

MATINS – GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY

Opening Blessing & Six Psalms

Alleluia with Verses

Troparion, Tone 8

Behold! / The Bridegroom comes at midnight,* and blessed is the servant whom He shall find watching.* Unworthy is the servant whom He shall find heedless.* Beware, then, / O my soul, do not be weighed down with sleep,* lest you be given up to death and lest you be shut out of the kingdom.* But rouse yourself / crying: holy, holy, holy are You, O God!* Through the Mother of God have mercy on us. (3)

Psalms Reading I – Psalms 2, 3, 4

Sessional Hymn I, Tone 1

Today the Holy Passion shines forth upon the world with the light of salvation; * for Christ in His love hastens to His sufferings. * He who holds all things in the hollow of His hand* consents to be hung upon the Tree,** that He may save mankind. *Glory be... Now... Today the Holy Passion...*

Psalms Reading II – Psalms 5, 6, 7

Sessional Hymn II, Tone 1

O Judge invisible, How are You made visible in the flesh?* How do You now draw near to be slain by lawless men,* condemning by Your Passion our own condemnation?* Therefore, with one accord, O Word,** we ascribe praise, majesty and glory to Your power. *Glory be... Now... O Judge invisible...*

Psalter Reading II – Psalms 8, 9, 10

Sessional Hymn III, Tone 1

The first fruits of the Lord's Passion fill this present day with light.* Come then, all who love to keep the feast,* and let us welcome it with songs.* For the Creator draws near to undergo the Cross;* He is questioned, beaten, and brought to Pilate for judgement:* a servant strikes Him on the face,* and all this He endures that He may save mankind.* Therefore, let us cry aloud to Him:* O Christ our God who loves man,* grant remission of sins to those who venerate in faith** Your Holy Passion. *Glory be... Now... The first fruits of the Lord's Passion...*

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:18-43

Psalms 50

Lydia Litany

CANON

Ode 1

Irmos: Let us sing to the Lord who by His divine command* dried up the billowing sea were none might walk,* and through it led the people of Israel on foot:* for He has been greatly glorified.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

Ineffable is the condescension of the Word of God. Christ is Himself both God and man; yet He counted not His Godhead a thing to be seized and held fast, and this He showed to His disciples by taking the form of a servant: for He has been greatly glorified.

Glory be... Now... I who am rich in Godhead have come to minister to Adam who is grown poor. I who fashioned him, have of My own will put on his form. I who am impassible in My divinity have come to lay down My life as a ransom for him.

Katavasia: Let us sing to the Lord...

Small Litany

Kontakion, Tone 2

Jacob lamented the loss of Joseph,* but his righteous son was seated in a chariot and honoured as a king.* For he was not enslaved to the pleasures of Egypt,* but he was glorified by God* who sees the hearts of men and bestows on them a crown incorruptible.

Ikos

Let us now add our lamentation to the lamentation of Jacob, and let us weep with him for Joseph, his wise and glorious son who was enslaved in body but kept his soul free from bondage and became lord over all Egypt. For God grants to His servants a crown incorruptible.

Ode 8

Irmos: The unwearied fire, fed with endless fuel,* drew back in fear before the pure bodies and pure souls of the holy Children;* and as the undying flame decreased in strength, they sang and everlasting song:* O all you works, praise the Lord and exalt Him above all for ever.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

“Then shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you keep My commandments,” said the Saviour to His friends, as He went to His Passion. “Be at peace with one another and with all men; think humbly of yourselves and you shall be exalted; acknowledge Me as Lord, and praise and exalt Me above all for ever.

We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him above all for ever.

Let your power over your fellow men be altogether different from the dominion of the Gentiles: their self-willed pride is not the order that I have appointed, but a tyranny. He therefore who would be the first among you, let him be the last of all. Acknowledge Me as Lord, and praise and exalt Me above all for ever.”

Katavasia: The unwearied fire, fed with endless fuel...

