THE DIVINE LITURGY
OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

Responses and Hymns
set to the Carpathian Plainchant

DRAFT prepared by the
Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
September 24, 2009

The Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church Sui Juris
of Pittsburgh, U.S.A.
200x
CONTENTS

Foreword
Liturgical notes

The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 103</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litany of Peace</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer of the Presanctified Gifts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antiphonal Psalms for Wednesdays</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antiphonal Psalms for Tuesdays and Fridays</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antiphonal Psalms for Mondays and Thursdays</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lamp-Lighting Psalms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“O Lord, I have cried” in the Eight Tones</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recitando verses of Psalms 140, 141, and 129</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichera for the First Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichera for the Second Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichera for the Third Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichera for the Fourth Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichera for the Fifth Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichera for the Sixth Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stichera for Great and Holy Week</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hymn of the Evening (“O Joyful Light”)</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Prokeimena and Readings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Week of the Great Fast</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Week</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (continued)</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solemn Evening Psalm</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apostolic Reading and Gospel Reading (only on certain days)</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litany of Fervent Supplication</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litany for the Deceased</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litany for the Catechumens</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litany for Those Preparing for Baptism</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litany of the Faithful</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Entrance with the Presanctified Gifts</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angel of Peace Litany</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communion</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer of Thanksgiving</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambon Prayer</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 1</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 2</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 3</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 4</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 5</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 6</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 7</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday evening stichera in Tone 8</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayers of Preparation for Holy Communion</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Prayers after Holy Communion</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm 33</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psalm settings using the Lenten melody</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOREWORD

The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts consists of Vespers combined with a solemn Holy Communion service. This liturgy gives the faithful an opportunity to receive the Holy Eucharist on weekdays of the Great Fast - the “aliturgical” fasting days on which the Eucharistic Sacrifice is not celebrated.

This edition of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts has been prepared for the use of the faithful of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh by the Intereparchial Liturgical Commission and the Intereparchial Music Commission. The text has been translated from the Greek original, compared with the Church Slavonic.

The musical settings are based on the Ruthenian tradition that has been handed down from one generation to the next. In some cases, both the traditional melodies and the shorter, simplified melodies used in earlier American editions of this service are provided.

This book is approved for use in churches of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church sui juris of Pittsburgh, U.S.A.

Most Reverend Basil M. Schott, O.F.M.  
Metropolitan of Pittsburgh

Most Reverend William C. Skurla  
Bishop of Passaic

Most Reverend John M. Kudrick  
Bishop of Parma

Most Reverend Gerald N. Dino  
Bishop of Van Nuys
A **bow** is an inclination of the head at the shoulders while making the sign of the cross, without extending the hand to the knees or to the ground.

“To **make a great bow or prostration**” means to make the sign of the cross, kneel, and then touch the forehead to the floor. Those who cannot make a full prostration may make a **profound bow**, touching the floor with the fingers and making a sign of the cross on themselves.

**It is fitting** that all the faithful prepare themselves for the reception of Holy Communion. Prayers of Preparation for Holy Communion are found starting on page 184. These prayers are recommended as a personal preparation.

**During the fourth week of the Great Fast**, following the Sunday of the Holy Cross, the cross remains on the tetrapod in the middle of the church. The Typikon prescribes that, on Tuesday through Friday at the Sixth Hour, we sing "We bow to your cross" in place of the troparion of the Prophecy; and on Friday, at the end of the Sixth Hour, all venerate the cross, which is then returned to the holy table.

If desired, this may be done as part of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts instead:

- After the dismissal, "We bow to your cross" is sung (that is, "We bow to your cross, O Lord, and we glorify your holy resurrection", 3 times; Glory, Now and ever, "and we glorify your holy resurrection"; then "We bow to your cross" a final time).

- The priest and faithful may come forward to venerate the cross at the tetrapod. During the veneration, the hymns (stichera) for the veneration of the cross may be sung, as on the Third Sunday of the Great Fast.

- After the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on Friday, the celebrant returns the cross to the holy table, in silence and without ceremony.
The faithful STAND when the celebrant goes to the holy table.

Deacon: Reverend Father, give the blessing!

Celebrant: Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: Amen.

Psalm 103, and the verses that precede and follow it, can be sung in the usual psalm tone (given here) or to the Lenten tone. Music for the Lenten tone can be found on page xx.

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.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Glo - ry to you, O God!

And the third time, with melody:

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.

\(\text{And again:}\)

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! (twice)

\(\text{And the third time, with melody:}\)
Litany of Peace

The faithful may SIT as the Litany of Peace begins:

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

Response: Lord, have mercy.

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

Response: Lord, have mercy.

For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

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

For our holy father, (Name), pope of Rome, let us pray to the Lord.

For our most reverend metropolitan, (Name), for our God-loving bishop, (Name), for the venerable presbyterate, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

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

For this city, [or: For this holy monastery], for every city, community, and for the faithful living in them, let us pray to the Lord.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.
For those who travel by sea, air, and land, for the sick, the suffering, the captive and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Special petitions may be inserted here.

That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

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

Response: \( \text{To you, O Lord.} \)

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: For to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship, now and ever and forever.

Response: \( \text{A - - - - - men.} \)

The presanctified gifts are transferred from the artophorion (tabernacle) to the table of preparation during the chanting of the Antiphonal Psalms.

When the Psalms begin, the faithful KNEEL.

The Typikon prescribes the chanting of the entire 18th kathisma of the Psalter (Psalms 119-133) at Vespers on weekdays of the Great Fast. The following division of these psalms is recommended for parochial use:

Antiphonal Psalms for Wednesday 8

Antiphonal Psalms for Tuesday and Friday 12

Antiphonal Psalms for Monday and Thursday 16
Antiphonal Psalms for Wednesdays

Psalm 119

To the Lord in the hour of my distress
I call and he answers me.
“O Lord, save my soul from lying lips,
from the tongue of the deceitful.”

What shall he repay you in return,
O treacherous tongue?
The warriors’ arrows sharpened,
and coals, red-hot, blazing.

Alas, that I abide a stranger in Meshech,
dwell among the tents of Kedar!
Long enough have I been dwelling
with those who hate peace.

I am for peace, but when I speak,
they are for fighting.

Psalm 120

I lift up my eyes to the mountains
from where shall come my help.
My help shall come from the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

May he never allow you to stumble!
Let him sleep not, your guard.
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel’s guard.
The Lord is your guard and your shade;  
at your right side he stands.  
By day the sun shall not smite you  
nor the moon in the night.

The Lord will guard you from evil,  
he will guard your soul.  
The Lord will guard your going and coming  
both now and forever.

Psalm 121

I rejoiced when I heard them say:  
“Let us go to God’s house.”  
And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel’s law it is,  
there to praise the Lord’s name.  
There were set the thrones of judgment  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
“Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!”

For love of my brethren and friends  
I say: “Peace upon you.”  
For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for your good.
Psalm 122

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.

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.

Psalm 123

“If the Lord had not been on our side,” 
this is Israel’s song. 
“If the Lord had not been on our side 
when men rose up against us,

then would they have swallowed us alive 
when their anger was kindled. 
Then would the waters have engulfed us, 
the torrent gone over us;

over our head would have swept 
the raging waters.”
Blessed be the Lord 
who did not give us a prey to their teeth!
Our life, like a bird, has escaped from the snare of the fowler. Indeed the snare has been broken and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

*The faithful STAND.*

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!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, O God!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, O God!

*The service continues on page 20*
Antiphonal Psalms for Tuesdays and Fridays

Psalm 124

Those who put their trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, that cannot be shaken, that stands forever.
Jerusalem! The mountains surround her, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and forever.

For the scepter of the wicked shall not rest over the land of the just for fear that the hands of the just should turn to evil.

Do good, Lord, to those who are good, to the upright of heart; but the crooked and those who do evil, drive them away!
On Israel, peace!

Psalm 125

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: “What marvels the Lord worked for them!” What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.
They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing;  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves.

Psalm 126

If the Lord does not build the house,  
in vain do its builders labor;  
if the Lord does not watch over the city,  
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

In vain is your earlier rising,  
your going later to rest,  
you who toil for the bread you eat,  
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,  
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.  
Indeed the sons of youth  
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

O the happiness of the man  
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!  
He will have no cause for shame  
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

Psalm 127

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labor of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper;

your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.
Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion,
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life!

May you see your children’s children.
On Israel, peace!

**Psalm 128**

“They have pressed me hard from my youth,”
this is Israel’s song.
“They have pressed me hard from my youth but could never destroy me.

They plowed my back like plowmen,
drawing long furrows.
But the Lord who is just,
has destroyed the yoke of the wicked.”

Let them be shamed and routed,
those who hate Zion!
Let them be like grass on the roof
that withers before it flowers.

With that no reaper fill his arms,
no binder makes his sheaves
and those passing by will not say:
“On you the Lord’s blessing!”
“We bless you in the name of the Lord.”

*The faithful STAND.*

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!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, O God!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, O God!

The service continues on page 20
Antiphonal Psalms for Mondays and Thursdays

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.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
    Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
    for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord.
    I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
    more than watchman for daybreak.

Let the watchman count on daybreak
    and Israel on the Lord.
Because with the Lord there is mercy
    and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem
    from all its iniquity.

Psalm 130

O Lord, my heart is not proud
    nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great
    nor marvels beyond me.
Truly I have set my soul
in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother’s breast,
even so is my soul.

O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and forever.

Psalm 131

Lord, remember David
and all his humility,
how we swore to the Lord
and vowed to the God of Jacob.

“I will not enter the house where I live
nor go to the bed where I rest.
I will give no sleep to my eyes
to my eyelids I will give no slumber
till I find a place for the Lord,
a dwelling for the Strong One of Jacob.”

At Ephrata we heard of the ark;
we found it in the plains of Yearim.

“Let us go to the place of his dwelling;
let us go to kneel at his footstool.”
Go up, Lord, to your rest,
you and your holy ark.

