Great and Holy Friday
Royal Hours
Served Friday morning

First Hour

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 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 wilt bless the righteous. O Lord, thou hast crowned us with good pleasure as with a shield.

**PSALM 2**

Why did the nations rage, and the peoples meditate vain things? The kings of the earth stood forth, and the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against his Christ. Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yoke from us. He that dwells in the heavens shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall hold them in derision. Then shall he speak to them in his wrath, and trouble them in his anger. But as for me, I was appointed king by him on Sion his holy hill, declaring the decree of the Lord. The Lord said to me, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the nations for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt rule them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel. And now understand, O ye kings; be instructed, all ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice in him with trembling. Lay hold of instruction, lest at any time the Lord be wroth, and ye perish from the righteous way; when his anger is quickly kindled, blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

**PSALM 21**

O God, my God, attend unto me. Why hast thou forsaken me? Far from my salvation are the words of my transgressions. O my God, I shall cry by day, and thou wilt not hear, and by night, and it shall not be folly for me. But thou dwellest in the sanctuary, O thou Praise of Israel. Our fathers hoped in thee; they hoped, and thou didst deliver them. They cried unto thee, and were saved; they hoped in thee, and were not put to shame. But as for me, I
am a worm, and no man, the reproach of men, and despised by the people. All they that saw me laughed me to scorn; they spoke with their lips; they shook their head, saying: ‘He hoped on the Lord, let him deliver him; let him save him, for he desires him.’ For thou art he that drew me out of the womb, my hope from my mother’s breasts. I was cast upon thee from the womb; from my mother’s womb thou art my God. O depart not from me, for affliction is near, for there is none to help. Many calves have encompassed me: fat bulls surrounded me. They opened their mouth against me, like a ravening and a roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are scattered; my heart became like wax melting in the midst of my belly. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue has stuck to my throat, and thou hast brought me down to the dust of death. For many dogs have encompassed me; the assembly of the wicked surrounded me; they pierced my hands and my feet. They numbered all my bones, and they looked and stared upon me. They divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots. But thou, O Lord, remove not my help far away from me; attend unto mine aid. Deliver my soul from the sword, yea, my only-begotten from the hand of the dog. Save me from the lion’s mouth, and my lowliness from the horns of the unicorns. I will declare thy name unto my brethren; in the midst of the church will I hymn thee. Ye that fear the Lord, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him; let all the seed of Israel fear him. For he has not despised nor scorned the supplication of the poor; nor turned away his face from me; and when I cried unto him, he heard me. From thee is my praise. In the great church will I confess thee; I will pay my vows before them that fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and they that seek the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live for ever. All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn unto the Lord, and all the kindred of the nations shall worship before him. For the kingdom is the Lord’s, and he has dominion over the nations. All they that be fat on the earth have eaten and worshipped; all they that go down to the earth shall fall down before him; my soul also lives for him, and my seed shall serve him; the generation that is coming shall be told of the Lord. And they shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord has made.

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.

Troparion, tone 1
The tyrant has been destroyed by thy crucifixion, O Christ. The might of the enemy has been trampled down. For neither an angel nor a man but thou thyself hast saved us. O Lord, glory to thee.
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.

Troparia of the Hour, tone 8
Today the curtain of the temple is torn in two, to convict the transgressors, and even the sun hides his rays, seeing the Master crucified.

Verse: Why do the nations rage and the peoples meditate vain things?
Thou wast led as a sheep to the slaughter, O Christ our God, and as an innocent lamb, thou wast nailed to the cross by transgressors, because of our sins, O thou who lovest mankind.

Verse: The kings of the earth stood forth, and the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against his Christ.
Thou wast led… (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.
While permitting transgressors to arrest thee, thou didst cry out to them, O Lord: “Though you smite the shepherd and scatter the twelve sheep, my disciples, I am able to surround myself with more than thirty legions of angels, but I forbear, so that the secret and hidden things might be fulfilled, which were revealed to you by my prophets.” O Lord, glory to thee.

The prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the fourth tone:
His heart gathered iniquity to itself, he went out and spoke to the multitude.

Verse: Blessed is he who considers the poor and needy; the Lord delivers him in the day of trouble.

The reading from the Prophecy of Zechariah (Zech. 11:10-13)
Thus saith the Lord: I will take my beautiful staff, and cast it away, that I may break my covenant which I made with all the people. And it shall be broken in that day; and the Canaanites, the sheep that are kept for me, shall know that it is the word of the Lord. And I will say to them, “If it be good in your eyes, give me my price, or refuse it.” And they
weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said to me, “Drop them into the furnace, and I will see if it is good, as I was proved for their sakes.” And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them into the furnace in the house of the Lord.

