

**The First Hour
Of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha**

Presbyter:

In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God.
The prophecies of the first hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week may its blessings be with us Amen.

Reader:

A reading from Ezekiel the prophet, may his blessings be with us. Amen.

Ezekiel 22:17-22

And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, the house of Israel is to me become dross: all they are brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are even the dross of silver. Therefore thus said the Lord GOD; because ye are all become dross, behold, therefore I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. As they gather silver, and brass, and iron, and lead, and tin, into the midst of the furnace, to blow the fire upon it, to melt it; so will I gather you in mine anger and in my fury, and I will leave you there, and melt you. Yea, I will gather you, and blow upon you in the fire of my wrath, and ye shall be melted in the midst thereof. As silver is melted in the midst of the furnace, so shall ye be melted in the midst thereof; and ye shall know that I the Lord have poured out my fury upon you.

Glory be to the Holy Trinity our God unto the ages of ages. Amen

Presbyter:

Lord have mercy upon us.

Alleluia, In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God Amen.

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

The Doxology of the first hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week may its blessings be with us. Amen Make us, O Lord, worthy to say with all thanksgiving:

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Lord have mercy:

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O Emmanuel our God and our King.

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O My Lord Jesus Christ my Good Savior.

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, the majesty forever. Amen.

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Reader:

Psalm of David 58:16-17

For thou hast been my supporter, and my refuge in the day of mine afflictions. Thou art my helper; to thee, my God, will I sing; thou art my supporter, O my God and my mercy.

Reader:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

St. Matthew 22:1-14

And Jesus answered and spoke unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them, which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then said he to his servants, the wedding is ready, but they, which were bidden, were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he said unto him, Friend, how come thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.

Bow down before the Holy Gospel.

Congregation: Glory be to God for ever.

Presbyter: In the name of the Trinity;

Congregation: one in essence;

Presbyter: the Father and the Son;

Congregation: and the Holy Spirit;

Presbyter: Hail thee O Mary;

Congregation: the Pure dove;

Presbyter: who was born for us;

Congregation: God the Logos.

Presbyter:

The exposition of the first hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week, may its blessings be with us. Amen.

Reader:

That king, who held the marriage feast and invited the guests to the banquet, is God the Father. His Son is Jesus Christ our Savior. The feast is the world to which he came, and was incarnated from the Theotokos and was among the people as one of them. The servants He commissioned to carry His message are the prophets who preceded Him preaching to the nations His imminent coming. The (nations) however, neglected the matter and rejected their message; they went each one his own way: the one to his field, the other to his business and the rest killed the messengers. The king became enraged, sent his troops, disciplined these killers, and burned their town.

Who were those who were invited to the real banquet, which was for God the Word, but the contrary antipathetic Jews whose names were eliminated from the Book of Life (God the Father) sent others and commanded them to go in the streets and to invite everyone they find. When they did that, they invited many who were good and many who were bad, until they had a full house. The king came in to inspect the guests; he saw someone who was not appropriately attired for the occasion. He asked him: Friend how did you get in without the proper dress. The man was speechless embarrassed and the servants shoved him out to the outer darkness. Who is this individual, but Judas, who lost his heavenly

garment and became dressed with damnation which seeped as water into his stomach because he denied His master's blessings and dared to betray Him was thus estranged from his (master's) glory and his priesthood was given to another

Presbyter: Christ our Savior;

Congregation: has come and has borne suffering;

Presbyter: that through His Passion;

Congregation: He may save us.

Presbyter: Let us glorify Him;

Congregation: and exalt His name;

Presbyter: for He has done us mercy;

Congregation: according to His great mercy.

The Third Hour
Of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha

Presbyter:

In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God.
The prophecies of the third hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week may its blessings be with us Amen.

Reader:

A reading from Amos the prophet, may his blessings be with us. Amen.

Amos 5:18-27

Woe unto you that desire the day of the Lord! to what end is it for you? The day of the Lord is darkness, and not light. As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. Shall not the day of the Lord be darkness, and not light? Even very dark, and no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts. Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols. But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream. Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves. Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, said the Lord, whose name is The God of hosts.

