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GREAT VESPERS ON THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday after Pascha)

*The holy, glorious, God-crowned and great Sovereigns  
Constantine and Helen, the Equals to the Apostles.*

*Priest:* Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

*All:* Amen.

THE PASCHAL TROPARION

*Priest:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life.

*Choir:* Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life (*twice*)

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

*People:* Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*Thrice*)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

*Priest:* For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*All:* Amen.

*Reader:* Lord, have mercy. (*12 times*)

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

O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before the Very Christ, our King and our God.

PSALM 103

*Reader:* Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire, Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back for ever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they

will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid. The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice. He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, To bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart. The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares. He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad. Young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. But man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labour until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, therein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there this dragon, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on

Thee, to give them their food in due season; when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth. Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being. May my words be sweet unto Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul. The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

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

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (*Twice*)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: Glory to Thee, O God our Hope, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

#### THE LITANY OF PEACE

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For the peace of the whole world, the good estate of the holy churches of God

and the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For our (*metropolitan or archbishop or bishop*), *N.*, the honorable presbytery, the diaconate in Christ, all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* For our president (*or appropriate head of state*), civil authorities and armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

*Choir:* To thee, O Lord.

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

*Choir:* Amen.

### “BLESSED IS THE MAN”

*(A melodic abbreviation of 1<sup>st</sup> Stasis of Kathisma I, chanted in tone 5 or tone 8)*

*Choir:* Blessed is the man that hath not walked in the counsel of the ungodly. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

- For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous, and the way of the ungodly shall perish. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
- Serve ye the Lord with fear, and rejoice in Him with trembling. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
- Blessed are all that have put their trust in Him. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
- Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
- Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.
- Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. *(Twice)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia: Glory to Thee, O God our Hope, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

### LITTLE LITANY

*Deacon:* Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with

all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

*Choir:* To thee, O Lord.

*Priest:* For thine is the might, and thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

“O LORD, I HAVE CRIED” IN TONE TWO

*Choir:* O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

*Choir:* Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

- Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
- Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
- With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
- The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
- For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.
- They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
- But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.

- Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
- Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
- I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
- I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
- When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
- In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
- I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
- Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
- I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
- Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
- Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.
- Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.
- The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.
- Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.
- Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

For the Myrrh-bearing Women, in Tone 8  
(\*O most awesome wonder\*)

*Verse 6.* If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.

When Christ had appeared, O modest ones, \* ye followed after His steps, \* and ye ministered unto Him \* with an upright mind and heart \* and an earnest and zealous soul.  
\* When He was dead, ye did not abandon

Him; \* but rather, moved with compassion unto tears, \* ye went and purchased myrrh. \* Thus, O holy women, myrrh-bearers of Christ, \* we the faithful celebrate your sacred memory.

*Verse 5. Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

Wishing to behold the Life of all \* as He lay dead in the grave, \* the august women came by night. \* And arriving at the tomb, \* there the Angels spake unto them. \* As Christ foretold, He is risen from the dead. \* To His disciples make haste to tell the news. \* And cast away from you \* all the sorrow from your much-lamenting souls; \* take ye in the stead thereof joy inexpressible.

*Verse 4. From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

On this day we faithful dance for joy, \* commemorating your feast, \* O ye myrrh-bearers, and we praise \* our most loving and good Lord, \* Who hath glorified you in turn. \* Beseech Him ceaselessly, O all-modest ones, \* that we attain to the splendour of the Saints. \* And make request of Him \* that He grant to us that glory without end, \* since ye have great boldness with Him, O ye blest of God.

For Ss. Constantine & Helen in Tone Four  
(\**Unto them that fear Thee*\*)

*Verse 3. For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

As a mighty weapon Thou hast given unto our Emperor \* Thy most honored and precious Cross, \* by which he reigned on the earth \* righteously and justly, \* shining forth in piety; and Thy mercy hath vouchsafed \* to him the Kingdom of Heaven by Thy grace. \* With him, we all now glorify

Thy man-befriending economy, \* O my Jesus, Almighty Lord, \* Thou divine Savior of our souls.

