



The Ninth Hour

on weekdays of the Great Fast

The priest, vested in epitrachilion, and deacon, fully vested, come before the Royal Doors.

If a priest is not present:

Deacon: Reverend Father,
give the blessing.

Leader: Through the prayers of
our holy fathers, O Lord
Jesus Christ, our God,
have mercy on us.

Priest: Blessed is our God,
always, now and ever
and forever.

Response:



Glory *to* you, our God,
glorij tö you!

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth,
everywhere present and filling all things.
Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life,
come and dwell within us,
cleanse *us* of all stain,
and save our *souls*, O gracious One.

Trisagion Prayers

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and *Immortal*,
have *mercy* ön us. (*Three times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the *Holy* Spirit,
now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our *transgressions*;
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities
for your näme's sake.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the *Holy* Spirit,
now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

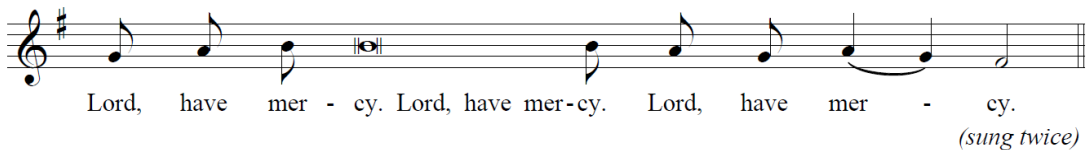
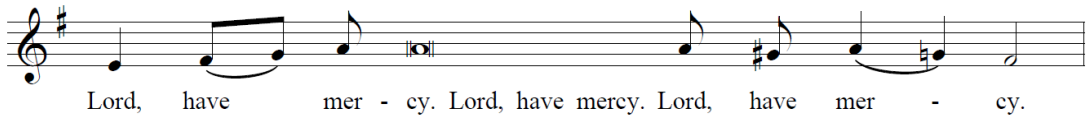
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who trespass against us,
 and lead us not into *temptation*,
 but deliver *us* from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the
 glory, Father, Son, and
 Holy Spirit, now and
 ever and forever.

If a priest is not present:

Leader: Through the prayers of
 our holy fathers, O Lord
 Jesus Christ, our God,
 have mercy on us.

Response:



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

Call to Worship

Making three reverences:

Come, let us worship *our* King and God.

Come, let us worship *Christ*, our King and God.

Come, let us worship and bow before the only *Lord* Jesus Christ,
the *King* and our God.

The priest and deacon return to the altar, and go to the presbyteral chairs behind the altar.

Psalm 83

How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord, God of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning,
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my soul ring out their joy
to God, the living God.

The sparrow herself finds a home
and the swallow a nest for her brood.

She lays her young by your altars,
Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

They are happy, who dwell in your house,
forever singing your praise.

They are happy, whose strength is in you,
in whose hearts are the roads to Zion.

As they go through the Bitter Valley,
they make it a place of springs;
the autumn rain covers it with blessings.

They walk with ever growing strength,
they will see the God of gods in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer,
 give ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield,
 look on the face of your anointed.
One day within your courts
 is better than a thousand elsewhere.
The threshold of the house of God
 I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked.
For the Lord loves mercy and truth;
 he will give us his favor and glory.
The Lord will not refuse any good
 to those who walk without blame.
Lord, God of hosts,
 happy the man who trusts in you!

Psalm 84

You have favored your land, O Lord;
 you have restored the well-being of Jacob.
You forgave the guilt of your people
 and covered all their sins.
You averted all your rage,
 you calmed the heat of your anger.
Revive us now, God, our helper!
 Put an end to your grievance against us.
Will you be angry with us forever,
 will your anger never cease?
Will you not restore again our life
 that your people may rejoice in you?
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
 and give us your saving help.

I shall hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace;
Peace for his people and his friends
and those who turn to him in their hearts.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.
Mercy and truth have met;
justice and peace have kissed.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.
The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Psalm 85

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give answer
for I am poor and needy.
Preserve my life, for I am faithful;
save the servant who trusts in you.
You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
Give joy to your servant, O Lord,
for to you I lift up my soul.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice.
In the day of distress I shall call
and surely you will reply.

Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord;
nor work to compare with yours.
All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord.
For you are great and do marvelous deeds,
you who alone are God.
Show me, Lord, your way so that I may walk in your truth.
Guide my heart to fear your name.
I shall praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart
and glorify your name forever;
For your love to me has been great:
you have saved me from the depths of the grave.
The proud have risen against me; ruthless men seek my life;
to you they pay no heed.
But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
Abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me.
O give your strength to your servant
and save your handmaid's child.
Show me the sign of your favor
that my foes may see to their shame
that you console me and give me your help.

and again:

Show me the sign of your favor
that my foes may see to their shame
that you console me and give me your help.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the *Holy* Spirit,
now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Allelūia!

Glory to you, O God! *(Three times, each with a bow)*



Kathisma

When one is appointed, the Reader may chant a Kathisma of the Psalter.¹

If there will be no Kathisma, continue with the Troparion on page 9.

Every Kathisma is divided into three stases. After each of the first two stases the following is said:

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Response: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory to you, O God! *(Three times, each with a bow)*

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

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

Reader: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

And at the end of the whole Kathisma:

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Response: Now and ever and forever. Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory to you, O God! *(Three times, each with a bow)*

The third time, with melody.

Troparion - *Tone 8*

O Christ God, who at the ninth hour tast - ed death in the flesh for our sakes,
slay our car - nal will and save us.

(Prostration)

Verse: Lord, let my cry come before you, teach me by your word.

O Christ God, who at the ninth hour tasted death in the flesh for our sakes,
slay our carnal will and save us. *(Prostration)*

Verse: Let my pleading come before you: save me by your promise.

O Christ God, who at the ninth hour tasted death in the flesh for our sakes,
slay our carnal will and save us. *(Prostration)*

Cantor *(Tone 8):*

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

Theotokion of the Hour - *Tone 8*



For the sake of all you were born of a Vir - gin,
and you en-dured the cross, O Good One.
You con-quired death by death, and through your res - ur - rec - tion
you re - vealed your - self as God.
Do not dis - dain those whom you have cre - at - ed with your own hands,
but show forth your lov - ing - kind - ness, O Mer - ci - ful One.
Ac - cept the in - ter - ces - sion which the The - o - to - kos makes in our be - half.
O our Sav - ior, save a des - pair - ing peo - ple.

On the first three days of Great and Holy Week, we read instead from the holy Gospel, with the same ceremonial as at the Royal Hours.

Then we chant the following verses (Daniel 3:34-35):

For your name's sake, do not deliver us up forever,
or make void your covenant.

Do not take away your mercy from us,
for the sake of Abraham, your beloved,
Isaac your servant, and Israel your holy one.

Trisagion Prayers

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and *Immortal*,
have *mercy* on us. (*Three times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the *Holy Spirit*,
now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
Master, forgive our *transgressions*;
Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities
for your name's sake.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the *Holy Spirit*,
now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into *temptation*,
but deliver *us* from evil.

Priest: For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the
glory, Father, Son, and
Holy Spirit, now and
ever and forever.

If a priest is not present:

Leader: Through the prayers of
our holy fathers, O Lord
Jesus Christ, our God,
have mercy on us.

Response:



Troparia - *Tone 8*

Musical notation for Troparia - Tone 8 in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Se - eing the prince of life hanging on the Corss, the thief said: If he who is cru - ci - fied with us were not God in - car - nate, the sun would not have hid - den its rays,'.

Se - eing the prince of life hanging on the Corss, the thief said:
If he who is cru - ci - fied with us were not God in - car - nate,
the sun would not have hid - den its rays,

nor would the shak - en earth be quak - ing.
 But you who bear all things:
 Re - mem - ber me, O Lord, in your king - dom.

Cantor (Tone 8):

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
 Spir - - - it.

Be - tween two thieves your Cross be - came the scales of jus - tice,
 for one was dragged down to hell by the weight of his blas - phe - my,
 but the oth - er, lightened of his faults, was raised to the knowledge of the things of God.
 O Christ God, glo - ry to you.

Cantor (Tone 8):

Now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

Se - eing the Lamb and Shep-herd and Sav - ior of the world on the Cross,

she who bore him said weep - ing:

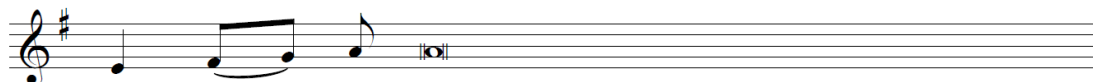
The world re - joic - es, for it re-ceive re - demp - tion;

but my in - ner be - ing burns as I see your cru-ci-fix - ion

which you en - dure for all, O my Son and my God.

