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READER'S ORTHROS

Bridegroom Orthros of Holy Thursday

(Served by anticipation in the evening of Holy Wednesday)

THE OPENING

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

Reader: Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God. Glory to Thee!

O heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art everywhere present and fillest all things, the Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come, and abide in us, and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O good One.

Trisagion

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.

Leader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

The Royal Psalms

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.

Reader: O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King. (*Metania*)

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God. (*Metania*)

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

PSALM 19

Reader: The Lord hear thee in the day of affliction; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee. Let Him send forth unto thee help from His sanctuary, and out of Sion let Him help thee. Let Him remember every sacrifice of thine, and thy whole-burnt offering let Him fatten. The Lord grant thee according to thy heart, and fulfil all thy purposes. We will rejoice in Thy salvation, and in the name of the Lord our God shall we be magnified. The Lord fulfil all thy requests. Now have

I know that the Lord hath saved His anointed one; He will hearken unto him out of His holy heaven; in mighty deeds is the salvation of His right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God. They have been fettered and have fallen, but we are risen and are set upright. O Lord, save the king, and hearken unto us in the day when we call upon Thee.

PSALM 20

O Lord, in Thy strength the king shall be glad, and in Thy salvation shall he rejoice exceedingly. The desire of his heart hast Thou granted unto him, and hast not denied him the requests of his lips. Thou wentest before him with the blessings of goodness, Thou hast set upon his head a crown of precious stone. He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest him length of days unto ages of ages. Great is his glory in Thy salvation; glory and majesty shalt Thou lay upon him. For Thou shalt give him blessing for ever and ever, Thou shalt gladden him in joy with Thy countenance. For the king hopeth in the Lord, and through the mercy of the Most High shall he not be shaken. Let Thy hand be found on all Thine enemies; let Thy right hand find all that hate Thee. For Thou wilt make them as an oven of fire in the time of Thy presence; the Lord in His wrath will trouble them sorely and fire shall devour them. Their fruit wilt Thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from the sons of men. For they have intended evil against Thee, they have devised counsels which they shall not be able to establish. For Thou shalt make them turn their backs; among those that are Thy remnant, Thou shalt make ready their countenance. Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we will sing and chant of Thy mighty acts.

Trisagion

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.

Leader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

Orthros Troparia

Reader: O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine inheritance. Grant victory to Orthodox Christians over their adversaries, and by thy cross preserve thy commonwealth.

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

Do thou, who of thine own good will wast lifted up upon the cross, O Christ our God, bestow thy bounties upon the new nation which is called by thy name. Make glad in thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

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

O fearsome champion, who cannot be put to confusion despise not our petitions, O good and all-praised Theotokos. Establish the way of the Orthodox, save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us all to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest birth to God and alone art blessed.

EKTENIA REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*9 times*)

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

Choir: Amen.

The Six Psalms

Reader: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace good will among men. (*thrice*)

O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. (*twice*)

PSALM 3

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my Helper, my Glory and the Lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and thy blessing is upon Thy people. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

PSALM 37

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome and corrupt in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mockings, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftiness all the day long did I meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

PSALM 62

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory, for Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy Name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips of rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee, if I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee, for Thou art become my Helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee, Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things. At the dawn I meditated on Thee, for Thou art become my Helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee, Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

Stasis

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. (*thrice*)

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.

PSALM 87

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee, let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication, for filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man with-out help, free among the dead, like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hands. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, in the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee. Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy and of Thy truth in destruction. Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that Land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery. O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee, let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.

PSALM 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and com-compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered, neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and re-member His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His words, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul. In every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched out my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies. O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy Name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant. Hearken unto me in Thy righteousness, and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

Stasis

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. (*thrice*)

O God our Hope, O Lord, glory to Thee.

THE LITANY OF PEACE REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (12 times)

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

Choir: Amen.