*Verse 2. Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

Thou hast richly given to Thy pious servant, O Friend of man, \* David's meekness and gentleness, \* the wisdom of Solomon, \* and the Orthodoxy \* of Thy Twelve Apostles, since Thou art alone King of kings \* and Lord of lords, Who dost govern all that is. \* On this account, we glorify Thy man-befriending economy, \* O my Jesus, Almighty Lord, \* Thou divine Savior of our souls.

*Verse 1. For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

Thou wast first to subjugate the scepter unto Christ willingly, \* ever-mem'orable Emperor, \* perceiving Him to be God \* and the King of all things, \* He Who giveth vict'ry, the Benefactor unto all, \* above all power and principality. \* O thou who lovest Christ, for this cause was thy kingdom made prosperous \* by Christ Jesus, the Friend of man, \* the divine Savior of our souls.

#### DOXASTICON FOR SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN IN TONE TWO

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

Receiving from God the best of rich gifts, O most mighty king, exceedingly great Constantine, thou rightly becamest eminent in them; for shining brightly with the rays of the All-holy Spirit through Baptism, thou becamest invincible among kings, offering the inhabited world and the God-fearing imperial city unto thy Creator as a dowry. Wherefore, since together with Helen, thy mother, thou hast boldness, cease not to entreat Christ God that forgiveness of sins and

Great Mercy be granted unto all who celebrate thy memory.

DOXASTICON FOR MYRRH-BEARING  
WOMEN IN TONE SIX

*Both now and ever, and  
unto ages of ages. Amen.*

The ointment-bearing women, O Savior, came to Thy tomb; and when they beheld the seals, not finding Thy body, they hurried anxiously, wailing and saying: Who hath stolen our Hope? Who hath taken away a naked, embalmed corpse, the only consolation to His Mother? Woe! How hath the dead-reviving One died? And how was He buried Who spoiled Hades? But arise Thou, by Thine own power after three days, as Thou didst say, and save our souls.

*Deacon:* Wisdom! Let us attend!

THE HYMN OF THANKSGIVING AT  
THE LIGHTING OF THE LAMPS

*Choir:* Gladsome light of the Holy glory that shines from the immortal Father in Heaven, the Holy, the Blessed, O Jesus Christ! Lo now that we come to sunset, now that we see the evening light, we sing the praise of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God. Worthy art Thou to be praised at all times with voices meet for holy song. Son of God, Thou Giver of Life, wherefore the world glorifieth thee.

THUSRDAY EVENING PROKEIMENON

*Psalm 120, in Tone Six*

*Deacon:* The Evening Prokeimenon!

*Choir:* My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth. *(twice)*

*Verse:* I have lifted up mine eyes to the mountains, from whence cometh my help.

*Choir:* My help cometh from the Lord, Who hath made heaven and the earth.

THE PARAMIA

*Deacon:* Wisdom.

*Reader:* The Reading is from the Third Book of Kings (8:22-23, 27-30).

*Deacon:* Let us attend.

*Reader:* Solomon stood before the altar in the presence of all the congregation of Israel; and he spread out his hands toward heaven, and he said: Lord God of Israel, there is no God like Thee in Heaven above, and on the earth beneath. If the heaven and heaven of heaven will not suffice Thee, how much less even this house which I have built to Thy Name? Yet Thou shalt look upon my supplication, O Lord God of Israel, to hear the supplication and prayer which Thy servant prayeth to Thee in Thy presence this day, that Thine eyes may be open toward this house day and night, even toward the place whereof Thou didst say: My Name shall be there, to hear the prayer which Thy servant prayeth toward this place, day and night. And Thou shalt hearken to the supplication of Thy servant, and of Thy people Israel, which they shall pray toward this place, and Thou shalt hear in Thy dwelling place in Heaven; and Thou shalt do, and be merciful.

*Deacon:* Wisdom.

*Reader:* The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (61:10-62:5).

*Deacon:* Let us attend.

