

Holy Wednesday Evening

Holy Unction
with Hymns from the Bridegroom Service

Hymns translated by Fr. Seraphim Dedes

St. Nektarios Greek Orthodox Church
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Psalms and OT from the *St. Athanasius Academy Septuagint (SAAS)*

NT from RSV

Hymnological texts by Fr. Seraphim Dedes

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Holy Wednesday Evening

Holy Unction with Hymns from the Bridegroom Service

PRIEST:

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

READER:

Amen.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us (3).

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

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against

us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

PRIEST:

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

READER:

Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Come, let us worship and bow down before our King and God.

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

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

Psalm 142

O Lord, hear my prayer; give ear to my supplication in Your truth; answer me in Your righteousness; do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for no one living shall become righteous in Your sight. For the enemy persecuted my soul: he humbled my life to the ground; he caused me to dwell in dark places as one long dead, and my spirit was in anguish within

me; my heart was troubled within me. I remembered the days of old, and I meditated on all Your works; I meditated on the works of Your hands. I spread out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a waterless land. Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit faints within me; turn not Your face from me, lest I become like those who go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Your mercy in the morning, for I hope in You; make me know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul to You. Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, for to You I flee for refuge. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your good Spirit shall guide me in the land of uprightness. For Your name's sake, O Lord, give me life; in Your righteousness You shall bring my soul out of affliction. In Your mercy You shall destroy my enemies; You shall utterly destroy all who afflict my soul, for I am Your servant.

PRIEST:

Again and again, in peace let us pray to the Lord. (*Lord, have mercy.*)

Help us, save us, have mercy upon us and protect us, O God, by your grace.

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves

and one another and our whole life to Christ our God. (*To You, O Lord.*)

For You are a merciful and loving God, and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. (*Amen.*)

CHOIR:

Mode pl. 4.

Verse. Out of the night my spirit wakes a dawn to You, O God, for Your commandments are a light upon the earth.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse. Learn righteousness, you that dwell upon the earth.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse. Zeal shall lay hold upon an un instructed people, and now fire shall devour the adversaries.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse. Add more evils upon them, O Lord, add more evils upon them that are glorious upon earth.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Troparion.

While the glorious Disciples were being illumined at the washing of the feet during the Supper, then, too, did Judas the ungodly one, succumb to darkness, being sick with avarice. And he delivered You, the righteous Judge, to lawless

judges. Look here, O lover of money, and see the one who for money's sake hanged himself. Flee from the greed that made him dare commit such a deed against the Teacher. O Lord benevolent to all, glory be to You.

Glory; both now. **Repeat.**

READER:

Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; And according to the abundance of Your compassion, blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from my lawlessness And cleanse me from my sin. For I know my lawlessness, and my sin is always before me. Against You only have I sinned and done evil in Your sight; that You may be justified in Your words, and overcome when You are judged. For behold, I was conceived in transgressions, and in sins my mother bore me. Behold, You love truth; You showed me the unknown and secret things of Your wisdom. You shall sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be cleansed; You shall wash me, and I will be made whiter than snow. You shall make me hear joy and gladness; my bones that were humbled shall greatly rejoice. Turn Your face from my sins, and blot out all my transgressions. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from

Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your guiding Spirit. I will teach transgressors Your ways, and the ungodly shall turn back to You.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation, and my tongue shall greatly rejoice in Your righteousness. O Lord, You shall open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For if You desired sacrifice, I would give it; You will not be pleased with whole burnt offerings. A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit, a broken and humbled heart God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Your good pleasure to Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be built; then you will be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with offerings and whole burnt offerings; then shall they offer young bulls on Your altar. (SAAS)

The Canon

by St. Cosmas the Hymnographer

Ode i. Mode pl. 2. The Heirmos.

The Red Sea was cut by a staff that was cut, and the undulating deep went dry; the same became passable for those who were unarmed and a tomb for those in full armor. An ode fit for God did the former sing: Christ our God has been gloriously glorified.

Troparia

Glory to You, our God; glory to You.

The infinite Wisdom of God, which is the cause of all and the provider of life, has built himself a house, from a pure mother who knew no man; for He put on the temple of His body. Christ our God has been gloriously glorified.

Glory.

Initiating His friends into mysteries, the very Wisdom of God sets a soul-sustaining table, and mixes the wine of immortality in His chalice, for those who believe. Let us religiously draw near and call out: Christ our God has been gloriously glorified.

Both now.

Let us listen, all we who believe, as the uncreated and innate Wisdom of God is calling from the highest point in town. For He is shouting, Taste and see that I am good, and knowing this call out: Christ our God has been gloriously glorified.