Glory be to the Holy Trinity our God unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Presbyter:

Lord have mercy upon us.

Alleluia, In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God Amen.

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

The Doxology of the third hour of the eve of Wednesday of the week of the Holy Pascha may its blessings be with us. Amen Make us, O Lord, worthy to say with all thanksgiving:

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Lord have mercy:

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O Emmanuel our God and our King.

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O My Lord Jesus Christ my good Savior.

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen.

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Reader:

Psalm of David 64:4-5

Blessed is he whom thou hast chosen and adopted; he shall dwell in thy courts; thy temple is holy. Thou art wonderful in righteousness.

Reader:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

St. Matthew 24:36-51

But of that day and hour knows no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, that he shall make him ruler over all his goods. But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayed his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looked not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Bow down before the Holy Gospel.

Congregation: Glory be to God for ever.

Presbyter: In the name of the Trinity;

Congregation: one in essence;

Presbyter: the Father and the Son;

Congregation: and the Holy Spirit;

Presbyter: Hail thee O Mary;

Congregation: the Pure dove;

Presbyter: who was born for us;

Congregation: God the Logos.

Presbyter:

The exposition of the third hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week, may its blessings be with us. Amen.

Reader:

Contemplate ye who exalt the Lord, the kindness of Christ our God: observe how He calls His chosen who fulfill His will, prudent and honest servants. I mean those who preserve His commandments, and look forward to their awards; those who remain awake and alert, that they may receive the promised rewards. As the Bible asserts that those servants – whose master makes a surprise, visit and finds them awake – are blessed. Verily I say: He will install His servant to take care of His property. So for He whom He finds derelict in His duties and neglecting them often, one day, His Master will make a surprise visit, repudiate him, and make his lot with the hypocrites, in the place of darkness and suffering. Let us awake and be alert in anticipation of the day of the Lord so that we may rejoice with Him in His dwelling and receive His clemencies and mercies.

Presbyter: Christ our Savior;

Congregation: has come and has borne suffering;

Presbyter: that through His Passion;

Congregation: He may save us.

Presbyter: Let us glorify Him;
Congregation: and exalt His name;
Presbyter: for He has done us mercy;
Congregation: according to His great mercy.

**The Sixth Hour
Of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha**

Presbyter:

In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God.
The prophecies of the sixth hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week may its blessings be with us Amen.

Reader:

A reading from Jeremiah the prophet, may his blessings be with us. Amen.

Jeremiah 13:9,16:9-13

Thus said the Lord, after this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem. For thus said the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will cause to cease out of this place in your eyes, and in your days, the voice of mirth, and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride. And it shall come to pass, when thou shalt show this people all these words, and they shall say unto thee, wherefore hath the Lord pronounced all this great evil against us? Or what is our iniquity? Or what is our sin that we have committed against the Lord our God? Then shall thou say unto them, because your fathers have forsaken me, said the Lord, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshipped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my law; And ye have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, ye walk every one after the imagination of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me: Therefore will I cast you out of this land into a land that ye know not, neither ye nor your fathers; and there shall ye serve other gods day and night; where I will not show you favor.

Glory be to the Holy Trinity our God unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Presbyter:

Lord have mercy upon us.

Alleluia, In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God Amen.

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

The Doxology of the sixth hour of the eve of Wednesday of the week of the Holy Pascha may its blessings be with us. Amen Make us, O Lord, worthy to say with all thanksgiving:

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Lord have mercy:

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O Emmanuel our God and our King.

To you is the power, the glory,
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O My Lord Jesus Christ my good Savior.

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Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Reader:

Psalm of David 101:1-2

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come to thee. In the day when I shall call upon thee, speedily hear me.

Reader:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

St. Matthew 25:1-13

Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Bow down before the Holy Gospel.

Congregation: Glory be to God for ever.

Presbyter: In the name of the Trinity;

Congregation: one in essence;

Presbyter: the Father and the Son;

Congregation: and the Holy Spirit;

Presbyter: Hail thee O Mary;

Congregation: the Pure dove;

Presbyter: who was born for us;

Congregation: God the Logos.

Presbyter:

The exposition of the sixth hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week, may its blessings be with us. Amen.