*Reader:* Let my soul rejoice in the Lord; for He hath clothed me with the robe of salvation, and the garment of joy; He hath put a miter on me as on a bridegroom, and as a bride hath He adorned me with fair array. And as the earth putting forth her flowers, and as a garden its seed, so shall the Lord cause righteousness to spring forth, and exultation before all nations. For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until My righteousness go forth as light, and My salvation burn as a torch. And the nations

shall see thy righteousness, and all the kings thy glory, and shall call thee by a new name, which the Lord shall name. And thou shalt be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. And thou shalt no more be called Forsaken; and thy land shall no more be called Desolate; for thou shalt be called My Favor, and thy land Inhabited; for the Lord shall take pleasure in thee, and thy land shall be inhabited. And as a young man liveth with a virgin, so shall thy sons dwell in thee; and it shall come to pass that as a bridegroom will rejoice over a bride, so will the Lord rejoice over thee.

*Deacon:* Wisdom.

*Reader:* The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (60:1-16).

*Deacon:* Let us attend.

*Reader:* Shine, shine, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and there shall be gross darkness on the nations; but the Lord shall appear upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And kings shall walk in thy light, and nations in thy brightness. Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold thy children gathered; all thy sons are come from far, and thy daughters shall be borne on men's shoulders. Then shalt thou see, and be glad, and fear, and be amazed in thy heart, for the wealth of the sea, and of nations and peoples, shall come round to thee; and herds of camels shall come to thee, and the camels of Madiam and Gaepha shall cover thee; all from Saba shall come bearing gold, and shall bring frankincense and precious stones, and they shall proclaim the good tidings of the salvation of the Lord. And all the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered, and the rams of Nabaeoth shall come; and acceptable sacrifices shall be

offered on Mine altar, and My house of prayer shall be glorified. Who are these that fly as clouds, and as doves with young ones? The isles have waited for Me, and the ships of Tharsis among the first, to bring thy children from afar, and their silver and their gold with them, for the sake of the holy Name of the Lord, and because the Holy One of Israel is glorified. And strangers shall build thy walls, and their kings shall wait upon thee; for by reason of My wrath I smote thee, and by reason of mercy I loved thee. And thy gates shall be opened continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; to bring in to thee the power of the nations, and their kings as captives. For the nations and the kings which will not serve thee shall perish; and those nations shall be made utterly desolate. And the glory of Lebanon shall come to thee, with the cypress, and pine, and cedar together, to glorify My holy place, and the place of My feet will I glorify. And the sons of them that humbled thee, and of them that provoked thee, shall come to thee in fear, and all they that provoked thee shall worship at the footsteps of thy feet; and thou shalt be called Zion, the city of the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, because thou art become forsaken and hated, and there was none to help thee. Therefore I will make thee a perpetual gladness, a joy of generations of generations. And thou shalt suck the milk of the nations, and shalt eat the wealth of kings, and shalt know that I am the Lord that saveth thee and delivereth thee, the God of Israel.

#### THE AUGMENTED EKTENIA

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* O Lord Almighty, the God of our fathers, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* Have mercy on us, O God, according to thy great mercy, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

*Deacon:* Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

*Deacon:* Again we pray for our (*metropolitan or archbishop or bishop*), *N.*

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

*Deacon:* Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hiero-monks, deacons, hierodeacons and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

*Deacon:* Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and forgiveness of sins for (*the servants of God, NN., and*) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

*Deacon:* Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church (*and for the servants of God, NN.*), and all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

*Deacon:* Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, those who serve and those

who sing and all the people here present, who await thy great and rich mercy.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

*Priest:* For thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### THE EVENING PRAYER

*People:* Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy statutes. Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

*Deacon:* Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Deacon:* That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.

*Deacon:* An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.



*Deacon:* Pardon and forgiveness of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.

*Deacon:* All things good and profitable for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.

*Deacon:* That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

*Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.

*Deacon:* A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask.

*Choir:* Grant this, O Lord.

*Deacon:* Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other and all our life unto Christ our God.

*Choir:* To thee, O Lord.

*Priest:* For thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### THE PEACE

*Priest:* Peace be to all.

*Choir:* And to thy spirit.

*Deacon:* Bow your heads unto the Lord.

*Choir:* To Thee, O Lord.