Your priests will be clothed with righteousness
and your saints will rejoice.
For the sake of David your servant
do not reject your anointed.
The Lord swore a true oath to David;  
he will not go back on his word:  
“A son, the fruit of your body,  
will I set upon your throne.

If they keep my covenant in truth  
and my laws that I have taught them,  
their sons also shall rule  
on your throne from age to age.”

For the Lord has chosen Zion;  
he prefers her for his dwelling:  
“This is my resting-place for ever;  
here have I chosen to live.

I will greatly bless her produce,  
I will fill her poor with bread.  
I will clothe her priests with salvation  
and her saints will rejoice.

There David’s stock will flower;  
I will prepare a lamp for my anointed.  
I will cover his enemies with shame  
but on him my crown shall shine.”

**Psalm 132**

Behold, how good and how pleasant,  
when brothers dwell in unity!  
It is like precious oil upon the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
running down upon Aaron’s beard  
to the hem of his garment.  
It is like the dew of Hermon  
which falls on the heights of Zion.
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing: 
life forever.

**Psalm 133**

Come, bless the Lord, 
all you who serve the Lord, 
who stand in the house of the Lord, 
in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands to the holy place 
and bless the Lord through the night. 
May the Lord bless you from Zion, 
he who made both heaven and earth.

*The faithful STAND.*

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!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! 
Glory to you, O God!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! 
Glory to you, O God!
The Lamp-Lighting Psalms (Psalms 140, 141, 129 and 116) are now sung with their stichera, which vary for each day of the Fast.

The opening verses of Psalm 140 ("O Lord, I have cried") with refrain ("Hear me, O Lord!") are sung according to the tone of the first sticheron, as follows:

(music on pages 21-25)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Tone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday in the First Week (Clean Monday)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the First Week</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the First Week</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Second Week</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Second Week</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Third Week</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Third Week</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Fourth Week</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Fourth Week</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Sixth Week</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Sixth Week</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Monday</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Tuesday</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Wednesday</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After "O Lord, I have cried," continue with the recitando psalm verses on page 25.
O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call upon you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

Tone 2

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call upon you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

21
O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray’r when I call upon you. Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray’r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

Tone 4

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray’r when I call upon you.

Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray’r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

Tone 3
O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call upon you.

Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Hear me, O Lord!
O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord!

I have cried to you, hear me; receive the voice of my pray'r when I call upon you.

Hear me, O Lord! Let my pray'r ascend to you like incense and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord!

Tone 7

Tone 8
The remaining verses are chanted alternately.

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.

The 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 all 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.

The following verses continue to be chanted or are sung to melody, according to the number of stichera. The faithful may SIT.

10. Bring my soul out of this prison
    and then I shall praise your name.

9. Around me the just will assemble
    because of your goodness to me.

Psalm 129

8. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
    Lord, hear my voice!

7. Let your ears be attentive
    to the voice of my pleading.

6. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?
    But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

5. My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
    My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.

4. [Let the watchman count on daybreak
    and Israel on the Lord.]
The stichera (hymns alternating with psalm verses) are now sung, according to the liturgical day:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day in the Week</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday in the First Week</td>
<td>page 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the First Week</td>
<td>page 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the First Week</td>
<td>page 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Second Week</td>
<td>page 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Second Week (use tone of the week)</td>
<td>pages 145-183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Third Week</td>
<td>page 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Third Week (use tone of the week)</td>
<td>pages 145-183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Fourth Week</td>
<td>page 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Fourth Week (use tone of the week)</td>
<td>pages 145-183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>page 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>page 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>page 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Sixth Week</td>
<td>page 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Sixth Week</td>
<td>page 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Monday</td>
<td>page 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Tuesday</td>
<td>page 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Wednesday</td>
<td>page 84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If there is no tone number on a given sticheron, it is sung to the same tone as the preceding hymn.*
Let the watchman count on day-break and Israel on the Lord.

Let us keep an acceptable fast that will please the Lord. A true fast means estrangement from evils, abstinence from anger, control of the tongue, giving up the passions, insults, lies, and swearing.

To be deprived of all of these is a true and acceptable fast.

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

I have committed every sort of sin. I am more lost than anyone.
I would not have the tears to shed even if I wanted to repent. But if I continue to live indifferent I will be liable to punishment.

But you, O God, who alone are good, set me right and have mercy on me.

Praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples!

On this joyful day of the fast grant me showers of tears, O Lord.

Let me feel compunction and wash away the filth of self-indulgence so that I may stand before you purified when you come from heaven to judge all mortals as the only just judge, O Lord.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.
Come, O faithful, let us eagerly take up the strong shield of the fast to deflect the enemy's every evil scheme. Let us not be enticed by passionate pleasures nor fear the fire of temptations; for through them Christ who loves us all will reward us with crowns for our perseverance. Then let us pray with boldness; let us fall before him and cry out, begging peace for our souls and great mercy.

The faithful STAND.

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

Theotokion - All:

From my youth I have shown myself to be a zealous sinner. My mind has
been scarred by the many evil habits in which I have lovingly persisted. Now I lament my ruinous delusions, my evil habits, and my folly, and the destruction of my soul. Do not despise me, O Lady, for I am being destroyed by evil. But by your protection take pity on me and save me from every outburst of passion so that at least in old age I may repent before God.

The service continues on page 88.
Stichera for Wednesday in the First Week

Cantor:

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel
indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

While fasting in body let us also fast in spirit. Let us loosen ev'ry bond of
iniquity. Let us cut through the knots of forced agreements. Let us
rip up ev'ry unjust contract. Let us give bread to the hungry
and welcome the homeless poor into our homes so that we may receive great
mercy from Christ our God.

Cantor:

Praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples!
Elijah was carried up to the heights of heaven, riding in a divine chariot of virtues, because he had been made brilliant by fasting.

My lowly soul, long for the same, and likewise fast from all wickedness and murderous strife and from pleasures which delight but pass away.

So you will escape the bitter, everlasting pain of Gehenna, crying out to Christ: O Lord, glory to you.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

O apostles of God, fervent intercessors for the world and shields of the faithful, you have the power to speak boldly before Christ our God.
We implore you, all-revered apostles, intercede in our behalf that we may keep the good season of the fast with joy and receive the grace of the consubstantial Trinity. O great and glorious heralds, pray for our souls.

**The faithful STAND.**

*Cantor:*

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

**Theotokion - All:**

Rejoice, O Seal of Prophecy, good news of the godly-voiced apostles; for you truly gave birth to God in the flesh which we cannot fathom or explain, O pure one. For this you were the first to be honored and to savor...
the de-lights of Para-dise. There-fore, we extol you with songs as a
bril-liant ad-vo-cate and in-ter-ces-sor pleas-ing to God.

Through you, O most pure one, we have been en-riched and made wor-thy of the
everlasting life of your Son who rich-ly be-stows great mer-cies.

The service continues on page 88.
Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Come, you faithful, let us do God's works in light; let us walk uprightly in the light of day. Let us rip up every unjust claim against our neighbors, and put no stumbling block in their path. Let us put aside pleasures of the flesh.

Let us grow in spiritual gifts. Let us give bread to those in need and run to Christ, crying in repentance: Have mercy on us, our God.

Praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples!
Come, all you who love the martyrs, let us rejoice in spirit and celebrate. For today the martyr Theodore has set a mystical table to gladden us who love to keep the feasts. So we cry out to him:

Rejoice, invincible hero who trampled the threats of earthly tyrants. Rejoice, for you surrendered your body of clay to torture for the sake of Christ our God. Rejoice, for you have been tested through various trials and shown to be a soldier of heaven's host.

Therefore, we beg you, O glory of martyrs, intercede for our souls.

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.
All: ①

Your name shows you to be God's excellent gift, O Martyr Theodore. After your death, just as in your life, you grant the requests of those who run to you. Once the son of a widow was carried off by pagan soldiers, and she came to you, drenching your shrine with tears; and in your sympathy for her, mounted on a white horse, you brought back her child invisibly. From that day to this, you have not ceased working miracles.

Pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

The faithful STAND.

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

38
The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ—the salvation of our souls.

*The service continues on page 88.*
Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp - tion,

Is - ra - el indeed he will re-deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

If we would fast in spir - it we must not tell lies with our tongue nor give

cause for scan-dal or take of-fense. Rath - er, through repentance, let us bright-en the

lamp of our soul. With tears, let us cry out to Christ:

Re - mit our sins, for you love us all.

Praise the Lord, all you na-tions ac-claim him all you peo - ples!

Through the prayers of the di - vine a - pos - tles, let us right - ly keep the season
of the fast, O Lord. Grant us compunction that we may all be saved
and glorify your goodness and compassion.

Tone 6

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

All:

O apostles of Christ, beacons of the world, rich treasuries of the knowledge of
our all-wise God, deliver from temptations us who praise you.

Through your holy prayers lead us through the season of the fast and guide
us to live free from all evil and to please our God as we anticipate the
passion of Christ, offering him our praise with confidence.
The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir - it,

now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Theotokion - All:

En - vi - ous of your flock, O most pure one, the adversary constant - ly

be - sieg - es it, hop - ing to make a meal for him - self;

but you, O The - o - to - kos, de - liv - er us from his clutch - es.

The service continues on page 88.
Stichera for Friday in the Second Week

*Turn to the tone of the week.*

Friday evening stichera in Tone 1  p. 145
Friday evening stichera in Tone 2  p. 150
Friday evening stichera in Tone 3  p. 154
Friday evening stichera in Tone 4  p. 159
Friday evening stichera in Tone 5  p. 164
Friday evening stichera in Tone 6  p. 169
Friday evening stichera in Tone 7  p. 174
Friday evening stichera in Tone 8  p. 179
Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Like the prodigal son, I squandered my father's wealth and I grew desolate.

