

**THE  
LITURGY OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED  
FOR  
GOOD FRIDAY**



**The Orthodox Western Rite  
Archdiocese of America**



*The altar is completely bare, without cross, candles, or linens. It is customary for the Sacred Ministers to be barefoot. The procession goes through the church to the altar in silence. The three Sacred Ministers prostrate, the others in the sanctuary kneel and bow profoundly, and the people kneel in silent prayer. Then the Priest, standing before the altar steps, says:*

*Priest:* O God, *Roman*  
by the passion of Christ your Son you have conquered death by death and destroyed the ancestral curse to which all mankind had fallen heir. Grant that, though we bear the image of our earthly nature, we may, through sanctification by grace, also show forth the image of our heavenly one; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

*Or*

*Priest:* Almighty God, *Sarum*  
we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for all ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### The First Lesson: Hosea [6:1-2]

*Lector:* A Reading from the Book of Hosea [6:1-2]

*Roman*

"Come, let us return to the LORD; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth." What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

*Lector:* The Word of The Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God!

### ✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Or*

*Lector:* A Reading from The Book of Isaiah [52:13-53:12] *Sarum*

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him -- so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of men -- so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not

heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

*Lector:* The Word of The Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God!

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

(or) A Reading from The Book of Genesis [22:1-18] *Ambrosian*

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." God said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.

Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He

said, "The fire and the wood are here but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son."

So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." The angel said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

*Lector:* The Word of The Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God!

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Responsory: Habakkuk 3:2, 3, 13, 18



O LORD, I have heard of your renown,\*  
and I stand in awe, O LORD, of your work.

In our own time revive it;↓  
in our own time make it known; \*  
in wrath may you re-mem-ber mercy.

God came from Teman,  
the Holy One from Mount Paran. \*  
His glory covered the heavens,  
and the earth was full of his praise.

You came forth to save your people,↓  
to save your a-noint-ed. \*  
You crushed the head of the wicked house,  
laying it bare from foundation to roof.

Yet I will rejoice in the LORD; \*  
I will exult in the God of my salvation.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

✘ SILENT REFLECTION ✘

*Deacon:* Let us stand



*Priest:* O God, from whom Judas received the punishment for his crime and the thief the reward for his profession of faith, grant us the grace of your mercy. Just as our Lord Jesus Christ in his passion recompensed each man as he deserved, so may he take away our sins and bestow upon us the grace of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

*People:* Amen

## **The Second Lesson:**

*Subdeacon:* A Reading from The Book of Exodus [12:1-11]

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until

the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.

This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD.

*Lector:* The Word of The Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God!

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

Responsory: Psalm 140 *Eripe me, Domine 1-9, 13*

STONE II



Deliver me, O LORD, from evildoers; \*  
protect me from the violent,

Who devise evil in their hearts \*  
and stir up strife all day long.

They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; \*  
adder's poison is under their lips.

Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; \*  
protect me from the violent,  
who are determined to trip me up.

The proud have hidden a snare for me ↓  
and stretched out a net of cords; \*  
they have set traps for me along the path.



I have said to the LORD, "You are my God;" \*  
listen, O LORD, to my supplication.

O Lord GOD, the strength of my saluation, \*  
you have covered my head in the day of battle.

Do not grant the desires of the wicked, O LORD, \*  
nor let their evil plans prosper.

Let not those who surround me lift up their heads; \*  
let the evil of their lips overwhelm them.

Surely, the righteous will give thanks to your Name, \*  
and the upright shall continue in your sight

*When the psalm is completed, the three sacred ministers approach the lecterns set in the sanctuary facing the faithful. The usual salutation and incense is not used and candles are not held for the Passion Gospel.*

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
ACCORDING TO JOHN  
(18:1-40) 19:1-42

*The Passion Gospel is chanted by the Priest, Deacon, and Subdeacon.*

*The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.*

**Chronista:** Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.

**Chronista:** Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

✘ **Christus:** "Whom are you looking for?"

