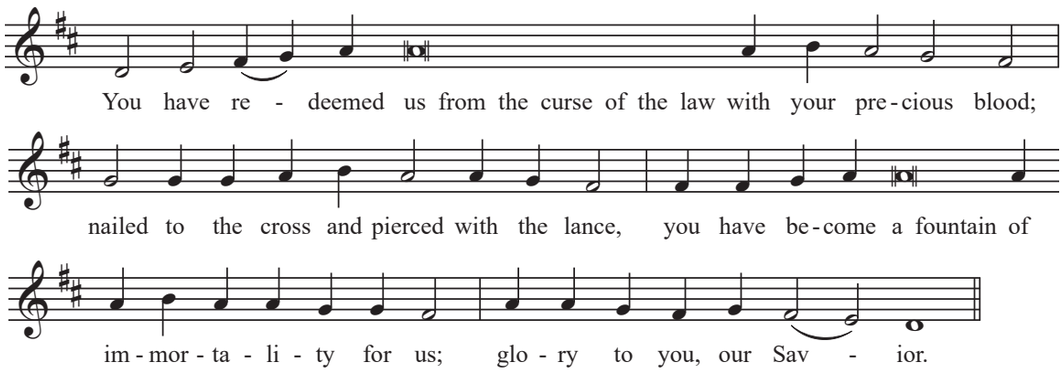
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us evil. ***A***men.

Troparion - *Tone 4*



Response: More honorable than the Cherubim,
and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim
who, a virgin gave birth to God the Word,
you, truly the Theotokos, we mag***ni***fy.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Give ***the*** blessing.

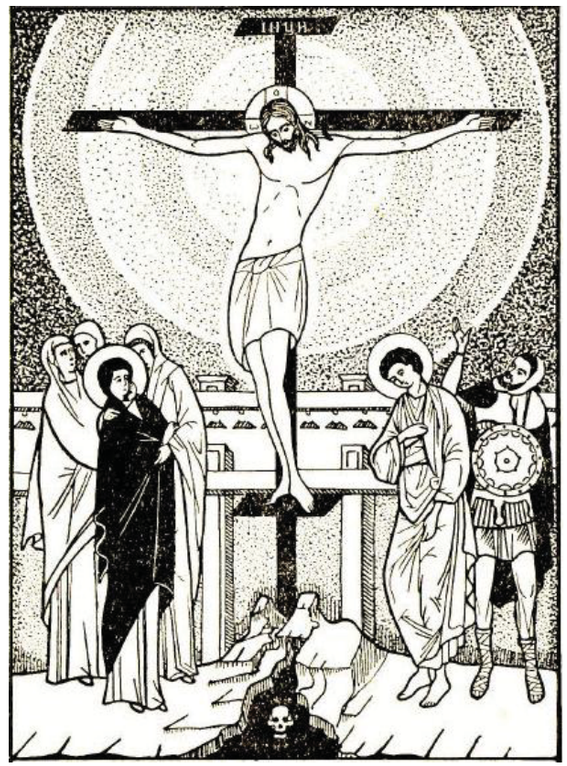
Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God,
have mercy on us.

Response:



THE END OF MATINS FOR GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

MATINS FOR GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY
The Office of the Holy and Redeeming Sufferings of Our Lord Jesus Christ



for celebration without a priest

Metropolitan Cantor Institute
Byzantine Catholic Seminary
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
March 2020

The service of Matins on Great and Holy Friday commemorates the day that our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for the life of the world. The focus of this service is a series of twelve readings from the Holy Gospel, recounting the events of our Lord's betrayal, trial, sufferings, death, and burial.

The text here is primarily taken from the booklet for Matins of Great and Holy Friday, prepared by Monsignor William Levkulic, a priest of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, and published in 1976 by the Byzantine Seminary Press. Where later, official translations have been published by the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church *sui juris* of Pittsburgh, they have been used here.

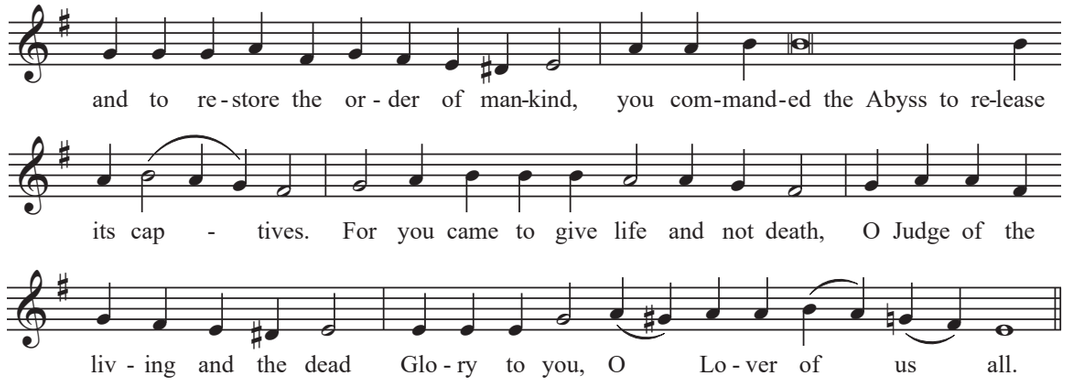
This service includes a large number of hymns (antiphon, sessional hymns, and a canon), which the previous service book abbreviated for use in parishes. In general, we have followed that format for this service, in two cases choosing different antiphons to correspond to the Gospel accounts being read; the alternate antiphon texts were taken from the *Lenten Triodion* of the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

The music follows the prostopinije chant used in the Byzantine Catholic Church, and the melodic patterns established by the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission. Certain melodies traditionally transcribed from the L'viw *Irmologion* have also been used, along with a melody for Psalm 50 taken from the oral chant.

As this version of the service has been prepared for use during the coronavirus epidemic of 2020, celebration without a priest is assumed. The Gospel is read in a normal speaking voice. All texts notated for singing may be read or recited instead.

Like the other publications of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute, this setting of the service of Matins for Great and Holy Friday is UNOFFICIAL and subject to change or revision by the Cantor Institute, the Inter-Eparchial Music Commission, or the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church *sui juris* of Pittsburgh. We hope that it provides spiritual benefit to all who use it.

The image on the cover is from the Ruthenian *Časoslov* (Rome, 1950).



THE TWELFTH GOSPEL

One of those present reads the twelfth Gospel of the Passion (Matthew 27:62-66):
"At that time: on the day following the Day of Preparation..."

All: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to make music to your name, O ***Most*** High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of ***the*** night.

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

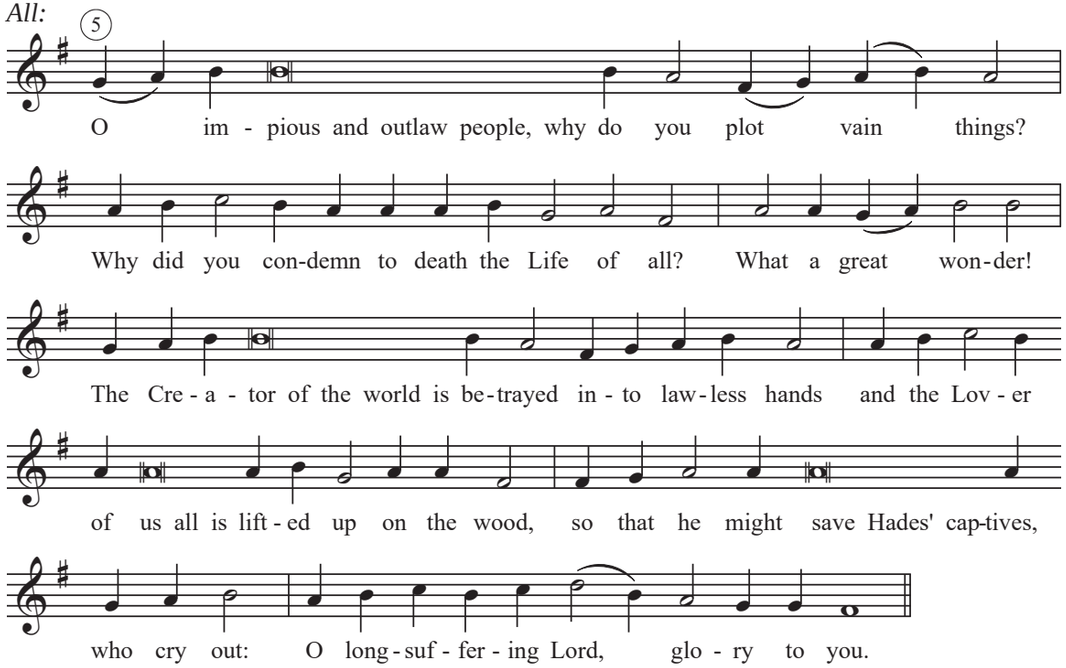
Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our transgressions;
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for ***your*** name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3 times)