ALLELUIA & TRIADIKA IN TONE 8

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse: Out of the night my spirit waketh at dawn unto Thee, O God, for Thy commandments are a light upon the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse: Learn righteousness, ye that dwell upon the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse: Zeal shall lay hold of an uninstructed people, and now fire shall devour the adversaries.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse: Add more evils upon them, O Lord; add more evils upon them that are glorious upon the earth.

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

APOLYTIKION OF GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY IN TONE EIGHT

While the glorious Disciples, being illumined at the evening washing, Judas of evil worship was stricken and darkened with the love of the silver. And unto lawless judges, O righteous Judge, he delivered and surrendered Thee. Wherefore, O lover of wealth, behold him who for its sake did hang himself, and flee thou from that greedy soul which ventured thus far against the Master. O Thou Whose goodness pervadeth all, glory to Thee, O Lord. (*Thrice*)

THE GOSPEL

All: Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

Reader: The reading is from the holy Gospel according to St. Luke (22:1-39).

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

Reader (in normal voice): At that time, the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill Jesus, for they feared the people.

Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. So he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of the multitude.

Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat." So they said to Him, "Where will Thou that we prepare?" And He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters. Then you shall say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"' Then he will show you a large, furnished

upper room; there make ready.” So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.

When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. Then He said to them, “With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!” Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing.

Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called ‘benefactors.’ But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One Who serves. But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.” But he said to Him, “Lord, I am ready to go with Thee, both to prison and to death.” Then He said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me.”

And He said to them, “When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?” So they said, “Nothing.” Then He said to them, “But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: ‘And He was numbered with the transgressors.’ For the things concerning Me have an end.” So they said, “Lord, look, here are two swords.” And He said to them, “It is enough.”

Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him.

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

PSALM 50

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sins. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and

gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

The Canon of Holy Thursday, in tone 6

ODE ONE

The Red Sea was parted by a blow from the staff of Moses; the deep with its waves grew dry. It served as a path to the unarmed people of Israel, but to the Egyptians in full armor it proved a grave. A hymn of praise was sung, well-pleasing to God: Christ our God is greatly glorified.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Cause of all and Bestower of life, the infinite Wisdom of God has built His house from a pure Mother who has not known man. For, clothing Himself in a bodily temple, Christ our God is greatly glorified.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Instructing His friends in the Mysteries, the true Wisdom of God prepares a table that gives food to the soul, and He mingles for the faithful the cup of the wine of life eternal. Let us approach with reverence and cry aloud: Christ our God is greatly glorified.

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

Ye faithful, let us all give ear to the exalted preaching of the uncreated and consubstantial Wisdom of God, for He cries aloud: O taste and see that I am good! O sing: Christ our God is greatly glorified.

(Katavasia)

The Red Sea was parted by a blow from the staff of Moses; the deep with its waves grew dry. It served as a path to the unarmed people of Israel, but to the Egyptians in full armor it proved a grave. A hymn of praise was sung, well-pleasing to God: Christ our God is greatly glorified.

ODE THREE

O God the Lord and Creator of all, Thou art become poor, uniting a created nature to Thyself, while remaining free from passion. Since Thou art the Passover, Thou hast offered Thyself to those for whose sake Thou wast soon to die; and Thou hast cried: Eat My Body, and ye shall be firmly established in the faith.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Filling Thy cup of salvation with joy, O loving Lord, Thou hast made Thy disciples drink from it. For Thou offerest Thyself in sacrifice, crying: Drink My Blood, and ye shall be firmly established in the faith.

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

How foolish is the traitor in your midst! In Thy forbearance Thou hast said to Thy disciples. He will not know or understand these things. But abide in Me, and ye shall be firmly established in the faith.

(Katavasia)

O God the Lord and Creator of all, Thou art become poor, uniting a created nature to Thyself, while remaining free from passion. Since Thou art the Passover, Thou hast offered Thyself to those for whose sake Thou wast soon to die; and Thou hast cried: Eat My Body, and ye shall be firmly established in the faith.

LITTLE LITANY REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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

Choir: Amen.