The reading of the Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians

*(Gal. 6:14-18)*

**Brethren:** far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The reading of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

*(Matt. 27:1-56)*

**Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory to thee!**

At that time: when morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; and they bound him and led him away and delivered him to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that he was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, “I have sinned in betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” And throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.” So they took counsel, and bought with them the potter’s field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord directed me.”

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge; so that the governor wondered greatly. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barab`bas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?” For he knew that it was
out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified.” And he said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified.” So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” Then he released for them Barab’bas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots; then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus the King of the Jews.” Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lama sabach-thani?” that is, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “This man is calling Elijah.” And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,
“Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” And Jesus cried again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

There were also many women there, looking on from afar, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him; among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

**Glory to thy long-suffering, O Lord, glory to thee!**

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

**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 FRIDAY
Come, let us all sing the praises of him who was crucified for us, for Mary said when she beheld him upon the tree: Though thou dost endure the cross, thou art my Son and my God.

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 callest 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 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.
Third 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 34

Judge them, O Lord, that do me wrong, fight against them that fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and arise for my help. Draw out the sword, and shut the way against them that persecute me. Say unto my soul, ‘I am thy salvation.’ Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek my soul; let them be turned back and utterly put to shame that devise evils against me. Let them be as dust in the face of the wind, and an angel of the Lord afflicting them. Let their way be dark and slippery, and an angel of the Lord pursuing them. For without cause have they hid their snare for my destruction; without cause have they reproached my soul. Let a snare come upon him unawares; and let him be caught in the trap that he hid; and into the same snare shall he fall. But my soul shall rejoice in the Lord; it shall delight in his salvation. All my bones shall say, Lord, who is like unto thee? Delivering the poor man from the hand of them that are stronger than he, and the poor and needy man from them that despoil him. Unjust witnesses arose, and asked me of things which I knew not. They rewarded me wicked things for good, and barrenness for my soul. But as for me, when they troubled me, I put on sackcloth, and humbled my soul with fasting, and my prayer shall return to my bosom. As with a neighbor, as with our brother, so was I well-pleasing; as one mourning and sad of countenance, so I humbled myself. And they were glad and gathered against me, and scourges were gathered together upon me, and I knew it not; they were divided, and yet not pricked in their heart. They tempted me; they mocked me with contempt; they gnashed upon me with their teeth. Lord, when wilt thou look upon me? Restore my soul from their evil-doing, mine only-begotten from the lions. I will confess thee in the great church; I will praise thee among mighty people. Let not them that are my enemies unjustly rejoice over me, they that hate me without a cause, and wink with their eyes. For they spoke peaceful things to me, but devised deceits in their wrath. And they opened their mouth wide against me; they said: ‘Well done! well done! our eyes have seen it.’ Thou hast seen, O Lord; be not silent. O Lord, depart not from me. Rise up, O Lord, and attend unto my judgment, unto my cause, my God and my Lord. Judge me, O Lord, according to thy righteousness, O Lord my God; and let them not rejoice over me. Let them not say in their hearts, ‘Well done, well done, our soul,’ and let them not say, ‘We have swallowed him up.’ Let them that rejoice over my evils be ashamed and confounded at once. Let them be clothed with shame and confusion that speak
boastful words against me. Let them that desire my righteousness rejoice and be glad, and let them that desire the peace of his servant say continually, ‘The Lord be magnified.’ And my tongue shall meditate upon thy righteousness, upon thy praise all the day long.

**Psalm 108**

O God, do not pass over my praise in silence; for the mouth of the sinner and the mouth of the deceitful man are opened against me; they have spoken against me with a deceitful tongue. They have encompassed me also with words of hatred, and have fought against me without a cause. In return for my love, they accuse me falsely; but as for me, I gave myself to prayer. And they rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love. Set thou a sinner against him; and let the devil stand at his right hand. When he is judged, let him go forth condemned, and let his prayer become sin. Let his days be few, and his bishopric let another take. Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow. Let his children be vagabonds, tossed to and fro, and let them beg; let them be cast out of their dwellings. Let the money lender search out all his substance; and let strangers plunder his labors. Let there be no one to help him; neither let there be any to have compassion on his fatherless children. Let his children be given over to destruction; in a single generation let his name be blotted out. Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the Lord; and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out. Let them be before the Lord continually; and let the memory of them be utterly destroyed from the earth. Because he remembered not to show mercy, but persecuted the poor and needy man, and one broken in heart, to slay him. And he loved cursing, and it shall come upon him; and he delighted not in blessing, and it shall be far from him. Yea, he put on cursing as a garment, and it went like water into his bowels, and like oil into his bones. Let it be unto him as a garment which he puts on, and as a belt with which he is girded continually. This is the work of the Lord against them that slander me, yea, against them that say wicked things against my soul. But deal thou with me, O Lord my God, according to thy Name, for thy mercy is good. Deliver thou me, for I am poor and needy; and my heart is troubled within me. I am taken away like a shadow when it declines; I am shaken off as the locusts. My knees grew weak from fasting, and my flesh is changed for want of oil. I became also a reproach unto them; when they saw me they shook their heads. Help me, O Lord my God, and save me according to thy mercy. And let them know that this is thy hand; and thou, Lord, hast done it. They will curse, but thou shalt bless; let them that rise up against me be ashamed, but let thy servant be glad. Let them that slander me be clothed with confusion, and let them cover themselves with their own shame as with a cloak. I will give great thanks unto the Lord with my mouth; yea, I will praise him among the multitude. For he stood at the right hand of the poor, to save my soul from them that persecute me.
Psalm 50

