Great and Holy Tuesday
Matins
Served Monday evening or Tuesday morning

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

Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.
O heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of blessings and Giver of life: come and abide in us; and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (thrice)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, 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 transgressions. 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, 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.
[Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. ]
Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (Twelve times)
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Come, let us worship God our King.
Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.
Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ himself, our King and our God.
PSALM 19
The Lord hear thee in the day of affliction; the Name of the God of Jacob defend thee. May he send thee help from the sanctuary, and aid thee out of Sion. May he remember all thy sacrifice, and fatten thy whole-burnt offering. May he grant thee according to thy heart, and fulfill all thy counsel. We shall rejoice in thy salvation, and in the Name of our God shall we be magnified; the Lord fulfill all thy petitions. Now have I known that the Lord has saved his Christ; he will hear him from his holy heaven; the salvation of his right hand is wrought in mighty acts. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we will call upon the Name of the Lord. They are overthrown and fallen, but we are risen and set upright. O Lord, save the king, and hear us in the day when we call upon thee.

PSALM 20
The king shall be glad in thy strength, O Lord, and in thy salvation shall he greatly rejoice. Thou hast granted him his heart’s desire, and hast not denied him the request of his lips. For thou hast gone 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 for ever and ever. His glory is great in thy salvation; glory and majesty shalt thou lay upon him. For thou shalt give him blessing for ever and ever; thou shalt make him glad with joy by thy countenance. For the king hopes in the Lord, and in the mercy of the Most High he shall not be shaken. Let thy hand be found on all thine enemies; let thy right hand find out all them that hate thee. Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven at the time of thy presence; the Lord shall trouble them in his wrath, and fire shall devour them. Their fruit shalt thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from among the sons of men. For they intended evils against thee; they devised counsels which they cannot establish. For thou shalt make them turn their back. In thy remnant, thou shalt prepare their face. Be thou exalted, O Lord, in thy strength. We shall sing and praise thy mighty acts.

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

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (thrice)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, 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 transgressions. 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, 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.
[Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.] Amen.

O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries, and by virtue of thy Cross, preserve thy habitation.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by thy Name, O Christ God. Make all Orthodox Christians glad by thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries, by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, thy weapon of peace.
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
O awesome Protectress who cannot be put to shame, despise not our prayers, O good and all-hymned Theotokos; confirm the habitation of the Orthodox; save those called upon to govern us, and grant them the victory which is from heaven, for thou hast given birth to God and alone art blessed.

[Lord, have mercy. (Thrice) Glory... now and ever...]

The Six Psalms

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. (Thrice)
O Lord, open thou my lips and my mouth shall show forth thy praise. (Twice)

Psalm 3

Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say of 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 were my enemies; thou hast broken the teeth of sinners. Salvation belongs to 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, neither chasten me in thy wrath. For thine arrows are stuck fast in me, and thou hast pressed thy hand heavily upon me. For there is no health in my flesh in the face of thy wrath. There is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities have gone over my head; they have weighed upon me like a heavy burden. My wounds stank and festered in the face of my foolishness. I was wretched and bowed down until the end. I went mourning all the day long. For my loins are filled with insults, and there is no health in my flesh. I am afflicted and greatly humbled; I have roared from the groaning of my heart. Lord, all my desire is before thee, and my groaning is not hidden from thee. My heart is troubled, my strength has failed me, and the light of mine eyes itself is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew near and stood before me, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought my soul took to violence, and they that sought evils for me spoke empty things, and devised deceits all the day long. But I, like a deaf man, heard not, and was as a speechless man not opening his mouth. And I became as a man that hears not, and whose mouth has no reproofs. For in thee, O Lord, have I hoped. Thou wilt hear, O Lord my God. For I said, ‘Let my enemies never rejoice over me’; for when my feet were shaken, they spoke boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my grief is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and be sorry for my sin. But my enemies live, and are stronger than I, and they that hate me unjustly are multiplied. They that reward evil for good have slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God; depart not from me. Attend unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Psalm 62

