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have had sin; but nowthey have no excuse for their sin! Whoever hates me also hates my Father. If I had not accomplished among them the works which no one else had done [before], they would not have had sin. But now, they have seen [those things] and yet they have hated both me and my Father. But this has happened so that the word which was written in their law may be fulfilled: ‘They hated me without reason.’ Glory be to God forever.

##### John 15:26-16:33

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

When the Paraclete has come, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me. You also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.”

“I have told you these things, so that you would not be caused to stumble. They will expel you from the synagogues! Yes, the time is coming when whoever kills you will think that he is offering {divine} service to God! They will do these things because they have not known the Father or me. But I have told you these things, so that when the time arrives, you may remember that I told you about them. I did not tell you these things from the beginning because I was with you. But now, I am going to him who sent me, and none of you is asking me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have told you these things, sorrow has filled your heart. Yet, I tell you the truth; it is to your advantage that I go away because if I do not go away, the Paraclete will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. When he has come, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment; about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to my Father and you will not see me any more; about judgment, because the prince of this world has been judged.

I still have many things to tell you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when he, the Spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth because he will not speak from himself, but whatever he hears, he will speak. He will tell you of things that are yet to come. He will glorify me by taking from what is mine, and he will declare it to you. Everything the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he takes of [what is] mine and will declare it to you. In a little while, you will no longer see me, and then after a little while you will see me <because I go to the Father>.”

At this, some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he issaying to us, ‘In a little while, you will no longer see me, and then after a

little while you will see me’ and, ‘because I go to the Father?’” And so they kept asking, “What is this that he says, ‘A little while?’ We do not understand what he is saying!”

Now, Jesus perceived that they wanted to ask him [about these things], and he said to them, “Are you discussing among yourselves concerning

this, that I said, ‘In a little while, you will no longer see me, and then after a little while you will see me?’ Amen, amen, I tell you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy! When a woman gives birth, she hassorrow because her time has come. But when she has delivered the child, she does not remember the anguish any more because of the joy that a human being is born into the world. Therefore, you now have sorrow, but I will see you again; and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you!

In that day you will ask me no [more] questions. Amen, amen, I tell you; whatever you may ask of the Father in my Name, he will give it to you. Until now, you have asked nothing in my Name. Ask, and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete! I have told you these things in figures of speech. But the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. In that day, you will ask in my Name. And I do not tell you that I will pray to the Father for you, because the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and believed that I came forth from God. I came out from the Father, and I have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and return to the Father.”

His disciples said to him, “Behold, now you speak plainly, not in figures of speech. Now we know that you know all things and we do not need for anyone to ask questions from you. By this we believe that you came forth from God.”

Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? Behold, the time is coming, yes, and it has now come, when you will be scattered, everyone to his own place, and you will desert me. Yet, I am not alone, because the Father is with me. I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In the world you have distress, but rejoice! I have overcome the world.” Glory be to God forever.

##### John 17:1-26

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus said these things, and lifting up his eyes to heaven, he said, “Father, the time has come! Glorify your Son, so that your Son may also glorify you. Even as you gave him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

This is eternal life: that they should know you, the only true God, and him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ.

I have glorified you on the earth! I have accomplished the work which you have given me to do! Now, Father, glorify me with yourself with the glory I had with you before the world existed. I revealed your Name to the people whom you have given me out of the world. They were yours, and you have given them to me; they have kept your word. Now, they have known that all things you have given me are from you. The words you have given me, I have given to them. They have received them and they have known for certain that I came forth from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I pray for them; I do not pray for the world, but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All things that are mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. I am no longer in the world, but these are [still] in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them through your Name which you have given me, so that they may be one, even as we are [one]. While I was with them in the world, I protected them in your Name. Those whom you have given me I have kept. None of them is lost, except the son of destruction, so that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to you, and I say these things in the world, so that they may have my joy made full in themselves. I have given them your word and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not pray that you would take them from the world, but that you would protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in your truth; your word is truth! As you sent me into the world, I too have sent them into the world. I sanctify myself for their sake, so that they too may be sanctified in truth. I do not pray only for these, but also for those who [will] believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you. May they be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me. The glory which you have given me, I have given to them, so that they may be one even as we are one; I in them, and you in me. May they be perfected into one, so that the world may know that you sent me, and [that you have] loved them, even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those whom you have given me would be with me where I am, so that they may see my glory which you have given me, for you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world has not known you, but I knew you; and these have known that you have sent me. I made your Name known to them, and I will [continue to] make it known; so that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and I in them.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of the Eve of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 108:1, 2, 3

A Psalm of David.

O God, do not pass over my praise in silence,

for the mouth of a sinners

and the mouth of a deceiver

was opened against me;

they spoke against me with a deceitful tongue.

They surrounded me with words of hatred,

and warred against me without cause.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:30-35

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

After singing [the psalms], they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will stumble because of me tonight, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go before you into Galilee.”

But Peter replied, “Even if all [others] will stumble because of you, I never will!”

