SATB Music

Great Friday Matins

in anticipation
Holy Thursday Evening

Professor Michael Hilko

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
2013
Great Friday

Matins

Alleluia and Troparion

Matins on Thursday Evening at which are read the twelve Gospels begin Matins as usual. After the Psalms, the Litany. Instead of "God is the Lord", the following is sung.

Arranged by
Michael P. Hilko
(1905 - 1974)
be tray thee, the just Judge. Be hold his mon ey be loved,

for the sake of which he hanged himself.

Flee the in-satiable soul which dared such things against the Mas ter.

O Lord who art good above all men, glory to thee.
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Michael P. Hilko
(1905 - 1974)

These responses preceding every Gospel.*

Slow

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

And with thy spirit.

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord,

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord.

* Additional copy of this page in appendix.
The rulers of the nations took counsel against the Lord and against his Anointed.

Words contrary to the law they contrived against me. Therefore Lord, O Lord, for-sake me not.

Now the readings and the litany, then the Kathisma Tone 7 on the next page.
When thou didst feed thy disciples at the Supper,

knowing the intent to betray, thou didst reproach Judas for it,

though knowing his incorrigibility,

but preferring to make all know that thou was betrayed of thine own will,
that thou might-est re-claim the world from evil.

Wherefore, O long-suffering One, glory be to thee.

Now the Gospel responses as on page 3.
To day doth Judas abandon the Master and accept the devil;

he is blinded by the passion of avarice;

being darkened, he falleth away from the light.

For how can he see who hath sold the Light
for thirty pieces of silver?

But he who hath suffered for the world hath shone on us.

Unto him let us cry aloud: O Lord, who hast suffered,

and who hast compassion on mankind, glory to thee.

Now the readings and litany, then the Kathisma Tone 7 on the next page.
What caused thee, O Judas, to betray the Saviour?

Did he set thee aside from the Disciples?

Did he deny thee the gift of healing?

Did he take supper with the others and send thee away from the table?

Did he wash the feet of the others and pass thee by?
Of how much goodness hast thou become forgetful?

Yea, thy thankless mind hath been exposed.

But his incalculable long-suffering, and his great mercies are proclaimed.

Now the Gospel responses as on page 3.
Unto those who unlawfully did seize thee,

Having suffered much, thus did thou cry, O Lord:

If ye strike the Shepherd, and disperse the twelve sheep my Disciples,

I might summon more than twelve legions of angels.
But I will forbear, that the obscure and secret things

I have revealed unto you through my prophets may be fulfilled.

Glory, O Lord, to thee.

Now the readings, litany and the Kathisma in Tone 8 on the following page.
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Kathisma Tone 8 after 3rd Gospel (Nassar pg 817)

Woe ful is it that Ju das,

who had been thy dis cip le,

plot ted thy be tray al,

in thy ver y pres ence. He supped with thee in de ceit,
that unrighteous assassin,

then went to the priests, saying, what will ye give me

to deliver unto you him who loosed the law and profaned the Sabbath?

Wherefore, O long-suffering Lord, glory be to thee.

Now the Gospel responses as on page 3.
He who decketh himself with light as it were a garment,
stood naked at the judgment seat,
and received buffetings upon the cheek from whom he had created.
The iniquitous people did also nail to the Cross the Lord of glory.

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10th Antiphon Tone 6 after the 4th Gospel (Hapgood pg 215)

Michael P. Hilko
(1905 - 1974)
Then was the veil of the Temple rent in twain, and the sun was darkened,

for it could not endure to behold afrore whom all things do quake, unto him let us bow down.

Now the readings, litany and the Kathisma Tone 8 on the following page.
When thou stoodest before Caiaphas, O God of judgment,

and was delivered to Pilate, the heavenly powers trembled with fear.

Then was thou lifted upon a Tree between two thieves,

and numbered among the wicked,
O innocent One, to save man.

Wherefore, O long-suffering Lord, glory be to thee.

Now the Gospel responses as on page 3.
Thē as-sem-bly of the Jews be-sought Pi-latē to cru-ci-fy thee, O Lord.

For though they found no fault in thee, they lib-er-at-ed the guilt-y Bar-ra-bas,

and con-demned thee the just One, and be-came guilt-y of the sin of foul mur-der.

But grant, O Lord, their re-ward un-to those who vain-ly wrought e-vil a-gainst thee.

The following antiphons may be read unless there is a Procession with the Cross in which case are to be sung in Tone 6.
Today he is suspended on a tree who suspended the earth over the waters.

A crown of thorns was placed on the head of the King of angels.

He who wore a false purple robe covered the heavens with clouds.

He was smitten who, in the Jordan, delivered Adam.
The Groom of the Church was fastened with nails,

and the Son of the Virgin was pierced with a spear.

Thy sufferings we adore, O Christ. Thy sufferings we adore, O Christ.

Thy sufferings we adore, O Christ. Let us behold thy glorious Resurrection.
We shall not feast like the Jews; for our Passover, Christ God,
hath been slain for our sake. But let us purify ourselves of ev'ry defilement,
and with purity beseech him, saying,

Rise, Lord, and save us; for thou art the Lover of mankind.
Thy Cross, O Lord, is life and resurrection for thy people;
and there-in is our trust. And thee, our God, who wast crucified, do we praise.
Have mercy upon us.