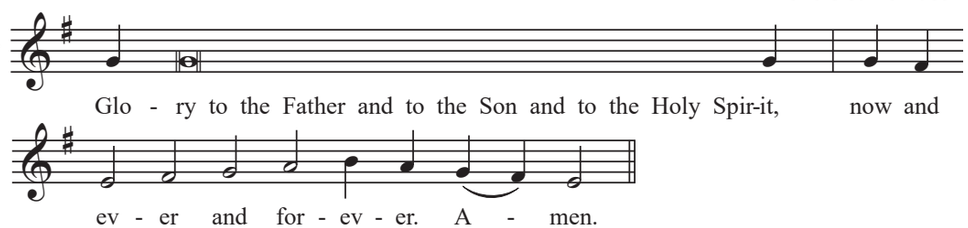
Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

All:

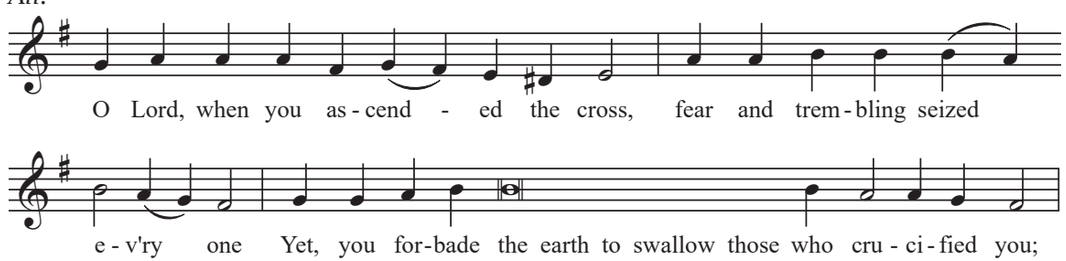


Tone 8 samohlasen

Cantor:



All:

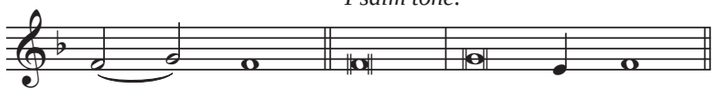


Matins for Great and Holy Friday
The Office of the Holy and Redeeming Sufferings of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.

Psalm tone:

Response:



Glory to God in the highest,
and to people on earth, peace and ***good*** will. *(3 times)*

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare ***your*** praise. *(2 times)*

Psalm 37

Lector: O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger;
do not punish me, Lord, in your rage.

Your arrows have sunk deep in me;
your hand has come down upon me.

Through your anger all my body is sick:
through my sin, there is no health in my limbs.

My guilt towers higher than my head;
it is a weight too heavy to bear.

My wounds are foul and festering,
the result of my own folly.

I am bowed and brought to my knees.
I go mourning all the day long.

All my frame burns with fever;
all my body is sick.

Spent and utterly crushed,
I cry aloud in anguish of heart.

O Lord, you know all my longing:
my groans are not hidden from you.

My heart throbs, my strength is spent;
the very light has gone from my eyes.

My friends avoid me like a leper;
those closest to me stand afar off.

Those who plot against my life lay snares;
those who seek my ruin speak of harm,
planning treachery all the day long.

But I am like the deaf who cannot hear,
like the dumb I cannot open my mouth.

I am like a man who hears nothing
in whose mouth is no defense.

I count on you, O Lord;
it is you, Lord God, who will answer.

I pray: "Do not let them mock me,
those who triumph if my foot should slip."

For I am on the point of falling
and my pain is always before me.

In place of the Litany of Supplication:

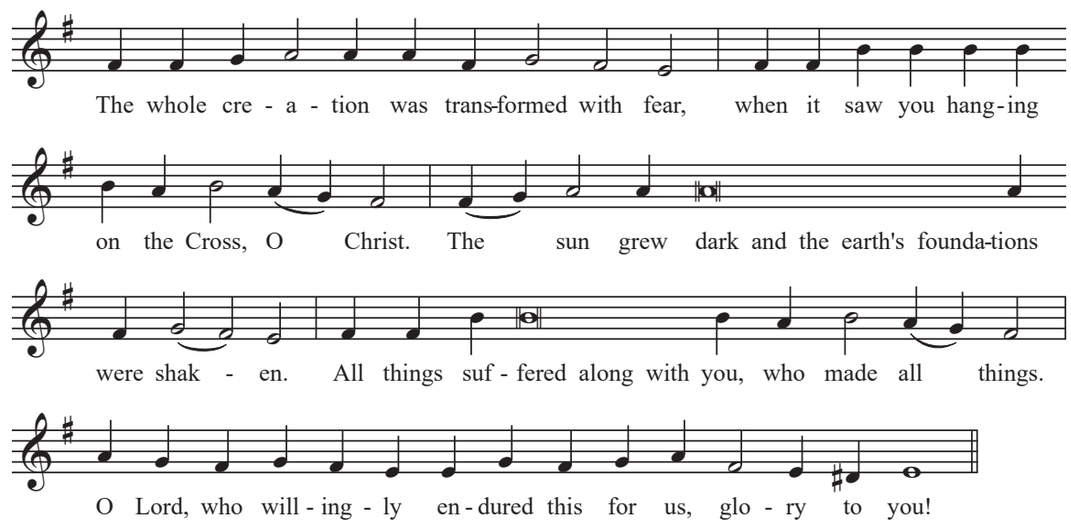
Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

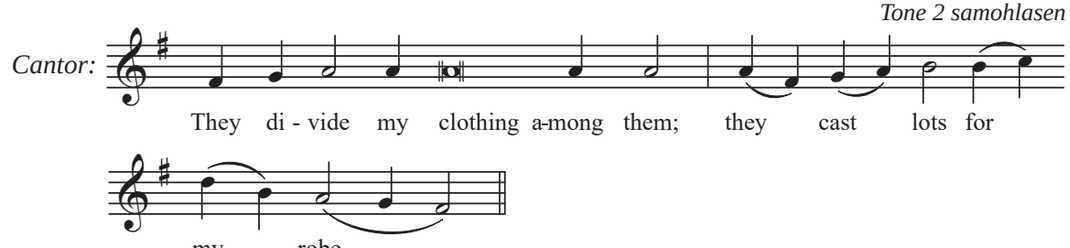
THE ELEVENTH GOSPEL

One of those present reads the eleventh Gospel of the Passion (John 19:38-42):
"At that time: Joseph of Arimathea, a disciple of Jesus..."

Matins aposticha of Great and Holy Friday - *Tone 1 samohlasen*



Tone 2 samohlasen



For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, Jesus Christ,
to the glory of God the Father. ***A***men.

I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name ***for***ever.
O Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to ***the*** next.
I said: Lord, have mercy on me,
heal my soul, for I have sinned ***a***gainst You.
O Lord, I have fled to you for refuge.
Teach me to do your will,
for you, O Lord, are ***my*** God.
In you is the source of life
and in your light we ***see*** light.
Extend your mercy
to those ***who*** know You.

Make us worthy, O Lord,
to be kept sinless ***this*** morning.
Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers,
and praiseworthy and glorious is your name forever. ***A***men.
May your mercy, O Lord, be upon us
who have placed our hope ***in*** you.

Blessed are you, O Lord,
teach me your ***com***mandments. *(reverence)*
Blessed are you, O Master,
make me understand your ***com***mandments. *(reverence)*
Blessed are you, O Holy One,
enlighten me with your ***com***mandments. *(reverence)*
O Lord, your mercy is forever;
despise not the work of ***your*** hands.
To you is due praise; to you is due a hymn;
to you is glory due,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

I confess that I am guilty
and my sin fills me with dismay.

