

Vesperal Liturgy on Great and Holy Thursday



VESPERAL LITURGY ON GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

Deacon: Bless Master.

Priest: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Reader: Glory to Thee, O God, glory to Thee.

O heavenly King, the Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere, and fillest all things, Treasury of blessings, and Giver of life, come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity; and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

O Most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us from our sins; Master, pardon our transgressions; Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Our Father, Who art in Heaven,
hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come;

Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For Thine are the Kingdom and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12x)

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

Come, let us worship God our King.

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

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

Psalm 103(104)

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great! Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who hast stretched out the heavens like a tent, Who hast laid the beams of Thy chambers on

the waters, Who makest the clouds Thy chariot, Who ridest on the wings of the wind, Who makest the winds Thy messengers, fire and flame Thy ministers. Thou didst set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be shaken. Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. At Thy rebuke they fled; at the sound of Thy thunder they took to flight. The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which Thou didst appoint for them. Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills, they give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches. From Thy lofty abode Thou waterest the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Thy work. Thou dost cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart. The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees. The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers. Thou hast made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises, they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all! The earth is full of Thy creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great. There go the ships and Leviathan which Thou didst form to sport in it. These all look to Thee, to give them their food in due season. When Thou givest to them, they gather it up; when Thou openest Thy hand, they are filled with good things. When Thou hidest Thy face, they are dismayed; when Thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When Thou sendest forth Thy Spirit, they are created; and Thou renewest the face of the ground. May the glory of the Lord endure forever, may the Lord rejoice in His works, Who looks on the earth and it trembles, Who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the Lord. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord! The sun knows its time for setting; Thou makest darkness, and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia; glory to Thee, O God. (3x)

Great Litany

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the Holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For His Beatitude our Metropolitan *N*, and for His [Grace/Eminence] our [Arch-] Bishop *N*, for the venerable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the President of this country, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most-holy, most-pure, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints; let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee are due glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Lord I Call - Tone 2

Choir: Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.
Hear me, O Lord.
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.
Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee.// Hear me, O Lord.
Let my prayer arise
in Thy sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice.//
Hear me, O Lord.

Reader: Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips! Incline not my heart to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity; and let me not partake of their delights! Let a good man strike or rebuke me in kindness, but let the oil of the wicked never anoint my head; for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds. When they are given over to those who shall condemn them, then they shall learn that the word of the Lord is true. As a rock which one cleaves and shatters on the land, so shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of Sheol. But my eyes are toward Thee, O Lord God; in Thee I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless! Keep me from the trap which they have laid for me, and from the snares of evildoers! Let the wicked together fall into their own nets, while I escape. I cry with my voice to the Lord, with my voice I make supplication to the Lord, I pour out my complaint before Him, I proclaim my trouble before Him. When my spirit is faint, Thou knowest my way! In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me. I look to the right and watch, but there is none who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me, no man cares for my soul. I cry to Thee, O Lord; I say, Thou art my refuge, my portion in the land of the living. Give heed to my cry; for I am brought very low! Deliver me from my persecutors; for they are too strong for me!

Reader: Bring my soul out of prison that I may give thanks to Thy name.

Choir: *The assembly of the Jews gathers together
to deliver to Pilate the Maker and Creator of all.
What lawlessness! What faithlessness!
The Judge of the living and the dead they prepare for judgment.
The Healer of suffering they prepare for sufferings.
How great is Thy mercy!//
O long-suffering Lord, glory to Thee!*

Reader: The Righteous will surround me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Choir: *The assembly of the Jews gathers together...*

Reader: Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord; Lord hear my voice.

*The transgressor Judas, O Lord,
dipped his hand in the plate with Thee at supper.
But now, he unlawfully stretches forth his hand for silver.
He calculated the price of the woman's myrrh,
yet he does not shudder in selling Thee, the Priceless One.
He let the Master wash his feet,
yet he deceitfully kisses Him in betrayal to lawless men.
Cast out from the ranks of the Apostles,
he casts away the thirty pieces of silver,*

*not seeing the Resurrection on the third day.//
By it, have mercy on us!*

Reader: Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

Choir: *The transgressor Judas, O Lord...*

Reader: If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Choir: *Judas, the treacherous deceiver...
with a deceitful kiss betrayed the Lord and Savior.
He sold the Master as a slave to lawless men,
and the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father,
the only greatly merciful One,//
was led as a sheep to the slaughter!*

Reader: For Thy name's sake I have waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited for Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

Choir: *Judas, the treacherous deceiver...!*

Reader: From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope in the Lord.