Reader:

Behold these virtues and parables that our Lord of Glory Jesus – the source of every grace and good – has told us; He who granted mankind to partake in His kingdom. Listen, think, and understand and know his blessed parables, for the sake of the prudent virgins who were mentioned in the Bible and were likened to his kingdom; full of joy and exultation. Ten virgins: five foolish and five wise, said the Lord. As He tells us, there was no distinction between them as virgins; but they differed in their deeds. Thus, He praised and blessed the wise five (virgins) because they were earnest and prudent. They filled their lanterns with oil and kept the surplus in their containers. As for the foolish virgins, they were lackadaisical and did not prepare their lanterns. When they all woke up at the given time to proceed with their procession ahead of the bridegroom, their lanterns became useless at the wedding time and were unable to accompany the bridegroom. Those who are prepared, accompanied him to the wedding and the somnolent ones stayed outside

Presbyter: Christ our Savior;

Congregation: has come and has borne suffering;

Presbyter: that through His Passion;

Congregation: He may save us.

Presbyter: Let us glorify Him;
Congregation: and exalt His name;
Presbyter: for He has done us mercy;
Congregation: according to His great mercy.

The Ninth Hour
Of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha

Presbyter:

In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God.
The prophecies of the ninth hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week may its blessings be with us Amen.

Reader:

A reading from Hosea the prophet, may his blessings be with us. Amen.

Hosea 9:14-17, 10:1-2

Give them, O Lord: what wilt thou give? Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts. All their wickedness is in Gilgal: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolvers. Ephraim is smitten, their root is dried up, and they shall bear no fruit: yea, though they bring forth, yet will I slay even the beloved fruit of their womb. My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations. Israel is an empty vine, he brought forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images. Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars; he shall spoil their images.

Glory be to the Holy Trinity our God unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Presbyter:

Lord have mercy upon us.

Alleluia, In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God Amen.

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

The Doxology of the ninth hour of the eve of Wednesday of the week of the Holy Pascha may its blessings be with us. Amen Make us, O Lord, worthy to say with all thanksgiving:

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Lord have mercy:

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O Emmanuel our God and our King.

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O My Lord Jesus Christ my good Savior.

To you is the power, the glory,
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Reader:

Psalm of David 21:19-20

Deliver my soul from the sword; my only begotten one from the power of the dog. Save me from the lion's mouth; and regard my lowliness from the horns of the unicorns.

Reader:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

St. Matthew 23:29-36

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchers of the righteous, And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation

Bow down before the Holy Gospel.

Congregation: Glory be to God for ever.

Presbyter: In the name of the Trinity;

Congregation: one in essence;

Presbyter: the Father and the Son;

Congregation: and the Holy Spirit;

Presbyter: Hail thee O Mary;

Congregation: the Pure dove;

Presbyter: who was born for us;

Congregation: God the Logos.

Presbyter:

The exposition of the ninth hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week, may its blessings be with us. Amen.

Reader:

Christ paints a sad picture of the conduct and the compartment of the Pharisees. He admonishes them in an unmistakable way for carrying on the same questionable traditions of their predecessors and even surpassed them. Their predecessors slew the prophets and saints. Their successors built the tombs of these prophets. They were the snakes born of serpents. They will not escape their deeds. They will be charged with the blood of those saints; from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zachariah whom they slew between the sanctuary and the alter. All these preceding tribulation will fall on this generation because they all had conspired to kill the Son of God. That is why God scattered them all over the earth, their enemies dominated them their heritage was given to others and their dwellings became desolate.

Presbyter: Christ our Savior;

Congregation: has come and has borne suffering;

Presbyter: that through His Passion;

Congregation: He may save us.

Presbyter: Let us glorify Him;

Congregation: and exalt His name;

Presbyter: for He has done us mercy;

Congregation: according to His great mercy.

**The Eleventh Hour
Of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha**

Presbyter:

In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God.
The prophecies of the eleventh hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week may its blessings be with us Amen.

Reader:

A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon the prophet, may his blessings be with us. Amen.