Ode iii. The Heirmos.

Lord of all and Creator and God though You were, and as such impassible, yet You became poor and united our created nature to yourself. And You, the paschal lamb itself, offered yourself to those for whom You were to die, saying, "Eat my body, and you will be established by faith."

Glory.

Good one, You gave Your disciples to drink from Your cup, the redemption of the whole human race, and You filled them with gladness; for You sacrificed yourself, saying, "Drink my blood, and you will be established by faith."

Both now.

"Senseless is the man, that traitor among you," You foretold to Your disciples, O unresentful Lord. "He will not know these things; and being a fool, he will not understand. But you, abide in me, and you will be established by faith."

Kathisma.

Mode 1. *The soldiers keeping watch.*

The Lord, who made the lakes, and the springs and the oceans, * instructing us in finest humility, girded * himself with a towel and then He washed the Disciples' feet. * He was humble thus, in His surpassing compassion, * and He lifted us up from the pit of perdition, * for He alone loves mankind.

Glory.

Mode 3. *Your Confession.*

You were humble in Your great compassion, * and You washed the feet of Your Disciples, * and by this You set them straight on the course of God. * Although refusing initially to

be washed, * Peter submits and obeys the divine command, * and is washed by You. * And now he entreats You earnestly, * beseeching that great mercy be on us bestowed.

Both now.

Mode 4. *You appeared today.*

Master, as You ate a meal * with Your Disciples, * You informed them mystically * of Your all-holy sacrifice, * by which You saved from corruption us * who duly honor * Your venerable suffering.

Ode iv. The Heirmos.

When Habakkuk the Prophet foresaw Your ineffable mystery, O Christ, he proclaimed prophetically: "You have shown a strong and mighty love, O compassionate Father; for You, O Good One, sent Your only-begotten Son to the world as an atoning sacrifice."

Troparia

Glory to You, our God; glory to You.

Voluntarily going to Your Passion, the source of dispassion for all of Adam's descendants, O Christ, to Your friends You said, "I have desired to share this Passover with you; for my Father sent me, His only-begotten Son, to the world as an atoning sacrifice."

Glory.

As You partook of the chalice, You said to the Disciples, Immortal

One, "I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine, as long as I am with you in this life; for my Father sent me, His only-begotten Son, to the world as an atoning sacrifice."

Both now.

"I tell you, in my kingdom, I will drink a new drink beyond description," Christ, You said to Your friends. "For then I shall be with you, God among gods; for my Father sent me, His only-begotten Son, to the world as an atoning sacrifice."

Ode v. The Heirmos.

When the Apostles were connected to each other with the bond of love, and had devoted themselves to Christ the Master of all, then their beautiful feet were washed by Him, so that they might preach to all the gospel of peace.

Troparia.

Glory.

He who controls the lofty and uninhibited water in the ethereal sphere, and who bridles the abysses, and restrains the seas, the very Wisdom of God, now pours water into a basin, and the Master washes the feet of His servants.

Both now.

The Master shows a model of humility to His Disciples. He who wraps the sky in clouds, with a towel girds himself, and He bends the knee to wash the feet of

His servants, He in whose hand is the breath of every being.

Ode vi. The Heirmos.

The utter abyss of my sins has surrounded me; and no longer able to endure the storm, like Jonah I cry to You the Master, "Raise me up from corruption."

Troparia.

Glory.

Savior, You cried out, "O Disciples, you call me Lord and Teacher, and you are right, for that is what I am. So imitate the example, and also do as you have seen me do."

Both now.

He who is not dirty does not need the cleansing even of his feet. And you are clean, O my Disciples, but not all; for one of you is inclined to raging disorderly.

READER

Kontakion.

Mode 2. *In seeking the heights.*

Receiving the bread in his hands, the betrayer * in secret extends those very hands receiving * from the priests the price of Him * who had fashioned mankind with His own hands. * And he remained incorrigible, *Judas the slave and the knave.*

Ekos

As we all draw near with fear to

the mystic table, let us receive the Bread with pure souls, remaining beside the Master that we may see how he washes the feet of the Disciples and dries them with the towel, and let us do as we have seen, being subject to one another and washing one another's feet; for Christ himself so ordered his disciples, as he declared; but he did not listen, *Judas the slave and the knave.*

Synaxarion.

On holy and great Thursday the godly Fathers who have arranged all things well, have received from the divine Apostles and the sacred Gospels and in turn handed down to us, that today we should celebrate four things: the sacred Washing of Feet, the Mystical Supper (that is, the tradition of what we know as the awesome *Mysteries of Holy Communion*), the transcendent Prayer, and finally the Betrayal itself.

