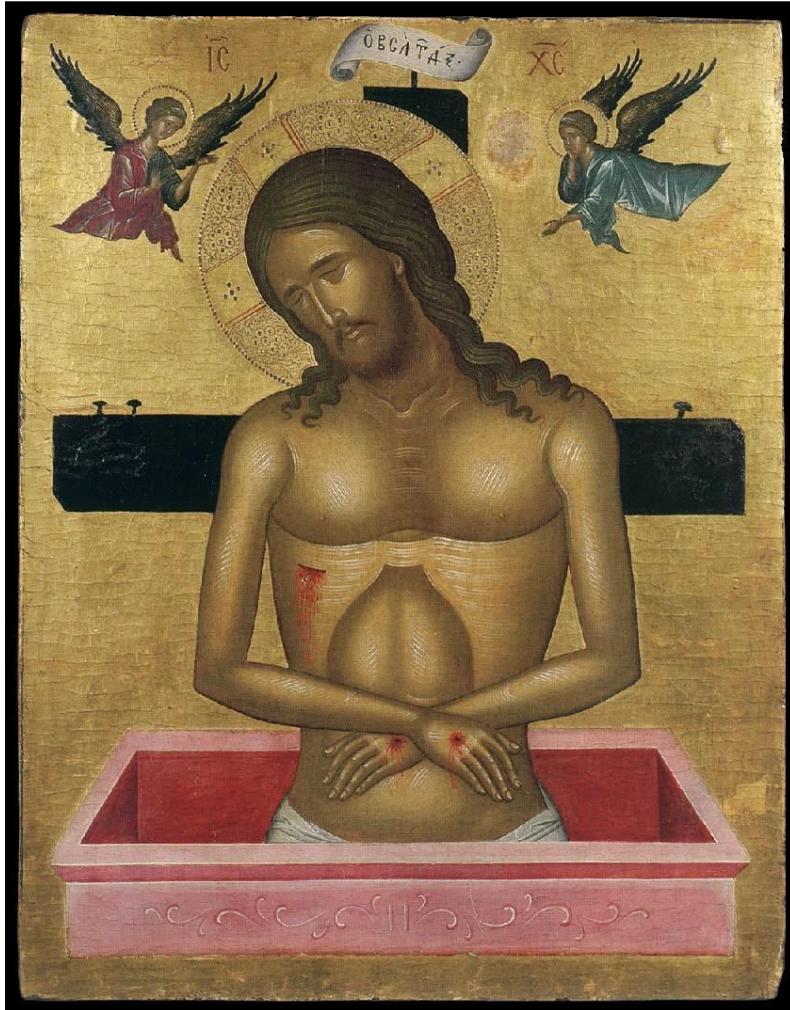


Holy Saturday

The Lord's Rest in the Tomb



Matins

Please gather in silence

† Psalmody *Psalm 16*

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.

Preserve me, O God,
for in you I take refuge.

**I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.”**

As for the saints in the land,
they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.

**The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.**

The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
You hold my lot.

**The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.**

I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

**I have set the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.

**For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
or let your holy one see corruption.**

You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

**Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;
my flesh also dwells secure.**

Reading *Lamentations 3:22–31a*

From the Lamentation of Jeremiah, the prophet: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The

LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him; let him put his mouth in the dust—there may yet be hope; let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults. For the Lord will not cast off forever.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem:

Return to the Lord, your God.

Responsory

Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. He was given over to die.

That he might make his people live.

He poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors.

That he might make his people live.

Reading *Lamentations 4:1–6*

How the gold has grown dim, how the pure gold is changed! The holy stones lie scattered at the head of every street. The precious sons of Zion, worth their weight in fine gold, how they are regarded as earthen pots, the work of a potter's hands! Even jackals offer the breast; they nurse their young; but the daughter of my people has become cruel, like the ostriches in the wilderness. The tongue of the nursing infant sticks to the roof of its mouth for thirst; the children beg for food, but no one gives to them. Those who once feasted on delicacies perish in the streets; those who were brought up in purple embrace ash heaps. For the chastisement of the daughter of my people has been greater than the punishment of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment, and no hands were wrung for her.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem:

Return to the Lord, your God.

Responsory

Arise, O Jerusalem, and lay aside your garments of joy and gladness. Gird yourself with sackcloth and bow down in ashes.

For in you has the Savior of Israel been slain.

Let tears run down like a river, day and night. Let not the apple of your eye cease.

For in you has the Savior of Israel been slain.

Reading *Lamentations 5:1, 15–22*

Remember, O LORD, what has befallen us; look, and see our disgrace! The joy of our hearts has ceased; our dancing has been turned to mourning. The crown has fallen from our head;

woe to us, for we have sinned! For this our heart has become sick, for these things our eyes have grown dim, for Mount Zion which lies desolate; jackals prowl over it. But you, O LORD, reign forever; your throne endures to all generations. Why do you forget us forever, why do you forsake us for so many days? Restore us to yourself, O LORD, that we may be restored! Renew our days as of old—unless you have utterly rejected us, and you remain exceedingly angry with us.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem:

Return to the Lord, your God.

Responsory

Lament like a virgin bereaved of the love of her youth, O my people: cry and howl, O shepherds, in sackcloth and ashes..

For the day of the Lord is near, a great day and exceedingly bitter.

Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests; wail, O ministers of the altar. Go in, pass the night in sackcloth.

For the day of the Lord is near, a great day and exceedingly bitter.

Office Hymn 448 *O Darkest Woe*

Meditation

Versicle

My whole being rejoices.

For You will not let Your Holy One see corruption.

Benedictus

The women sitting at the sepulchre
were weeping and lamenting for the Lord.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel
for He has visited and redeemed His people

**and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of His servant David,**

as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets,
who have been since the world began:

**that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us;**

to perform the mercy promised to our fathers
and to remember His holy covenant,

**the oath that He swore to our father Abraham,
to grant us that we,**

being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve Him without fear,

**in holiness and righteousness before Him
all the days of our life.**

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways;

**to give knowledge of salvation to His people
in the forgiveness of their sins,**

through the tender mercy of our God;
when the day shall dawn upon us from on high

**to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

The women sitting at the sepulchre
were weeping and lamenting for the Lord.

Antiphon

Christ for our sakes became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name.

† Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!**

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,
so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.**

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,
and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that You have broken rejoice.**

Hide Your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from Your presence,
and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

**Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

Then I will teach transgressors Your ways,
and sinners will return to You.

**Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness.**

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare Your praise.

**For You will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
You will not be pleased with a burnt offering.**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

**Do good to Zion in Your good pleasure;
build up the walls of Jerusalem;**

then will You delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on Your altar.

† Prayers

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father...

O God, creator of heaven and earth, grant that as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with Him the coming of the third day, and rise with Him to newness of life, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.