Matins of Great and Holy Saturday
(Friday Night)

The priest, vested in a dark epitrachelion, opens the curtain, takes the censer, and begins:

Priest: Blessed is our God always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, O God; glory to Thee!

While the following prayers are being read, the priest censes the altar, the sanctuary, and the people.

Reader: O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere 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! (3)

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

O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our transgressions. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name’s sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. In the name of the Lord, bless, Father.

Priest: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-Creating, and Undivided Trinity always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.
Reader: Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men. (3)

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. (2x)

The Six Psalms

Psalm 3

O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me. Many are saying of me, there is no help for him in God.

But Thou, O Lord, art a shield about me, my glory and the lifter of my head. I cry aloud to the Lord and He answers me from His holy hill.

I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me. I am not afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me round about.

Arise, O Lord! Deliver me, O my God! For Thou dost smite all my enemies on the cheek. Thou dost break the teeth of the wicked.

Deliverance belongs to the Lord; Thy blessing be upon Thy people. I lie down and sleep. I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.

Psalm 38

O Lord,rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath! For Thine arrows have sunk into me, and Thy hand has come down on me.

There is no soundness in my flesh because of Thine indignation. There is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me.

My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness, I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. For my loins are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart.

Lord, all my longing is known to Thee, my sighing is not hidden from Thee. My heart throbs, my strength fails me, and the light of my eyes – it also has gone from me.

My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague, and my kinsmen stand afar off.
Those who seek my life lay their snares, those who seek my hurt speak of ruin and meditate treachery all the day long.
But I am like a deaf man, I do not hear, like a dumb man who does not open his mouth. Yea, I am like a man who does not hear, and in whose mouth are no rebukes.
But for Thee, O Lord, do I wait; it is Thou, O Lord my God, Who wilt answer. For I pray, “Only let them not rejoice over me, who boast against me when my foot slips!”
For I am ready to fall, and my pain is ever with me. I confess my iniquity, I am sorry for my sin. Those who are my foes without cause are mighty, and many are those who hate me wrongfully. Those who render me evil for good are my adversaries, because I follow after good.
Do not forsake me, O Lord! O my God be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!
Do not forsake me, O Lord! O my God, be not far from me! Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!

Psalm 63

O God, Thou art my God, I seek Thee, my soul thirsts for Thee. My flesh faints for Thee, as in a dry and weary land where no water is. So I have looked upon Thee in the sanctuary, beholding Thy power and glory. Because Thy steadfast love is better than life my lips will praise Thee. So I will bless Thee as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on Thy name.
My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat, and my mouth praises Thee with joyful lips, when I think of Thee upon my bed, and meditate on Thee in the watches of the night;
for Thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of Thy wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to Thee, Thy right hand upholds me.
But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth; they shall be given over to the power of the sword, they shall be prey for jackals. But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by Him shall glory; for the mouths of liars will be stopped.
I meditate on Thee in the watches of the night, for Thou hast been my help, and in the shadow of Thy wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to Thee, Thy right hand upholds 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! (3)
Lord, have mercy. (3)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.


The priest exits the Sanctuary and, standing before the Winding-Sheet in the center of the church, quietly says the morning prayers.

Psalm 88

O Lord my God, I call for help by day; I cry out in the night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, incline Thine ear to my cry!
For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol. I am reckoned among those who go down to the Pit; I am a man who has no strength, like one forsaken among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom Thou dost remember no more, for they are cut off from Thy hand. Thou hast put me in the depths of the Pit, in the regions dark and deep. Thy wrath lies heavy upon me, and Thou dost overwhelm me with all Thy waves. Thou hast caused my companions to shun me; Thou hast made me a thing of horror to them. I am shut in so that I cannot escape; my eyes grow dim through sorrow. Every day I call upon Thee, O Lord; I spread out my hands to Thee. Dost Thou work wonders for the dead? Do the shades rise up to praise Thee? Is Thy steadfast love declared in the grave or Thy faithfulness in Abaddon? Are Thy wonders known in the darkness, or Thy saving help in the land of forgetfulness?
But I, O Lord, cry to Thee. In the morning my prayer comes before Thee. O Lord, why dost Thou cast me off? Why dost Thou hide Thy face from me? Afflicted
and close to death from my youth up, I suffer Thy terrors; I am helpless. Thy wrath has swept over me, Thy dread assaults destroy me. They surround me like a flood all day long; they close in upon me together. Thou hast caused lover and friend to shun me; my companions are in darkness.

Psalm 103

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 your iniquity, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the Pit, Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, Who satisfies you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the people of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

As for man, his days are like grass; He flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear Him. And His righteousness to children’s children, to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.

The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His Kingdom rules over all. Bless the Lord, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His word, hearkening to the voice of His word! Bless the Lord, all His hosts, His ministers that do His will! Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul! In all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!
Psalm 143

Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications! In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness! Enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for no man living is righteous before Thee.

For the enemy has pursued me; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead. Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.

I remember the days of old, I meditate on all that Thou hast done; I muse on what Thy hands have wrought. I stretch out my hands to Thee; my soul thirsts for Thee like a parched land.

Make haste to answer me, O Lord! My spirit fails! Hide not Thy face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the Pit. Let me hear in the morning of Thy steadfast love, for in Thee I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to Thee I lift up my soul.

Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies! I have fled to Thee for refuge! Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God! Let Thy good Spirit lead me on a level path.

For Thy name’s sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In Thy righteousness bring me out of trouble.

And in Thy steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am Thy servant.

In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness! Enter not into judgment with Thy servant. In Thy faithfulness answer me, in Thy righteousness! Enter not into judgment with Thy servant. Let Thy good Spirit lead me on a level path.

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! (3)

O Lord, glory to Thee!

And the deacon, or priest, standing in the middle of the church before the Winding-Sheet begins the Great Litany (on the following page):
The Great Litany
Kievan Chant

Lord, have mercy. - Lord, have mercy. -
To Thee, O Lord. Amen.
The Great Litany

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy churches of God, and for the union of all, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For His Beatitude, our Metropolitan __________, and for His (Eminence, Grace) our (Archbishop, Bishop) __________, for the honorable priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For the President of our country, for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For this city, for every city and country, and for the faithful dwelling in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

*Priest:* For seasonable weather, for the abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.

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

*Choir:* Lord, have mercy.
Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee are do all glory, honor, and worship; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

The priest (or deacon) continues with “God is the Lord” in Tone 2 (Bulgarian Chant, on the following page):
**God is the Lord**

Bulgarian Chant – Tone 2

*Priest:* In the Second Tone – God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord. O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.

*Choir:* Repeat “God is the Lord…”

*Priest:* All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the Lord I destroyed them.

*Choir:* Repeat “God is the Lord…”

*Priest:* I shall not die, but live, and recount the works of the Lord.

*Choir:* Repeat “God is the Lord…”

*Priest:* The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing and it is wonderful in our eyes.

*Choir:* Repeat “God is the Lord…”

As the following Troparia are sung, the priest censes the entire church, beginning by censing around the Winding-Sheet, and concluding by censing before it.
The Noble Joseph
Bulgarian Chant – Tone 2

The No - ble Jo - seph, when he
had ta - ken down Thy
most pure body - from

the tree, wrapped it in

fine linen, and anoint-

ed it with spices, and
placed it in a new tomb.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit. When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead,

and when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,

all the powers of heaven cried out,

"O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"
Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The angel came to the myrrh-bearing women at the tomb and said, "Myrrh
is fitting

for the dead, but

Christ has shown Himself a

stranger to corruption."
The following troparia, known as the Lamentation Praises, are then sung between the verses of Psalm 119 in three sections, or stases, as follows:

The Lamentation Praises

Tone 5

Blessed art Thou, O Lord! Teach me Thy statutes! Blessed are those whose way is blameless,/// who walk in the law of the Lord.

The First Stasis begins on the following page:
VERSE: Blessed are they who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with their whole heart.

VERSE: For those who work wickedness have not walked in His ways.

VERSE: O Christ the Life. The angelic hosts were over-come with awe, and glo-ri-fied Thy con-des-cen-sion.

VERSE: In a tomb they laid Thee, O Christ the Life. The angelic hosts were over-come with awe, and glo-ri-fied Thy con-des-cen-sion.

VERSE: O Life, how canst Thou die? How canst Thou dwell in a tomb? Yet by Thy death Thou hast de-stroyed the reign of death, and raised all the dead from hell.

VERSE: For those who work wickedness have not walked in His ways.
VERSE: Thou hast commanded Thy precepts to be diligently kept.

VERSE: O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Thy statutes!

