

APRIL 6 Great and Holy Monday Bridegroom Matins (sung on Sunday)

Tone 8 Troparion

Behold, the Bridegroom comes at midnight,
and blessed is the servant whom He shall find watching;
and again, unworthy is the servant whom He shall find heedless.
Beware, therefore, O my soul, do not be weighed down with sleep,
lest you be given up to death,
and lest you be shut out of the Kingdom!
But rouse yourself, crying: "Holy, holy, holy, are You, O our God!"
Through the Theotokos have mercy on us!

Tone 1 Kathisma Hymn (following Kathisma 4)

Today Christ's holy Passion draws upon the world as a saving light.
For He comes of His goodness to suffer.
He Who holds all things in His hand//
consents to be hung upon the Wood in order to save mankind.

Tone 1 Kathisma Hymn (following Kathisma 5)

O invisible Judge, how have You been seen in the flesh?
How have You been slain by lawless men,
condemning our condemnation by Your sufferings?
Therefore, with one voice, O Word//
we ascribe glory, dominion, and praise to Your power.

Tone 8 Kathisma Hymn (following Kathisma 6)

Today shines as the first-fruits of the Lord.
Come, then, all who love the feast and join together in hymns.
For the Creator comes to accept the Cross, the afflictions, the beatings, and the judgment by
Pilate.
A servant strikes Him on the head, but He endures all things that He may save mankind.
Therefore, let us cry out to Him: "Grant remission of sins to those who venerate Your holy
Passion in faith//
O Christ, our God, Who love mankind!"

The Three-Ode Canon
Tone 2 Ode 1 - Heirmos

Let us sing unto the Lord.

By His divine command, He dried up the raging and impassable sea,
and led the people of Israel through on foot,
for gloriously has He been glorified.

Refrain: Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

*Oh, the inexpressible condescension of the Word of God!
For Christ, Who is both God and man,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied Himself and appeared to His disciples in the form of a servant.
Gloriously has He been glorified*

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

*“With the wealth of My divine nature,
I came in order to minister to Adam in his poverty.
I fashioned his body and now willingly I put it on.
Though in My divine nature I am not subject to passion,
I lay down my life to ransom his.”*

(Katavasia: “Let us sing unto the Lord...”)

Tone 8 Kontakion

Jacob lamented the loss of Joseph
but his noble son was seated on a chariot and honored as a king.
For when he refused to be enslaved by the pleasures of the Egyptian woman
he was glorified by the Lord, Who beholds the hearts of men//
and bestows upon them an incorruptible crown.

Ikos

Today let us add lamentation to lamentation!

*Let our tears flow with those of Jacob, who weeps for his celebrated and sober-minded son;
for though bodily Joseph was indeed a slave,
he preserved the freedom of his soul and was lord over all Egypt.*

For God prepares for His servants an incorruptible crown.

Tone 2 Ode 8 – Heirmos

The relentless fire was fed by fuel in endless supply,
yet it shrank before the flesh of the Holy Youths, as pure as their souls,
and when the never-ending flame was quenched,
the singing of an everlasting hymn began:
“Praise the Lord, all works of the Lord, and exalt Him throughout all ages!”

Refrain: Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

*“By this will all men know that you are My disciples,”
said the Savior to His friends as He went to His Passion,
“if you will keep My commandments.
Be at peace among yourselves, and you will be exalted!
And, knowing that I am the Lord,
you will sing and exalt Me throughout all ages.”*

*Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*“Let your order be contrary to that of the Gentiles,
who hold power over their fellow-men,
for such is not My portion, but rather self-appointed tyranny!
He then who would be great among you, must be the servant of all,
and knowing that I am the Lord,
he will sing and exalt Me throughout all ages.”*

*We praise, bless, and worship the Lord,
singing and exalting Him throughout all ages.*

(Katavasia: "The relentless fire...")