God, my God, I keep watch for thee at dawn. My soul has thirsted for thee; how often has my flesh longed for thee, in a barren and trackless and waterless land. So have I appeared before thee in the sanctuary, to see thy power and thy glory. For thy mercy is better than life; my lips shall praise thee. Thus will I bless thee while I live; I will lift up my hands in thy Name. Let my soul be filled as with marrow and fat, and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips. If I remembered thee upon my bed, at dawn I did meditate on thee. For thou hast been my helper, and in the shelter of thy wings will I rejoice. My soul has cleaved to thee; thy right hand has upheld me. But they sought after my soul in vain; they shall go into the lowest parts of the earth. They shall be delivered up to the edge of the
sword; they shall be portions for foxes. But the king shall rejoice in God. Everyone that
swears by him shall be praised, for the mouth of them that speak unjust things is stopped.

AND AGAIN:
At dawn I did meditate on thee. For thou hast been my helper, and in the shelter of thy
wings will I rejoice. My soul has cleaved to thee; thy right hand has upheld me.

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

PSALM 87

O Lord God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before thee. Let my prayer
come before thee; incline thine ear to my supplication. For my soul is filled with evils,
and my life has drawn nigh unto hell. I have been counted with them that go down to the
pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead, like the slain that sleep in the
grave, whom thou rememberest no more; and they are cast off from thy hand. They laid
me in the lowest pit, in dark places, and in the shadow of death. Thine anger lies hard upon
me, and thou hast brought all thy waves upon me. Thou hast removed mine acquaintances
far from me; they made me an abomination to themselves. I have been delivered up, and
have not gone forth. Mine eyes are weakened from poverty. I cried unto thee, O Lord, all
the day. I have stretched out my hands unto thee. Wilt thou work wonders for the dead?
Or shall physicians raise them up, that they shall praise thee? Shall anyone tell of thy mercy
in the grave, and of thy truth in destruction? Shall thy wonders be known in darkness, and
thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness? But unto thee have I cried, O Lord, and in
the morning shall my prayer come before thee. Lord, why dost thou cast off my prayer, and
turnest thy face away from me? I am poor and in troubles from my youth. And after I was
exalted, I was humbled and distressed. Thy wrath passed over me, and thy terrors greatly
troubled me. They encircled me like water; all the day long they surrounded me together.
Thou hast put far from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances, because of my
misery.

AND AGAIN:
O Lord God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before thee. Let my prayer come
before thee; incline thine ear to 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 his benefits: who forgives all thine iniquities, who heals all thy diseases, who redeems thy life from corruption, who crowns thee with mercy and compassion, who satisfies thy desire with good things, so that thy youth shall be renewed like the eagle’s. The Lord executes mercy and judgment for all them that are wronged. He made known his ways unto Moses, his will to the children of Israel. The Lord is compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy. His wrath will not endure until the end, neither will he be angry forever. He has not dealt with us according to our iniquities, nor rewarded us according to our sins. As high as heaven is above the earth, so the Lord has strengthened his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our iniquities from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion upon them that fear him. For he knows our fashioning; he has remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field shall he flourish. For the wind passes over it, and it shall be no more, and no longer shall it know its place. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness to children’s children, to them that keep his covenant, and remember his commandments to do them. The Lord has prepared his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, all ye his angels, mighty in strength, that do his word, hearkening to the voice of his words. Bless the Lord, all ye his hosts, his ministers that do his will. Bless the Lord, all his works, in every place of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.

AND AGAIN:
In every place of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.

PSALM 142

Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to 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 has persecuted my soul; he has humbled my life to the earth; he has set me in dark places, like those long dead. And my spirit was despondent within me; my heart within me was troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all thy deeds; on the works of thy hands did I meditate. I spread forth my hands unto thee; my soul thirsts for thee like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord, my spirit has failed; turn not thy face from me; lest I become like them that go down to the pit. Cause me to hear thy mercy in the morning, for I have hoped in thee; make known to me, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I have lifted my soul up to thee. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord; I have fled unto thee for refuge. Teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God; thy good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. Thou shalt
quicken me, O Lord, for thy Name’s sake; in thy righteousness thou shalt bring my soul out of affliction, and in thy mercy thou wilt lay waste my enemies. And thou wilt destroy 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.