By Your ineffable compassion, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

CHOIR

Ode vii. The Heirmos.

In Babylon the three Youths did not cringe at the furnace fire; but when cast into the midst of the flames, they were moistened and sang the hymn: "Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers."

Troparia.

Glory to You, our God; glory to You.

Nodding his head was Judas, premeditating, setting evils in motion, looking for an opportunity to betray to condemnation the Judge, who is Lord of all and God of our fathers.

Glory.

"I tell you, my friends," said Christ to the Disciples, "one of you will betray me." Forgetting their gladness, they were gripped by anguish and sorrow. "Tell us, who is it?" they said, "O God of our fathers."

Both now.

"For him who in his presumption has dipped his hand in the dish with me, it would have been better if he had never been born at all." Thus was he identified by the God of our fathers.

Ode viii. The Heirmos.

Braving all danger for their ancestral Laws, the blessed young men in Babylon spat disdainfully upon the king's unreasonable decree; and being joined to the fire, by which they were not consumed, they sang a hymn worthy of God the Ruler: "Sing praise to the Lord, all you works, and exalt Him highly to all the ages."

Troparia

Glory to You, our God; glory to You.

Having devoted themselves to the

Word in Zion, the Apostles and blessed banqueters followed close upon the Shepherd like sheep; and being joined to Christ, from whom they were separated not, they were fed the word of God and gratefully cried out: "Sing praise to the Lord, all you works, and exalt Him highly to all the ages."

Glory.

Having forgotten willfully the law of friendship, the infamous Iscariot, those feet of his that You just washed, he readied for betrayal. And eating of Your bread, Your divine body, he lifted up his heel against You, O Christ, and knew not to cry out: "Sing praise to the Lord, all you works, and exalt Him highly to all the ages."

Both now.

He took in his right hand the holy Body, the remedy for sin, and the divine blood that was being poured out for the world, he who was devoid of conscience. And he was not ashamed to drink what he had sold for a price; he abhorred not the evil and knew not to cry out: "Sing praise to the Lord, all you works, and exalt Him highly to all the ages."

Ode ix. The Heirmos.

Come, believers, let us enjoy the Master's hospitality and immortal table, in the upper room, that is, in elevated minds; and learning a sublime word from the Word, Him we magnify.

Troparia.

Glory to You, our God; glory to You.

"Go prepare the Passover meal," said the Word to His Disciples, "for you whom I initiate into the mysteries, in the upper room, where the mind is established, with the unleavened word of truth; and magnify the staff of grace."

Glory.

Before the ages, the Father begets me, creative wisdom. He created me, the beginning of His ways, for the works that now are being mystically accomplished. I say this, for though I am the Logos and by nature uncreated, I appropriate the speech of the humanity that I assumed.

Both now.

As I am human in essence, and not in mere appearance, so the nature united to me is divine, by way of exchange. Therefore recognize me to be one single Christ, preserving the properties of and in which natures I consist.

Katavasia.

Come, believers, let us enjoy the Master's hospitality and immortal table, in the upper room, that is, in elevated minds; and learning a sublime word from the Word, Him we magnify.

PRIEST

Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord. (*Lord, have mercy.*)

Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Your grace.

Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, 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.

(To You, O Lord.)

PRIEST

For all the powers of heaven praise You, and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. (*Amen.*)

CHOIRS

Exaposteilarion. Mode 3.

O my Savior, now I see Your wedding hall decorated, and I have not the garment needed for me to enter it. Make this raiment of my soul brightly shine, O Giver-of-Light, and save me. (3)

CHOIR

Lauds. Mode 2.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God.

Praise Him, all you His angels; praise Him, all you His hosts. It is fitting to sing a hymn to You, O God.

Idiomela. Mode 2.

Praise Him for His mighty acts, praise Him according to the abundance of His greatness.

Now the Sanhedrin of the Judeans hurries to assemble, that it may deliver to Pilate the Maker and Creator of all things. Oh, the lawless! Oh, the faithless! They prepare for judgment the One who is coming to judge the living and the dead. They prepare for Passion the One who cures the passions. O forbearing Lord, great is Your mercy. Glory to You.

Praise Him with the sound of trumpet, praise Him with the harp and lyre.

Judas the transgressor, who at supper dipped his hand into the dish with You, O Lord, lawlessly extended his hands to receive the money; and he, who calculated the price of the ointment, was not afraid to sell You, the priceless One. He presented his feet for the Master to wash, and he kissed with deceit to betray You to the lawless. Cast out from the

company of the Apostles, he cast down the thirty pieces of silver, and did not see Your Resurrection on the third day; through which have mercy on us.