The Magnificat is not sung

Ode 9

Irmos: You have magnified, O Christ the Theotokos who bore You: from her, O our Creator, have You taken a body of like passions to our own, and so have set us free from all our ignorance. Therefore with all generations we call her blessed and we magnify you.

Glory to You, our God, glory to You.

“Cast away all the impurity of the passions and obtain a wise understanding, worthy of God’s Kingdom,” You said, O Wisdom of all to Your apostles; “and you shall be glorified, and shine forth brighter than the sun.”

Glory be... Now... “Taking Me as your example,” You said, O Lord, to Your disciples: “Think not proud thoughts but be content with what is humble. You shall drink of the cup that I drink of, and so you shall be glorified with Me in the Kingdom of the Father.”

Katavasia: You have magnified, O Christ...

Hymn of Light

I see / Your bridal chamber adorned, O my Saviour,* and I have no wedding garment that I may enter there.* Make / the robe of my soul to shine,* O Giver of Light, and save me. (3)

Morning Praises

At Psalm 150

2. Praise Him with timbrel and dance,* praise Him with strings and pipes!

Tone 1: As the Lord went to His voluntary Passion,* He said to His Apostles on the way: “Behold we go up to Jerusalem,* and the Son of Man shall be betrayed, as it is written of Him.”* Come, then, and let us also journey with Him, purified in mind;* let us be crucified with Him and die for His sake to the pleasures of this life,* that we may also live with Him and hear Him say: “No longer do I ascend to the earthly Jerusalem to suffer,* but I ascend to My Father and you Father,* and to My God and your God;* and I shall raise you up to the Jerusalem on high** in the Kingdom of heaven.

1. Praise Him with resounding cymbals, praise him with loud clashing of cymbals! Let everything that breathes give praise to the Lord.

Tone 5: We have come, O faithful to the saving Passion of Christ our God:* Let us glorify His ineffable

forbearance,* that in His tender mercy He may also raise us up who have been slain by sin,** for He is good and loves mankind.

Glory be... Now... Tone 5: O Lord, as You came to Your Passion,* You strengthened the faith of Your disciples,* taking them aside and saying to them: “How have you forgotten what I told you before? According to the Scriptures, it cannot be that a prophet should be killed save in Jerusalem.* Now is the time at hand,* of which I spoke to you: for see, I am betrayed into the hands of sinners;* they shall mock Me and nail Me to the Cross* and deliver Me up for burial,* with loathing, looking on Me as a corpse.* Yet be of good courage: for on the third day I shall rise,** bringing joy and life eternal to the faithful.”

Small Doxology

Litany of Supplication

Aposticha

Tone 5: O Lord, the mother of the sons of Zebedee,* not understanding the hidden mystery of Your dispensation,* asked You to give the honours of a temporal kingdom to her sons.* But instead of this You promised to Your friends that they should drink the cup of death;* and You said that You would drink this cup before them,* to cleanse men from their sins.* Therefore, we cry aloud to You:** O salvation of our souls, glory be to You.

Verse... Tone 5: O Lord, teaching Your disciples to think perfect thoughts,* You said to them: “Be not like the Gentiles,* who exercise dominion over those who are less strong.* But it shall not be so among you, My disciples,* for I of my own will am poor.* Let him, then, who is first among you be the ministers of all.* Let the ruler be as the ruled,* and let the first be as the last.* For I Myself have come to minister to Adam in his poverty,* and to give my life as a ransom for the many** who cry aloud to Me: Glory be to You.”

Verse... Tone 8: O brethren, let us fear the punishment of the fig tree,* withered because it was unfruitful;* and let us bring worthy fruits of repentance unto Christ,** who grants us His great mercy.

Glory be... Now... Tone 8: The serpent found a second Eve in the Egyptian woman,* and with words of flattery he sought to make Joseph fall.* But, leaving his garment behind him, Joseph fled from sin;* and like the first man before his disobedience,* though naked he was not ashamed.** At his prayers, O Christ, have mercy on us.

Concluding Prayers

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