

THE BURIAL SERVICE
OVER ONE
WHO IS NOT
AN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

1997/2016

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*This service is not usually offered in the Temple.
Although an Orthodox presbyter may bury one who has reposed but who is not Orthodox, it is customary to do so with the specific blessing of the Diocesan Bishop.*

The presbyter, taking the censer and censuring, begins :

Presbyter : Blessed is our God, always now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Response : Amen.

We sing the Trisagion only :

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.
(three times)

Reader : O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who are in the Heavens, hallowed be Your Name,
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in
Heaven ; give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors ; and do not bring us to the test, but
rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Reader : Amen.

Lord, have mercy. *(twelve times)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

O come, let us worship God our King ; come let us worship and
fall down before Christ, our King and our God ; come let us
worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our
God. *(three metanias)*

Reader : **Psalm 87**

O LORD God of my salvation, in Your presence I cried out by day, and

at night. Let my prayer come before Your Face ; incline Your ear to my supplication ; for my soul has been filled with bad things, and my life has drawn near to Hadēs. I have been reckoned amongst those going down into the pit. I have become just like a helpless Man, free amongst the dead, just like the wounded, lying in the tomb, whom You no longer remembered ; and they were pushed away from Your hand. They placed me in the lowest pit, in dark places, and in the shadow of death. Upon me has Your fury been fixed, and You brought all Your swells down upon me. You kept my acquaintances far from me ; they made me a loathsome thing to themselves. I have been handed over, and I was not walking away. My eyes became weak from poverty. I cried out to You, O LORD, the whole day long ; I spread out my hands to You. Surely You will not do wonders amongst the dead ? or shall physicians raise them up, and shall they confess You ? Surely no-one shall recount Your mercy in the tomb, and Your truth in Perdition ? Surely Your wonders shall not be known in the darkness, and Your righteousness in a land of oblivion ? As for me, I cried out to You, O LORD ; and in the morning shall my prayer be before You. Why, O LORD, do You push away my soul, and turn Your Face away from me ? I am poor and in labours from my youth ; but although once exalted, I have been humbled, and in great trouble. Your angers came upon me ; Your terrors greatly agitated me. They surrounded me, just as water, the whole day long : at once they encompassed me. You have kept far from me friend and neighbour and my acquaintances, because of my misery.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
 Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God. (*three times*)
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ; now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Immediately, the first stasis of the Seventeenth Kathisma (Psalm 118) is read completely with sung refrains (as in the Service of the Burial of a Lay-Person, or in the Psalter).

Psalm 118

First Stasis (vv. 1-72)

Refrain : ALLELUIA

Blessed are the blameless in their way, those walking in the law of the LORD.	R.
Blessed are those searching out His testimonies : with their whole heart, they shall seek Him out ;	R.
for those working lawlessness have not walked in His ways.	R.

It is You that have commanded Your commandments to be kept diligently.	R.
O, that my ways may be directed, in order to keep Your statutes ;	R.
then I shall not be ashamed, when I look attentively upon all Your commandments.	R.
I shall confess You in uprightness of heart, when I have learned the judgements of Your righteousness.	R.
I shall keep Your statutes ; do not utterly abandon me.	R.
How shall a young man straighten his way ? By keeping Your words.	R.
I sought You out with my whole heart. Do not push me away from Your commandments.	R.
In my heart have I hidden Your teachings, that I might not sin against You.	R.
Blessed are You, O LORD ; teach me Your statutes.	R.
With my lips I told forth all the judgements of Your mouth.	R.
In the way of Your testimonies I was delighted, as in all riches.	R.
On Your commandments shall I deliberate, and I shall observe Your ways.	R.
On Your statutes shall I ruminate ; I shall not forget Your words.	R.
Requite Your bond-servant ; I shall live, and I shall keep Your words.	R.
Uncover my eyes, and I shall observe the wonders from Your law.	R.
I am, myself, a sojourner on the earth ; do not hide Your commandments from me.	R.
My soul yearned to crave Your judgements at all times.	R.
You rebuked the proud : accursed are those inclining away from Your commandments.	R.
Take away from around me reproach and contempt, for I sought out Your testimonies.	R.
Indeed, princes sat down, and they were speaking against me ;	R.
but Your bond-servant was deliberating about Your statutes.	R.
Indeed, Your testimonies are my rumination, and my counsels are Your statutes.	R.
My soul cleaved to the ground ; make me live in accordance with Your Word.	R.
I told forth my ways, and You listened to me ; teach me Your statutes.	R.
Make me understand the way of Your statutes, and I shall	