My wanton enemies are numberless
and my lying foes are many.

They repay me evil for good
and attack me for seeking what is right.

O Lord, do not forsake me!
My God, do not stay afar off!

Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my God, my savior!

and again:
O Lord, do not forsake me!
My God, do not stay afar off!

Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my God, my savior!

Lector: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
All: now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, ***O*** God! *(three times, without bows)*

Lord, have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Lord, ***have*** mercy.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
Lector: now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

And the lector continues with the next section of psalmody.

Psalm 87

Lector: Lord my God, I call for help by day;
I cry at night before you.

Let my prayer come into your presence.
O turn your ear to my cry.

For my soul is filled with evils;
my life is on the brink of the grave.

I am reckoned as one in the tomb;
I have reached the end of my strength,

Like one alone among the dead,
like the slain lying in their graves;

like those you remember no more,
cut off, as they are, from your hand.

You have laid me in the depths of the tomb,
in places that are dark, in the depths.

Your anger weighs down upon me;
I am drowned beneath your waves.

You have taken away my friends
and made me hateful in their sight.

Imprisoned, I cannot escape;
my eyes are sunken with grief.

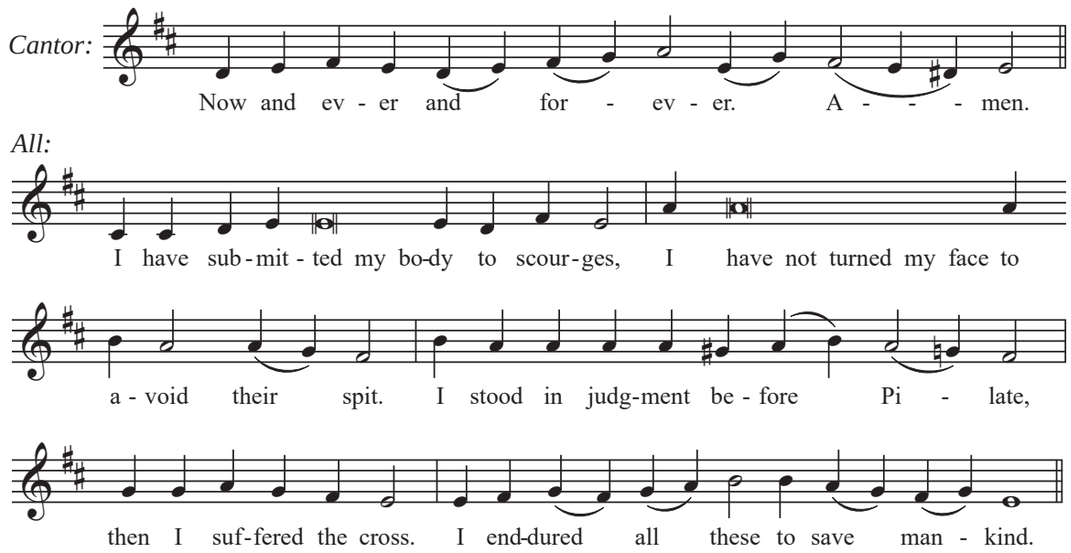
I call to you, Lord, all the day long;
to you I stretch out my hands.

Will you work your wonders for the dead?
Will the shades stand and praise you?

Will your love be told in the grave
or your faithfulness among the dead?

Will your wonders be known in the dark
or your justice in the land of oblivion?

As for me, Lord, I call to you for help;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.



THE TENTH GOSPEL

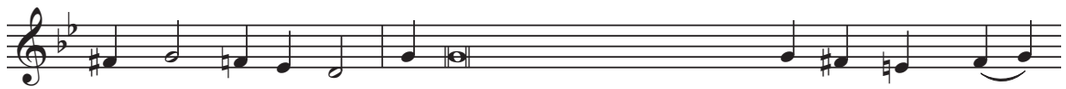
One of those present reads the tenth Gospel of the Passion (Mark 15:43-47):
"At that time: Joseph of Arimathea arrived..."

The Small Doxology

All: Glory to God in the highest
and to people on earth, peace and ***good*** will.
We praise you, we bless you, we worship you,
we glorify you, we thank you for your ***great*** glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, Father Almighty;
Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Ho***ly*** Spirit.

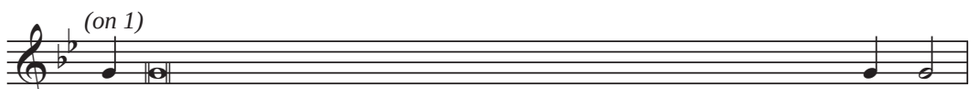
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sin of the world, have mercy ***on*** us.
You take away the sins of the world,
hear ***our*** prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy ***on*** us.







Cantor:





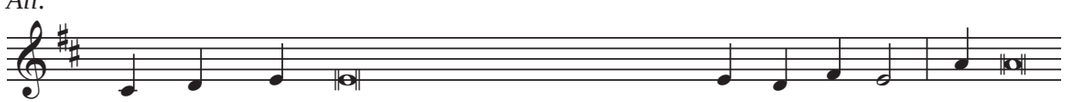
All repeat the sticheron, "The whole creation, O Christ, trembled..."

Tone 6 samohlasen

Cantor:



All:







Lord, why do you reject me?
Why do you hide your face?

Wretched, close to death from my youth,
I have borne your trials; I am numb.

Your fury has swept down upon me;
your terrors have utterly destroyed me.

They surround me all the day like a flood,
they assail me all together.

Friend and neighbor you have taken away:
my one companion is darkness.

and again:
Lord my God, I call for help by day;
I cry at night before you.

Let my prayer come into your presence.
O turn your ear to my cry.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

Each time with a bow:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory to you, ***O*** God! *(twice)*

The third time, with melody:



Lord, have mercy. *(12 times)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and forever. ***A***men.

ALLELUIA

"Alleluia" is sung to a special melody in Tone 8. All those present repeat "Alleluia" after each verse.

Leader, then All: *Tone 8 podoben: Se ženich hrjadet*



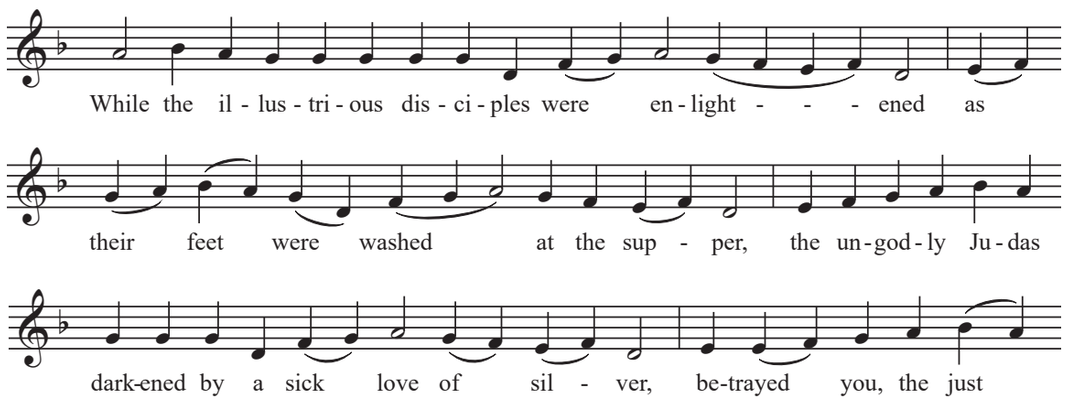
Verse: My spirit yearns for you in the night,
yes, my spirit within me keeps vigil for you. *Repeat Alleluia.*

Verse: When your judgment dawns upon the earth,
the world's inhabitants learn justice. *Repeat Alleluia.*

Verse: Let them be shamed when they see your zeal for your people,
let the fire prepared for your enemies consume them. *Repeat Alleluia.*