MESODION KATHISMATA

(Plain Reading)

He Who made the lakes and springs and seas, wishing to teach us the surpassing value of humility, girded Himself with a towel and washed the feet of the disciples, humbling Himself in the abundance of His great compassion and raising us from the depths of wickedness, for He alone loves mankind.

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

Humbling Thyself in Thy compassion, Thou hast washed the feet of Thy disciples, teaching them to take the path which, as God, Thou hast followed. And Peter, who at first refused to be washed, yielded then to the divine command, and earnestly entreated Thee that we may be granted Thy Great Mercy.

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

Eating, O Master, with Thy disciples, Thou hast mystically revealed Thy holy death, which delivers us from corruption, who honor Thy sacred Passion.

Continuation of the Canon, in tone 6

ODE FOUR

Foreseeing Thy secret mystery, O Christ, the Prophet cried: Thou hast manifested the mighty power of Thy love, O merciful Father; for in Thy goodness Thou hast sent Thine only-begotten Son to the world as atonement.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Going to Thy Passion that frees from passion all the posterity of Adam, Thou hast said, O Christ, to Thy friends: I have desired to eat this Passover with you; for the Father has sent Me, His only-begotten Son, to the world as atonement.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Partaking from the cup, O Lord Immortal, Thou hast cried to the disciples: In this present life I will no more drink with you from the fruit of the vine. For the Father has sent Me, His only-begotten Son, to the world as atonement.

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

In My Kingdom, Thou hast said, O Christ, to Thy friends, I shall drink a new drink beyond your understanding; I shall be with you as God among gods. For the Father has sent Me, His only-begotten Son, to the world as atonement.

(Katavasia)

Foreseeing Thy secret mystery, O Christ, the Prophet cried: Thou hast manifested the mighty power of Thy love, O merciful Father; for in Thy goodness Thou has sent Thine only-begotten Son to the world as atonement.

ODE FIVE

United by the bond of love, and offering themselves to Christ the Lord, the apostles were washed clean; and, with feet made beautiful, they preached to all the Gospel of peace.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

The Wisdom of God that restrains the untamed fury of the waters that are above the firmament, that sets a bridle on the deep and keeps back the seas, now pours water into a basin; and the Master washes the feet of His servants.

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

The Master shows to His disciples an example of humility; He Who wraps the heavens in clouds girds Himself with a towel; and He in Whose hand is the life of all things kneels down to wash the feet of His servants.

(Katavasia)

United by the bond of love, and offering themselves to Christ the Lord, the apostles were washed clean; and, with feet made beautiful, they preached to all the Gospel of peace.

ODE SIX

The uttermost depths of sin have compassed me about; and no longer able to endure its stormy waves, as Jonah I cry out to Thee, O Master: Lead me up from corruption.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O disciples, ye call Me Lord and Master, and so I am, Thou hast cried, O Savior. Follow then the example that ye have seen in Me.

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

He who is free from defilement needs no washing of the feet. Now ye are clean, My disciples, but not all of you. For one of you inclines to wild folly in his heart.

(Katavasia)

The uttermost depths of sin have compassed me about; and no longer able to endure its stormy waves, as Jonah I cry out to Thee, O Master: Lead me up from corruption.

LITTLE LITANY REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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

Choir: Amen.

KONTAKION & OIKOS

(Plain reading)

Kontakion

Taking the bread into his hands, the betrayer stretched them forth secretly and receiveth the price of Him that, with His Own hands, fashioned man. And Judas, the servant and deceiver, remained incorrigible.

Oikos

Let us all draw near in fear to the mystical table, and with pure souls let us receive the Bread; let us remain at the Master's side, that we may see how He washes the feet of the disciples and wipes them with a towel; and let us do as we have seen, subjecting ourselves to each other and washing one another's feet. For, such is the commandment that Christ Himself gave to His disciples; but Judas servant and deceiver, remained incorrigible.