AND AGAIN:
Hearken unto me in thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with thy servant. 
Hearken unto me in thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with thy servant. Thy good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, 
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. 
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to thee, O God. (thrice)

[Lord, have mercy. (Twelve times) Glory... now and ever... ]

In the eighth tone: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. In the night my soul rises early for thee, O God, for thy commandments are a light on the earth. 

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Learn righteousness, ye that dwell upon the earth.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Jealousy shall take hold of an untaught people.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Bring more evils upon them, O Lord, bring more evils upon those who are glorious on the earth.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

TROPARION, TONE 8
Behold, the Bridegroom comes at midnight, and blessed is the servant whom he shall find watching; and again, unworthy is the servant whom he shall find heedless. Beware, therefore, O my soul, do not be weighed down with sleep, lest thou be given up to death, and lest thou be shut out of the Kingdom! But rouse thyself, crying: “Holy, holy, holy, art Thou, O our God”; through the Theotokos have mercy on us. (Thrice)

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. 
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
**KATHISMA 9 (Ps. 64-69)**

Lord, have mercy. (Thrice)

Sessional Hymn, Tone 4

Let us love the Bridegroom, O brothers. Let us keep our lamps aflame with virtues and true faith, so that we, like the wise virgins of the Lord, may be ready to enter with him into the marriage feast; for the Bridegroom, as God, grants unto all an incorruptible crown.

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

Let us love the Bridegroom, O brothers... (repeat the same as above)

**KATHISMA 10 (Ps. 70-76)**

Sessional Hymn, Tone 4

In envy, the priests and scribes cunningly gathered a council against thee, O Savior, moving Judas to betrayal. He shamelessly went forth and spoke against thee, saying to a transgressing people: “What will ye give me if I deliver him into your hands?” From his condemnation save our souls, O Lord!

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

In envy, the priests and scribes... (repeat the same as above)

**KATHISMA 6 (Ps. 77-84)**

Sessional Hymn, Tone 8

Judas loves money with his mind; the impious one moves against the Master, He wills and plans the betrayal. Receiving darkness, he falls from the light. He agrees to the price and sells the Priceless One. As payment for his deeds the wretch gains hanging and a terrible death. From his lot deliver us, O Christ God, granting remission of sins to those who celebrate thine immaculate Passion with love.

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

Judas loves money with his mind... (repeat the same as above)

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The reading of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew


**Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee!**

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1 In the parish practice, the kathismas of the Psalter are usually omitted. It is recommended, however, that the sessional hymns should still be read or sung.
At that time, the Pharisees went and took counsel how to entangle Jesus in his talk. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the money for the tax.” And they brought him a coin. And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard it, they marveled; and they left him and went away.

The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection; and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies, having no children, his brother must marry the widow, and raise up children for his brother.’ Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married, and died, and having no children left his wife to his brother. So too the second and third, down to the seventh. After them all, the woman died. In the resurrection, therefore, to which of the seven will she be wife? For they all had her.” But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.” And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, “What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put thy enemies under thy feet’? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?” And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all
their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes
long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and
salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. But you are not to be called
rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on
earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have
one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts
himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom
of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter
to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you traverse sea and land to
make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a
child of hell as yourselves. Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If any one swears by the
temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his
oath.’ You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold
sacred? And you say, ‘If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by
the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind men! For which is greater,
the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it
and by everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who
dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who
sits upon it. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and
cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith;
these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining
out a gnat and swallowing a camel! Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you
cleanse the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and
rapacity. You blind Pharisee! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the
outside also may be clean. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like
whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead
men’s bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but
within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying,
‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in
shedding the blood of the prophets.’ Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons
of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You
serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to
Gehenna? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you
will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town
to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of
innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation.

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

Glory to Thee, O our God, glory to Thee!