We magnify Thee, O Jesus, our King. We worship Thy

Passion and Thy Burial, for by them, Thou hast saved us from death.

VERSE: Thou hast commanded Thy precepts to be diligently kept.

Earth's bounds Thou hast measured, O Jesus, King of all,

yet to-day Thou dwellest in a narrow tomb, rais ing the dead from their graves.

VERSE: O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Thy statutes!
VERSE: Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all Thy commandments.

VERSE: I will praise Thee with an upright heart, when I learn Thy righteous ordinances.
VERSE: I will observe Thy statutes; O forsake me not utterly.

Thou hast been numbered among transgressors, O Christ.

Thou hast justified us all, O Lamb of God, by freeing us from the devil's works.

VERSE: How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to Thy word.
VERSE: With my whole heart I seek Thee; let me not wander from Thy commandments.

VERSE: I have hidden Thy word in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee.

Thou, O Lord, art fairer than all the sons of men. Thou hast filled creation with Thy beauty, how canst Thou lie before us dead this day?

How could hell bear Thy coming and not shatter at once?

Death is blinded by Thy splendor, O Lord. Its gloom is scattered by Thy dazzling light.

VERSE: I have hidden Thy word in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee.
VERSE: Blessed art Thou, O Lord! Teach me Thy statutes.

VERSE: With my lips I declare all the ordinances of Thy mouth.
VERSE: In the way of Thy testimonies I delight, as much as in all riches.

13.

He Who gave me life and breath

A new and strange wonder! - He Who gave me life and breath

now is life-less, breath-less, car-ried to the tomb and bur-ied by Jo-

seph's hands.

VERSE: In the way of Thy testimonies I delight, as much as in all riches.

14.

In Thy bo-dy, bur-ied, in hell with Thy soul, yet not par-ted from

Thy Fa-ther's side, O Christ! O strange and awe-some won-der!

VERSE: I will meditate on Thy precepts, and fix my eyes on Thy ways.
VERSE: I will delight in Thy statutes; I will not forget Thy word.

VERSE: Deal bountifully with Thy servant; give me life, and I shall keep Thy word.
VERSE: Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law.

VERSE: I am only a sojourner on earth; hide not Thy commandments from me.
VERSE: My soul is consumed with longing for Thy ordinances at all times.

The 20th troparion is sung more slowly.

The reader continues reading the verses of Psalm 119, while the priest reads the troparia.
VERSE: Thou hast rebuked the proud, and cursed are those who wander from Thy commandments.
21. Slain willingly, O Jesus, and laid beneath the earth, Thou hast raised me up, O Fountain of life, when I lay dead in bitter sin.
VERSE: Take away from me their scorn and contempt, for I have kept Thy testimonies.
22. The universe was altered at Thy Passion, O Word; knowing that Thou holdest all in unity, all created things suffered with Thee.
VERSE: Even though princes sit plotting against me, Thy servant will meditate on Thy statutes.
23. When devouring Hades engulfed the Rock of Life, in great pain he burst asunder, and the dead held captive from all ages were released.
VERSE: Thy testimonies are my delight; they are my counselors.
24. Thou O Christ wast buried in a new tomb, and the nature of mortals was made new when, as God, Thou didst rise from the dead.
VERSE: My soul cleaves to the dust; revive me according to Thy word.
25. Wishing to save Adam, Thou didst come down to earth. Not finding him on earth, O Master, Thou didst descend to Hades seeking him.
VERSE: When I told of my ways, Thou didst answer me; teach me Thy statutes!
26. All the earth was troubled and quaked with fear. The daystar hid his brilliant face, O Word, when Thy great light was hidden in the earth.
VERSE: Make me understand the way of Thy precepts, and I will meditate on Thy wondrous works.
27. As a man, O Savior, Thou didst consent to die. As God, Thou didst raise the dead from their tombs, and lift them from the dark abyss of sin.
VERSE: My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to Thy word.
28. Tears of lamentation the Pure Virgin shed for Thee. With a mother’s grief, O Jesus, she cried out, “How can I lay Thee in the grave, O My Son?”
VERSE: Put false ways far from me, and graciously teach me Thy law.
29. In the earth’s dark bosom the Grain of Wheat is laid. By Its death, It shall bring forth abundant fruit: Adam’s sons, freed from the chains of death.
VERSE: I have chosen the way of truth; I have not forgotten Thine ordinances.
30. As the sun at evening sets beneath the earth, Thou art hidden, covered by the night of death. O Savior, arise in brighter dawn!

VERSE: I cleave to Thy testimonies, O Lord; let me not be put to shame.
31. As when the moon covers the circle of the sun, now the grave has hidden Thee, O Savior, Thy mortal flesh eclipsed in death.

VERSE: I will run in the way of Thy commandments when Thou hast enlarged my heart.
32. By dying in the body, O Life-giving Christ, Thou hast delivered mortal men from death, bestowing new life upon us all.

VERSE: Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes, and I will keep it to the end.
33. Through the serpent’s envy, Adam died of old, but Thou didst come, O Savior, our New Adam, to bring him back to life, through Thy death.

VERSE: Give me understanding that I may keep Thy law, and observe it with my whole heart.
34. When the ranks of angels saw Thee laid out dead, they were filled with fear and wonder, O Lord, and covered their faces with their wings.

VERSE: Lead me in the path of Thy commandments, for I delight in it.
35. Ramah’s son, O Savior, took Thee down from the tree. He laid Thy lifeless body in his tomb, but rise up as God to save us all.

VERSE: Incline my heart to Thy testimonies, and not to gain.
36. Thou art the gladness of angels, O Lord, but today Thou hast become their cause of grief, as they see Thee in the flesh, a lifeless corpse.

VERSE: Turn my eyes from looking at vanities, and give me life in Thy ways.
37. On the cross uplifted to draw living men to Thee, Thou didst descend beneath the earth as well, to raise up all that lay buried there.

VERSE: Establish Thy promise in Thy servant, that I may fear Thee.
38. O Savior, as a lion Thou sleepest in the flesh, yet as a lion’s cub didst Thou arise, casting off the old age of the flesh.

VERSE: Turn away the reproach which I dread; for Thy ordinances are good.
39. Thou hast fashioned Eve from Adam’s side. Now a spear has pierced Thy side, O Savior, and from it flows a purifying stream.

VERSE: Behold, I long for Thy precepts; in Thy righteousness give me life.

40. Secretly in Egypt the lambs of old were slain, but Thou wast sacrificed beneath the open sky, for the cleansing of the universe.

VERSE: Let Thy mercy come to me, O Lord; Thy salvation according to Thy promise.

41. What human tongue can utter this terrible, strange thing? Today the Lord of heaven and earth suffers and dies for our sake.

VERSE: So shall I give an answer to those who taunt me, for I trust in Thy word.

42. “How can we see the Giver of life now dead?” the angels cried in fear and awe. “How is God enclosed within a tomb?”

VERSE: And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in Thy ordinances.

43. New life for Eve, O Savior, flows from Thy opened side. Through her I was banished from the tree of life; today she is redeemed, with all her sons.

VERSE: I will keep Thy law continually, forever and ever.

44. When Thou, O Jesus, was stretched out upon the wood, Thou didst draw us mortal men to unity; and from Thy pierced side, forgiveness flowed for all.

VERSE: And I shall walk at liberty, for I have sought Thy precepts.

45. The noble Joseph, with trembling and fear, lays Thy body out for burial, O Lord, as he gazes with awe on Thy dread form.

VERSE: I also spoke of Thy testimonies before kings, and was not ashamed.

46. Thou didst will, O Savior, to go beneath the earth. Thou didst free death’s fallen captives from their chains, leading them from earth to heaven.

VERSE: For I find my delight in Thy commandments, which I love exceedingly.

47. Death seized Thee, O Jesus, and was strangled in Thy trap. Hell’s gates were smashed, the fallen were set free, and carried from beneath the earth on high.

VERSE: I lift up my hands to Thy commandments, which I love.
48. O Savior, death’s corruption could not touch Thy holy flesh. Thou hast bound the ancient murderer of man, and restored all the dead to new life.

VERSE: And I will meditate on Thy statutes.

49. O, how great the joy, how full the gladness, that Thou hast brought to Hades’ prisoners, like lightning flashing in its gloomy depths.

VERSE: Remember Thy word to Thy servant, in which Thou hast made me hope.

50. Thy passion, I worship; Thy burial, I praise; Thy power, I magnify, O Loving Lord; for from corrupting passions Thou hast set me free.

VERSE: This is my comfort in my affliction, that Thy promise gives me life.

51. A sword was sharpened against Thee, O Christ, but the sword of the strong foe was blunted, and the sword that guards Eden was turned back.