THE SYNAXARION

On Holy and Great Thursday, the Divine Fathers, who ordered all things aright, in succession to the Divine Apostles and the Sacred Gospels, have handed down to us the tradition of celebrating four events: the sacred Foot-washing, the Mystical Supper (that is, the bestowal of the dread Mysteries), the Transcendent Prayer, and the Betrayal itself.

On the evening of this day, which was the eve of the feast of unleavened bread (that is, the Passover), our Redeemer supped with His twelve disciples in the city. He blessed the bread and the wine, and gave us the Mystery of the Divine Eucharist. He washed the feet of the disciples as an example of humility. He said openly that one of them was about to betray Him, and He pointed out the betrayer by revealing that it was he "that dippeth his hand with Me in the dish." And after Judas had straightway gone forth, Jesus gave the disciples His final and sublime instructions, which are contained in the first Gospel Reading of the Holy Passion (John 13:31-18:1). After this the God-man went forth to the Mount of Olives, and there He began to be sorrowful and in anguish. He went off alone, and bending the knees He prayed fervently. From His great anguish, His sweat became as it were great drops of blood falling to the ground. As soon as He had completed that anguished prayer, lo, Judas came with a multitude of soldiers and a great crowd; on greeting the Teacher guilefully with a kiss, he betrayed Him.

By Thine ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Continuation of the Canon, in tone 6

ODE SEVEN

In Babylon the Children did not fear the fiery furnace; but cast into the midst of the flames they were refreshed with dew and sang: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

With head bowed, Judas plotted evil, seeking opportunity to deliver for condemnation the Judge Who is Lord of all and God of our fathers.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Among you there is one that shall betray Me, Christ cried to His friends; and they forgetting their gladness, were seized with grief and anguish, saying: Who shall this be? Tell us, O God of our fathers.

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

He that dares to dip his hand with Me in the dish; and it had been good for that man if he had never passed through the gates of life. So did Christ, the God of our fathers, speak of the one who should betray Him.

(Katavasia)

In Babylon the Children did not fear the fiery furnace; but cast into the midst of the flames they were refreshed with dew and sang: O God of our fathers, blessed art Thou.

ODE EIGHT

Accepting danger for the sake of their fathers' laws, the blessed Children in Babylon scorned the foolish order of the King. Standing together in the fire which burnt them not, they sang a song fitting for God almighty: O ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Blessed guests in Zion, faithful companions of the Word, the apostles followed the Shepherd like sheep. Firmly united to Christ and feeding upon the divine Word, they cried in thanksgiving: O ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Iniquitous Iscariot, forgetful of the law of friendship, hastened to the betrayal on the feet which Thou hadst washed. Eating Thy Bread, the divine Body, he lifted up his heel against Thee; for he knew not how to cry: O ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

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

Lacking all conscience, he received the Body that delivers men from sin and the divine Blood that was shed for the world. He was not ashamed to drink what he had sold for money; he felt no anger against sin; for he knew not how to cry: O ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.

(Katavasia)

Accepting danger for the sake of their fathers' laws, the blessed Children in Babylon scorned the foolish order of the King. Standing together in the fire which burnt them not, they sang a song fitting for God almighty: O ye works of the Lord, praise ye the Lord and exalt Him above all forever.

ODE NINE

Come, ye faithful, let us raise our minds on high and enjoy the Master's hospitality and the table of immortal life in the upper room; and let us hear the exalted teaching of the Word whom we magnify.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Go, said the Word to the disciples, and prepare the Passover for those whom I call to share in the Mystery; with the unleavened bread of the word of truth prepare the Passover in the upper room where the mind is established, and magnify the strength of grace.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

Before the ages the Father begat Me, who am Wisdom and Creator, and He established Me as the beginning of His ways. He appointed Me to perform the works which now are mystically accomplished. For though I am by nature the uncreated Word, I make My own the speech and qualities of the manhood that I have assumed.

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

Since I am man not merely in appearance but in reality, the human nature united to Me is made godlike through the exchange of attributes. Know Me, then, as one single Christ, Who saves those among whom I have been born and whose nature I have taken.