Praise Him with timbrel and dance, praise Him with strings and flute.

Judas, the deceitful traitor, betrayed the Savior and Lord by a deceitful kiss. He sold Him to the transgressors, the Master of all, like he would a slave. But as a lamb led to slaughter, so followed the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father, the only all-merciful One.

Praise Him with resounding cymbals, praise Him with triumphant cymbals. Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Judas the slave and knave, the disciple and traitor, the friend and fiend, was proved by his deeds; for he followed the Master, and inwardly contemplated the betrayal. He would say to himself, "I will deliver Him up, and I shall gain the collected funds." He wanted the ointment to be sold, and Jesus to be held through deception. He gave a kiss and thus gave up the Christ. And as a lamb being led to the slaughter, so He followed. He is the only compassionate Lord who loves humanity.

Glory; both now. **Mode 2.**

He, whom Isaiah announced as Lamb, comes willingly to the slaughter, and He gives His back to scourging and His cheeks to blows. He does not hide His face from the shame of spitting; He

is condemned to a shameful death. The sinless One willingly accepts it all, so that He might grant to all the resurrection from the dead.

READER

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (3x)

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

All Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, pardon our sins. Master, forgive our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

PRIEST

For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and to the ages of ages. (Amen.)

CHOIR

Mode 4. *Come quickly.*

O Christ, You alone are He who quickly comes to our aid. We pray that You show Your quick response from heaven to Your servants who are suffering. Free them of their diseases; relieve the pain that afflicts them. Raise them, that they may ceaselessly give glory and extol You, by the prayers of the Theotokos, only Lover of humanity.

PRIEST

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

For the peace of God and the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

For peace in the whole world, for the stability of the holy churches of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

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

For our Archbishop [Alexios], the honorable presbyters, the deacons in the service of Christ, and all the clergy and laity, let us pray to the Lord.

For the people in attendance who anticipate the grace of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

That this oil will be blessed by the descent, power, and operation of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

For the servants of God who have come for this holy sacrament, and that God will visit them, and that the grace of the Holy Spirit will come upon them, let us pray to the Lord.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and distress, let us pray to the Lord.

Help us, save us, have mercy upon us and protect us, O God, by your grace.

Remembering our most holy, pure, blessed, and glorious Lady, the Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commit ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God. *(To You, O Lord.)*

PRIEST

For to You belong all glory, honor, and worship, of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

O Lord, Who in Your mercy and bounties heal the disorders of our souls and bodies, sanctify this oil, so that those who shall be anointed with it may be healed and freed from every passion, illness of body, uncleanness of flesh and spirit, and from all evils; that in this, too, Your all-holy name may be glorified, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and

ever, and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

CHOIR

Mode 4. *Come quickly.*

O Christ, You alone are He who quickly comes to our aid. We pray that You show Your quick response from heaven to Your servants who are suffering. Free them of their diseases; relieve the pain that afflicts them. Raise them, that they may ceaselessly give glory and extol You, by the prayers of the Theotokos, only Lover of humanity.

Kontakion for the Blindman.

Mode 4. *You appeared.*

In the eyes of soul have I become unseeing. Unto You I come, O Christ, as did of old the man born blind, and in repentance I cry to You. For those in darkness You are the most resplendent light.

Kontakion for the Paralytic.

Mode 3. *On this day.*

I have sinned in every way, I have improperly acted; therefore with paralysis my soul is woefully stricken. Raise it up, O Lord, through Your own divine attention, even as of old You raised up the paralytic, so that saved I may cry, Glory to Your dominion, O my compassionate Christ.

Apolytikion for St. James.

Mode 4.

As a disciple of the Lord, you accepted the Gospel, O James the Just. As a Martyr you have unchangeability;

as the Brother of the Lord you have confidence; and you can intercede as a hierarch. Intercede with Christ our God, entreating Him to save our souls.

Kontakion for Saint James

Mode 4. *You who were lifted.*

When God the Logos, as the only-begotten of God the Father, came and sojourned among us in latter days, O God-inspired Brother of the Lord, He appointed you, O James, the first Shepherd and Teacher of holy Jerusalem, and a trustworthy steward of the all-holy sacraments. And hence, O just Apostle, we honor your memory.

Kontakion for St. Nicholas,

Mode 3. *On this day.*

You became the minister of sacred mysteries in Myra, holy father Nicholas. Fulfilling Christ's holy Gospel, you laid down your very soul for your people, and you saved those who were innocent from dying. For this reason you were hallowed as a great mystic of the divine grace of God.

Apolytikion for St. Demetrios.