**Synagogus:** "Jesus of Nazareth."

✘ **Christus:** "I am he."

**Chronista:** Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them,

✘ **Christus:** "Whom are you looking for?"

**Synagogus:** "Jesus of Nazareth."

✘ **Christus:** "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go."

**Chronista:** This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me."

**Chronista:** Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus.

Jesus said to Peter,

✘ **Christus:** "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

**Chronista:** So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year.

Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus.

Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter,

**Synagogus:** "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?"

**Synagogus:** "I am not."

**Chronista:** Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered,

✘ **Christus:** "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

**Chronista:** When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

**Synagogus:** "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

✘ **Christus:** "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

**Chronista:** Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

**Synagogus:** "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?"

**Chronista:** He denied it and said,

**Synagogus:** "I am not."

**Chronista:** One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

**Synagogus:** "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

**Chronista:** Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

### Friday Morning

**Chronista:** Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters.

It was early in the morning.

They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover.

So Pilate went out to them and said,

**Synagogus:** "What accusation do you bring against this man?"

**Chronista:** They answered,

**Synagogus:** "If this man were not a criminal,  
we would not have handed him over to you."

**Chronista:** Pilate said to them,

**Synagogus:** "Take him yourselves  
and judge him according to your law."

**Chronista:** The Jews replied,

**Synagogus:** "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."

**Chronista:** (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he  
indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again,  
summoned Jesus, and asked him,

**Synagogus:** "Are you the King of the Jews?"

✠ **Christus:** "Do you ask this on your own,  
or did others tell you about me?"

**Synagogus:** "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief  
priests have handed you over to me.  
What have you done?"

✠ **Christus:** "My kingdom is not from this world.



✘ **Christus:** If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

**Synagogus:** "So you are a king?"

✘ **Christus:** "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world: to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

**Synagogus:** "What is truth?"

**Chronista:** After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and said to them,

**Synagogus:** "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover.

Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

**Chronista:** They shouted in reply,

**Synagogus:** "Not this man, but Barabbas!"

**Chronista:** (Now Barabbas was a bandit.)

**Chronista:** Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying,

**Synagogus:** "Hail, King of the Jews!"

**Chronista:** and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them,

**Synagogus:** "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him."

**Chronista:** So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,

**Synagogus:** "Here is the man!"

**Chronista:** When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

**Synagogus:** "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

**Chronista:** Pilate said to them,

**Synagogus:** "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

**Chronista:** The Jews answered him,

**Synagogus:** "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

**Chronista:** Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever.

He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

**Synagogus:** "Where are you from?"

**Chronista:** But Jesus gave him no answer.  
Pilate therefore said to him,

**Synagogus:** "Do you refuse to speak to me?  
Do you not know that I have power to release you,  
and power to crucify you?"

✠ **Christus:** "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

**Chronista:** From then on Pilate tried to release him,  
but the Jews cried out,

**Synagogus:** "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

**Chronista:** When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha.

Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews,

**Synagogus:** "Here is your King!"

**Chronista:** They cried out,

**Synagogus:** "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

**Synagogus:** "What? Shall I crucify your King?"

**Chronista:** The chief priests answered,

**Synagogus:** "We have no king but the emperor."

**Chronista:** Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

**Chronista:** So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them.

**Chronista:** Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

**Synagogus:** "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but 'This man said, I am the King of the Jews.'"

**Chronista:** Pilate answered,

**Synagogus:** "What I have written I have written."

**Chronista:** When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another,

**Synagogus:** "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it."

**Chronista:** This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my garments among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

And that is what the soldiers did.

**Chronista:** Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

✠ **Christus:** "Woman, here is your son."

**Chronista:** Then he said to the disciple,

✠ **Christus:** "Here is your mother."

**Chronista:** And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),

✠ **Christus:** "I am thirsty."

**Chronista:** A jar full of sour wine was standing there.

**Chronista:** So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

When Jesus had receive the wine, he said,

✠ **Christus:** "It is finished."