Jesus said to him, “Amen, I tell you that tonight, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.”

Peter said to him, “Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!” And all the disciples said likewise. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 14:26-31

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of me tonight, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ However, after I am raised up, I will go before you into Galilee.”

But Peter said to him, “Even if all fall away, I will not!”

Jesus said to him, “Amen, I tell you that today, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times!”

But Peter insisted, “If I must die with you, I will not deny you!” And they all said the same thing. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 22:31b-39

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has asked to have you, so that he might sift you [all] like wheat! But I have prayed for you, that your faith would not fail. And you, when you have turned back, strengthen your brethren.”

But Simon said, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death!”

Then Jesus replied, “I tell you, Peter, by the time the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me!”

Then Jesus asked them, “When I sent you out without purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?”

They replied, “Nothing.”

He then said to them, “But now, whoever has a purse should take it, and likewise a bag! Whoever has no sword should sell his cloak and buy one! For I tell you that what is written must still be fulfilled in me: ‘He was counted with transgressors.’ For the things [written] concerning me are [reaching] a completion.”

And the disciples exclaimed, “Lord, behold, here are two swords!”, but he told them, “That is enough!”

Jesus came out, and went, as his custom was, to the Mount of Olives. His disciples also followed him. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 18:1-2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples over the brook [called] Kidron. A garden was there and he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew about the place because Jesus often met there with his disciples. Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of the Eve of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 58:2, 68:21bc

A Psalm of David.

Deliver me from my enemies, O God,

and redeem me from those who rise up against me.

I waited for someone to sympathize with me, but there was none,

and for comforters, but I did not find one.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:36-46

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Then Jesus arrived with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go there and pray.” He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and he began to feel sadness and anguish. Then, he said to them, “My soul is extremely sorrowful, even to death. Stay here, and watch with me.”

He went a little forward, fell on his face, and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what you will.”

When he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, he said to Peter, “Could you not watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray, so that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Again, a second time he went away, and prayed, saying, “My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from me unless I drink it, let your will be done.” Again, he came back [to the disciples] and found them asleep because their eyes were heavy. He left them again, went away, and prayed a third time, saying the same words. Then, he came to his disciples and told them, “Sleep on now, and take your rest. Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners! Arise, let us go! Behold, he who betrays me is near.” Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 14:32-42

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

They arrived at a place which was named Gethsemane. Jesus said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be greatly troubled and distressed. He said to them, “My soul is extremely sorrowful, even to death. Stay here, and watch.”

He went forward a little, fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass away from him. He said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Please remove this cup from me. However, not what I desire, but what you desire.”

He came back, found the disciples sleeping, and said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Could not you watch one hour? Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak!”

Again, he went away, and prayed, saying the same words. Once more, he returned, and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. He came the third time and said to them, “Sleep on now, and take your rest. It is enough! The hour has come! Behold, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Arise, let us be on our way, for behold, the one who betrays me is near.” Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 22:40-46

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Having arrived at the place, he said to them, “Pray that you do not enter into temptation!”

He then withdrew from them about a stone’s throw [away], knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”

And an angel from heaven appeared to him, strengthening him. Being in agony, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

When he rose up from his prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of sorrow. He said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation!” Glory be to God forever.

##### John 18:3-9

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Judas then, having taken a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was happening to him, went forward and said to them, “Who are you looking for?”

They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am he.”

Judas (who betrayed him), was also standing with them. Now, when Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they stepped backward and fell to the ground.

Again, Jesus asked them, “Who are you looking for?”

They replied, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. Therefore, if you are looking for me, let these [my disciples] go their way.” [He said this] so that the word which he had spoken (“Of those whom you have given me, I have lost none”) might be fulfilled. Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of the Eve of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 27:3cd, 4ab, 34:4

A Psalm of David.

[Those] who speak peace with their neighbour,

but evil is in their hearts,

give them, O Lord, according to their works,

and according to the evil of their ways:

Let those who seek my soul be ashamed and embarrassed;

let those who plot evil against me be turned back and disappointed.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:47-58

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

While he was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived and with him came a great crowd with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priest and presbyters of the people. Now, he who betrayed Jesus gave them a sign, saying, “Whoever I kiss is the one. Seize him.” Immediately, he came to Jesus, and said, “Hail, Rabbi!” and kissed him.

Jesus said to him, “Friend, why are you here?” Then, they came and laid hands on Jesus, and took him away. But behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand, drew his sword, and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place, for all those who take the sword will die by the sword. Do you not think that I could ask my Father, and he would even now send me more than twelve legions of angels? How then would the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen this way?”

In that hour, Jesus said to the crowd, “Have you come out as against a robber with swords and clubs to seize me? I sat every day in the temple, teaching, and you did not arrest me [there]. But all this has happened so that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled.”

Then, all the disciples left him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest where the scribes and the presbyters were assembled. But Peter followed Jesus from a distance, to the court of the high priest. Having entered in, he sat with the officers to see [what would happen in] the end.

Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 14:43-54

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him came a crowd with swords and clubs, sent by the chief priests, the scribes, and the presbyters. Now, the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.” So when the traitor came, he immediately went up to Jesus and said, “Rabbi! Rabbi!” and kissed him. They laid their hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword, and struck the servant ofthe high priest, cutting offhis ear.

Jesus told them, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to seize me? Every day I was with you in the temple, teaching, and you did not arrest me! But this is [taking place] so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.”

All his disciples left him and fled. A certain young man was following Jesus, who only wore a linen cloth [as a tunic]. They grabbed him, but he left the linen cloth [behind], and fled from them naked.

They led Jesus away to the high priest and all the chief priests, the presbyters, and the scribes also came with him.

Peter had followed Jesus from a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. He was sitting with the officers, warming himself in the light of the fire. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 22:47-55

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

While he was still speaking, behold, a multitude [came], and he who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He came near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

When those who were around him saw what was about to happen, they said to him, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” And one of them struck the servant ofthe high priest, and cut offhis right ear.

But Jesus said, “Let me at least do this”—and he touched the servant’s ear, and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, captains of the temple, and presbyters who had come against him, “Have you come out as against one leading a rebellion, with swords and clubs? When I was with you in the temple every day, you did not stretch out your hands against me! But this is your hour, and the power of the darkness.”

They arrested him and led him away, and brought him into the high priest’s house. But Peter followed from a distance. When people had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter also sat among them. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 18:10-14

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. Jesus commanded Peter, “Put the sword into its sheath! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?”

At this, the band of soldiers, the commanding officer, and the officers of the Jews seized Jesus and bound him. They first led him to Annas because he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was the high priest that year. Now, it was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it was better that one man should perish for the [entire] people. Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of the Eve of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 2:1, 2, 4, 5

A Psalm of David.

Why do the nations rage,

and the peoples meditate on vain things?

The kings of the earth made their stand

and the rulers gathered together

against the Lord and against His Christ.

He Who dwells in the heavens will laugh at them;

the Lord will mock them.

Then He will speak to them in His wrath,

and trouble them in His anger,

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 26:59-75

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Now, the chief priests, the presbyters, and the whole council were looking for a false witness against Jesus, so that they might put him to death, and they found none. Even though many false witnesses were coming forward, they found none [valid]. But at last, two false witnesses came forward, and they said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the sanctuary of God, and to build it in three days.’”

The high priest stood up and said to Jesus, “Have you no answer? What is this that these people testify against you?” But Jesus remained quiet. The high priest told him, “I adjure you by the living God, to tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God.”

Jesus replied, “You have said it! Nevertheless, I tell you that after this, you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Then the high priest tore his vestment and exclaimed, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Behold, now you have heard his blasphemy. What do you think?”

They answered, “He deserves death!” Then, they spit in his face and beat him with their fists. And some slapped him, saying, “Prophesy to us, O Christ! Who hit you?”

As Peter was sitting outside in the court, a servant-girl came to him and said, “You too were with Jesus, the Galilean!”

But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.”

When he had gone out onto the porch, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, “This man also was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

Again, Peter denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man!”

After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, “Surely you are also one of them, for your speech reveals that you are [a Galilean].”

Then, he began to curse and swear, “I do not know the man!”

Immediately, the rooster crowed. Peter then remembered the word which Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” He went out and wept bitterly. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 14:55-72

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

They led Jesus away to the high priest and all the chief priests, the presbyters, and the scribes also came with him.

Peter had followed Jesus from a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. He was sitting with the officers, warming himself in the light of the fire. Now, the chief priests and the whole council were seeking witnesses [to testify] against Jesus in order to put him to death. But they could not find any. Many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree with each other. Some stood up, and bore false witness against Jesus, saying: “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this sanctuary that is made with hands, and in three days; I will build another made without hands.’” Even so, their testimony did not agree.

The high priest stood up in their midst and asked Jesus, “Do you have no answer? What is this which these testify against you?” But Jesus remained silent and answered nothing. Again, the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?”

Jesus replied, “I am. You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of the sky.”

At this, the high priest tore his robes and said, “What further need do we have for witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy! What is your decision?” And they all condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to beat him with fists, saying, “Prophesy!” And the officers struck him with the palms of their hands.

As Peter was in the courtyard below, one of the maidservants of the high priest came in, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him, and said, “You were also with Jesus the Nazarene!”

But he denied it, saying, “I neither know or understand what you are talking about!” He went out on the porch, and the rooster crowed.

When the servant girl saw him there, she began to tell those who stood by, “This is one of them!” But again, he denied it. A little while later, those who stood by again said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them! You are a Galilean, and your speech shows it.” But Peter began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know this man of whom you speak!” The rooster crowed the second time, and Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” When he thought about that, he broke down and cried. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 22:56-65

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

A certain servant girl saw him as he sat in the light, and looking intently at him, she said, “This man also was with him!”

But Peter denied Jesus, saying, “Woman, I do not know him!”

After a little while, someone else saw him, and said, “You also are one of them!”

But Peter answered, “Sir, I am not!”