Tone 2 Ode 9 - Heirmos

You have magnified the Theotokos who bore You, O Christ.
From her You put on a body like our own, O our Creator,
which releases us from our errors.
Blessing her, we in all generations magnify You.

Refrain: Glory to You, our God, glory to You!

*You warned Your Apostles, O Wisdom of All:
"Flee from all impure passion!
Seek instead wisdom worthy of the Kingdom of God!
Thus, you will be glorified and shine more brightly than the sun."*

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

*The Lord said to His Disciples:
"As you look at Me, do not be haughty, but be joined to the lowly!
The cup which I drink, drink also,
that you may be glorified with Me in My Father's Kingdom!"*

(Katavasia: "Thou hast magnified...")

Exapostilarion

Your bridal chamber I see adorned, O my Savior,
and I have no wedding garment that I may enter.
O Giver of Light,
enlighten the vesture of my soul, and save me!

The Praises (*Psalms 148, 149, 150*)

V. Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His exceeding greatness! (Ps. 150:2)

Tone 1

As the Lord was going to His voluntary Passion,
He said to the Apostles on the way:
“Behold, we go up to Jerusalem,
and the Son of Man shall be delivered up, as it is written of Him.”
Come, therefore, let us also go with Him,
purified in mind!
Let us be crucified with Him and die through Him
to the pleasures of this life!
Then we shall live with Him and hear Him say:
“I go no more to the earthly Jerusalem to suffer,
but to My Father and your Father,
to My God and your God.
I shall raise you up to the Jerusalem on high//
in the Kingdom of Heaven.”

V. Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp! (Ps. 150:3)

(Repeat: “As the Lord was going to His voluntary Passion...”)

V. Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe! (Ps. 150:4)

Tone 5

We have reached the saving Passion of Christ our God.
Let us, the faithful, glorify His ineffable forbearance,
that in His compassion He may raise us up who were dead in sin, //
for He is good and loves mankind!

V. Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! (Ps. 150:5)

(Repeat: “We have reached the saving Passion...”)

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

Tone 5

Going to Your Passion, O Lord,
You took Your Disciples aside and reassured them:
“How have you forgotten the words that I once spoke?
Is it not written:
‘A prophet cannot be killed but in Jerusalem?’
Now is the time of which I told you.
Behold, I am betrayed into the hands of sinners to be mocked!
They will nail Me to the Cross and deliver Me up to burial,
regarding Me as a dead man, a thing of loathing.
Yet take courage, for I will arise on the third day, //
giving to the faithful joy and life everlasting!”

Aposticha

Tone 5

The mother of Zebedee’s children, O Lord,
could not understand the ineffable mystery of Your dispensation.
She asks the honor of a temporal kingdom for her sons;
but instead, You promised Your friends
that they should drink the cup of death,
a cup that You would drink before them for the cleansing of sins.
Therefore we cry ot to You: //
“O Salvation of our souls, glory to You!”

*V. Satisfy us in the morning with Your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as You have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Let Your work be manifest to Your servants, and Your glorious power to their children.
(Ps. 89:16-18)*

You taught Your Disciples, O Lord,
to desire what is perfect,
saying: “Be not like the Gentiles, who oppress the weak!
It shall not be so with you, O My Disciples.
for of My own will I am poor.
Let the first among you, therefore, be the servant of all!
Let the ruler be like those who are ruled!
Let him who is first be like the last!
For I have come to serve Adam in his poverty,
and to give My life as a ransom for the many who cry to Me://
‘O Lord, glory to You!’”

*V. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yea, the work of our hands, establish it. (Ps. 89:19)*

Tone 8

The fig tree was withered up because it was unfruitful.
We should fear the same punishment, O brethren,
and bring worthy fruits of repentance to Christ, //
Who brings to us great mercy.

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

Tone 8

The serpent found a second Eve in the Egyptian woman,
and plotted the fall of Joseph through words of flattery.
But, leaving behind his garment, Joseph fled from sin.
He was naked but unashamed, like Adam before the fall. //
Through his prayers, O Christ, have mercy on us!