**Chronista:** Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

## ✠ All Kneel in Silent Reflection ✠

**Chronista:** Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.

**Chronista:** (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, They will look on the one whom they have pierced"

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it

with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

## THE SERMON

### THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

#### For the Holy Church

#### I

*Deacon:* Let us pray, dearly beloved, for the holy Church of God. May the Lord our God give her peace, unite and guard her and guide her so she may live in tranquility and glorify God the Father almighty.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

#### ✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, who have revealed your glory in Christ to all peoples, watch over the works of your mercy so that your Church throughout the world may persevere with a steadfast faith to bear witness to your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



## For the Bishops

### II

*Deacon:* Let us pray for all our holy Father, (Arch) Bishop **N.** that our God and Lord who has chosen him as bishop, may keep him in health and safety to govern the holy people of God.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

### ✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, by your will all things are founded, mercifully hear our prayers and graciously keep alive the bishop chosen for us, so that the Christian people, governed by your authority under so great a pontiff, may grow in sanctification and faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## For the Clergy and People

### III

*Deacon:* Let us also pray for all Priests, Deacons, Subdeacons, Acolytes, Exorcists, Lectors, Doorkeepers, Confessors, Virgins, Widows, and for all the holy people of God.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**For Civil Authority**

**IV**

*Deacon:* Let us pray for all elected public servants, their assistants and those who carry out the law, that the Lord God may direct their minds and hearts according to his will for lasting peace and tranquility.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, in whose hands are all authority and from whom come the rights of all people, look favorable on those who exercise authority over us, that everywhere on earth, under the protection of your right hand, freedom of

religion and the soundness of the state may ever abide; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### For Catechumens

#### V

*Deacon:* Let us pray also for our catechumens, that our Lord God may open the ears of their hearts and the gate of mercy, so that, having obtained mercy by the pardon of all their sins by the waters of new life they may also be found in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

#### ✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, who always make your church fruitful by new offspring, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens, that, having been reborn in the waters of baptism, they may be numbered among your adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

### For the Needs of the Faithful

#### VI

*Deacon:* Dearly Beloved, let us pray to God the Father Almighty that he may cleanse the world from all evils; may he

banish diseases, dispel famine, open prisons, loose the shackles, grant to travelers a safe return, health to the suffering, and to those at sea, a haven of safety.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

**✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠**

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, consolation of those who mourn, strength of those who labor; hear the prayers of your people who cry out in distress, that through your mercy, they may rejoice to have found relief in their time of need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

**For the Unity of the Church**

**VII**

*Deacon:* Let us pray also for heretics and schismatics, that the Lord God may deliver them from all their errors, and graciously call them back to their holy mother, the Catholic and Apostolic Church.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

**✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠**

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, who save all and wish that none should perish, look upon the souls of the deceived by the fraud of the devil, so that forsaking false teaching, erring minds may be converted and return to the orthodoxy of your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

### For the Jews VIII

*Deacon:* Let us pray also for the Jews, that the Lord God may show them the full splendor of his face; that they may come to know the savior of all mankind, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

### ✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, you made a covenant with Abraham and his children, graciously hear the prayers of your Church: may the people whom you chose first enter into the fullness of your redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

## For the Conversion of the Unbelievers

### IX

*Deacon:* Let us pray also for the unbelievers, that Almighty God may remove wickedness from their hearts, so that having abandoned idols, they may be converted to the living and true God and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Priest:* Let us pray

*Deacon:* Let us kneel

### ✠ SILENT REFLECTION ✠

*Deacon:* Let us stand

*Priest:* Almighty and everlasting God, who always seeks the life rather than the death of sinners, graciously hear our prayer and deliver them from the worship of idols and gather them into your holy Church for the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

## THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS

*The Deacon and two acolytes leave the sanctuary and return with the Holy Cross. The acolytes precede the Deacon and carry lighted candles. They proceed to the center of the sanctuary and stand facing the people.*

