

Monday of the 3rd Week

At the 6th Hour

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 41): My prayer unto the God of my life, * I will say unto God: Thou art my helper.

Verse: As the hart panteth after the fountains of water, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (8:13-9:7)

Whe Lord our God, Him shall ye hallow, and He shall be fear unto thee. And if thou shalt trust in Him, He shall be unto thee sanctification, and ye shall not come against Him as against a stumbling-stone, neither as against the falling of a rock: but the houses of Jacob are in a snare, and the dwellers in Jerusalem in a pit. Therefore many among them shall be weak, and fall and ye crushed; and they shall draw nigh, and men shall ye taken securely. Then shall those who seal themselves that they may learn the law be made manifest. And one shall say, "I will wait for God, Who hath turned away His face from the house of Jacob, and I will be hoping in Him, and shall be saved by Him. Behold I and the children which God hath given me." And they shall be for signs and wonders in the house of Israel from the Lord of Sabaoth, who dwelleth in Mount Sion. And if they should say to you, "Seek those who have in them a divining spirit, and them that speak out of the earth, them that speak vain words, who speak out of their belly:" shall not a nation diligently seek to their God? Why do they seek to the dead concerning the living? For He hath given the law for a help, that they should not speak according to this word, concerning which there are no gifts to give for it. And famine shall come sorely upon you, and it shall come to pass, that when ye shall be hungry, ye shall be grieved, and ye shall speak ill of the prince and your fathers' ordinances: and they shall look up to heaven above, and they shall look on the earth below, and behold severe distress, and darkness, affliction, and anguish, and darkness so that one cannot see and he that is in anguish shall not be distressed only for a time. Drink this first. Act quickly, O land of Zebulon, land of Naphthali, and the rest inhabiting the sea-coast, and the land beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles. The people that walk in darkness have seen a great light. Ye that dwell in the region and shadow of death, a light shall shine upon you. The multitude of the people which thou hast brought down in thy joy, they shall even rejoice before thee as they that rejoice in harvest, and as they that divide the spoil. Because the yoke that was laid upon them hath been taken away, and the rod that was on their neck: for He hath broken the rod of the exactors, as in the day of Midian. For they shall compensate for every garment that hath been acquired by deceit, and all raiment with restitution; and they shall be willing, even if they were burnt with fire. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, Whose government is upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Angel of Great Counsel, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Ruler, Prince of Peace, Father of the age to come: for I will bring peace upon the princes, and health to Him. His government shall be great, and of his peace there is no end: it shall be upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to establish it, and to support it with judgement and with righteousness, from henceforth and forever. The zeal of the Lord of Sabaoth shall perform this.

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 42): He is the salvation of my countenance, * and my God.

Verse: Judge me, O God, and give judgement to my cause.

Monday of the 3rd Week

1st Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 43): In God will we boast all the day long,*
and in Thy name will we give praise in the age to come.

Verse: O God, with our ears have we heard, for our fathers have told us.

The Reading is from Genesis (6:9-22)

Noah was a just man; being perfect in his generation, Noah was well-pleasing to God. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. But the earth was corrupted before God, and the earth was filled with iniquity. And the Lord God saw the earth, and it was corrupted; because all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth. And the Lord God said to Noah, "A period of all men is come before Me; because the earth hath been filled with iniquity by them, and, behold, I destroy them and the earth. Make therefore for thyself an ark of square timber; thou shalt make the ark in compartments, and thou shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. And thus shalt thou make the ark; three hundred cubits the length of the ark, and fifty cubits the breadth, and thirty cubits the height of it. Thou shalt narrow the ark in making it, and in a cubit above thou shalt finish it, and the door of the ark thou shalt make on the side; with lower, second, and third stories thou shalt make it. And behold, I bring a flood of water upon the earth, to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven, and whatsoever things are upon the earth shall die. And I will establish My covenant with thee, and thou shalt enter into the ark, and thy sons and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee. And of all cattle and of all reptiles and of all wild beasts, even of all flesh, thou shalt bring by pairs of all, into the ark, that thou mayest feed them with thyself: male and female they shall be. Of all winged birds after their kind, and of all cattle after their kind, and of all reptiles creeping upon the earth after their kind, come in to thee, male and female to be fed with thee. And thou shalt take to thyself of all kinds of food which ye eat, and thou shalt gather them to thyself, and it shall be for thee and them to eat." And Noah did all things whatever the Lord God commanded him, so did he.

Monday of the 3rd Week

2nd Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 3 (Psalm 44): I shall commemorate Thy name * in every generation and generation.

Verse: My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king.

The Reading is from Proverbs (8:1-21)

My son, thou shalt proclaim wisdom, that understanding may be obedient to thee. For she is on lofty eminences, and standeth in the midst of the ways. For she sitteth by the gates of princes, and singeth in the entrances, saying, "You, O men, I exhort; and utter my voice to the sons of men. O ye simple, understand subtlety, and ye that are untaught, imbibe knowledge. Hearken to me; for I will speak solemn truths; and will produce right sayings from my lips. For my throat shall meditate truth; and false lips are an abomination before me. All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing in them wrong or perverse. They are all evident to those that understand, and right to those that find knowledge. Receive instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than tried gold. For wisdom is better than precious stones; and no valuable substance is of equal worth with it. I, wisdom, have dwelt with counsel and knowledge, and I have called upon understanding. The fear of the Lord hateth unrighteousness, and insolence, and pride, and the ways of wicked men; and I hate the perverse ways of bad men. Counsel and safety are mine: prudence is mine, and strength is mine. By me kings reign, and princes decree justice. By me nobles become great, and monarchs by me rule over the earth. I love those that love me; and they that seek me shall find me. Wealth and glory belong to me; yea, abundant possessions and righteousness. It is better to have my fruit than to have gold and precious stones; and my produce is better than choice silver. I walk in ways of righteousness, and am conversant with the paths of judgement; that I may divide substance to them that love me, and may fill their treasures with good things. If I declare to you the things that daily happen, I will remember also to recount the things of old."