VERSE: Godless men utterly deride me, but I do not turn away from Thy law.

52. The Ewe saw Her Lamb slaughtered and cried aloud in grief. She was pierced with anguish, and the flock of Christ assembled to join Her lament.

VERSE: When I think of Thy ordinances from of old, I take comfort, O Lord.

53. Though Thou art buried in a grave, O Christ, though Thou goest down to hell, O Savior, Thou hast stripped hell naked, emptying its grave.

VERSE: Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, who forsake Thy law.

54. Willingly, O Savior, Thou didst descend to hell. There Thou didst restore the dead to new life, and lead them back to the Father’s house.

VERSE: Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my exile.

55. One Person of the Godhead, for the sake of mortal men, endures a shameful death on the cross; the sun trembles and the earth quakes in fear.

VERSE: I remember Thy name in the night, O Lord, and keep Thy law.

56. The offspring of Judah became a poisoned well. They rejected Thee, the Water of Life, Who filled them with water from the rock.

VERSE: This blessing has fallen to me, because I have kept Thy precepts.

57. As one accused, the Judge stood at Pilate’s judgment-seat. He was handed over to an unjust death, and suspended on the wood of the cross.

VERSE: Thou art my portion, O Lord; I promise to keep Thy words.
58. O blood-guilty people, faithless Israel, the murderer Barabbas you set free, but delivered your Savior to the cross.

VERSE: I entreat Thy favor with all my heart; be merciful to me, according to Thy promise.

59. Thou didst fashion Adam from the dust of the earth. Becoming man by nature, for his sake, Thou hast offered up Thy life on the cross.

VERSE: I thought of Thy ways, and turned my feet to Thy testimonies.

60. Thou didst obey Thy Father, O Word of God most high. Descending to the dread depths of the pit, Thou hast raised the race of mortal men.

VERSE: I hasten and do not delay to keep Thy commandments.

61. “My heart’s desire, O Jesus! Woe to Me, My Light! Woe to Me, O Light of the world!” cried the Virgin in Her bitter grief.

VERSE: Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget Thy law.

62. O blood-thirsty people, vengeful and envious, be convicted by the shroud and napkin, which bear witness to the rising of Christ.

VERSE: At midnight I rise to praise Thee, because of Thy righteous ordinances.

63. O evil disciple, murderer of God! Tell me what poison entered your heart to make you betray Christ.

VERSE: I am a friend of all who fear Thee and keep Thy commandments.

64. O money-loving blindness! You claimed to love the poor, yet you sold Immortal Ointment for a price, and earned wages of death and despair.

VERSE: The earth, O Lord, is full of Thy steadfast love; teach me Thy statutes.

65. For the Myrrh of Heaven, what price have you received? You gained only madness, O cursed Satan, in exchange for the Pearl of great price.

VERSE: Thou hast dealt well with Thy servant, O Lord, according to Thy word.

66. For her soul’s forgiveness, Mary poured out myrrh. Judas claimed to love the poor, but envied her, and for silver sold the Light of the world.

VERSE: Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in Thy commandments.
67. O Word of God Immortal, my Joy and my Desire, how shall I endure Thy three days in the tomb? My heart is torn asunder with grief.

VERSE: Before I was humbled I went astray, but now I keep Thy word.

68. “Who will give Me water, a spring for My tears, that I may weep for My sweet Jesus?” cried the Virgin Bride of God.

VERSE: Thou art good, O Lord; in Thy goodness teach me Thy statutes.

69. “O hills and valleys, the multitude of men, and all creation, weep and lament with Me, the Mother of your God.”

VERSE: The lies of the proud are multiplied against me, but with my whole heart I keep Thy precepts.

70. “O Joy and Light eternal, the gladness of My heart, when shall I see Thee, O My Savior?” cried the Virgin in Her bitter grief.

VERSE: Their heart is gross like fat, but I delight in Thy law.

71. Thy side was pierced, O Jesus, like the desert’s rock of old. From it, O Savior, Wellspring of eternal life, a stream of living water flows.

VERSE: It was good for me that Thou hast humbled me, that I might learn Thy statutes.

72. Blood and water flowing in a double stream from Thy pierced side as from a single source has quenched our thirst for immortal life.

VERSE: The law of Thy mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

73. Of Thine Own will, O Savior, Thou wast laid dead in the tomb, yet Thou art alive, and as Thou hast foretold, by Thy rising Thou shalt raise up mortal man.

VERSE: GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

74. O Word of God, we praise Thee, the Lord of all the world, with Thy Father and Thy Holy Spirit, and we glorify Thy Burial.

VERSE: NOW AND EVER AND UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

75. We bless Thee, O Virgin Birth-giver of God. And with faithful hearts we praise the burial endured by Thy Son and our God.

And we repeat the first Lamentation Troparion (on the following page):
Then the Little Litany (straight melody), with the exclamation:

_Priest:_ For blessed is Thy name, and glorified is Thy Kingdom, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

_Choir:_ Amen.

As the second stasis begins (on the following page), the priest censes the Winding-Sheet from four sides, the iconostasis, and the people, while the choir sings the first troparion and the first verse of the stasis.

***The first measure of each troparion is sung by two solo chanters. The choir comes in beginning in the second measure of each troparion and continues to the end of the troparion.***
The Second Stasis-Tone 5

VERSE: Those who fear Thee shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in Thy word.

It is right to magnify Thee, O Life-giving Lord. Thou hast stretched out Thy most pure arms upon the cross, and broken the enemy's power.

VERSE: Thy hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn Thy commandments.

It is right to magnify Thee, O Creator of all. We are freed from passion through Thy Passion, and delivered from corruption.

VERSE: Those who fear Thee shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in Thy word.
VERSE: I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right, and that in faithfulness Thou hast afflicted me.

VERSE: Let Thy steadfast love be ready to comfort me, according to Thy promise to Thy servant.
A lone among wo-men, O My Child, I gave birth to Thee without pain.

Now I cannot bear the grief I suffer," the Most Pure Mother cried.

VERSE: Let Thy mercy come to me that I may live, for Thy law is my delight.

The seraphim saw Thee, O Lord, lying dead on earth below, yet united with Thy Father on high, and they shuddered and trembled with fear.

VERSE: Let the godless be put to shame, because they have transgressed against me unjustly; as for me, I will meditate on Thy precepts.
The veil of the temple was torn at Thy crucifixion,
and the lights of heaven hid their radiance, when Thou, the Sun, was hidden in the earth.

VERSE: Let those who fear Thee turn to me, that they might know Thy testimonies.

By Thy nod alone, long ago, the earth was set on its course.

Now Thou hast descended dead beneath the earth. Tremble, O heaven, at this sight.

VERSE: May my heart be blameless in Thy statutes, that I may not be put to shame.
Thou, Who didst form man with Thy hand, hast gone down beneath the earth, and, O Sun, with Thine almighty right hand, Thou hast raised up fallen men.

VERSE: My soul languishes for Thy salvation; I hope in Thy word.

Come, let us sing our lament to Christ, Who dies for us, that we may be worthy, with the myrrh-bearers, to hear His saving greeting, "Rejoice!"

VERSE: My eyes fail with watching for Thy promise; I ask, "When wilt Thou comfort me?"
11. Thou art very truth, O Word, the Myrrh of incorruption.

VERSE: For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten Thy statutes.

12. Therefore, to anoint Thee as the Living God, the women brought Thee precious myrrh.

VERSE: How long must Thy servant endure? When wilt Thou judge those who persecute me?

Thou hast destroyed the palaces of hell by Thy Burial, O Christ.

Thou hast trampled death down by Thy death, O Lord, and redeemed earth's children from corruption.
VERSE: Godless men have dug pitfalls for me, men who do not conform to Thy law.

VERSE: All Thy commandments are sure; they persecute me with falsehood, help me!

The Source of the River of Life, the Wisdom of God, has descended to the utmost depths of Hell, to give life to all held captive there.

VERE: That I may fashion anew Adam's broken nature, I willingly endure death's sting in my flesh. O Mother, do not strike Thy breast in grief.
VERSE: In Thy steadfast love spare my life, that I may keep the commandments of Thy mouth.
Adam was greatly afraid when God walked in Paradise.

Now, with joy he sees God stalking Hades' depths. There he fell, but here he is raised up.

VERSE: For ever, O Lord, Thy word is firmly fixed in heaven.

She Who gave birth to Thee, O Christ, poured out Her tears for Thee;

when She saw Thy body buried in the tomb, "A-rise, as Thou hast promised," She cried.

