

Alternative Psalm
Psalm 50 (*Miserere*)

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offense. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleans me from my sin. My offenses truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, I have sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. That you may be justified when you give sentence and be without reproach when you judge. O see, in guilt I was born, a sinner was I conceived. Indeed you love truth in the heart; then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom. O purify me, then I shall be clean; O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear rejoicing and gladness, that the bones you have crushed may revive. From my sin turn away your face and blot out all my guilt. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervor sustain me, that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. O rescue me, God, my helper, and my tongue shall ring out your goodness. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. For in sacrifice you take no delight, burnt offering from me you would refuse, my sacrifice, a contrite spirit. A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. In your goodness, show favor to Zion: rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice, holocausts offered on your altar.

Alternative Prayer for “Most Holy Lady...”
Song of the Right Thief

1. Remember me, O Lord, when You come into Your Kingdom!
2. Remember me, O Master, when You come into Your Kingdom!
3. Remember me, O Holy One, when You come into Your Kingdom!

Byzantine Prayer Rope



The Byzantine rosary, or prayer rope, also known as the *chotki* in Russian and *komboskini* in Greek, is a very ancient aid in meditative Christian prayer, which, unfortunately, is virtually unknown in West.

The central prayer prayed with a prayer rope is the Jesus Prayer, also called the Prayer of the Heart. All other prayers are completely optional. Only the Jesus Prayer, which is repeated 100 or 101 times, is necessary. This repetition should not be a monotonous attempt to gain God’s attention (cf. Matthew 6:7), but an attempt to change oneself by clearing one’s mind of everything except God. Each repetition should be slow and deliberate: praying, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,” as you inhale; and, “have mercy on me a sinner,” as you exhale. The goal is to make this prayer so connected with one’s breathing that one can truly pray without ceasing (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:17).

Since this prayer is physically connected with one’s breathing, it must be prayed individually, and not in a group

There are many different variations of the prayer rope. Traditionally, they are made out of wool with 100 or 101 special knots marking the recitation of the Jesus Prayer. These knots may be divided into groups of 25 or 33 by beads, on which an intercessory prayer to Mary can be prayed.

As one makes a prayer rope, he prays the Jesus Prayer, particularly for the intentions of the one that will use it. In return, on the last knot before the cross, one prays for the intentions of the person that made it.

The tassel at the end is to dry one’s tears.

+ In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O God, cleanse me, a sinner. (three times)

O heavenly King, Paraclete, Spirit of Truth, who art present everywhere and dost permeate all things, Treasury of blessings and giver of life, come and take up thy dwelling within us. Purify us from every stain and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

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

+ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

O Holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive us our sins.

Most Holy God, pardon our transgressions. Do Thou Who are holy visit us and heal our infirmities for Thy name's sake.

Lord, have mercy on us. (three times)

+ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. 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. Amen.

Come let us bow down to Our Lord God. Come let us bow down and adore Our Lord God. Come let us bow down and adore Christ Himself, Our Lord and God.

Psalm 129 (*De Profundis*)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you. My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchmen for daybreak. Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord. Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed He will redeem from all its iniquity.

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day He rose again in fulfilment of the Scriptures: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner. (33 times)
Most Holy Lady, Mother of God, pray for us sinners.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner. (33 times)
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Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner. (33 times)
Most Holy Lady, Mother of God, pray for us sinners.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner.

It is truly right to bless you, O God-bearing One, as the ever-blessed and immaculate Mother of our God. More honourable than the cherubim and by far more glorious than the seraphim; ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word, O true Mother of God, we magnify you.

+ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Lord, have mercy (three times)

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

+ In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.