**APRIL 26 Great and Holy Friday**

**Vespers with the Liturgy of St Basil the Great**

***(celebrated 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!*

**Tone 2** *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

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

(Repeat: “The assembly of the Jews gathers together … “)

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

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

(Repeat “The transgressor Judas, O Lord, … “)

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

*is forgiveness with You.*

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. (5) For Your name's sake I have waited for You, O Lord, my soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

(Repeat “Judas, the treacherous deceiver, … “)

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

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

(Repeat “Servant and deceiver … ”)

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

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.

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.*

(Repeat “The Lamb, Whom Isaiah proclaimed, …”)

*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 139/140:1))

*v: who have schemed unrighteousness in their hearts all the day long!*

*(Ps 139/140:2)*

**Reading from Exodus (19:10-19)**

**Tone 7 Prokeimenon**

Deliver me from mine enemies, O God! Save me from those who rise up against me! (Ps 58/59:1)

*v: Deliver me from those who work evil! (Ps 58/59:2)*

**Reading from Job (38:1-21; 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**

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 40/41:1)*

*v: Mine enemies say to me in malice: “When will he die and his name perish?” (Ps 40/41:5))*

*v: He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me. (Ps 40/41:9b)*

**Gospel**

Matthew 26:1-20 Luke 22:43-45

John 13:13-17 Matthew 26:40-27:2

Matthew 26:21-39

***(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!

**The Hymn to the Theotokos** *(replaces “It is truly meet…”)*

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**

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.”)***

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