Mode 3. *Your Confession.*

All the world has you, its mighty champion, fortifying us in times of danger, and defeating our foes, O Victorious One. So, as you humbled Lyaios's arrogance by giving courage to Nestor in the stadium, thus, O holy Great Martyr Demetrios, to Christ our God pray fervently, beseeching Him to grant us

His great mercy.

Apolytikion for St. Panteleimon.

Mode 3.

Holy Laurel-bearer and Physician Panteleimon, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls forgiveness of offenses.

Apolytikion for the holy Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian.

Mode pl. 4.

Holy Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, visit our infirmities. Freely you received; freely give to us.

Kontakion for St. John Theologian.

Mode 2.

Who can recount all your mighty deeds, O Virgin? You pour out miracles and you overflow with cures, and you intercede on behalf of our souls, as a Theologian and Friend of Christ.

Theotokion.

Mode 2. *In seeking the heights.*

O Mother of God, intently we cry out to you the wellspring of mercy and the refuge of the world. O vehement advocate, unassailable fortress, anticipate and deliver us from perilous ordeals, O Lady who alone are swift to fend for us.

1st Epistle

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

PRIEST

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Saint James' Universal Letter.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

(5:10-16)

Brethren, take as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we call those happy who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath, but let your yes be yes and your no be no, that you may not fall under condemnation. Is any one among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and

pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects.

PRIEST

Peace be with you the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

1st Gospel

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

(And with your spirit.)

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke. Let us attend!

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

(Luke 10:25-37)

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was

going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness of the sins of the servants of

God, those present for this holy sacrament, and for the remission of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God who loves mankind and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

1st Prayer

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

(Lord, have mercy.)

PRIEST

O Lord, Who are without beginning, eternal, Holy of holies, Who sent down Your only-begotten Son to heal every infirmity and every wound of our souls and bodies, send down Your Holy Spirit, and sanctify this oil; and cause it to be for Your servants, who are about to be anointed with it, unto complete remission of their sins, and unto inheritance of the Kingdom of Heaven. For You are a great and marvelous God, who keeps Your covenant and Your mercy to them who love You; Who grants remission of sins through Your divine Son, Jesus Christ. You gave us a rebirth from sin; You give light to the blind and raise up the fallen; You love the righteous, and show mercy to sinners; You renew us from darkness and the shadow of death, saying to those

in captivity, "Come forth!" and to those in darkness, "Uncover your eyes!"

For the light of knowledge of Your only-begotten Son has shined in our hearts; since, for our sakes, He revealed Himself upon earth, and dwelt among men; and unto as many as accepted Him He gave the power to become children of God, granting us the adoption of sonship through the laver of regeneration, and setting us free from the oppression of the devil. And inasmuch as it has not pleased You that we should be cleansed by blood, but by holy oil, You gave us the sign of His Cross, that we might become the flock of Christ, a Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation, purifying us by water, and sanctifying us by Your Holy Spirit. O Master and Lord, grant grace to this Your ministry, as You did to Moses Your servant, and to Samuel Your beloved, and to John Your chosen one; and to all those who from generation to generation have pleased You.

In like manner, empower us also to be ministers of the New Covenant of Your Son over this oil, which You have secured through His precious Blood; that putting away earthly desires, we may die unto sin and live in righteousness, being clothed with our Lord Jesus Christ, through the anointing with this sanctifying oil, which we are about to summon to our aid.

O Lord, Grant that this oil becomes the oil of gladness, the oil of sanctification,

a royal robe, an armor of might, the deflecting of every satanic assault, the seal of immunity from snares, the gladness of heart, everlasting joy; that also in this, they who shall be anointed with this oil of rebirth may be strong against their adversaries, and may shine in the radiance of Your Saints, having neither spot nor wrinkle, and that they may be admitted into Your eternal rest, and receive the award of the calling from above.

For it is Yours to show mercy and to save us, O God our God, and to You we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. (*Amen.*)

2nd Epistle

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me sorely.

PRIEST

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

(15:1-7)

Brethren, we who are strong ought

to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

PRIEST

Peace be with you the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

2nd Gospel

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

CHOIR

And with your spirit.

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke. Let us attend!

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

(Luke 19:1-10)

At that time, Jesus was passing through Jericho. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness of the sins of the servants of God, those present for this holy sacrament, and for the remission of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God who loves mankind and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

2nd Prayer

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST

O God, great and supreme, worshiped by all creation, fountainhead of wisdom, abyss of unfathomable goodness, and boundless gulf of loving-kindness; Master Who loves mankind, the God of things eternal and of wonders, Whom no man by reason can comprehend: look down and hear us, Your unworthy servants; and wherever we bring this oil in Your great name, send down the gift of Your healing, and remission of sins; and heal them in the multitude of Your mercies.

