

Tuesday of the 2nd Week

At the 6th Hour

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 25): O Lord, I have loved the beauty of Thy house,* and the place where Thy glory dwelleth.

Verse: Judge me, O Lord, for in mine innocence have I walked.

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (5:7-16)

Yhus saith the Lord: The vineyard of the Lord of Sabaoth is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah His beloved plant: I expected it to bring forth judgement, and it brought forth iniquity; and not righteousness, but a cry. Woe to them that join house to house, and add field to field, that they may take away something of their neighbour's. Will ye dwell alone upon the land? For these things have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth: for though many houses should be built, many and fair houses shall ye desolate, and there shall ye no inhabitants in them. For where ten yoke of oxen plough the land shall yield one jar-full, and he that soweth six homers shall produce three measures. Woe to them that rise up in the morning and follow strong drink; who wait at it till evening: for the wine shall inflame them. For they drink wine with harp, and psaltery, and drums, and pipes: but they regard not the works of the Lord, consider not the works of His hands. Therefore My people have been taken captive, because they know not the Lord: and there has been a multitude of dead bodies, because of hunger and of thirst for water. Therefore hades hath enlarged its desire and opened its mouth without ceasing: and her glorious and great, and her rich and her pestilent men shall go down into it. And the mean man shall be brought low, and the great man shall be disgraced, and the lofty eyes shall be brought low. But the Lord of Sabaoth shall be exalted in judgement, and the holy God shall be glorified in righteousness.

Prokimenon, Tone 3 (Psalm 26): The Lord is my light and my saviour;* whom then shall I fear?

Verse: The Lord is the defender of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

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1st Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 27): Save, O Lord, Thy people,* and bless Thine inheritance.

Verse: Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God, be not silent unto me.

The Reading is from Genesis (4:8-15)

Cain said to Abel his brother, "Let us go out into the plain;" and it came to pass that when they were in the plain, Cain rose up against Abel his brother and slew him. And the Lord God said to Cain, "Where is Abel thy brother?" and he said, "I know not, am I my brother's keeper?" And the Lord said, "What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth to Me out of the ground. And now thou art cursed from the earth which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand. When thou tillest the earth, then it shall not continue to give its strength to thee: thou shalt be groaning and trembling on the earth." And Cain said to the Lord God, "My crime is too great for me to be forgiven. If Thou castest me out this day from the face of the earth, and I shall be hidden from Thy presence, and I shall be groaning and trembling upon the earth, then it will be that any one that findeth me shall slay me." And the Lord God said to him, "Not so, any one that slayeth Cain shall suffer sevenfold vengeance;" and the Lord God set a mark upon Cain that no one that found him might slay him.

2nd Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 7 (Psalm 28): The Lord will give strength unto His people;*
the Lord will bless His people with peace.

Verse: Bring unto the Lord, ye sons of God, bring unto the Lord the sons of rams.

The Reading is from Proverbs (5:1-15)

My son, attend to my wisdom, and apply thine ear to my words; that thou mayest keep good understanding, and the discretion of my lips giveth thee a charge. Give no heed to a worthless woman; for honey droppeth from the lips of a harlot, who for a season pleaseth thy palate: but afterwards thou wilt find her more bitter than gall, and sharper than a two-edged sword. For the feet of folly lead those who deal with her down to the grave with death; and her steps are not established. For she goeth not upon the paths of life; but her ways are slippery, and not easily known. Now then, my son, hear me, and make not my words of none effect. Remove thy way far from her; draw not near to the doors of her house: lest thou give away thy life to others, and thy substance to the merciless: lest strangers be filled with thy strength, and thy labours come into the houses of strangers; and thou repent at last, when the flesh of thy body is consumed, and thou shalt say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart avoided reproofs! I heard not the voice of him that instructed me, and taught me, neither did I apply mine ear. I was almost in all evil in the midst of the congregation and assembly. Drink waters out of thine own vessels, and out of thine own springing wells.