VERSE: Thy truth endures to all generations. Thou hast established the earth, and it stands fast.
In a new tomb, O Savior, Joseph laid Thee reverently,
singing lamentations for Thy Exodus, mingled with the voices mourning for Thee.

VERSE: The day continues by Thy ordinance, for all things are Thy servants.

When Thy Mother saw Thee, O Christ, pierced with nails upon the cross,
She was smitten with the nails of bitter grief; Her soul was pierced, as Simeon foretold.

The reader continues reading the verses of Psalm 119, while the priest reads the troparia.
VERSE: If Thy law had not been my delight, I should have perished in my affliction.

21. O Sweetness of the universe, when Thy Mother saw Thee drink the bitter vinegar upon the cross, Her cheeks were wet with bitter tears.

VERSE: I will never forget Thy precepts, for by them Thou hast given me life.

22. “I am torn asunder with grief; My heart is wounded unto death, seeing Thee unjustly slaughtered, O My Son,” said the All-Pure Virgin in Her tears.

VERSE: I am Thine, save me, for I have sought Thy precepts.


VERSE: The wicked lie in wait to destroy me, but I consider Thy testimonies.

24. Joseph and Nicodemus now sing hymns of burial as they stand before the tomb of Christ the Lord, and with them sing the seraphim.

VERSE: I have seen that all things come to an end, but Thy commandment alone is eternal.

25. O Savior, Sun of Righteousness, Thou hast set beneath the earth, and the moon, Thy Mother, is eclipsed with grief, suffering the loss of Thy light.

VERSE: Oh, how I love Thy law, O Lord! It is my meditation all day long.

26. Hell shook with fear, O Savior, seeing Thee, the Giver of Life, spoiling him of all his hoarded riches and raising up the dead from every age.

VERSE: Thy commandment makes me wiser than my enemies for it is mine forever.

27. The sun rises brightly, O Word, when the night is passed. And Thou, after Thy death, shall rise in splendor as a bridegroom coming from his chambers.

VERSE: I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Thy testimonies are my meditation.

28. Earth shook and quaked in fear, O Savior and Creator, when in her dark bosom she enfolded Thee, and with her quaking she awoke the dead.

VERSE: I understand more than my elders, for I seek Thy commandments.

29. Joseph, that righteous man, with Nicodemus, wrapped Thee in sweet spices as they cried aloud, “Be terrified, and tremble, O earth!”

VERSE: I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep Thy word.
30. The sun set together with Thee, O Creator of light. All creation was then overcome with fear and confessed Thee as Creator.

VERSE: I do not turn aside from Thy ordinances, for Thou hast taught me.

31. A stone hewn by human hands conceals the Cornerstone, and a mortal man hides God within a tomb. Be shaken and tremble, O earth!

VERSE: How sweet are Thy words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

32. “Behold the disciple Thou hast loved and Thine own Mother! Let us hear Thy voice again, My sweetest Child,” cried the Pure One, weeping.

VERSE: Through Thy precepts I gain understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

33. Though Thy people nailed Thee to the cross, Thou didst not destroy them, but raised up their fathers from the dead, O Word, as Thou art the Giver of Life.

VERSE: Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.

34. No form or beauty didst Thou have when Thou didst suffer, but when Thou wast clothed in resurrection light, Thou didst beautify the human race.

VERSE: I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe Thy righteous ordinances.

35. Thou hast gone down beneath the earth, O Daystar without evening, and the sun was darkened at the height of noon, unable to endure the sight of Thee.

VERSE: I am sorely afflicted, give me life, O Lord, according to Thy word!

36. Clothed in black robes of mourning, like faithful servants, Sun and Moon together, O my Savior, were darkened completely at Thy death.

VERSE: Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me Thy ordinances.

37. The centurion knew Thee to be God, though Thou wast cold in death. “How then shall I touch Thee with my hands, my God? I am afraid,” Joseph cried.

VERSE: My soul is continually in Thy hands, and I have not forgotten Thy law.

38. Adam slept, and from his side came Eve, who brought death to all flesh. Thou hast slept a blessed sleep, O Word of God, and from Thy side flows life for all the world.
VERSE: The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from Thy precepts.
39. Thou hast slept a little while, and brought the dead to life. Thou hast raised up all who slept from every age by Thy Resurrection, loving Lord.
VERSE: Thy testimonies are my heritage forever; yea, they are the joy of my heart.
40. O Life-giving Vine, Thou wast lifted from the earth; there Thou didst pour out Thy saving Wine, O Lord. I glorify Thy passion and Thy Cross!
VERSE: I incline my heart to perform Thy statutes forever, to the end.
41. When the captains of the angels saw Thee, O Savior, naked, stained with blood, condemned unjustly, how could they bear such murderous cruelty?
VERSE: I have hated transgressors, but Thy law I have loved.
42. O deceitful people, unbelieving Israel, knowing that His temple would be raised again, why did you condemn Christ to the cross?
VERSE: Thou art my hiding place and my defender; I hope in Thy word.
43. You clothe Him, Who orders all things, in a robe of mockery, though He filled the vault of heaven with bright stars and made the earth most wondrously.
VERSE: Depart from me, you evildoers, and I will keep the commandments of my God.
44. Wounded in Thy side, O Word, like the pelican Thou hast given life to Thy dead children with the life-giving drops of Thy Blood.
VERSE: Uphold me according to Thy promise, that I may live, and let me not be put to shame in my hope.
45. Joshua made the sun stand still of old as he smote the heathen tribes; Thou, O Lord, hast blotted out its brightness when Thou didst crush the Prince of Darkness.
VERSE: Help me, and I shall be saved, and I will meditate on Thy statutes continually.
46. Thou hast consented in Thy love to become a mortal man; without being parted from Thy Father’s side, Thou hast gone down to Hades, O Christ.
VERSE: Thou dost spurn all who go astray from Thy statutes; yea, their cunning is in vain.
47. He Who hung the earth upon the floods is hung upon the cross. As a lifeless corpse the earth receives Him, and quakes in terror at His presence.

VERSE: I have regarded all the wicked of the earth as transgressors; therefore I love Thy testimonies.

48. “O My Beloved Son,” laments the Virgin, “I now see Thee hanging on the cross condemned, Whom I had hoped to see enthroned as King.”

VERSE: Nail my flesh with the fear of Thee, for I am afraid of Thy judgments.

49. “Gabriel announced to Me this news when he flew down from heaven; he said that the reign of My Son Jesus would endure forever.”

VERSE: I have done what is just and right; do not leave me to my oppressors.

50. “Simeon’s prophecy has been fulfilled today, for the sword of which he spoke has pierced My heart, O My Son, Emmanuel.”

VERSE: Uphold the welfare of Thy servant; let not the godless oppress me.

51. Be ashamed, O Jews, at the witness of your dead, raised to life by Him Whom you condemned to death in malice and envy.

VERSE: My eyes fail with watching for Thy salvation, and for the fulfillment of Thy righteous promise.

52. “O My Jesus, Light invisible, when the sun beheld Thee hidden without breath inside a tomb of stone, it trembled and darkened its light.”

VERSE: Deal with Thy servant according to Thy mercy, and teach me Thy statutes.

53. Thine all-blameless Mother wept most bitterly when She saw Thee laid within the tomb, O Word, ineffable, eternal God.

VERSE: I am Thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know Thy testimonies.

54. Thine undefiled Mother, when She saw Thee die, cried to Thee, O Christ, in bitter sorrow, “Do not tarry among the dead, O Life.”

VERSE: It is time for the Lord to act, for they have broken Thy law.

55. Hell, who had filled all men with fear, trembled at the sight of Thee, and in haste he yielded up his prisoners, O Immortal Sun of Glory.

VERSE: Therefore I love Thy commandments above gold, above fine gold.

56. O Savior, the sight before our eyes is great and terrible, for the Cause of Life today submits to die, wishing to give life to all.
VERSE: Therefore, I direct my steps by all Thy precepts; I hate every false way.

57. O Master, Thy side is pierced and Thy hands are nailed. Thus Thou hast healed the wound of our first parents and the sinful greed of their hands.

VERSE: Thy testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul seeks them.

58. Once in every house of Bethlehem they wept for Rachel’s children. Now His Mother, with the apostolic choir, laments for the Virgin’s Son.

VERSE: The unfolding of Thy words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

59. Christ was slapped on the face by the hands of mortal men, though He fashioned man with His Almighty hand, and crushed the teeth of the beast.

VERSE: With open mouth I pant, because I long for Thy commandments.

60. All Thy faithful people, O Christ, singing hymns of praise, bless Thy Crucifixion and Thy Burial, by which we are ransomed from death.

VERSE: GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

61. O God without beginning, Eternal Word and Spirit, help Thy people to prevail against the foe, as Thou art the Lover of mankind.

