

Friday of the 3rd Week

At the 6th Hour

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 57): The righteous man shall be glad,* when he seeth the avengement.

Verse: If ye indeed speak of righteousness.

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (13:2-13)

Whus saith the Lord: Lift up a standard on the mountain of the plain, exalt the voice to them, beckon with the hand, open the gates, ye rulers. I give command, and I bring them: giants are coming to fulfill My wrath, rejoicing at the same time and insulting. A voice of many nations on the mountains, even like to that of many nations; a voice of kings and nations gathered together: the Lord of Sabaoth hath given command to a war-like nation, to come from a land afar off, from the utmost foundation of heaven; the Lord and His warriors are coming to destroy all the world. Howl ye, for the day of the Lord is near, and destruction from God shall arrive. Therefore every hand shall become powerless, and every soul of man shall be dismayed. The elders shall be troubled, and pangs shall seize them, as of a woman in travail: and they shall mourn one to another, and shall be amazed, and shall change their countenance as a flame. For behold! the day of the Lord is coming which cannot be escaped, of wrath and anger, to make the world desolate, and to destroy sinners out of it. For the stars of heaven, and Orion, and all the host of heaven, shall not give their light; and it shall be dark at sunrise, and the moon shall not give her light. And I will command evils for the whole world, and will visit their sins on the ungodly: and I will destroy the pride of transgressors, and will bring low the pride of the haughty. And they that are left shall be more precious than gold tried by fire; and a man shall be more precious than the stone that is in Ophir. For the heaven shall be enraged, and the earth shall be shaken from her foundation, because of the fierce anger of the Lord of Sabaoth, in the day in which His wrath shall come on.

Prokimenon, Tone 7 (Psalm 58): Thou, O God, art my Helper,* and Thy mercy shall go before me.

Verse: Rescue me from mine enemies, O God, and from them that rise up against me redeem me.

Friday of the 3rd Week

1st Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 59): Give us help from affliction,* for vain is the salvation of man.

Verse: O God, Thou hast cast us off and hast destroyed us.

The Reading is from Genesis (8:4-21)

Whe ark rested in the seventh month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat. The water continued to decrease until the tenth month. And in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the heads of the mountains were seen. And it came to pass after forty days Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made. And he sent forth a raven; and it went forth and returned not until the water was dried from off the earth. And he sent a dove after it to see if the water had ceased from off the earth. And the dove not having found rest for her feet, returned to him into the ark, because the water was on all the face of the earth and he stretched out his hand and took her, and brought her to himself into the ark. And having waited yet seven other days, he again sent forth the dove from the ark. And the dove returned to him in the evening and had a leaf of olive, a sprig in her mouth; and Noah knew that the water had ceased from off the earth. And having waited yet seven other days, he again sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him again any more. And it came to pass in the six hundred and first year of the life of Noah, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water subsided from off the earth and Noah opened the covering of the ark which he had made, and he saw that the water had subsided from the face of the earth. And in the second month the earth was dried, on the twenty-seventh day of the month. And the Lord God spake to Noah, saying, "Come out from the ark, thou and thy wife and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. And all the wild beasts as many as are with thee and all flesh both of birds and beasts and every reptile moving upon the earth, bring forth with thee: and increase ye and multiply upon the earth." And Noah came forth, and his wife and his sons, and his sons' wives with him. And all the wild beasts and all the cattle and every bird, and every reptile creeping upon the earth after their kind, came forth out of the ark. And Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of all clean beasts, and of all clean birds, and offered a wholeburnt offering upon the altar. And the Lord God smelled a smell of sweetness.

Friday of the 3rd Week

2nd Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 60): Hearken, O God, unto my supplication;* attend unto my prayer.

Verse: From the ends of the earth unto Thee have I cried.

The Reading is from Proverbs (10:31-11:12)

Whe mouth of the righteous droppeth wisdom: but the tongue of the unjust shall perish. The lips of just men drop grace: but the mouth of the ungodly is perverse. False balances are an abomination before the Lord: but a just weight is acceptable unto Him. Wherever pride entereth, there will be also disgrace: but the mouth of the lowly meditath wisdom. When a just man dieth he leaveth regret: but the destruction of the ungodly is speedy, and causeth joy. Righteousness traceth out blameless paths: but ungodliness encountereth unjust dealing. The righteousness of upright men delivereth them: but transgressors are caught in their own destruction. At the death of a just man his hope perisheth not: but the boast of the ungodly perisheth. A righteous man escapeth from a snare, and the ungodly man is delivered up in his place. In the mouth of ungodly men is a snare to citizens: but the understanding of righteous men is prosperous. In the prosperity of righteous men a city prospereth: but by the mouths of ungodly men it is overthrown. A man void of understanding sneereth at his fellow citizens: but a sensible man is quiet.