Yes, O Lord, Who are easy to be entreated; You alone are merciful and

You love mankind; You are sorrowful for our evil deeds; You know how the mind of man leans towards wickedness, even from his youth; You do not desire the death of a sinner, but rather that he should repent and live.

For the salvation of sinners, though being God, You became a created being for the sake of Your creatures. You have said: "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." You sought the wandering sheep; You searched diligently for the lost coin, and having found it, You said: "He that comes to me I will not cast out." You did not abhor the sinful woman who washed Your precious feet with her tears; You said: "As often as you fall, get up, and you shall be saved." It is You, who said: "There is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents."

O merciful Master, look down from on High, giving us, Your sinful and unworthy servants, shelter under the grace of the Holy Spirit in this hour; and take up Your abode in these Your servants, who acknowledge their iniquities and draw near to You in faith. Accept them because of Your love towards mankind, forgiving them whatever they have done amiss, whether by word, deed, or thought, and cleanse them from every sin; and abiding ever present with them, preserve them for the remaining years of their life, that, walking ever in Your statutes, they may in no way again

become an object of joy to the devil; so that also in these, Your all-holy name may be glorified.

For it is Yours to show mercy and to save us, O Christ our God; and to You we ascribe glory, together with Your Father, Who is from everlasting, and Your all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit, always, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

3rd Epistle

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

The Lord is my light and my Savior.
The Lord is the defender of my life.

PRIEST

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

(12:27-13:8)

Brethren, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds

of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

PRIEST

Peace be with you the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

3rd Gospel

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

CHOIR

And with your spirit.

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Let us attend!

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

(Matthew 10:1, 5-8)

At that time, Jesus called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity. Jesus sent them out, charging them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay."

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness of the sins of the servants of God, those present for this holy sacrament, and for the remission of all their sins,

both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God who loves mankind and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

3rd Prayer

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST

O Master almighty, holy King, Who chastens yet does not put to death; Who supports those who fall and raises those who are downtrodden; Who heals our physical afflictions: we entreat You, our God, that You bring Your mercy on this oil, and to those, who are anointed with it in Your name; that it may be effectual unto the healing of soul and body, unto cleansing and deliverance from every infirmity, illness, malady, and every defilement of body and soul. Yes, Lord, send down from heaven Your healing power; touch the body, quench the fever, sooth the pain and banish every hidden ailment. Become the Physician of these, Your servants; raise them up and heal their suffering; grant that they may be given to the Church whole and in restored health, pleasing You and

abiding by Your will.

For it is Yours to show mercy and to save us, our God, and to You we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

4th Epistle

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

In the day when I call upon you hear me speedily. Lord, hear my prayer.

PRIEST

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

(6:16-7:1)

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

PRIEST

Peace be with you the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

4th Gospel

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

CHOIR

And with your spirit.

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Let us attend!

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

(Matthew 8:14-23)

At that time, when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever; he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and served him. That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases." Now when Jesus

saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. And a scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head." Another of the disciples said to him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead." And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him.

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness of the sins of the servants of God, those present for this holy sacrament, and for the remission of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God who loves mankind and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

4th Prayer

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST

O gracious, loving compassionate and ever-merciful Lord, plentiful in mercy, and rich in beneficence, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, Who through Your holy Apostles have empowered us to heal the infirmities of Your people by oil and prayer, confirm this oil unto the healing of those who shall be anointed with it, for relief from every ailment and every malady; for deliverance from evils of those who in firm hope await salvation from You. Yes, O Master, Lord our God, we pray to You the Almighty, that You will save us all. O only Physician of souls and bodies, sanctify us all; as Healer of every malady, heal also these Your servants.

Raise them up from their bed of pain, through the mercies of Your goodness. Visit them in Your mercy and compassion. Cast out from them every sickness and malady; so that being healed by Your mighty hand they may serve You with all thanksgiving; that even now, sharing in Your ineffable love, we may sing praises and glorify You, Who do great and wondrous things, both glorious and transcendent.

For it is Yours to show mercy and to

save us, our God, and to You we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

5th Epistle

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

Do you, Lord, guard and keep us. Save me, O Lord, for there is no godly one left.

PRIEST

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

(1:8-11)

Brethren, we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of the affliction we experienced in Asia; for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. Why, we felt that we had received the sentence of death; but that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead; he delivered us from so deadly a peril, and he will deliver us; on him we have set our hope that he will deliver us

again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us in answer to many prayers.

PRIEST

Peace be with you the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

5th Gospel

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

CHOIR

And with your spirit.