deliberate on Your wonders.	R.
My soul slumbered from accidie ; secure me in Your words.	R.
Put away from me the way of unrighteousness, and by Your law, have mercy on me.	R.
I chose the way of truth, and I did not forget Your judgements.	R.
I cleaved to Your testimonies ; O LORD, put me not to shame.	R.
I ran the way of Your commandments, when You broadened my heart.	R.
O LORD, give me a law : the way of Your statutes, and I shall seek it out continually.	R.
Make me understand, and I shall search out Your law, and I shall keep it with my whole heart.	R.
Lead me on the way, on the path of Your commandments, for I have wished for it.	R.
Incline my heart to Your testimonies, and not to covetousness.	R.
Turn my eyes away from seeing futility ; make me live in Your way.	R.
Set before Your bond-servant Your teaching, that I may fear You.	R.
Take away from around me the reproach which I have dreaded, for Your judgements are gracious.	R.
Behold, I have craved Your commandments : in Your righteousness, make me live.	R.
May Your mercy come upon me, O LORD : Your salvation, in accordance with Your Word.	R.
I shall answer a word to those reproaching me, for I have hoped on Your words.	R.
Do not utterly take away from my mouth the word of truth, for I have placed my hope on Your judgements.	R.
I shall keep Your law continually : unto the age, and unto the age of the age.	R.
I was walking in a broad place, for I sought out Your commandments.	R.
I was speaking of Your testimonies in the presence of kings, and I was not ashamed.	R.
I was ruminating on Your commandments, which I loved exceedingly.	R.
I raised my hands towards Your commandments, which I loved, and I was deliberating on Your statutes.	R.
Remember Your words to Your bond-servant, in which You gave me hope.	R.
This has consoled me in my humiliation, for Your	

teaching gave me life.	R.
The proud were utterly transgressing the law, but I did not incline away from Your law.	R.
I remembered Your eternal judgements, O LORD, and I was consoled.	R.
Despondency held me fast, because of the sinners, abandoning Your law.	R.
Your statutes were my chants, in the place of my sojourning.	R.
I remembered Your Name in the night, O LORD, and I kept Your law.	R.
This happened to me, for I have sought out Your statutes.	R.
You are my portion, O LORD ; I said I would keep Your law.	R.
I besought Your Face with my whole heart ; have mercy on me, in accordance with Your teaching.	R.
I thought about Your ways, and I turned my feet towards Your testimonies.	R.
I was prepared, and I was not stirred up, in order to keep Your commandments.	R.
The cords of sinners were woven around me, but I did not forget Your law.	R.
In the middle of the night, I was waking to confess You, for the judgements of Your righteousness.	R.
I am, myself, a companion of all those fearing You, and of those keeping Your commandments.	R.
The earth is full of Your mercy, O LORD : teach me Your statutes.	R.
You have done loving-kindness with Your bond-servant, in accordance with Your Word, O LORD.	R.
Teach me loving-kindness and instruction and knowledge, for I have believed in Your commandments.	R.
Before I was humbled, I did wrong : because of this, I kept Your teaching.	R.
You are gracious, O LORD ; and in Your loving-kindness teach me Your statutes.	R.
The unrighteousness of the proud was multiplied against me ; but with my whole heart I shall, myself, search out Your commandments.	R.
Their heart has been curdled, just as milk ; but as for me, I ruminated on Your law.	R.
It is good for me that You humbled me, that I might learn Your statutes.	R.

The law of Your mouth is to me better than
thousands of gold and silver. **R.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God. (*three times*)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Immediately, the second stasis is read :

Second Stasis (vv. 73-131)

Refrain : ALLELUIA.