Living in the land of the wicked, I imitated the irrational beasts in my folly. I have stripped off every divine grace; and so I return, crying out to you: My compassionate and merciful Father, I have sinned, O God; welcome me as a penitent and have mercy on me.

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!
O apostles who have seen God, you reflect the spiritual Sun.

Pray for our soul's enlightenment, deliver us from the gloomy darkness of passions, and intercede that we may see the day of salvation.

Through your prayers and intercessions, cleanse our hearts, wounded by the evil one. Saved by faith, we will always honor you; for you have saved the world by your all-wise preaching.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

I am a prodigal son exiled in an evil land, I have squandered horribly the wealth you gave me, O compassionate father. Now I starve for
lack of good deeds. Clothed with the shame of my transgression, behold me, stripped of grace. So I cry out to you: I have sinned, for I know your goodness. Receive me mercifully as one of your hired hands, O Christ, through the prayers of the apostles who have loved you.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir- it, now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Theotokion - All:

En - vi - ous of your flock, O most pure one, the adversary constantly besieges it, hoping to make a meal for himself; but you, O The-o-to - kos, de - liv - er us from his clutch - es.

The service continues on page 88.

46
Stichera for Friday in the Third Week

*Turn to the tone of the week.*

- Friday evening stichera in Tone 1  p. 145
- Friday evening stichera in Tone 2  p. 150
- Friday evening stichera in Tone 3  p. 154
- Friday evening stichera in Tone 4  p. 159
- Friday evening stichera in Tone 5  p. 164
- Friday evening stichera in Tone 6  p. 169
- Friday evening stichera in Tone 7  p. 174
- Friday evening stichera in Tone 8  p. 179
Stichera for Wednesday in the Fourth Week

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

The fast which brings blessings has now run half its course. It is pleased with the days which have passed and proposes profit in those still to come. Striving for virtue produces even more good deeds. Therefore, let Christ, the giver of all good gifts, be pleased to hear our cry. You fasted and endured the cross for us; allow us to partake of your divine Pascha blamelessly and to pass our lives in peace, properly praising you together with the Father and the Spirit.
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

Those who do good deeds in secret not boasting about them in public but bearing them in their hearts, will receive a spiritual reward.

God who sees all secrets will reward them for their self-control.

Let us complete the fast without putting on a gloomy face.

Let us pray in the inner room of our soul, crying out incessantly:

Our Father who art in heaven, lead us not into temptation, we pray; but deliver us from evil.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.
Let us all wash our souls in the waters of the Fast and approach the Lord's precious and most honorable cross. Let us adore it faithfully and draw divine enlightenment from it so that we may reap the eternal fruits of salvation, peace, and great mercy.

The faithful STAND.

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

Theotokion - All:

Today, he who is by nature inaccessible becomes accessible to me and suffers the passion to free me from passions. The Enlightener
of the blind is spit upon by lawless lips. He gives his back to be scourged for the sake of captives. The pure Virgin Mother saw him on the cross and said: A-las, my child, why have you done this? You who were fairer than all the children of men Now appear lifeless and deformed, without form or beauty. A-las, my light, I cannot stand to see you asleep. I am deeply wounded, and a cruel sword pierces my heart. I praise your passion and adore your compassion, O long-suffering Lord, glory to you!

The service continues on page 88
# Stichera for Friday in the Fourth Week

*Turn to the tone of the week.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tone</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let the watchman count on day-break and Is-ra-el on the Lord.

I fell in with thiev-ing e-vil thoughts; they stripped my wretched mind and beat me ter-ri-bly. My soul is to-tal-ly wound-ed, and I lay stripped of virtue on the road of life. A priest saw me suffering from in-cur-a-ble wounds but passed by without a se-cond glance. Next, a Le-vite came and saw, but he a-void-ed me, re-pulsed by the painful pol-lu-tion of my soul.

But you who chose to take flesh, O Christ our God, not from Sa-ma-ri-a,

but from Ma-ry, grant me heal-ing in your love, pour-ing out on me your great mer-cy.
Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Like the foolish servant I have hidden the talent entrusted to me

and buried it in the ground I have been condemned as useless,

I no longer dare to entreat you. But in your forbearance, take pity on me so that even I may cry out to you: Before I am completely lost,

save me, O Lord.

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

The harlot bathed your pure and precious feet with her tears and called upon all

to approach you to be absolved from the charges made against them.
O Savior, grant me her faith that even I may say: Before I am completely lost, save me, O Lord.

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

All:

Out of envy the Prince of Evil drove the first-created man from Paradise;

but by saying: Remember me, the thief on the cross regained Paradise.

With faith and fear I also cry to you: Remember me. Before I am completely lost, save me, O Lord.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and ever. Amen.
Theotokion - All:

O humility beyond words, O wondrous and unique birth,

for a Virgin holds the Creator and God as a child in her arms. O Benefactor,

of your own will you took flesh from her. Before I am completely lost,

save me, O Lord.

The service continues on page 88.
Stichera for Thursday in the Fifth Week  
(Evening after the Great Canon)

Tone 8

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I have been stripped of the splendor of virtues by my own will through my first transgression; but by your condescension, O Word of God, I am now clothed in that splendor again. For you did not despise me, blemished by terrible passions and waylaid by thieves; but you kept me safe by your mighty strength. You have deemed me worthy of your aid, most merciful Lord.
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

Nailed to the cross, O Lord, you tore up Adam's debt with the divine lance. Likewise, break my bonds, O Word, that I may offer you a sacrifice of praise in joy and faith in this acceptable time of the fast which you have revealed for the salvation of all.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

Shining with the radiance of fasting, Moses once beheld the glory of God.

Imitate him, my humble soul. By works of abstinence and prayer, serve the
Lord who, in kindness toward you, stretched out his hands upon the cross so that you might enjoy divine gladness.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

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

Stavrotheotokion - All:

Seeing you nailed to the Cross, the most pure one cried out: O my Son and my God, what a glorious and strange thing I hear of you: how you suffered because of your great mercy.

The service continues on page 88.
Let the watch-man count on day-break and Israel on the Lord.

I left the Jerusalem of your divine commands and went down toward the passions of Jericho, dragged down by the false glory of earthly cares.

I fell in with thieving thoughts of evil, who stripped off the robe of my adoption by grace, leaving me wounded, without the breath of life.

A priest came by and ignored me, looking down at my fall; then a Levite avoided me as something unclean. But you, O Lord, incarnate from the Virgin inexpressibly, have poured out your salvation like oil on my scars, O Christ our God,
in the blood and water willingly shed from your side. Bind up my wounds with

linen and mercifully include me in the choir of heaven.

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Gabriel stood before you, O maiden, and revealed to you the pre-ter nal

plan when he greeted you and said: Rejoice, O Unsown Ground;

rejoice, O Bush Unburned; rejoice O Unfathomable Depth; rejoice,

O Bridge which leads to Heaven, and Ladder which Jacob saw raised on high;

rejoice, O Divine Jar of Manna; rejoice, O Release from the Curse;
rejoice, O Restoration of Adam; the Lord is with you.

Cantor:
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

All:
The undefiled maiden said to the angelic command-er: How do you appear to me in human form but speak of super-human things? You have said that God will be with me and will over-shadow my womb. Tell me, how am I a spacious land? How am I a sanctified place? How shall I conceive the one who is borne upon the cherubim? Do not deceive me, for I am innocent. I have not known the pleasures
of marriage. How then shall I bear a child?

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

The bodiless angel said: Whenever God so wills, the order of nature is overthrown to accomplish superhuman deeds. Believe that my words are true, holy and most pure one. She exclaimed: Let it be done to me according to your word, and I shall bear the fleshless God who takes flesh from me so that he may restore the ancient dignity of human nature by joining it to the divine, as he alone can do.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

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

Doxastikon - All:

To - day is revealed the mystery from all e - ter - ni - ty; the Son of God be-comes the Son of Man that, by shar- ing in what is worse, he may give me a share in what is bet - ter. Once Ad - am was de-ceived, he sought to be - come god but failed. Now God becomes man that he may make Ad - am God.

Let cre - a - tion re-joice; let na - ture ex - ult; for the arch - an - gel stands in fear be - fore the Vir - gin. He greets her: “Rejoice!” and sor - row is dis - pelled.

O God, in your mer - ci - ful com-pas - sion you have be-come man. Glo - ry to you!

The service continues on page 88.
Stichera for Wednesday in the Sixth Week

Tone 5

Cantor:

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel
indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Rich in the passions, I am draped in a subtle robe of hypocrisy,

I delight in the evils of intemperance. I am a model of utter heartlessness.

I have abandoned my reason. Starved of all good and sick from neglect,

I lie before the gates of repentance. But you, O Lord, make me destitute of

sin like Lazarus, save me from having to beg him to dip his finger in

water to soothe my tongue in the unquenchable flames. Let me abide
in stead in the bosom of the Patriarch Abraham, for you love us all.

Cantor:

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

All:

As you walked in the flesh, O Jesus, in the land beyond the Jordan,

you cried out to those who were with you: Our friend Lazarus is already dead and buried in the grave. My friends, I rejoice, for you will learn that I whom you see begotten as man remain indivisibly God and know all things. Come, let us go and give him life. Let death taste its total defeat and the destruction which I will accomplish by granting
great mercy to the world.

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

All:

For two days, Lazarus has been in the grave, beholding those who have died since time began. There he sees strange and fearful sights:

a numberless multitude held in Hades' chains. Therefore his relatives weep bitterly before his grave. But Christ came to give life to his friend so that all might proclaim with one voice: Blessed are you, O Saviour; have mercy on us.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spir-it, now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

En - vi - ous of your flock, O most pure one, the adversary constant-ly be - sieg - es it, hop - ing to make a meal for him - self;

but you, O The-o-to - kos, de - liv - er us from his clutch - es.

The service continues on page 88.
Stichera for Friday in the Sixth Week
(Vigil of Lazarus Saturday)

Cantor:

Let the watchman count on day-break and Is-ra-el on the Lord.