**Psalm 50**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy, and according to the multitude of thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is continually before me. Against thee only have I sinned, and done what is 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 unknown and hidden things of thy wisdom hast thou made known unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt cause me to hear joy and gladness, the bones that have been humbled 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. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and establish me with a ruling spirit. I will teach transgressors thy ways, and the ungodly shall return to thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation, and 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 would have given it; thou wilt not be pleased with whole-burnt-offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in thy good pleasure unto Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built. Then shalt thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt-offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

[Lord, have mercy. (Twelve times) Glory... now and ever...]
Kontakion, Tone 2
Thou knowest that this is the last hour, O wretched soul, and dost fear the cutting of the fig tree. Work diligently, therefore, with the talent given to thee. Keep watch and cry: “Let us not remain outside the bridal chamber of Christ!”

Ikos
Why art thou idle, my wretched soul? What useless cares cause thee to be lost in dreams? Why busy thyself with things that pass away? The last hour is at hand, and we shall be parted from all earthly things. Therefore, while there is time, rouse thyself and cry: “I have sinned before thee, O my Savior; do not cut me off like the barren fig tree. In thy compassion, O Christ, take pity on me who call out in fear: ‘Let us not remain outside the bridal chamber of Christ!’”

Then we read the two-ode canon by St Cosmas of Maiuma: the heirmoi are sung, the troparia are read with the refrain: Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.

Ode 8
Heirmos, tone 2
The three Holy Youths would not obey the decree of the Tyrant. When cast into the furnace they confessed God and sang: “Bless the Lord, O works of the Lord!”

Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.
Let us cast aside all idleness, and with shining lamps and hymns meet Christ, the Immortal Bridegroom, singing: “Bless the Lord, O works of the Lord!”

Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.
May we together have enough oil in the vessels of our souls, so that, not wasting the time of rewards in buying more, we may sing: “Bless the Lord, O works of the Lord!”

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
May all who have received a talent from God, now, with the help of Christ, increase according to the grace given by Him and sing: “Bless the Lord, O works of the Lord!”

We praise, bless, and worship the Lord, singing and exalting him throughout all ages.
Katavasia:
The three Holy Youths would not obey the decree of the Tyrant. When cast into the furnace they confessed God and sang: “Bless the Lord, O works of the Lord!”

The Magnificat is not sung.

Ode 9
Heirmos, tone 2
In thy womb thou didst contain God who cannot be contained; thou didst conceive the joy of the world. We praise thee, O most holy Virgin.

Glory to thee, our God, glory to thee.
The Good One said to His Disciples: “Watch, for ye know not the hour in which the Lord will come to repay each man.”

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
At thy dread second coming, O Master, number me with the sheep at thy right hand, overlooking my many transgressions.

Katavasia:
In thy womb thou didst contain God who cannot be contained; thou didst conceive the joy of the world. We praise thee, O most holy Virgin.

[ Lord, have mercy. (Three times) Glory... now and ever... ]

Exapostilarion
Thy bridal chamber I see adorned, O my Savior, and I have no wedding garment that I may enter. O Giver of Light, enlighten the vesture of my soul, and save me. (thrice)

Then read the psalms of Praises (Ps. 148-150) with the appointed stichera:

P raise the Lord from the heavens.
   To thee is due praise, O God.
Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the highest.
   To thee is due praise, O God.
Praise him, all ye angels of his; praise him, all his hosts.
   To thee is due praise, O God.
Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all ye stars and light. Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and thou water above the heavens. Let them praise the Name of the Lord; for he spoke, and they came to be; he commanded, and they were created. He established them forever, yea, for ever and ever; he made a decree, and it shall not pass away. Praise the Lord from the earth, ye dragons and all the deeps. Fire and hail, snow and ice, stormy wind, performing his word. Mountains and all hills; fruitful trees and all cedars; beasts and all cattle; creeping things and winged birds; kings of the earth and all peoples; princes and all judges of the earth; young men and maidens, old men with the younger: let them praise the Name of the Lord: for his Name alone is exalted; his praise is above earth and heaven, and he shall exalt the horn of his people, a hymn for all his saints, for the children of Israel, a people that draws near to him.