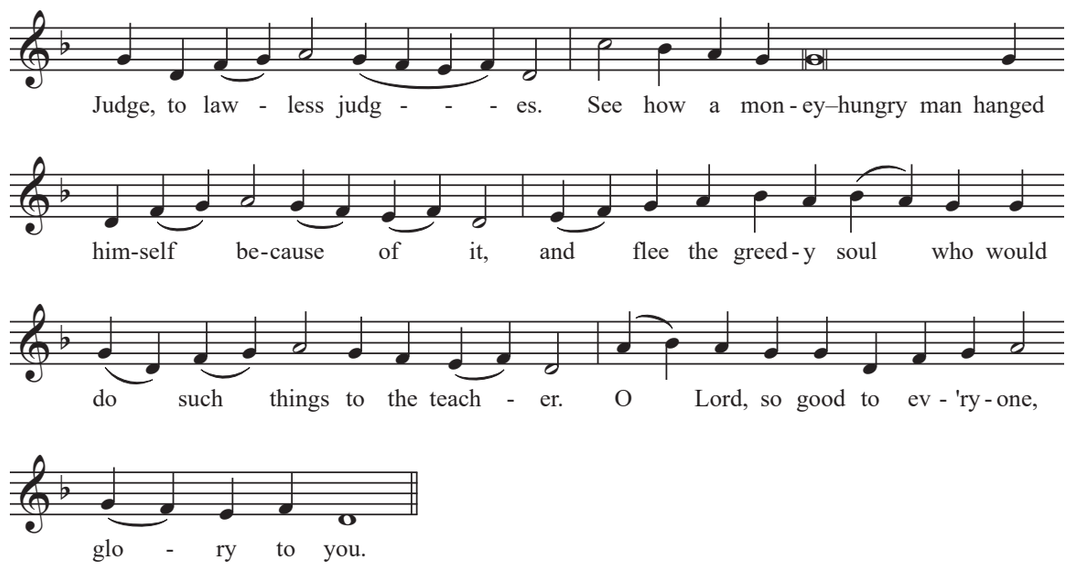
Verse: You have increased the nation, O Lord,
increased the nation to your own glory. *Repeat Alleluia.*

Troparion - *Tone 8 podoben: Se ženich hrjadet*









THE FIRST GOSPEL

One of those present reads the first Gospel of the Passion (John 13:31 - 18:1):
"Once Judas had left, the Lord said to his disciples:..."

Antiphon 3, verse 2 - *Tone 2 samohlasen*



Sessional hymn - *Tone 7 troparion*



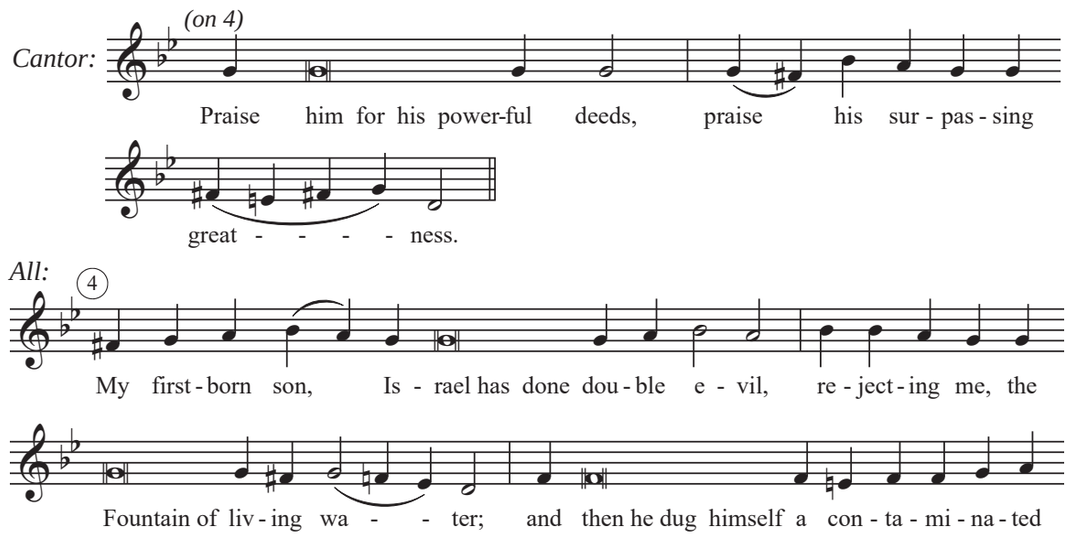
Let them praise his name with dancing
and make music with timbrel ***and*** harp.
For the Lord takes delight in his people.
He crowns the poor with ***sal***vation.

Let the faithful rejoice in glory,
shout for joy, and take ***their*** rest.
Let the praise of God be on their lips
and a two-edged sword in ***their*** hand,
to deal out vengeance to the nations
and punishment on all ***the*** peoples;

to bind their kings in chains
and their nobles in fetters ***of*** iron;
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained:
this honor is for all ***his*** faithful.

Psalm 150 Praise God in his holy place,
praise him in his migh***ty*** heavens.

Stichera "at the praises" for Great and Holy Friday - *Tone 3 samohlasen*



Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, shin***ing*** stars.
Praise him, highest heavens
and the waters above ***the*** heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
He spoke and they were made;
he commanded, and they were ***cre***ated.
He fixed them forever,
gave a law which shall not pass ***a***way.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
sea creatures and ***all*** oceans,
fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy winds that obey ***his*** word;

all mountains and hills,
all fruit trees ***and*** cedars,
beasts, wild and tame,
reptiles and birds on ***the*** wing;

all earth's kings and peoples,
earth's princes ***and*** rulers.
young men and maidens,
old men together ***with*** children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord
for he alone is ***ex***alted.
The splendor of his name
reaches beyond heaven ***and*** earth.

He exalts the strength of his people.
He is the praise of all ***his*** saints,
of the sons of Israel,
of the people to whom he ***comes*** close.

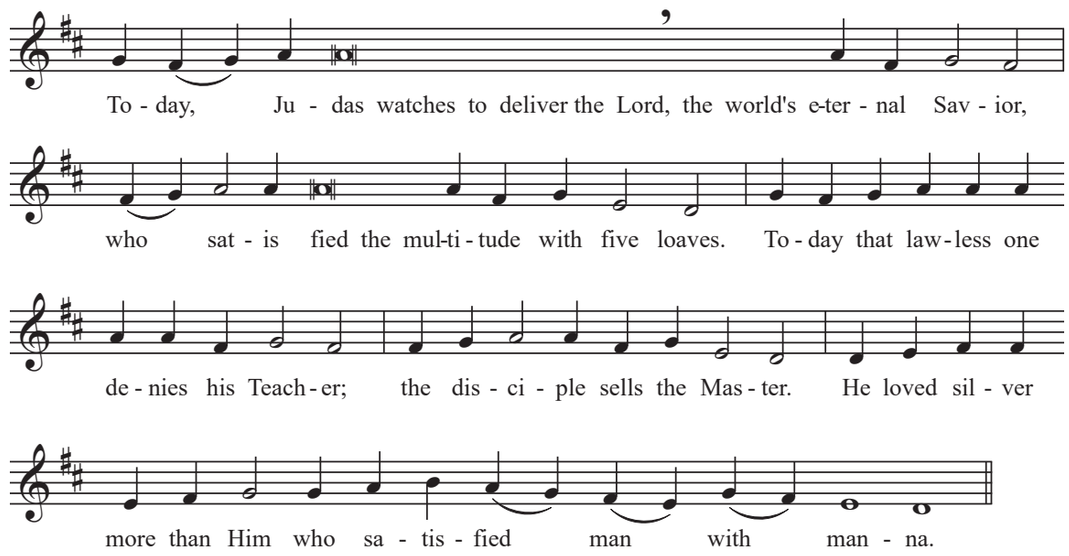
Psalm 149

Sing to the Lord a new song of praise,
in the assembly of ***the*** faithful.
Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,
let Zion's sons exult in ***their*** king.