After about one hour had passed, another insisted, saying, “Truly, this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean!”

But Peter said, “Sir, I do not know what you are talking about!” And immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. Then the Lord turned, and looked at Peter, and Peter remembered the Lord’s word, how he had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Now, the men who held Jesus were mocking him and beating him. Having blindfolded him, they struck him on the face and asked him, “Prophesy! Who is the one who struck you?” They said many other insulting things to him. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 18:15-27

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Simon Peter followed Jesus, as did another disciple. Now, that disciple was known to the high priest and entered in with Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard. But Peter was standing at the door outside. So, the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the woman who guarded the door, and brought Peter in. Then the servant-girl who kept the door asked Peter, “Are you also one of this man’s disciples?”

Peter replied, “I am not!”

Now, it was cold, and the servants and officers were standing there, around a charcoal fire they had made. As they were warming themselves, Peter was with them, standing and warming himself.

Meanwhile, the high priest asked Jesus about his disciples, and about his teaching. Jesus answered him, “I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues, and in the temple, where the Jews always meet. I said nothing in secret! Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I told them. Behold, these people know what I said.”

When Jesus had said this, one of the officers standing by slapped him with his hand, saying, “Do you answer the high priest like that?”

Jesus replied, “If I have spoken evil, testify to the evil; but if [I have spoken] well, why do you beat me?”

Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas, the [ruling] high priest. Now, while Simon Peter was standing and warming himself, people said to him, “You are not also one of his disciples, are you?”

Peter denied it, and said, “I am not!”

One of the servants of the high priest, being a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said, “Did not I see you in the garden with him?”

At this, Peter denied it again, and immediately the rooster crowed. Glory be to God forever.

### The First Hour of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 26:12bc, 34:11, 12a, 16b

A Psalm of David.

For false witnesses have risen against me

and injustice has deceived itself.

False witnesses rose up against me,

asking me things I knew nothing about;

They repaid me evil for good,

they gnashed their teeth at me.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 27:1-14

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

In the morning, all the chief priests and the presbyters of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death: and they bound him, led him away, and delivered him up to Pontius Pilate, the governor. When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he felt remorse and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and presbyters, saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.”

But they answered, “What is that to us? You see to it.”

He threw the pieces of silver in the sanctuary, and departed. He then went away and hanged himself. The chief priests took the pieces of silver, saying, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is the price of blood.” They took counsel and bought the potter’s field with the money, [as a place] to bury strangers. Therefore, that field was called “The Field of Blood” even to this day. Thus, what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

*They took the thirty pieces of silver,*

*the price of him upon whom a price had been set,*

*whom some of the children of Israel priced,*

*and they gave them for the potter’s field,*

*as the Lord commanded me.*

Now, Jesus stood before the governor and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered, “And so, you say.”

But when he was accused by the chief priests and the presbyters, he answered nothing. Pilate then said to him, “Do you not hear how many charges they present against you?”

Jesus gave him no answer, not even one word, so that the governor was astonished. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 15:1-5

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

As soon as it was the morning, the chief priests, the presbyters, the scribes and the whole council held a consultation. Having bound Jesus, they

carried him away and delivered him to Pilate. Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

And Jesus answered, “You have said it.”

The chief priests accused him of many things. Again, Pilate asked him, “Do you have no answer? See how many charges they bring against you!”

But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate as astonished. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 22:66-23:12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

As soon as it was day, the assembly of the presbyters of the people was gathered together, both chief priests and scribes. They brought Jesus into their council, saying: “If you are the Christ, tell us.”

But Jesus said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I question [you], you will not answer me or release me. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the Power of God.”

They all asked, “Are you then the Son ofGod?” He said to them, “You say it because I am.”

Then they exclaimed, “Why do we need any more witness? For we ourselves have heard from his own mouth!”

Their whole group arose and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man perverting the nation, forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.”

So Pilate questioned him, saying, “Are you the King ofthe Jews?” Jesus replied, “You say it.”

Pilate said to the chief priests and to the crowd, “I find no basis for a charge against this man.”

But they insisted, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee [and] even to this place.” But when Pilate heard Galilee mentioned, he asked if the man was a Galilean. When he found out that Jesus was from Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

Now, when Herod saw Jesus, he was extremely glad because he had desired to see him for a long time as he had heard many things about him, and he hoped to see some miracle done by him. He questioned Jesus with many words, but Jesus gave no reply. [Meanwhile], the chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Then Herod and his soldiers humiliated him and mocked Jesus. Dressing him in a luxurious robe, they sent him back to Pilate. And Herod and Pilate became friends that very day, [although] before this, they had been enemies. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 18:28-40

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Then, Jesus was taken from Caiaphas to the Praetorium. It was early, and the Jews themselves did not enter into the Praetorium in order not to be made ritually impure and to be able to eat the Passover. For this reason, Pilate went out to them and asked, “What accusation do you bring against this man?”

“If he were not a criminal,” they replied, “we would not have handed him over to you.”

At this, Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.”