All:

Hav-ing com-plet-ed the forty days to the prof-it of our souls, we be-seech

you that we may al-so see the ho-ly week of your passion, O Lover of

all of us dur-ing which we glori-fy your great deeds and with

har-monious song, praise your inef-fa-ble plan for us. O Lord,

glo-ry to you.

Cantor:

Be-cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of re-demp-tion,

Is-rael indeed he will re-deem from all its in-i-qui-ty.
O Lord, you desired to see the grave of Laz-a-rus, for you were about to occupy a grave by your own choice. Where have you placed him, you asked, as if to learn what you already knew. You cried out to your friend: Laz-a-rus come forth; and he who had breathed his last obeyed you who gave him breath, the Savior of our souls.

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

O Lord, on the fourth day you came to the tomb of Laz-a-rus, and shed tears upon the grave of your friend. You raised him up although he was four days dead, O Wheat of Life. Death was bound by your voice, and the grave
clothes were loosed by your hands. Then the company of your disciples was filled
with joy, and with one voice they worshiped you: Blessed are you; O
Savior, have mercy on us.

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

All:

O Lord, you desired to strengthen your disciples' faith in your resurrection
from the dead, and so you arrived at the tomb of Lazarus
and called him forth. Hades was despoiled and set him free. Lazarus, four
days dead, cried out to you: O Blessed Lord, glory to you.

The faithful STAND.
Cantor:

Glo-ry to the Father and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it.

All:

O Sav-i-Or, stand-ing at the tomb, you called to the dead Laz-a-rus;
you raised him up as if from sleep. He shook off corruption in the spirit of
in-cor-rup-tion and, at your word, came forth still bound in his shroud.

You can do everything, and all o- bey you; ev'-ry-thing is subject to you, O
Lov-er of us all. O our Sav-i-Or, glo-ry to you.

Cantor:


All:

Hav-ing com-ple-ted the forty days to the prof-it of our souls, let us ex-claim:

Rejoice, town of Bethany, home of Laz-a-rus. Re-joice, Martha and Mary,
his sisters. Tomorrow Christ will arrive to give life by his word to your brother who has died. Hearing his voice, bitter and insatiable Hades will tremble and, with a heavy sigh, will release Lazarus. The crowd, amazed to see him bound in his shroud, will come out to meet Christ with branches and palms. The children will see and proclaim the one their parents will denounce. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel.

The service continues on page 88.
Let the watch-man count on day-break and Is-ra-el on the Lord.

As the Lord approached his voluntary passion, he said to his a-pos-tles on the way: Behold, we are going up to Je-ru-sa-lem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed as it is written concerning him. Come, then, let us also go up with him, hav-ing pur-i-fied our minds. Let us die with him to the pleasures of life so that we may live with him and hear him ex-claim: Nev-er a-gain will I go up to the earthly Jerusa-lem to suf-fer, but I as-cend to my Fa-ther and your Fa-ther, to my God and
your God, and I will raise you up with me to the Jerusalem on high in the kingdom of heaven.

Tone 5

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

We have reached the saving passion of Christ our God. O faithful, let us glorify his long-suffering beyond description. For in compassion he has raised us up with him-self, we who were dead in sin; for he is good and loves us all.

Cantor:

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!
The mother of the sons of Zeb-ee-dee could not grasp the ineffable mystery of your saving plan. She asked you to honor her sons in your kingdom to come.

Instead, you promised that your friends would drink the cup, the cup of death that you yourself would drink ahead of them for the cleansing of sins. Therefore, we cry out to you: O Salvation of our souls, glory to you.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

O Lord, you taught your disciples to consider the last things, saying: Do not

be like the pagans who lord it over their inferiors.

It must not be so with you. Since I have chosen to be poor, the
first among you must serve the rest, the ruler must be like a novice, the foremost like the least. For I myself have come to serve impoverished Adam and to give my life as a ransom for many who cry out to me: Glory to you.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

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

Doxastikon - All:

The serpent found a second Eve in the Egyptian woman who tried to make Joseph fall with flattering words. But he fled from sin and left his robe behind. Like the first created man before his disobedience,
he found no shame in nakedness. Through his prayers, O Christ, have mercy on us.

The service continues on page 88.
Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.

All:

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.

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 a-flame 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.

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

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 un instructed; 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.

Cantor:

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful for ever.

All:

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.

The faithful STAND.

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

Doxastikon - All:

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,

In-to the joy of your Lord. Although I have strayed, make me worthy of this joy,

O Savior, for the sake of your abundant mercy.

The service continues on the page 88.
Let the watch-man count on day-break and Is-ra-el on the Lord.

The harlot recognized you, the Vir-gin's Son, as God. She wept for her lamentable deeds and begged you: Loose my debt as I un-loose my hair. Love me as I love you, though I de-serve your ha-tred; and to-geth-er with publicans I will ac-claim you, Ben-e-fac-tor and Lov-er of us all.

Be-cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of re-dep-tion,

Is-ra-el indeed he will re-deem from all its in-iqui-ty.

The harlot mingled tears with the cost-ly myrrh, poured it on your immaculate
feet and kissed them. At once you justified her; so also grant pardon to us and save us, O Savior, who suffered for our sake.

Cantor:

Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

All:

While the sinful woman was bringing myrrh, the disciple was conspiring with the lawless. She rejoiced to expend the costly myrrh, while he hastened to sell the Priceless One. She recognized the Master, the Master from whom he drew away; she was freed, but Judas became the enemy's slave; how awful his callousness, how great her repentance. Grant us such repentance, and save us, O Savior, who suffered for our sake.
Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

O the misery of Judas! He saw the harlot kiss your feet, and he harbored plans to betray you with a kiss. She unbound her hair but he was bound with anger, and bore, instead of myrrh, the stench of evil; for envy does not choose its own advantage. O the misery of Judas! Deliver our souls, O God, from the same.

The faithful STAND.

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

The woman who had fallen into many sins, sensing your divinity,
O Lord, assumed the myrrh-bear-ers' role and mourned, preparing
you with myrrh before your burial. She said: Woe is me; for gloomy,
moon-less night incites my unbridled desires and lust for sin. You who
draw down sea-water from the clouds accept the fountain of my tears.

Incline to the groaning of my heart as you bowed the heavens when you
emptied yourself. I will kiss your immaculate feet and wipe them
with the hair of my head, those feet whose steps Eve heard at dusk in Paradise
and hid herself in fear. Who will search the multitude of my sins
or plumb the depths of your judgments? Do not despise me, your servant, O

Savior of my soul, for your mercy knows no measure.

The service continues on the next page.
The Hymn of the Evening

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as “O Joyful Light” is sung. The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.

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.
Two readings, each preceded by a prokeimenon, are now chanted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday in the First Week</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the First Week</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the First Week</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Second Week</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Second Week</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Third Week</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Third Week</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Fourth Week</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Fourth Week</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Fifth Week</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday in the Sixth Week</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday in the Sixth Week</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Monday</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Tuesday</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great and Holy Wednesday</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Readings for Monday in the First Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 6 (Psalm 3: 9, 2)

O Lord of salvation, O Lord of salvation,
bless your people.

Verse: How many are my foes, O Lord.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 1:1-13]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
The Lord hears me whenever I call him,
when - ev - er I call him.

Verse: When I call, answer me, O God of Justice.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 1:1-20]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124
Readings for Wednesday in the First Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 5 (Psalm 11: 8, 2):

```
You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us forever, forever

from this generation.
```

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the righteous have vanished.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 1:24 - 2:3]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 6 (Psalm 12: 4, 2)

Verse: How long, O Lord, will you forget me? How long will you hide your face?

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 2:1-22]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Friday in the First Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 5 (Psalm 19: 2)

May the Lord hear you on the day of distress;

may the Lord hear you on the day of distress.

Verse: May the name of Jacob's God protect you.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 2:20 - 3:20]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 6 (Psalm 20: 14, 2)

Be ex-alt-ed, O Lord, in your strength; we will sing and praise your mighty deeds, we will sing and praise your mighty deeds.

Verse: Lord, your strength gladdens the King.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 3:19-34]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Wednesday in the Second Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 6 (Psalm 31: 11, 1)

Verse: Blessed are they whose trespasses are forgiven.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 4:16-26]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 1 (Psalm 32: 22, 1)

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

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous ones.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 5:15 - 6:3]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124
Readings for Friday in the Second Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 39: 12, 2)

Verses:
I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 5:32 - 6:8]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
As for me, I said: Lord, have mercy on me; heal my soul; have mercy on me; heal my soul.

Verse: Happy the man who considers the poor and the weak.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.

All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 6:20 - 7:1]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Wednesday in the Third Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 51:10, 3)

I trust in the goodness of God for ever and ever.

Verse: Why do you boast of your wickedness, you champion of evil?

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 7:6-9]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 4 (Psalm 52: 7, 2)

When the Lord delivers his people from bondage,
then Jacob will be glad and Israel rejoice.

Verse: The fool has said in his heart: There is no God.

The faithful kneel while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful sit while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 9: 12-18]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Friday in the Third Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 59: 13, 3)

Give us help against the foe, for the help of man is vain.

Verse: O God, you have rejected us and broken us.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 8: 4-21]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 6 (Psalm 60: 2, 3)

Verse: From the end of the earth I call to you.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words. All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 10:31 - 11:12]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Wednesday in the Fourth Week

Deacon:  Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 71: 18, 1)

Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel who alone works wonders.

Verse: O God, give your judgment to the king, to a king's son your justice.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 9:18 - 10:1]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
To be near God is my happiness.

Verse: How good God is to Israel, to those who are pure of heart.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words. All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.


Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Friday in the Fourth Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 79: 2)

Shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead

Verse: Shine forth from your cherubic throne.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 12:1-7]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Ring out your joy to God, our strength. Ring out your joy to God, our strength.