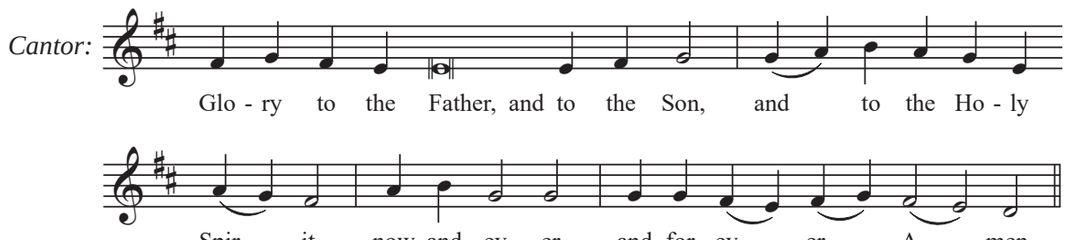
THE SECOND GOSPEL

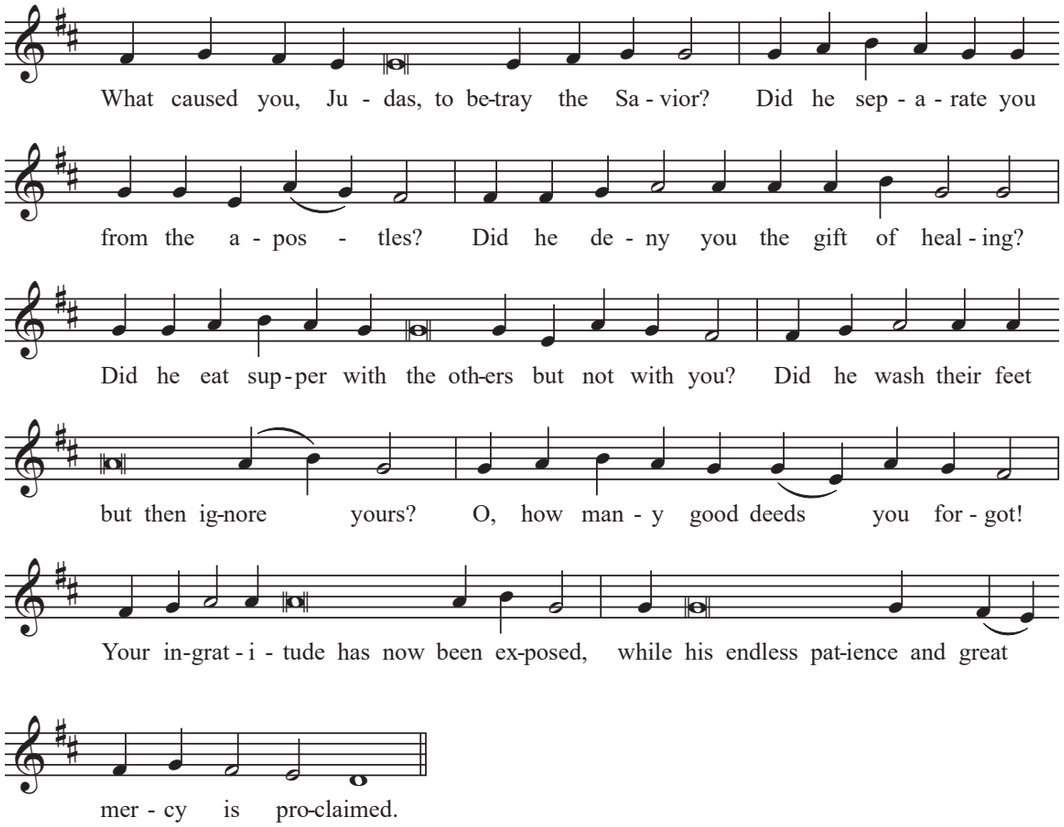
One of those present reads the second Gospel of the Passion (John 18:1-28):
"At that time, Jesus went out with his disciples..."

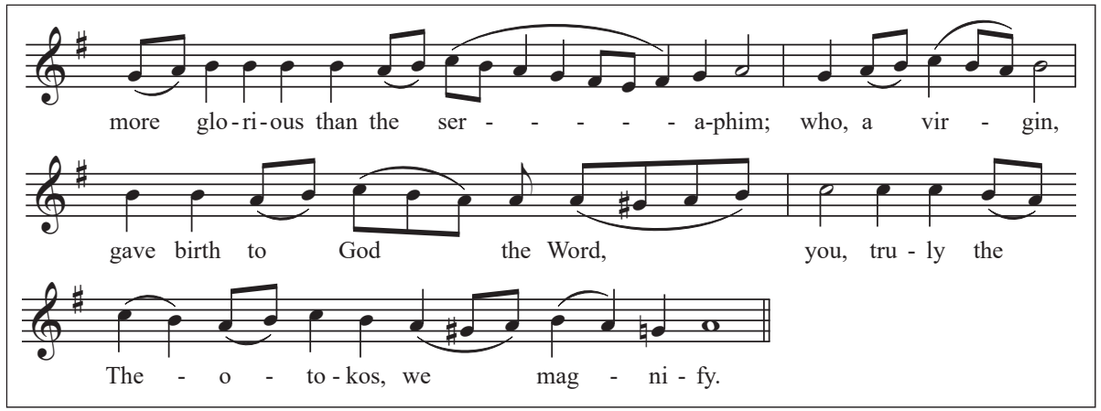
Antiphon 6, verse 1 - *Tone 7 samohlasen*



Sessional hymn - *Tone 7 troparion*







Hymn of Light - *recited, or sung to the following melody from the Kiev Caves monastery:*



THE NINTH GOSPEL

One of those present reads the ninth Gospel of the Passion (John 19:25-37):
"At that time: near the cross of Jesus there stood his mother..."

The Psalms of Praise (Psalms 148-150)

Psalm 148

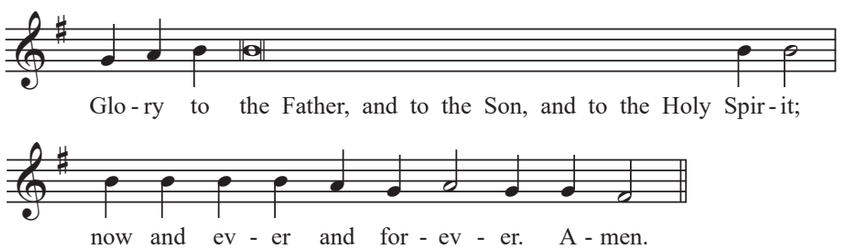
Praise the Lord from the heavens,
praise him in ***the*** heights.
Praise him, all his angels,
praise him, all ***his*** host.



The lawless company of the enemies of God, * the wicked band of murderers set themselves against you, O Christ; * and, as an evildoer, they led you to death; * You are the Creator of all, * and we extol you. *Refrain*

Ignoring the Law and the voice of the Prophets, * the impious ones pondered their vain thoughts; * and, as a sheep, they led you to the unjust sacrifice; * you are the Master of all, * and we extol you. *Refrain*

Wounded by their hatred which would soon turn against them, * the priests and scribes have delivered you to the Gentiles to be crucified; * you are the Giver of life, * and we extol you.



They surrounded you like a pack of dogs; * O my King, they struck you with the scepter of derision; * they questioned you and brought forth false witnesses; * but you saved us through your holy passion.

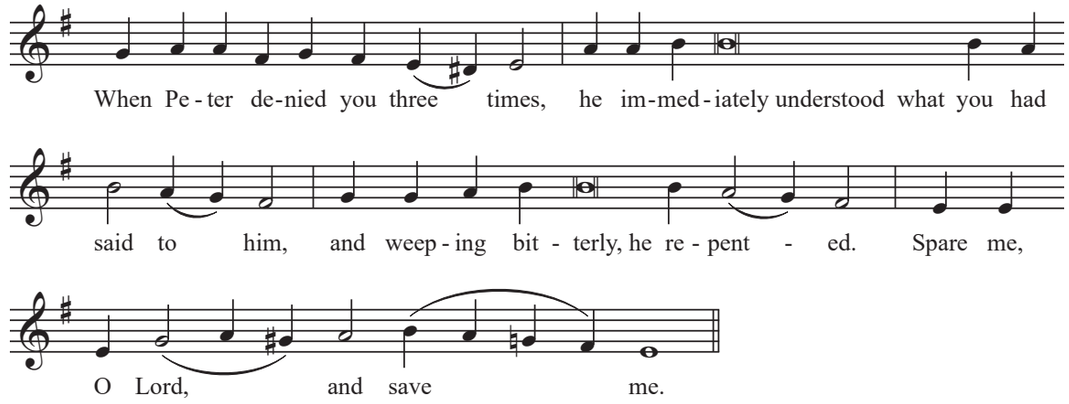
Katavasia - *Repeat the irmos, using either the simple melody at the bottom of page 31, or the following solemn melody:*