*Meanwhile the congregation may sing the hymn below or observe silence.*

VEXILLA REGIS

Sarum Plainsong, Mode I

*In unison, with steady dignity*

1 The roy - al ban - ners for - ward go, The cross shines forth  
 2 Ful - filled is all that Da - vid told In true pro - phet -  
 3 O tree of beau - ty, tree most fair, Ordained those ho -

in mys - tic glow Where he, as man, who gave man breath,  
 ic song of old; How God the na - tions' King should be,  
 ly limbs to bear; Gone is thy shame, each crim - son'd bough

Now bows . . . . . be - neath the yoke of death.  
 For God . . . . . is reign - ing from the tree.  
 Pro - claims . . . . . the King of glo - ry now. A - men.

( . = 2 notes - = 3 notes )

4 Blest tree, whose chosen branches bore  
The wealth that did the world restore,  
The price of humankind to pay,  
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.

5 O cross, our one reliance, hail!  
Still may thy power with us avail  
More good for righteous souls to win,  
And save the sinner from his sin.

6 To thee, eternal Three in One,  
Let homage meet by all be done:  
As by the cross thou dost restore,  
So rule and guide us evermore. Amen.

St. 1-4. VENANTIUS HONORIUS FORTUNATUS, 569; *Hymnal Version*, 1940

*The priest then approaches and begins the unveiling singing:*

Traditional

Be - hold the wood of the Cross  
on which has hung the sa - vior of the world.  
Come let us  
wor - ship our Lord and Sa - vior:

*People:*

Be - fore Your Cross we bow down and wor - ship O Mas - ter  
and Your Ho - ly Re - sur - rec - tion, we glo - ri - fy



*A simpler form may be used:*

Traditional

Be - hold the wood of the Cross on which has hung the  
sa - vior of the world. Come let us wor - ship:

*People:*

Be - fore Your Cross we bow down and wor - ship O Mas - ter  
and Your Ho - ly Re - sur - rec - tion, we glo - ri - fy

*After the cross is unveiled, the people come to venerate it prostrating three times during which the Reproaches or one the following Anthems is sung:*

*The following may be sung during or after the Veneration of the Cross.*

### **The Reproaches Anthem I**

**V.** O my people, what have I done to you?  
How have I offended you?  
Answer me!

**R.** Agios o Theos.                   ✠   Holy God.  
Agios ischyros.                   Holy and Mighty.  
Agios athanatos,  
Eleison imas.                   Holy and Immortal One,  
Have mercy on us.

V. I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with manna: and brought you into a very good land... but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

R. Sancte Deus. ✠ Holy God.  
Sancte Fortis. Holy and Mighty.  
Sancte Immortalis Holy and Immortal One,  
Miserere nobis. Have mercy on us.

V. What more could I have done for you... that I have not done?  
I planted you, indeed, my most beautiful vineyard; and you have become very bitter to me, for in my thirst you gave me vinegar to drink, and with a spear you have pierced the side of your Savior.

R. Sviati Bozje. ✠ Holy God.  
Svati Kriepki. Holy and Mighty.  
Svati Besmertni Holy and Immortal One,  
Pomiluinas. Have mercy on us.

V. For your sake I scourged Egypt with its firstborn: and you have scourged me and delivered me up. O my people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me!

R. Agios o Theos. ✠ Holy God.  
Agios ischyros. Holy and Mighty.  
Agios athanatos, Holy and Immortal One,  
Eleison imas. Have mercy on us.

