

Holy Friday Antiphons

People:

Antiphon 1

Tone 8 (Lord I Call)

The rulers of the people have assembled ///
Against the Lord and His Christ.

A lawless charge is hurled against me. ///
Lord, O Lord, forsake me not.

Let us offer our pure senses to Christ.
As His friends let us sacrifice our lives for His sake.
Let us not be weighed down by earthly cares like Judas,
But let us cry in the hidden chambers of our heart: ///
"Our Father, Who art in heaven, deliver us from the evil
one."

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

As a virgin you gave birth without knowing wedlock
And remained a virgin, O unwedded mother.
O Mary Theotokos, ///
Pray to Christ our God to save us.

Antiphon 2

Tone 6 (Lord I Call)

Judas hastened to the lawless scribes and said,
"What will you give me to betray Him to you?"
Yet while they conspired against You
You invisibly stood in their midst. ///
Spare our souls, O You Who know the hearts of men.

Let us serve God in acts of compassion.
Like Mary at the supper.
Let us not be possessed by avarice like Judas, ///
So that we may always abide with Christ our God.

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

Never cease to pray to Him Who loves mankind.
Who was ineffably born of you, O Virgin.
That He may save from dangers ///
Those who take refuge in You.

Antiphon 3

Tone 2 (Lord I Call)

Because of the raising of Lazarus,
O Lord Who love mankind,
The Hebrew children cried, "Hosanna" to You,
But Judas the transgressor was unwilling to understand.

At Your supper, O Christ God,
You announced to Your disciples,
"One of you will betray me." ///
But Judas the transgressor was unwilling to understand.

When John asked You, O Lord,
"Who is it that betrays You,"
You revealed who it was by means of the morsel of bread.//
But Judas the transgressor was unwilling to understand.

For thirty pieces of silver
And a treacherous kiss, O Lord,
The Jews sought to kill You, ///
But Judas the transgressor was unwilling to understand.

At the washing of the feet, O Christ God,
You commanded Your disciples:
"Do as you have seen me do." ///
But Judas the transgressor was unwilling to understand.

"Keep watch and pray,
Lest you be tempted."
You said to Your disciples, O our God, ///
But Judas the transgressor was unwilling to understand.

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

O Theotokos,
Preserve your servants from dangers,
For after God we all take refuge in you ///
As an invincible bulwark and protector.

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For unto You are due all glory, honour and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathisma Hymn

Tone 7 (Lord I Call)

When You were feeding Your disciples at the supper,

You knew Judas' intention to betray You,

And You accused Him of this

Though recognizing him to be beyond correction.

For You desired all to know that You were willingly
betrayed,

To snatch the world from the grasp of the enemy. ///

O Long-suffering Lord, glory to You!

The Second Gospel Reading

(music on page 8)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John the Theologian.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*John 18:1-28*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Antiphon 4

Tone 5 (Lord I Call)

Today Judas forsakes the Master

And takes the Devil as his friend.

He is blinded by the passion of avarice.

Darkened he falls from the light.

He sold the Sun for thirty pieces of silver.

How, then, is he able to see?

But He Who suffers for the world has risen as the dawn for us.

To Him let us cry aloud: ///

"O You Who suffered for us and with us, glory to You!"

Today Judas counterfeits piety

And deprives himself of the gift of grace.

The disciple becomes a betrayer.

In a gesture of friendship he conceals deceit.

He foolishly prefers thirty pieces of silver to the Master's
love

And becomes a guide for the lawless assembly. ///

But let us glorify Christ, our salvation.

Tone 1 (Lord I Call)

As brothers in Christ let us acquire brotherly love.

Let us not lack sympathy for our neighbour.

Lest we, like the unmerciful servant, (over)

Be condemned on account of money, //

Or like Judas gain nothing from our regrets.

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

Everywhere glorious things are spoken of you,

O Mary Theotokos, unwedded and all-praised, ///

For you conceived in the flesh the Maker of all.

Antiphon 5

Tone 6 (Lord I Call)

The disciple agrees upon the price of the Master.

He sells the Lord for thirty pieces of silver.

With a treacherous kiss he betrays Him ///

To death at the hands of lawless men.

Today the Creator of heaven and earth

Said to His disciples,
"The hour has come and Judas rushes to betray me.
Let no one deny me
When he sees Me on the cross between two thieves.
For as a Man I suffer, ///
And as the Lover of man I save those who believe in me."

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

O Virgin, who in the latter days
Wondrously conceived and bore your own Creator, ///
Save those who magnify you.

Antiphon 6

Tone 7 (Lord I Call)

Today Judas looks for a way to betray the Lord.
The Saviour of the world before the ages.
Who satisfied the multitude with five loaves.
Today the transgressor denies the teacher.
Though a disciple, he betrays the Master. ///
He sells for silver Him Who fed man with manna in the
wilderness.

Today His people nail to the cross
The Lord Who divided the sea with a rod and led them in
the wilderness.
Today they pierce His side with a spear.
Who smote Egypt with plagues for their sake. ///
They gave Him gall to drink Who rained down manna upon
them for food.

