

VESPERS
HOLY TUESDAY CELEBRATED IN HOMES

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

R: Amen.

Glory to you, our God, glory to you!

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things. Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious One.

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

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

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

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

R: Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

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

Come, let us worship our King and God.

Come, let us worship Christ, our King and God.

Come, let us worship and bow before the only Lord Jesus Christ, the King and our God.

PSALM 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Lord my God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,

wrapped in light as in a robe.

You stretch out the heavens like a tent,

Above the rains you build your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot,
You walk on the wings of the wind.
You make your angels spirits
and your ministers a flaming fire.
You founded the earth on its base,
to stand firm from age to age.
You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak
the waters stood higher than the mountains.
At your threat they took to flight;
at the voice of your thunder they fled.
They rose over the mountains and flowed down
to the place which you had appointed.
You set limits they might not pass
lest they return to cover the earth.
You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow in between the hills.
They give drink to all the beasts of the field;
The wild asses quench their thirst.
On their banks dwell the birds of heaven;
from the branches they sing their song.
From your dwelling you water the hills;
earth drinks its fill of your gift.
You make the grass grow for the cattle,
and the plants to serve man's needs,
that he may bring forth bread from the earth,
and wine to cheer man's heart;
Oil, to make his face shine;
and bread to strengthen man's heart.
The trees of the Lord drink their fill,
the cedars he planted on Lebanon;
there the birds build their nests;
on the treetop the stork has her home.
The goats find a home on the mountains
and rabbits hide in the rocks.
You made the moon to mark the months;
the sun knows the time for its setting.
When you spread the darkness it is night,
And all the beasts of the forest creep forth.
The young lions roar for their prey,
and ask their food from God.
At the rising of the sun they steal away
and go to rest in their dens.
Man goes out to his work,
to labor till evening falls.
How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.

The earth is full of your riches.
There is the sea, vast and wide,
with its moving swarms past counting,
living things great and small.
The ships are moving there
and the monsters you made to play with.
All of these look to you,
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up;
You open your hand, they have their fill.
You hide your face, they are dismayed;
you take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.
May the glory of the Lord last forever:
may the Lord rejoice in his works;
He looks on the earth and it trembles;
the mountains send forth smoke at his touch.
I will sing to the Lord all my life,
make music to my God while I live.
May my thoughts be pleasing to him:
I find my joy in the Lord.
Let sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked exist no more.
Bless the Lord, O my soul!
You made the moon to mark the months;
the sun knows the time for its setting.
How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, O God! (*Three times*)

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

Leader: O good God, in all times and places you are worshiped and glorified both in heaven and on earth. You are long-suffering and generous in your mercy and compassion. You love the just and show mercy to the sinner, calling all to repentance through the promise of blessings to come. Deem, O Lord, at this very hour, to receive our supplications and to direct our lives in the path of your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set aright our minds; cleanse our thoughts; deliver us from all affliction, trouble, and distress; surround us with your holy angels so that, guided and guarded in their camp, we may attain oneness of faith and the knowledge of your unspeakable glory. For You are blessed forever and ever.

R. Amen.

PSALM 140

(Tone 1) O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me;

Refrain: Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me;

receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon you.

Refrain: Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer ascend to you like incense

and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Refrain: Hear me, O Lord!

(Psalm Chant):

O Lord, set a guard, before my mouth

and set a seal on the door of my lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,

nor make excuse for the sins I commit.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting

If a just man strikes or reproves me it is kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.

Let my prayer be ever against their malice.

Their princes were thrown down by the side of the rock.

Then they understood that my words were kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,

so their bones were strewn at the mouth of the grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned

in you I take refuge; spare my soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;

keep me from the snares of those who do evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set

while I pursue my way unharmed.

PSALM 141

With my voice I cry to the Lord;

with all my voice I entreat the Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;

I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints within me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.

On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to entrap me.

Look on my right and see:

there is no one who takes my part.

I have no means of escape,

not one who cares for my soul.

I cry to you, O Lord,

I have said: You are my refuge, all I have in the land of the living.

Listen, then, to my cry

for I am in the depths of distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me

for they are stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of this prison

And then I shall praise your name.
Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness to me.

PSALM 129

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading.

v. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

(Tone 1) How shall I enter, unworthy as I am, into the splendor of your holy place? If I dare to go along into the bridal chamber my clothing will condemn me; for it is not wedding attire, and I will be bound and cast out by the angels. Purify my filthy soul, O Lord, and save me, for you love us all.

v. My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

- How shall I enter, unworthy as I am, into the splendor of your holy place? If I dare to go along into the bridal chamber my clothing will condemn me; for it is not wedding attire, and I will be bound and cast out by the angels. Purify my filthy soul, O Lord, and save me, for you love us all.

v. Let the watchman count on daybreak,

and Israel on the Lord.