(Katavasia)

Come, ye faithful, let us raise our minds on high and enjoy the Master's hospitality and the table of immortal life in the upper room; and let us hear the exalted teaching of the Word whom we magnify.

LITTLE LITANY REPLACEMENT

Choir: Lord, have mercy. *(3 times)*

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

Choir: Amen.

THE EXAPOSTEILARION

Tone 3 (special melody)

I behold thy bridal chamber richly adorned, O my Saviour; but I have no wedding garment to worthily enter. Make radiant the garment of my soul, O Giver of Light, and save me. *(thrice)*

THE PRAISES

In tone 2

Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens: praise him in the heights. To thee, O God, is due our song. Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts. To thee, O God, is due our song.

Verse: Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

The Council of the Jews cometh together to deliver to Pilate the Author and Creator of all. Woe to their iniquity and infidelity. For Him that cometh to judge the living and the dead they prepare for judgment; the Healer of sufferings they make ready for suffering. Wherefore, O long-suffering Lord, great is Thy mercy; glory to Thee.

Verse: Praise him with sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and with harp.

The law-transgressing Judas, O Lord, who dipped his hand with Thee in the plate at supper, hath put forth his hands with iniquity to take silver; and he who calculated the price of the spice did not shrink from selling Thee, O priceless One. And he who put forth his feet for the Master to wash deceitfully kissed Him to deliver Him to the law-breakers. Verily, he hath been cast away with his thirty pieces of silver without beholding Thy third-day Resurrection, through which have mercy on us.

Verse: Praise him with the timbrel and dance; praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Judas, the traitor, being deceitful, betrayed the Savior Lord with a lying kiss; and he sold the Master of all like a slave to the transgressors of the law. But the Lamb of God followed like a sheep to the slaughter, Who is the only Son of the most merciful Father.

Verse: Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

Judas, that deceitful and cunning slave, assassinator of the righteous One, hath been revealed through his works; for he followed the Master, and concealed within himself the betrayal. He would say to himself: I will surrender this One and gain the accumulated wealth. He sought to sell the spice and maliciously hold Jesus. He offered a kiss and surrendered Christ Who, like a sheep, followed to slaughter, Who is alone compassionate and the Lover of mankind.

In tone 2

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

Verily, the Lamb Whom Isaiah preached cometh to voluntary slaughter, offering His back to scourges, and His cheeks to be slapped. Even His face He turned not from the shame of spitting, as He was condemned to die a horrible death. Yea, and the sinless One endures all willingly that He may grant to all resurrection from the dead.

THE LESSER DOXOLOGY

Leader: To Thee belongeth glory, O Lord our God, 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. Amen.

All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. We hymn thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks unto thee for thy great glory. O Lord, King, heavenly God, Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, thou that takest away the sins of the world. Receive our prayer, thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us. For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every night will I bless thee, and I will praise thy name forever; yea, forever and ever. Lord, thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said: Lord, be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against thee. Lord, I have fled unto thee: teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God; for with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light. O continue thy mercy unto them that know thee. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night 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 commandments. Blessed art thou, O Holy One: enlighten me with thy precepts. 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. Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

LITANY OF SUPPLICATION (& THE PEACE) REPLACEMENT

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.

THE APOSTICHA

In tone 8

Today the evil Sanhedrin has assembled against Christ and devised vain things against Him, plotting to deliver Him, though innocent, to Pilate to be put to death. Today Judas places round his neck the noose of money, and deprives himself of life both temporal and divine. Today Caiaphas

prophesies against his will, saying: “It is expedient that one man should perish for the people.” He came to suffer for our sins that He might set us free from the bondage of the enemy: for He is good and loves mankind.

Verse. He who ate My bread hath lifted up his heel against Me.