When You came to Your voluntary Passion, O Lord,

You cried to Your disciples,
"If you lack the strength to keep watch with Me for a single
hour,
Why did you promise to die for Me?
See how Judas does not sleep
But hastens to betray Me to the transgressors.
Arise and pray, lest anyone deny Me
When he sees Me on the cross." ///
O Long-suffering Lord, glory to You!

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

Rejoice, O Theotokos,
You held in your womb Him Whom the heavens cannot
hold.
Rejoice, O Virgin whom the prophets proclaimed,
From you Emmanuel has shone forth on us. ///
Rejoice, O Mother of Christ our God.

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For sanctified and glorified is Your all-honourable and majestic name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathisma Hymn

Tone 7 (Lord I Call)

What caused you to betray the Saviour, O Judas?

Did He expel you from the ranks of the Apostles?

Did He take from you the gift of healing?

Did He send you from the table while taking supper with
the others?

Did He wash their feet and pass you by?

How have you forgotten such good things?

Your ingratitude is notorious, ///

But His boundless long-suffering and great mercy are
proclaimed to all.

The Third Gospel Reading - (*music on page 8*)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to
the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have
mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy
Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to
St. Matthew the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Matthew 26:57-75*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Antiphon 7

Tone 8 (Lord I Call)

While permitting transgressors to arrest You,
You cried out to them, O Lord:

"Though you smite the shepherd and scatter the twelve
sheep, my disciples,

I am able to surround myself with more than thirty legions
of angels.

But I forebear

So that the secret and hidden things might be fulfilled

Which were revealed to you by My prophets." ///

O Lord, glory to You!

Denying You for the third time,

Peter at once recalled Your words to Him,

But he offered You tears of repentance: ///

"O God, have mercy on me and save me!"

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

Let us praise the Holy Virgin,

As the gate of salvation and fair paradise,

As a cloud for the eternal light. ///

To her let us all say, "Rejoice!"

Antiphon 8

Tone 2 (Lord I Call)

O transgressors,

What have you heard from our Saviour?

Did he not explain the law and the teachings of the
prophets?

Why then did you plan to deliver to Pilate ///

The Word, God of God, the Redeemer of our souls?

"Let Him be crucified,"

Cried those who had always enjoyed His gracious gifts.

Those who killed the righteous

Ask to receive a malefactor instead of their benefactor.

But You, O Christ endured their heedlessness in silence, ///

Desiring to suffer and to save us in Your love for mankind.

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

We have no boldness

Because of the multitude of our sins,

But entreat Him Who was born of you, O Virgin Theotokos,

For the prayer of a mother has power to win the favour of
the Master.

Do not despise the supplications of sinners, O all-pure One, /

For merciful and strong to save is He Who willed to suffer
for us.

Antiphon 9

Tone 3 (Lord I Call)

They weighed out the thirty pieces of silver,
The price of Him on Whom a price had been set by the sons
of Israel.

Keep watch and pray
That you may not enter into temptation.
The spirit indeed is willing, ///
But the flesh is weak therefore keep watch.

They gave Me gall for food.
For My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink.
But do You, O Lord, ///
Raise me up that I may requite them.

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

We the Gentiles praise you,
O Pure Theotokos.
For you gave birth to Christ our God, ///
Who through you freed mankind from the curse.

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For You are our God, and unto You we ascribe
glory: to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathisma Hymn

Tone 8 (Lord I Call)

How could Judas, who was once Your disciple,
Plan to betray You.

That treacherous and unrighteous man deceitfully ate with
You

And went to the priests and said:

"What will you give me if I deliver to you

Him Who abolished the law and profaned the Sabbath?" ///

O Long-suffering Lord, glory to You.

The Fourth Gospel Reading

(music on page 8)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to
the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have
mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy
Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to
St. John the Theologian.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*John 18:28-19:16*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Antiphon 10

Tone 6 (Lord I Call)

He Who clothes Himself with light as with a garment
Stood naked for trial.

He was struck on the cheek by hands that He Himself had
formed.

A people that transgressed the law
Nailed the Lord of glory to the Cross.

Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

Then the sun was darkened,

Unable to bear the sight of God outraged,

Before Whom all things tremble. ///

Let us worship Him.

The disciple denied Him,

But the thief cried out: ///

"Remember me, O Lord in Your Kingdom!"

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

O Lord, Who for Your servants' sake

Willed to take flesh from the Virgin,

Grant peace to the world, ///

That with one voice we may glorify You, Who love
mankind.

Antiphon 11

Tone 6 (Lord I Call)

In exchange for the good things that You have done for them
A transgressing people condemned You to be crucified, O

Christ,

And gave You gall and vinegar to drink.

But reward them according to their deeds, O Lord, ///

For they did not understand Your condescension.

Not content to deliver You up, O Christ,

A transgressing people wagged their heads.

Bringing You mockery and derision.

But reward them according to their deeds, O Lord, ///

For they plotted against You in vain.