VERSE: NOW AND EVER AND UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

62. O Virgin, pure and undefiled, Thou didst give birth to our Life: make the strife and scandals of the Church to cease; in Thy goodness, grant her peace.

And we repeat the first Lamentation Troparion (on the following page):
Then the Little Litany (straight melody), with the exclamation:

**Priest:** For Holy art Thou, O God, Who dost rest upon the glorious throne of the cherubim, and to Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thine Eternal Father, and Thy most holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

As the third stasis begins, the priest once more censes the Winding-Sheet, the iconostasis, and the people, while the choir sings the first troparion and the first verse of the stasis. Note that this stasis is sung in Tone 3.
VERSE: Look upon me, and be merciful to me, as is Thy good pleasure toward those who love Thy name.

VERSE: Order my steps according to Thy promise, and let no iniquity have dominion over me.
VERSE: Deliver me from the false accusation of men, that I may keep Thy precepts.

VERSE: Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant, and teach me Thy statutes.

VERSE: Deliver me from the false accusation of men, that I may keep Thy precepts.

VERSE: Make Thy face to shine upon Thy servant, and teach me Thy statutes.
VERSE: My eyes shed streams of tears because men do not keep Thy law.

VERSE: Righteous art Thou, O Lord, and right are Thy judgments.
VERSE: Thou hast appointed Thy testimonies in righteousness and in all faithfulness.

VERSE: My zeal consumes me, because my foes forget Thy words.
VERSE: Thy promise is well tried in the fire, and Thy servant loves it.

VERSE: O the folly of those who killed the prophets!

VERSE: Now they slay the Messiah.

VERSE: Judas the disciple, like a foolish servant,

VERSE: has betrayed the Abyss of Wisdom.

VERSE: I am small and despised, yet I do not forget Thy precepts.
VERSE: Thy righteousness is righteous forever, and Thy law is truth.

VERSE: Trouble and anguish have come upon me, but Thy commandments are my delight.
VERSE: Thy testimonies are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.

VERSE: I cry with my whole heart; hear me, O Lord! I will keep Thy statutes.
VERSE: I cry to Thee; save me, that I may observe Thy testimonies.

VERSE: I rise before dawn and cry for help; I hope in Thy words.
VERSE: My eyes are awake before the morning, that I may meditate upon Thy promise.

VERSE: Hear my voice according to Thy loving-kindness, O Lord; in Thy judgment give me life.

VERSE: O My sweet Spring time, O My sweetest Child, where has all Thy beauty faded?

Thine All-Pure Mother mourned and lamented Thee, when She saw Thee dead, O Word.
VERSE: They draw near who persecute me with evil purpose; they are far from Thy law.

VERSE: But Thou art near, O Lord, and all Thy commandments are true.
VERSE: Long have I known from Thy testimonies that Thou hast founded them forever.

VERSE: Look on my humiliation and deliver me, for I do not forget Thy law.

VERSE: The deceiver has been deceived and those whom he deceived are freed by Thy Wisdom, O my God.

VERSE: The traitor has thrown himself down to the depths of hell and the pit of destruction.

VERSE: Look on my humiliation and deliver me, for I do not forget Thy law.
VERSE: Judge my cause and redeem me; give me life according to Thy promise.

VERSE: Salvation is far from the wicked, for they do not seek Thy statutes.
VERSE: Great are Thy tender mercies, O Lord; give me life according to Thy justice.

VERSE: Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, but I do not swerve from Thy testimonies.
VERSE: I look at the faithless with disgust, because they do not keep Thy commandments.

VERSE: Consider how I love Thy precepts! Give me life, according to Thy mercy.
VERSE: The sum of Thy word is truth, and every one of Thy righteous ordinances endures forever.

VERSE: Princes persecute me without cause, but my heart stands in awe of Thy words.
VERSE: I rejoice at Thy word like one who finds great spoil.

VERSE: I hate and abhor falsehood but I love Thy law.
VERSE: Seven times a day I praise Thee for Thy righteous ordinances.

VERSE: Great peace have those who love Thy law; nothing can make them stumble.
VERSE: I hope for Thy salvation, O Lord, and I love Thy commandments.

VERSE: My soul keeps Thy testimonies; I love them exceedingly.
VERSE: I keep Thy precepts and testimonies, for all my ways are before Thee, O Lord.

VERSE: Let my cry come before Thee, O Lord; give me understanding according to Thy word!
VERSE: Let my supplication come before Thee; deliver me according to Thy word.

VERSE: My lips will pour forth praise, for Thou hast taught me Thy statutes.
VERSE: My tongue will sing of Thy word, for all Thy commandments are right.

VERSE: Let Thy hand be near to save me, for I have chosen Thy precepts.
VERSE: I long for Thy salvation, O Lord, and Thy law is my delight.

VERSE: Let my soul live, that I may praise Thee, and let Thine ordinances help me.
(At this point, in the Greek practice, the priest sprinkles the Winding-Sheet with rose water.)

VERSE: I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Thy servant, for I have not forgotten Thy commandments.

VERSE: GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.
VERSE: NOW AND EVER AND UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

Grant us, Thy servants, to behold, O Virgin,
the Resurrection of Thy Son!

And we repeat the first Lamentation Troparion (on the following page):
The Resurrectional Troparia (Evlogitaria) are then sung immediately, as the priest, carrying a lighted candle, censes the Winding-Sheet from four sides, the sanctuary, and the rest of the church.

**Blessed Art Thou, O Lord – Following Page**

**(Bright, Bold, and Loud!!!)**

***The music for the quartet verses can be found in the Appendix, pp. 134-139.***
Blessed Art Thou, O Lord
Kievan Chant – Tone 5

***The music for the quartet verses can be found in the Appendix, pp. 134-139.***

Quartet:

1. The angelic host was filled with awe when it saw Thee among the dead. By destroying the power of death, O Savior, Thou didst raise Adam and save all men from hell! **CHOIR REFRAIN**

2. In the tomb, the radiant angel cried to the myrrh-bearers, “Why do you women mingle myrrh with your tears? Look at the tomb and understand! The Savior is risen from the dead!” **CHOIR REFRAIN**

3. Very early in the morning, the myrrh-bearers ran with sorrow to Thy tomb, but an angel came to them and said, “The time for sorrow has come to an end! Do not weep, but announce the resurrection to the apostles!” **CHOIR REFRAIN**

4. The myrrh-bearers were sorrowful as they neared Thy tomb, but the angel said to them, “Why do you number the living among the dead? Since He is God, He is risen from the tomb!” **CHOIR GLORY**
Quartet:
5. We worship the Father, and His Son, and the Holy Spirit: the Holy Trinity, one in essence! We cry with the seraphim, “Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord!” *CHOIR NOW AND EVER*

Quartet:
6. Since Thou gavest birth to the Giver of Life, O Virgin, Thou didst deliver Adam from his sin! Thou gavest joy to Eve instead of sadness! The God-man Who was born of Thee hast restored to life those who had fallen from it! *CHOIR ALLELUIA*

Second Alleluia: Quartet

Last Alleluia: **EVERYONE** *(BIG Finish!)*

*Then the Little Litany (straight melody), with the exclamation:*

*Priest:* For Thou art the King of peace, O Christ our God, and to Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thine eternal Father, and Thy most holy, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

*Choir:* Amen.

*Then the Kathisma Hymn in Tone 1 (on the following page):*
Kathisma Hymn
Tone 1

Jo-seph begged Thy holy bo-dy from Pi-late. He anointed it with sweet-

smell-ing spi-ces; he wrapped it in clean linen and laid it in his own new
tomb, and early in the morning the myrrh-bear-ing wo-men cried out,

"As Thou hast fore-told, O Christ,/// show us the Re-sur-rec-tion!"

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

Choir:
Reader: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

"As Thou hast fore-told, O Christ,/// show us the Re-sur-rec-tion!"

The choirs of an-gels are filled with awe, see-ing Him Who rests in the

Fa-ther's bo-som laid in the tomb as dead, though He is im-mor-tal.

The ranks of an-gels sur-round Him; to-ge-ther with the dead in hell,///

they glorify Him as Cre-a-tor and Lord!

Then immediately the Reader reads Psalm 50 (on the following page):
Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy; according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in Thy sight, so that Thou art justified in Thy sentence and blameless in Thy judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sins did my mother conceive me. Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness; let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice. Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Thy ways, and sinners will return to Thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Thy deliverance. O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. For Thou hast no delight in sacrifice; were I to give a burnt offering, Thou wouldst not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise. Do good to Zion in Thy good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, then wilt Thou delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on Thine altar.

