

HOLY AND GREAT FRIDAY  
SIXTH HOUR

*Priest:* Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

*ReaderA:*

Amen.

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee.

O Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere present and fillest all things, Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us, and cleanse us of all impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

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

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

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

*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 unto the ages of ages.

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

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

O come, let us worship God our King.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ our King and God.

O come, let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and God.

READER B (Psalm 53)

O God, save me by your name, and you will judge me by your power. O God, hear my prayer, give ear to the words of my mouth. For strangers have risen up against me, and mighty ones have sought my soul, and have not put God before them. For see, God will help me, and the Lord is the protector of my soul. He will turn evils upon my foes, in your truth wipe them out. Willingly I shall sacrifice to you, I shall give thanks to your name, O

Lord, for it is good. For you have delivered me from every tribulation, and my eye has looked down on my foes.

#### READER C (Psalm 139)

Deliver me, O Lord, from evildoers; protect me from those who are violent, who plan evil things in their minds and stir up wars continually. They make their tongue sharp as a snake's, and under their lips is the venom of vipers. Guard me, O Lord, from the hands of the wicked; protect me from the violent who have planned my downfall. The arrogant have hidden a trap for me, and with cords they have spread a net, along the road they have set snares for me. I say to the Lord, 'You are my God; give ear, O Lord, to the voice of my supplications.' O Lord, my Lord, my strong deliverer, you have covered my head in the day of battle. Do not grant, O Lord, the desires of the wicked; do not further their evil plot. Those who surround me lift up their heads; let the mischief of their lips overwhelm them! Let burning coals fall on them! Let them be flung into pits, no more to rise! Do not let the slanderer be established in the land; let evil speedily hunt down the violent! I know that the Lord maintains the cause of the needy, and executes justice for the poor. Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name; the upright shall live in your presence.

#### READER A (Psalm 90)

One who dwells in the help of the Most High will live under the protection of the of the God of heaven; will say to the Lord: you are my protector and my refuge, my God, and I shall hope in him. For he will deliver you from the snare of hunters, and from the word which troubles. He will overshadow you with his wings, and beneath his feathers you will hope; his truth will encircle you with a shield. You will not be afraid of terror by night, of the arrow that flies by day; of the thing that prowls in the darkness, of mishap and the noonday devil. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right, but it will not come near you. But with your eyes you will observe, and see the reward of sinners. For you, Lord, are my hope: you have made the Most High your refuge. Evils will not approach you, nor a scourge draw near your dwelling. Because he has given orders to his Angels about you, to guard you in all your ways. They will bear you on their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You will walk on asp and basilisk, and trample down lion and dragon. Because he hoped in me, I shall deliver him; I shall shelter him, because he knew my name. He will cry to me, and I shall hear him, I am with him in trouble; I shall rescue him and glorify him. I shall fill him with length of days, and show him my salvation.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Glory to Thee, O God. (*thrice*)

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. (Tone 2)

You have worked salvation in the midst of the earth,  
O Christ our God.  
You stretched out your most pure hands on the Cross,  
gathering together all the nations, as they cry:  
O Lord, glory to you!

Both now. **Theotokion.**

Because we have no boldness because of our many sins, entreat the One born of you, O Virgin Mother of God; for a Mother's plea has great force for the kindness of the Master. Do not despise the supplications of sinners, O all-holy, for you is merciful, and able to save, you who even accepted to suffer for us.

**After which we sing the following Idiomela in Tone 8.**

Thus says the Lord to the Jews,  
'My people, what have I done to you?  
Or in what have I wearied you?  
I gave light to your blind, I cleansed your lepers,  
I set upright a man lying on a bed.  
My people, what have I done to you, and how have you repaid me?  
Instead of the manna gall;  
instead of the water vinegar;  
instead of loving me, you have nailed me to a cross.  
I can endure no longer;  
I will call my nations, and they will glorify me, with the Father and the Spirit;  
and I shall grant them eternal life.

**Verse:** They gave me gall for food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

Lawgivers of Israel, Jews and Pharisees,  
the choir of the Apostles cries out to you,  
'See a Temple, which you have destroyed!  
See a Lamb, whom you have crucified!  
You handed him over to a tomb, but by his own authority he has risen.  
Do not be deceived, O Jews,  
for it is he who saved you in the sea, and fed you in the desert;  
he is the life and the light and the peace of the world.

**Verse:** Save me, O God; for the waters have come in, even as far as my soul.

Lawgivers of Israel, Jews and Pharisees,  
the choir of the Apostles cries out to you,  
'See a Temple, which you have destroyed!  
See a Lamb, whom you have crucified!  
You handed him over to a tomb, but by his own authority he has risen.  
Do not be deceived, O Jews,  
for it is he who saved you in the sea, and fed you in the desert;  
he is the life and the light and the peace of the world.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit both now and ever  
and unto the ages of ages. Amen. *(Tone 5)*

Come, Christ-bearing peoples,  
let us see what Judas the betrayer has plotted with the lawless priests against our Saviour.  
Today they have found the immortal Word guilty of death,  
and having betrayed him to Pilate, crucified him on the place of the Skull.  
And as he suffered all this our Saviour cried out and said,  
'Forgive them this sin, Father,  
that the nations may know my Resurrection from the dead'.