Today Judas lays aside his outward pretence of love for the poor, and openly displays his greed for money. No longer does he take thought for the needy. He offers now for sale, not the oil of myrrh brought by the sinful woman, but the Myrrh from Heaven, and he takes the pieces of silver. He runs to the Jews and says to the transgressors: “What will ye give me if I deliver Him up to you?” O avarice of the traitor! He reckons the sale profitable, and, agreeing with the wishes of the purchasers, he concludes the transaction. He does not dispute about the price but sells the Lord like a runaway slave; for it is the custom of thieves to throw away what is precious. So the disciple cast that which is holy to the dogs, and the madness of avarice fills him with fury against his own Master. Let us flee from such folly, and cry: O longsuffering Lord, glory to Thee.

Verse. He gathered iniquity unto himself; he went forth and spake in a like manner.

Deceitful are thy ways, lawless Judas. Sick with the love of money, thou hast come to hate mankind. If thou lovest riches, why become a disciple of Him Who teaches poverty? But if thy love is for Him, why sell the Lord that is above all price and hand Him over to be murdered? Tremble, O sun; groan, earth, and quaking cry aloud: O longsuffering Lord, glory to Thee.

Verse. They spoke lawless words against Me.

O ye faithful, let none who is uninstructed in the Mystery draw near to the table of the Lord’s Supper; let none approach deceitfully as Judas; for he received his portion, yet he betrayed the Bread. In outward appearance he was a disciple, yet in reality he was present as a murderer. He rejoiced with the Jews, though he sat at supper with the apostles. He kissed in hatred, and with his kiss he sold the God and Savior of our souls, who has redeemed us from the curse.

DOXASTICA FOR GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

In Tone 8

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

Deceitful are thy ways, lawless Judas. Sick with the love of money, thou hast come to hate mankind. If thou lovest riches, why become a disciple of Him Who teaches poverty? But if thy love is for Him, why sell the Lord that is above all price and hand Him over to be murdered? Tremble, O sun; groan, earth, and quaking cry aloud: O longsuffering Lord, glory to Thee.

In Tone 5

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

Instructing Thy disciples in the Mystery, O Lord, Thou hast taught them saying: “My friends, take care that fear does not separate you from Me. For, though I suffer, yet it is for the sake of the world. Do not be scandalized because of me; for I have come not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give My life as a ransom for the world. If then ye are My friends, ye will do as I do. He who will be first, let him be the last; let the master be as the servant. Abide in Me, that ye may bear fruit: for I am the Vine of Life.”

Reader: It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy Name, O Most High, to proclaim in the morning Thy mercy, and Thy truth by night.

Trisagion

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.

Leader: O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

All: Amen.

APOLYTIKION OF GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY IN TONE EIGHT

(Either sung or plainly read)

While the glorious Disciples, being illumined at the evening washing, Judas of evil worship was stricken and darkened with the love of the silver. And unto lawless judges, O righteous Judge, he delivered and surrendered Thee. Wherefore, O lover of wealth, behold him who for its sake did hang himself, and flee thou from that greedy soul which ventured thus far against the Master. O Thou Whose goodness pervadeth all, glory to Thee, O Lord.

Reader: Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

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

More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

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

Reader: Amen. O heavenly King, support our believing kings; confirm their faith; guide the nations; give peace to the world and preserve well this holy church. Grant repose to our departed fathers and brothers, in the dwelling-places of the righteous. Receive us in repentance and confession, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

THE DISMISSAL

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

All: 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. O Lord, bless.

Leader: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Who, for our salvation, showed us the most excellent way of humility when He washed His disciples' feet, and condescended even unto the Cross and burial because of His exceeding goodness, through the prayers of Thy most pure Mother; at the supplication of the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; of our father among the saints Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia; of the holy Myrrh-bearer and equal-to-the-apostles, Mary Magdalene, protector of our community; of the holy and righteous ancestors

of God Joachim and Anna; and all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for Thou art good and lovest mankind.

The faithful now venerate the icon of the Bridegroom, while the Troparion and/or the Ex-apostelation of the Bridegroom is chanted by the choir. Then, facing the icon of Christ, on the iconostasis, the Leader says:

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

All: Amen.