- V. I opened the sea before you: and you, with a spear, have opened my side. I went before you in a pillar of cloud: and you brought me to the judgment hall of Pilate.
- R. Sancte Deus. ✠ Holy God.  
 Sancte Fortis. Holy and Mighty.  
 Sancte Immortalis Holy and Immortal One,  
 Miserere nobis. Have mercy on us.
- V. I fed you with manna in the desert: and you have beaten me with whips and sticks. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock to drink: and you have given me gall and vinegar.
- R. Sviati Bozje. ✠ Holy God.  
 Svati Kriepki. Holy and Mighty.  
 Svati Besmertni Holy and Immortal One,  
 Pomiluinas. Have mercy on us.
- V. For you I struck down the kings of the Canaanites: and you have struck my head with a reed. I gave you a royal sceptre: and you have given to my head a crown of thorns. I have exalted you with great power: and you have hanged me on the cross.
- R. Agios o Theos. ✠ Holy God.  
 Agios ischyros. Holy and Mighty.  
 Agios athanatos, Holy and Immortal One,  
 Eleison imas. Have mercy on us.

## Adoramus te Christe Anthem II

*All:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross  
you have redeemed the world.

*Priest:* If we have died with him, we shall also live with him;  
if we endure, we shall also reign with him.

*All:* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross  
you have redeemed the world.

## Salvator Mundi Anthem III

*Priest:* O Savior of the world,  
by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:

*All:* Save us and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

*The Deacon (Priest) brings The Sacrament from the Altar of Repose while all stand in Silence. Two ministers with Lighted candles accompany him. The chalice and paten are placed upon an open corporal at the altar.*

*Priest:* Let us pray:  
Instructed by your saving precepts, and having  
been taught these divinely formed words,  
we dare to say:

*All recto tono:* 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 of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now  
and ever and for all ages of ages. Amen.

*He joins his hands and prays:*

*Priest:* Deliver us, ✠O God, from all evils: past, present, and to  
come, and by the prayers of Blessed Mary ever Virgin,  
Mother of God, of your blessed apostles Peter and Paul, of  
Andrew, and of all the saints, graciously give us peace in  
our days; that through your merciful help may we always  
be free from sin and safe from all disquietude: through  
Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages.

*People:* Amen.

*The clergy and people standing say the following:*

*All:* I confess to Almighty God, to blessed Mary ever Virgin, to blessed Michael the Archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy apostles Peter and Paul, to all the saints, and to you, Father, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my very great fault. Therefore, I beseech blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the Archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, all the saints, and you, Father, to pray to the Lord our God for me.

*The priest genuflects and turns to the people saying*

*Priest:* May Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, and lead you to life everlasting.

*People:* Amen.

*Priest:* May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, absolution ✠ and the remission of all your sins.

*People:* Amen.

*Facing the people, with The Sacrament the Priest says the following:*

*Priest:* Behold The Lamb of God.  
Behold Him who takes away the sin of the world.

*People:* Lord I am not worthy that you should come under my roof say but the word and my soul shall be healed.

*People:* I believe, O Lord and I confess that you are truly the Christ, The Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the greatest.

I believe also, that this which I am about to receive is truly your most pure Body and life-giving Blood; Wherefore, I pray, have mercy on me and forgive my transgressions, both voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, committed in knowledge or in ignorance; And grant that I may partake of your Holy Mysteries without condemnation for the forgiveness of all my sins and for life everlasting.

O Son of God accept me this day as a partaker of Your Mystical Supper; for I will not reveal the Mystery to your enemies, nor will I give you a kiss as did Judas, but like the thief, will I say: ✠ Remember me, O Lord, when you come into your kingdom. O Lord, may the partaking of your Holy Mysteries be not to my judgment or condemnation, but for the healing of my soul and body.

*During Communion, all quietly sing the following or the psalm below:*

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king-dom.

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king-dom.

Text: Luke 23:42

REMEMBER ME

PSALM 22 *Deus, Deus meus*

TONE II



- M** 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry  
and from the words of my distress?
- W** 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- M** 3 Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- W** 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- M** 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- W** 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- M** 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- W** 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- M** 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- W** 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.



