

Wednesday of the 3rd Week

At the 6th Hour

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 49): Sacrifice unto God a sacrifice of praise,* and pay unto the Most High thy vows.

Verse: The God of gods, the Lord, hath spoken, and He hath called the earth
from the rising of the sun and unto the setting thereof.

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (10:12-20)

It shall come to pass, when the Lord shall have finished doing all things on Mount Sion and Jerusalem, that I will visit upon the proud heart, even upon the ruler of the Assyrians, and upon the boastful haughtiness of his eyes. For he said, "I will act in strength, and in the wisdom of my understanding I will remove the boundaries of nations, and will spoil their strength. And I will shake the inhabited cities: and I will take with my hand all the world as a nest: and I will even take them as eggs that have been left; and there is none that shall escape me, or contradict me." Shall the ax glorify itself without him that heweth with it? or shall the saw lift up itself without him that useth it, as if one should lift a rod or staff? But it shall not be so; but the Lord of Sabaoth shall send dishonour upon thine honour, and burning fire shall be kindled upon thy glory. And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and it shall devour the wood as grass. In that day the mountains shall be consumed, and the hills, and the forests, and fire shall devour both soul and body: and he that fleeth shall be as one fleeing from burning flame. And they that are left of them shall be a small number, and a child shall write them. And it shall come to pass in that day that the remnant of Israel shall no more join themselves with, and the saved of Jacob shall no more trust in them that injured them; but they shall trust in the Holy God of Israel, in truth.

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 50): Have mercy on me, O God,* according to Thy great mercy.

Verse: Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Wednesday of the 3rd Week

1st Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 51): I have hoped in the mercy of God * forever, and unto ages of ages.

Verse: Why dost thou boast in evil, O mighty man, and in iniquity all the day long?

The Reading is from Genesis (7:6-9)

Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of water was upon the earth. And then went in Noah and his sons and his wife, and his sons' wives with him into the ark, because of the water of the flood. And of clean flying creatures and of unclean flying creatures, and of clean cattle and of unclean cattle, and of all things that creep upon the earth, pairs went in to Noah into the ark, male and female, as God commanded Noah.

2nd Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 52): When God hath turned back * the captivity of His people.

Verse: The fool hath said in his heart: There is no God.

The Reading is from Proverbs (9:12-18)

My son, if thou be wise for thyself, thou shalt also be wise for thy neighbours; and if thou shouldest prove wicked, thou alone wilt bear the evil. He that stayeth himself upon falsehoods, attempteth to rule the winds, and the same will pursue birds in their flight: for he hath forsaken the ways of his own vineyard, and he hath caused the axles of his own husbandry to go astray; and he goeth through a dry desert, and a land appointed to drought, and he gathereth barrenness with his hands. A foolish and bold woman, who knoweth not modesty, cometh to want a morsel. She sitteth at the doors of her house, on a seat openly in the streets, calling to passers by, and to those that are going right on their ways; saying, "Who so is most senseless of you, let him turn aside to me; and I exhort those that want prudence, saying, 'Take and enjoy secret bread, and the sweet water of theft.'" But he knoweth that mighty men die by her, and he falleth in with a snare of hell. But hasten away, delay not in the place, neither fix thine eye upon her: for thus shalt thou go through strange water; but do thou abstain from strange water, and drink not of a strange fountain, that thou mayest live long, and years of life may be added to thee.