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Let us attend!

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

(Matthew 25:1-13)

The Lord said this parable, "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be compared to ten maidens who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom!

Come out to meet him.' Then all those maidens rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'Perhaps there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast; and the door was shut. Afterward the other maidens came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness of the sins of the servants of God, those present for this holy sacrament, and for the remission of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God who loves mankind and to You we send up

glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

5th Prayer

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST

O Lord our God, You chasten and again heal; You lift the indigent from the ground and dunghill; Father of orphans, and Haven of tempest-tossed; Physician of the ailing, Who without toil bears our weaknesses, and accepts our infirmities; it is You, Who cheerfully show mercy, and pass over our iniquities, taking away our unrighteousness; quick to help and slow to wrath; You breathed on Your Disciples, and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." It is You Who accept the repentance of sinners and have the power to pardon countless and grievous sins, bestowing healing upon all who continue in weakness and long-enduring illness.

It is You, Lord, Who have also called me, Your humble, sinful and unworthy servant, caught up in many sins, and wallowing in the pleasures of life, to the holy and exceedingly lofty degree of the priesthood, and to enter within the innermost veil, into the holy of holies, where the holy Angels desire

to penetrate and hear the voice of the Lord God announcing glad tidings, and to behold with their own eyes the presence of the sacred Oblation, and to enjoy the divine and sacred Liturgy.

You, Lord, deemed me worthy to minister Your heavenly Mysteries, and offer You gifts and sacrifices for our sins, and the ignorances of people; and to mediate for Your reason-endowed sheep, so that, through Your great and ineffable love for mankind, You may blot out their transgressions.

All-merciful King, hear the voice of my prayer at this hour and holy day, and at all times and places; and to these, Your servants, who are ailing in soul and body, grant Your healing, remitting their sins, and pardoning their transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, treating their incurable wounds, and every ailment and malady. Give health to their souls, You, Who touched Peter's mother-in-law, who, having been cured of her fever, arose and ministered to You. O Master, grant healing and deliverance from every devastating pain to these Your servants. Remember Your mercies and compassion; and that the mind of man inclines toward evil from his youth; that no one is without sin upon earth, for You alone are without sin. You came and saved the human race, and set us free from the bondage of the enemy.

For if You enter into judgment with Your servants, none will be found clean

from stain; but every mouth shall be sealed, not having any defense; for as discarded rags is all our righteousness before You. Therefore, O Lord, remember not the sins of our youth.

For You are the hope of the hopeless, and the rest of those who labor and are heavy laden with iniquity; and to You we ascribe glory, together with Your Father, who is from everlasting, and Your all-holy and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

6th Epistle

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your great mercy; and according to the magnitude of Your compassion blot out my transgression. Create in me a clean heart, O God.

PRIEST

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

(5:22-6:2)

Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

PRIEST

Peace be with you the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

6th Gospel

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

CHOIR

And with your spirit.

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Let us attend!

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

(Matthew 15:21-28)

At that time, Jesus went to the

district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness of the sins of the servants of God, those present for this holy sacrament, and for the remission of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God who loves mankind and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. (*Amen.*)

6th Prayer

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST

We thank You, Lord, our good and loving God, Physician of our souls and bodies, Who painlessly have borne our infirmities, and by Whose bruises we all have been healed. You are the Good Shepherd, Who came in search of the wandering sheep. You give consolation to the fainthearted, and life to the broken-hearted. You healed the hemorrhage of the woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years, and freed the daughter of the Canaanite woman from the cruel demon. You remitted the debt of the two debtors and forgave the sinful woman. You healed the Paralytic and forgave his sins. You justified the Publican with Your word, and received the Robber at his last confession. You took upon Yourself the sins of the world, by being nailed to the Cross.

We pray to You and entreat You, O God; in Your goodness, loose, remit, and

forgive the sins and transgressions of Your servants, both voluntary and involuntary, in knowledge and in ignorance, trespass and disobedience, at night and during the day; whether they be under the curse of a priest or a parent; whether they feasted their eyes, indulged their sense of smell, touched and gratified themselves, or tasted fornication; or through whatever impulse of the flesh and of the spirit they have alienated themselves from Your will, and from Your holiness.

Forgive whatever sins they or we have committed; for You are a good God, Who remembers not evil, and loves mankind, permitting us not to fall into the unclean life, neither to follow in wayward paths.

Yes, Lord and Master, hear me, a sinner, in this hour, in behalf of these Your servants. Overlook all their trespasses, as a forgiving God. Deliver them from eternal punishment; fill their mouths with praise of You; open their lips that they may glorify Your holy name; stretch forth their hands to perform Your commandments. Direct their feet aright, in the way of Your Gospel, strengthening all their members and their thoughts by Your grace.