Wisdom of Solomon 7:24-30

For wisdom is more moving than any motion; she passed and went through all things by reason of her pureness. For she is the breath of the power of God, and pure influence flowing from the glory of the Almighty: therefore can no defiled thing fall into her. For she is the brightness of the everlasting light, the unspotted mirror of the power of God, and the image of his goodness. And being but one, she can do all things: and remaining in herself, she made all things new: and in all ages entering into holy souls, she made them friends of God, and prophets. For God loved none but him that dwelt with wisdom. For she is more beautiful than the sun, and above all the order of the stars: being compared with the light, she is found before it. For after this came the night: but vice shall not prevail against wisdom.

Glory be to the Holy Trinity our God unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Presbyter:

Lord have mercy upon us.

Alleluia, In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, One God Amen.

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

The Doxology of the eleventh hour of the eve of Wednesday of the week of the Holy Pascha may its blessings be with us. Amen Make us, O Lord, worthy to say with all thanksgiving:

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Lord have mercy:

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O Emmanuel our God and our King.

To you is the power, the glory,
the blessings, and the majesty forever. Amen;
O My Lord Jesus Christ my good Savior.

To you is the power, the glory,
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Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Reader:

Psalm of David 56:1

Have mercy, upon me, O God have mercy upon me: for my soul has trusted in thee: and in the shadow of thy wings will I hope until the iniquity have passed away.

Reader:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

St. John 11:55-57

And the Jews' Passover was nigh at hand: and many went out of the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves. Then sought they for Jesus, and spoke among themselves, as they stood in the temple, what think ye that he will not come to the feast? Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a commandment, that, if any man knew where he were, he should show it, that they might take him.

Bow down before the Holy Gospel.

Congregation: Glory be to God for ever.

Presbyter: In the name of the Trinity;

Congregation: one in essence;

Presbyter: the Father and the Son;

Congregation: and the Holy Spirit;

Presbyter: Hail thee O Mary;

Congregation: the Pure dove;

Presbyter: who was born for us;

Congregation: God the Logos.

Presbyter:

The exposition of the eleventh hour of the eve of Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week, may its blessings be with us. Amen.

Reader:

It was the tradition of the Jews, that as it became near the days of the Passover, the multitudes go up the mountain from the hamlets to Jerusalem to purge themselves. When they ascended the mountain as usual they did not see Jesus go up. They said one to the other maybe he will not come to the feast. The hypocrites were conniving their vicious plots because the high priests, the Pharisees, and the Elders had asked the people to lead them to his location, if it were known, in order to arrest him. O what foolishness and stupidity of these evil people who wanted to bait the omnipotent, the source of all power. Because of their opposition, He will chain them and assign them to Hell, the place of suffering.

Presbyter: Christ our Savior;

Congregation: has come and has borne suffering;

Presbyter: that through His Passion;

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Congregation: according to His great mercy.

NIGHT TIME LITANIES

Presbyter:

We ask and entreat Thee, O Lord God the Father, and the Holy begotten Son, the Creator and the Disposer of all and the Holy Spirit the life giver, the Holy Trinity, before whom kneels down every creature in heaven and on earth. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

We pray for the sake of the heavenly peace, unity of all churches in the world, monasteries, all holy places, their dwellers and their keepers. O God, have pity on Your creation and save it from all evil. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who through Your power disposed the life of man before his creation and made all things with Your kingdom and adorned the skies with stars, the earth with vegetation, trees and vineyards, and the valleys with pastures and flowers. Now O our King, accept the prayers of Your servants who place themselves in Your hands saying: We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O great and Holy God who created man according to Your image and likeness and gave him a living and a reasoning soul, have mercy, O Lord, on Your creation which You have created and have compassion on it and bestow upon us Your mercy from the height of Your holiness and from Your mansion. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who saved Your servant Noah, the righteous, his children, their wives and the clean and unclean animals from the flood in order to renew the earth. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, the Creator and Provider of all, Your people from the flood of the sea of this passing world, and remove from them and from the animals, all harm; and give the birds their provisions, for You provided for the beasts and the young ravens their sustenance. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who was received as a guest by Your servant Abraham, sat at his table and blessed his offspring, O our King, accept the prayers of Your servants and Your priests standing before You. Have mercy on the world and save Your people from any hardship, dwell in them, and accompany them. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