Then, the Jews told him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death!” (This was to fulfill the word which Jesus had spoken might be fulfilled, by which he had indicated by what kind of death he would die).

So Pilate went back into the Praetorium. Having called Jesus, he asked him, “Are you the King ofthe Jews?”

Jesus answered, “Do you say this by yourself, or did others tell you about me?”

Pilate answered, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered you to me. What have you done?”

Jesus replied, “My Kingdom is not of this world! If my Kingdom were of this world, my servants would have fought so that I would not be delivered to the Jews. But as it is, my Kingdom is not from here.”

Pilate therefore said to him, “Are you a king then?”

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. I was born and I have come into the world for this reason: that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is ‘of the truth’ listens to my voice.”

Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

When he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him. But you have a custom, that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Therefore, do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”

Then they all shouted back, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a rebel. Glory be to God forever.

### The Third Hour of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 37:18, 21:17ab

A Psalm of David.

For I am ready for scourges,

and my pain is ever with me.

a pack of dogs surround me,

and an assembly of evil doers enclose me.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 27:15-26

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Now, on the [occasion of the] feast, the governor had the custom to release one prisoner to the crowd, whoever they desired. At that time, they had a notable prisoner called Barabbas. When they were gathered, Pilate asked them, “Who do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus, who is called Christ?” For he knew that it was because of envy that they had arrested him.

While Pilate was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent a note to him that said, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for today, I have suffered many things in a dream because of him.” Now, the chief priests and the presbyters convinced the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to destroy Jesus. But the governor asked them, “Which one of the two do you want me to release to you?”

They said, “Barabbas!” Pilate said to them, “What then shall I do to Jesus, who is called Christ?” They all replied, “Let him be crucified!” The governor asked, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they cried out loudly, saying, “Let him be crucified!”

And so, when Pilate saw that nothing was being gained, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this righteous person. You see to it.”

All the people answered, “May his blood be on us, and on our children!”

At this, he released Barabbas to them, but had Jesus flogged and delivered to be crucified. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 15:6-25

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

Now, he used to release to the Jews one prisoner on the occasion of the feast, whichever one they asked of him. There was one called Barabbas,

who was then in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the uprising. The multitude, crying aloud, began to ask Pilate to do as he always did for them. Pilate answered them, “Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” For he understood that it was from envy that the chief priests had delivered Jesus. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd so that Pilate would release Barabbas to them, instead [of Jesus]. Pilate again asked them, “What then should I do to the one whom you call the King of the Jews?”

“Crucify him!”, they shouted

Pilate said to them, “Why, what evil has he done?”

But they shouted even louder, “Crucify him!”

Wishing to please the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them, and after having Jesus flogged, he handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led Jesus away inside the courtyard which is [called] the Praetorium, and they called together the whole cohort. They clothed him with purple, and weaving a crown of thorns, they put it on his head. They began to salute him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They struck his head with a reed, spat on him, and bowing their knees, worshiped him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple [cloak] and put his own garments on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus was then returning from the countryside and passing by. The soldiers compelled him to go the place called Golgotha, which means, “The place of a skull.” Theyoffered him wine mixed with myrrh to drink, but he did not take it.

Then they crucified him and shared his garments among them, casting lots for them to see what each one would take. It was the third hour when they crucified him. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 23:13-25

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people. He said to them, “You brought this man to me as someone who perverts the people, and behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he has sent him back. As you can see, this

man has done nothing worthy of death! Therefore, I will punish him and [then] release him.”

Now, Pilate had to release one prisoner to them at the feast. But they all cried out together, saying, “Away with this man! Release Barabbas tous!” This one had been thrown into prison for a certain rebellion in the city, and for murder.

Then Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus. But they shouted, saying, “Crucify! Crucify him!”

For the third time, Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has this man done? I have found no reason for death in him. I will therefore chastise him and release him.” But they were insistent with loud voices, demanding that Jesus be crucified. And their shouts and the shouts of the chief priests prevailed. So Pilate decreed that what they were asking for should be done. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, as the people had requested. But Jesus, he delivered up to their will. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 19:1-12

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Then, Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers twisted thorns into a crown, placed it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple garment. They kept saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and they kept slapping him.

Then, Pilate went out again. He said to the Jews, “Behold, I bring him out to you, so that you may know that I find no basis for a charge against him.”

When Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple garment, Pilate said to them, “Behold, the man!”

But when the chief priests and the officers saw Jesus, they shouted, “Crucify! Crucify!”

Pilate answered, “Take him yourselves, and crucify him, for I find no basis for a charge against him.”

The Jews insisted, “We have a law, and according to our law, he should die, because he made himself the Son of God.”

But when Pilate heard these words, he was even more afraid. Returning into the Praetorium, he asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. Then Pilate asked him, “Are you not speaking to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and the power to crucify you?”

Jesus answered, “You would have no power at all against me, unless it were given to you from above. Therefore, he who delivered me to you has a greater sin.”

From then on, Pilate tried to release Jesus, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend! Everyone who makes himself a king speaks against Caesar!” Glory be to God forever.

