

APRIL 17

Great and Holy Thursday

Vespers and the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (sung on Thursday)

"Lord I Call..." Tone 2

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Your sight as incense,

and let the lifting up of my hands

be an evening sacrifice!//

Hear me, O Lord!

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!

v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Tone 2

The assembly of the Jews gathers together

to deliver to Pilate the Maker and Creator of all.

What lawlessness! What faithlessness!

The Judge of the living and the dead they prepare for judgment.

The Healer of suffering they prepare for sufferings.

How great is Your mercy!//

O long-suffering Lord, glory to You!

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

The transgressor Judas, O Lord,
dipped his hand in the plate with You at supper.
But now, he unlawfully stretches forth his hand for silver.
He calculated the price of the woman's myrrh,
yet he does not shudder in selling You, the Priceless One.
He let the Master wash his feet,
yet he deceitfully kisses Him in betrayal to lawless men.
Cast out from the ranks of the Apostles,
he casts away the thirty pieces of silver,
not seeing the Resurrection on the third day.//
By it, have mercy on us!

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Judas, the treacherous deceiver,
with a deceitful kiss betrayed the Lord and Savior.
He sold the Master as a slave to lawless men,
and the Lamb of God, the Son of the Father,
the only greatly merciful One,//
was led as a sheep to the slaughter.

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

Servant and deceiver,
disciple and betrayer, friend and devil,
Judas has been revealed by his deeds.
While following the Master, he plotted His betrayal.
He said to himself: "I shall betray Him and gain the purse."
He sought to have the myrrh sold
and, by deceit, to have Jesus seized.
He gave the kiss and gave up the Christ.
But like a sheep led to the slaughter,//
so went the only compassionate Lover of mankind.

v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

The Lamb, Whom Isaiah proclaimed,
goes willingly to the slaughter;
He gives His back to scourging, His cheeks to buffeting.
He does not turn His face from the shame of spitting.
He is condemned to a shameful death.
He, Who is sinless, willingly submits to all//
to grant to all resurrection from the dead.

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

Tone 6

Truly Judas is descended from those vipers,
who ate manna in the wilderness,
yet murmured against Him Who nourished them.
For, while the food was still in their mouths,
those ungrateful men reviled God.
So, too, this godless man,
while still bearing in his mouth the Heavenly Bread,
contrived the betrayal of the Savior.
What greedy purpose!
What inhuman insolence!
He sells the One Who nourished him.
He delivers to death the Master Whom he loved.
Truly this lawless man is their son.
With them he will inherit perdition.
Spare our souls of such inhumanity,//
O only Lord of boundless mercy!

Tone 1 Prokeimenon

Deliver me, O Lord, / from violent men. *(Ps. 139:1a)*

V. Who have schemed unrighteousness in their hearts all the day long! (Ps. 139:2a)

Reading from Exodus (19:10-19)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

Deliver me from my enemies, O God! / Save me from those who rise up against me! (Ps. 58:1)

V. Deliver me from those who work evil! (Ps. 58:2a)

Reading from Job (38:1-23; 42:1-5)

Reading from Isaiah (50:4-11)

(The Trisagion is sung)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

The rulers of the people have assembled / against the Lord and His Christ. (Ps. 2:2)

V. Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? (Ps. 2:1)

Epistle

(149) 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

Tone 6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Blessed is he who considers the poor and needy. The Lord will deliver him on the day of trouble. (Ps. 40:1)

V. My enemies say to me in malice: "When will he die and his name perish?" (Ps. 40:5)

V. He who ate of My bread has lifted his heel against Me. (Ps. 40:9b)

Gospel

(107) Matthew 26:2-20

(44) John 13:3-17

(108) Matthew 26:21-39

(109) Luke 22:43-45

(108-110) Matthew 26:40-27:2

(Instead of the Cherubic Hymn, we sing the following:)

Tone 6

Of Your Mystical Supper, O Son of God,
accept me today as a communicant;
for I will not speak of Your Mystery to Your enemies,
neither, like Judas, will I give You a kiss;
but like the thief I will confess You:
"Remember me, O Lord, in Your Kingdom!"
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Instead of "All of creation rejoices...", we sing the following)

Hymn to the Theotokos

Come, O faithful, let us enjoy the Master's hospitality:
the Banquet of Immortality!
In the upper chamber with uplifted minds,
let us receive the exalted words of the Word,
Whom we magnify.

Communion Hymn

Tone 6

Of Your Mystical Supper, O Son of God,
accept me today as a communicant;
for I will not speak of Your Mystery to Your enemies,
neither, like Judas, will I give You a kiss;
but like the thief I will confess You:
"Remember me, O Lord, in Your Kingdom!"
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(This is repeated many times while the faithful receive the Holy Mysteries.)

(Instead of "Let our mouths be filled", we sing "Of Your Mystical Supper.")

Liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by the Department of Religious Education, Orthodox Church in America, ("The Bridegroom Services of Holy Week").