For You are our God, Who through Your holy Apostles gave us a commandment saying: "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be

loosed in Heaven." And again: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." And as You hearkened to Hezekiah in the sorrow of his soul, at the hour of his death, and did not overlook his prayer, in like manner hear me, Your humble, sinful and unworthy servant, praying to You at this hour. For You are the Lord, Jesus Christ, Who in Your mercy and love for mankind commanded us to forgive those who fall into sin, even seventy times seven; Who laments over our wickedness, and rejoices over the return of those who have strayed. For as is Your Majesty, so also is Your mercy, and to You we ascribe glory; together with Your Father Who is from everlasting, and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

7th Epistle

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

O Lord, do not rebuke in your anger. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak.

PRIEST

Wisdom.

READER

The reading is from Paul's First

Letter to the Thessalonians.

PRIEST

Let us be attentive.

READER

(5:14-23)

Brethren, we exhort you, admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophesying, but test everything; hold fast what is good, abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PRIEST

Peace be with you the reader.

CHOIR

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

7th Gospel

PRIEST

Wisdom. Arise. Let us hear the holy Gospel. Peace be with all.

CHOIR

And with your spirit.

PRIEST

The reading is from the Holy

Gospel according to Matthew. Let us attend!

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

(Matthew 9:9-13)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. And as he sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

CHOIR

Glory to You, O Lord, glory to You.

PRIEST

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your great mercy; we pray You, hear us and have mercy.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, protection, and forgiveness of the sins of the servants of

God, those present for this holy sacrament, and for the remission of all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary.

(Lord, have mercy. 3x)

PRIEST

For You are a merciful God who loves mankind and to You we send up glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. *(Amen.)*

7th Prayer

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST

O Master, Lord our God, Physician of souls and bodies, it is You Who soothe the chronic pains and heal every infirmity and malady of the people. You desire that all should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, and You will not the death of the sinner, but rather that he should repent and live.

For You, O Lord, in the Old Testament, ordained repentance for sinners: for David and the Ninevites, and for those before and after them. But also in the new dispensation of Your coming in the flesh, You called not the righteous but the sinners to repentance; like the publican, the harlot, the robber, and the blasphemer and great persecutor Paul, receiving them all through repentance.

Peter, Your great Apostle who denied You three times, You received in repentance, and promised him, saying: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it; and I will give You the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven." Therefore, O merciful and loving God, encouraged by Your faithful promise, we pray and entreat You at this hour. Hear our prayer and accept it as incense offered to You. Visit these Your servants, and if they have transgressed in either word or deed or thought, by night or by day, if they have come under the curse of a priest or their own anathema, or have sworn an oath, we pray to You; loose, pardon, and forgive them, O God, overlooking their transgressions and their sins, committed by them knowingly or in ignorance. And if they have transgressed Your commandments, or have erred, as bearing flesh and living in the world, or by the prompting of the devil, forgive them, as a merciful and loving God; for there is no man who lives and does not sin.

Only You are sinless; Your righteousness is to all eternity, and Your word is truth. You did not create man for destruction, but for the keeping Your commandments, and to inherit life incorruptible. To You we ascribe glory, together with Your Father, Who is from everlasting, and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and to

the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

Prayer of Anointing

PRIEST

Let us pray to the Lord.

CHOIR

Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST

O holy Father, Physician of souls and bodies, Who sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to heal every infirmity and deliver from death, heal these Your servants from their ailments of body and soul, and endow them with life by the grace of Your Christ, through the intercessions our all-holy Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; the protection of the honored bodiless Powers in Heaven; by the supplications of the honored, glorious Prophet and Forerunner John the Baptist; the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostles; the holy, glorious and victorious Martyrs; our saintly and God-bearing Fathers; the holy Unmercenaries and Healers, Cosmas and Damian, Cyrus and John, Samson and Diomedes, Mokias and Aniketos, Panteleimon and Hermolaos, Thalelaios and Tryphon; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, and of all the Saints.

For You, our God, are the source of

healing, and to You we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

CHOIR

Amen.

PRIEST

Glory to You, Christ our God and our hope, glory to You.

READER

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

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Holy Father, bless.

PRIEST

May Christ our true God, through

the intercessions of His most pure and holy Mother; the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; the holy and righteous ancestors of God Joachim and Anna; Saint James the Lord's Brother, and all the saints; hear the petitions of us sinners and have mercy upon us and save us, as a good and loving and merciful God.

PRIEST

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

CHOIR

Amen.