The prayer of intercession, O God, save Thy people, is not said on this day. The Canon begins immediately.
The Canon – Irmos 1
Lesser Znamenny Chant – Tone 6

Of old Thou didst bury the pursu-ing ty-rant be-neath the waves of the sea. Now the children of those who were saved bury Thee beneath the earth, but like the maids-ens let us sing to the Lord,/// for glorious-ly has He been glo- ri-fied.

Reader:
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Unto Thee I sing a hymn for the departed and a song of burial, O Lord my God, Who by Thy burial hast opened for me the entrance to life and by Thy death hast put death and hell to death.

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Beholding Thee upon the throne on high and in the grave below, the things of heaven and the things beneath the earth trembled at Thy death; for in a manner past understanding wast Thou, the very Source of Life, seen dead.

REFRAIN: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Thou didst descend to the depths of the earth to fill all with Thy glory; for my person that is in Adam was not hidden from Thee, and when Thou wast buried, Thou didst renew me who am corrupt, O Lover of mankind.

The irmos is repeated as the Katavasia (on the following page).
Of old Thou didst bury the pursu-ing ty - rant be-neath the waves of the sea. Now the child - ren of those who were saved bury Thee be - neath the earth, but like the maid - ens let us sing to the Lord,/// for glo - rious - ly has He been glo - ri - fied.

Irmos 3 begins on the following page.
Thou didst suspend the earth immovably upon the waters.

Now creation beholds Thee suspended on Calvary.

It quakes with great amazement and cries, "None is holy but Thee, O Lord."
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
By a multitude of visions Thou didst indicate the signs of Thy burial, O Master. But now, as God and man, Thou dost make clear Thy hidden things even unto those in hell, who cry, “None is holy but Thee, O Lord.”

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Thou hast stretched out Thy hands, O Savior, and united what before had been divided; and by clothing Thyself in a winding sheet Thou hast saved even those held captive by the tomb who cry, “None is holy but Thee, O Lord.”

REFRAIN: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
By Thy will a sealed tomb contained Thee, Who cannot be contained; for by Thy divine accomplishments Thou hast made known Thy power unto those who sing, “None is holy but Thee, O Lord Who lovest mankind.”

*The irmos is repeated as the Katavasia (on the following page).*
Katavasia – Ode 3

Then immediately the Kathisma Hymn (on the following page).
Kathisma Hymn – Tone 1

The soldiers guarding Thy tomb, O Savior, became as dead men

at the lightning flash of the angel who appeared announcing Thy resurrection to the women. We glorify Thee, Who cleansest from corruption.

- rup-tion. We fall down before Thee, Who didst rise from the tomb,///

our only God.

The Canon resumes with Irmos 4 (on the following page).
Irmos 4
Lesser Znamenny Chant – Tone 6

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Thou hast sanctified this, the seventh day, which of old Thou didst bless by rest from work; for Thou dost bring all things into being and renew them, O my Savior, while resting and reviving on the Sabbath.

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
By the overwhelming strength of Thy divine nature Thou didst win the victory, O Word; for Thy soul was parted from the flesh, sundering by Thy might the bonds of hell and death.

REFRAIN: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
When hell encountered Thee, O Word, it was embittered. Seeing Thee as a mortal man deified, marked with wounds yet having almighty power, it cried out at Thy awesome appearance.

**Katavasia – Ode 4**

Fore-see-ing Thy divine humilia-tion on the cross, Hab-ak-kuk cried out trem-bling, "Thou didst shat-ter the dominion of the migh-ty/// by join-ing those in hell as the al-migh-ty Lord."

_Irmos 5 begins on the following page._
Irmos 5
Lesser Znameniny Chant – Tone 6

I-sa-iah saw the never-setting light of Thy compassionate manifestation to us as God, O Christ. Rising early from the night he cried out, "The dead shall arise. Those in the tombs shall awake./// All those on earth shall greatly rejoice."

Reader:
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
When Thou didst become earthly, O Creator, Thou didst renew those born on earth, and the winding sheet and the grave revealed the mystery concerning Thee, O Word; for Joseph the noble counsellor, fulfills the counsel of Him Who begot Thee and Who wondrously renews me in Thee.

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Through death Thou dost transform what is mortal, and through burial Thou dost transform what is corruptible; for in a manner befitting God Thou dost make incorrupt and immortal the nature which Thou hast assumed, since Thy flesh did not see corruption and in a wondrous manner Thy soul was not abandoned in hell.

REFRAIN: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Thou didst come forth from a painless birth, O my Maker, and Thy side was pierced. By this hast Thou, the new Adam, accomplished the restoration of Eve. Thou didst fall into a sleep surpassing nature and renewing nature, and, as the all-powerful One, Thou didst raise up life from sleep and corruption.

The irmos is repeated as the Katavasia (on the following page).
I-sa-iah saw the ne-ver-set-ting light of Thy compassionate manifes-
ta-
tion to us as God, O Christ. Ris-ing ear-ly from the night he cried out, "The dead shall a-rise. Those in the tombs shall a-
wake./// All those on earth shall great-ly re-
joice."

Irmos 6 begins on the following page.
Irmos 6
Lesser Znamenanny Chant – Tone 6

Jo-nah was caught but not held fast in the bel-ly of the whale.

He was a sign of Thee Who hast suffered and ac-cep-ted bur-i-al. Com-ing forth from the beast as from a bri-dal cham-ber, he called out to the guard,/// "By observing vani-ties
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Thou wast killed, O Word, but not separated from the flesh which Thou dost share with us; for even though the temple of Thy body was destroyed at the time of the passion, the person of Thy divinity and of Thy flesh was one, for in both dost Thou remain one Son, Word of God, God and man.

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
The fall of Adam resulted in the death of man, not God; for even though the earthly substance of Thy flesh suffered, Thy divinity remained passionless. In Thyself Thou hast transformed the corruptible to incorruption, and by Thy resurrection Thou hast revealed a fountain of incorruptible life.

REFRAIN: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Hell rules the race of mortal men, but not eternally; for when Thou wast placed in the grave, O powerful One, Thou didst tear asunder the bars of death by Thy life-creating hand and didst proclaim true deliverance to those sleeping there from the ages, since Thou, O Savior, hast become the first-born of the dead.

The irmos is repeated as the Katavasia (on the following page).
Jo-nah was caught but not held fast in the bel-ly of the whale.

He was a sign of Thee Who hast suffered and accep-ted bur-i-al. Com-ing forth from the beast as from a bri-dal cham-ber, he called out to the guard./// "By observing vani-ties
and lies you have for-sak-en your own mer-cy."

**The Kontakion**

**Tone 6**

He Who shut in the depths is be-held dead, wrapped in fine lin-en and spi-ces. The immortal One is laid in a tomb as a mor-tal man. The wo-

men have come to anoint Him with myrrh, weeping bitter-ly and cry-ing,
Ikos

Reader: He Who holds all things together has been lifted up upon the cross, and all of creation weeps at seeing Him hanging, naked, upon the wood. The sun hid its rays and the stars cast aside their splendor. The earth shook with great fear, the sea fled, and the rocks were split asunder. Many tombs were opened, and the bodies of holy men arose. Hell groaned below and the Jews considered how to slander the resurrection of Christ, but the women cried, “This is the most blessed sabbath on which Christ has fallen asleep to rise on the third day.”

And the choir repeats the last phrase of the Ikos (on the following page):
"This is the most bles-sed sab-bath/// on which Christ has fallen a-sleep

to rise on the third day."

The Canon resumes with Irmos 7 (on the following page).
Irmos 7
Lesser Znamenny Chant – Tone 6

Inexpressible wonder! In the furnace Thou didst save the holy youths from the flame. Now Thou art placed in the grave as a lifeless corpse, for the salvation of us who sing,///

"Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!"

Reader:
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Hell was wounded in heart when it received Him Whose side was pierced by a spear, and it groans, consumed by divine fire, unto the salvation of us who sing, “Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
Happy is the tomb! For having received the Creator as one asleep, it became a divine treasury of life, for the salvation of us who sing, “Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
In accordance with the law of the dead, the Life of all accepts burial in the tomb, and the tomb becomes the source of resurrection, unto the salvation of us who sing, “Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

REFRAIN: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
In hell, in the tomb and in Eden, the divinity of Christ was one and undivided with the Father and the Spirit, for the salvation of us who sing, “Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!”

The irmos is repeated as the Katavasia (on the following page).
In ex-press-i-ble won-der! In the furnace Thou didst save the ho-ly
youths from the flame. Now Thou art placed in the grave as a
life - less corpse, for the sal-va-tion of us who sing,///
"Bles-sed art Thou, O God, our Re-deem - er!"

