Matins of Great and Holy Wednesday
(Tuesday Night)

The priest, vested in 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, our 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! (3x)
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. (3x)
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. (3x)
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!

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 with as 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! (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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


During the next three Psalms, the priest stands before the Royal Doors and quietly reads the twelve Matins 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! (3x)

O Lord, glory to Thee!
The Great Litany
B. Ledkovsky

A-men. Lord have mer-cy! Lord have mer-cy!

Lord have mer-cy! To Thee, O Lord. A-men.
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 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 an 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 for 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 due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: In the Eighth Tone: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! In the night my soul rises early for Thee, O God, for Thy commandments are a light on the earth.

Alleluia

Traditional Kievan Chant-Tone 8

Priest: Learn righteousness, you inhabitants of the earth.

Repeat “Alleluia” (3 times)

Priest: Jealousy shall grasp an untaught people.

Repeat “Alleluia” (3 times)

Priest: Bring more evils on them, O Lord, bring more evils on those who are glorious on the earth.

Repeat “Alleluia” (3 times)
The Troparion
Traditional Kievan Chant-Tone 8

Be hold, the Bride-groom comes at mid - night, and bles-sed is the

ser-vant whom He shall find watch - ing, and a-gain, unworthy is the

ser-vant whom He shall find heed - less. Be-ware, there-fore, O my soul,

do not be weighed down with sleep, lest you be giv-en up to death
Repeat: Behold the Bridegroom...

and lest you be shut out of the Kingdom. But rouse yourself crying:

Holy, holy, holy, art Thou, O our God! Through the Theotokos have mercy on us!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Repeat: Behold the Bridegroom...

Tone 3 (LIC):
Obikhod- N. Bakhmetev

The harlot came to Thee, O Lover of man-kind, pouring myrrh and tears on Thy Feet. At Thy command she was delivered from the stench of her evil deeds, but Thy graceless disciple, though breathing Thy Grace, rejected...
it and wallowed in filth, selling Thee in his love of money. Glory, O

Christ, to Thy compassion.

Tone 4 (LIC):  

Deceitful Judas, burning with love of money, deceitful-

-ly plotted to betray Thee, O Lord, the Treasury of Life. He drunk-
- en-ly runs to the Jews and says to those trans-gres-sors, "What will you
give me, and I shall de-liv-er Him to you, that He may be cru-ci-fied?"

In tears the harlot cried out, O com-pas-sion-ate One, as she fervently wiped
Thy most pure feet with the hair of her head, and she groaned from the

Tone 1 (LIC):
Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God!
Priest: Wisdom! Attend! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

 PRIEST: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John the Theologian.

PRIEST: Let us attend! (John 12:17-50)

The Gospel is Read

After the Gospel:
Glory to Thee, O Lord! Glory to Thee!

The Reader reads Psalm 50, on the next page.
Psalm 50 (51)

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 desir最多est 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.

Priest: O God, save Thy people…
After “O God, Save Thy People”:

Priest: Through the mercy…

Choir:
Irmos – Ode 3
Tone 2- D. Yaichkov

Thou hast established me on the rock of faith. Thou hast opened wide my mouth against my enemies. For my spirit rejoices in singing, "None is holy but our God, and none is righteous but Thee, O Lord!"
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
The assembly of lawless men gathers together for empty discussion and with evil intent, to pronounce sentence upon Thee, O Christ the Deliverer. But we sing to Thee, “Thou art our God, and none is holy but Thee, O Lord.”

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
The fearful council of lawless men, with souls full of hatred toward God, intends to kill the righteous Christ as an evildoer. But we sing to Thee, “Thou art our God, and 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.

Katavasia (Repeat Irmos)

The Little Litany
After A. Archangelsky

Priest: Again and again in peace 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 Thou art the King of Peace and the Savior of our souls, and to Thee do 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.
Though I have transgressed more than the harlot, O Good One, I have not offered Thee a flood of tears, but praying in silence I fall down before Thee. With love I embrace Thy most pure feet. As Master, grant me remission of sins, when I cry to Thee, O Savior,
The woman who was once a profligate suddenly is wise. She hates her shameful deeds and carnal pleasures, remembering the magnitude of her shame and the verdict of condemnation which awaits profligates and harlots. Of these, I am indeed the first, and though in terror, I foolishly remain in my evil ways. But the harlot, though in terror, hastens to the Deliverer to cry, “In Thy compassion and love for mankind, deliver me from the filth of my evil deeds.”