Choir: *Servant and deceiver...
disciple and betrayer, friend and devil,
Judas has been revealed by his deeds.
While following the Master, he plotted His betrayal.
He said to himself: "I shall betray him and gain the purse."
He sought to have the myrrh sold
and, by deceit, to have Jesus seized.
He gave the kiss and gave up the Christ.
But, like a sheep, led to the slaughter,//
so went the only compassionate Lover of mankind!*

Reader: For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption; and He shall deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Choir: *Servant and deceiver...*

Reader: Praise the Lord all nations, praise Him all peoples.

Choir: *The Lamb, Whom Isaiah proclaimed...
goes willingly to the slaughter;
He gives his back to scourging, His cheeks to buffeting.
He does not turn His face from the shame of spitting.
He is condemned to a shameful death.
He, Who is sinless, willingly submits to all//
to grant to all resurrection from the dead.*

Reader: For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Choir: *The Lamb, Whom Isaiah proclaimed...*

During the following hymns the Clergy perform the Entrance with the Gospel Book.

Reader: In the 6th Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 6

Choir: Truly Judas is descended from those vipers,
who ate manna in the wilderness,
yet murmured against Him Who nourished them.
For, while the food was still in their mouths,
those ungrateful men reviled God.
So, too, this godless man,
while still bearing in his mouth the Heavenly Bread,
contrived the betrayal of the Savior.
What greedy purpose!
What inhuman insolence!
He sells the One Who nourished him.
He delivers to death the Master Whom he loved.
Truly this lawless man is their son.
With them he will inherit perdition.
Spare our souls of such inhumanity,//
O only Lord of boundless mercy!

The Entrance

Deacon: Bless Master the holy Entrance.

Priest: Blessed is the entrance of Thy holy ones; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Deacon: Amen.

Deacon: Wisdom. Let us attend.

Choir: O Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy, blessed Father:
O Jesus Christ. Now that we have come to the setting of the sun, and behold the light
of evening, we praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, God. For meet it is at all times
to worship Thee with voices of praise, O Son of God, and giver of life. Therefore, all
the world glorifies Thee.

1st Prokeimenon & Reading

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 1st Tone: Deliver me, O Lord, from violent men.

v: who have schemed unrighteousness in their hearts all the day long!

v: Deliver me, O Lord.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from Exodus (19:10-19)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: The Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments, and be ready by the third day; for on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. And you shall set bounds for the people round about, saying, 'Take heed that you do not go up into the mountain or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall be put to death; no hand shall touch him, but he shall be stoned or shot; whether beast or man, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain." So Moses went down from the mountain to the people, and consecrated the people; and they washed their garments. And he said to the people, "Be ready by the third day; do not go near a woman." On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God; and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. And Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and the smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder."

2nd Prokeimenon & 2nd and 3rd Readings

Deacon: Let us attend.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 7th Tone: Deliver me from mine enemies, O God! Save me from those who rise up against me!

v: Deliver me from those who work evil.

v: Deliver me from mine enemies, O God!

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Book of Job (38:1-21; 42:1-5)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to Me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors, when it burst forth from the womb; when I made clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'? Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is dyed like a garment. From the wicked their light is

withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of Death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this. "Where is the way to the dwelling of light, and where is the place of darkness, that you may take it to its territory and that you may discern the paths to its home? You know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great.

Then Job answered the Lord: "I know that Thou canst do all things, and that no purpose of Thine can be thwarted. 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.' I had heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees Thee.

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah (50:4-11)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: The Lord God has given Me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him that is weary. Morning by morning he wakens, he wakens My ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened My ear, and I was not rebellious, I turned not backward. I gave My back to the smiters, and My cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I hid not My face from shame and spitting. For the Lord God helps Me; therefore I have not been confounded; therefore I have set My face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; He Who vindicates Me is near. Who will contend with Me? Let us stand up together. Who is My adversary? Let him come near to Me. Behold, the Lord God helps Me; who will declare Me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of His Servant, who walks in darkness and has no light, yet trusts in the name of the Lord and relies upon His God? Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who set brands alight! Walk by the light of your fire, and by the brands which you have kindled! This shall you have from My hand: you shall lie down in torment."

The Little Litany

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

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

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Commemorating our most-holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints; let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

{The chief celebrant recites the Prayer of the Trisagion Hymn from the Liturgy}

Priest: For holy art Thou, O our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

{The Priests and Deacons now ascend the High Place as at a normal Liturgy.}

The Trisagion Hymn

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

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

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

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

The Prokeimenon

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be † unto all!