### The Sixth Hour of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 37:21cd, 22a, 21:17c, 18a, 19, 8b, 9

A Psalm of David.

They cast me off, [I,] the beloved, like a horrid corpse[.

And they put nails in My flesh.]

Do not forsake me, O Lord… my God.

They have pierced my hands and my feet.

They counted all my bones;

They divided my garments among themselves,

and they cast lots for my clothing.

They [have spoken] with their lips and [shook] their heads, [saying,]

“He trusted in the Lord. Let Him rescue him;

let Him save him, if He wanted him.”

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 27:27-45

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Then, the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the praetorium and gathered the whole garrison against him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. They made a crown of thorns and placed it on his head, and a reed in his right hand. They knelt down before him, and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him, took the reed and struck him on the head. When they had mocked him, they removed the robe from him, put his [own] clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

As they were coming out, the soldiers found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, and they compelled him to go with them and to carry the cross. They arrived to a place called “Golgotha,” which means, “The place of a skull.” They gave him sour wine to drink mixed with gall, but having tasted it, he would not drink. After crucifying him, they divided his clothing among them, casting lots, so that what had been spoken by the prophet might be fulfilled: ‘They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. Then, the soldiers sat and watched him. They placed above his head the accusation against him in these words, “THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS.”

Two rebels were also crucified with him, one on his right hand and one on the left. Those who passed by blasphemed him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who [would] destroy the sanctuary and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross!”

Likewise the chief priests also mocked him, with the scribes, and the presbyters, saying, “He saved others, but he cannot save himself! If he is the King of Israel, let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him! He trusts in God. Let God deliver him now, if he wants him; for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” The rebels also who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

From the sixth hour, there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 15:26-33

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

The written notice of his accusation was written above him, “THE KING OF THE JEWS.” With him, they also crucified two rebels; one on his right hand, and one on his left. The Scripture was fulfilled, which says, “He was numbered with transgressors.”

Those who passed by blasphemed him, shaking their heads and saying, “So! You who would destroy the sanctuary and rebuild it in three days, save yourself [now] and come down from the cross!”

In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes, were mocking him among themselves and saying, “He saved others! He cannot save himself! Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, so that we may see and believe him.” Those who were crucified with him also insulted him.

When the sixth hour came, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 23:26-44

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

As the soldier were leading Jesus away, they seized Simon, a Cyrenian [who was] coming from the countryside. They laid the cross on him, to carry it after Jesus. A great multitude of the people followed him, including women who also mourned and lamented him. But Jesus, turning to them, said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children! For behold, the days are coming in which people will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ Then, people will begin to tell the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to tell the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will be done when it is dry?”

There were also others, two criminals, [who were] led with him to be put to death.

When they arrived to the place which is called The Skull, they crucified him there with the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left.

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

Dividing his garments among them, the soldiers cast lots. The people stood by, watching, and with them the rulers also scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others! Let him save himself, if this is the anointed one of God, the chosen one!”

The soldiers also mocked him, coming up to him, offering him vinegar, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”

An inscription was also written over him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew, “This is the king of the Jews.”

One of the criminals who hanged there insulted him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well!”

But the other spoke up and rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same condemnation? We indeed [are punished] justly, because we are receiving the due reward for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” He then said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when you come in your Kingdom.”

And Jesus said to him, “Amen I tell you: today, you will be with me in Paradise.”

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 19:13-27

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called “The Pavement,” and in Hebrew, “Gabbatha.” Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, at about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold, your King!”

But they shouted, “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!”

Pilate asked them, “Shall I crucify your King?”

The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” And so, Pilate delivered Jesus to them, to be crucified. Accordingly, the guards took Jesus and led him away. He went out, bearing his cross, to the place called “The Place of a Skull,” which is called in Hebrew, “Golgotha.” There, they crucified him, and along with him two other men, one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Pilate also wrote a notice and had it placed on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. Then, the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘he said, I am King of the Jews.’”

Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

After the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided it into four parts, to every soldier a part; with the tunic remaining. Now, the tunic was without seam, woven from the top throughout. Then, they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to decide whose it will be!” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says:

*They have divided my garments among them and*

*for my cloak they cast lots.*

And this is what the soldiers did. But there were standing by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother’s sister (Mary the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing there, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour, the disciple took her to his own home. Glory be to God forever.

### The Ninth Hour of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 68:2, 3a, 22

A Psalm of David.

Save me, O God,

for the waters have come in, even to my soul.

I am stuck in [mire of death].

They gave me gall for my food,

and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 27:46-50

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

About the ninth hour, Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” That is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Some of those who stood there heard it and said, “This man is calling Elias!”

Immediately, one of them ran to take a sponge; he filled it with vinegar, put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. But the others said, “Let him be. Let us see whether Elias comes to save him.”

Jesus cried again with a loud voice, and yielded up his spirit. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 15:34-37

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

At the ninth hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which is, being interpreted, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Some of those who stood by, when they heard this, exclaimed, “Behold, he is calling Elias!”