- M** 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.
- W** 12 Many young bulls encircle me; \*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- M** 13 They open wide their jaws at me, \*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- W** 14 I am poured out like water; ↓ all my bones are out of joint; \*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- M** 15 My mouth is dried out like a potsherd; ↓  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; \*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- W** 16 Packs of dogs close me in, ↓  
and gangs of evildoers circle around me; \*  
they pierce my hands and my feet;  
I can count all my bones.
- M** 17 They stare and gloat over me; \*  
they divide my garments among them;  
they cast lots for my clothing.
- W** 18 Be not far away, O LORD; \*  
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- M** 19 Save me from the sword, \*  
my life from the power of the dog.
- W** 20 Save me from the lion's mouth, \*  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- M** 21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; \*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

- W 22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- M 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor  
in their poverty;↓  
neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- W 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows  
in the presence of those who worship him.
- M 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, ↓  
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"
- W 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- M 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*  
he rules over the nations.
- W 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth  
bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- M 29 My soul shall live for him;↓  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.
- W 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

*Vessels are cleansed, then the priest stands in the midst of the altar says;*

*Priest:* Let us pray

O Lord, let your rich blessings descend upon your people who again devotedly commemorate the passion and death of your Son. Grant us pardon and consolation; increase our faith and make certain our eternal redemption through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

*Priest:* Let us pray

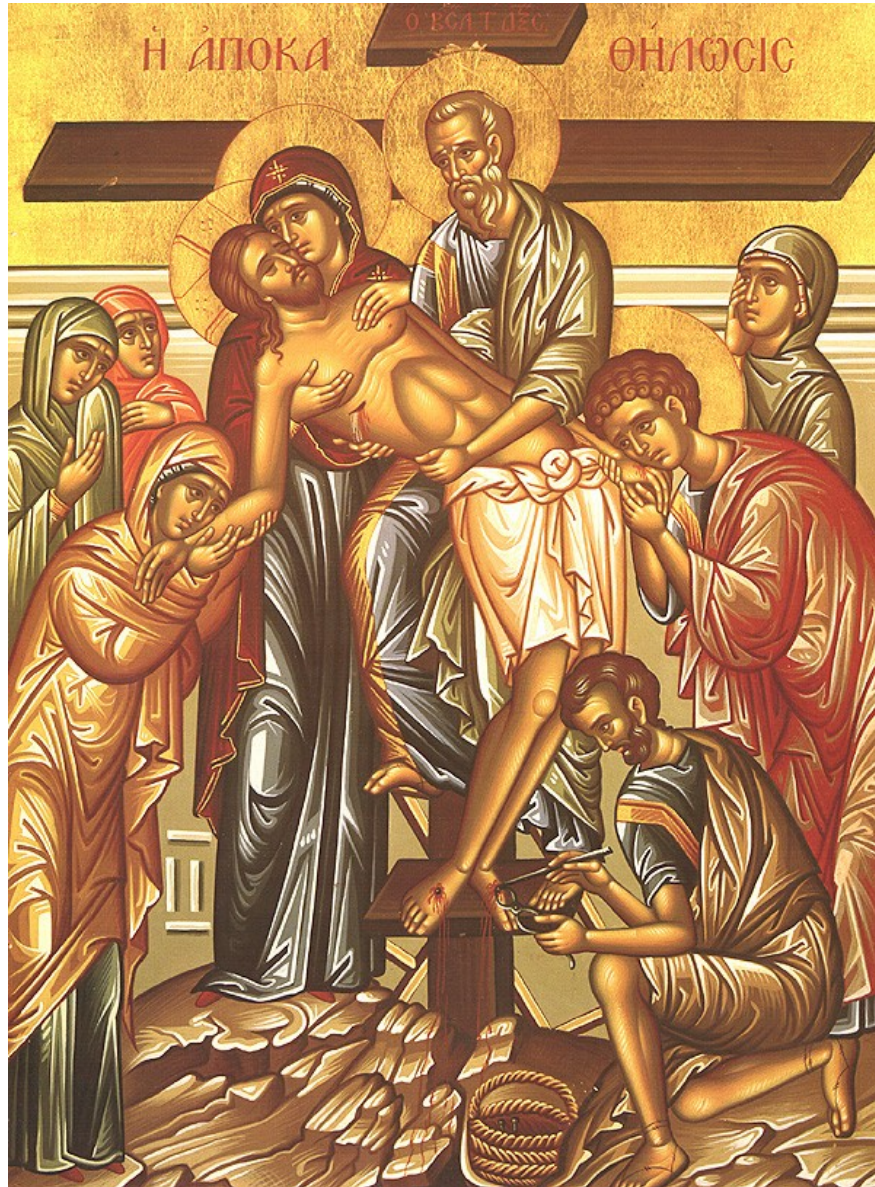
Almighty and merciful God, you have healed us by the holy passion and death of your Christ. Be ever merciful to us and grant that we may always live devotedly by sharing in this mystery through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