Verse: Raise a song and sound the timbrel.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 14:15-26]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Wednesday in the Fifth Week  
(Vigil of the Great Canon)

Deacon:  
Let us be attentive!

Celebrant:  
Peace be to all!

Deacon:  
Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 93:1, 2)

Verse:  
Judge of the earth, arise, give the proud what they deserve.

Deacon:  
Wisdom!

Lector:  
A Reading from Genesis

Deacon:  
Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector:  
[Genesis 17:1-9]

Deacon:  
Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
**Prokeimenon II - Tone 4 (Psalm 95: 1, 2)**

Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord a new song.

*Verse:* Sing to the Lord; bless his name.

_The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ._

**Deacon:** Give the command!

**Celebrant:** Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

_The faithful give no response to these words._

_All present make three prostrations in silence._

**Lector:** A reading from Proverbs.

**Deacon:** Let us be attentive!

_The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading._

**Lector:** [Proverbs 15:20 - 16:9]

**Celebrant:** Peace be to you, reader.

_The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124_
Readings for Thursday in the Fifth Week
(Evening after the Great Canon)

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 7 (Psalm 98: 5, 1):

Ex-alt the Lord, the Lord our God and wor-ship at his foot-stool;

for he is ho-ly, for he is ho-ly.

Verse: The Lord is King; let the peoples rage.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

*The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.*

Lector: [Genesis 18:20-33]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The faithful STAND.*
Prokeimenon II - Tone 6 (Psalm 99: 1, 2)

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Verse: Serve the Lord with gladness.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words. All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 16:17 - 17:17]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Friday in the Fifth Week
(Vigil of Akathistos Saturday)

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 102: 8, 1)

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all my being, bless his holy name.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 22: 1-18]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 4 (Psalm 103: 24, 1)

How man-y are your works, O Lord! In wis-dom you have made them all.

Verse:  Bless the Lord, O my soul! Lord my God, how great you are.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon:  Give the command!

Celebrant:  Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector:  A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon:  Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector:  [Proverbs 17:17 - 18:5]

Celebrant:  Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Wednesday in the Sixth Week

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 114: 9, 1)

Verse: I love the Lord because he will hear my voice in supplication.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 43:26-30; 45:1-16]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 4 (Psalm 115: 9, 1)

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill before all his people.

Verse: I trusted, even when I said: “I am sorely afflicted.”

The faithful kneel while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words. All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful sit while the lector chants the reading.


Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.

115
Readings for Friday in the Sixth Week 
(Vigil of Lazarus Saturday)

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 6 (Psalm 123: 8, 1)

Our help is in the name, is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Verse: “If the Lord had not been on our side,” this is Israel's song.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Genesis.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 49:33 - 50:26]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Those who put their trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, that cannot be shaken, that stands forever.

Verse: For the Lord will not allow the scepter of the wicked to rest over the land of the just.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.
All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 31:8-31]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Great and Holy Monday

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

**Prokeimenon I - Tone 6 (Psalm 127: 5, 1)**

May the Lord bless you from Zion, and may you see

the prosperity of Jerusalem.

*Verse:* O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Exodus.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

*The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.*

Lector: [Exodus 1:1-20]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The faithful STAND.*
We bless you in the name, we bless you in the name of the Lord, in the name of the Lord.

Verse: They have pressed me hard from my youth.

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.

All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from the Book of Job.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Job 1:1-12]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Great and Holy Tuesday

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 6 (Psalm 131: 8, 1)

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

Verse: Lord, remember David and all his humility.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Exodus.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Exodus 2:5-10]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - Tone 4 (Psalm 132: 1, 2)

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

The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant blesses with the candle and censer. This is a sign that all have been blessed with the light of the knowledge of Christ.

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

The faithful give no response to these words.

All present make three prostrations in silence.

Lector: A reading from the Book of Job.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Job 1:13-22]

Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124.
Readings for Great and Holy Wednesday

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon I - Tone 4 (Psalm 135: 26, 2)

To the God of heav - en give thanks, for he is good;

for his love en - dures for - ev - - - er.

Verse: O give thanks to the God of gods, for his love endures forever.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from Exodus.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Exodus 2: 11-22 ]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.
Prokeimenon II - *Tone 4* (Psalm 137: 8, 1)

Your mercy, O Lord, is eternal; despise not the work of your hands.

*Verse:* I thank you, Lord, with all my heart; in the presence of the angels I shall bless you.

*Deacon:* Give the command!

*Celebrant:* Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

*The faithful give no response to these words.*

*All present make three prostrations in silence.*

*Lector:* A reading from the Book of Job.

*Deacon:* Let us be attentive!

*The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.*

*Lector:* [Job 2: 1-10]

*Celebrant:* Peace be to you, reader.

*The service continues with the solemn evening psalm on page 124*
Solemn Evening Psalm

The opening verses of Psalm 140 are sung while the celebrant incenses the Holy Table from all four sides. The faithful KNEEL while the celebrant sings, and STAND to sing their response.

Deacon: Wisdom!

The faithful KNEEL.

Celebrant:

Let my prayer ascend to you like incense,

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

The faithful STAND.

Response:

Let my prayer ascend to you like incense,

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

The faithful KNEEL.

Celebrant:

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

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

The faithful STAND.

Response: Let my prayer ascend to you like incense,
and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.
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 my prayer ascend to you like incense, and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

Celebrant:

Response: Let my prayer ascend to you like incense, and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

The faithful KNEEL.

Celebrant:

Response: Let my prayer ascend to you like incense, and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

The faithful STAND.

Celebrant:

Response: Let my prayer ascend to you like incense, and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

The faithful KNEEL.

Celebrant:

Response: Let my prayer ascend to you like incense, and the lifting up of my hands like an evening sacrifice.

The faithful STAND.
Prayer of St. Ephrem

All: 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

If there will be no gospel reading, the homily is preached at this time.

If a notable saint's feastday is being celebrated, and there are a Prokeimenon, Apostolic Reading, Alleluia, and Gospel Reading, they are read at this point.

If it is Holy Week, a Gospel is read, but there is no Prokeimenon, Apostolic Reading, or Alleluia.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful sing the Prokeimenon of the feast. The lector chants the verse.

Deacon: Wisdom!

The lector announces the title of the Apostolic Reading.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the Apostolic Reading.
Celebrant: Peace be to you, reader.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The faithful STAND as the Alleluia is sung.*

If it is Holy Week, begin here.

*The holy gospel book is incensed along with the faithful.*

Deacon: Reverend Father, bless the proclaimer of the Gospel of the holy apostle and evangelist (*Name*).

Celebrant: May God, through the prayers of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostle and evangelist (*Name*), grant that you proclaim the word with great power for the fulfillment of the Gospel of his beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deacon: Amen.

Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us stand and listen to the holy Gospel! Peace be to all!

Response:

And to your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to (*Name*).

Response:

Glo-ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you!

Celebrant: Let us be attentive!

*The deacon proclaims the holy Gospel.*

Response:

Glo-ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you!

*The faithful SIT during the homily.*
Litany of Fervent Supplication

The faithful may SIT.

Deacon: Let us all say with our whole soul and with our whole mind, let us say:

Response:  

Deacon: O Lord almighty, God of our fathers, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:  

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:  

Deacon: Again we pray for our holy father (Name), pope of Rome, and for our most reverend metropolitan (Name), for our God-loving bishop (Name); for those who serve and have served in this holy church, for our spiritual fathers, and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (Three times)

Deacon: Again we pray for our government and for all in the service of our country.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (Three times)

The deacon may intone special petitions here.
Deacon: Again we pray for the people here present who await your great and abundant mercy, for those who show us mercy, and for all Christians of the true faith.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (Three times)

Celebrant: For you are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

Lord, have mercy.

The faithful STAND following the Litany of Fervent Supplication.

The hymn of the Great Entrance, "Now the powers", begins on page 134.

If appropriate, the Litany for the Deceased is intoned:

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your great mercy, we pray you, hear and have mercy.

Response:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Again we pray for the repose of the soul[s] of the departed servant[s] of God, (Name/s), and that (his-her-their) every transgression, voluntary or involuntary, be forgiven.

Response: Lord, have mercy. (3 times, as before)

Deacon: May the Lord God commit (his-her-their) soul(s) to the place where the just repose.
Response: Lord, have mercy. (3 times, as before)

Deacon: For the mercy of God, for the kingdom of heaven, and for the remission of (his-her-their) sins, let us beseech Christ, the immortal king and our God.

Response:

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

Celebrant: O God of spirits and of all flesh, you trampled death and broke the power of the devil and granted life to your world. Now grant rest, O Lord, to the soul[s] of your departed servant[s] (Name/s), in a place of light, joy, and peace where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning. As a good and loving God, forgive every sin committed by (him-her-them) in word, deed, or thought, since there is no one who lives and does not sin. You alone are without sin; your justice is eternal justice; and your word is truth.

For you, O Christ our God, are the resurrection, the life, and the repose of your departed servant[s] (Name/s), and we give glory to you, with your eternal Father, and your all-holy, good, and

Response:
If catechumens are present, the Litany for the Catechumens may be intoned:

Deacon: Catechumens, pray to the Lord.

Faithful: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Faithful, let us pray for the catechumens that the Lord have mercy on them, that he instruct them in the word of truth, that he reveal to them the gospel of righteousness, and that he unite them with his holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

Faithful: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Protect them, save them, have mercy on them, and preserve them, O God, by your grace.

Faithful: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Catechumens, bow your heads to the Lord.

Catechumens: To you, O Lord.

Celebrant: God, our God, Creator and Author of All, you want everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Look upon your servants, the catechumens and deliver them from the ancient error and from the wiles of the enemy. Call them to eternal life, enlightening their souls and bodies, and numbering them among your spiritual flock, called by your holy name.
That with us they also may glorify your most honored and sublime name, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

\[ \text{A - - - - - men.} \]

If there are catechumens preparing for baptism at the forthcoming Pascha, then the following Litany may be intoned beginning on the Wednesday of the Fourth Week of the Great Fast.

