

Monday of the 2nd Week

At the 6th Hour

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 21): Ye that fear the Lord,* praise Him.

Verse: O God my God, attend to me, why hast Thou forsaken me?

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (4:2-5:7)

Whus saith the Lord: In that day God shall shine gloriously in counsel on the earth, to exalt and glorify the remnant of Israel. And it shall be, that the remnant left in Sion, and the remnant left in Jerusalem, even all that are appointed to life in Jerusalem, shall be called holy. For the Lord shall wash away the filth of the sons and daughters of Sion, and shall purge out the blood from the midst of them, with the spirit of judgement, and the spirit of burning. And He shall come, and it shall be with regard to every place of mount Sion, yea, all the region round about it shall a cloud overshadow by day, and there shall be as it were the smoke and light of fire burning by night: and upon all the glory shall be a defence. And it shall be for a shadow from the heat, and as a shelter and a hiding place from inclemency of weather and from rain. Now I will sing to My beloved a song of My beloved concerning My vineyard. My beloved had a vineyard on a high hill in a fertile place. And I made a hedge round it, and dug a trench, and planted a choice vine, and built a tower in the midst of it and dug a place for the wine vat in it: and I waited for it to bring forth grapes, and it brought forth thorns. And now, ye dwellers in Jerusalem, and every man of Judah, judge between Me and My vineyard. What shall I do any more to My vineyard, that I have not done to it? Whereas I expected it to bring forth grapes, but it hath brought forth thorns. And now I will tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it shall be for a spoil; and I will pull down its walls, and it shall be left to be trodden down. And I will forsake My vineyard; and it shall not be pruned, nor dug, and thorns shall come up upon it as on barren land; and I will command the clouds to rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of Sabaoth is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah His beloved plant.

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 22): Thy rod and Thy staff,* they have comforted me.

Verse: The Lord is my shepherd, and I shall not want.

Monday of the 2nd Week

1st Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 1 (Psalm 23): The Lord strong and mighty,* the Lord, mighty in war.

Verse: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.

The Reading is from Genesis (3:21-4:7)

Whe Lord God made for Adam and his wife garments of skin, and clothed them. And God said, "Behold, Adam is become as one of Us, to know good and evil; and now lest at any time he stretch forth his hand, and take of the tree of life and eat, and so he shall live for ever –" So the Lord God sent him forth out of the garden of Delight to cultivate the ground out of which he was taken. And He cast out Adam and caused him to dwell over against the garden of Delight, and stationed the cherubim and the fiery sword that turns about to keep the way of the tree of life. And Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and brought forth Cain and said, "I have gained a man through God." And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And it was so after some time that Cain brought of the fruits of the earth a sacrifice to the Lord. And Abel also brought of the firstborn of his sheep and of his fatlings and God looked upon Abel and his gifts, but Cain and his sacrifices He regarded not, and Cain was exceedingly sorrowful and his countenance fell. And the Lord God said to Cain, "Why art thou become very sorrowful and why is thy countenance fallen? Hast thou not sinned if thou hast brought it rightly, but not rightly divided it? Be still, to thee shall be his submission, and thou shalt rule over him."

Monday of the 2nd Week

2nd Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 24): Look upon me,* and have mercy on me.

Verse: Unto Thee, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul.

The Reading is from Proverbs (3:34-4:22)

Whe Lord resisteth the proud; but He giveth grace to the humble. The wise shall inherit glory; but the ungodly have exalted their own dishonour. Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you a good gift; forsake ye not my law. For I also was a son obedient to my father, and loved in the sight of my mother: who spake and instructed me, saying, "Let our speech be fixed in thine heart, keep our commandments, forget them not: and do not neglect the speech of my mouth. And forsake it not, and it shall cleave to thee: love it, and it shall keep thee. Secure it, and it shall exalt thee: honour it, that it may embrace thee; that it may give unto thy head a crown of graces, and may cover thee with a crown of delight." Hear, my son, and receive my words; and the years of thy life shall be increased, that the resources of thy life may be many. For I teach thee the ways of wisdom; and I cause thee to go in right paths. For when thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not be distressed. Take hold of my instruction; let it not go, but keep it for thyself for thy life. Go not in the ways of the ungodly, neither covet the ways of transgressors. In whatever place they shall pitch their camp, go not thither; but turn from them, and pass away. For they cannot sleep, unless they have done evil: their sleep is taken away, and they rest not. For these live upon the bread of ungodliness, and are drunken with wine of transgression. But the ways of the righteous shine like light; they go on and shine, until the day be fully come. But the ways of the ungodly are dark; they know not how they stumble. My son, attend to my speech; and apply thine ear to my words: that thy fountains may not fail thee; keep them in thine heart. For they are life to those that find them, and health to all their flesh.