And the choir repeats:
The command of the tyrant prevailed; the furnace was heated seven-fold. But the youths were not burned in it, trampling on the king's decree they sang, "Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord, sing and exalt Him throughout all ages!"
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
The woman poured precious myrrh upon Thy kingly, divine and awesome head, O Christ. She grasped Thy most pure feet with her impure hands and cried, “Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Sing and exalt Him throughout all ages!”

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
The woman who was guilty of an abundance of sins washed Thy feet with the abundance of her tears and wiped them with her hair. Therefore she was not deprived of absolution for the many sins of her life, but cried, “Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Sing and exalt Him throughout all ages!”

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
A sacred rite of redemption, wrought of saving compassion and a flood of tears, is administered to the right-minded woman. Washed in this fountain by her confession, she is not ashamed, but cried out, “Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord! Sing and exalt Him throughout all ages!”

REFRAIN: Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

We praise, bless and worship the Lord, singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.

Katavasia (Repeat Irmos)

After Katavasia:
Irmos – Ode 9
Tone 2- D. Yaichkov

With pure souls and blameless lips, come, let us magnify the all

pure and spotless Mother of Emmanuel. Through Her, let us

offer prayers to Him Who was born of Her, "Spare our souls,

O Christ our God, and save us."

Reader:
REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
Envious Judas proved himself both ignorant and evil. He sold the divine gift through whom our debt of sin is loosed. This miserable man sold the grace of God’s love. But spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us.

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
Judas went to the lawless rulers and said, “What will you give me if I betray to you Christ Whom you seek?” From intimate companionship with Christ, Judas is drawn away by gold. But spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us.

REFRAIN: Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
O blind and greedy avarice! Have you forgotten what you were taught, that the whole world is not worth your soul? Yet you, O traitor, despaired of your life, and made a noose and hanged yourself. But spare our souls, O Christ our God, and save us.

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

Katavasia (Repeat Irmos)
The Little Litany
After A. Archangelsky

Priest: Again and again in peace 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 all the powers of heaven praise Thee, and unto Thee do 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.
Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Repeat “Thy Bridal Chamber”

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

Repeat “Thy Bridal Chamber”
The Praises
Psalms 148, 149, and 150

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the heights!
Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His host!

**Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him all you shining stars!**
**Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**
Let them praise the name of the Lord! For He commanded and they were created.
And He established them forever and ever; He fixed their bounds which cannot be passed.

**Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy winds fulfilling His command!**
Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
Beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

**Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!**
**Young men and maidens together, old men and children!**
Let them praise the Name of the Lord, for His Name alone is exalted;
His glory is above earth and Heaven. He has raise up a horn for His people, praise for all His saints, for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the Lord!

**Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of the faithful!**
**Let Israel be glad in his Maker, let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King!**
Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with timbrel and lyre!
For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with victory.

**Let the faithful exult in glory, let them sing for joy on their couches.**
Let the high praises of God be in their throats, and two-edged swords in their hands, to wreak vengeance on the nations and chastisement on the peoples, to bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron, to execute upon them the judgment written.
This is glory for all His faithful ones. Praise the Lord!

**Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary, praise Him in His mighty firmament!**
VERSES: Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness.

Tone 1 (LIC):
Obikhod- N. Bakhmetev

A harlot recognized Thee as God, O Son of the virgin. With tears equal to her past deeds, she besought Thee weeping, "Loose my debt as I have loosed my hair. Love the woman who, though justly hated, loves Thee. Then with the publicans will I proclaim Thee, O Benefactor Who
VERSE: Praise Him with the trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp!

Tone 1 (LIC):

The harlot mingled precious myrrh with her tears. She poured it on Thy most pure feet and kissed them. At once Thou didst justify her. O Thou, Who didst suffer for our sakes, forgive us also, and save us.

Reader:
VERSE: Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe!

Tone 1 (LIC):

As the sinful woman was bringing her offering of myrrh, the disciple was scheming with lawless men. She rejoiced in pouring out her precious gift. He hastened to sell the Precious One. She recognized the Master, but Judas parted from Him. She was set free, but Judas was en-
VERSE: Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Tone 1 (LIC):

Oh, the wretchedness of Judas!
He saw the harlot kiss the footsteps of
VERSE: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Choir (Tone 2 LIC):
Tone 2 (LIC):

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

Tone 6 (LIC):

The sinful woman ran to buy the precious myrrh with which to anoint her Savior. She cried to the merchant, "Give me myrrh, that I may anoint Him Who has cleansed all my sins."