Reader: And to Thy spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 7th Tone: The rulers of the people have assembled against the Lord and His Christ!

v: Why do the heathens rage and the peoples imagine vain things?

The Epistle

Deacon: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from the 1st Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (11:23-32)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Brethren: I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This *is* My body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the Body and Blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the Body eats and drinks judgment upon himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves truly, we should not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are chastened so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Priest: Peace be unto you, reader.

Reader: And to your spirit. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Blessed is he who considers the poor and needy; the Lord will deliver him on the day of trouble.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: My enemies say to Me in malice: "When will He die and His name perish?"

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: He who ate My bread has lifted his heel against Me.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel

Deacon: Bless, Master, him who proclaims the Gospel of the holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew.

Priest: May God, through the prayers of the holy, glorious, all-laudable Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, enable you to proclaim the good tidings with great power, unto the fulfillment of the Gospel of His beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen. Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the holy Gospel!

Priest: Peace be † unto all!

Choir: And with your spirit!

Deacon: The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew (*Matt.26:1-20, Jn.13:13-17, Lk. 22:43-45, Matt.26:40-27:2, Matt.26:21-39*)

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord; glory to Thee!

Deacon: Let us attend:

Priest: At that time: Jesus said to His disciples, "You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Ca'iaphas, and took counsel together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be a tumult among the people." Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to Him with an alabaster jar of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on His head, as He sat at table. But when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, "Why this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for a large sum, and given to the poor." But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to Me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have Me. In pouring this ointment on My body she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this Gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her." Then one of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray Him. Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to such a one, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples.'" And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover. When it was evening, He sat at table with the Twelve disciples; and Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and

that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper, laid aside His garments, and girded Himself with a towel. Then He poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. He came to Simon Peter; and Peter said to Him, "Lord, dost Thou wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not know now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to Him, "Thou shalt never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part in Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but he is clean all over; and you are clean - but not all of you." For He knew who was to betray Him; that was why He said, "You are not all clean." When He had washed their feet, and taken His garments, and resumed His place, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his Master; nor is he who is sent greater than He Who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. and as they were eating, He said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." And they were very sorrowful, and began to say to Him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with Me, will betray Me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." Judas, who betrayed Him, said, "Is it I, Master?" Jesus said to him, "You have said so." Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this *is* My body." And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this *is* My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's Kingdom." And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of Me this night; 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 to Galilee." Peter declared to him, "Though they all fall away because of Thee, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly, I say to you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with Thee, I will not deny Thee." And so said all the disciples. Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsem'ane, and He said to His disciples, "Sit here, while I go yonder and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zeb'edee, He began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then He said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with Me." And going a little farther He fell on His face and prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt." And there appeared to Him an Angel from Heaven, strengthening Him. And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground. And when He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and

pray that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again, for the second time, He went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, Thy will be done." And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, He went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then He came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, My betrayer is at hand." While He was still speaking, Judas came, one of the Twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The One I shall kiss is the Man; seize Him." And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Hail, Master!" And he kissed Him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, why are you here?" Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized Him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest, and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once send Me more than twelve legions of Angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture Me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me. But all this has taken place, that the Scriptures of the Prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled. Then those who had seized Jesus led Him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter followed Him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put Him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This Fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.'" And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to Him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to Him, "You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of Heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes, and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard His blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in His face, and struck Him; and some slapped him, saying, "Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?" Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a maid came up to him, and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." And when he went out to the porch, another maid saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the Man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the Man." And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." And he

went out and wept bitterly. When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death; and they bound Him and led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate the governor.

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee!

{With the following exceptions, from this point the service is a normal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil.}

(Instead of the Cherubic Hymn, we sing the following:)

(Tone 6) Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God,
accept me today as a communicant;
for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies,
neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss;
but like the Thief I will confess Thee:
“Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom!”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Hymn to the Theotokos *(replaces “It is truly meet...”)*

Come, O faithful,
let us enjoy the Master’s hospitality,
the Banquet of Immortality!
In the upper chamber with uplifted minds,
let us receive the exalted words of the Word,
Whom we magnify!

Communion Hymn *{This hymn also replaces “Let our mouths be filled”}*

(Tone 6) Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God,
accept me today as a communicant;
for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies,
neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss;
but like the Thief I will confess Thee:
“Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom!”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

During Clergy Communion, the ‘Reserved Sacrament’ is prepared, allowing those who cannot get to church during the year to not only partake of the Holy Eucharist, but specifically the Eucharist distributed at the celebration of the Sacrament’s institution by Christ.