**Psalm 149**

Sing unto the Lord a new song; his praise in the church of the saints. Let Israel be glad in him that made him; and let the sons of Sion rejoice in their king. Let them praise his Name in the dance; let them sing praises unto him with timbrel and harp. For the Lord is well pleased with his people, and will exalt the meek with salvation. The saints shall boast in glory and shall rejoice upon their beds. The high praises of God shall be in their throat, and two-edged swords in their hands; to execute vengeance upon the nations, and punishments upon the peoples; to bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; to execute upon them the judgment that is written; this glory shall be for all his saints.

**Psalm 150**

Praise God in his saints; praise him in the firmament of his power.

(4) *Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him according to his abundant greatness.*

Tone 1

How shall I, the unworthy one, appear in the splendor of thy saints? For if I dare enter thy bridal chamber with them, my garments will betray me: they are unfit for a wedding. The Angels will cast me out in chains. Cleanse the filth of my soul, O Lord, and save me in thy love for mankind.

(3) *Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with psaltery and harp.*

How shall I, the unworthy one … (repeat the same as above)

(2) *Praise him with timbrel and dance; praise him with strings and pipe.*

Tone 2

O Christ the Bridegroom, my soul has slumbered in laziness. I have no lamp aflame with virtues. Like the foolish virgins, I wander aimlessly when it is time for work. But do not close thy compassionate heart to me, O Master; rouse me; shake off my heavy sleep. Lead me with the wise virgins into the bridal chamber, that I may hear the pure voice of those that feast and cry unceasingly: O Lord, glory to thee!
Praise him with tuneful cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals. * Let every breath praise the Lord!
O Christ the Bridegroom... (repeat the same as above)

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

Tone 4
Thou hast heard the condemnation, O soul, of the man who hid his talent. But do not hide the Word of God, proclaim his wonders, that, increasing the gift of grace, thou mayest enter into the joy of thy Lord!

Then read the Doxology:
Glory to thee who hast shown us the light.
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. We praise thee; we bless thee; we worship thee; we glorify thee; we give thanks to thee for thy great glory: O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the Only-begotten Son Jesus Christ; and thou, O 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, have mercy on us. For thou only art holy, thou only art Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen. Every day will I bless thee and praise thy name for ever, yea for ever and ever.
Lord, thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said, Lord, be merciful to 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, and in thy light shall we see light. O continue thy mercy unto them that know thee.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. Blessed art thou, O Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is thy Name forever. Amen.
Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, 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: despise not the works of thy hands. To thee is due praise, to thee is due song, to thee is due glory: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

[Lord, have mercy. (Twelve times) Glory... now and ever... ]
APOSTICHA

Tone 6
Come, O faithful, let us work zealously for the Master, for he distributes wealth to his servants. Let each of us, according to his ability, increase his talent of grace: let one be adorned in wisdom through good works; let another celebrate a service in splendor. The one distributes his wealth to the poor; the other communicates the Word to those untaught. Thus we shall increase what has been entrusted to us, and, as faithful stewards of grace, we shall be accounted worthy of the Master’s joy. Make us worthy of this, O Christ our God, in Thy love for mankind.

We were filled with thy mercy in the morning, O Lord, and we rejoiced and were glad. In all our days let us be glad for the days in which thou didst humble us, for the years in which we saw evils. And look upon thy servants and upon thy works,* and do thou guide their sons.

When Thou shalt come in glory, O Jesus, with the Angelic Hosts, and shalt sit upon the throne for judgment, do not drive me away, O Good Shepherd. For thou knowest the paths on thy right hand, but those on thy left hand lead astray. Do not destroy me with the goats, though I am coarse with sin, but number me with the sheep on thy right hand, and save me in thy love for mankind.

And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us, and do thou guide aright the works of our hands upon us,* yea, the works of our hands do thou guide aright.

Thou art more beautiful than all men, O Bridegroom. Thou hast invited us to the spiritual banquet of thy bridal chamber. Strip me of the ugly garment of my sins, as I participate in thy Passion. Adorn me in the glorious robe of thy beauty that proclaims me a guest in thy Kingdom, O merciful Lord.