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.

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.

Troparion, tone 6

O Lord, the life of all, the Jews delivered thee over to death. Thou didst lead them through the Red Sea by Moses’ rod, yet they handed thee over to be crucified. Thou didst feed them with honey from the rock, and they repaid thee with gall and vinegar, but thou didst willingly endure these things, to free us from bondage to the enemy. O Christ God, glory to thee.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
O Theotokos, thou art the true vine who hast budded forth the Fruit of life. We entreat thee, O sovereign Lady: intercede, together with the holy Apostles that he may be merciful to our souls.

**Troparia of the Hour, tone 8**

For fear of the Jews, O Lord, thy friend and companion Peter denied thee In bitter grief, he cried aloud: “O compassionate Master, turn not away in silence from my tears. I said that I would keep faith, but have failed thee.” Accept also our repentance and have mercy on us, O Lord.

**Verse: Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my cry.**

Before thy crucifixion, O Lord, as the soldiers were mocking thee, the Angels hid their faces, unable to bear the sight, for thou who didst adorn the earth with flowers wast arrayed in a crown of thorns; thou who hast wrapped the heavens with clouds wast clothed in a robe of mockery. Yet all these things fulfilled thy saving plan, by which thy compassion was revealed to us: O Christ of great mercy, glory to thee.

**Verse: Attend to the voice of my supplication, my King and my God.**

Before thy crucifixion, O Lord…

(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.**

When thou wast raised upon the Cross, O Lord, thou didst cry out to the Jews: “For what deeds do you crucify me, O my people? Is it because I made your paralytics walk? Because I raised the dead as from sleep? Because I healed the woman with the issue of blood, and took pity on the woman of Canaan? For what deeds do you seek to kill me? You shall look upon him whom you have pierced, upon your Messiah, O transgressors.”

**The prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the fourth tone:**

I am ready for scourging, * and my pain is ever with me.

**Verse: O Lord, rebuke me not in thine anger, nor chasten me in thy wrath.**

The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah

(Isaiah 50:4-11)

The Lord gives me the tongue of instruction, to know when I ought to speak a word. He has appointed me right early, he has given me an ear to hear, and the instruction of the Lord God opens mine ears, and I do not disobey, nor dispute. I gave my back to scourges, and
my cheeks to blows; and I turned not away my face from the shame of spitting. And the Lord God became my helper; therefore I was not confounded, but I set my face as a solid rock; and I know that I shall not be ashamed, for he that has justified me draws near. Who is he that judges me? Let him stand up together with me. Yea, who is he that judges me? Let him draw near to me. Behold, the Lord, the Lord, will help me; who will do me harm? Lo, ye all shall wax old as a garment, and a moth shall eat you up. Who is among you that fears the Lord? Let him hearken to the voice of his servant. Ye that walk in darkness, and have no light, trust in the name of the Lord, and lean upon God. Behold, ye all kindle a fire and feed a flame; walk in the light of your fire, and in the flame which ye have kindled. This has befallen you for my sake; ye shall lie down in sorrow.

The reading of the Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the Romans

(Rom. 5:6-10)

Brethren: while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

The reading of the Holy Gospel according to Mark

(Mark 15:16-41)

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory to thee!

At that time: the soldiers led Jesus away inside the palace (that is, the praetorium); and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on him. And they began to salute him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they struck his head with a reed, and spat upon him, and they knelt down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him. And they compelled a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Gol’gotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mingled with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour, when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads, and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple
and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!” So also the chief priests mocked him to one another with the scribes, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.” And one ran and, filling a sponge full of vinegar, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Eli′jah will come to take him down.” And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that he thus breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

There were also women looking on from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome, who, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered to him; and also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

Glory to thy long-suffering, O Lord, glory to thee!