(Tone 2) My slothful soul has been asleep, O Bridegroom Christ, and I have not acquired a torch aflame with virtues. Like the foolish virgins I wandered when it was time to act. Do not close your compassionate heart to me, O Master. Shake off my torpid slumber and raise me up. Together with the wise virgins, lead me into your bridal chamber where the sound of chaste feasting never ceases and they cry out: Glory to you, O Lord.

v. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

- My slothful soul has been asleep, O Bridegroom Christ, and I have not acquired a torch aflame with virtues. Like the foolish virgins I wandered when it was time to act. Do not close your compassionate heart to me, O Master. Shake off my torpid slumber and raise me up. Together with the wise virgins, lead me into your bridal chamber where the sound of chaste feasting never ceases and they cry out: Glory to you, O Lord.

PSALM 116

v. Praise the Lord, all you nations;

Acclaim him, all you peoples!

(Tone 4) You have heard of the condemnation of the one who hid the talent; O my soul, do not hide the word of God. Proclaim his wonders and increase his gifts, that you may enter into the joy of your Lord.

v. Strong is the love of the Lord for us;

he is faithful forever.

- You have heard of the condemnation of the one who hid the talent; O my soul, do not hide the word of God. Proclaim his wonders and increase his gifts, that you may enter into the joy of your

Lord.

v. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Now and ever and forever. Amen.
(Tone 7) O my soul, behold, the Master entrusts you with a talent; receive the gift with fear, and make a profit for the Giver. Give to the hungry, and acquire the Lord's friendship so that you may stand at his right when he comes in glory; and you may hear his blessed words: Enter, my servant, into the joy of your Lord. Although I have strayed, make me worthy of this joy, O Savior, for the sake of your abundant mercy.

HYMN OF THE EVENING

O joyful Light of the holy glory of the Father Immortal, the heavenly, holy, blessed One, O Jesus Christ, now that we have reached the setting of the sun, and see the evening light, we sing to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is fitting at all times to raise a song of praise in measured melody to you, O Son of God, the Giver of Life. Therefore, the universe sings your glory.

THE EVENING PROKEIMENON

Prokeimenon, Tone 6 [Psalm 131(132): 8.1]

Go up, Lord, to your rest, you and your holy ark.

Verse: Lord, remember David and all his humility.

A Reading from Exodus [Exodus 2:5-10]

Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe at the Nile, while her attendants walked along the bank of the Nile. Noticing the basket among the reeds, she sent her handmaid to fetch it. On opening it, she looked, and there was a baby boy crying! She was moved with pity for him and said, It is one of the Hebrew's children. Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and summon a Hebrew woman to nurse the child for you? Pharaoh's daughter answered her, Go. So the young woman went and called the child's own mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Take this child and nurse him for me, and I will pay your wages. So the woman took the child and nursed him. When the child grew, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses; for she said, I drew him out of the water.

Prokeimenon, Tone 4 [Psalm 132(133): 1.2]

Behold, how good and how pleasant when brothers dwell in unity.

Verse: It is like precious oil upon the head, running upon Aaron's beard.

A Reading from Job [Job 1:13-22]

One day, while his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their eldest brother, a messenger came to Job and said, The oxen were plowing and the donkeys grazing beside them, and the Sabeans carried them off in a raid. They put the servants to the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you. He was still speaking when another came and said, God's fire has fallen from heaven and struck the sheep and the servants and consumed them; I alone have escaped to tell you. He was still speaking when another came and said, The Chaldeans formed three columns, seized the camels, carried them off, and put the servants to the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you. He was still speaking when another came and said, Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their eldest brother, and suddenly a

great wind came from across the desert and smashed the four corners of the house. It fell upon the young people and they are dead; I alone have escaped to tell you. Then Job arose and tore his cloak and cut off his hair. He fell to the ground and worshiped. He said, "Naked I came forth from my mothers womb, and naked shall I go back there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!" In all this Job did not sin, nor did he charge God with wrong.

Gospel:

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. (Matthew 24:36-26:2)

Response: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you.

The Lord said: "But of that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. For as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out 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. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come. "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent servant, whom the master has put in charge of his household to distribute to them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on his arrival finds doing so. Amen, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property. But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is long delayed,' and begins to beat his fellow servants, and eat and drink with drunkards, the servant's master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish him severely and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. "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. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour. "It will be as when a man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one - to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts

with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, 'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.' His master said to him in reply, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.' "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire 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, stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." When Jesus finished all these words, he said to his disciples, "You know that in two days' time it will be Passover, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

Then:

HYMN OF GLORIFICATION.

Make us worthy, O Lord, to be kept sinless this evening.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers, and praiseworthy and glorious is your name forever. Amen.

May your mercy, O Lord, be upon us who have placed our hope in you.

Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments.

Blessed are you, O Master, make me understand your commandments.

Blessed are you, O Holy One, enlighten me with your commandments.