*Priest:* Let us pray

O Lord be mindful of your mercies and sanctify your servants with your eternal protection, for it was for us that Christ, your Son instituted the paschal mystery through his death. Through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen*

*Lights of the church are turned off and the following said in the Narthex:*

*Priest:* Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death  
between your judgment and our souls,  
now and in the hour of our death.  
Give mercy and grace to the living;  
pardon and rest to the dead;  
to your holy Orthodox Church peace and concord;  
and to us sinners everlasting life and glory;  
for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign,  
one God, now and for all ages of ages. *Amen*



*In some churches the Shroud (Epitaphios) is brought out while the following is sung:*

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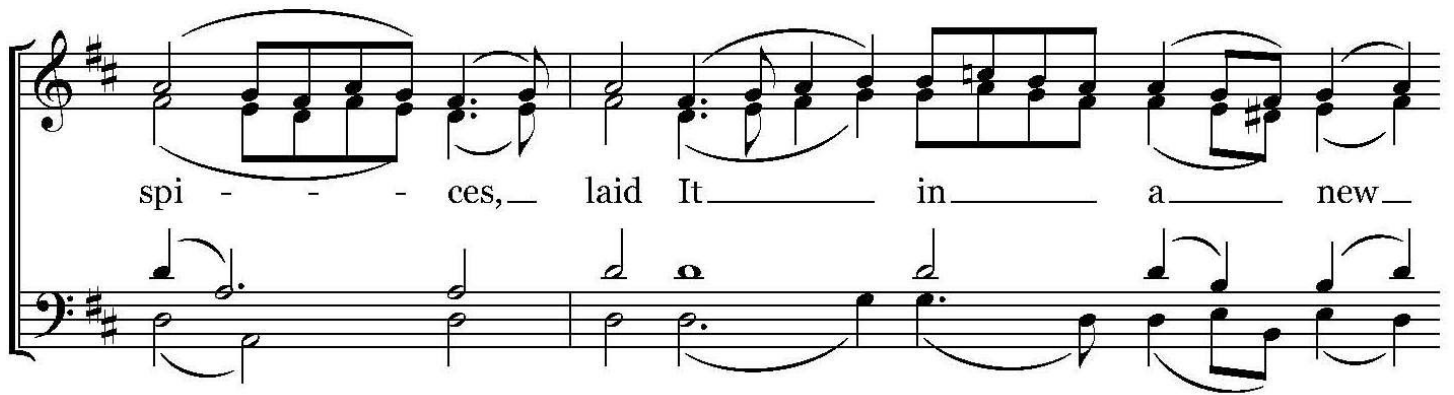
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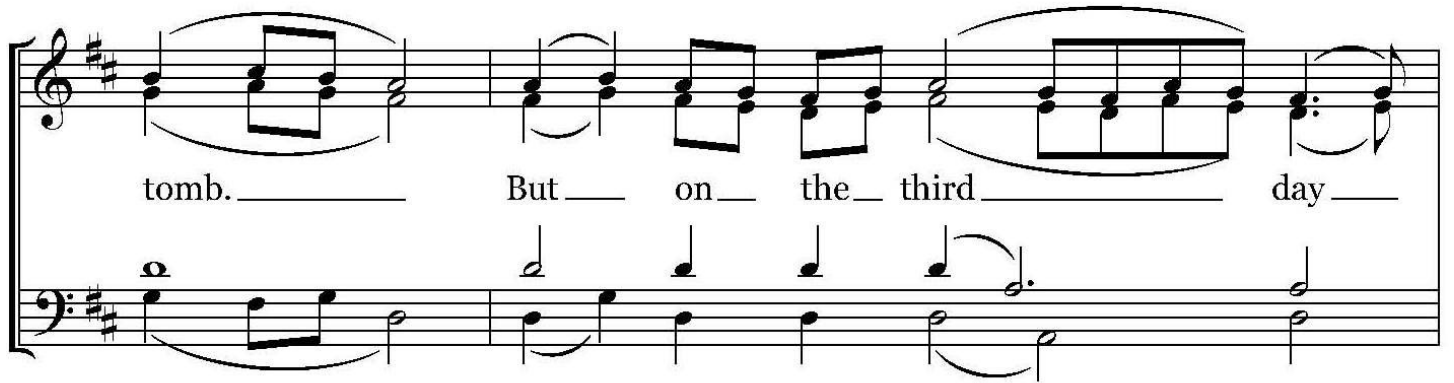