Irmos 8 begins on the following page.
Irmos 8
Lesser Znamenny Chant – Tone 6

Be a-mazed, O heav-ens! Be sha-ken, O foun-da-tions of the earth!

Be-hold, He that dwells in the high- est is num-bered a-mong

the dead and sheltered in a low-ly tomb. Bless Him, O youths!

Praise Him, O priests!/// O people, exalt Him a-bove all for-
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
The pure Temple has been destroyed, yet He raises with Himself the tabernacle that had fallen; for the second Adam, Who dwells in the highest, has descended to the first Adam, even unto the lowest chambers of hell. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
The courage of all the disciples failed, but Joseph of Arimathea showed valor; for seeing the God of all dead and naked, he sought Him and dressed Him for burial, crying, “Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!”

REFRAIN: Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
What new wonders! What great goodness! What ineffable forebearance! For He that dwells in the highest is willingly sealed beneath the earth, and God is slandered as a deceiver. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever!
Katavasia – Ode 8

**Sing-ing and ex-alt-ing Him through-out all a-ges.**

**Be a-mazed, O heav-ens! Be sha-ken, O foun-da-tions of the earth!**

**Be-hold, He that dwells in the high-est is num-bered a-mong the dead and sheltered in a low-ly tomb. Bless Him, O youths!**
Praise Him, O priests!/// O people, exalt Him above all forever!
Do not lament Me, O Mother, seeing Me in the tomb, the Son conceived in the womb without seed, for I shall arise and be glorified with eternal glory as God. I shall exalt all who magnify Thee in faith and in love. 

Reader:
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
“I escaped sufferings and was blessed beyond nature at Thy strange birth, O Son Who art without beginning. But now, beholding Thee, My God, dead and without breath, I am sorely pierced by the sword of sorrow. But arise, that I may be magnified.”

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.
“By My own will, the earth covers Me, O Mother, but the gatekeepers of hell tremble at seeing Me clothed in the blood-stained garments of vengeance; for when I have vanquished My enemies on the cross, I shall arise as God and magnify Thee.”

REFRAIN: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
“Let creation rejoice! Let all born on earth be glad! For hateful hell has been despoiled. Let the women with myrrh come to meet Me; for I am redeeming Adam and Eve and all their descendants, and on the third day shall I arise!”

The irmos is repeated as the Katavasia (on the following page).
Then the Little Litany (straight melody), with the exclamation:

**Priest:** For all the powers of heaven praise Thee and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:**
Choir: Amen.

Priest: Holy is the Lord, our God!

Priest: For holy is the Lord, our God!

Choir: Repeat “Holy is the Lord…”

Priest: Over all people is our God!

Choir: Repeat “Holy is the Lord…”

Priest: Holy is the Lord!

Choir: Our God! (as above)

Then we sing the Praises (in Tone 2). During the Praises, the priest vests in full vestments.
The Praises
Obikhod Tone 2

Choir: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! /
Praise the Lord from the heavens! /
Praise Him in the highest! ///
To Thee, O God, is due a song!

Praise Him, all you angels of His! /
Praise Him, all His hosts! ///
To Thee, O God, is due a song!

Reader 1: Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness.

Choir: Today a tomb holds Him Who holds creation in the hollow of His hand. /
A stone covers Him Who covered the heavens with glory. /
Life sleeps, and hell trembles. /
Adam is set free from his bonds. /
Glory to Thy plan of salvation! /
By it Thou hast fulfilled all things, /
granting us an eternal Sabbath rest: ///
Thy most holy Resurrection from the dead!

Reader 2: Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp.

Choir:
Choir: What is this sight we behold?
   What is this present rest?
The King of the ages keeps the Sabbath in the tomb;
through His Passion He has fulfilled the plan of salvation,
granting us a new Sabbath rest.
To Him let us cry aloud,
"Arise, O God, and judge the earth,
for Thou dost reign forever,
and beyond measure is Thy great mercy."

Reader 1: Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe.

Choir: Come, let us see our Life
   lying in the tomb
   to give life to those who lie dead in the tombs.
Come, look today on the Son of Judah sleeping;
with Jacob the patriarch let us cry to Him,
"Thou hast stooped down; Thou hast crouched as a lion;
who dares rouse Thee up, O King?"
But arise in Thine own power,
O Thou Who didst willingly give Thyself for us.
O Lord, glory to Thee!

Reader 2: (in the Sixth Tone) Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals. Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Choir (in the Sixth Tone):
Joseph asked for the body of Jesus
and placed it in his own new tomb.
It was fitting for the Lord to come forth from the grave as from a bridal chamber.
Thou hast destroyed the dominion of death.
Thou hast opened to men the gates of paradise.
O Lord, glory to Thee!
Reader 1: (Glory in the same Tone) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Choir: The great Moses mystically foreshadowed this day when he said, /
“God blessed the seventh day.” /
This is the Blessed Sabbath; /
this is the day of rest, /
on which the Only-Begotten Son of God rested from all His works. /
By suffering death to fulfill the plan of salvation, /
He kept the Sabbath in the flesh; /
by returning again to what He was, /
He has granted us eternal life through His resurrection, ///
for He alone is good, and the Lover of man.

As the following verse is SUNG in the SECOND TONE (the “Now and Ever” sung as the last line of a Tone 2 verse), the priest takes his place in front of the Shroud.

Choir: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thou art most blessed, O Virgin Theotokos! /
For through the God-man Who took flesh from Thee, /
Hell has been captured and Adam recalled! /
The curse has been anulled, and Eve set free! /
Death has been slain, so we are given life! ///
Blessed is Christ our God, Whose good will it was! Glory to Thee!

The priest exclaims, “Glory to Thee, Who hast shone us the Light!” and we sing the Solemn Doxology. During the singing of the Great Doxology, the priest goes three times around the Shroud, censing it from the four sides.
The Great Doxology

Tone 6 (to the melody, “Having set all our hope”)

Glo-ry to God in the high-est and on earth peace, good-will to men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee, we glo-ri-fy Thee,

we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glo-ry: O Lord God, hea-

ven-ly King, God the Father Al-migh-ty; O Lord, the on-ly-

“begotten”
be-gotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Ho-ly Spi-rit. O Lord

God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, Who tak-est away the sins of

the world, have mer-cy on us. Thou that takest away the sins of the

world, re-ceive our prayer. Thou that sittest on the right hand of the

“Father”
Fa ther, have mer - cy on us. For Thou a lone - art ho - ly,

Thou a lone - art the Lord, Je sus Christ, in the glory of God the

Fa ther. A men. Ev ery day will I bless Thee, and praise Thy name for -

- ev er and e ver. Vouch - safe, 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 for ever. 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”
Mas-ter, make me to under-stand Thy com-mand-ments. Bles-sed art

Thou, O Holy One, enlighten me with Thy pre - cepts. O Lord,

Thou hast been our refuge from generation to gen-er-a - tion. I said,

"Lord, have mercy on me! Heal my soul, for I have sinned a-gainst Thee!"
O Lord, I flee 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 we shall see light. Continue Thy mercy unto those who know Thee. Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us! Holy God, Holy
Might-y, Holy Im-mor-tal, have mer-cy on us! Ho-ly God, Holy Might-y,

Ho-ly Im-mor-tal, have mer-cy on us! Glo-ry to the Father, and to the

Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit, now and ever and unto ages of a-ges. A-

men. Ho-ly Im-mor-tal, have mer-cy on us! Ho-ly God,
While the choir sings the processional Trisagion to a slow and solemn melody (as at the Burial Service, music shown below), the priest takes the Book of the Gospels and pious laymen take the Winding-Sheet, which they hold above his head. They go in procession around the outside of the church (the feet of the Lord going first), while the choir continues to sing the processional Trisagion to the funeral melody as often as necessary. The Cross with the processional candles leads the procession, followed by the choir, the deacon or server with the incense, then the Winding-Sheet, and all the members of the congregation holding lighted candles. The procession goes once around the church, and as it returns to the interior of the church, the servers, those carrying the Winding-Sheet, and the priest go immediately before the ambon where they wait for the people to re-enter the church.

***When the procession returns to the interior of the church, the priest exclaims, “WISDOM! LET US ATTEND!” The choir immediately sings “The Noble Joseph” one time only (on the following page), and the servers and priest replace the Winding-Sheet on the table in the center of the church, putting the Book of the Gospels on it, as before. The senior priest goes once around the Winding-Sheet, censing it from the four sides.
The Noble Joseph

Bulgarian Chant – Tone 2

seph, when he

had taken down Thy

121
most pure body from
the tree, wrapped it in
fine linen, and anointed
ed it with spices, and
When the singing of “The Noble Joseph” is completed, there follows the Troparion of the Prophecy.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Troparion of the Prophecy in the Second Tone:

O Christ, Who holdest fast the ends of the earth, Thou hast consented to be held fast in the tomb, to deliver man from his fall into hell, and, as Immortal God, Thou hast given us life and immortality!