The priest and deacon leave the altar by the northern door and come in front of the Royal Doors.

“Lord, have mercy” is now sung forty times, in English, or several languages:



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.




Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Hours

Priest: O good God, in all times and places you are worshiped and glorified both in heaven and on earth. You are long-suffering and generous in your mercy and compassion. You love the just and show mercy to the sinner, calling all to repentance through the promise of blessings to come. Deem, O Lord, at this very hour, to receive our supplications and to direct our lives in the path of your commandments. Sanctify our souls; purify our bodies; set aright our minds; cleanse our thoughts; deliver us from all affliction, trouble, and distress; surround us with your holy angels so that, guided and guarded in their camp, we may attain oneness of faith and the knowledge of your unspeakable glory. For you are blessed forever and ever.

Response:



A - - - men.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the *Holy* Spirit,
now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

More honorable than *the* Cherubim,
and beyond compare more glorious *than* the Seraphim,
who, a virgin, gave birth *to* God the Word;
you, truly the Theotokos, we magnify!

If a priest is present:

Give the blessing, Father,
in the name of the Lord

Priest: May God be merciful to
us and bless us; may he
cause his countenance
to shine upon us, and
have mercy on us.

If a priest is not present:

Leader: Through the prayers
of our holy fathers, O
Lord Jesus Christ our
God, have mercy on
us.

Response:



Prayer of Saint Ephrem

Lord and Master of my life,
spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,
lust for power, and idle chatter. (*Prostration*)

Instead, bestow on me, your servant,
the spirit of integrity, humility,
patience, and love. (*Prostration*)

Yes, O Lord and King,
let me see my own sins
and not judge my brothers and sisters;
for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen. (*Prostration*)

Then, with a simple bow, the following is repeated four times:

O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

O God, cleanse me of my sins and have mercy on me.

O Lord, forgive me, for I have sinned without number.

Once more, the Prayer of St. Ephrem is recited, without the usual prostrations. One prostration is made at the conclusion of the prayer.

Trisagion Prayers

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and *Immortal*,
have *mercy* on us. (*Three times*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever *and* forever. Amen.

Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us;
 Lord, cleanse us of our sins;
 Master, forgive our *transgressions*,
 Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities
for your näme's sake.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the *Holy* Spirit,
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Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
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 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who trespass against us,
 and lead us not into *temptation*,
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Priest: For thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the
 glory, Father, Son, and
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 ever and forever.

If a priest is not present:

Leader: Through the prayers of
 our holy fathers, O Lord
 Jesus Christ, our God,
 have mercy on us.

Response:



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
(sung twice)

Priest: Master Lord Jesus Christ, our God, you patiently endured our
or Leader: sins and led us to this very hour at which you were hung upon the lifegiving wood. You opened a way to paradise for the penitent thief and destroyed death by death. Now forgive the trespasses that we your servants have committed, unworthy sinners that we are. We have sinned indeed and transgressed your law. We are unworthy even to lift up our eyes to heaven, for we have abandoned the path of your righteousness and pursued the desires of our hearts. But now we implore your immense goodness: Spare us, O Lord, in the multitude of your mercies, save us for the sake of your most holy name. Our days were spent in vanity; wrest us from the hands of our enemy and forgive our sins. Subdue in us the cravings of our flesh, so that, after putting off the old self, we may put on the new and live for you, our Master and Benefactor; and that, obeying your commandments, we may reach eternal repose in the place where all the blessed abide. For you are truly joy and delight to those who love you, O Christ our God, and we give glory to you, with your eternal Father, and your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.

Response:

A - - - men.

If Typika is to follow, continue with the Beatitudes and Troparia. (During the Great Fast, the Typical Psalms are omitted). Otherwise, the following Dismissal.

Dismissal

Priest: Glory to you, O Christ God,
our hope; glory to you!

Response: Glory to the Father, and to the
Son, and to the *Holy* Spirit,
now and ever *and*
forever. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have
mercy. Lord, *have* mercy.
Give *thē* blessing

If a priest is not present:

Leader: Through the prayers
of our holy fathers, O
Lord Jesus Christ our
God, have mercy on
us.