The woman who was engulfed in sin found Thee a haven of salvation.
Reader: To Thee, O Lord our God, belongs glory, and to Thee do we send up glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

And immediately the
Lesser Doxology.
The Lesser Doxology

Glory to Thee Who hast shown us the light!
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory: O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty, O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Thou Who takest away the sins of the world, accept our prayer. Thou Who sittest on the Right Hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For Thou alone art holy, Thou alone art Lord, Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Every day I will bless Thee and praise Thy Name forever, even unto ages of ages.
Lord, Thou hast been our refuge from generation to generation. I said, “Lord, have mercy on me. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.”
Lord, I have fled unto Thee. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. For with Thee is the fountain of life, and in Thy light shall we see light. Continue Thy mercy unto those who know Thee.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.
Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy commandments. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy precepts.
Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever, O despise not the works of Thy Hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
The Litany of Matins
A. Archangelsky

Lord, have mercy. - Grant this, O Lord. To Thee, O Lord. Amen.

And to thy Spirit. To Thee, O Lord. Amen.
The Litany of Matins

Priest: Let us complete our morning prayer unto 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.
The priest reads the prayer at the bowing of the heads.
Choir: Amen.

The Apostichë of Holy Wednesday
Obikhod Tone 6 (LIC)- N. Bakhmetev

To-day Christ comes to the house of the Pha-rï-see. A sinful wo-man
crawls to His feet and cries, "Look at me who am en-gulfed in sin, in des-
pair because of my e-vil deeds. But in Thy goodness do not des-pise me.
Grant me forgiveness of my e-vil deeds, O Lord, and save me."

Reader:
VERSE: Satisfy us in the morning with Thy steadfast love that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as Thou hast afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Let Thy work be manifest to Thy servants, and Thy glorious power to their children.

Tone 6 (LIC):

Reader:
VERSE: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands, establish Thou it.

Tone 6 (LIC):

The corrupt and filthy woman drew near to Thee, O Savior. She poured out her tears on Thy feet and thus announced Thy Passion. "How can I gaze on Thee, O Master? Yet Thou didst come to save the harlot.

Raise me from the depths, for I am dead in sin, as Thou didst raise La-za-
VERSE: I will thank Thee, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Thy wondrous works.

De-spairing for her life and de-spaired of her deeds, the woman came bear-ing myrrh to Thee and cried, "O Son of the vir-gin, though I am a
VERSE: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Hymn of Kassiane begins on the following page.
Women

The woman had fallen into many sins, O Lord.

Yet when she perceived Thy Divinity She joined Thy Divinity She joined the ranks of the Myrrh-Bearing Women. In tears she

brought Thee myrrh before Thy Burial. She cried "Woe is me!"

brought myrrh Burial. She cried "Woe is me!"

Men

Eson

*The woman - to many sins, O Lord-

(A Eson Only)

(b Eson Only)

(c Eson Only)
For I live in the night of licentiousness,
shrouded in the dark and moonless love of sin.

But accept the fountain of my tears, O
But fountain tears O

Thou who didst gather the waters of the sea into clouds. Bow down
Thou who of clouds. Bow down
Thine ear to the sighings of my heart, Thou who didst heart Thou who

bow the heavens in Thine ineffable condescension.

condescension.

Once Eve heard Thy footsteps in Paradise in the cool of the day,

Once heard-dise cool of day,

in fear she hid herself. But now I will tenderly embrace

hid but now tenderly embrace
those pure feet and wipe them with the hair of my head.

Who can measure the multitude of my sins, or the depth of Thy judgments, O Savior of my soul? Do not despise me, Thy servant, Thou who hast mercy.
Reader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most-High, to declare Thy steadfast love in the morning, and Thy truth by night. 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. (3x) 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. Standing in the temple of Thy glory, we think that we are in heaven, O Theotokos, Gate of heaven. Open to us the gates of Thy mercy. Lord, have mercy. (40) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
More honorable that the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim: without corruption Thou gavest birth to God the Word: true Theotokos, we magnify Thee!
In the Name of the Lord, bless, Father.

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

Reader: Amen.

O Heavenly King, establish the Orthodox Christians, confirm the Faith, quiet the heathen, give peace to the world, place our departed fathers and brethren in the tabernacles of the Righteous, and accept us sorrowers and penitents, for Thou art good and the Lover of mankind.

The Prayer of St. Ephraim

Priest: O Lord and Master of my life! Take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power and idle talk. (Prostration)

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. (Prostration)

Yea, O Lord and King! Grant me to see my own transgressions and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. (Prostration)

O God, cleanse me, a sinner. (12)

(Then the entire Prayer of St. Ephraim is read and a single prostration is made at the end.)
Dismissal
A. Archangelsky

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

The priest proclaims the final blessing.

After the dismissal:

The priest proclaims the final blessing.

The first hour is read immediately.