Your hands made and fashioned me ; make me understand,
and I shall learn Your commandments. **R.**

Those fearing You shall see me, and be glad, for I have placed
my hope on Your words. **R.**

I know, O LORD, that Your judgements are righteousness, and
that in truth You humbled me. **R.**

Let Your mercy be my consolation, then, in accordance with
Your teaching to Your bond-servant. **R.**

Let Your compassions come to me, and I shall live, for Your
law is my rumination. **R.**

Let the proud be put to shame, for they unrighteously wrought
lawlessness against me ; **R.**

but as for me, I shall deliberate on Your commandments. **R.**

Let them turn towards me — those fearing You, and those
knowing Your testimonies. **R.**

Let my heart become blameless in Your statutes, that I may
not be put to shame. **R.**

My soul faints because of Your salvation ; on Your words
I have placed my hope. **R.**

My eyes failed for Your teaching, saying : “When will You
console me ?” **R.**

for I became like a leather-bag in the hoar-frost : Your
statutes I did not forget. **R.**

How many are the days of Your bond-servant ? **R.**

When will You make fair-judgement for me upon those
closely pursuing me ? **R.**

Transgressors of the law recounted idle talk to me ; but it is
not like Your law, O LORD. **R.**

All Your commandments are truth. **R.**

Unrighteously have they closely pursued me ; help me. **R.**

In a short time they made an end of me on the earth, but as for me, I did not abandon Your commandments.	R.
In accordance with Your mercy make me live, and I shall keep the testimonies of Your mouth.	R.
Unto the age, O LORD, does Your Word continue in Heaven : unto generation and generation, Your truth ;	R.
You laid the foundations of the earth, and it continues.	R.
By Your plan does the day continue, for all things are Your bond-servants.	R.
If it were not that Your law is my rumination, then I would have perished in my humiliation.	R.
Unto the age I shall not forget Your statutes, for in them You have made me live.	R.
I am Yours : save me, for I have sought out Your statutes. Sinners waited for me, to destroy me ; I understood Your testimonies.	R.
I saw the limit of every achievement ; but Your commandment is exceedingly broad.	R.
How I have loved Your law, O LORD : it is my rumination the whole day long.	R.
You made me wise, more than my enemies, by Your commandment, for it is mine unto the age.	R.
I have understood more than all those teaching me, for Your testimonies are my rumination.	R.
I have understood more than the elders, for I sought out Your commandments.	R.
I restrained my feet from every way of evil, so that I might keep Your words.	R.
I did not decline away from Your judgements, for You gave me a law.	R.
How sweet to my throat are Your teachings, more than honey to my mouth.	R.
Because of Your commandments, I have understood ; because of this, I hated every way of unrighteousness.	R.
A lamp to my feet is Your law, and a light to my paths.	R.
I have sworn, and I stood ready to keep the judgements of Your righteousness.	R.
I have been utterly humbled ; O LORD, make me live in accordance with Your Word.	R.
Be well-pleased, then, with the freewill-offerings of my mouth, O LORD ; and teach me Your judgements.	R.
My soul is in Your hands continually, and I have not forgotten Your law.	R.
Sinners laid a snare for me ; but I did not go astray from Your commandments.	R.

I have inherited Your testimonies unto the age, for they are the exultation of my heart.	R.
I inclined my heart to do Your statutes, unto the age, in requital.	R.
Transgressors of the law I have hated, but Your law I have loved.	R.
You are my Helper and my Support ; I have placed my hope on Your words.	R.
Decline away from me, you evil-doers, and I shall search out the commandments of my God.	R.
Support me in accordance with Your teaching, and make me live, and do not put me to shame from my expectation.	R.
Help me, and I shall be saved, and I shall ruminate on Your statutes continually.	R.
You reckoned as nothing all those standing aloof from Your statutes, for unrighteous is their reasoning.	R.
I reckoned as deviators all the sinners of the earth ; because of this, I loved Your testimonies.	R.
Nail my flesh because of the fear of You, for I was fearful of Your judgements.	R.
I have done judgement and righteousness ; do not give me over to those wronging me.	R.
Be surety for Your bond-servant for the good ; do not let the proud denounce me.	R.
My eyes failed for Your salvation, and for the teaching of Your righteousness.	R.
Do with Your bond-servant in accordance with Your mercy, and teach me Your statutes.	R.
I am Your bond-servant : make me understand, and I shall know Your testimonies.	R.
It is the time for the LORD to act ; they have dispersed Your law.	R.
Because of this, I loved Your commandments more than gold and topaz.	R.
Because of this, I was being set straight towards all Your commandments ;	R.
I hated every unrighteous way.	R.
Wonderful are Your testimonies ; because of this, my soul has searched them out.	R.
The revelation of Your words shall illumine, and shall make infants understand.	R.
I opened my mouth, and I drew in the Spirit, for I was yearning for Your commandments.	R.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;	