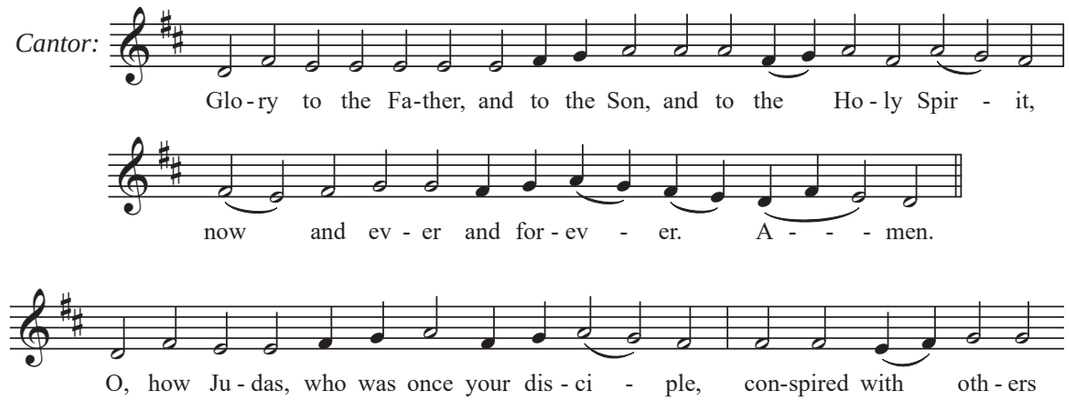
THE THIRD GOSPEL

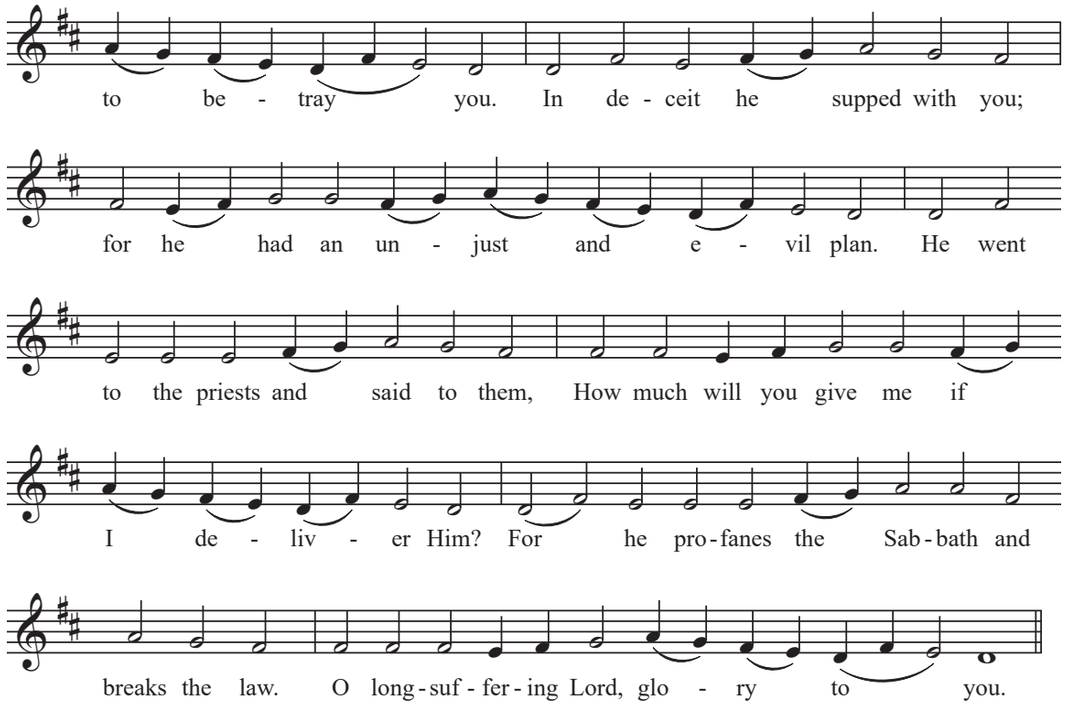
One of those present reads the third Gospel of the Passion (Matthew 26:57-75):
"At that time: those who had apprehended Jesus..."

Antiphon 7, verse 2 - *Tone 8 samohlasen*



Sessional hymn - *Tone 8 troparion*





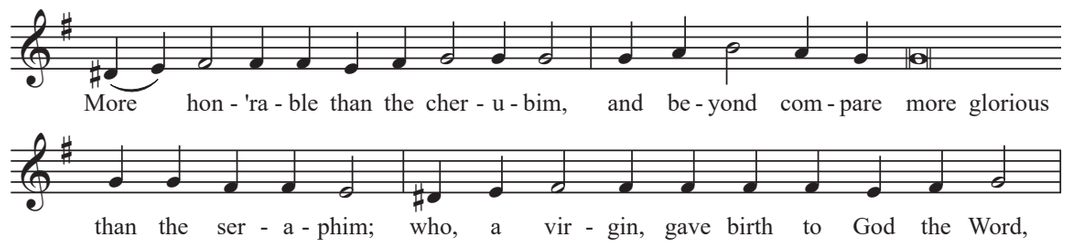
Katavasia - *Repeat the irmos, using either the simple melody on page 29, or the solemn melody below:*



Leader: Let us greatly extol the Theotokos and the Mother of Light in hymns.

Ode 9

Irmos - *Tone 6 simple melody (or use the solemn melody on page 32)*



Refrain



Shake off the sleep from your eyes, * Christ said to his disciples; keep watch and pray that you do not enter into temptation; * and you, Simon, more than all the rest, * for a heavier burden awaits those who are stronger; * O Peter, I am the One whom all creation blesses and glories forever. *Refrain*

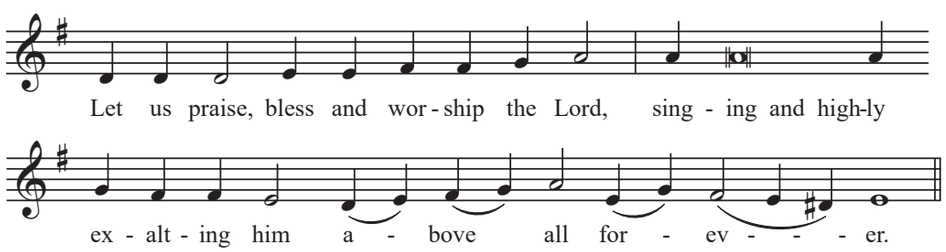
Peter cried out: O Master, I shall never speak against you; * I would die bravely, even though the others would deny you; * for neither flesh nor blood, * but your Father in heaven revealed to me * that you are truly the One whom all creation blesses and glorifies forever.



O Peter, you have not probed the depths of the wisdom and knowledge of God; * you have not understood the abyss of my judgments, said the Lord; * you are flesh, so do not boast; * for you shall deny three times * the One whom all creation blesses and glorifies forever.



You deny what the Lord has said, O Peter; * but a servant girl shall soon point you out; * at her approach, you shall be filled with fear. * But through your bitter tears, * you shall find forgiveness * from the One whom all creation blesses and glorifies forever.

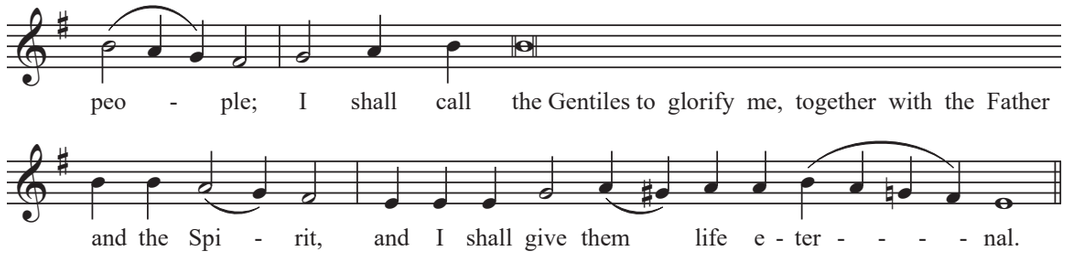


THE FOURTH GOSPEL

One of those present reads the fourth Gospel of the Passion (John 18:28 - 19:16):
"At daybreak they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the Preatorium..."