We ask You, O Lord, to guard us from all evil and have pity on Your creation and all the people, for the eyes of all look up to You, You who gave them their food in due season. You are the sustainer of all flesh, the help of the helpless and the hope of the hopeless. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who looks to the humble with watchful eyes of protections who saved Joseph from his master's wife, set him over Egypt, and spared him the days of tribulation, that his brothers and father came, knelt down before him, and took from him wheat, for the sustenance of their children and their cattle, likewise we bow down and kneel before You and thank You, O our Creator, and provider for this condition and in every condition. We pray to You to save us from all tribulations. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O Lord, the Word of God, the Father, who works through the Law, the prophets and the Old Testament, and perfects them; save Your people from all tribulations and dispose their lives according to Your good will. Save us from famines and calamities. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who supported the people of Israel for forty years in the desert of Sinai, having no houses or storehouses, now O my Lord, protect Your people, support them and bless their homes and storehouses with Your heavenly blessings. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who accepted the prayer of Elijah the Tishbite when the sky rained and the earth gave fruit; and blessed the barrel of meal and the cruse of oil in the house of the widow, accept the prayers of Your people through the Intercessions of Your Holy Saints and pure Prophets. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O God, with eyes full of mercy, have compassion on the world and bless their crops and their storehouses, even the little that they have. Bring up the waters of the rivers according to their measures and give good temper to the winds. Bless the Nile of Egypt this year and every year. Fill the face of the earth with joy and sustain us the humans. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who accepted repentance of the Ninivites, when they fasted and received the confession of the right thief on the cross likewise make us worthy to please You and to gain Your compassion, crying and saying: Remember us, O Lord, when You come into Your kingdom. Accept the repentance of Your servants, their confessions their fasting, their prayers and their offerings, which are offered on Your Holy Altars; an accepted incense and have mercy on them. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You the Mighty Provider, Chastiser, healer and Physician of souls and bodies, who tested his servant Job, healed him from his calamity and recompensed him with more than what he had; have mercy on Your people and save them from all calamities, tribulations and misfortunes, O You the Upholder of those who trust in You. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O Christ our God, the Word of the Father, who sanctified His Holy disciples, washed their feet and made them leaders of the believers and guide of faith, who through them satisfied the yearning souls, and taught them to pray saying: Our Father who art in heavens lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O miracle and wonder maker, who fed the thousands with the five loaves, raised the dead and blessed the wedding of Cana of Galilee now, O Master, bless the bread, oil, plants, beehives, trades and all the works of Your servants. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O Lord, save Your people and protect them with the Life-giving sign of Your cross. Raise the state of the Christians the world over and soften the hearts of their rulers towards them. Fill their hearts with compassion towards our brothers, the poor, and the needy and take away from them all evil. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O You, who entrusted us with Your Holy covenant, Your Body and Blood on the altar by the action of Your Holy Spirit on the bread and wine, and commanded us, saying: Do this in remembrance of Me. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O Christ our God, have mercy on Your people and the successor of Your Apostles. Give blessing to the fruit of the earth, and the gladness to the heart of man through abundance of fruits and blessings. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O Begotten of the Father, who was Incarnated from the Immaculate Virgin St. Mary in the fullness of time, who said unto Your Holy Apostles: Go and preach all nations, baptize them and teach them all things that I have commanded you. I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Be also with Your people who cry unto You saying: We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O forgiver of sins and bestower of good things, forgive sins of Your people and cleanse them from all uncleanness. Wash them from all deceit and keep them from bearing false witness and all envy and slander. Take away from their hearts all evil thought, unbelief, pride, and hardness of heart. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

You are the rampart of our salvation, O Birth-giver of God, the invincible fortress, bring to naught the council of the adversaries, and turn the afflictions of Your servants unto joy. Defend our cities, fight for the Orthodox kings and rulers and pray for the peace of the world and the churches. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O God of mercy and compassion, Lord of all consolations, be not wrathful with us. Rebuke us neither for our evil deeds nor for the multitude of our sins. Be not angry with us nor let Your anger endure forever. Hearken, O God of Jacob, and look down, O God our helper. Protect the world from death, scarcity, pestilence, earthquakes, horror and all the fearsome events. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

