**APRIL 15**

**Great and Holy Tuesday**

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (sung on Tuesday)**

*(The Matins of the first three days of Holy Week are commonly called the “Bridegroom Service.” This service is customarily served in anticipation on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings. Vespers with the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts in most places is celebrated early on the following day.)*

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 1**

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,

when I call upon Thee!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise

in Thy 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 Thy Name.*

**Tone 1**

How shall I, the unworthy one,

appear in the splendor of Thy saints?

For if I dare enter Thy bridal chamber with them,

my garments will betray me:

they are unfit for a wedding.

The angels will cast me out in chains.

Cleanse the filth of my soul, O Lord,//

and save me in Thy love for mankind!

V. (9) *The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

(Repeat: “How shall I…”)

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

**Tone 2**

O Christ the Bridegroom,

my soul has slumbered in laziness.

I have no lamp aflame with virtues.

Like the foolish virgins, I wander aimlessly when it is time for work.

But do not close Thy compassionate heart to me, O Master!

Rouse me; shake off my heavy sleep!

Lead me with the wise virgins into the bridal chamber,

that I may hear the pure voice of those that feast and cry unceasingly://

“O Lord, glory to Thee!”

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

(Repeat: “O Christ the Bridegroom…”)

V. (6) *If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

**Tone 4**

Thou hast heard the condemnation, O soul,

of the man who hid his talent.

But do not hide the Word of God!

Proclaim His wonders,

that, increasing the gift of grace,//

thou mayest enter into the joy of thy Lord!

V. (5) *For Thy Name’s sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.*

(Repeat: “Thou hast heard the condemnation…”)

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

**Tone 6**

Come, O faithful,

let us work zealously for the Master,

for He distributes wealth to His servants!

Let each of us, according to his ability,

increase his talent of grace:

let one be adorned in wisdom through good works;

let another celebrate a service in splendor!

The one distributes his wealth to the poor;

the other communicates the Word to those untaught.

Thus we shall increase what has been entrusted to us,

and, as faithful stewards of grace,

we shall be accounted worthy of the Master’s joy.

Make us worthy of this, O Christ our God,//

in Thy love for 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: “Come, O faithful…”)

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

When Thou shalt come in glory, O Jesus,

with the Angelic Hosts,

and shalt sit upon the throne for judgment,

do not drive me away, O Good Shepherd!

For Thou knowest the paths on Thy right hand,

but those on Thy left hand lead astray!

Do not destroy me with the goats,

though I am coarse with sin,

but number me with the sheep on Thy right hand,//

and save me in Thy love for mankind!

V. (1) *For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

Thou art more beautiful than all men, O Bridegroom!

Thou hast invited us

to the spiritual banquet of Thy bridal chamber.

Strip me of the ugly garment of my sins,

as I participate in Thy Passion!

Adorn me in the glorious robe of Thy beauty//

that proclaims me a guest in Thy Kingdom, O merciful Lord!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

*now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

**Tone 7**

Behold, the Master has entrusted thee with the talent, O my soul!

Receive the gift with fear!

Repay the One Who gave by giving to the poor,

and gain the Lord as thy friend,

so that when He comes in glory,

Thou mayest stand at His right hand and hear His blessed voice:

“Enter, My servant, into the joy of thy Lord!”

Though I have gone astray, make me worthy of this, O Savior,//

through Thy great mercy!

**Tone 6 Prokeimenon**

Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place, / Thou and the ark of Thy might!

*(Ps. 131:8)*

V. *Remember, O Lord, in David’s favor, all the hardships he endured! (Ps. 131:1)*

**Reading from Exodus (2:5-10)**

**Tone 4** **Prokeimenon**

Behold, how good and pleasant it is / when brothers dwell in unity! *(Ps. 132:1)*

V. *It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, the beard of Aaron. (Ps. 132:1a-b)*

**Reading from Job (1:13-22)**

***(“Let my prayer arise…” and then immediately)***

**Gospel**

(102) Matthew 24:36-26:2

***(and the rest of the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts)***

Liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by the Department of Religious Education, Orthodox Church in America, (“The Bridegroom Services of Holy Week”).