Antiphon 12, verse 1 - *Tone 8 samohlasen*

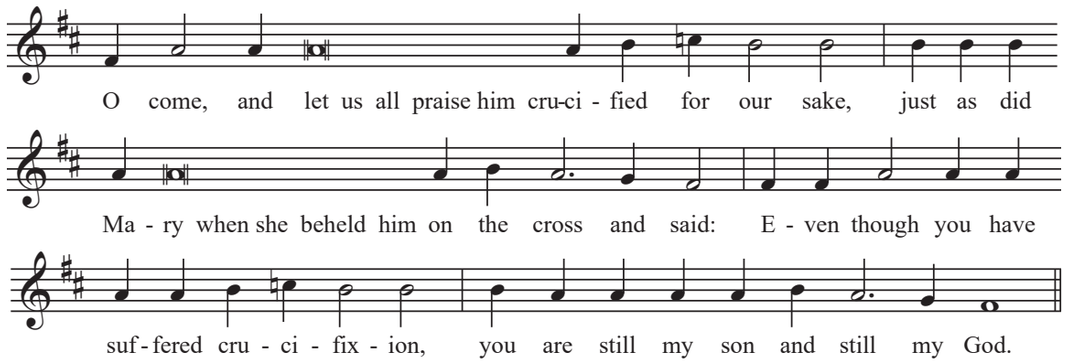




Sessional hymn - *Tone 8 troparion*



Kontakion - *Tone 8*

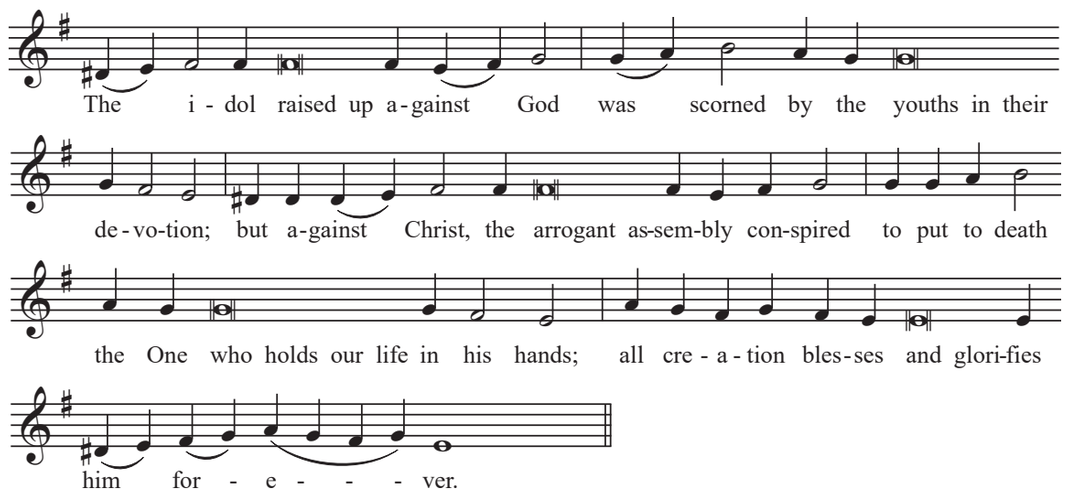


Ikos (recitando):

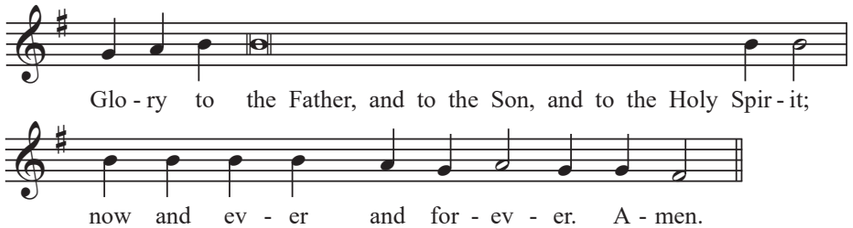
Seeing her Lamb being led to the slaugher, Mary, the ewe, followed him, supported in her great sorrow by other women. She cried out: Where do you go, my son? Why do you rush to finish this course? Are you, perhaps, hurrying to another wedding in Cana so that you can change water to wine for them? Shall I go with you, or shall I stay? Give me a word, O Word; do not pass me by in silence. You are my Son and my God who kept me free from all stain.

Ode 8

Irmos - *Tone 6 simple melody (or use the solemn melody on page 30)*

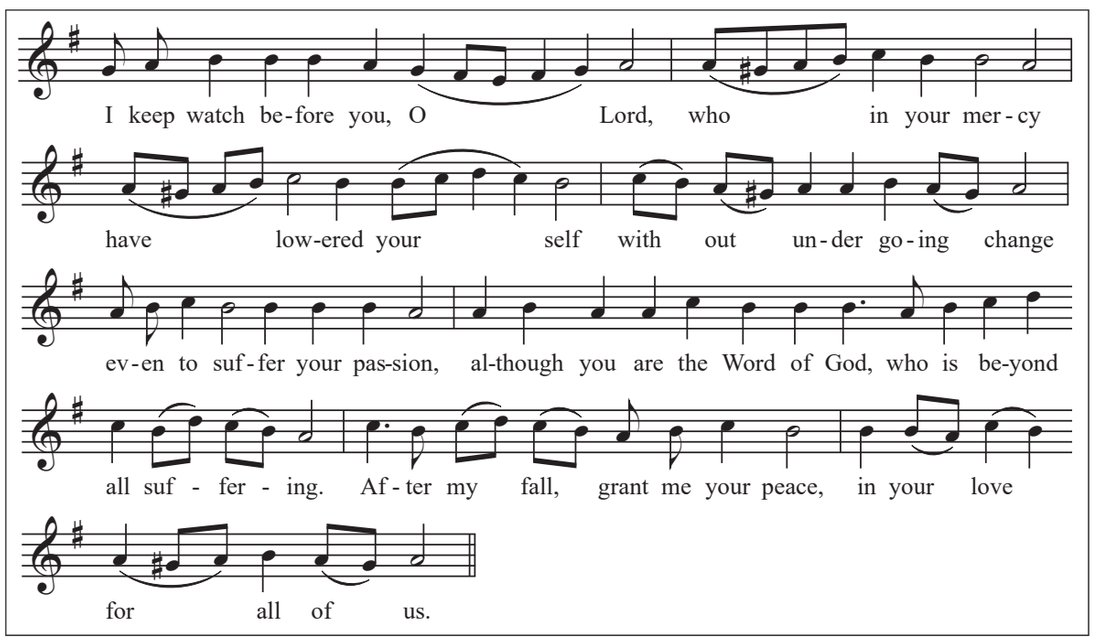


After you washed their feet, * your servants were purified by the communion of your divine mysteries, * and then went up from Zion to the Mount of Olives with You; * and they praised, O Lord, your love for mankind.



Do not be overcome with fear, O my friends, * for the hour has now come * when I shall be seized and put to death by the godless ones. * And after abandoning me, you shall all be scattered; * but I shall gather you together again * that you may proclaim my great love for mankind.