And continue with the Third Hour:
Blessed is the Lord God, blessed is the Lord day by day; the God of our salvation shall prosper us along the way; our God is the God of salvation.

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 FRIDAY
Come, let us all sing the praises of him who was crucified for us, for Mary said when she beheld him upon the tree: Though thou dost endure the cross, thou art my Son and my God.

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 loveth the just and showeth 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 SAINT MARDARIOS
O God the Master, Father Almighty; O Lord Jesus Christ, thou Only-begotten Son; and thou, O Holy Spirit, one Godhead, one Power: have mercy on me, a sinner, and by the judgments known to thee, save me thine unworthy servant, for blessed art thou unto ages of ages. Amen.
Sixth 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 53
Save me, O God, by thy Name, and judge me by thy strength. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth. For strangers have risen up against me, and mighty men have sought after my soul; they have not set God before them. For behold, God helps me, and the Lord is the protector of my soul. He shall reward evils upon my enemies; utterly destroy them in thy truth. I will freely sacrifice to thee. I will confess thy Name, O Lord, for it is good. For thou hast delivered me out of every affliction, and my eye has looked down upon my enemies.

PSALM 139
Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man; rescue me from the unjust man, who have devised injustice in their heart; all the day long they have prepared for wars. They have sharpened their tongue like a serpent; the poison of asps is under their lips. Keep me, O Lord, from the hand of the sinner; rescue me from unjust men, who have devised to supplant my steps. The proud have hid a snare for me, and have stretched out cords as snares for my feet; they set a stumblingblock for me near the path. I said unto the Lord, Thou art my God; give ear, O Lord, to the voice of my supplication. Lord, O Lord, the strength of my salvation; thou hast covered my head in the day of battle. Give me not up to the sinner, O Lord, because of my desire; they have plotted against me; forsake me not, lest they should be exalted. As for the head of those that compass me about, the mischief of their own lips shall cover them. Burning coals shall fall upon them; thou shalt cast them down into the fire; in miseries they shall not stand. “A man of idle tongue shall not prosper upon the earth; evils shall hunt the unrighteous man unto destruction. I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the poor, and the right of the needy. Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy Name; the upright shall dwell in thy presence.

PSALM 90
He that dwells in the help of the Most High shall abide under the shelter of the God of heaven. He shall say to the Lord, Thou art my helper and my refuge, my God, and I will hope in him. For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunters, and from a troubling word. He shall overshadow thee with his shoulders, and under his wings shalt thou hope; his truth shall encompass thee with a shield. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flies by day, nor for the thing that walks in darkness, nor for the mishap and the demon of noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at
thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou consider
and see the reward of sinners. For thou, Lord, art my hope; thou hast made the Most High
thy refuge. No evils shall come upon thee, and no scourge shall draw near thy dwelling. For
he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee
up on their hands, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon
the asp and basilisk, and thou shalt trample upon the lion and dragon. For he has set his
hope on me, and I will deliver him; I will shelter him, because he has known my Name. He
shall cry unto me, and I will hear him. I am with him in affliction, and I will deliver him and
glorify him. With length of days will I satisfy him,
and show him my salvation.

   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.

Troparion, tone 2
Thou hast worked salvation in the midst of the earth, O Christ our God; by stretching out
thy most pure hands upon the cross, gathering together all the nations who cry: O Lord,
glory to thee.

   Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
As we have no boldness on account of the multitude of our sins, O Virgin Theotokos,
intercede with him who was born of thee, for much more is the prayer of a mother able to
incline the Master unto kindheartedness.

Troparia of the Hour, tone 8
Thus says the Lord to the Jews: “My people, what have I done to you, or how have I
offended you? To your blind I gave sight, your lepers I cleansed, the paralytic I raised from
his bed. My people, what have I done to you, and how have you repaid me? Instead of
manna, gall; instead of water, vinegar; instead of loving me, you nail me to the Cross. I can
bear no more. I shall call the Gentiles mine. They will glorify me with the Father and the
Spirit, and I shall give them life eternal.”

Verse: They gave me gall for food, and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
The choir of the Apostles cries out to you, O law-givers of Israel, scribes and Pharisees:
“Behold the Temple which you destroyed! Behold the Lamb whom you crucified! You
delivered him to the tomb, but by his own power he arose. Do not be deceived, O Jews. He
it is that saved you in the sea and fed you in the wilderness. He is the Life, the Light, and the Peace of the world.”