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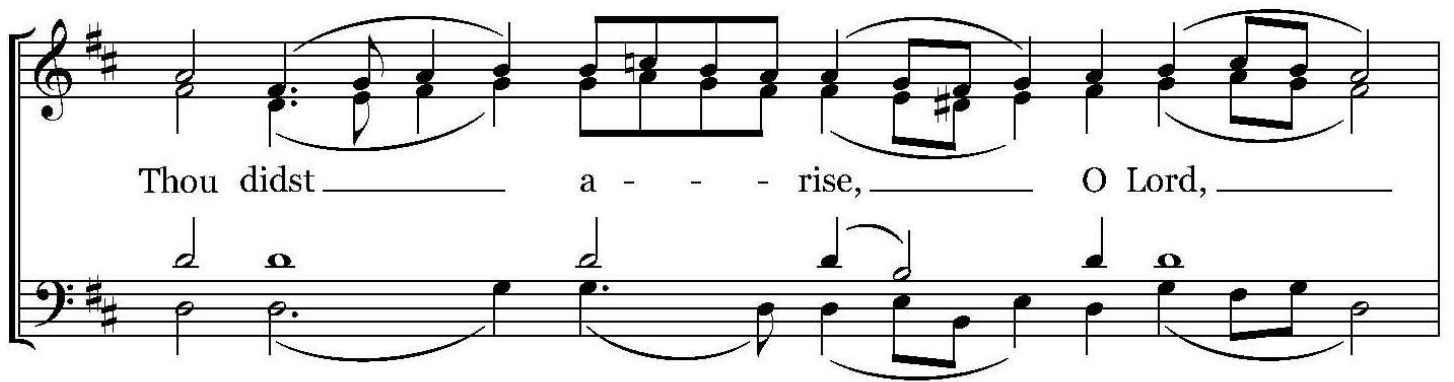
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spi - ces, laid It in a new



tomb. But on the third day



Thou didst a - rise, O Lord,



grant - ing to the world great mer - cy.

*The procession may go outside as a witness to the death of Christ.*

*When the procession returns to the door of the church, the Epitaphios is held high by the servers or laypeople and the congregation passes the Priest holding the Gospel Book and under the Epitaphios as they go back into the church. Lastly, the priest, deacon, sub-deacon passes under the Epitaphios which is then carried back into the church and placed on a stand, flowers are placed there, and the people venerate the icon of the Lord's Body. Some carnations may be placed there to be taken home by the faithful.*

*All depart in silence.*

*It is traditional that we do not speak to anyone but quietly depart.*