Katavasia - *Repeat the irmos, using either the simple melody on page 27, or the following solemn melody:*



THE FIFTH GOSPEL

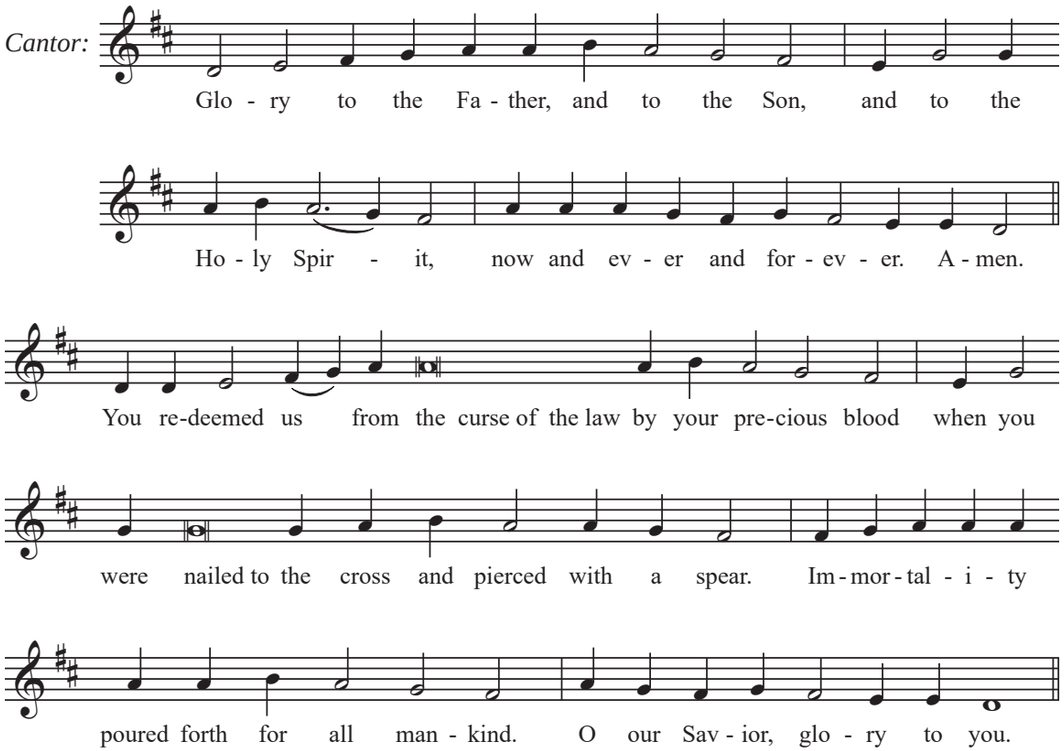
One of those present reads the fifth Gospel of the Passion (Matthew 27:3-32):
"At that time Judas, who had handed Jesus over..."

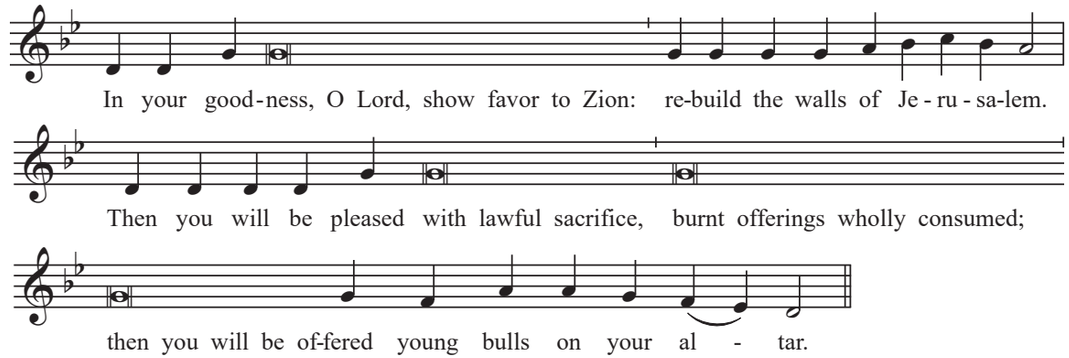
Antiphon 15, verse 1 - *Tone 6 samohlasen*





Sessional hymn - *Tone 4 troparion*





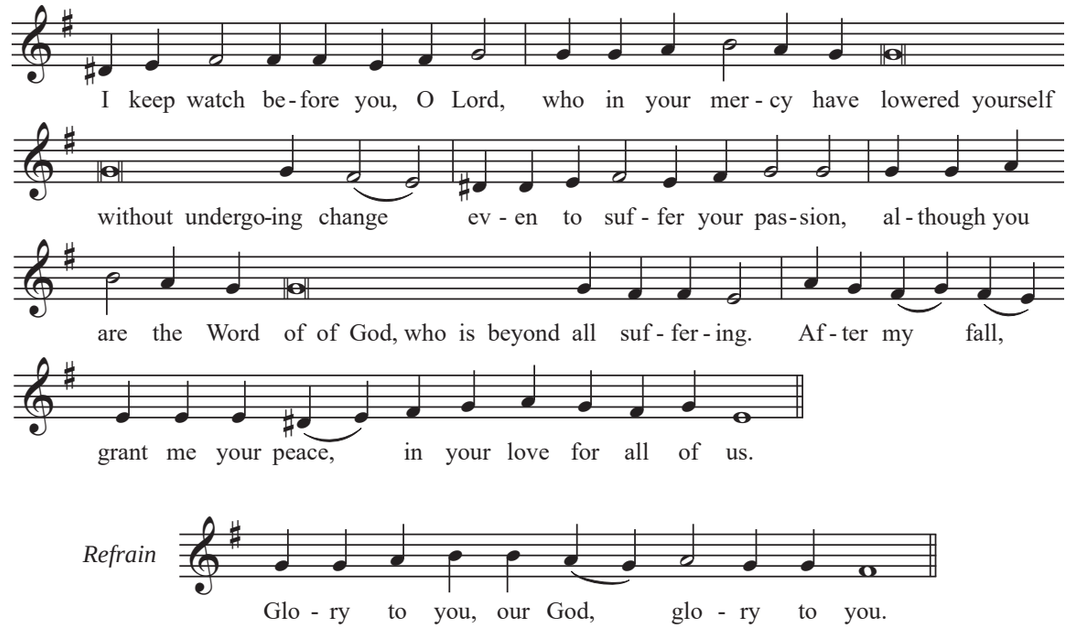
THE EIGHTH GOSPEL

One of those present reads the eighth Gospel of the Passion (Luke 23:32-49):
"At that time: two others who were criminals..."

The Canon of Great and Holy Friday

Ode 5

Irmos - *Tone 6 simple melody (or use the solemn melody on page 28)*



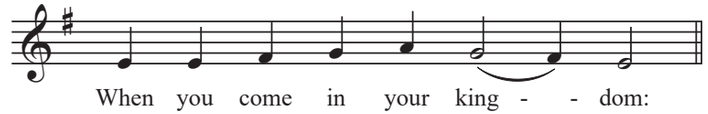


THE SIXTH GOSPEL

One of those present reads the sixth Gospel of the Passion (Mark 15:16-32):
"At that time: the soldiers led Jesus away..."

The sixth Gospel is followed by the Beatitudes.

Leader:



Response:



The leader sings each verse of the Beatitudes, and the faithful repeat the response ("Remember us, O Lord...") after each verse.

Leader:



And the same melody is used for the remaining verses:

Blessed are they who mourn * for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek * for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness * for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful * for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart * for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers * for they will be called children of God.

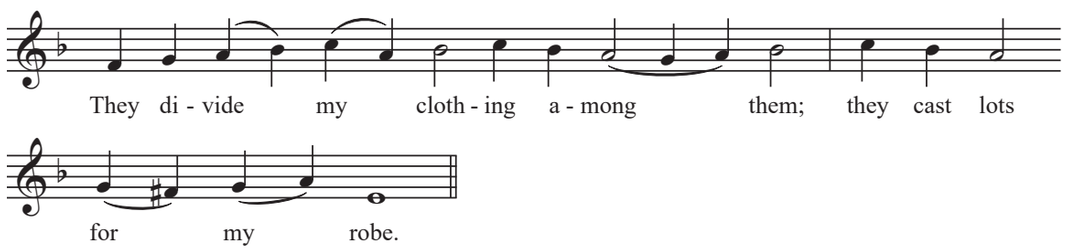
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness * for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you * and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad * for your reward is great in heaven.

The faithful STAND.

Prokeimenon of Great and Holy Friday - *Tone 4*



Verse: My God, my God, hear me; why have you forsaken me?

THE SEVENTH GOSPEL

One of those present reads the seventh Gospel of the Passion (Matthew 27:33-54):
"At that time: arriving at a site called Golgotha..."

Psalm 50 - *Carpatho-Rusyn vigil melody*