**Verse:** Save me, O God, for the waters have come unto my soul.
The choir of the Apostles... *(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 5**
Come, O Christ-bearing people! Let us see what the traitor Judas and the lawless priests have plotted against our Saviour. Today they made the deathless Word subject to death. They delivered him to Pilate and crucified him on Golgotha. Suffering these things our Saviour cried aloud and said: “Father, forgive them this sin, that all nations may know my Resurrection from the dead.”

The prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the fourth tone:
O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is thy name in all the earth.

**Verse:** Thy majesty is exalted above the heavens.

The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah *(Isaiah 52:13- 54:1)*
Thus saith the Lord: behold, my servant shall understand, and be exalted, and glorified exceedingly. As many shall be amazed at thee, so shall thy face be without glory from men, and thy glory shall not be honoured by the sons of men. Thus shall many nations wonder at him; and kings shall keep their mouths shut: for they to whom no report was brought concerning him, shall see; and they who have not heard, shall consider. O Lord, who has believed our report? and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? We brought a report as of a child before him; he is as a root in a thirsty land: he has no form nor comeliness: and we saw him, but he had no form nor beauty. But his form was ignoble, and inferior to that of the children of men; a man in suffering, and acquainted with the bearing of sickness, for his face is turned from us: he was dishonoured, and not esteemed. He bears our sins, and is pained for us: yet we accounted him to be in trouble, and in suffering by God, and in affliction. But he was wounded on account of our sins, and was bruised because of our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and by his bruises we were healed. All we as sheep have gone astray; every one has gone astray in his way; and the Lord gave him up for our sins. And he, because of his affliction, opens not his mouth: he was led as a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is dumb, so he opens not his
mouth. In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken away from the earth: because of the iniquities of my people he was led to death. And I will give the wicked for his burial, and the rich for his death; for he practised no iniquity, nor craft with his mouth. The Lord also is pleased to purge him from his stroke. If ye can give an offering for sin, your soul shall see a long-lived seed: the Lord also is pleased to take away from the travail of his soul, to shew him light, and to form him with understanding; to justify the just one who serves many well; and he shall bear their sins. Therefore he shall inherit many, and he shall divide the spoils of the mighty; because his soul was delivered to death: and he was numbered among the transgressors; and he bore the sins of many, and was delivered because of their iniquities. Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that dost not travail: for more are the children of the desolate than of her that has a husband.

The reading of the Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews
(Heb. 2:11-18)
Brethren: he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have all one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, “I will proclaim thy name to my brethren, in the midst of the congregation I will praise thee.” And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I, and the children God has given me.” Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage. For surely it is not with angels that he is concerned but with the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brethren in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered and been tempted, he is able to help those who are tempted.

The reading of the Holy Gospel according to Luke
(Luke 23:32-49)
Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory to thee!
At that time: two others also, who were criminals, were led away with Jesus to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching; but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar, and saying, “If you are the King of
the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when thou comest in thy kingdom.” And he said to him, “Truly, I say to thee, today thou wilt be with me in Paradise.”

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, and said, “Truly this man was innocent!” And all the multitudes who assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

Glory to thy long-suffering, O Lord, glory to thee!

And continue with the Sixth Hour:
Despise not the supplications of sinners, O All-pure one, for merciful and strong to save is he who condescended to suffer for us. Let thy compassions quickly go before us, O Lord, for we are become exceedingly poor. Help us, O God our Savior, for the sake of the glory of thy Name. O Lord, deliver us, and be gracious unto our sins, for thy Name’s sake.

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 Friday**

Come, let us all sing the praises of him who was crucified for us, for Mary said when she beheld him upon the tree: Though thou dost endure the cross, thou art my Son and my God.

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 Basil the Great**

O God, the Lord of Hosts and Author of all creation, who in thine ineffable and tender mercy hast sent down thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, for the salvation of our kind, and through his precious Cross hast torn up the record of our sins, and thereby triumphed over the princes and dominions of darkness: do thou, O Master who loveth mankind, accept these prayers of thanksgiving and supplication even from us sinners, and deliver us from every dark and deadly transgression and from all the visible and invisible enemies that seek to do us harm. Nail down our flesh with the fear of thee, and let not our hearts incline to evil words or thoughts; rather, wound our souls with thy love, that ever gazing upon thee, guided by thy light, and beholding thee, the eternal Light
that no man can approach, we may offer up unceasing praises and thanksgiving unto thee, the Father without beginning, together with Thine Only-begotten Son, and thine all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Ninth 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 68