now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory be to You, O God.
(three times)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Immediately, the third stasis is read :

Third Stasis (vv. 132-176)

Refrain : ALLELUIA.

Look attentively upon me, and have mercy on me, in accordance with the judgement of those loving Your Name.	R. R.
Direct my foot-steps in accordance with Your teaching, and do not let any lawlessness lord it over me.	R.
Redeem me from the denunciation of Men, and I shall keep Your commandments.	R.
Make Your Face shine upon Your bond-servant, and teach me Your statutes.	R.
My eyes have shed streams of waters, since I have not kept Your law.	R.
You are righteous, O LORD, and upright are Your fair-judgements.	R.
You commanded Your testimonies to be righteousness and truth, exceedingly.	R.
Your zeal has melted me away, for my enemies have forgotten Your words.	R.
Your teaching has been greatly tested by fire, and Your bond-servant has loved it.	R.
As for me, I am young, and reckoned as nothing ; I have not forgotten Your statutes.	R.
Your righteousness is righteousness unto the age, and Your law is truth.	R.
Afflictions and anguish have found me ; Your commandments are my ruminantion.	R.
Your testimonies are righteousness unto the age ; make me understand, and I shall live.	R.
I cried out with my whole heart ; listen to me, O LORD. I shall seek out Your statutes.	R.
I cried out to You ; save me, and I shall keep Your testimonies.	R.
I anticipated day-break, and I cried out ; on Your words have I placed my hope.	R.

My eyes anticipated day-break, that I might
 ruminate on Your teachings. **R.**
 Hear my voice, O LORD, in accordance with Your
 mercy ; in accordance with Your judgement,
 make me live. **R.**
 They have drawn near — those closely pursuing me with
 lawlessness, and they have kept far away from Your law. **R.**
 You are near, O LORD, and all Your ways are truth. **R.**
 From of old I knew of Your testimonies, for You
 laid their foundations unto the age. **R.**
 See my humiliation, and set me free, for I have not
 forgotten Your law. **R.**
 Adjudge my fair-judgement, and redeem me ;
 because of Your Word, make me live. **R.**
 Far off from sinners is salvation, for they did not
 seek out Your statutes. **R.**
 Your compassions are many, O LORD : in
 accordance with Your judgement, make me live. **R.**
 Many are those chasing me away, and afflicting me ;
 I did not incline away from Your testimonies. **R.**
 I saw those who are without understanding, and
 I was melting away, **R.**
 for they did not keep Your teachings. **R.**
 See that I have loved Your commandments ;
 O LORD, in Your mercy, make me live. **R.**
 The beginning of Your words is truth, and unto
 the age are all the judgements of Your righteousness. **R.**
 Princes pursued me closely without a cause,
 and my heart was afraid because of Your words. **R.**
 I shall exult in Your teachings, as one finding much spoils. **R.**
 Unrighteousness I have hated and loathed, but Your
 law I have loved. **R.**
 Seven times a day I have praised You for the judgements
 of Your righteousness. **R.**
 There is much peace for those loving Your law, and
 there is no stumbling-block for them. **R.**
 I was awaiting Your salvation, O LORD, and Your
 commandments I have loved. **R.**
 My soul kept Your testimonies, and loved
 them exceedingly. **R.**
 I kept Your commandments and Your testimonies,
 for all my ways are in Your presence, O LORD. **R.**
 Let my supplication draw near to Your Face,
 O LORD ; in accordance with Your teaching,
 make me understand. **R.**

