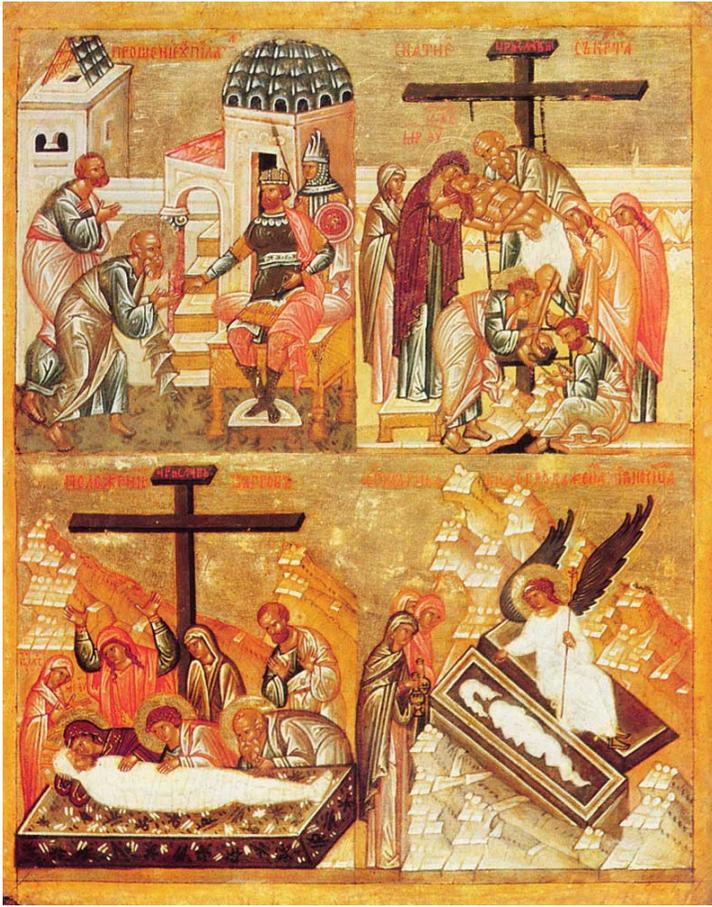


Holy Saturday Lamentations



Troparia – Tone 2 The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen, and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. *verse: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.* When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead, and when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out, O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee. *verse: Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.* The angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said: myrrh is fitting for the dead, but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption. **The Praises – Lamentations** *sung between on the verses of Psalm 118 [119]*

The 1st Stasis Blessed art Thou, O Lord! Teach me Thy Statutes! Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord. *(v. 1)* 1. **In a tomb they laid Thee, O Christ the Life. The angelic hosts were overcome with awe, and glorified Thy condescension.** Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with their whole heart. *(v. 2)* 2. **O Life, how canst Thou die? How canst Thou dwell in a tomb? Yet by Thy death Thou hast destroyed the reign of death, and raised all the dead from hell. For those who work wickedness have not walked in His ways.** *(v. 3)* 3. **We magnify** Thee, O Jesus, our King. We worship

Thy passion and Thy Burial, for by them, Thou hast saved us from death. **Thou** hast commanded Thy precepts to be diligently kept. *(v. 4)* 4. **Earth's bounds** Thou hast measured, O Jesus, King of all, yet today Thou dwellest in a narrow tomb, raising the dead from their graves. **O that** my ways may be steadfast in keeping Thy statutes! *(v. 5)* 5. **O Messiah, Jesus,** my King, the Lord of all, whom art Thou seeking in the depths of hell? Hast Thou come to free the race of mortal men? **I will** praise Thee with an upright heart, when I learn Thy righteous ordinances. *(v. 7)* 7. **In a tomb** they laid Thee, O Christ the Life. By Thy Death Thou hast cast down the might of death and become the font of life for all the world. **How** can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to Thy word. *(v. 9)* 9. **Thou, O Lord,** art fairer than all the sons of men. Thou hast filled creation with Thy beauty, How canst Thou lie before us dead this day? With my whole heart I seek Thee; let me not wander from Thy commandments. *(v. 10)* **My soul** cleaves to the dust; revive me according to Thy word. *(v. 25)* 25. **Wishing to save Adam,** Thou didst come down to earth. Not finding him on earth, O Master, Thou didst descend to Hades seeking him. **The 2nd Stasis** 1. **It is right to magnify Thee, O Life-giving Lord. Thou hast stretched out Thy most pure arms upon the cross, and broken the enemy's power.** Thy hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn Thy commandments. *(v. 73)* 2. **It is right** to magnify Thee, O Creator of all. We are freed from passion through Thy Passion, and delivered from corruption. Those who fear Thee shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in Thy word. *(v. 74)* 3. **The earth** quaked with fear, O Savior Christ; the sun hid itself, seeing Thee, the Light that knows no evening, sinking down into the tomb. **I know,** O Lord, that Thy judgments are right, and that in faithfulness Thou hast afflicted me. *(v. 75)* 4. **Thou hast slept** in the tomb, O Christ, a life-giving sleep,