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

The choir then sings in TROPAR Tone 2:
Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Christ, Who holdest fast the ends of the earth, /
Thou hast consented to be held fast in the tomb, /
to deliver man from his fall into hell, /
and, as Immortal God, ///
Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone:

Arise, O Lord, and help us! Deliver us for Thy name’s sake.

VERSE: We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us what deeds Thou didst perform in their days, in the days of old.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Prophet Ezekiel. (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

Priest: Let us attend.

Reader: In those days the hand of the Lord came upon me, and the Lord led me forth in the Spirit and set me in the midst of the plain, and it was full of the bones of men. And He led me round among them; and behold, there were very many upon the plain, and lo, they were very dry. And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord God, Thou knowest.” Again the Lord said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, ‘You dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will bring the breath of life upon you, and I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and I will put My Spirit into you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.’” So I prophesied as the Lord commanded me, and as I prophesied there was a noise, and behold, a rattling, and the bones approached each one to its joint. And as I looked, sinews and flesh grew upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then the Lord said to me, “Prophesy to the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the Spirit, ‘Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O Spirit, and breathe upon these dead men, and let them live.’”
So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the Spirit entered into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great multitude. And the Lord said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel, and they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, our hope is perished; we are clean cut off.’ Therefore, prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your tombs, and will raise you from your tombs, O My people, and I will bring you home into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, and have raised you from your graves, O My people. And I will put My Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land; then you shall know that I am the Lord. I have spoken, and I will do it, says the Lord.”

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone:

Arise, O Lord, my God, lift up Thy hand! Forget not Thy poor forever!

VERSE: I will praise Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will make all Thy wonders known!
Priest: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the First Epistle of the holy apostle Paul to the Corinthians. (*I Corinthians* 5:6-8; *Galatians* 3:13-14)

Priest: Let us attend!

Reader: Brethren: Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven, that you may be fresh dough, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us, therefore, celebrate the feast, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a cursed thing for us, for it is written, “Cursed be every one who hangs on a tree,” that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Priest: Peace be unto thee that readeth.

Reader: And to thy spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia. Let God arise! Let His enemies be scattered! Let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

VERSE: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire!

VERSE: So the sinners will perish before the face of God, but let the righteous be glad!

Priest: Wisdom! Let us attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be to all!

Choir:
Priest: The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (*Matthew 27:62-66*)

~Gospel Reading~

After the Gospel Reading:
Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Priest: Again we pray for His Beatitude, our Metropolitan ________ , and His Grace, our Bishop ________ , for priests, deacons, and all other clergy; and for all our brethren in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Priest: Again we pray for the President of our country, and for all civil authorities, and for the armed forces.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Priest: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy house; and for all of our fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation, pardon and remission of sins, for all the brethren of this holy house.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

Priest: Again we pray for those who bring offerings and do good works in this holy and all-venerable house; for those who labor and those who sing; and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Choir: Amen.
The Litany of Fervent Supplication
Kievan Chant

1.
Lord, have mercy. - Grant this, O Lord. -
Lord, have mercy. -

2.
Grant this, O Lord. -
To Thee, O Lord. Amen.

And to thy spirit.
To Thee, O Lord. Amen.
The Litany of Fervent Supplication

Priest: Let us complete our morning prayer to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: That the whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: All things that are good and profitable for our souls, and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

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

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: A Christian ending to our life; painless, blameless, and peaceful; and a good defense before the dread judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Priest: Commemorating our most holy, most pure, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

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

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Peace be unto all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.
**Choir:** To Thee, O Lord.

**Priest:** O holy Lord, Who dwellest on high and lookest upon the humble, and Who with Thine all-seeing eye lookest down upon all creation: unto Thee have we bowed the neck of our soul and body, and we pray Thee, O Holy of Holies, stretch forth Thine invisible hand from Thy holy dwelling place and bless us all. And if in any way we have sinned, either willingly or unwillingly, pardon us, inasmuch as Thou art good and lovest mankind, granting us Thy good things in this world and beyond this world. For Thine it is to have mercy on us and to save us, O our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Priest:** Wisdom!

**Choir:** Father, bless!

**Priest:** He Who Is, Christ our God, is blessed, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen. Confirm, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages.

**Priest:** Most holy Theotokos, save us!

**Choir:** 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!

**Priest:** Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to Thee!

**Choir:** 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. (3)

Father, bless.

**Priest:** May He Who endured fearful suffering, the life-creating Cross, and voluntary burial in the flesh on behalf of us men and for our salvation, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles, of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Veneration Hymn:**

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As the faithful come to venerate the Shroud, the following hymn is sung:

#1  Veneration of the Epitaphios – Stikhera Verses
   Tone 5

O come, let us bless Joseph of eternal memory, /
who came by night to Pilate /
and begged the Life of all men: /
“Give me this Stranger, /
Who from His youth has wandered homeless. /
Give me this Stranger, /
rejected by His own people. /
Give me this Stranger, /
I marvel, seeing Him a guest of death. /
Give me this Stranger, /
the Refuge of the poor and weary. /
Give me this Stranger, /
Whom a crafty disciple betrayed to death. /
Give me this Stranger, /
that I may bury Him in my tomb, /
for He has no place to lay His head. /
Give me this Stranger, /
Whose Mother, when She beheld Him hanging on the cross, /
cried out in bitter grief, /
‘O Light of My eyes and beloved Fruit of My womb, /
that which Simeon foretold in the temple is coming to pass this day: /
a sword of sorrow has pierced My heart; /
yet trusting in Thy resurrection I glorify Thee!”
We worship Thy Passion, O Christ! /
We worship Thy Passion, O Christ! /
We worship Thy Passion, O Christ! ///
Show us Thy Holy Resurrection!
Pages 133-143 comprise the Appendix, which includes the Quartet “Blessed Art Thou, O Lord” verses and #2 “Come, Let Us Bless Joseph.”
Blessed art Thou, O Lord
Kievan Chant Tone 5 – Quartet Verses

Refrain

Blessed art Thou, O Lord.
Teach me Thy statutes.

1.
The angelic host was filled with awe, when it saw Thee among the dead, by destroying the power of death, O Savior, Thou didst raise Adam/// and save all men from hell.

Refrain...
In the tomb, the radiant angel cried to the myrrh-bearers, "Why do you women mingle myrrh with your tears? Look at the tomb and understand!/// The Savior is risen from the dead!"

Very early in the morning, the myrrh-bearers ran with sorrow...
to Thy tomb, but an angel came to them and said, "The time for sorrow has come to an end!/// Do not weep, but announce the resurrection to the apostles." The myrrh-bearers were sorrowful as they neared Thy tomb, but the angel said to them, "Why do you..."
num-ber the liv-ing a-mong the dead?/// Since He is God, He is ri-
-
sen from the tomb. Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly

Spi-rit. We wor-ship the Fa-ther, and His Son, and the Ho-ly

Spi - rit. The Ho-ly Tri-ni-ty, one in es-sence! We cry with
"Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly art Thou, O Lord!"


Since Thou gavest birth to the Giver of Life, O Vir-gin, Thou didst de-

- li-ver A-dam from his sin. Thou gav-est joy to Eve in stead of sad-ness.
The God-man Who was born of Thee has restored to life those who had fallen from it! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Glory to Thee, O God!
O come, let us bless Joseph of eternal memory, who came by night
to Pilate and begged the Life of all men: "Give me this Stranger,
Who from His youth has wandered homeless. Give me this Stranger,
rejected by His own people. Give me this Stranger,
I marvel, seeing Him a guest of death. Give me this Stranger,
the refuge of the poor and weary. Give me this Stranger, Whom a craft-
-ty disciple betrayed to death. Give me this Stranger, that I
may bury Him in my tomb, for He has no place to lay His head.
Give me this Stranger, Whose Mother, when She beheld Him hanging on the cross, cried out in bitter grief, 'O Light of My eyes and beloved Fruit of My womb, that which Simeon foretold in the temple is coming to pass this day: a sword of sorrow
has pierced My heart, yet trust-ing in Thy resurrec-tion, I glo-ri-
fy Thee!!" We wor-ship Thy Pas-sion, O Christ! We wor-ship Thy Pas-sion, O Christ! We wor-ship Thy Pas-sion, O Christ!!// Show us Thy Ho-ly Re-sur-rec-tion!