Now the litany, then the Kathisma in Tone 4 on the next page.
Thou hast ransomed us from the curse of the law by thy precious blood
when thou wast nailed to the Cross and pierced with a spear.
Thou didst pour forth immortality for men;
O our Saviour, glory to thee.

Now the Gospel responses as on pg 3.
After the 6th Gospel, the Beatitudes are read.
They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

Reader: O God, my God, hear me. Why has thou forsaken me?

They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

Reader: They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Psalm 50

Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy; and according to the multitude of thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against thee only have I sinned and done this evil before thee, that Thou mightest be justified in thy words, and prevail when thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of thy wisdom hast thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, and with thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in thy righteousness. O Lord, thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare thy praise. For if thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in thy good pleasure unto Sion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. Then shalt thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.
Before the 8th Gospel

Michael P. Hilko

13 Slow

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

14

And with thy spirit. Glory to thy Passion, O Lord,

16

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord.

Now the Canon in Tone 6, Irmos 5. on the following page.

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Early will I seek thee, O Word of God,
who of thy compassion didst empty thyself,
being led even unto suffering
without transubstantiation and without suffering,
Irmos 8 After the 8th Gospel

for the sake of the fallen.

Wherefore, grant me peace, O Lover of mankind.

The divine youths exposed the God-contending pillar of wickedness;

and the unlawful council of the impious.

Refrains and verses are read.
raging against Christ, took counsel in vain, when they sought to slay him

who holdeth life in his grasp, whom also let all creation bless,

magnifying him unto all ages.

More honorable than the cherubim

Refrains and verses are read.
and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim.

Thou who without corruption barrest God the Word,

true Theotokos we magnify thee.

The corrupting soldiers, despised of God, and the band of God-killing wicked hastened to thee, O Christ, and led thee away as an unrighteous one, thou Creator of all whom we magnify.

The impious, for their ignorance of the law and their false study of the saying of the Prophets, have unjustly led thee like a sheep to slaughter, O Lord of all, whom we magnify.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and the Holy Spirit.

The priest with the scribes, wounded by the evil of their utter envy, delivered Life to the Gentiles to be killed; thee, O natural Source of life, whom we magnify.

Both Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

They have surrounded thee like many dogs, O King, and smitten thee on the checks questioning thee and bearing false witness against thee; and thou hast borne it all, delivering all.
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Exaposteilarion Tone 6 Before 9th Gospel (Hapgood pg 216)

*Version 1

In one moment, thou didst graciously grant Paradise

3

to the wise thief, O Lord; illuminate thou me also

5

rit.

by the tree of the Cross, and save me.

* A second version of the exaposteilarion may be found in the appendix.

Use Gospel responses as on pg 3.

After the 9th Gospel, the Praises on the following pages.
Let ev'ry thing that hath breath praise the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord of heaven, praise him in the highest.

To thee, O God, is due a hymn of praise.

Praise him all his angels; praise ye him all his hosts.
To thee, O God, is due a hymn of praise.

Verse: Praise God in his sanctuary, praise him in the firmament of his power.

Two treacherous things hath my first-born son, Israel done:

He hath abandoned my fountain of living water,

digging for himself a well of wretchedness; he hath crucified me on the Cross,
and hath asked for him-self and re-leased Bar-rab-bas. Hea-ven was af-fright-ed there-at,

and the sun hid its rays, but thou, O Is-ra-el, hast not been a-shamed,

but has de-liv-ered me o-ver un-to death.

For-give them, Fath-er, for they know not what they have done.

Verse: Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltry and harp.
17 Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

18 They have disrobed me of my vestments and clothed me in a scarlet robe,

19 and placed on my head a crown of thorns, delivering into my right hand a rod,

20 whereewith I may crush them like pots of clay.
Both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

I have delivered my shoulders to scourges,

and my face I have not turned away from insults. Before the tribune of Pilate I stood,

and the Cross I endured for the salvation of the world.

Now the Gospel responses as on page 3.
All creation was confounded with terror,

when it beheld thee suspended on the Cross, O Christ.

The sun was darkened, and the foundations of the earth were shaken;

all things suffered in sympathy with him who had created all things.
O Lord, who of thine own good will didst suffer for us, glory to thee.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Now the pen of judgment is dipped by the unrighteous judges,
sentence is passed on Jesus, and he is condemned to Crucifixion!

Now doth creation travail at beholding the Lord on the Cross.

But thou, who didst suffer in the nature of the flesh for my sake,

O good Lord, glory to thee.

Now the Gospel reponses as on page 3, then the prayer:

"It is a good thing to confess to the Lord, and to sing to thy name, O most High, to show forth thy mercy in the morning and thy truth by night."

Holy God... Our Father then the troparion on the following page.

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Troparion Tone 4 after the 12th Gospel (Hapgood pg 216)

A-men. Thou hast ransomed us from the curse of the law, by thy precious blood;

when thou was nailed to the Cross, and pierced with a spear,

thou didst pour forth immortality for men,

O our Saviour: glory to thee.

APPENDIX

1. Gospel Responses
2. Version #2 of Exaposteilarion
Great Friday

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Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

And with thy spirit.

Glory to thy Passion, O Lord,

Glory to thy long suffering, O Lord.

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In one moment thou didst graciously grant paradise to the wise thief, O Lord. 

Illumine thou me also so. Illumine thou me also by the Tree of the Cross, and save me.