Save me, O God; for the waters have come in unto my soul. I stick fast in deep mire, and there is no sure standing; I am come in to the depths of the sea, and a storm has overwhelmed me. I am weary of crying, my throat has become hoarse; mine eyes have failed from hoping in my God. They that hate me without a cause are multiplied more than the hairs of my head; my enemies that persecute me unjustly are strengthened; then I restored that which I took not away. O God, thou knowest my foolishness, and my transgressions are not hidden from thee. Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord, thou Lord of hosts, be ashamed for my sake; let not them that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel. Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame has covered my face. I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother’s sons. For the zeal of thy house has eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me. And I covered my soul with fasting, and it became a reproach unto me. I made sackcloth also my garment, and I became a proverb to them. They that sit in the gates talked against me, and they that drank wine made me their song. But as for me, my prayer is unto thee, O Lord, in an acceptable time, O God; in the multitude of thy mercy, hear me, in the truth of thy salvation. Save me from the mire, that I may not stick fast; let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters. Let not the waterflood drown me, neither let the deep swallow me up; and let not the pit close its mouth over me. Hear me, O Lord; for thy mercy is good; look upon me according to the multitude of thy compassions. And turn not thy face away from thy child; for I am afflicted; hear me speedily. Attend unto my soul and deliver it; rescue me because of my enemies. For thou knowest my reproach, and my shame, and my confusion; all them that afflict me are before thee. My soul has waited for reproach and misery; and I waited for someone to grieve with me, but there was none; and for someone to comfort me, but I found none. They gave me also gall for my food, and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. Let their table become a snare before them, and a recompense and a stumbling-block. Let their eyes be darkened that they see not; and bow
down their back continually. Pour out thy wrath upon them, and let the anger of thy wrath take hold of them. Let their habitation be made desolate; and let none to dwell in their tents. For they persecuted him whom thou hast smitten; and they have added to the grief of my wounds. Add iniquity unto their iniquity; and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous. I am poor and sorrowful; let thy salvation help me, O God. I will praise the Name of my God with a song; I will magnify him with praise; and this shall please God more than a bullock with horns and hooves. Let the poor see and be glad; seek God and your soul shall live. For the Lord hears the poor, and does not despise his own that are in bonds. Let the heavens and the earth praise him, the sea, and all the creeping things therein. For God will save Sion, and the cities of Judah shall be built; and they shall dwell there, and inherit it. And the seed of his servants shall possess it, and they that love thy Name shall dwell therein.

**PSALM 69**

O God, attend to my help: O Lord, make haste to help me. Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek my soul. Let them be turned back and put to shame that wish me evil. Let them at once be turned back ashamed that say unto me: Well done! Well done! Let all that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee, O God, and let them that love thy salvation say continually: The Lord be magnified! But I am poor and needy: O God, help me. Thou art my helper and my deliverer, O Lord: make no delay.

**PSALM 85**

Bow down thine ear, O Lord, and hear me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my soul, for I am holy; save thy servant, O my God, that hopes in thee. Have mercy upon me, O Lord; for unto thee will I cry all the day. Make glad the soul of thy servant, for unto thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul. For thou, Lord, art good and gentle, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee. Give ear to my prayer, O Lord, and attend to the voice of my supplication. In the day of mine affliction have I cried unto thee, for thou didst hearken unto me. Among the gods, there is none like unto thee, O Lord; and there are no works like unto thy works. All the nations thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord, and shall glorify thy Name. For thou art great, and doest wonders; thou alone art God. Lead me in thy way, O Lord, and I will walk in thy truth; let my heart be glad, that I may fear thy Name. I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify thy Name forever. For thy mercy is great toward me, and thou hast delivered my soul from the nethermost hell. O God, lawless men have risen up against me, and an assembly of mighty men have sought my soul, and have not set thee before them. And thou, O Lord my God, art compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy, and true. Look upon me, and have mercy on me; give thy strength to thy servant, and save the son of thy
handmaid. Work in me a sign for good, and let them that hate me see it and be put to shame, because thou, Lord, hast helped me and comforted 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.

Troparion, tone 2
When the thief beheld the Author of life hanging upon the cross, he said: ‘If it were not God in the flesh crucified here with us, the sun would not have hidden his rays nor would the earth have quaked and trembled, but remember me in thy kingdom, O long-suffering Lord!’

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Thou who for our sake wast born of a Virgin and didst suffer crucifixion, O Good One, and didst despoil death through death and as God didst reveal the Resurrection: despise not those whom thou hast created with thine own hand; show forth thy love for mankind, O Merciful One; accept the intercessions of thy Mother, the Theotokos, for us, and save thy despairing people, O our Savior.

Troparia of the Hour, tone 7
A strange wonder it was to see the Maker of heaven and earth suspended on the Cross. The sun was darkened and the day was changed into night. The earth gave up the bodies of the dead from their graves. With them we worship thee: save us, O Lord!