May my petition come before Your Face, O LORD ; in accordance with Your teaching, rescue me.	R.
May my lips pour forth a hymn, whenever You may teach me Your statutes.	R.
May my tongue sound forth Your teachings, for all Your commandments are righteousness.	R.
Let Your hand be there to save me, for I have chosen Your commandments.	R.
I yearned for Your salvation, O LORD, and Your law is my ruminantion.	R.
My soul shall live, and shall praise You, and Your judgements shall help me.	R.
I have gone astray as a lost sheep ; seek Your bond-servant ; for I did not forget Your commandments.	R.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.	R.

The Verses on Psalm 118

Tone 5

The presbyter begins a great censing, commencing at the coffin.

Refrain : BLESSED ARE YOU, O LORD. TEACH ME YOUR STATUTES.

THE CHOIR OF SAINTS HAVE FOUND THE FOUNTAIN
OF LIFE,
AND THE DOOR OF PARADISE.
MAY I ALSO FIND THE WAY THROUGH REPENTANCE.
I AM A LOST SHEEP : CALL ME, O SAVIOUR, AND SAVE ME.

R :

FOR PREACHING THE LAMB OF GOD,
YOU HOLY MARTYRS WERE SLAIN LIKE LAMBS.
YOU HAVE BEEN RECEIVED INTO UNAGEING AND
ETERNAL LIFE.
NOW, ENTREAT THE LORD TO GRANT US REMISSION
OF OUR DEBTS.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO
THE HOLY SPIRIT ;
DEVOUTLY, LET US PRAISE THE THREEFOLD
SPLENDOUR OF THE ONE GODHEAD,
CRYING OUT,
“HOLY ARE YOU, O FATHER WITHOUT BEGINNING,
CO-ETERNAL SON, AND DIVINE SPIRIT”.
ENLIGHTEN US WHO WORSHIP YOU IN FAITH,

AND RESCUE US FROM ETERNAL FIRE.

NOW, AND EVER, AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.
REJOICE, O AUGUST ONE.

FOR THE SALVATION OF ALL, YOU GAVE BIRTH
TO GOD IN THE FLESH,
THROUGH WHOM THE HUMAN RACE HAS FOUND
SALVATION.

THROUGH YOU, MAY WE FIND PARADISE,
O PURE, BLESSED THEOTOKOS.

ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA. GLORY BE TO YOU,
O GOD. (*three times*)

Reader : Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

Reader : **Psalm 38**

I said : “I shall guard my ways, that I sin not with my tongue. I placed a guard on my mouth, while the sinner took his stance against me”. I became mute, and I was humbled ; I kept silent from good things, and my suffering was renewed. My heart became hot within me, and in my rumination, a fire shall be kindled. I spoke with my tongue : “Make me know my limit, O LORD, and what is the number of my days, so that I may know what I am, myself, lacking. Behold, as hand-breadths have You set my days, and my existence is just as nothing before Your Face. Nevertheless, the whole of futility is every Man living. Truly, Man walks about as an image, yet in futility is he stirred up. He stores up treasures, and does not know for whom he shall gather them together. And now, who is my endurance ? Is it not the LORD ? Even my existence is from You. From all my lawless acts, rescue me ; You gave me as an object of reproach to the fool. I became mute, and I did not open my mouth, for it is You that have done it. Take Your scourges away from me, for from the strength of Your hand have I, myself, failed. With reproofs for lawlessness You instructed Man, and You melted away his soul like a spider ; yet in futility is every Man stirred up. Hear my prayer, O LORD, and my supplication : give ear to my tears. Do not pass by in silence ; for I am, myself, a sojourner with You, and a pilgrim, even as all my fathers. Release me, so that I may be refreshed before I depart, and exist no more”.

Immediately, the following is sung :

Ikos

Tone 8

YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL,
 WHO HAVE CREATED AND FASHIONED MAN,
 FOR OUT OF THE EARTH WERE WE MORTALS MADE,
 AND UNTO THE EARTH SHALL WE RETURN AGAIN,
 AS YOU COMMANDED WHEN YOU MADE ME, SAYING
 TO ME,
 "EARTH YOU ARE, AND TO EARTH YOU SHALL RETURN".
 THERE, WE MORTALS ALL SHALL GO,
 MAKING OUR LAMENTATION THE SONG,
 "ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA".