Priest: Wisdom

Reader B: The prokeimen:  
Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!  
For your majesty is raised high above the heavens.  
Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader B: The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaias. [52:13-53:12]

Priest: Let us listen attentively!

Thus says the Lord: See, my servant will understand; he shall be exalted and glorified exceedingly. Just as there many will be astonished at you, so your appearance will be without glory from men, and your glory from the sons of men. So many nations will marvel at him; kings shall shut their mouths; for that which had not been told them about him 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? We brought a report as of a child before him, as a root out of dry ground; he had no form or glory, and we saw him, and he had neither form nor beauty. But his form was without honour and inferior to the children of men. He was a man in suffering and acquainted with bearing weakness, because his face has been away, he was dishonoured and not esteemed. He bears our sins and is in pain for us. We reckoned him to be in toil and in affliction and

trouble. But he was wounded for our sins and crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment of our peace, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; Every one has gone astray in their own way, and the Lord handed him over for our sins. And he, because of his affliction, does not open his mouth; like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation his judgement was taken away; who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken away from the earth; because of the iniquities of my people he was led to death. And I will give the evil for his burial and the rich for his death, because he practised no iniquity, nor was there guile in his mouth. And the Lord wishes to cleanse him of his blow. If you give an offering for sin, your soul will seed a long-lived descendance. And the Lord wishes to take away from the toil of his soul, to show him light and to fashion him with understanding, to justify the just one, who serves many well, and he will bear their sins. Therefore he will inherit many and divide the spoils of the strong. Because his soul was handed over to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; and he bore the sin of many, and was handed over because of their iniquities. Rejoice, barren one who do not give birth, break out and cry, you who are not in labour, for the children of the desolate are more than those of her that has a husband.

Priest: Wisdom!

Reader C: The Reading is from the Epistle of Paul to the Hebrews.

Priest: Let us listen attentively!

Brethren, the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from One. For this reason he is not ashamed to call them brethren saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brethren, in the midst of the church I will praise you.' And again, 'I will put my trust in him.' And again, 'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.' Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear he did not take upon himself the nature angels, but he took on that of the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brethren in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the things of God, to make atonement for the sins of the people. For because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Priest: Wisdom. Stand upright. Let us listen to the holy Gospel. The reading is from the holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Reader C: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

*[The priest reads the Gospel from St. Luke, [23:32-49]*

Reader C: Glory to you, O Lord, glory to you!

Reader A: Let your mercies, O Lord, come quickly to our aid, for we are utterly poor; help us, O God our Saviour, for the glory of your name. O Lord, deliver us, and have mercy on our sins, for your name's sake.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. (*thrice*)  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, blot out our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto 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 the evil one.

*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 unto the ages of ages.

Reader A: Amen.

Come, let us all sing the praise of him who was crucified for us; for Mary looked upon him on the Tree and said: 'Though you endure the Cross, yet you are my Son and my God'.

Reader B: Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

Thou Who at all times and at every hour, in heaven and on earth, art worshipped and glorified, O Christ God, Who art long-suffering, plenteous in mercy, most compassionate, Who lovest the righteous and hast mercy on sinners, Who callest all to salvation through the promise of good things to come: Receive, O Lord, our prayers at this hour, and guide our life toward Thy commandments. Sanctify our souls, make chaste our bodies, correct our thoughts, purify our intentions, and deliver us from every sorrow, evil and pain. Compass us about with Thy holy angels, that, guarded and guided by their array, we may attain to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of Thine unapproachable glory; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. (*3 times*)

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

More honourable than the Cherubim, and beyond compare more glorious than the Seraphim: who without corruption gavest birth to God the Word: the very Theotokos, thee do we magnify.

In the name of the Lord, Father, bless!

*Priest:* God be gracious unto us and bless us, and cause Thy face to shine upon us and have mercy on us.

*Reader C:* Amen. O God and Lord of powers, and Maker of all creation, who through the compassion of your incomprehensible mercy sent down your only-begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, for the salvation of our race, and through his precious Cross tore up the record of our sins, and by it triumphed over the principalities and powers of darkness; do you yourself, O Master who loves mankind, accept also our supplications of thanksgiving and entreaty; and deliver us from destroying and dark transgression, and from all our foes, visible and invisible, who seek to harm us. Nail down our flesh through fear of you, and do not let our hearts incline to words or thoughts of evil, but wound our souls with longing for you; that ever gazing upon you and guided by the light that comes from you, seeing you the unapproachable and everlasting light, we may give thanks to you, the Father without beginning, with your only-begotten Son and your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Priest:* Glory to Thee, O Christ God, our hope, glory to Thee!

*Reader C:* Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.  
Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless!

*Priest:* May he who endured spittings, scourges, blows, the Cross and death for the salvation of the world, Christ our true God, through the prayers of his all-pure and holy Mother, by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross, through the intercessions of the holy, glorious and all-praised Apostles, [of Saint **N.** (to whom the Church is dedicated), of Saint **N.**, whose memory we keep today,] and of all the Saints, have mercy on us and save us, for he is good and loves mankind.

*Reader C:* Amen.