Deacon: Those who are about to be enlightened, pray to the Lord.

\[ \text{And those about to be enlightened respond:} \]

Response:

\[ \text{Lord, have mercy.} \]

Deacon: Faithful, let us pray for those who are about to be enlightened, that the Lord establish and strengthen them, that he enlighten them with the light of knowledge and goodness, that he make them worthy in due time of the waters of regeneration, of the remission of sins, and of the robe of incorruption that they may be born again of water and the Spirit, and that he grant them the perfection of faith and number them among his holy and chosen flock.

Faithful:

\[ \text{Lord, have mercy.} \]

Deacon: Protect them, save them, have mercy on them, and preserve them, O God, by your grace.

Faithful:

\[ \text{Lord, have mercy.} \]
To you, O Lord.

Those preparing for baptism respond:

Lord, have mercy.

Amen.

Deacon: Those who are about to be enlightened, bow your heads to the Lord.

Response:

To you, O Lord.

Celebrant: Reveal your face, O Master, to those who are preparing for holy enlightenment and who desire to cast off the defilement of sin. Illumine their understanding, confirm them in faith, strengthen them in hope, perfect them in love, and show them to be honorable members of your Christ who gave himself as a ransom for our souls.

For you are our enlightenment, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Faithful:

Amen.

Then the following are intoned for the faithful:

Deacon: All you faithful, again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Faithful:

Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Wisdom!

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: Through the gift of your Christ, with whom you are blessed, together with your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Faithful:

Amen.
Great Entrance with the Presanctified Gifts

As the clergy pray quietly at the altar and the deacon incenses, the faithful sing the following hymn:

Now the powers, the powers of heaven are serving with us invisibly, for behold the King of Glory enters,

for behold the King of Glory enters. They escort the mystical sacrifice, already accomplished.

Or simple setting:

Now the powers of heaven are serving with us invisibly, for behold the King of Glory enters. They escort the mystical sacrifice already accomplished.

The faithful KNEEL.
The clergy and servers go to the table of preparation, and, with the precious and presanctified gifts, make the Great Entrance through the northern door and the holy doors. During the entrance, the faithful remain silent.

When the celebrant enters the holy doors, the faithful STAND and sing:

Let us draw near with faith and love that we may become partakers of life everlasting. 

All make three prostrations in silence.
Angel of Peace Litany

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer to the Lord.

Response: 1. Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the precious and presanctified gifts placed before us, that our God who loves us all may receive them on his holy, heavenly, and mystical altar as an aroma of spiritual fragrance, and send down upon us in return his divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

Response: 2. Lord, have mercy.

That we be delivered from all affliction, wrath, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Protect us, save us, have mercy on us, and preserve us, O God, by your grace.

Deacon: That this whole evening be perfect, holy, peaceful, and without sin, let us beseech the Lord.

Response: 3. Grant this, O Lord.

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

Response: 4. Grant this, O Lord.
For the pardon and remission of our sins and offenses, let us beseech the Lord.

For what is good and beneficial to our souls and for peace in the world, let us beseech the Lord.

That we spend the rest of our life in peace and repentance, let us beseech the Lord.

For a Christian, painless, unashamed, peaceful end of our life, and for a good account before the fearsome judgement-seat of Christ, let us beseech the Lord.

Deacon: Asking for unity in the faith and for communion of the Holy Spirit, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

Response: To you, O Lord.

The celebrant prays, concluding with the introduction to the Lord’s Prayer:

Celebrant: And make us worthy, O Master, that we may with confidence and without condemnation dare call you Father, God of heaven, and say:
temp-ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

Celebrant: For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: A - - - men.

Celebrant: Peace be to all!

Response: And to your spir - it.

Deacon: Bow your heads to the Lord.

Response: To you, O Lord.

The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: Through the grace, the mercies, and the loving-kindness of your only-begotten Son, with whom you are blessed together with your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response: A - - - men.
COMMUNION

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Holy presanctified gifts to holy people!

Response:

One is ho - ly, one is Lord, Je - sus Christ,
to the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

The proper liturgical posture is to stand.
The celebrant breaks the holy lamb into four parts in the form of a cross.
All pray together:

O Lord, I believe and profess that you are truly Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first.

Also:

Accept me today as a partaker of your mystical supper, O Son of God, for I will not reveal your mystery to your enemies, nor will I give you a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief I profess you:

Remember me, O Lord, when you come in your kingdom.
Remember me, O Master, when you come in your kingdom.
Remember me, O Holy One, when you come in your kingdom.

May the partaking of your holy mysteries, O Lord, be not for my judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of soul and body.

Also:

O Lord, I also believe and profess that this, which I am about to receive, is truly your most precious body and your life-giving blood, which I pray, make me worthy to receive for the remission of all my sins and for life everlasting. Amen.
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.

With fear and reverence the clergy partake of the holy gifts while the faithful sing the Communion Hymn (Psalm 33:9):

Taste and see that the Lord is good; taste and see that the Lord is good. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Alternate melody:

Taste and see that the Lord is good, that the Lord is good. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

If a notable saint is being remembered, a second Communion Hymn may be sung.
Deacon: Come to receive!

Response:

I will bless the Lord at all times,
at all times. Al-le-lu-ia.

Alternate melody:

I will bless the Lord at all times. Al-le-lu-ia.

All Catholics who are properly disposed are welcome to receive the Divine Eucharist. Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not permitted to receive the Divine Eucharist.

The body and blood of our Lord are administered on a small spoon. Communicants approach close to the priest or deacon and remain standing.

The communicants say nothing. They open the mouth widely without extending the tongue, and close the mouth only after the spoon has been withdrawn.

The faithful may REMAIN STANDING while others are receiving Holy Communion.

During the communion of the faithful, the communion hymn "Taste and see" is sung; the cantor may alternate verses of Psalm 33 (on page 193) with the faithful's singing of the triple "Alleluia" refrain from the communion hymn.
When Holy Communion has been distributed, the celebrant incenses the holy gifts.

Celebrant:  Blessed is our God who enlightens and sanctifies us always, now and ever and forever.

Response:  We give you thanks, O Christ our God, that you have made us sharers of the mystery of your redemption, your pure body and precious blood, poured forth for the world unto the forgiveness of sins. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

The holy gifts are brought to the table of preparation. The faithful sing:

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Deacon:  Arise! Now that we have received the divine, holy, most pure, immortal, heavenly, life-creating, and awesome mysteries of Christ, let us worthily thank the Lord.

Response:  Lord, have mercy.
The celebrant prays, concluding:

Celebrant: For you are our sanctification, and we give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{A - m e n.}
\end{array}
\]

Ambon Prayer

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

Response:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{In the name of the Lord.}
\end{array}
\]

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Lord, have mercy.}
\end{array}
\]

The celebrant, going before the ambon and facing East, intones the Ambon Prayer.

Response:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{A - m e n.}
\end{array}
\]

Blessings and rituals for special occasions may take place here.

Then the faithful sing:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{(three times)}
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Bless - ed be the name of the Lord, now and for - ev - er.}
\end{array}
\]
Celebrant: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through his grace and loving kindness, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:  

Celebrant: Glory to you, O Christ God, our hope, glory to you.

Response: 

Celebrant: The blessing of the Lord be upon you through his grace and loving kindness, always, now and ever and forever.

Response:  

Celebrant: May Christ our true God... have mercy on us and save us...for Christ is good and loves us all.

Response:  

The deacon closes the holy doors.

All offer prayers of thanksgiving.

THE END OF THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 1

If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

In the abundance of your mercy, look down on my soul and take away the burden of my sins; for you alone love us all.

If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I am as guilty as the prodigal, I have turned away from your grace.
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

I have sinned. O compassionate God, have mercy on me.

If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 1, on the next page.
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

O Lord, through the intercession of all your saints and of the Theotokos, grant us your peace and have mercy on us; for you alone are merciful.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

What mortal delight endures unmingled with grief? What glory on earth remains without change? All is less than a shadow, more deluding than a dream; a mere moment and death takes them all.
But in the light of your face, O Christ, and in the sweetness of your beauty, give rest to the one whom you have chosen, for you love us all.

The faithful STAND.

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

Dogmatikon - All: Let us praise the Virgin Mary, the glory of the whole world.

Born of man, she bore the Master. She is the gate of heaven, the song of angels, and the adornment of the faithful. She is heaven itself and the temple of God. She tore down the dividing wall of enmity,
bring-ing peace and open-ing the king-dom. If we cling to her, then, as an an-chor of faith, the Lord born of her will be our cham-pion. Take cour-age, then, take cour-age, peo-ple of God; for he who is all-powerful will fight our en-e mies.

The service continues on page 88.
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 2

*If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:*

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

In the abundance of your mercy, look down on my soul and take away the burden of my sins; for you alone love us all.

*If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:*

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I am as guilty as the prodigal, I have turned away from your grace.
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

I have sinned. O compassionate God, have mercy on me.

If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 2, on the next page.
Praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples!

O victorious martyrs, you did not long for earthly pleasure; you were made worthy of the good things of heaven. You came to share in the citizenship of the angels. O Lord, through their intercession have mercy and save us.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

O what agony must the soul endure when it is parted from the body. O how many tears does the soul shed and there is no one to pity it. Looking to the angels, the soul entreats in vain; reaching out to mortals, there is none to help.
Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, recognizing the shortness of our life let us beg Christ to rest the departed, and to grant great mercy to our souls.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

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

Dogmatikon - All:

The shadow of the Law passed away when grace arrived, for, like the bush which burned but was not consumed, you gave birth as a virgin, and a virgin you remained. Instead of a pillar of fire, the Sun of Justice dawned; instead of Moses, Christ–the salvation of our souls.

The service continues on page 88.
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 3

If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

In the abundance of your mercy, look down on my soul and take away the burden of my sins; for you alone love us all.