Verse: They divided my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots.
When transgressors nailed the King of glory to the Cross, he cried out to them: “How have I caused you pain? Or in what have I angered you? Who before me delivered you from affliction? And how have you now rewarded me? By returning evil for good. For the pillar of fire you nail me to the Cross. For the cloud you dig me a grave. Instead of manna you bring me gall. Instead of water you give me vinegar to drink. Henceforth I shall call the Gentiles, and they will glorify me with the Father and the Holy Spirit.”

Verse: They gave me gall for food, and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.
When transgressors nailed the King of glory... (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.

Today he who hung the earth upon the waters is hung upon the Cross.
He who is King of the angels is arrayed in a crown of thorns.
He who wraps the heaven in clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery.
He who in Jordan set Adam free receives blows upon His face.
The Bridegroom of the Church is transfixed with nails.
The Son of the Virgin is pierced with a spear.
We venerate thy Passion, O Christ. (thrice)
Show us also thy glorious Resurrection.

The prokeimenon of the Prophecy in the sixth tone:
The fool says in his heart: “There is no God.”
   Verse: There is none that does good, no, not one.

The reading from the Prophecy of Jeremiah
   (Jer. 11:18-12:5, 9-11, 14-15)
O Lord, teach me, and I shall know: then I saw their pursuits. But I as an innocent lamb led to the slaughter, knew not: against me they devised an evil device, saying, “Come and let us put wood into his bread, and let us utterly destroy him from off the land of the living, and let his name not be remembered any more.” O Lord of hosts, that judgest righteously, trying the reins and hearts, let me see thy vengeance upon them, for to thee I have declared my cause. Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the men of Anathoth, that seek my life, that say, “Thou shalt not prophesy at all in the name of the Lord, but if thou dost, thou shalt die by our hands.” Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts: “Behold, I will visit them: their young men shall die by the sword; and their sons and their daughters shall die of famine: and there shall be no remnant of them; for I will bring evil upon the dwellers in Anathoth, in the year of their visitation.” Righteous art thou, O Lord, that I may make my defence to thee, yea, I will speak to thee of judgments. Why is it that the way of ungodly prospers? that all that deal very treacherously are flourishing? Thou hast planted them, and they have taken root; they have begotten children, and become fruitful; thou art near to their mouth, and art far from their reins. But thou, Lord, knowest me; thou hast proved my heart before thee; purify them for the day of their slaughter. How long shall the land mourn, and the grass of the field wither, for the wickedness of them, that dwell in it? the beasts and birds are utterly destroyed; because the people said, “God shall not see our ways”. Thy feet run, and they cause thee to faint. Go ye, gather together all the wild beasts of the field, and let them come to devour her. Many shepherds have destroyed my vineyard, they have defiled
my portion, they have made my desirable portion a trackless wilderness; it is made a complete ruin. For thus saith the Lord, concerning all the evil neighbours that touch mine inheritance, which I have divided to my people Israel: “Behold, I will draw them away from their land, and I will cast out the house of Judah from the midst of them. And it shall come to pass, after I have cast them out, I will return, and have mercy upon them, and will cause them to dwell every one in his inheritance, and every one in his land.”

The reading of the Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews
*(Heb. 10:19-31)*

Brethren, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way which he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. For if we sin deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful prospect of judgment, and a fury of fire which will consume the adversaries. A man who has violated the law of Moses dies without mercy at the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by the man who has spurned the Son of God, and profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and outraged the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.” It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

The reading of the Holy Gospel according to John
*(John 18:28-19:37)*

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord, glory to thee!

At that time: they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the praetorium. It was early. They themselves did not enter the praetorium, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” They answered him, “If this man were not an evildoer, we would not have handed him over.” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put any man to death.” This was to fulfil the word which Jesus had spoken to show by what death he was to die. Pilate entered the praetorium again and called Jesus, and said to him, “Are you the King of the
Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me; what have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the Jews; but my kingship is not from the world.” Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again, and told them, “I find no crime in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover; will you have me release for you the King of the Jews?” They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barab’bas was a robber. Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged him. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and arrayed him in a purple robe; they came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again, and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you, that you may know that I find no crime in him.” So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God.” When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?” Jesus answered him, “You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin.”

Upon this Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend; every one who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar.” When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read
this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. The chief priests of the Jews then said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” When the soldiers had crucified Jesus they took his garments and made four parts, one for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was without seam, woven from top to bottom; so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfil the scripture, “They parted my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.” So the soldiers did this. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Mag’dalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A bowl full of vinegar stood there; so they put a sponge full of the vinegar on hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, “It is finished”; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the sabbath (for that sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth—that you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled, “Not a bone of him shall be broken.” And again another Scripture says, “They shall look on him whom they have pierced.”