The Readings

Deacon : Let us attend.
Presbyter : Peace be unto all.
R : And with your spirit.
Deacon : Wisdom.
Reader : The Prokeimenon in the sixth tone :
 I said, "O Lord, have mercy on me ☩ and heal my soul".
v. Blessed is the one understanding the poor and the needy ;
 in the evil day, the Lord will rescue him.
Reader : The reading from the Epistle of the holy Apostle Paul to the
 Romans.
Deacon : Let us attend.
Reader : Brethren : (*Romans 14:6-9*)
Presbyter : Peace be to you, reader.
Reader : And to your spirit.
Deacon : Wisdom. Let us attend. Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.
Presbyter : Peace be to all.
R : And to your spirit.
Deacon : The reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.
R : Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.
Deacon : Let us attend.
Deacon : The Lord said to the Jews who came to Him ...
 (*John 5:17-23*)
Presbyter : Peace be unto you that have proclaimed the Gospel.
R : Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

Last Kiss

Tone 2

COME, LET US GIVE THE LAST KISS UNTO THE DEAD
 AND RENDER THANKS UNTO GOD ;
 FOR HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) VANISHED FROM
 AMONGST HIS (*HER/THEIR*) KIN,
 AND PRESS(*ES*) ONWARD TO THE GRAVE,

AND HE (*SHE/THEY*) TROUBLE(S) HIM (*HER/THEM*)-SELF
(*SELVES*) NO LONGER WITH VANITIES,
NOR WITH THE FLESH, WHICH SUFFERS SORE DISTRESS.
WHERE NOW ARE HIS (*HER/THEIR*) KINSFOLK
AND FRIENDS ?
LO, WE ARE PARTED.
LET US PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE
HIM (*HER/THEM*) REST.

UNTO WHAT SHALL LIFE BE COMPARED ?
IT IS TRULY A FLOWER, OR A VAPOUR, OR THE
MORNING DEW.
COME, THEREFORE, LET US GAZE INTENTLY AT THE
GRAVE.
WHERE IS THE BEAUTY OF THE BODY, WHERE IS ITS
YOUTH ?
WHERE ARE THE EYES AND THE FORM OF ITS FLESH ?
LIKE THE GRASS THEY HAVE ALL PERISHED :
THEY ALL HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.
COME, THEREFORE, LET US IN HUMBLE
SUBMISSIVENESS
BOW DOWN WITH TEARS BEFORE THE FEET OF CHRIST.

THE PARTING OF THE SOUL IS GREAT WEEPING AND
SORROW,
GREAT SIGHING AND AFFLICTION.
HADĒS AND PERDITION ARE THE LIFE OF THINGS
THAT PASS AWAY.
THE TOIL OF LIFE ON EARTH IS AN UNTIMELY ILLUSION ;
SHADOW, UNREALITY, A DECEIVING SLEEP.
LET US FLEE FAR AWAY FROM EVERY SINFUL DEED
OF THIS WORLD
SO THAT WE MAY INHERIT HEAVENLY BLESSINGS.

WHEN THE SOUL IS ABOUT TO BE CARRIED OFF BY
FORCE BY THE FEARSOME ANGELS,
IT FORGETS ALL ITS FAMILY AND THOSE IT KNOWS.
AND IT IS MINDFUL OF STANDING BEFORE THE COMING
JUDGEMENT OF ITS FOLLY AND FLESHLY TOIL.
COME, LET US ALL IMPLORE THE JUDGE,
AND PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL PARDON THE SINS
HE (*SHE/THEY*) HAS (*HAVE*) COMMITTED.

COME, O BRETHREN,
LET US SEE IN THE GRAVE THE DUST AND ASHES

FROM WHICH WE WERE FORMED.
WHERE ARE WE NOW GOING ?
AND WHAT SHALL WE BECOME ?
WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE POOR MAN AND THE
RICH MAN ?
WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE MASTER OR THE
FREEMAN ?
ARE THEY NOT ALL ASHES ?
THE BEAUTY OF THE FACE HAS TURNED TO DUST
AND DEATH HAS WITHERED UP THE FLOWER
OF YOUTH.