*All bow their heads as the priest says the following prayer:*

*Priest:* O Lord our God, who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon thy servants and thine inheritance; for unto thee, the fearful Judge who yet lovest mankind, have thy servants bowed their heads and submissively inclined their necks, awaiting not help from men but entreating thy mercy and looking

confidently for thy salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse powers of the devil and from vain thoughts and from evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of thy kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

### APOSTICHA FOR SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN IN TONE TWO

*(\*\*When he took Thee\*\*)*

Thou wast first of all the Christian kings \* to receive the scepter from God; for His saving sign, which was hid \* in the earth, was shown to thee, O blessed Constantine. \* By its might thou didst subjugate \* all nations and peoples \* underneath the Christians' feet, since thou didst truly have \* Christ's life-giving Cross as a weapon \* which no adverse power could conquer, \* and thereby thou also wast brought to our God.

*Verse 1. I have raised up one chosen out of My people. I have found David My servant; with My holy oil have I anointed him.*

Verily most blessed is the womb \* and the hallowed belly that bare thee within, O ven'erable King, \* Constantine, thou God-crowned ruler whom the whole world loved; \* thou enricher and champion \* of orphans and widows, \* glory of the Romans, shelter of all humble men, \* joy of Christians, guardian of paupers, \* rescuer from straits and afflictions, \* and redeemer of those in captivity.

*Verse 2. Wherefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness.*

Smitten with desire and love for Christ, \* eagerly did Helen, the mother whence sprang the scion most sweet, \* haste to Holy Zion till she found the holy

place \* where our Savior was crucified, \* desiring to save us. \* And when through her diligence, she there had found the Cross \* and had raised it up with great longing, \* she rejoiced and cried aloud: Glory \* be to Him Who granted me mine ardent hope.

DOXASTICON FOR SS. CONSTANTINE  
AND HELEN IN TONE EIGHT

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

Like a brilliant ray, like an evening comet, drawn away from unbelief unto belief in the Godhead, thou camest to sanctify a people and a city. Beholding the sign of the Cross in the heavens, thou didst hear from thence: In this sign conquer thine enemies. Wherefore, receiving the knowledge of the Spirit, and being anointed with oil as priest and king, thou didst establish the Church of God, O Father of Orthodox kings, whose reliquary overfloweth with healings. Together with Helen, thy mother, O Constantine, equal to the Apostles, intercede in behalf of our souls.

DOXASTICON FOR MYRRH-BEARING  
WOMEN IN TONE SIX

*Both now and ever, and  
unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Joseph asked for the Body of Jesus I and laid it in his new sepulchre; for it was meet that He should come forth from the grave as from a bridal chamber. O Thou Who hast crushed the might of death and hast opened the gates of Paradise unto man, glory be to Thee.

THE HYMN OF ST. SIMEON  
THE GOD-RECEIVER

*All:* Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

*People:* Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (*Thrice*)

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*Thrice*)

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

*Priest:* For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*All:* Amen.

APOLYTIKION OF JOSEPH OF ARI-  
MATHEA IN TONE TWO

The pious Joseph, having brought down Thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But Thou didst verily rise after three days, O Lord, granting the world Great Mercy.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION  
IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of

Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN IN TONE EIGHT

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

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and, like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings, Constantine, with his mother, Helen, entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN IN TONE TWO

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women: the ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye: The Lord is risen, granting the world the Great Mercy.

*Deacon:* Wisdom.

*Reader:* Father, bless.

*Priest:* Christ our God, the Existing, is blessed, always now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

*Choir/Reader:* Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Priest:* Most holy Theotokos, save us.

*Choir:*<sup>1</sup> Shine! Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem. The glory of the Lord has shone on thee. Exult now, exult and be glad, O Sion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection, the Resurrection of thy Son.

*Priest:* Glory to thee, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to thee.

*Reader:* Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Father, bless.

THE GREAT DISMISSAL

*Priest:* May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of his all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the precious and life-giving cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers; *of the Holy Myrrh-Bearer and Equal to the Apostles, Mary Magdalene, protector of this community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; *of the Pious Joseph of Arimathea, Righteous Nicodemus and the Holy Myrrh-bearing Women; of the holy, glorious, great, God-crowned Sovereigns Constantine and Helen, the Equals to the Apostles, whose memory we celebrate today*, and of all the saints: have mercy on us, and save us, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

*Priest:* Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs ...

*Choir:* ... bestowing life.

<sup>1</sup> Some sources have the usual "More honorable..." in place of "Shine, shine ..." Our parish uses this hymn during Paschal season.