One [of them] ran to fill a sponge with vinegar. He put it on a reed and gave it to Jesus to drink. Then he said, “Let us leave him alone and see if Elias will come to take him down.”

But Jesus cried out with a loud voice and gave up the spirit. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 23:45-46

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

The sun was darkened, and the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two. Crying with a loud voice, Jesus said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” Having said this, he breathed his last. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 19:28-30

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

After this, perceiving that all things were now accomplished, and so that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” Now, a vessel full of sour wine had been placed there; so the soldiers put a sponge full of the sour wine on [a stick of] hyssop and held it at his mouth. Then, after Jesus received the sour wine, Jesus said, “It is accomplished!” And he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. Glory be to God forever.

### The Eleventh Hour of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 142:6a, 7, 30:6

A Psalm of David.

I spread forth my hands to You;

Hear me quickly, O Lord:

my spirit has failed.

Do not turn Your face from me,

lest I become like those who go down to the pit.

I will entrust my spirit into Your hands;

You have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 27:51-56

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from the top to the bottom. The earth quaked and the rocks were split. The tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised and came out of the tombs after his resurrection. (They entered into the holy city and appeared to many). Now, when the centurion and those who were with him watching Jesus saw the earthquake and the things that were taking place, they became extremely fearful and said, “Truly, this was the Son of God.”

Many women who had followed Jesus from Galilee to serve him were there, watching from afar. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 15:38-41

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

The veil ofthe sanctuary was torn in two from the top to the bottom. When the centurion who stood there in front of Jesus saw that he had cried out like this and breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was Son of God!”

There were also women watching from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome. When Jesus was in Galilee, they had followed him and served him; along with many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 23:47-49

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he glorified God, saying, “Certainly, this was a righteous man.” When all the multitudes that had come together to see this saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts. But all those who knew him and the women who followed with him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 19:31-37

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Because it was the Day of Preparation, in order that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a great day), the Jews asked Pilate that the legs [of those crucified] might be broken, and that they might be removed. Therefore, the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first who has been crucified with Jesus, then the legs of the other. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. However, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and immediately, blood and water came out. He who has seen [this] has borne witness, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, so that you may believe. For these things happened so that the Scripture might be fulfilled, “Not one of his bones will be broken.” Again, another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they pierced.” Glory be to God forever.

### The Twelfth Hour of Great and Holy Friday

##### Psalm 87:7, 22:4ab, 44:7, 9

A Psalm of David.

They laid me in the deepest pit,

in dark places and in the shadow of death.

For even though I walk through the shadow of death,

I will fear no evils, for You are with me.

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; *[Alleluia.]*

the sceptre of Your Kingdom is a sceptre of justice.

Your garments are fragrant with myrrh, stacte and cassia.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 27:57-61

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

When evening came, a rich man from Arimathaea, named Joseph, who himself was also a disciple of Jesus arrived. This man went to Pilate, asked for the body of Jesus and Pilate gave order that the body be delivered [to him]. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had carved out in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and departed. Mary Magdalene was there, and also the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb. Glory be to God forever.

##### Mark 15:42-16:1

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

Evening had now come. Because it was the Preparation Day, (the day before the Sabbath), Joseph of Arimathea, (a prominent council member who was also looking for the Kingdom of God,) came forward. He boldly went in to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. Pilate wondered if Jesus was already dead. Calling the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus had been dead for a long time. Having been assured of this by the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.

So Joseph bought fine linen, took Jesus down and wrapped him in the linen cloth. Having placed him in a tomb which had been cut out of a rock, he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Joses, saw where Jesus was laid.

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices in order to come and anoint him. Glory be to God forever.

##### Luke 23:50-56

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

And now, there was a man named Joseph, who was a member of the council, a good and righteous man (who had not consented to their counsel and deed). He was from Arimathaea, a city of the Jews, and he was also waiting for the Kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. He took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that was cut in stone, where no one had ever been laid. It was the [day of the] Preparation, and the Sabbath was drawing near. The women who had come with him out of Galilee, followed [Joseph] and saw the tomb, and how his body was laid. They returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath, they rested according to the commandment. Glory be to God forever.

##### John 19:38-42

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

After these things, Joseph of Arimathaea (who was a disciple of Jesus but secretly for fear of the Jews) asked Pilate for permission to take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, and so Joseph came and took away his body. Nicodemus (who earlier had come to Jesus by night) also came and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred Roman pounds. Then, they took Jesus’ body and wrapped it in linen cloths with the spices, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now, there was a garden at the place where Jesus had been crucified. In the garden, there was a new tomb in which no one had ever yet been laid. Then, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. Glory be to God forever.

## Bright Saturday

#### The Morning or Prime Gospel

##### Psalm 87:5b, 43:24, 27, 125:2, 3

A Psalm of David.

\*I have become like a helpless man, free among the dead.

Awake! Why do You sleep, O Lord?

Arise, and do not reject us forever.

Arise, O Lord; help us,

and redeem us for the sake of Your Name.