If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I am as guilty as the prodigal, I have turned away from your grace.
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

I have sinned. O compassionate God, have mercy on me.

If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 3, on the next page.
Praise the Lord, all you nations acclaim him all you peoples!

Great is the power of your martyrs, O Christ, even lying in their tombs they drive off evil spirits. They conquered the power of the enemy, contending for piety through faith in the Trinity.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

Every human thing which does not survive death is vain. Riches do not endure, nor does fame accompany us. For when death comes, all these disappear. Let us cry out then to Christ, the deathless King:
Give rest to those who have departed from us, in the dwelling-place where all rejoice.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

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

now and ever and for ever. Amen.

Dogmatikon - All:

O most honorable one, how can we not marvel, at your giving birth to God and man? Most pure one, without knowing man, you gave birth in the flesh to the Son without a father, begotten before all ages of the Father without a mother. He underwent no change, confusion, or division, but maintained the properties of each nature.
in-tact. Therefore, O Lady, Virgin Mother, beg him to

save the souls of those who rightly confess you as The-o-to-kos.

The service continues on page 88.
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 4

If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

In the abundance of your mercy, look down on my soul and take away the burden of my sins; for you alone love us all.

If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I am as guilty as the prodigal, I have turned away from your grace.
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor: 

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

All: 

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 4, on the next page.
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

O Christ our God, you are glorified in the remembrance of your saints; through their intercession, send down on us great mercy.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

Where is worldly attachment? Where is the allure of temporal things? Where is silver, where is gold?

Where is the multitude of servants and of cares? All is ashes, all is dust, all isshadow.
Let us cry out to the deathless King: Lord, make those you have taken from us worthy of your eternal bounties, and grant them rest in your ageless bliss.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

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

now and ever and ever. Amen.

Dogmatikon - All:

O Theotokos, David the prophet and ancestor of God announced in song to the One who would do great things for you: The Queen stands at your right hand. He revealed you as the Mother of Life and Intercessor.

God was pleased to become man from you without a father so that he might
restore the image which passions had deformed and find the sheep straying in the hills, lift it on his shoulders, and bring it to his Father, uniting it to the heavenly powers. Thus Christ will save the world, for he has abundant and great mercy.

The service continues on page 88.
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 5

*If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:*

**Cantor:**

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

Is - rael indeed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

**All:**

Now is the ac - cept - a - ble time, now is the day of sal - va - tion.

In the abundance of your mer - cy, look down on my soul and
take away the bur - den of my sins; for you a - lone love us all.

*If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:*

**Cantor:**

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

Is - rael indeed he will redeem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

**All:**

I am as guilt - y as the prod - i - gal, I have turned a - way from your grace
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

I have sinned. O compassionate God, have mercy on me.

If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute

beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing

low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on

me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 5, on the next page.
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

Despising all things earthly and bravely facing tortures,
you did not fail to win the hope of bliss but became heirs of the kingdom of heaven. O all-praise-worthy martyrs, since you can speak freely before God who loves us all, ask for peace in the world and great mercy for our souls.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

I recalled the prophet crying out: I am ashes and dust!

Then I considered those in the tombs; I beheld bones
laid bare and I said: Which is king or soldier, rich or poor,

sinner or just? But, O Lord and Lover of all of us, give rest
to your servants among the just.

_The faithful STAND._

_Cantor:_

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

now and ever and forever. Amen.

_Dogmatikon - All:_

The image of the bride who knew not man was traced in the Red Sea long ago.

There, Moses parted the waters; here, Gabriel announced the miracle.

There, Israel trod the depths and kept dry; here, the Virgin gave birth to

Christ without seed. Then, the sea remained impassable after Israel's passage;
now the most pure one remains inviolate after Em-man-u-el's birth. O
God, existent, pre-existent, and now seen as man, have mer-cy
up-on us.

The service continues on page 88.
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 6

If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All: Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

In the abundance of your mercy, look down on my soul and take away the burden of my sins; for you alone love us all.

If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All: I am as guilty as the prodigal, I have turned away from your grace
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

I have sinned. O compassionate God, have mercy on me.

If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 6, on the next page.
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

Your martyrs did not deny you, O Lord, nor did they stray from your commands.

Through their prayers, have mercy on us.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

My origin and my being came from your creative command;

for you willed to fashion me as a living creature,

joining invisible and visible natures. You formed my body

out of the earth but gave me a soul by breathing your divine life into me.
Therefore, O Christ, give your servants rest in the land of the living and the tents of the just.

The faithful STAND.

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

Dogmatikon - All: Who would not exalt you, most holy Virgin? Who would not praise your giving birth without pain? For the Only-begotten Son, who shines forth from the Father timelessly, has himself come forth from you, O pure one.

He took flesh from you in a manner beyond understanding; retaining
di-vine na-ture, but assuming human na-ture for our sake; not di-vid-ed

in-to two per-sons but ex-ist-ing in two natures distinct and un-con-fused.

O honored and most blessed one, be-seech him to have mer-cy on our souls.

The service continues on page 88
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 7

If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

In the abundance of your mercy, look down on my soul and

take away the burden of my sins; for you alone love us all.

If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I am as guilty as the prodigal, I have turned away from your grace
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

I have sinned. O compassionate God, have mercy on me.

If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 7, on the next page.
Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

All: Glory to you, O Christ our God, boast of the apostles and joy of the martyrs who proclaimed the Trinity, one in essence.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

All: In the beginning you created man according to your image and likeness. You placed him in paradise to rule over your creatures,

but, deceived by the envy of the devil, he transgressed your commandments by partaking of food. Therefore, you condemned him to return to the earth from which he was taken, and to beg
for repose, O Lord.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir-it,

now and ever and for - ev - - er. A - men.

Dogmatikon - All:

O The - o - to - kos, we know that your maternity is su - per - nat - 'ral, but how

you remain a virgin, we can nei-ther know nor say. No tongue can ex-plain

the wonder of your giv - ing birth, for your con - cep - tion is a pa-ra - dox, O

pure one, and the way you gave birth is in-com-pre-hen-si-ble. For when-ev - er

God wills, the order of nature is o - ver - turned. There-fore, we all recognize

you as the Moth-er of God, and we fer - vent - ly be-seech you:
Intercede for the salvation of our souls.
Friday Evening Stichera in Tone 8

If it is the Second Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 4:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.

In the abundance of your mercy, look down on my soul and

take away the burden of my sins; for you alone love us all.

If it is the Third Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:

Cantor:

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

All:

I am as guilty as the prodigal, I have turned away from your grace.
and squandered the wealth of your goodness. So I run to you, crying:

I have sinned. O compassionate God, have mercy on me.

*If it is the Fourth Friday in the Great Fast, first sing in Tone 7:*

**Cantor:**

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

Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

**All:**

I have enslaved the dignity of my soul to the passions. I have become a brute beast. I can no longer raise my eyes to you, O Most High; but bowing low like the publican, I beseech you, O Christ, crying out: Have mercy on me and save me, O God.

Then continue with the Friday stichera in Tone 8, on the next page.
Praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples!

O martyrs of the Lord, you sanctify every place and cure every ill.

We beseech you to pray that our souls be saved from the snares of the enemy.

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faithful forever.

I weep and lament when I contemplate death and behold,

lying in the grave, the beauty fashioned for us by God in his own image disfigured, deformed, and without distinction. Oh, what a wonder!

How does this mystery happen to us? How were we handed over to
corruption? How were we subjected to death? As it is written:

By the command of God, who grants rest to the departed.

The faithful STAND.

Cantor:

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

now and ever and ever. Amen.

Dogmatikon - All:

In his love for all of us, the King of Heaven appeared on earth and dwelt among us, for he took flesh from a pure Virgin and came forth from her. The only Son has two natures but is not two persons.

We proclaim the truth about Christ our God, professing him to be
both perfect God and perfect man, Be-seech him, O un-wed-ded Moth-er,

to have mer-cy on our souls.

The service continues on page 88.
Prayers of Preparation for Holy Communion

The following prayers are recommended as a personal preparation.

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

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (Twelve 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 22

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Your mercy, O Lord, shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell forever and ever.

PSALM 23

To the Lord belong the earth and its fullness, the world and all who dwell in it. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things, who has not sworn so as to deceive his neighbor.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob.

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is the king of glory? The Lord, the mighty, the valiant, the Lord, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is he, the king of glory? He, the Lord of armies, he is the king of glory.

**PSALM 115**

I trusted even when I said: “I am sorely afflicted,” and when I said in my alarm: “No man can be trusted.”

What can I return to the Lord for all he has given me? I shall take the chalice of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill before all his people. Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make; I shall call on the Lord’s name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

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

Then three times, with a bow each time:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to you, O God! *(Three times)*

Lord, have mercy. *(Three times)*

TROPARIA OF PREPARATION

O Lord, born of the Virgin, do not look upon my sins, but cleanse my heart, and make it a temple for your most pure Body and precious Blood. Do not cast me away from your presence, for you are merciful without limit.

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

How can I approach and partake of your holy mysteries, for I am unworthy; and if I come to your wedding feast without the proper garment of worthiness of heart, I would but earn my condemnation. However, you, O Lord, are able to cleanse my soul and call me to the table of salvation. For you are the Lover of us all.

Now and ever and forever. Amen.

O Mother of God, great is the number of my sins, but I hasten to you, seeking salvation; visit my soul in its weakness and pray to your Son our God to grant me the forgiveness of my evil deeds. For you alone are truly blessed.

TROPARION OF GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

While the illustrious disciples were enlightened as their feet were washed at the supper, the ungodly Judas, darkened by a sick love of silver, betrayed you – the just judge – to lawless judges. See how a money-hungry man hanged himself because of it; and flee the greedy soul who would do such things to the Teacher. O Lord, so good to everyone, glory to you!