Glory to thy long-suffering, O Lord, glory to thee!

And continue with the Ninth Hour:
Deliver us not up utterly, for thy holy Name’s sake, neither annul thou thy covenant, and cause not thy mercy to depart from us, for Abraham’s sake, thy beloved; and for Isaac’s sake, thy servant; and for Israel’s, thy holy 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.

KONTAKION OF HOLY FRIDAY

Come, let us all sing the praises of him who was crucified for us, for Mary said when she beheld him upon the tree: Though thou dost endure the cross, thou art my Son and my God.

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 loveth the just and showeth mercy upon the sinner; who calleth all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come: O Lord, in this hour receive our supplikations, 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.
O Master and Lord, Jesus Christ our God, who art long-suffering towards our faults and hast brought us even unto this present hour, in which, hanging upon the life-giving Cross, thou hast opened unto the good thief the way into Paradise and destroyed death by death: be merciful to us, thy sinful and unworthy servants, for we have sinned and transgressed, and we are not worthy to lift up our eyes and look at the height of heaven, since we have forsaken the path of thy righteousness and have walked according to the desires of our own hearts. But we pray thee of thy boundless goodness: spare us, O Lord, according to the abundance of thy mercy, and save us for thy holy Name’s sake, for our days have been consumed in vanity. Pluck us from the hand of the adversary, forgive us our sins, and kill our fleshly lusts, that putting off the old man, we may put on the new, and may live for thee, our Master and Guardian; that so, following thine ordinances, we may attain to eternal rest, in the place where all the joyful dwell. For thou, O Christ our God, art indeed the true joy and gladness of those that love thee, and to thee we send up glory, together with thy Father who is without beginning, and thine all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Typica

Read the Beatitudes, quickly and without singing:

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when thou comest in Thy kingdom.
Blessed are the poor in spirit, * for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, * for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, * for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.
Blessed are the merciful, * for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, * for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, * for they shall be called the sons of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, * for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you, * and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.
Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, * for great is your reward in heaven.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Remember us, O Lord, when thou comest in Thy kingdom.
Remember us, O Master, when thou comest in Thy kingdom.  
Remember us, O Holy one, when thou comest in Thy kingdom.  

The heavenly choir singeth Thee and saith: Holy, holy, holy Lord Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory! 

**Come unto Him and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed!** 

The heavenly choir singeth Thee and saith: Holy, holy, holy Lord Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory! 

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

The choir of holy Angels and Archangels, with all heavenly hosts, singeth Thee and saith: Holy, holy, holy Lord Sabaoth, heaven and earth are full of Thy glory! 

**Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

**The Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages: Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; and he was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. In One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Loose, remit, forgive, O God, our transgressions, whether voluntary or involuntary, whether in word or in deed, whether in knowledge or in ignorance, whether in the day or at night, whether in mind or in reasoning, forgive us all, for Thou art good and lovest mankind. 

**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. Amen.**
KONTAKION OF HOLY FRIDAY

Come, let us all sing the praises of him who was crucified for us, for Mary said when she beheld him upon the tree: Though thou dost endure the cross, thou art my Son and my God.

Lord, have mercy. (40 times)

O All-holy Trinity, thou O consubstantial Power, undivided Kingship, the Cause of all good things, show Thy mercy on me, a sinner, confirm my heart and fill it with understanding, and take away all my defilement. Enlighten my mind, that I may ever glorify, sing, and worship Thee, and say: One is holy, one is Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord from henceforth and forevermore. (Thrice)

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

PSALM 33

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. In the Lord shall my soul be praised; let the meek hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his Name together. I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all mine afflictions. Come unto him and be enlightened, and your faces shall not be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his afflictions. The angel of the Lord will encamp round about them that fear him, and shall deliver them. O taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the man that hopes in him. O fear the Lord, all ye his saints, for there is no want to them that fear him. Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry, but they that seek the Lord shall not lack any good thing. Come, ye children, hearken unto me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. What man is there that desires life, who loves to see good days? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking deceit. Turn away from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against them that do evil, utterly to destroy their memory from the earth. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them, and delivered them out of all their afflictions. The Lord is near to them that are of a contrite heart, and will save the humble in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord shall deliver them out of them all. The Lord keeps all their bones; not one of them shall be broken. The death of sinners is evil, and they that hate righteousness will go wrong. The Lord will redeem the souls of his servants, and none of them shall go wrong that hope in him.
DISMISSAL

It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure and the Mother of our God. 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.

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) Lord, bless!

O thou who endured fearful sufferings, the life-giving Cross, and voluntary burial in the flesh on behalf of us men and 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.