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

Tone 7
Behold, the Master has entrusted thee with the talent, O my soul: receive the gift with fear. Repay the One who gave by giving to the poor, and gain the Lord as thy friend, so that when he comes in glory, thou mayest stand at his right hand and hear his blessed voice: “Enter, my servant, into the joy of thy Lord!” Though I have gone astray, make me worthy of this, O Savior, through thy great mercy.
Then, read this:
It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to thy Name, O Most High, to proclaim thy mercy in the morning, and thy truth by night. (twice)

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (thrice)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, 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 transgressions. 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, 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.
[Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. ] Amen.

Standing in the temple of thy glory, we think that we are standing in heaven; O Theotokos, the Gate of heaven, open to us the doors of thy mercy.

Lord, have mercy. (40 times)
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
More honorable than the cherubim and more glorious, beyond compare, than the seraphim: without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

O heavenly King, strengthen the Orthodox Christians, confirm the Faith, calm the nations, give peace to the world, preserve well this holy church (or: this household, or: this city), grant repose in the mansions of the righteous to our fathers and brethren who have departed this life and accept us in repentance and confession, for thou art Good and the Lover of mankind.
PRAYER OF ST EPHREM
O Lord and Master of my life, give me not a spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. (prostration) But give rather a spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to thy servant. (prostration) Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother: for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen. (prostration)

And we make twelve bows from the waist, quietly saying O God, cleanse me a sinner each time. And again, the whole prayer O Lord and Master… with only one prostration at the end.

And we begin the First Hour (see below).

If the First Hour is not said, then after the Prayer of St Ephraim, say: Glory… now and ever… Lord, have mercy. (Thrice). Lord, bless, and the DISMISSAL as appointed at the end of the First Hour.

FIRST HOUR

Come, let us worship God our King.
Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God.
Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ himself, our King and our God.

PSALM 5
Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my cry. Attend to the voice of my supplication, my King and my God, for unto thee will I pray, O Lord. In the morning thou shalt hear my voice; in the morning I shall stand before thee, and thou shalt look upon me, for thou art not a god that willest iniquity; neither shall the wicked man dwell with thee; nor shall transgressors abide before thine eyes; thou hast hated all them that work iniquity. Thou shalt destroy all them that speak falsehood. The Lord abhors the bloody and deceitful man. But as for me, in the multitude of thy mercy I will go into thy house. I will worship toward thy holy temple in fear of thee. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of my enemies; make my way straight before thy face. For there is no truth in their mouth; their heart is vain; their throat is an open sepulcher; they dealt deceitfully with their tongues. Judge them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out according to the multitude of their ungodliness, for they have embittered thee, O Lord. And let all them that hope in thee be glad; they shall rejoice forever, and thou shalt dwell among them; and all
that love thy Name shall boast in thee. For thou shalt bless the righteous. O Lord, thou hast
crowned us with good pleasure as with a shield.

**Psalm 89**

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. Before the mountains were
brought forth, and before the earth and the world were formed, even from everlasting to
everlasting, Thou Art. Turn not man away unto humiliation. And thou hast said, Turn back,
ye sons of men. For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday that is past, and as a
watch in the night. Their years shall count for nothing; in the morning he shall pass away
like grass. In the morning he shall flourish, and pass away; in the evening he shall fall, and
wither, and dry up. For we have fainted away in thy wrath, and in thine anger we were
troubled. Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our age in the light of thy countenance.
For all our days have passed away, and we have passed away in thy wrath. Our years are
considered weak as a cobweb. The days of our years are threescore years and ten, and if we
be in strength, fourscore years, and most of them are labor and sorrow, for mildness is come
upon us, and we shall be chastened. Who knows the might of thy wrath? And who can
recount thine anger from fear of thee? Make known thy right hand unto me and to them
that are instructed in wisdom in their heart. Return, O Lord, how long? And be thou
entreated concerning thy servants. We were filled with thy mercy in the morning, and we
rejoiced and were glad. In all our days let us be glad for the days in which thou didst humble
us, for the years in which we saw evils. And look upon thy servants and upon thy works, and
do thou guide their sons. And let the brightness of the Lord our God be upon us, and do
thou guide aright the works of our hands upon us, yea, the works of our hands do thou
guide aright.