Lord, have mercy. *(Forty times)*
1. Prayer of Our Holy Father Basil the Great

Lord and Master Jesus Christ, my God, source of life and immortality, maker of all things visible and invisible, coeternal Son of the immortal Father, accept the repentance of me, a sinner. Incline your ear and hear my prayer: I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned before your face, and I am not worthy to lift up my eyes to your glory. I have provoked your goodness; I have transgressed your commandments and disobeyed your statutes. O Lord, be long-suffering with me and show me your mercy. O you who said through the prophet, “I desire not the death of the sinner, but that he may repent and live,” show me your love and forgive me. Wherefore, even unworthy of heaven and of earth as I am, I despair not of your salvation. In this life I have wholly yielded myself to sin and have become the slave of the pleasures of this world. I have defiled your image in me and turned my back on your loving kindness. When I consider your infinite compassion, I dare to come back to you, my God and my maker. Receive me, O Christ, as you received the Adulteress; accept me as you accepted the Prodigal Son, the Publican, and the thief on the cross. Take away the heavy burden of my sins, O you who take away the sins of the world. You heal human weaknesses and call to yourself and give rest to those who are weary and heavy-laden.

Cleanse me, O Lord, from every stain of flesh and spirit; teach me to fulfill your will in fear and holiness that, having the witness of a pure conscience, I may receive my share of your holy things and may be united to your body and blood. May I have you to abide in me with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Grant me to receive the bread and wine which are your body and blood until my last breath and, thereby, to receive fellowship with the Holy Spirit as a provision for the journey to eternal life, and as an acceptable defense at your dread judgment-seat. Together with all your saints, may I be a partaker of the good things you have prepared for those who love you, O Lord my God. Amen.

2. Prayer of Our Venerable Father John Damascene

Lord and Master Jesus Christ, my God, who alone have power to absolve from sins, forgive all my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, committed in word or deed. O loving God, allow me to partake of your divine, glorious, and pure mysteries. Let my sharing in your body and blood be for the cleansing of my sins and the healing of my body and a pledge of the life to come and of your kingdom. You are a merciful God, loving, kind, and full of compassion, and to you I give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

3. Prayer of Our Holy Father Basil the Great

I know, O Lord, that if I partake unworthily of your pure body and precious blood, I will be guilty! I will be eating and drinking my own condemnation, not discerning your body and blood. When I consider your loving kindness, O my Christ and my God, I dare come to you who said, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.” Be merciful to me a sinner, O Lord, and do not rebuke me. Deal with me according to your mercy. Let the bread and wine be for the healing of my soul and body, for the enlightenment of my mind, and for the protection of my life. Let them give me confidence in you and love for my brothers and sisters. Let them be for the amendment of my conduct, for perseverance, for increase in virtue, and for
perfection in the communion of your Holy Spirit. Give me your body and blood, O Lord, as a provision for the journey to eternal life and for an acceptable defense at your judgment-seat. Do not let them be for my judgment or condemnation. Amen.

4. Prayer of Our Holy Father Simeon the New Theologian

From defiled lips and from a vile heart, an unclean tongue, and a polluted soul, receive this prayer, O Christ. Reject not my words, nor my demeanor, nor my persistence. Allow me, my Christ, to speak boldly of my own desires. Moreover, teach me what you want me to do and say. I have sinned more than the woman in the city who, knowing where you dined, O Christ my Master and God, bought ointment and dared to anoint your feet. As you did not reject her whose heart led her to you, do not despise me, O Word, but allow me also to clasp and embrace your feet and anoint them with a flood of tears, as with a precious ointment. Wash and purify me with your tears, O Word. Forgive my trespasses and grant me pardon. You know the multitude of my evil-doings. You know my wounds and my sores. But you also know my faith. You know what I intend to do and you hear my sighing. No tear is hidden from you, O God, my maker and deliverer. Your eyes behold that which I have not yet done, for in your book is written that which has not yet come to pass. Consider my lowliness. Look upon my affliction and pain. Forgive my every sin, O God of All, that with a pure heart, a fearful mind, and a contrite spirit, I may partake of your undefiled and most holy mysteries that bring divine life to all who eat and drink with a pure heart. For you said, O Master, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.” True in every way is the word of my Lord and God. Partaking of deifying grace, I am no longer alone but with you, my Christ, the Light of the World. Do not allow me to live apart from you, O Giver of Life, who are my breath, my life, my joy, and the salvation of the world. Therefore, I draw near and you see my tears and my contrite soul. I beseech you, deliver me from my sins and grant me to partake without condemnation of your pure and life-creating mysteries, that, according to your word, you may remain in me, as wretched as I am. For, if I am found fallen from your grace, the tempter may deceive me and entice me from your deifying precepts. For this reason, bountiful Lord, I fall down before you and earnestly cry to you: As you accepted the Prodigal Son and the woman in the city when she came to you, so also receive me, prodigal and vile as I am. Now turning to you with contrition, O Savior, I know that no one has sinned against you as I have, nor done the things I have done. Yet I know too that neither the magnitude of the transgression nor the multitude of the sins surpasses the long-suffering patience of my God and his exceeding love for us. In your merciful compassion you cleanse and brighten those who earnestly repent, and you make them partakers of the light and of your divine nature. Strange as it may seem to angels and human reason, you speak to us as if we are true friends. Inspired with boldness, confident of your rich mercy, O Christ, and with both rejoicing and trembling, I who am like grass partake of fire, and, amazingly, I am refreshed and, like the burning bush of old, I am not consumed. Filled with gratitude, I worship, glorify, and magnify you, my God, for you are blessed, now and ever and forever. Amen.
5. Prayer of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom

O God, absolve, remit, and forgive the transgressions I have committed in thought, word, or deed, voluntarily and involuntarily. Pardon all my sins, for you are a gracious and loving God. Allow me to receive your holy body and blood for the good of my soul and the healing of my body; through the prayers of your most pure Mother, of the spiritual and holy powers of heaven who serve you in holiness, and of all the saints who have pleased you since time began. Yours is the kingdom and yours is the glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

When you approach for holy communion, you may say in your heart:

Behold, I draw near to divine communion, O Creator; let me not be destroyed. For you are fire to consume the unworthy. Then rather cleanse me from all that defiles.

The blood that makes divine, O (wo)man, let it be your fear, let it be your dread. It is fire to consume the unworthy. The divine body makes me a partaker of the divine nature, and likewise feeds me. It makes the spirit divine and wondrously nourishes the mind.

You have ravished my heart with your love, O Christ; your divine care has converted my soul. Yet, consume my sins with celestial fire.

Grant me to delight in you. Let me rejoice and exalt your incarnation and your second coming, O gracious Lord.

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.

Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these holy gifts be to my judgment, in that I am unworthy; but rather for the cleansing and hallowing of soul and body and as a pledge of life eternal and the kingdom. For I hold it good to cling to God; to hope in the Lord for my salvation.
Thanksgiving Prayers After Holy Communion

Glory to you, our God, glory to you. *(Three times)*

1. **Prayer of Our Holy Father Basil the Great**

   Lord my God, I thank you; for you have not rejected me, a sinner, but have made me worthy to be a partaker of your holy mysteries. I thank you for allowing me, unworthy as I am, to be a partaker of your most pure and heavenly gifts. O Lord who love us all, you died and rose for our sake; and you have given us these awesome and life-creating mysteries for the benefit and sanctification of our souls and bodies. Grant that they may bring about the healing of my soul and body; the defeat of every enemy; the enlightenment of the eyes of my heart; the calming of my thoughts and emotions; a faith that cannot be confounded; a love that does not pretend; a wisdom that overflows; the full observance of your commandments; the increase of your divine grace; and citizenship in your kingdom.

   Being preserved in your holiness by them, I will remember your love at all times. I will live no longer for myself, but for you, my Lord and Benefactor. Thus, having spent my earthly life in the hope of life without end, I will attain eternal rest where the sound of rejoicing never ceases, where the delight of those who gaze upon the beauty of your face cannot be expressed.

   For you, Christ our God, are our true desire, and the inexpressible joy of those who love you; and all creation glorifies you forever. Amen.

2. **Prayer of Our Venerable Father John Damascene**

   God, my God, all-consuming invisible fire, you make your angels flaming fire. In your inexpressible love, you have condescended to give me your divine flesh. You have allowed me to partake of your divinity by possessing your most pure body and precious blood. May they penetrate my entire body and spirit and all my bones. May they burn away my sins, enlighten my soul, and brighten my understanding. May they sanctify me, make a dwelling-place in me so that I too may be in you forever, with your blessed Father, and your all-holy Spirit, through the prayers of your most pure Mother and all your saints. Amen.

3. **Prayer of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom**

   Christ our God, mystically you have made me worthy to be a partaker of your most pure body and precious blood. I praise, bless and worship you; I glorify you and extol your salvation, O Lord, now and ever and forever. Amen.

4. **Prayer to the Most Holy Theotokos**

   Most holy Lady, Theotokos, light of my darkened soul; my hope, my protection, my refuge, my comfort, and my joy: I thank you for enabling me, unworthy as I am, to be a partaker of the most pure body and precious blood of your Son.

   You gave birth to the true Light; enlighten the eyes of my heart. You bore the source of immortality; give life to me who am dead in sin. O compassionate and loving Mother of the merciful God, have mercy on me; grant me compunction and contrition of heart, humility of
mind, and the recollection of my scattered thoughts. Make me worthy, even until my last breath, to receive the most pure and sanctifying mysteries without condemnation for the healing of my soul and body. Give me tears of repentance and confession that I may praise and glorify you all the days of my life; for you and blessed and glorified forever. Amen.

5. Another Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, may your holy body bring me everlasting life and may your precious blood remit my sins. May this Eucharist give me joy, health and happiness. At your dread second coming, grant that I, a sinner, may stand at the right side of your glory, through the prayers of your most pure Mother and of all the saints. Amen.
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;  
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.

The just cried out and the Lord heard them,
and rescued them from 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,
but from them all the Lord will rescue them.

He will keep guard over all their bones,
not one of their 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.