NOW, ALL THE ORGANS OF THE BODY ARE SEEN TO
BE IDLE
THAT A SHORT WHILE AGO WERE ACTIVE.
ALL ARE STILL, DEAD, WITHOUT FEELING ;
FOR THE EYES ARE CLOSED ; THE FEET ARE BOUND.
THE HANDS ARE STILL ; THE EARS HEAR NOT.
THE TONGUE IS ENCLOSED IN SILENCE.
HE (*SHE/THEY*) IS (*ARE*) COMMITTED TO THE GRAVE.
TRULY, ALL HUMAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE VANITY.

Reader : Lord, have mercy. (*40 times*)

Deacon : Wisdom.

Presbyter : Most Holy Theotokos, save us.

R : More honourable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond
compare than the Seraphim, without corruption you gave birth
to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

Presbyter : Glory be to You, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory be to
You.

R : Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Master (*Father*) bless.

Presbyter : May He who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through
the prayers of His most pure Mother, of the holy, glorious, and
all-laudable apostles, of our holy and God-bearing fathers, and
of all the saints, have mercy on us, for He is good and loves
mankind.

R : Amen.

Immediately, the following is sung :

R : MEMORY ETERNAL. MEMORY ETERNAL. MEMORY
ETERNAL.

*Straightaway, they take up the body and bear it to the grave.
They sing the Trisagion as they depart :*

R : HOLY GOD, HOLY MIGHTY, HOLY IMMORTAL, HAVE MERCY
ON US.

Thus they sing until they come to the grave.

At the Grave

*The Trisagion is sung continuously until all is in readiness.
When everything is ready, then the reader straightaway continues :*

Reader : O most-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. O Lord, cleanse us from our sins. O Master, pardon our iniquities. O Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your Name's sake.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ;
now, and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.
Our Father, who are in the Heavens, hallowed be Your Name,
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in
Heaven ; give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors ; and do not bring us to the test, but
rescue us from the evil one.

Presbyter : For Yours are the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now, and ever,
and unto the ages of ages.

R : Amen.

*The mortal remains are buried with thanksgiving and with joy.
As the body is set in the grave, the following tropar is sung :*

Tone 8

OPEN WIDE, O EARTH,
AND RECEIVE THAT WHICH WAS FORMED FROM YOU
BY THE HAND OF GOD.
RECEIVE THAT WHICH RETURNS TO ITS MOTHER ;
FOR THE CREATOR HAS TAKEN AWAY THAT WHICH
WAS OF HIS IMAGE.
RECEIVE THIS BODY, O EARTH, AS IT IS YOUR OWN.

As the grave is filled in, the following is sung :

Ikos

Tone 8

YOU ALONE ARE IMMORTAL,
WHO HAVE CREATED AND FASHIONED MAN,
FOR OUT OF THE EARTH WERE WE MORTALS MADE,
AND UNTO THE EARTH SHALL WE RETURN AGAIN,
AS YOU COMMANDED WHEN YOU MADE ME, SAYING TO ME,
“EARTH YOU ARE, AND TO EARTH YOU SHALL RETURN”.
THERE, WE MORTALS ALL SHALL GO,
MAKING OUR LAMENTATION THE SONG,
“ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA. ALLELUIA”.

Deacon : Grant rest eternal in blessed falling asleep, O Lord, to the soul of your servant(s) n who has (*have*) newly departed this life, and make his (*her/their*) memory to be eternal.

Response : MEMORY ETERNAL. MEMORY ETERNAL. MEMORY ETERNAL.

Presbyter : Through the prayers of our holy fathers (*mothers/brothers and sisters*), O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and save us.

R : Amen.

*The grave is filled in the usual way.
Giving thanks to God, they depart.*

**[THE END OF THE BURIAL SERVICE OVER ONE
WHO IS NOT AN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN]**

t h e e n d
g l o r y b e t o g o d