\*\*Then was our mouth filled with joy,

and our tongue with rejoicing.

Then they will say among the nations,

“The Lord has done great things for them.”

The Lord has done great things with us,

and we became glad.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 27:62-66

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

On the next day which was the day after the Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees came together to Pilate and said, “Lord, we remember what that deceiver said when he was still alive: ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore, give orders that the tomb be made secure until the third day, for fear that his disciples may come at night, steal him away, and then tell the people, ‘He is risen from the dead!’ This last deception would be worse than the first.”

Pilate said to them, “You have a guard. Go, make it as secure as you can.” And so, they went off in order to made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting a watch. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Third Hour of Bright Saturday

##### Psalm 15:10, 11ab

A Psalm of David.

For You will not leave my soul in Hades,

nor allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

You made the ways of life known to me;

You will fill me with gladness in Your presence.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 16:24-28

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, and whoever will lose his life for my sake will find it. Indeed, what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world, and loses his life? Or what will a person give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then, he will render to everyone according to their deeds. Amen, I tell you: there are some standing here who will not have tasted death until they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.” Glory be to God forever.

#### The Sixth Hour of Bright Saturday

##### Psalm 129:1, 2a, 141:8ab

A Psalm of David.

I cry to You, O Lord, out of the depths;

O Lord, hear my voice!

Bring my soul out of prison,

that I may confess Your Name[, O Lord].

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 5:3-12

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,*

*for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*

*Blessed are those who mourn,*

*for they shall be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek,*

*for they shall inherit the earth.*

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,*

*for they shall be filled.*

*Blessed are the merciful,*

*for they shall obtain mercy.*

*Blessed are the pure in heart,*

*for they shall see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers,*

*for they shall be called children of God.*

*Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,*

*for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*

*Blessed are you when people revile you, persecute you,*

*and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake.*

*Rejoice, and be extremely glad, for great is your reward in heaven.* Glory be to God forever.

#### The Ninth Hour of Bright Saturday

##### Psalm 40:11, 6

A Psalm of David.

But You, O Lord, have mercy on me,

and raise me up, and I will repay them.

My enemies speak evil things against me:

“When will he die and his name perish?”

Alleluia.

##### John 5:21-30

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John.

For [just] as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, likewise the Son also gives life to whom he desires. As it is, the Father judges no one, but he has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honor the Son even as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him!

Amen, amen, I tell you; the one who hears my word and believes in him who sent me has eternal life and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. Amen, amen, I tell you; the hour is comingand now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will come to life. For as the Father has life in himself, so has he given to the Son to have life in himself. He also gave him authority to execute judgment, because he is Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this, because the hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment. I can do nothing of myself. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is righteous because I do not seek my own will, but the will of my Father who sent me. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Liturgy Gospel of Bright Saturday

##### Psalm 3:6, 4, 81:8

A Psalm of David.

\*I lay down and slept;

I woke, for the Lord will support me.

But You, O Lord, are my protector,

my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.

\*\*Arise, O God, judge the earth,

for You will inherit all the nations.

Alleluia.

##### Matthew 28:1-20

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

After the Sabbath, as it began to dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. Behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came to roll away the stone from the door, and [the angel] sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. Our of fear, the guards trembled and became as dead. The angel told the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for he is risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord was lying. Go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has risen from the dead, and behold, he goes before you into Galilee; there you will see him.’ Behold, this is my message for you.”

They departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to report it to his disciples. As they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, “Rejoice!”

They came and took hold of his feet, and worshiped him.

Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid! Go tell my brethren that they should go into Galilee, and there they will see me.”

While they were going, behold, some of the guards came into the city and told the chief priests all the things that had happened. When they were assembled with the presbyters in order to take counsel, they gave the soldiers a large amount of silver, with these words, “Say that his disciples came by night and stole him away while we slept. If this comes to the governor’s ears, we will persuade him and make you free of worry.” And so, they took the money and did as they were told. This story is widespread among the Jews until this day.

The eleven disciples went into Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but some [still] doubted. Jesus came to them and said, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all the things that I have commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen. Glory be to God forever.

#### The Eleventh Hour of Bright Saturday (Distribution)

##### Psalm 62:2

A Psalm of David.

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered,

and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Alleluia.

##### Luke 24:1-12

We entreat our Lord and our God that we may be worthy to listen to the Holy Gospel. In wisdom and uprightness, let us hear the Holy Gospel. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they and some others came to the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. So they entered in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Terrified, the women bowed their faces to the ground.

They said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but he is risen! Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee, saying that the Son of Man must be delivered up into the hands of sinful men, be crucified, and [on] the third day rise again?”

Then they remembered his words. Returning from the tomb, and told all these things to the eleven, and to all the rest. Now, they were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. The other women with them told these things to the apostles. But these words seemed to be nonsense to them, and they did not believe them. However, Peter got up and ran to the tomb. Stooping and looking in, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves. He returned to his home, wondering what had taken place. Glory be to God forever.