O Lord, your mercy is forever; despise not the work of your hands.
To you is due praise; to you is due a hymn; to you is glory due.
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

Leader: Blessed are you, Master and Ruler of All, for you have lighted the day with the brilliance of the sun and the night with fiery stars. You have counted us worthy of the length of this day and to come to the beginning of night.

Hear our prayer and forgive the voluntary and involuntary sins of all your people. Accept our evening prayers and upon your inheritance. send down in return your abundant mercy and kindness.

Guard us by your holy angels, clothe us in righteousness as a defense, protect us in your truth and keep us in your strength. Deliver us from all enemies and from every hostile attack. Grant that this evening and the approaching night and all the days of our life be perfect, holy, peaceful, sinless, and free from violence and evil dreams.

Through the prayers of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints who have been pleasing to you from all ages.

R. Amen.

Then we sing or say:

Apostichera:

(Tone 6) Come, you faithful, let us work eagerly for the Master, for he distributes his wealth to his servants. Let each of us increase the talent of grace according to the measure we have received. Let one gain wisdom by doing good, let another by celebrating the Liturgy with beauty. Let one share the word of faith with the uninstructed; let another distribute his wealth to the poor. So shall we bear interest on the loan like faithful stewards and show ourselves worthy of the Master's gracious joy. Make us worthy of this joy, O Christ our God, for you love us all.

v: To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens; my eyes, like the eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. Like the eyes of a servant on the hand of her mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God, till he show us his mercy.

- When you come with the angelic powers in glory, seated, O Jesus, on your judgment-throne, do not separate me from those on your right, O Good Shepherd; for you know that those on the left have turned away from you. Do not destroy me with the goats coarsened by sin; but number me among the sheep at your right hand, and save me in your love for all of us.

v: Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. We are filled with contempt. Indeed, all too full is our soul with the scorn of the rich, with the proud man's disdain.

- O Bridegroom, whose grace surpasses all human beauty, you invite us to the spiritual feast in your palace. Strip me of the coarse garment of my sin, and make me a partaker of your Passion. Clothe me in the glorious adornment of your beauty. In your mercy, accept me as a luminous guest at the banquet in your kingdom.

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

(Tone 7) O my soul, behold, the Master entrusts you with a talent; receive the gift with fear, and make a profit for the Giver. Give to the hungry, and acquire the Lord's friendship so that you may stand at his right when he comes in glory; and you may hear his blessed words: Enter, my

servant, into the joy of your Lord. Although I have strayed, make me worthy of this joy, O Savior, for the sake of your abundant mercy.

Then:

Now you may dismiss your servant, O Lord,
in peace, according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
which you have prepared before the face of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people, Israel.

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.
Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. 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.
R. Amen.

Then the Penitential dismissal:

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos! Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. For you gave birth to Christ, the Savior and Redeemer of our souls.

Prostration

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

O Baptizer of Christ, remember us all, that we be delivered from our transgressions for you have been given grace to intercede on our behalf.

Prostration

Now and ever and forever. Amen.

Pray for us, O holy apostles and all you saints, that we be delivered from danger and affliction for we have you as our fervent intercessors before the Savior.

Prostration

Beneath your compassion, we take refuge, O Virgin Theotokos. Despise not our prayers in our need, but deliver us from dangers, for you alone are pure and blessed.

Lord, have mercy. (40 times)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who, a virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.

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

R. Amen.

PRAYER OF ST. EPHREM

Lord and Master of my life,
spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,
lust for power, and idle chatter.
Prostration.

Instead, bestow on me, your servant,
the spirit of integrity, humility, patience and love.
Prostration.

Yes, O Lord and King,
let me see my own sins,
and not judge my brothers and sisters
for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen.
Prostration

Then, with a simple bow, the following is repeated four times:
O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
O God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.
O Lord, forgive me for I have sinned without number.

Repeat: Lord and Master of my life,
spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,
lust for power, and idle chatter.
Instead, bestow on me, your servant,
the spirit of integrity, humility, patience and love.
Yes, O Lord and King,
let me see my own sins,
and not judge my brothers and sisters
for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen.
Prostration

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (*3 times with a prostration after each*)

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

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins; Master, forgive our transgressions; Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

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

Amen. Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

R. Blessed be the Name of the Lord, now and forever. (*3 times*)

PSALM 33

I will bless the Lord at all times;
His praise always on my lips.
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.
Glorify the Lord with me,
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and He answered me,
and from all my terrors he set me free.
Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.
The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.
Revere the Lord, you his saints,
They lack nothing, those who revere him.
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.
Come, children, and hear me
that I may teach you the fear of the Lord.
Who is he who longs for life
and many days, to enjoy his prosperity?
Then keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.
Turn aside from evil and do good;
seek and strive after peace.
The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal.
They call and the Lord hears

and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken.
Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

It is truly proper to glorify you, O Theotokos, the ever-Blessed, Immaculate and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim, who, a Virgin, gave birth to God the Word, you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify.

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

R: Amen.