by which Thou hast wakened all the human race from the heavy slumber of sin. **Let** Thy steadfast love be ready to comfort me, according to Thy promise to Thy servant. (v. 76) **5. "Alone** among women, O my Child, I gave birth to Thee without pain. Now I cannot bear the grief I suffer," the Most Pure Mother cried. **Let Thy** mercy come to me that I may live, for Thy law is my delight. (v. 77) **6. The seraphim** saw Thee, O Lord, lying dead on earth below, yet united with Thy Father on high; and they shuddered and trembled with fear. **In Thy** steadfast love spare my life, that I may keep the commandments of Thy mouth. (v. 88) **17. Adam** was greatly afraid when God walked in Paradise. Now, with joy he sees God stalking Hades' depths. There he fell, but here he is raised up. **For ever,** O Lord, Thy word is firmly fixed in heaven. (v. 89) **18. She who** gave birth to Thee, O Christ, poured out her tears for Thee; when she saw Thy Body buried in the tomb, "Arise, as Thou hast promised," she cried. **Thy truth** endures to all generations. Thou hast established the earth, and it stands fast. (v. 90) **19. In a new tomb,** O Savior, Joseph laid Thee rev'rently, singing lamentations for Thy Exodus, mingled with the voices mourning for Thee. **The 3^d Stasis 1. Every generation offers Thee its hymn of praise at Thy burial, O my Christ.** Look upon me, and be merciful to me, as is Thy good pleasure toward those who love Thy name. (v. 132) **2. The** Arimathean took Thee down from the tree and laid Thee in a tomb. **Order** my steps according to Thy promise, and let no iniquity have dominion over me. (v. 133) **3. The myrrh-bearing women,** with foresight brought sweet spices and drew near to Thee, O my Christ. **Deliver me** from the false accusation of men, that I may keep Thy precepts. (v. 134) **4. Come,** all creation, sing a hymn to honor the Creator's Burial. **Make Thy** face to shine upon Thy servant, and teach me Thy statutes. (v. 135) **5. Let us,** with the myrrhbearers, anoint as dead the Living One with the Myrrh of True Knowledge. **But Thou** art near, O Lord, and all Thy commandments are true. (v. 151) **21. The deceiver** has been deceived and those whom he deceived are freed by Thy Wisdom, O my God. **I hope** for Thy salvation, O Lord, and I love Thy commandments. (v. 166) **36. Arise, O Lord all-merciful!** Raise us from the depths of hell and from the dark abyss of sin. **My soul** keeps Thy testimonies; I love them exceedingly. (v. 167) **37. The Mother** who gave birth to Thee prayed to Thee with weeping: "Arise, O Lord, and Giver of life!" **I have** gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Thy servant, for I have not forgotten Thy commandments. (v. 176) **46. By Thy** resurrection, grant peace to Thy Church, and salvation to Thy people. **Glory** to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. **47. O God** in Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit, grant Thy mercy to the world. **Now** and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. **48. Grant us,** thy servants, to behold, O Virgin, the Resurrection of thy Son! **The Canon - Tone 6 Ode 1 Irmos:** Of old Thou didst bury the pursuing tyrant beneath the waves of the sea. Now the children of those who were saved bury Thee beneath the earth, but with the maidens let us sing to the Lord, for gloriously has He been glorified. **Unto** Thee I sing a hymn for the departed and a song of burial, O Lord my God, who by Thy burial hast opened for me the entrance to life and by Thy death hast put death and hell to death. **Beholding** Thee upon the throne and on high and in the grave below, the things of heaven and the things beneath the earth trembled at Thy death; for in a manner past understanding wast Thou, the very source of life, seen dead. **Thou** didst descend to the depths of the earth to fill all with Thy glory; for my person that is in Adam was not hidden from Thee, and when Thou wast buried, Thou didst renew me who am corrupt, O Lover of mankind. **Ode 3 Irmos:** **Thou** didst suspend the earth immovably upon the waters. Now creation beholds Thee suspended on Calvary. It quakes with great amazement and cries: "None is holy but Thee, O Lord." **Thou** hast stretched out Thy hands, O Savior, and united what before had been divided; and by clothing Thyself in a winding sheet Thou hast saved even those held captive by the tomb, who cry: "None is holy but Thee, O Lord." **Kathisma Hymn - Tone 1** The soldiers guarding Thy tomb, O Savior, became as dead men at the lightening flash of the angel who appeared announcing Thy resurrection to the women. We glorify Thee, who cleansest from corruption. We fall down before Thee, who didst rise from the tomb, our only God. **Ode 4 Irmos:** **Forseeing** Thy divine humiliation on the cross, Habakkuk cried out trembling: "Thou didst shatter the dominion of the mighty by joining those in hell as the almighty Lord." **Thou** hast sanctified this, the seventh day, which of old Thou didst bless by rest from work; for Thou dost bring all things into being and renew them, O my Savior, while resting and reviving on the sabbath. **By** the overwhelming strength of Thy divine nature Thou didst win the victory, O Word; for Thy soul