Response: Amen.

Ninth Hour ends here.

Priest: May Christ our true God, have mercy on us and save us through the prayers of his most pure Mother;

On Wednesday, & Friday: by the power of the precious and life-creating cross;

On Monday: through the protection of the honorable and heavenly angelic powers;

On Tuesday: of the honorable and glorious prophet, forerunner, and baptist John;

Daily: (through the prayers) of the holy, glorious, and illustrious apostles;

On Thursday: of our holy father Nicholas the Wonderworker, archbishop of Myra;

Daily: of the holy (*Name/s*), the patron[s] / [patroness] of this church; of the holy (*Name/s of the saint/s whose day it is*); and through the prayers of all the saints; for Christ is good and loves us all.

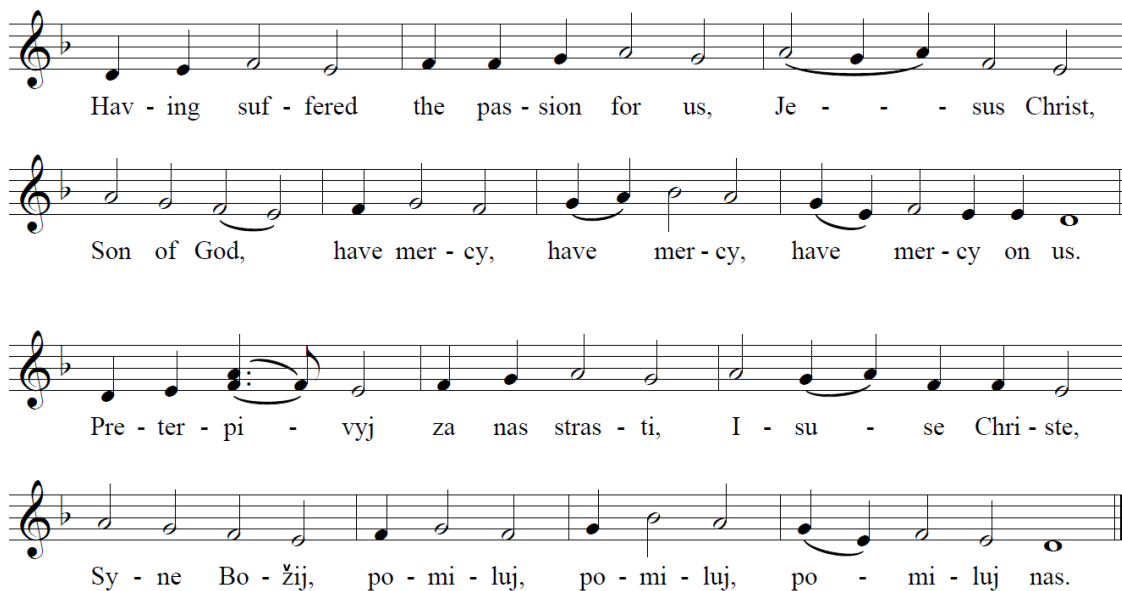
Response:



A - - - men.

By long-standing custom, the following hymn is sung at the conclusion of the service (three times with a prostration after each):

Having suffered (Preterpivj)



Hav - ing suf - fered the pas - sion for us, Je - - - sus Christ,
Son of God, have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.
Pre - ter - pi - vyj za nas stras - ti, I - su - se Chri - ste,
Sy - ne Bo - žij, po - mi - luj, po - mi - luj, po - mi - luj nas.

¹ *On certain days during the Great Fast one Kathisma is appointed to Ninth Hour, as indicated below:*

Order of Reading the Psalter at Ninth Hour

Day	<i>During the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 6th Weeks of the Great Fast:</i> Kathisma	<i>During the 5th week of the Great Fast:</i> Kathisma	<i>During the 5th week of the Great Fast when Annunciation falls on Thursday of that week:</i> Kathisma
Sunday			
Monday	9	9	10
Tuesday	16	18	15
Wednesday	5	6	5
Thursday	12	11	12
Friday			
Saturday			

The Psalter according to the Seventy (Boston: Holy Transfiguration Monastery, 1987), 291-292; David Petras, *Common Typicon* (Fairfax: Eastern Christian Publication, 2001), 94.