**Psalm 100**

I will sing of mercy and judgment unto thee, O Lord. I will sing and have understanding in
a blameless way. O when wilt thou come unto me? In the midst of my house I have walked
in the innocence of my heart. I have set no lawless thing before mine eyes; I have hated the
workers of transgression. A perverse heart has not cleaved unto me; the wicked man, who
turned from me, I did not know. He who speaks secretly against his neighbor, I have driven
him away from me; he who has a proud eye and an insatiable heart, with him I have not
eaten. Mine eyes are upon the faithful of the land, that they might dwell with me. He that
walked in a blameless way, he served me. The proud doer dwelt not in the midst of my
house; the speaker of unjust things prospered not before mine eyes. In the morning I slew
all the sinners of the land, that I might utterly destroy all the workers of iniquity from the
city of the Lord.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to thee, O God. (thrice)
Lord, have mercy. (thrice)

**Troparion of the Hour, Tone 6**

Hearken in the morning to my voice, my King and my God.
**Hearken in the morning to my voice, my King and my God.** (prostration)

Hear my words, O Lord; consider my cry.
**Hearken in the morning to my voice, my King and my God.** (prostration)

For unto thee will I pray, O Lord.
**Hearken in the morning to my voice, my King and my God.** (prostration)

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
What shall we call thee, O Full of Grace? Heaven – for thou didst shine forth the Sun of righteousness. Paradise – for thou didst blossom forth the Flower of incorruption. Virgin – for thou hast remained incorrupt. Pure Mother – for thou hast held in thy holy embrace a Son who is God of all. Beseech Him to save our souls.

Order my steps according to thy word, and let no iniquity have dominion over me. (twice)
Deliver me from the false accusation of men, and so will I keep thy commandments. (twice)
Make thy face to shine upon thy servant, and teach me thy statutes. (twice)
Let my mouth be filled with thy praise, O Lord, that I may hymn thy glory and majesty all the day long. (3 times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (thrice)

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

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

Amen.

KONTAKION OF HOLY TUESDAY

Thou knowest that this is the last hour, O wretched soul, and dost fear the cutting of the fig tree. Work diligently, therefore, with the talent given to thee. Keep watch and cry: “Let us not remain outside the bridal chamber of Christ!”

Lord, have mercy. (40 times)

PRAYER OF THE HOURS

Thou who, at every season and every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshiped and glorified, O Christ our God, who art long-suffering, merciful, and compassionate; who lovest the just and showest mercy upon the sinner; who calleth all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come: O Lord, in this hour receive our supplications, and direct our lives according to thy commandments; sanctify our souls, hallow our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds; deliver us from all tribulation, evil, and distress. Surround us with thy holy angels, that guided and guarded by their host, we may attain to the unity of the faith and to the knowledge of thine unapproachable glory, for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (thrice)

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

More honorable than the cherubim and more glorious, beyond compare, than the seraphim: without corruption thou gavest birth to God the Word; true Theotokos, we magnify thee.

PRAYER OF ST EPHREM

O Lord and Master of my life, give me not a spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. (prostration) But give rather a spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to thy servant. (prostration) Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother: for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen. (prostration)
And we make twelve bows from the waist, quietly saying O God, cleanse me a sinner each time. And again, the whole prayer O Lord and Master ... with only one prostration at the end.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (thrice)

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

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

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (12 times)

PRAYER OF THE FIRST HOUR

O Christ, the true Light, which illumines and sanctifies every man who comes into the world: Let the light of thy countenance be signed upon us, that in it we may behold the light unapproachable. Guide our footsteps aright, to the keeping of thy commandments, through the intercessions of thine all-immaculate Mother and of all thy saints. Amen.

And we sing:

O victorious leader of triumphant hosts, we, thy servants, delivered from evil, sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos. As thou dost possess invincible might, set us free from every calamity, so that we may sing: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!

DISMISSAL

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord have mercy. (Thrice) O Lord, bless!
O thou who art going to thy voluntary Passion for our salvation, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, through the prayers of thy most pure Mother and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for thou art good and lovest mankind.