was parted from the flesh, sundering by Thy might the bonds of hell and death. **When** hell encountered Thee, O Word, it was embittered. Seeing Thee as a mortal man deified, marked with wounds yet having almighty power, it cried out at Thy awesome appearance. **Ode 5 *Irmos*: Isaiah** saw the never-setting light of Thy compassionate manifestation to us as God, O Christ. Rising early from the night he cried out: "The dead shall arise. Those in the tombs shall awake. All those on earth shall greatly rejoice." **When** Thou didst become earthly, O Creator, Thou didst renew those born on earth, and the winding sheet and the grave revealed the mystery concerning Thee, O Word; for Joseph the noble counsellor, fulfills the counsel of Him who begot Thee and who wondrously renews me in Thee. **Ode 6 *Irmos*: Jonah** was caught but not held fast in the belly of the whale. He was a sign of Thee who hast suffered and accepted burial. Coming forth from the beast as from a bridal chamber, he called out to the guard: "By observing vanities and lies you have forsaken your own mercy." **The fall** of Adam resulted in the death of man, not God; for even though the earthly substance of Thy flesh suffered, Thy divinity remained passionless. In Thyself Thou hast transformed the corruptible to incorruption, and by Thy resurrection Thou hast revealed a fountain of incorruptible life. **Hell** rules the race of mortal men, but not eternally; for when Thou wast placed in the grave, O powerful One, Thou didst tear asunder the bars of death by Thy life-giving hand and didst proclaim true deliverance to those sleeping there from the ages, since Thou, O Savior, hast become the first-born of the dead. **Kontakion - Tone 6 He who** shut in the depths is beheld dead, wrapped in fine linen and spices. The immortal One is laid in a tomb as a mortal man. The women have come to anoint Him with myrrh, weeping bitterly and crying: "This is the most blessed sabbath on which Christ has fallen asleep to rise on the third day." **Ikos** He who holds all things together has been lifted up upon the cross, and all of creation weeps at seeing Him hanging, naked, upon the wood. The sun hid its rays and the stars cast aside their splendor, The earth shook with great fear, the sea fled, and the rocks were split asunder. Many tombs were opened, and the bodies of holy men arose. Hell groaned below and the Jews considered how to slander the resurrection of Christ, but the women cried: "This is the most blessed sabbath on which Christ has fallen asleep to rise on the third day." **Ode 7 *Irmos*: Inexpressible** wonder! In the furnace Thou didst save the holy youths from the flame. Now Thou art placed in the grave as a lifeless corpse, for the salvation of us who sing: "Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!" **Hell** was wounded in heart when it received Him whose side was pierced by a spear, and it groans, consumed by divine fire, unto the salvation of us who sing: "Blessed art Thou, O God, our Redeemer!" **Ode 8 *Irmos*: Be amazed**, O heavens! Be shaken, O foundations of the earth! Behold, He that dwells in the highest is numbered among the dead and sheltered in a lowly tomb. Bless Him, O youths! Praise Him, O priests! O people, exalt Him above all forever! **Ode 9 *Irmos*: Do not lament** me, O mother, seeing me in the tomb, the Son conceived in the womb without seed. For I shall arise and be glorified with eternal glory as God. I shall exalt all who magnify you in faith and in love. **I escaped** sufferings and was blessed beyond nature at Thy strange birth, O Son who art without beginning. But now, beholding Thee, my God, dead and without breath, I am sorely pierced by the sword of sorrow. But arise, that I may be magnified." **By my own** will, the earth covers me, O mother, but the gatekeepers of hell tremble at seeing me clothed in the blood-stained garments of vengeance; for when I have vanquished my enemies on the cross, I shall arise as God and magnify thee." **Let creation rejoice!** Let all born on earth be glad! For hateful hell has been despoiled. Let the women with myrrh come to meet me; for I am redeeming Adam and Eve and all their descendants, and on the third day shall I arise!" **The Praises - Tone 2** Today a tomb holds Him who holds creation in the hollow of His Hand. A stone covers Him who covered the heavens with glory. Life sleeps, and hell trembles. Adam is set free from his bonds. Glory to Thy plan of salvation! By it Thou hast fulfilled all things, granting us an eternal Sabbath rest: Thy most holy Resurrection from the dead! **Come, let us see** our Life lying in the tomb, to give life to those who lie dead in the tombs. Come, look today on the Son of Judah sleeping; with Jacob the patriarch let us cry to Him: "Thou hast stooped down; Thou hast crouched as a lion; who dares rouse Thee up, O King?" But arise in Thine own power, O Thou who didst willingly give Thyself for us. O Lord, glory to Thee! **Readings. Reader:** The Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone. Arise, O Lord, and help us! Deliver us for Thy Name's sake. (*Psalm 44*) *verse*: We have

heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us what deeds Thou didst perform in their days, in the days of old. **Reading from the Prophecy of Ezekiel.** *Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14* In those days the hand of the Lord came upon me, and the Lord led me forth in the Spirit and set me in the midst of the plain, and it was full of the bones of men. And he led me round among them; and behold, there were very many upon the plain, and lo, they were very dry. And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, Thou knowest." Again the Lord said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'You dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will bring the breath of life upon you, and I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and I will put my Spirit into you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.'" So I prophesied as the Lord commanded me, and as I prophesied there was a noise, and behold, a rattling, and the bones approached each one to its joint. And as I looked, sinews and flesh grew upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then the Lord said to me: "Prophecy to the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the Spirit: 'Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O Spirit, and breathe upon these dead men, and let them live.' " So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the Spirit entered into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great multitude. And the Lord said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel, and they say, 'Our bones are dried up, our hope is perished; we are clean cut off.' Therefore, prophesy and say to them: 'Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your tombs, and will raise you from your tombs, O my people, and I will bring you home into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, and have raised you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land; then you shall know that I am the Lord. I have spoken, and I will do it, says the Lord.' " **Prokeimenon** in the Seventh Tone. Arise, O Lord, my God, lift up Thy Hand! Forget not Thy poor forever! (*Psalm 9*).

verse: I will praise Thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will make all Thy wonders known!

Reading from the First Epistle of the holy apostle Paul to the Corinthians. §133: *I Cor. 5: 6 - 8*; §206: *Gal. 3: 13 - 14* **BRETHREN** a little leaven leavens the whole lump. Therefore purge out the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, since ye truly are unleavened. For even Christ, our Pascha, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us (for it is written, "cursed is every one that hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. **Alleluia** in the 5th Tone. Let God arise! Let His enemies be scattered! Let those who hate Him flee from before His face! (*Ps 67 [68]: 1*) **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** *verse:* As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire! (*Ps 67 [68]: 2a*) **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** *verse:* For So the sinners will perish before the face of God, but let the righteous be glad! (*Ps 67 [68]: 2b, 3a*) **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. §114: *Matthew 27: 62 - 66* **The next day**, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch. **Tone 5 Come, let us bless Joseph** of eternal memory, who came by night to Pilate and begged for the Life of all: Give me this Stranger, who has no place to lay His head: Give me this Stranger Whom an evil disciple betrayed to death. Give me this Stranger, whom His Mother saw hanging upon the cross, and with a mother's sorrow cried, weeping: 'Woe is me, O my Child, Light of my eyes and Beloved of my bosom, for what Simeon foretold in the temple now has come to pass: a sword has pierced my heart; but change my grief to gladness by Thy resurrection.' " We worship Thy Passion, O Christ! We worship Thy Passion, O Christ! We worship Thy Passion, O Christ! and Thy Holy Resurrection.