For the sake of our protection under Your mighty Holy hands, O God we ask You to keep for us the life of our venerable father, our Patriarch Abba (Shenouda III). Keep him in his see for many quiet and peaceful years. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O Christ our God, we ask of Your goodness and Your great mercy to keep for us the life of our fathers: the Metropolitans, the Bishops, the hierarchs, the rulers and the shepherds. Confirm the sheep of Your flock, give protection to the priests, purity to the deacons, strength to the elders, understand to the young, chastity to the virgins asceticism to the monks and nuns, purity to the married and protection for women. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

Again we ask for the safe return of the travelers, the support of the widows and orphans; abundance for the poor, those who are in debt, pay their debts and forgive them; and those who are in prisons and distress, give them release. Heal the sick and repose the departed. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

O God of our saintly Fathers, neglect not those whom You have created with Your Holy Hands. O You who did show forth His love to mankind, accept from Your Mother intercession on our behalf and save us. O You, the Savior of the humble, forsake us not, neither renounce us, unto the end, for the sake of Your Holy Name, and for the sake of Your beloved Abraham, Your servant Isaac and Your Saint Jacob; forswear not Your covenant with us, nor deprive us of Your mercy. We ask Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy on us.

Congregation:

Lord have mercy

Presbyter:

Have mercy on us O God, make firm Your mercy towards us; In Your kingdom show mercy on us.

Congregation:

(North Side)

Lord have mercy

Love have mercy

Lord have mercy

(South Side)

Lord have mercy

Love have mercy

Lord have mercy

(North Side)

Lord have mercy

Love have mercy

Lord have mercy

(South Side)

Lord have mercy

Love have mercy

Lord have mercy

(North Side)

O King of peace:

bestow Your peace upon us:

and forgive us our sins

Lord have mercy

Love have mercy

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Love have mercy

Lord have mercy

(South Side)

Disperse the enemies of the Church
Fortify her stronghold
That she May not be shaken forever

Lord have mercy
Love have mercy
Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy
Love have mercy
Lord have mercy

(North Side)

Emmanuel our God is now in our midst
With the glory of His father
And the Holy Spirit

Lord have mercy
Love have mercy
Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy
Love have mercy
Lord have mercy

(South Side)

May He bless us
And purify our hearths
And heal the sickness of our souls and bodies

Lord have mercy
Love have mercy
Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy
Love have mercy
Lord have mercy

(North Side)

We worship You,
O Christ together with Your Good Father
And the Holy Spirit
For You were crucified and saved us.

Congregation:

Amen Alleluia glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen

We cry out saying, our Lord Jesus Christ who was crucified on the cross, trample down the Satan under our feet, save us and have mercy.

Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy
Lord bless us. Amen

Give the blessing, give the blessings, we prostrate, absolve us and give the blessing

Presbyter:

May Jesus Christ, our true God who through His own goodwill accepted sufferings and was crucified on the cross for our sake, bless us with all spiritual blessings, and support us, and complete for us the Holy week of Pascha and bring forth upon us the joy of His Holy Resurrection for many years and peaceful times. Through the never ending intercessions of the immaculate, holy and Lady Theotokos Mary, and all the choirs of angels and archangels, through the prayers of the Patriarchs, the Prophets, the Apostles, the martyrs, the righteous and holy-ones, the stavrophorai, the ascetics, the confessors and anachorites; and the blessings of the holy week of Pascha of our Good Savior; their holy blessing, their benediction, their power, their gift their love, and their help rest upon us all forever. Amen.

Congregation:

Amen.

Presbyter:

O King of peace: bestow Your peace upon us: make firm Your peace upon us, and forgive us our sins. For Thine is the power, the glory, the blessings and the majesty forever. Amen. Make us, O Lord worthy to say with all thanksgiving:

Congregation:

Our Father who art in the Heavens, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, through Christ Jesus our Lord, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

Presbyter:

Depart in peace, the peace of the Lord may be with you all. Amen