Neither the shaking of the earth nor the splitting of the
rocks,

Neither the tearing of the temple's curtain nor the
resurrection of the dead

Convinced a transgressing people.

But reward them according to their deeds, O Lord. ///

For they plotted against You in vain.

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

We know that God took flesh from you,

O Virgin Theotokos,

The only pure and only blessed one. ///

Therefore without ceasing we praise and magnify you.

Antiphon 12

Tone 8 (Lord I Call)

Thus says the Lord to the Jews:

"My people, what have I done to you,

Or how have I offended you?

To your blind I gave sight, your lepers I cleansed,

The paralytic I raised from his bed,

My people, what have I done to you,

And how have you repaid Me?

Instead of manna, gall; instead of water, vinegar;

Instead of loving me you nail Me to the cross.

I can bear no more.

I shall call the Gentiles mine.

They will glorify me with the Father and the Spirit, ///

And I shall offer them life eternal."

Today the curtain of the temple is torn in two

To convict the transgressors,

And even the sun hides his rays, ///

Seeing the Master crucified.

The choir of the apostles cries out to you,

O lawgivers of Israel, scribes and Pharisees:

Behold the Temple which you destroyed!

Behold the Lamb Whom you crucified!

You delivered Him to the tomb, but by His own power He
arose.

Do not be deceived, O Jews. *(over)*

He it is that saved you in the sea and fed you in the
wilderness. ///

He is the Life, the Light, and the Peace of the world.

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

Rejoice, gate of the King of glory,
Through which the Most High alone has entered and again
left sealed ///
For the salvation of our souls.

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Blessed and glorified be the might of Your
kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathisma Hymn

Tone 8 (Lord I Call)

O God, You stood before Caiaphas.

O Judge, You were given over to Pilate.

Then the heavenly powers shook with fear.

Though sinless, You were numbered among the
transgressors,

Lifted up on the wood between two thieves

In order to save mankind. ///

O patient Lord, glory to You!

The Fifth Gospel Reading

(music on page 8)

Priest: That we may be accounted worthy of listening to the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

People: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel! Peace be unto all!

People: And to your spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the Evangelist.

People: Glory to Your Passion, O Lord, O Lord.

Priest: Let us attend! (*Matthew 27:3-32*)

People: Glory to Your Long-suffering, O Lord, O Lord.

Antiphon 13

Tone 6 (Lord I Call)

The crowd of the Jews, O Lord,
Asked Pilate to crucify You,
And though they found no guilt in You,
They freed Barabbas, who indeed was guilty.
They condemned You, the righteous One,
And made the charge of murder their inheritance.
But give them their retribution, O Lord, ///
For they plotted against You in vain.
To Christ, the wisdom and power of God,
Who makes all things fear and tremble,
Whom all tongues praise,
The priests gave gall and slapped.
Yet He consented to suffer all things,
Desiring to save us from our transgressions by His Blood, //
For He loves mankind.

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

O Theotokos,
Who by a word beyond all words
Have borne your own Creator, ///
Entreat Him to save our souls.

Antiphon 14

Tone 8 (Lord I Call)

The thief, whose hands were defiled with blood,
You accepted as Your fellow traveller.
With him number us also, O Lord, ///
For You are good and love mankind.

The thief on the cross uttered a small cry,
But he found great faith,
In a moment he was saved
And became the first to enter Paradise
When its gates were opened. ///
O Lord, Who accepted his repentance, glory to You.

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

Rejoice, for through an angel you received the joy of the
world.
Rejoice, for you have borne your Creator and Lord! ///
Rejoice, for you were found worthy to become the mother of
Christ our God!

Antiphon 15

Tone 6 (Lord I Call)

Today He Who hung the earth upon the waters is hung on the tree.

The King of the angels is decked with a crown of thorns.
He Who wraps the heavens in clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery.

He Who freed Adam in the Jordan is slapped on the face.
The Bridegroom of the church is affixed to the cross with nails.

The Son of the Virgin is pierced by a spear.

We worship Your Passion, O Christ.

We worship Your Passion, O Christ.

We worship Your Passion, O Christ. ///

Show us also Your glorious Resurrection.

Let us not keep the feast like the Jews.

For our Passover, Christ God, has been slain for us.

But let us cleanse ourselves of every defilement

And with sincerity let us entreat Him: ///

Arise, O Lord, and save us, for You love mankind.

Your Cross, O Lord,

Is life and resurrection for Your people.

Trusting in it, we praise You, our crucified God!

Have mercy on us.

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

When she who conceived You, O Christ,

Saw You hanging on the cross, she cried out:

"What strange mystery do I behold, O my Son?

O Giver of Life, how did You die, ///

Nailed on the wood in the flesh?"

Little Litany or Matins Prayer

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: ...For blessed is Your name, and glorified is Your kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Kathisma Hymn

Tone 4 (Lord I Call)

By Your precious Blood

You have redeemed us from the curse of the law.

By being nailed to the cross and pierced by a spear

You have poured forth immortality for man. ///

O our Saviour, glory to You!